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'A Survey and Analysis of the Place-Names of Staffordshire'

by David Horovitz, LL.B.

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for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, October 2003.
Gnos(se)hal(le) 1242 Pat to 1521 LP, Gnowsale 1286 SHC V (i) 155, Knoshale 1292 SHC VI (i) 272, Knoushalla 1321 Inq aqd, Gnowsale 1348-1363 Pap, Knousale 1365 SHC VIII NS 25, Knoshale 1414 Ch, Gnowsall 1462 FF to 1526 StarCh, Gnostall c.1502 Bod. 28, Knossall 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 94, Knoshale 1607 Kip, Nosall 1643 StComm. Ekwall 1959: 199 tentatively suggests a derivation from an OE personal name formed from OE gnēaþ 'niggardly', but concedes that the absence of early spellings where -a- might be expected poses difficulties. The various spellings, supported by the modern pronunciation, point towards a derivation from OE *Gnoweshalh. The root of the name is OWelsh genou, from a British plural form *genoues 'mouth, opening of a valley'. The identification of genow/geneow as a Welsh loanword, one of a number in the West Midlands dialect, is widely accepted: see N&Q 238 [NS 40] I 13-4. The word is found with its Welsh spelling genou in the Book of Llandaff c.1135-40, and in the 13th century Black Book of Chirk the spelling geneu is standard. Borrowed Welsh words are normally anglicised by stress on the first syllable, but in cases where this does not occur the intervening vowel may disappear: cf. Cannock. Since gn- is found in Welsh, the first vowel may have disappeared in this case when the area was still Welsh-speaking. It seems therefore that the place may have been known originally as Geneu by the native British, anglicised as Gnow and with the second element added later by Anglo-Saxon settlers. The meaning in place-names may be 'the constricted valley; the narrow passage', here 'the narrowing of the valley with the low-lying land near the stream', with reference to the striking feature of this place, a broad flat stream valley on the west which suddenly becomes a narrow stream valley between Gnosall and Gnosall Heath: see also Doley Common; Doley Gate. The second element of Gnosall is clearly OE halh, perhaps here in the sense 'a piece of low-lying land by a river'. It is possible that geneu was applied to a constricted passage which suddenly opens into a wide valley (or vice versa): see Coates & Breeze 2000: 184-92. The same root is to be found in Gannow Farm & Gannow Wood (Inkberrrow), and Gannow Farm & Gannow Green (Bromsgrove), Worcestershire; Gannah, Herefordshire; Gannow, Lancashire; Gannaway, Warwickshire; and perhaps field-names such as Gannoweslond and Gannoweschoyng (see PN Wo 342). Staffordshire dialect gennel, jortal mean 'narrow passage' (see Wilson 1974: 36, 40), may have the same root. Cf. Ganarew, Herefordshire. Knowsales House is recorded in the Handsacre/Armitage area in 1552: SHC XII (i) 209.

GNYPE (obsolete) - see TURNER'S KNIFE.

GOAL BUTTS on the south-west side of Eccleshall (SJ 8228). Gillbutts 1672 Eccleshall ParReg.

GODLEY BROOK a tributary of the river Tean. Godl(e)y Brook 1837 O.S. In the absence of earlier forms a derivation from 'Göda's leah' must remain uncertain, but cf. Godley, Cheshire (PN Ch I 306).

GODSTONE 1 mile south-west of Church Leigh (SK 0134). the Godstones c.1680 SRO D1203/B/3-6, The Godstone 1789 SRO D543/C/7/10, Godstone 1836 O.S. A curious name, perhaps associated with a legendary origin for a rock outcrop here.

GOGESMORRE (unlocated, possibly near Beffcote, perhaps Goosemoor Green (q.v.)). Gogesmorre 1707 BCA MS3145/63/1a&b.

GOLDEN (unlocated) Golden 1281 SHC 1911 37.
GOLDEN BANK (obsolete) on the west side of Pattingham (SO 8199). Golden Bank 1942 Brighton 1942: 19. In 1780 a small gold ingot was found here, possibly associated with a gold torc found nearby in 1700: Erdeswick 1844: 364. The name is evidently 'the bank or hillside where treasure was found'.

GOLDENHILL 2 miles north of Tunstall (SJ 8553), Goldenhill 1670 VCH VIII 83, Golden hill 1686 Plot; GOLDENHILL 2 miles south-west of Ashley (SJ 7432), Gold Hill 1833 O.S. Perhaps from OE golde 'marigold', meaning 'hill where marigold grew', or 'hill golden from buttercups': an alternative name for the buttercup was the gold-cup. Or possibly 'the hill where gold was found'. For Golden Hill 2 miles west of Buterton (SK 0556), see Louisey Bank. Goldenhill is recorded in Sedgley ParReg in 1657.

GOLDIE BROOK BRIDGE 1 mile north-west of Shareshill, on Saredon Brook (SJ 9308). Godyenebrugg 1307 SHC 4th Series XVIII 190, Goldy Bridge 1749 Bowen, Goodybridge early 18th century Terrier, Goldybridge 1804 SRO D3186/8/1/30/8. From OE golde 'marigold' and OE ðeg 'island', giving 'island of land where marsh marigolds grow'. The brook gave its name to field-names le gooldylond, le gooldelyhadelond recorded in 1441 (Vernon).

GOLDS GREEN 2 miles north-west of West Bromwich (SO 9893). Golds Green 1834 O.S. From the Golds family who are recorded here in 1332, and were probably living here by the later 13th century: SHC VIII 86; VCH XVII 6; Ede 1962: 27.

GOLDSITCH 2 miles north of Upper Hulme (SK 0064). Goodsich Fall 1564 Ch, Goldsich, Gouldsich 1643 Leek ParReg. From OE stc, 'a small stream, especially one in flat marshland', and often applied to the marshy pasture land bordering such a watercourse. If the earlier spelling is reliable, it would seem that Gold- may be a late development. Otherwise, it may refer to yellowish water or to marigolds (OE golde) - the place is carpeted with marsh marigolds (called locally golds or goulds) in spring: see Goldenhill, above.

GOLD'S WOOD 1 mile west of Middle Mayfield (SK 1344). Of unknown age and derivation (earlier spellings have not been traced), but possibly associated with nearby Hordle Sprink (q.v.).

GOLDTHORN (HILL) 2 miles south-east of Wolverhampton (SO 9196). Goldhord 1291 SRO D593/B/1/17/4/4, le Goldhord 1302 SRO D593/B/1/17/4/4, Golthord 1318 SRO D593/B/1/17/4/13, Golterne 1589 SHC 1929 339, Gouldthorne 1612 SHC III NS 68, Gouldthorne hill 1634 Wolverhampton ParReg, gouthorne hill 1651 ibid, Goldthorn, Goldthorne 1686 Plot, Goldthorn Hill 1737 WALS DX-240/7, 1834 O.S. From OE gold-hord 'gold hoard, gold treasure', applied to places where treasure has been found, perhaps to be associated in this case with Burnildlowe in Penn recorded in the 13th century (SRO D593/B/1/17/3/10), a name meaning 'Brunhild's tumulus' or 'the hill with the burial-mound': cf. Goltherdesbeuch; Burnhill Green. Although the expression was gold-hord also used for a privy (EPNE i 205; Parker 1996: 257-8), that meaning is improbable in early place-names. See also WA II 41-2. Goldthorn Acre in Pattingham is recorded in 1683: SRO DW1778/V/1330; gold has been found in Pattingham (see Golden Bank, also Shaw I 1798 32-3, II 279; TNSFC 1964 31), but in the absence of early spellings the origins of that name are uncertain. Goldhorde style in the Shipley/Rudge Heath area is recorded in 1619 (SRRC
330/25), and Golthoradeshull, recorded c.1300 (SHC 4th Series XVIII 185), appears to have been in Kinver Forest, which included Lower Penn (VCH II 343): it is not clear whether it is to be associated with this Goldthorn Hill - the original Goldhord may have been some distance from the area which became known as Goldthorn Hill, which may be 'the hill on which the hoard of gold was found', or 'the hill at (or near) the place called Goldhord'. For le Goldhord in Uppington, Shropshire, see TSAHS L 1939-40 36. The compound is also found in Goldsworth in Woking, Surrey; Goldhard in Godstone, Surrey; Gollard in Amport, Hampshire; Goldsworth in Stoke, Cheshire; and Gauiler in Steeple, Dorset. Many such place-names are near ancient roads or tracks. See also Hulhord.

GOLLING GATE (obsolete, 1 mile north-west of Hollinsclough (SK 0467)). Goldeayate, Geldleayate 1634 Leek ParReg, Goldhaygate 1635 ibid, Goldhayate 1637 ibid, Golling Gate 1775 Yates, Golling Gate 1842 O.S., Gollingate 1851 White. From OE golde, (ge)heg 'marigold enclosure', with OE geat 'gate, enclosure; gap'.

GOLTHERDESBEUCH, GOLTHORDESBEUCH (unlocated, probably in the area to the south of Wolverhampton.) Goltherdesbeuch, Golthordesbeuch 1296 SHC 4th Series XVIII 185. Perhaps to be associated with Goldthorn (q.v.), or possibly near Trescott. The name seems to be 'the bece or pronounced stream valley at the place known as Gold Hoard', i.e. where treasure had been found.

GOMES MILL (obsolete) on the southern side of Longton (SJ 9042). Gom's Mill 1632 StEnc 701, Goms mill 1746 Stoke on Trent ParReg, Gomes Mill 1798 Yates. Said to be the site of a quadrangular moat, with a corn mill erected on Furnace Brook by 1632: StEnc 701. Probably from an unidentified personal name. Cf. Gomshall, Surrey.

GOODCAR (unlocated) Goodcar 1577 SRO D(iv)1490/15.


GOOD'S GREEN in Upper Arley. From the personal name le Gode, found in the SR of 1327 and 1332, and in a Will of 1584: PN Wo 30. In Worcestershire since 1895.

GOOLDBURYNES (unlocated, in Brewood.) Gooldburynes 1453 Oakden 1984: 47. An interesting field-name meaning 'burial-mound where gold was found', from OE byrgen 'tumulus, burial-mound'.

GOOSEMOOR 1 1/2 miles west of Church Eaton (SJ 8217). Gosemere 1331 Banco, ? Gosenere(pole) 1349 SHC XIV (ii) 35, Gosemer sych 1349 Deed, Gosmore 1674 Gnosall ParReg, Gausemore 1679 SHC 1919 221, Gosmore 1763 SRO DW1909/A/9, Gosmoor Heath 1775 Yates, Goosmoor Common 1777 SRO 590/58/1-54, Goosemoor Sitch 1838 TA. From OE gōs mere 'the pool of the geese', with OE mere 'pool' (with the tautological OE pole 'pool' added to the 1349 form), later becoming mör 'marshland'.

GOOSEMOOR GREEN 4 miles south-east of Rugeley (SK 0611). Gorserforthe Greene 1584 SHC 1939 112, 1608 SHC III NS 21, Gorsemoor Green 1775 Yates, Goosemoor Green 1834 O.S. From OE gorst, gors 'gorse, furze', with an uncertain second element (perhaps OE fyrs 'furze') which has
become 'moor, marshland', with ME grêne, probably here meaning 'the grassy place'. See also Gogesmore.

GORNAL, UPPER & LOWER; GORNALWOOD 2 miles north-west of Dudley (SO 9292, 9191).

Gornhal temp. Henry III, Goronhale 1375 BM, Gwarnell, Guarnell 15th century Duig, Gwornall 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 115, Gwormalde 1565 SHC 1926 143, Over Gwarnall 1590 SHC 1930 57, Nether Gwarnall 1590 ibid. 58, Gornalwood 1659 HRO E12/V1/NB/14, Guarnell 1664 SHC II (ii) 51, Gournal 1686 Plot. Gelling & Cole 2000: 130 suggests a derivation from OE cweorn-halh 'mill halh', but Gornal is on high ground, and 'halh where mill-stones were produced' (cf. modern 'quern') seems more likely: Shaw 1801: 11 222 states that '...at Cotwall-end, they dig excellent grinding stones...', and there is a record that a quantity of querns were found here in the 16th century: VCH I 192. Hackwood 1898: 105 states that 'the ancient name of Upper or Over Gornal is Sheep Cotwall as appears by the Court Rolls', but no evidence has been traced to support that statement. See also Cotwall End.

GORSBROOK 1 mile north of Wolverhampton (SJ 9100). gos broc 985 (17th century, S.860), Gosbroke, Gosebroke 14th and 15th centuries Duig, Goosbrook (Mill) 1708 Bushbury ParReg, Gosbrook 1834 O.S. From OE ges 'a goose', hence 'goose brook'.


GORSEGATE (unlocated) a district of Walsall. Gorsgate 1798 Shaw I 79.

GORSE HALL 1 mile north-east of Barton under Needwood (SK 2019). Gorse Hall 1836 O.S.


GORSEY HILL FARM on south-west side of Barton under Needwood (SK 1818). ? Gorstye Haye 1498 OSS 1936 49.

GORSTHULL(E) (unlocated, possibly near Burntwood.) ? Gorsthull 1279 SHC VI (i) 143, 1311 SHC IX 29, 1344 SHC XII 35. From OE gorst 'gorse', with OE hyll 'hill'.

GORSTY CROFT in West Bromwich, White's Croft alias Gorstie Crofte 1615 Willett 1882: 164, Gosty Crofts 1651 SRO D260/M/E/425/1; GORSTY CROFT (FARM) 1 mile north-east of Foxt (SK 0449), Gorstycroft 1616 Kingsley ParReg, Gorsty Crofte 1619 ibid, Gorstie Croft 1836 O.S. From the OE adjective *gorstig 'overgrown with gorse', with OE croft 'a small enclosure of arable or pasture land, an enclosure near a house', so 'the small enclosure overgrown with gorse'.

GORSTYE HAYE (unlocated, possibly near Burntwood.) Gorstye Haye 1498 OSS 1936 49.

GORSTY HILL 2 miles south-west of Marchington (SK 1029), Gorsty Knoll c.1250 SRO DW1721/3/4/3, Le Gorstiknol c.1290 SHC 1937 85, Gorst Hill 1734 D786/26/5, Gorsty Hill 1836 O.S.; GORSTYHILL 1 mile north-west of Balterley, on the border with Cheshire (SJ 7450), Gorstihill, Gorstiehill 1581 Betley ParReg, Ghorstie Hill 1833 O.S. From the OE adjective *gorstig 'overgrown with gorse', with OE hyll 'hill', so 'the hill overgrown with gorse'.

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GORTON GREEN 1 mile south-west of Longdon (SK 0712). Gamton Green 1798 Yates, Gorton’s Green 1815 SRO DW1885/4/1/26, Gortons Green 1834 O.S. Probably from the family name Gordon or Gorton, recorded in the area in 1461 and 1491 (OSS 1936 42, 47).

GOSCOTE 3 miles north of Walsall (SK 0102). Gersicote 1284 SHC VI (i) 131, Gorstycote 1286 SHC V (i) 174, Gusecote 1293 SHC 1911 232, Gorsticote 1300 SHC V (i) 179, Gorsticotte otherwise Goscote 1589 SHC XV 193, Gorsticott 1610 SHC III NS 54. From the OE adjective *gorstig ‘overgrown with gorse’, with OE cot ‘cot, cottage, hut, shelter’, giving ‘cot amongst the gorse’ or ‘cot on the heath’. The place was formerly within Cannock Forest.

GOSPEL END 1 mile west of Sedgley (SO 8993). Gospelynd 1532 SHC XII 185, Gospell Ende 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 114, 1574 SHC XIV 182, Gospelend 1587 Sedgley ParReg, Gospel End 1775 Yates. A place where a reading from the Bible was made during perambulations of boundaries on Rogation days. See also Gospel Oak; Penwood (Farm).

GOSPEL OAK 1½ miles west of Wednesbury (SO 9694). ye Gospel Oake 1695 Tipton ParReg, Gospel oaks 1704 ibid, Gospel Oak 1834 O.S. On the boundary of the parishes of Wednesbury, Tipton and Sedgley, the former location of an oak where, as a ‘Gospel place’, a reading from the Bible was made during perambulations of boundaries on Rogation days. Names of this type are very common: Gospel Oak is recorded between Hoar Cross and Yoxall (Redfern 1886: 47), Gospel Ash (1834 O.S.) on a parish boundary 2 miles east of Bobbington (SO 8390), and Gospel Place (1834 O.S.) ¼ mile north-east of Broadhurst Green on Cannock Chase (SJ 9815). See also Gospel End.

GOTHERSLEY 2 miles east of Enville (SO 8586). Godrichesleye 1329 SHC 1913 24, Godericheleye 1342 ibid. 91, Gothersley 1690 HRO E12N1/KY/7, Cothersley 1825 SRRC 2161/137, Gotherley 1834 O.S. The later spellings indicate a derivation from the OE personal name Godric, hence ‘Godric’s leah’. Gotherley formerly stood on the west bank of Smestow Brook, but the name is now attached to Gothersley Farm to the south-west. The place may be associated with Gutheresburn (q.v.) recorded in 1248: VCH XX 123, VCH III 137.

GRADBACH on the Staffordshire-Cheshire border, 7 miles north of Leek (SJ 9965). Gratebache 1374 SHC XIV (i) 136, Gradebach 1414 SHC XVII 13, Gratbache 1564 Ch. From OE grēþ ‘bulky, massive’, with OE bece ‘pronounced stream-valley’. The place stands at the confluence of the Black Brook and river Dane, both of which lie in bece-type valleys.

GRAISELEY 1¼ miles south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 9097). Glaseleye 1259 SHC 1911 132, Graseleye 1282 Duig, 1327 SHC VII (i) 249, Greseley 1332 SHC X (i) 127, Grazeley 1577 Wolverhampton ParReg, Gresley Farm 1820 Greenwood, Grazeley Hall 1834 O.S. Perhaps from OE *grēþ ‘wolf’ (EPNE i 207 and Ekwall 1960: 203 sub nom Grazeley gives ‘badger’, but see NM 96 1995 361-65), so ‘the leah with the wolves’. See also SHC 1919 167.

GRANGE, THE in Croxall (SK 2013). (atte) Grange (p) 1309 DbCh. From ME grange, graunge ‘a grange’, originally ‘a granary, a barn’, later ‘a farm’, also ‘an outlying farm belonging to a religious house or a feudal lord where crops were stored’. Transferred from Derbyshire in 1894.

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GRANGE FARM on the west side of Winnington (SJ 7238). Early spellings have not been traced, but the place may have been a grange of Combermere Abbey: StEnc 666.

GRANGE FARM 1 mile east of Coppenhall (SJ 9219.) Picklestich 1833 O.S. No suggestion can be offered for the 1833 spelling.

GRATTON 1 mile south-west of Horton (SJ 9356). Gretton 1199 FF, 1252 Ch, Grynnes 1273 SHC VI (i) 59, Grettone 1306 Banco, Gratton 1343 ibid, Gratton super Mores 1375 IpMR, Grotton 1393 ibid, Grottun 1486 to 1515 ECP, Gerton otherwise Gratton 1572 SHC XIII 287, Gretton 1608 SHC III NS 27. Almost certainly from OE grētōt, tūn ‘gravelly tūn’; see Gratwich; Great Bridge.

GRATWICH Ancient Parish 4 miles south-west of Uttoxeter (SK 0231). Crotewiche 1086 DB, Grotewic 1176 P, Grotewis 1242 Fees, Grotewisz 1276 SHC 1911 177, Grettewic 1286 SHC 4th Series XVIII 126, Grettewyc, Grettewychc 13th century Duig, Gratwythe 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 60, Grettewiche, Gratwyche 1562 SHC 1938 111. The first element is derived from OE grēot ‘gravel’, with the second element wic, hence ‘the wic which lies on gravel’. See also JEPNS 31 23. For field-names in Gratwich in 1562 see SHC 1938 111-2.

GREAT BRIDGE 2 miles south-west of Wednesbury (SO 9792). Grete 1292 SHC VI (i) 212, 1327 SHC VII (i) 229, Grete 14th century Duig, Greethbridge c.1564 SHC 1931 155, Greete 16th century, Greet Bridge 17th century Duig, Grit Bridge 1686 Plot. The place stands on a stream formerly called Greet which divides the parishes of West Bromwich and Tipton. Greta and Greet are common river names in the north of England: see Ekwall 1928: 185. The name is from OE greot ‘gravel, grit’, meaning ‘stream with a gravelly bed’. The name Great Bridge (‘the bridge over the stream called Grete’) was being used by the end of the 17th century: VCH XVII 8.

GREAT HAYWOOD - see HAYWOOD, GREAT.


GREATWOOD (FARM) ¼ mile south-west of Croxton (SJ 7731), Gratewood 1558 SRO DW1837/1, Gratwoodd 1563 SHC 1938 66, Grateswood Heathwarren 1644 SHC 4th Series I 150, Greatwood (Heath) 1655 SRO DW1082/L2/1-20, Gratwood (Heath) 1719 SHC 1931 90, Great Wood (Lodge) 1833 O.S.; GREATWOOD (obsolete, near Little Wyrley), Greatwood c.1250 SHC VI (ii) 191, 1363 ibid. 192, 1403 ibid. 193. Self-explanatory. Greatwood Heath, an extensive tract of common, covered some four square miles from the Broughton Road in the north to Offley Hay, and from Croxtonbank to Fairoak: StEnc 242. It was enclosed under the first of 113 Staffordshire Enclosure Awards in 1719: SHC 1941 16. It is likely that Gracewood, (?Gratwood) recorded in 1298 (Spufford 2000: 295), refers to that place, with the not untypical misreading of c for t.

GREENDALE 1 mile south-west of Oakamoor (SK 0443). Greendale 1573 Ass. From OE dal ‘valley’, so ‘the grassy dale or valley’.

GREENFORD unlocated: according to Shaw 1801: II 16, small islands in the river Tame, north-west of Drayton Bassett. Greenford 1801 Shaw II 16.


GREENHILLS ½ miles north-east of Ipstones (SK 0351). Grenehullus temp. Edward I SRO D1229/1/4/21, Grene Hills 1542 SRO D1229/1/4/38, Green Hills (twice) 1836 O.S.

GREENLOW HEAD on the west side of Butterton (SK 0756). Grenewalowe 1636 Deed, Greenlow Head 1689 Butterton ParReg. The head or summit with the green hlaw or tumulus'.

GREENSFORGE ¾ miles south of Wombourne, on the river Stour (SO 8588). Greensforge 1600 VCH XX 208, Greenes forge 1674 WHS 13 NS 35. Dud Dudley, the early ironmaster, mentions a Greens-lodge here in 1656 (Shaw 1801: II 13) and Green's forge is recorded in 1665 (SHC X (ii) 32), evidently from the surname Green; Thomas Green is mentioned here in 1600 (VCH XX 208). Cf. Wall Heath.

GREENWAY HALL 1 mile west of Bagnall (SJ 9150). Greneway mid-13th century SRO 3764/33[27574], Grenchewe 1308 SHC XI NS 261, 1364 SHC IV 72, 1512 Horton Ct, Greenway Hall c.1569 SHC IX NS 95, Greynwaie Hall 1577 SHC 1926 50, Greeneway hall, Greeneway hall 1594 Norton-in-the Moors ParReg. Self-explanatory. It is uncertain whether Grenchewe, recorded in 1279 (SHC 1911 178), refers to this place. Greneway in or near Stone is recorded in 1391 (SHC XVI 28).
GREENWICH POOL 2 miles north-west of Enville (SO 7988). Greenage 1770 VCH XX 94. Possibly 'the green oak', though that derivation might be difficult to explain. Perhaps to be associated with Groundwyns recorded in 1391: VCH XX 94.

GREET'S GREEN in south-west of Wednesbury (SO 9791). Grit green 1686 Plot - see Great Bridge.

GREGORY 1 mile north-west of Norbury (SJ 7624). A curious name of unknown date and derivation, but possibly associated with a large oval flat-topped mound here: see VCH IV 155.

GRESBROK HALL (obsolete) the name of the manor house in Shenstone (SK1104), acquired in 1204 by Bartholomew de Gresebroke: TSSAHS XII 1970-1 25. Gresbrok 1269 SHC IV (ii) 107, 1295 SHC VII 42, Gresbroc 1275 SHC 1923 275.

GRESLEY HALL (obsolete) ½ mile south-east of Hints (SK1601). Gresley Hall 1798 Yates.

GRESLEY HILL (unlocated.) Gresley Hill 1601 SHC 1935 347.

GREVELEY (unlocated, near Blythe Bridge.) See Erdeswick 1844: 269. Possibly Grindley (q.v.).

GREY FRIARS on the north-west side of Stafford (SJ 9123). The Graye Freers 1581 SRO D593/A/2/27/17. From a Franciscan friary at the North Gate or Goal Gate in Stafford established by 1274: VCH III 270-1.

GRIF WOOD 1 mile west of Mayfield (SK 1245). Probably to be associated with Greof, recorded temp. Edward I (Okeover T309). Possibly from ON grýfja 'a small deep valley' (found as North Country dialect griff), or ON grófr's a stream, the hollow which a stream makes, a pit': the place lies on Marsh Brook.

GRIMDITCH (obsolete) ½ mile north-east of Ipstones (SK 0350). Grimditch Gate 1780 EnclA, Grimditch 1836 O.S., Grimditch otherwise Grimheath 1897 Eccl.Comm. Early spellings have not been traced (unless the surname Grymesdych, recorded in 1535 (1798) Shaw I 412, or Grymesdiche, mentioned in 1605 (1883) Sleigh 20 refer to this place), but the name was commonly applied by the Anglo-Saxons to prehistoric ditches, probably from the name Grim used as a giant's name in Northern Europe (see Nomina 8 1985 72), rather than from OE Grím, meaning 'the masked one', a nickname for Woden, who by tradition went about in disguise (see PN W 15-6; Gelling 1988: 148-9). The name Crowgutter (q.v.) may refer to this feature (a road from Crowgutter to Grimditch Gate was described as a turnpike road in 1777 EnclA), but on the 1836 O.S. map appears to be linked with the stream which flows to the east of Ipstones. See also The Camp, near Adbaston.

GRIMESCROFT (unlocated, near Knighton (SHC 1914 91) or Bishop's Offley (SHC 1914 82.) Grimescroft 1220 SHC IV 288, c.1220 SHC 1914 82, Grimescroft 1272 SHC 1924 243. From OE croft 'a small enclosed field'. For the first element see Grimditch, or possibly from the surname Grym, Grymm or Grim recorded in this area from an early date: see SHC XII (i) 156; SHC 1914 92, 97, 98, 134, 138-9; SHC 1928 280; note also Francis Grimes, recorded in 1686 Eccleshall ParReg. The 'well known family of Grim' is said to have had its seat at Little Haywood between 1200 and 1350: SHC 1914 134; see also SHC 1928 280.
GRINDER'S MILL - see BUSTLEHOLME.

GRINDLESTONE EDGE (obsolete) 1 miles north of Horton (SJ 9458). Grindlestone Edge 1686 Plot, Grindlestone (House) 1815 EncL, Grindle Stone Edge 1842 O.S. From ME grindelstone 'a grindstone', so 'the steep ridge where grindstones were quarried'.

GRINDLEY (obsolete) on west side of Blythe Bridge (SJ 9441). Grandalesiche, Grandalesichet c.1250 SHC XI 314, Grudalesiche' 1337 ibid. 306, Grindley (Hill) 1798 Yates, Grindley 1836 O.S. A curious name, possibly from OE grene dal 'green valley', or possibly from Grendel, the name of the monster in the OE epic Beowulf, though in both cases the change of the first e to a or u would be unusual. -siche is from OE stc 'a small stream, especially one in flat marshland' (the 1836 O.S. map shows a small tributary of the river Blythe here), suggesting another possible derivation from OE *grendel 'gravelly place or stream', though the early spellings make that less likely. The name is now found in Grindley Lane. Possibly the same place as Greveley (q.v.). See also Grinslowe Grange. For grendelsmere in the bounds of Old Swinford (15th/16th century, S.579) in 951x955 see Stenton 1970: 285; Hooke 1990: 164-5.

GRINDLEY 5 miles south-west of Uttoxeter (SK 0329). Grenleg 1251 Ch, Grenleg, Grentleg pre-1290 SRO 594[7937], Grinley ? 13th century SHC VIII 169, Greneleye frequently 13th century Duig, Grentlee 1338 SHC 1913 71, Grenleygh, Greneleygh 1341 SHC 1921 18-9, Grenley 1473 SHC NS IV 183, Grynley 1619 SHC VII NS 195, Grinley 1679 SHC 1914 124, Grindley 1836 O.S. From OE grene 'green', hence 'the green leah'.

GRINDON Ancient Parish 5 miles north-west of Ilam (SK 0854). Grendone 1086 DB, Grendon 1188x1197 SRO D603/A/Add/36b, 1327 SHC VII (i) 221, Grendon on le Morys 1444 SHC 1939 85, Gren' 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 6, Grynne 1590 SHC 1930 (ii) 203, Gryndon 1592 SHC 1930 287, Grin 1599 Smith, Gryn 1607 SHC III NS 10, Grin 1647 Ellastone ParReg, Grinne 1656 Leek ParReg. From OE grene dān 'green hill'.

GRINSLOWE GRANGE (unlocated, perhaps to be associated with Grindley (q.v.).) Grinslowe Grange 1592 NA 157DD/2P/19/1.

GROSVENOR (HIGH), GROSVENOR'S CROSS (obsolete) 1 mile south-east of Worfield (SO 7693). Gravenovere 1293 SHC VI (i) 239, Gravenor 1462 SHC IV NS 122, High Gravenor 1638 Claverley ParReg, high-gravener 1663 SRRC 2038/1/3/21, High Gravenor, Gravenors Cross 1752 Rocque, High Grosvenor 1833 O.S. From French gros veneur 'great or chief huntsman': Robert le Grant-Venur is recorded in 1293 (SHC VI (i) 246); Henry Graven(or) is listed in the SR of 1525. Grosvenor's Cross is now known as The Cross. It is unclear whether Grandenaue, recorded in 1260 (SHC 4th Series 13 8), and Gravenoveere, recorded in 1293 (SHC VI (i) 239), are to be associated with this place.

GROUNDSLOW FIELDS 2 miles north-east of Swynnerton (SJ 8637). Grauntsele 1281 SHC VI (i) 120, Groundslow Fields 1698 SRO D593/B/1/22/25, Groundsley Fields 1749 JNSFC XLV 1910-11 210, 1798 Yates, Groundslow Fields 1836 O.S. Perhaps from OE grund 'foundation, ground, bottom', also 'a stretch of land', and later 'an outlying farm, outlying fields'. It has been noted that from the
distribution the particular application to 'field' rather than 'foundation' may well point to a derivation from ON grund 'earth, a plain', as in Old Icelandic grund 'a flat grass-grown plot of land': see EPNE i 211. The second element is almost certainly OE hlätw 'low, tumulus', so giving 'the flat grassy land with the tumulus': at least two burial mounds have been recorded here, at SJ 867375 and SJ 867373: StEnc 247.

GRUBBERS HILL 2 miles north-east of Keele (SJ 8147). Grobershill 1576 Audley ParReg, Grobershill otherwise Grobersasche 1592 SHC 1930 263, Grubbers 1630 Wostanton ParReg, Grober's Ash 1634 ibid, Grubbers Ash 1686 Plot 121, Grabbers Ash 1707 Keele ParReg, Grubbers Ash 1833 O.S. Possibly from ME grubbere 'digger' (an occupation frequently recorded in mining areas: see for example Will'o le Grobber 1332 SHC X (i) 95), or the surname Grobbere (see SHC 1913 329, 333; Shaw 1798: I 72) with the same derivation, with OE hyll 'hill' and OE æsc 'ash-tree'.

GRUB STREET ¼ mile south of High Offley (SJ 7825). Grub Street 1833 O.S. This place, remembered in the name of a lane running south from High Offley, may have taken its name from the lane. The age and derivation of the name are uncertain, but from the 17th century Grub Street has been a term of disparagement applied allusively to the authors of literary works of little merit: Grub Street was the former name of Milton Street in Moorfields, London, inhabited by writers of 'small histories, dictionaries and temporary poems': OED.

GRUETS WOOD (unlocated, at Wooliscroft.) Gruets Wood 1136 SHC XII NS 154. See also SHC VI (i) 22 for Gruet.

GRYMESWORTH (unlocated, in Little Wyrley.) Grymesworth 1395 SHC VI (ii) 193. For Grymes-see Grimditch, Grimescroft. Worth is OE worp 'an enclosure'.

GRYMSYLL or GRYMSELL (unlocated, possibly near Ranton or Milwich, or possibly outside Staffordshire). Grymsyll 1540 SHC V NS 118, Grymsell 1541 SRO D590/662. 'Grim's hill'. For the name see Grimditch, Grimescroft. The place evidently belonged to Ranton priory: SRO D590/662. Grimshill in Shropshire is recorded as Grymsell in 1587, but belonged to Haugham abbey: SRRC 1574/400. There was a Grimshill in Coleshill, Warwickshire.

GRYNGLEY (unlocated) Gryngeleye 1327 SHC VII (i) 228, Gryngley 1592 SHC 1930 (ii) 295. Possibly Grindley (q.v.).

GUENDELAWE (unlocated, near Tixall.) Guendelawe 1220 SHC VIII (i) 193. The first element is likely to be an unidentified personal name (or possibly a corruption of OE cwene - see Queen's Low and Quennedale), with OE hlätw 'mound, tumulus'. The tumulus may be that known as Queen's Low, or one that is said to have been destroyed by ploughing at the end of the 18th century: see Clifford 1817: 86-7. See also King's Low.

GUILD OF MONKS 2 miles west of Gnosall (SJ 7820). It has been suggested that the place, which lay at Old Guild, 300 yards west of the present modern farmhouse called Guild of Monks (VCH IV 107), on the north side of the Roman road from Pennocrucium to Chester (Margary number 19), is Shrewsbury Abbey's manor de loc Sancti Johannis Baptiste in the wood of Suthon (i.e. Sutton, in Forton), a hermit's habitation recorded in 1256 (SHC 1921 189, also SHC 1913 317; 1923 305; VCH
III 136). Other references are land called the Gyle de la Monks 1487 Rental, Monks gyle 1487 Rental, le Gyle als Gilham Monkes 1533 Rental, Gyll a monks 1545 Ct, Gyll 1573 Rental, mansion house at the Gill a monks 1605 Ipm, Gillamonkes, Gallamonkes 1604 SHC 1946 200-1, Gild of Monkes 1693 Terrier, Upper Gill, Lower Gill 1775 Yates, Gill 1808 Baugh, Guild of Monks 1832 Teesdale (with Old Guild to the west and New Guild to the north-west). The present Guild of Monks Farm is shown as Lower Gill on Smith's map of 1747, and later as Guild Farm. The derivation remains unknown - the absence of -d in early forms indicates that there is little likelihood that it is connected in any way with OE gild 'guild, society'. For Gilcrux, Cumberland (Gillecruz 1230, Gillecruce 1272, Gillecrucie 1230) Ekwall 1960: 195 suggests the possibility of a Welsh cil 'back, corner, retreat' for the first element, with G- due to British lenition, citing Culcheth, Lancashire; Kilquite and Colquite, Cornwall; and Cilcoit, Monmouthshire. That seems a possibility here, but Mawer 1929: 16, 78-9 discusses 'the strange word gill, so frequent in the Wealden area that it is recognised in the dialects of both Surrey and Kent' in the sense 'narrow wooded valley', and concludes that it is probably from a Germanic stem *gulja. There is a possibility that the name is from ON gil 'ravine, narrow valley': see also Gill Bank and Gillow Heath. Guild of Monks lies on the side of a small valley through which runs a stream flowing into Aqualate Mere. New Guild lies ½ mile north-west. For a detailed analysis of OE gild in place-names see PN Wo 124-5. See also Kilpeck, Herefordshire.

GUN a 1223' hill on high moorland 4 miles north-west of Leek, known locally as The Gun (SJ 9761). Gonedone 1229x1232 CEC 385, Gunedun, Gonedun, Gonedan c.1230 SHC IX NS 316, the waste of Gondon 1318 SHC 1911 433, ? Gernedon' 1327 SHC VII 216, ? Gunne 1332 SHC X 115, Gundon c.1539 LRMB, Dunne 16th century Erdeswicke 1844: 494, the Gun 1673 Blome, a hill called the Gun 1686 Plot 115, Dun Mountain 1747 Bowen, Gun (Stone Pits) 1842 O.S. The place-name Dun, perhaps in this area, is recorded in 1278 (SHC VI (i) 86). The earliest spellings suggest a derivation from the ON personal name Gunni, borrowed into OE as Gunna (the latter found in BCS 1130, not listed in Sawyer 1979), with OE dán 'hill, mountain', so 'Gunni's or Gunna's hill'. Will'o Gunne is recorded in Bradnop in 1332 (SHC X 115). However, the element gun is found attached to a number of hills and high ground in North Staffordshire and the adjoining counties (cf. Gun Farm, Gun Hill, Gun Hills, all in Derbyshire), and it is the not inconceivable (though improbable) that the name is of Celtic origin, from OWelsh gwoun (Welsh grawn, Breton gueun, geun, Cornish gán, gôn, found especially in Cornwall as goon: Coates & Breeze 2000: 356), meaning 'moor, downland, plain, unenclosed land', e.g. Cornish gânnan means 'moorland, part of a parish or property' (cf. Gunend; Gunside). In that respect it may be noted that another element, tor, which may be of Celtic origin (EPNE ii 184) is found especially in the South West and in the North Midlands: EPNE i xxviii. Against this theory is the fact that initial g only appears in words beginning with earlier w from the later 8th century onwards, probably too late to be found in Staffordshire. The name is also found in Gun Common (1731 Letter (1883) Sleigh); Gun End (q.v.); Gun Farm (1775 Yates); Gun Gate (1684 Leek ParReg); Gun Mires (1831 Survey); Gun Moor (1775 Yates); Gun Road (1811 EnclA); Gun Rock (1820 EnclA); Gun Side (q.v.); Gun Hall (1344 Ipm); Gun Heath (1731 Letter (1883) Sleigh).

GUNEND ½ mile north-east of Heaton (SJ 9662), Gun End 1842 O.S.; GUNSIDE 1 mile south-west of Meerbrook (SJ 9860), Gun Side 1565 Deed, Gunn-Side 1698 Leek ParReg, Gunside 1798 Yates,
Gun Side 1842 O.S. See Gun. Side is from OE side 'side', later 'slope of a hill, especially one extending for a considerable distance'.

GUNSTONE 2 miles south of Brewood (SJ 8704). Gonestona 1176x1184 SHC V NS 214, Gunnistona c.1199 SHC III (i) 30, Gunniston' temp. Richard 1 Cur, Gunneston c.1260 Giffard, Gunneston(e) 1240 FF, 1250 Banco, Gounstoun 1317 Giffard, Gon(e)ston(e) c.1176-84 St Cart, Gunneston 1334 SHC XIV 38, Gunstone 1341 to 1482 Banco, Gonston 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 85. 'The tān of Gunni' (an ON personal name). The place-name is of a type known to philologists as a 'Grimston-hybrid' (or a 'Toton Hybrid': see Cameron 1996: 74-5), i.e. a name in which OE tān is combined with an ON personal name. It is possible that the name may date from the taking over of established English settlements by the victorious Danes of the great army of 865 AD: see Gelling 1988: 232-4. Cf. Gunton, Norfolk and Suffolk. It may be significant that the place lies on a lost Roman road running south from Pennocrucium (Water Eaton): Horovitz 1992: 34-5. See also Rolleston. The field-name Gunnyngesleke in Leekfrith is recorded in 1394 (Deed (1883) Sleigh), and is probably from the personal name Gunni, perhaps with ON slakki 'a small shallow valley, a hollow in the ground', or (more likely) with OE *lece 'a stream flowing through boggy land, a bog'.

GUTHERESBURN a hermitage in Kinver Forest. Gutheresburn 1248 VCH III 137; VCH XX 123. The location of this place has not been identified, and it is unclear whether it lay in Staffordshire or Worcestershire, but possibly associated with Gothersley (q.v), in which case the name may have applied to what is now Spittle Brook: Gothersley lies in the south-west angle of Spittle Brook and Smestow Brook, and the name is now attached to Gothersley Farm to the south-west. The single spelling, however, if trustworthy, points towards a derivation from the OE personal name Güphere, with OE burna 'stream'.

GYBSTONE (unlocated, possibly near Stone.) Gybstone 1480 SHC V NS 132, SHC VI NS (i) 126.

HACONDALE (unlocated, possible in the Blithfield area). Hacondale late 13th century SRO D986/41. Possibly from the ON personal name Hákon, with OE ðal or ON dalr 'valley'.

HADDESORE (unlocated, possibly near Dilhorne.) Haddesore 1331 SHC 1913 27.

HADDON ¼ mile north of Rushton Spencer (SJ 9463), Haddon 1842 O.S.; HADDON (obsolete) on the north-east side of Maer (SJ 7839), Haddon 1833 O.S. From OE hæþ-dān 'heathy-hill'. The place near Maer (said in TSSAHS XII 1970-1 35 to have been at SJ 801385) is remembered in Haddon Lane.

HADEMERE 1 mile east of Whittington (SK 1708). Horton Hademore 1635 VCH XIV 248, Hademore fields 1640s ibid, Hademore 1760 VCH XIV 240, 1834 White 105. Probably from OE hāþ mōr 'heather-covered moor or fen'. See also Horton. It is unclear whether Heydemere, recorded in 1308 (SHC 1911 300) is to be associated with this place.

Cross 1834 O.S. It has been suggested that Handen, Handden 1227 (SHC IV 66) may refer to this place (ibid.). From OE hēan dūn 'high hill'.

**HADLEY END** 2½ miles north-east of King's Bromley (SK 1320). Haddeleye 1301 SHC VII 89, Hadleye 1318 SHC IX (i) 73, Hedle End c.1599 SHC 1935 199, Hadley End 1772 SRO DW 3222/245/1-23, 1836 O.S., Hadley Plain 1830 Act. Probably from a shortening of OE ēadō 'a heath, heather', with OE lēah, giving 'the heathy clearing'. The word end normally meant simply place, rather than a terminal point, and was often applied to squatter settlements built on commons or heathland. See also SHC II 257; SHC XVI 280 fn.2. Shaw 1798: 1224 mentions a place anciently called Hadley, then Tymorshey, in King's Bromley. See also Hadley Farm.

**HADLEY FARM** 1 mile south-west of Draycott in the Clay (SK 1427). Hadley Plain Cottage 1836 O.S., Hedleyplain Barn 1888 O.S. Probably from a shortening of OE ēadō 'a heath, heather', with OE lēah, giving 'the heathy clearing'. See also Hadley End.

**HAGLEY** on south side of Rugeley (SK 0417). Hageleia 1130 P, Hagelega 1169 ibid, Haggagleges 1166 RDE, Hagg(e)ley(e) 1300 For, Haggele 1242 Fees, Hagley 1500 Ipm, Hagley 1513 VCH V 156, 1571 SHC 1938 162, 1801 Shaw II 325, Hagley 1570 Survey, Hagley otherwise Haggeley 1606 SHC XVIII 67. A manor believed to have been created in the time of Henry II by the keepers of Rugeley Hay in Cannock Forest: VCH V 155. From OE *hæcga, a form of haga 'haw, fruit of the hawthorne', with OE lēah, giving 'lēah with the haws'.

**HAILSTONE, THE** (obsolete, a colossal 60' pillar-like outcrop of crystalline hornblende rock which lay on the west side of Turner's Hill, ½ mile north-west of Rowley Regis (SO 9688).) Hailstone 1798 Shaw I 122 fn*, Rowley hail stone 1817 Pitt, Hailstone Hill 1832 Teesdale, 1834 O.S., Rowley Hailstone 1845 SRO D716/5/17-18. Plot 1686: 175 records: 'At Rowley Regis...I met with the same [very hard black shining stone] again, and scattered here and there all over the Towne: whereof yet there is one more remarkable than the rest, about half a mile N.W. of the Church; as big, and as high, on one side, as many Church Steeples: at the bottom of which on the highest side, if one stamp with ones foot, it returns a hollow sound as if there were a Vault, which made me suspect that some great person of ancient times might be buryed here, under this natural Monument (for I scarce think so great a thing could be put here by art, it much exceeding those of Stonehenge or Aubrey [Avebury] in Wilts) but digging down by it as near as I could (where the sound directed) I could find no such matter.' Scott 1832: 437 described Hailstone as '...a vast cubical pillar...Surrounding it on all sides and scattered in great profusion through the coppice which spreads over the slope, and strewn in multiformal fragments at its bases are innumerable blocks...'. The age of the name is not known, but if ancient (which is unlikely) perhaps from OE hālig-stān 'holy stone': cf. Hailstone, Wiltshire. Or perhaps from the globular or hail-like formations found in the outcrop. The pillar was destroyed by explosives in 1879. See also Wilson-Jones 48; StEnc 252-3.

**HALDESALES MOR** (unlocated, in the Lichfield area.) Haldesalesmor 1272 SHC 1910 103.

**HALES** Ancient Parish 3 miles east of Market Drayton (SJ 7133). Halas 1086 DB, Hal in Lima c.1217 Rees 1997: 118, Hales in Lima c.1250 ibid. 119, Hales 1291 Tax, Hales under Lyme 1293 SHC VI (i)
228, Hales 13th and 14th centuries Duig, Drayton Haylles c.1570 SHC 1931 131, Blorehales 1598 SHC XVI 184, Hales in Tirley 1705 DRO D3155/C227. The nominative plural of OE halh, perhaps here meaning 'dry ground in a marsh', but the use in this way of the place-name element remains puzzling. For Lima, Lyme see Lyme. Blorehales is from nearby Blore (q.v.). The area around Hales was formerly known as Drayton Hales (1833 O.S.), from nearby Market Drayton, to distinguish it from other Hales. Hales is also recorded in 1562, possibly near Alstonefield: SHC XV 140. See also Aston near Madeley.

HALEWEHULL (unlocated) Halewehull 1272 SHC IV 195. Perhaps associated with Halugh, Le (q.v.).

HALFCOT 2 miles west of Amblecote (SO 8685), and presumably the place which appears as Halford in Duignan 1902: 71. Haffecote 1332 SHC X 86, Oldeforde 1343 Duig (presumably Le Oldeforde near Stapenhill, 1342 SHC 1913 90), Halcote 1434 SRO D1197/8/1, Hafecote 1446 Ch, 1609 SHC 1948-9 118, Haffcot 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 16, Hafsoate 1656 Sedgley ParReg, Hafscott 1669 WHS NS 9 (i) 69, Hafcot 1686 Plot. The place is near the river Stour. It is unclear why Duignan 1902: 71 associates Oldeforde with this place, but if he is correct it would seem that this place had two names from an early date. The word old had two meanings, 'ancient' (implying another, newer, ford nearby), and 'disused'. Both meanings would explain why the name became obsolete. The present name is evidently from OE halh-cot, from OE halh, here probably meaning 'a piece of low-lying land near a river', and OE cot'a cottage, hut, shelter'. See also Hastecote.

HALFHEAD I mile north-east of Chebsey (SJ 8729). Halfhyde Helie 1164 SHC 1914 63, Halvahida Helye 1167 SHC I 49, Halvehyda Helye 1172 ibid. 65, Halvehyda Helye 1179 ibid. 88, Halfhide 1227 SHC IV 53, Halfehyde, Halvehyde 1228 SRO XI NS 240, Halfhida 1228 ibid. 219, Halfhidyde 1288 SHC 1911 194, Halfehide 1328 SHC XIV 4, Halhyde 1332 SHC X 91, 1549 SHC IV NS 114, Halfeheadde 1580 ibid. 213, Halferd 1621 SRO DE615/EX/1. 'So called for that it was anciently rated at half a hide of land': Chetwynd 1679: SHC 1914 63. Helye is from a former possessor, Helyas or Helias: SHC I 51, 158; SHC 1914 63. See also Pershall.

HALFMORE (unlocated, in Clent.) Halfmore 1590 SHC 1930 (ii) 68.

HALFPENNY GREEN (pronounced Haypnee [herpni]) 1 mile north-east of Bobbington, on the Staffordshire-Shropshire border (SO 8291). Halfpenny Green 1448, 1532, 1536 VCH XX 65. Local tradition holds that the name is from the payment made for water drawn from a well on the Green, but it is more likely that it alludes to the rent payable for land here, possibly by drovers for overnight feed for their animals (the place lies on a medieval route from Chester to south-west England, in use until c.1800: VCH XX 65) or, as in the case of many field-names containing the word halfpenny (e.g. Halfpenny Dutts, Baswich, Halfpeny buttes 1570 Survey), was a derogatory reference to the poor quality of the land. However, Rocque's 1752 map of Shropshire shows Halfpeney Lake (which is recorded as early as 1448: VCH XX 65, and as Halferpenny Lake in 1660: Claverley ParReg) in the approximate position of this place, with Halfpenny Green not named, suggesting that the place may have been named originally after a pond or pool shaped like an early (silver) halfpenny, i.e. half a
circle, in an area of former waste and marsh: VCH XX 65. A record of land at nearby Whittimere, together with other property, rented for one halfpenny, is to be found in Shaw 1801: II 212. *Halfpenny House* appears on the first edition 1" O.S. map of 1836 1 mile south-west of Newborough (SK 1225), but the history of the name is not known.

**HALFWAY HOUSE** 1 mile west of Wolverhampton (SO 9099). *The half-way house* 1749 WA II 42-3. From a cottage of this name, so-called because it lay mid-way between Wolverhampton and the western town boundary at Newbridge. The cottage was also known as *Rose Cottage*: WA II 42-3.

**HALING** on east side of Penkridge (SJ 9214). A relatively modern name from *haling-path* (hauling-path), with reference to the towpath of the Staffordshire & Worcestershire canal here, along which narrow-boats were drawn by horses.


**HALLHILL** 1 mile south-west of Longnor (SK 0763). *Hallhill* 1626 Rental, 1775 Yates, *Hall Hill* 1645 SRO QSR f.10v. Probably from OE *halh*, *hyll* 'the hill by or with the halh'.

**HALLOWES** (obsolete) - see COMPTON HALLOWES.


**HALSEY** (unlocated, probably near Longdon: see BCA 3415/164; *Halsey Lane* is recorded in 1722 on the south-east side of Beaudesert Park (SRO D603/E/2/149), presumably *Halseyleone* recorded in 1318 (BCA MS3415/150).) *Halsey* 1286 BCA MS 3415/140, *Halessey* 13th century BCA MS3415/135, *Halseye* 1306 SHC 1911 287, *Halfsye* 1327 SHC VII (i) 231, *Halsey, Halseye, Alse"y* 1332 SHC X
(i) 111, Halsey 1367 VCH III 223, 1377 SRO D1734. From OE hals, ON hals 'rock', used in a transferred topographical sense. ON hals meant 'projecting part of something, a narrow piece of land'. ME hals had the meaning 'a narrow neck of land or channel of water'. The second element may be OE ðeg 'island', land by a stream, land between streams'. Halsey becomes or is replaced by Hawkersuchende in the Paget papers (SRO D1734): see Hawkewallsych.

HALSTADS, THE (obsolete) an 'entrenchment of a square figure' on the south side of Okeover (SK 1547): see Plot 1686: 449; VCH I 192. the Hallsteds 1686 Plot 449, The Halsteads 1908 VCH I 192. Perhaps from OE heall 'a hall', with OE stede 'place, site of a building', giving 'the site of the hall'. Lewis 1849: II 280 mentions the considerable remains of a large moated residence, approached by an ancient bridge, and Erdeswick 1844: 488 fn. mentions 'barrows of Hallsteds'.

HALUGH, LE (unlocated, possibly in Baswich or Walton.) le Haigh post-1290 SRO D47[7935], Le Halewe c.1300 SRO D81[7991], le Halugh 1300 SHC 1911 57. From OE halh. See also Halewehull, Halweton.

HALWETON (unlocated) Halweton 1284 FA. Perhaps associated with Halugh, Le (q.v.).

HAMIL - see SNEYD GREEN.


HAMLEY (HOUSE) ½ mile north of Colton (SK 0521). Hom[m]Jineley ?late 13th century SRO 108[7931], Homeley under Wyrdeshay early 14th century SRO 3764/1[27574], Homeleyemor 1314 SRO 110[7936], Homeley 1343 SRO 111[7936], 1402 SHC XI NS 201, Hemley house 1749 Bowen, Hamley Stone Farm 1822 DW1721/2/48, Hamley House 1839 DW1721/2/49, Hambley House 1836 O.S. Perhaps from OE hamm, homm 'an enclosure, a meadow, a water meadow', rather than OE ham 'a dwelling place, a manor, a village, an estate', which is rarely found in the West Midlands, with OE lēah. Wyrdeshay may be Wilderly (Barn) (q.v.). See also Marchington.

HAMLEY PARK 1 mile south-west of Pattingham on the Staffordshire-Shropshire border (SO 8198). A medieval park known as Armeley Park by 1452 and later as Armeley Park (VCH XX 178), Emley Park 1662 SRRC 2028/1/5/17, Amley Park 1832 Teesdale. Ekwall 1960: 13 suggests for Armley, West Yorkshire, a derivation from OE earm 'wretched', perhaps in the sense 'outlaw', in which case 'the lēah of the outlaw(s)', an appropriate name for a place on the county border where outlaws could flee from the jurisdiction of one county to the other.

HAMMERSLEY (unlocated, possibly on the north side of Cheadle: Hammersleyhays is recorded 1 mile north of Cheadle (SJ 0144) in 1890: O.S., remembered in Hammersley Hayes Road.) Hemerusley 1323 SHC IX 94, Homereslegh 1324 SHC X 53, Homersley 1333 ibid. 116, Homeresleye 1344 SHC XII 36, 1370 SHC XIII 75, Homeresle 1370 ibid. 76, Homersley 1386 SHC ibid. 194, Homersley (p) 1591 SHC XVI 113, Homersley 1664 SHC V (ii) 177. It is suggested in SHC 1917-8 99 that 'the name comes from Ombersley, Worcestershire; but it has been naturalised as Hammersley in north Staffordshire and the Potteries since the time of [William Hamersley of Bottom, born c.1320] this first successful lawyer M.P.', and that the family first lived at Botham Hall, Cheddleton, before moving to Basford: see
Johnstone 1946: 25; PN Wo 268. That would explain Hom'sley House at Botham Hall recorded in 1630 (SHC II (ii) 17), Hammersley House al. the Wood recorded in Cheddleton in 1640 (SRO D538/A/5/16), and why Wetley Moor was also known as Homersley Moor. The name may possibly be a doublet of Hombersley in Worcestershire (i.e. Ombersley above), which may be 'Amb're lēah' as suggested by Ekwall 1960: 349, but could be from OE amr 'a bunting', found as omer, amore, emer, emær (see VEPN I 13-4; also Parson & Styles 1995-6: 5-13), and OE lēah, so 'the lēah with the buntings'. Hammersley farm, possibly associated with Homersle, mentioned in 1349 (SHC XII 77), is recorded in Fenton Vivian in 1751 (SRO D1788/67/33) but has not been located. It is possible that some of the above spellings may relate to the place near Cheddleton or Fenton Vivian.

HAMMERWICH 3 miles south-west of Lichfield (SK 0607). Humeruuich 1086 DB, Hamwich Frankalingorum 1166 SHC 1923 295, Hamerwich 1191 P, Homewiz 1203 SHC III 110, Hamerwic 1220 SHC IV 10, Hamerwick 1248 SHC IV 241, Homerywk 1281 SHC VI (i) 114, Homerwic 1301 SHC VII 74, Homerwich 13th century Duig, Homerywic 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 184, ? Homerridge 1601 SHC 1935 388, Homeriche 1602 ibid. 475, Hammerwich 1686 Plot. The second element is OE wiце 'a dwelling, a building or collection of buildings for special purposes, a farm, a dairy farm, a saltworks', later alternating with ridge and bridge, with OE hamor 'hill', from ON hamarr 'hammer-shaped crag, a steep rock, a cliff' (which would not seem to fit the topography here, although the place is on high ground), or from OE homor 'a hammer', perhaps in the sense of 'place with a forge or smithy', or (perhaps the most likely derivation) 'the place with the hand-tool workshops': see for parallel 'tool' names Cötw% and the lost Lootwic, both in Worcestershire (Parsons 2002: 182). Frankalingorum in the 1166 spelling is from MEfrankelein 'franklin, freeholder'. In 1262 a Forest jury determined that 'a certain heath was burnt by the vill of Hammerwich, to the injury of the King's game': VCH XIV 198. The inference (from a reference in DB to Duæ Humeruuich) that there were in 1086 two places of that name here, an Upper and a Lower Hammerwich, is rejected as particularly improbable by Thorn 1997: 371, where it is there suggested that the expression duæ indicates separate holdings or manors that were administratively part of the same vill. Erdeswick 1844: 298 states: 'Anciently the village was divided into Nether and Over; and its division seems to have been at the hill...'. For Hammerwich or Hambridge or Homebridge Brook (perhaps to be associated with Hombridge otherwise Homewiche 1610 SHC III NS 37; Homebridge 1679 SHC 1919 268), on the north side of Walsall, see Duignan 1880 61; VCH XVII 143 fn.14.

HAMPS, RIVER Hanespe c.1200 (714th century) Burton, Honsp 1223, 1227 Harl, Hans 1577 Saxton, Hans, Hansley 1577 Harrison, the Honisleie water 1584 Harrison, Hunsye 1610 Speed. From Welsh haf 'summer' and hysp (feminine hesp) 'dry, barren', so literally 'summer-dry', applied to streams that dry-up in summer: cf. (Nant) Hafhesp, a tributary of the river Dee; (Aber) Hafesp, a tributary of the river Severn in Montgomeryshire (Ekwall 1928: 190). Hafhesp represents OWelsh *Hamhesp, appearing as Hanespe in the earliest spelling, which might become *Hamsepe, from which derives the present name. The name may have its origin in British *Sanosispd (see Jackson 1953: 218-20; 486), adopted by the English in the later part of the 6th century or the beginning of the 7th century (ibid.). The name is particularly apposite, for the river flows partly underground, but in winter or flood also flows along the surface. This surface watercourse is often dry in the summer.
HAMPTON (unlocated) in Newton, Draycott in the Moors, Hampton 1251 SHC 1914 167, Hampton Wood, Hampton Hayes, Hampton Dale 1677 Survey ibid; HAMPTON (obsolete, at Stansley south of Newton near Blithfield: SRO D603/A/Add/117-8), Hantona c.1129 SHC 1916 223, Hamton 1199 SHC III (i) 41, SHC XI NS 17, Hampton (Meadow) c.1250 SRO D986/41, Haunton 1252 SCH 1937, Hamton 1280 SCH 1911 177, Hampton 1271 SRO D603/A/Add/202, 1284 SCH VI (i) 132, 1322 SCH 1937 121, 1332 SCH X 89. The first is perhaps from OE hám-tün 'home farm', and the second may be from OE (at þam) hēan tūn 'high tūn'.

HAMPTON LOADE 1 mile south of Quatt, on the river Severn (SO 7486), opposite Hampton on the west side of the river. Hempton 1391 Ipm, Hamptons Lood 1594 Gelling & Cole 2000: 82, Hampton Boat (sic) 1752 Rocque. From OE (at þam) hēan-tūn 'high tūn', with OE lād 'road, path, watercourse'. Loade (here probably meaning 'passage', in the sense 'river crossing': cf. Cricklade, Wiltshire; Winslade, Berkshire) was added to distinguish the place from other Hamptons. A ferry has long existed here. The earliest evidence for Modern English lode meaning 'ferry' is a record of 1480 of the loode at Apley in Stockton, Shropshire, where in 1494 the ferry is 'the fery whyles called the loode of Apley with the ware [weir] to the same fery or lode belongyng': Gelling & Cole 2000: 82. Hampton Loade has been in Shropshire since the 12th century. Cf. Aqualate.

HAMSTALL RIDWARE - see RIDWARE, HAMSTALL.

HAMSTEAD 3 miles north-west of Birmingham (SP 0493). Hamestede 1213 SHC II 162, Hamsted 1227, 1293 Ass, Hamstede 1276 SHC VI (i) 80, Hamstod 1284 FA, Hampstude 13th century SHC XVII 261, Hampstede, Hamstid 1284 SHC VI (i) 80, Hampstede 1276 SHC IX 121, 1293 Hamstede, Hamstid 14th century Duig, Hampstead 1564 SHC 1938 185, Hamstead 1657 SCH 1910 294, Hampstead 1686 Plot 105. From OE hâm-stede 'homestead, the site of a dwelling': EPNE i 232. The name seems originally to have been applied to single dwellings or farmsteads, for many place-names containing this element have fallen into disuse.

HANBURY Ancient Parish 5 miles north-west of Burton-upon-Trent (SK 1727). Hamb[ury] c.1185 Fr, Hamburi 1190-1247 SHC 4th Series IV 80, Hamburi, Hamburyate 1284 SHC VI (i) 131, Hamburi, Hambryi, Hamberi, Hambery, Hambury 13th century Duig, Hanbury, Hambury 14th century, Hambury 1430 Duig, Hanbere 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 81. From OE hēah, burg (dative hēan byrig) 'high burg or fortification': the place stands on a 474' hill. The 1284 spelling is 'Hanbury gate'. Heanbirig, recorded in 664 (S.68), has not been identified, but may be this place. The chronicler John (‘Florence’) of Worcester (d.1118) records that St. Werberga was buried at Heanbirig, which has been identified with this place: SHC 1916 134; see also Bradshaw 1887. It may be noted that Werburghwic 'Werberga's wic', associated with royal visits in 823 and 840, has not been identified (see also Gelling 1992: 155-6). ASC 'E' records Heanbyrige in 675 (11th century), which has been identified as Hanbury, Worcestershire: see Ekwall 1960: 216; PN Wo 321-2. Stenton 1970: 320-21 holds that one specialised meaning of OE burh was 'monastery', citing as an example Malmsbury, perhaps from the enclosure which surrounded monastic buildings, and that meaning may apply here, since no fortification has been identified. Hanbury in Staffordshire may form part of the group of early administrative and ecclesiastical centres in the north-west Midlands incorporating the element burg, including (in
HANBURY WOODEND 1 mile south-west of Hanbury (SK 1626). Hanbury Woodend 1658 (1798) Shaw I 73. The place lies on the road to Needwood Forest, and is to be distinguished from Woodend (q.v.).

HANCH, HANCH HALL 3 miles north-west of Lichfield (SK 0913). Haunchall c.1522 (1798) Shaw I 226, Hanch Hall 1747 Bowen, Haunch 1747 Poll, Haunch Hall 1834 O.S. From ME hanche, derived from OR hauche, often found in field-names, with the meaning 'land having the shape of a haunch'. The second element is probably from OE heall 'hall', a rare element in Staffordshire, rather than OE halh, although the spellings are too late for any certainty. Shaw (1798: I 226) suggests that the place was known since the time of Edward I as Aston Hall or similar from the Astons of Haywood.

HANCHURCH in Trentham parish, 3 miles south of Newcastle under Lyme (SJ 8441). Hancess 1086 DB, Henchurche 1203 SHC III 94, Hanchurch 1212 Fees, Hannecherche 1272 SHC IV 204, Hanchurch 1275 SHC VI (i) 51, 1327 SHC VII 202, 1477 SHC VI NS (i) 111, Hamcherch 1377 SHC 4th Series VI 13. A puzzling name. The spellings suggest that the name is 'high church', from OE hēan, the weak oblique form of OE hēah 'high', with the 1086 terminal cese representing OE cirice 'church', or the first element may be OE hane, from hānum, dative plural of hāne 'stone, rock': cf. Hanford. The place lies on the side of a pronounced hill, 'on the summit of which is a square plot of ground, surrounded by venerable yew trees, and supposed to be the site of some ancient church or religious house': White 1834: 692 (see also SHC XII NS 73), from which the place is said to have been named. The square plot is to be identified with the 'enclosure about 200' square lined by ancient yew trees' on which stands a house called Hanchurch Yews: StEnc 260. However, apart from the name itself there appears to be no evidence, historical, archaeological or documentary, of any early church here (but see also TNSFC LXVI 1932-3 126-7; LXIX 1934-5 28-30, LXXII 1937-8 116). The element church is sometimes found (particularly in the name Churchill, or Church with a hill-word, for example Churchdown, Gloucestershire) to be from British *crūc, Welsh crug, OE cryc can appear in OE itself as cryc, cryric 'hill, mound, tumulus' (PN Wo 108), and since the present church is not ancient, but traces of earthworks have been recorded, it seems possible that the original name of the hill here, or a tumulus on the summit, was known as Cryc or Cyric. It may be noted that Hanford, 2 miles to the north-west, has the same first element. Hanestowe, the second element of which meant 'place, enclosed place, place of assembly', or sometimes 'holy place' (see Stowe), is recorded in the area in 1334 (SHC 1913 230) and whilst not located appears to have lain between Whitmore and Madeley (or near Knutton), and may (as (et þære) hēan stōwe 'high (holy) place') be associated in some way with this place. Hanchurch has given its name to Hanchurch Hills to the south. Hanchurche Hey is recorded in Cannock in 1540: SHC 1910 53. See also Hanford.

HANDSACRE in Armitage parish, 4 miles north-west of Lichfield (SK 0916). Hadesacre 1086 DB, Handsaacre 1166 SHC 1923 295, Hendesacre 1195 SHC II 45, Handesacre' 1242 Fees, Hondesakre 1271 SHC V (i) 148, 1360 SHC VIII NS 7, Hondesacre 1395 SHC XV 66, Honesacre, Hunnesacre 1386 SHC XVI 25, hondesacre 1420 Signet Letter C81/1365/23, Honsakur 1483 SHC NS VI (i) 133,
Honneshacre, Hanneshacre, Honshacre, Hansacre 1484 ibid. 151, Handysaker 1562 SHC XIII 219. The first element may be from an OE personal name *Hand, seemingly a nickname from OE hand, and which formed its genitive - unlike the word for the body part - with -es. *Hand appears in the West Midlands as *Hond, and even *Hund. The second element is OE acer 'field or newly cultivated ground'. Acor, modern acre, has been found to have the very specific meaning 'small piece of cultivated land on the margin of a settlement', and examples of names containing the word can be grouped into three categories according to their proximity to heath, marsh, or high moorland. This place is on a low promontory in the marshes of the Trent valley. (Cf. Gatacre; and - all in Lancashire - Barnacre, Stirzaker, Tarnacre, Woodacre). Pye hansaker (presumably for Pipe Handsacre) is recorded in 1572 (SHC XIII 286), but the location is uncertain. Land called Handsacre is recorded in Claverley in the 13th century: SRRC 5735/2/7/1/1.

HANDS WOOD 1 mile south-west of Newcastle under Lyme (SJ 8344). Hands Wood 1891 O.S. See Handsacre.

HANDSWORTH Ancient Parish 3 miles north-west of Birmingham (SP 0490). Honesworde 1086 DB, Huneswordne 1209 SHC XI NS 17, 1222 Ass, Hunneswrht' 1236 Fees, Unesworth 1251 SHC XVII 123, Honesworthe 1242 Fees, c.1270 SHC 1924 352, Honesworth 1276 SHC VI (i) 74, Honesworth 1333 et freq SHC 1913 41, Hunddisworth 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 73. 'Hun's wort'. The late form Hands- is probably the result of influence from Handsacre. OE wort meant 'fence or enclosure', and developed into 'enclosure around a homestead', and eventually 'homestead'. The place (the 1659 bounds are given in Shaw 1798: I 108) is now in Birmingham. There is another place of this name in Yorkshire.

HANESHIRME, HAVERSHINE (unlocated, in Stubbylane.) Haneshirme 1587 SRO D786/21/3, Havershine 1587 SARO D786/21/5.

HANESTOWE - see HANCHURCH!

HANFORD in Trentham parish, 3 miles south-west of Stoke-on-Trent (SJ 8742). Heneford 1086 DB, Honeford 1212 SHC 1933 (ii) 11, 1234-4 TestNev, Hanneford 1250 SHC XII NS 71, Honfort 1299 SHC XII NS 71, Honford 1327 ibid. 71, Haneford 1357 SHC XI 306, Honford 1399 SHC XV 88, Henford 1474 SHC NS IV 191, Handford c.1565 SHC 1938 176, 1775 Yates, Handforde 1589 Trentham ParReg, Hontford 1664 SHC II (ii) 61. The place stands on a hill (with natural springs on the summit), near the foot of which the Trent is crossed by what is said to be an ancient road. It is possible that the crossing gave its name to the place. The name is possibly from 'Hana's ford' (Hana being a name which in the West Midlands appears as Hone: see Handbridge, Cheshire), or perhaps 'cock's ford', from OE hana 'cock, wild bird': there are three Hanafords in Devon, all believed to be from OE hana - see Ekwall 1936: 216. A derivation from OE hōtan ford 'high ford' (in place-names OE hōtan generally becomes hane), is improbable, since the two elements do not easily fit together, although hōtan could also mean 'chief, important', so here possibly 'the main ford'. However, it may be noted that Hanchurch, 2 miles to the south-east, has the same first element, which may be common to both places, in which case it may be hane, from OE hānum, dative plural of hān 'stone, rock': cf. Hanford, Dorset. The supposed existence here of an ancient road (see for
example StEnc 262 & 597, and the name Old Road, frequently mentioned in Barlaston ParReg from at least 1724, 1 mile north-east of Barlaston at SJ 8839) also makes a derivation from Welsh hen-ffordd 'old road, replaced road' (see TSAHS LXXV 2000 109-110) not impossible. See also PN Ch V (II) 346-8.

HANGING BRIDGE on the river Dove, marking the Staffordshire-Derbyshire border 1½ miles south-west of Ashbourne (SK 1545). Le Hongindebrugge 1296 RadCh, Hongyndebrugge 1330 Ass, Hongyngbryge 1417 MinA, Hangynge Bridge 1568 Lanc, Hankinbridge 1607 MinA. OE hangra 'a slope' might be considered appropriate for the very steep bank on the Staffordshire side of the river here, but the forms rule out such derivation, and it seems likely that the first element is from OE hangende 'hanging, over-hanging', describing some type of hanging or suspension bridge (OE brycg 'bridge'). The association of this name with the execution by hanging of felons and others is the result of folk mythology, and has no historical or etymological basis. For Hongingebruig near Whitmore recorded in the early 14th century, see SHC 1913 243.

HANGING HILL ¼ mile north of Wigginton (SK 2007). Perhaps to be associated with Honghille 1624 (1798 Shaw I 314).

HANGING STONE an overhanging rock outcrop 2 miles north-east of Heaton (SJ 9765). Hanginde stone 1227 Harl, the hanging stone 18th century (1801) Shaw II Adv. ix, the Hanging Stone c.1708 ibid.1, 1874 Brocklehurst. From OE hangende, stân 'the (over-)hanging stone'.

HANGMAN'S OAK on the north side of the Rugeley to Lichfield road, 3 miles west of Rugeley (SK 0018). ? Hangeman(strete) 1570 Survey, Hangmans Oak in ye Road 1720 Bowen, Hangman's Oak 1834 O.S. Doubtless the site of a gallows, but local folklore associates the name with a certain Humphrey Aycocke, a suspected sheep thief who hid in the tree and died when he slipped and was strangled by his own scarf: StEnc 263.

HANLEY 1½ miles north of Stoke on Trent (SJ 8847). Henle 1212 Fees, 1234-40 TestNev, Hanleg c.1217 Eyton 1881 92, Hanlih 1227 Ch, Hanle 1250 SHC XI 319, Hanley 1592 SHC XVI 117. 'lace) at the high lēah', from OE hēah 'high', in this case in its dative form hēan. The alternative name Hanley Green appears for this place by at least 1647 (SRO D3272/1/17/4/32), and was still in use in the mid 19th century: VCH VIII 142.

HANLEY HILL FARM (unlocated, near Cannock.) Hanley Hill Farm 1623 SRO D603/A/3/63-73. See Hanley.

HANLEY PARK (obsolete) a medieval park on the east side of Endon, between Park Lane and Endon Brook (SJ 9253), recorded in 1341, disparked by c.1550: VCH VII 182. See Hanley.

HANWELL (obsolete, 1 mile north-west of Heathon (SJ 9663)). Hanewelle (p) 1259 TallAss, Hennele 1309 Banco, Hannell (poole) 1564 (1883) Sleigh 65, the Hannell 1617 SRO Swythamley MSS, Hannel 1842 O.S., Annel 1880 Kelly. The first element is from OE hana 'cock, wild bird', or the personal name Hana, with Mercian OE wælle 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream'. Cf. Hanwell, Middlesex.
HANYARDS 1 mile north-west of Tixall (SJ 9624). Haenegate c.1220 SHC VIII 161, Hagonegate, Hageneyate 1227 Duig, Hagengate 1228 SHC VIII 139, Hanegate 1295 SHC VIII 191, Hanberyate, Hanyate 13th century Duig, Havenyate 1305 SHC 1911 65. The first element is OE *hægon 'enclosure', with OE geat 'gate, opening, gap'. The word is often applied to breaks in earthworks, gates through town walls, entrances to parks, etc. The place is an entrance to Tixall Park.

HARBORNE Ancient Parish 3 miles south-west of Birmingham (SP 0284). Horeborne 1086 DB, Horeburn 1221 SHC IV 17, Holeburn 1229 ibid. 76, Horebourn 1278 SHC 1911 33, Ourbor 1284 SHC 1910 298, Horburn 1301 SHC VII 84, Horbourne 1342 SHC XI 152, Horbourne 1600 SHC 1935 234, Horborne 1600 ibid. 243. From OE horu-burna 'dirty stream'. On the element burna see Bourne Vale. The place is now in Birmingham. See also The Hurstage.

HARDEN 2 miles north of Walsall (SK 0101). Haworthyn 1300 SHC V (i) 178, Hawerthyn 1327 SHC VII 224, Hawerdyn 1338 SHC XV 40, Hawardyn 1381 SHC XVII 163, Haworthyn, Hawardyn, 14th century Duig, Hawardyne 15th century Duig, Herden 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 145, Harden 1588 SHC 1927 177, Hawrden otherwise Horden 1589 SHC XV 193, Hawrden, Hawredene 16th century, Hawarden 1611 SHC III NS 54, Haverdon 1616 SHC VI NS (i) 15, harding 1632 Walsall ParReg, Harden 1648 Duig, Harding otherwise Hawarden 1686 Plot 188. Possibly heah-worßign 'high farm or estate'. The place is on high ground which formerly lay in Cannock Forest. Hawarden in Flintshire has the same root, and is pronounced Harden: PNEF 60.

HARDINGS BOOTH 1½ miles west of Longnor (SK 0664). Hardingesbothe 1327 SHC VII (i) 218, Hardyngbothe 1397 SHC XV 78, Hardynggesbothe 1440 B. L. Woll. ch iii 9, Hardingsbooth 1608 Leek ParReg, Hardens booth 1658 Alstonefield ParReg. From ODan böd 'bothy, temporary shelter', with the personal name Harding, a common surname in this area.

HARDINGS WOOD 1 mile west of Kidsgrove, on the Staffordshire-Cheshire border (SJ 8254). Hardingeswood 1597 SHC 1935 14, Hardingswood (House) 1657 Wolstanton ParReg. 'Harding's wood'.

HARDIWICK (FARM, HEATH & GROVE) 1 mile north of Sandon (SJ 9332), ? Herdewyke 1275 SHC VI (i) 55, Hardewik' 1237 Cur, Herdewyke 1288 SHC 1911 43, Herdwik, Herdeyke c.1290 SHC 1921 25, 33, Herwick 1549 SRO D641/1/2/288, Hardeck 1564 SHC 1938 88, Hardywick 1601-2 SHC 1934 4, Hardwick 1686 Plot 288; HARIWICK 1 mile north-west of Dilhorne (SJ 9544), Herdewyke(gorstes) late 13th century SRO 3764/2[27574], Herdwieke 1333 SHC XII NS 128, ? Herdewyke 1362-3 JNSFC 1924-5 60, Hardwick(e) 1639 Caverswall ParReg, Hardy-wick 1836 O.S.; HARDWICK (obsolete, on south side of the Great Pool, Patshull (SO 7999), see VCH XX 173), herdwic c.1155 SHC 1939 182, Herdewyke', Herdewyke 1301 ibid. 1939 187, Herdewyche 1311 Brighton 1942 159, Herdwyke 1412 SHC 1939 191, Herdwyke 1448 ibid. 193, Hardwick 1798 Yates; HARDWICK 2 miles south-west of Aldridge (SO 0698), Hardywike 1570 SHC XVII 217, Hardwick 1834 O.S. From OE heord(e)-wic 'livestock farm'. Le Herdewikemor in Stowe or Chartley is recorded in 1318: SRO 493[7910]. See also Pipehill. Gould 1957: 138 suggests that Hardwick near Aldridge may be from the family name of the Countess of Shrewsbury, who held land at nearby Drayton, but the
place is said to be recorded in the 15th century (Anon. 1984: 17), which makes a derivation from OE heord(e)-wic very likely. See also Pipehill.

**HARECASTLE** 1 mile south-east of Talke (SJ 8352). *Harecastle* 1644 SHC 4th Series I 204, 1656 Wolstanton ParReg, *Hare Castle* 1733 SHC 1944 59, 1775 Yates, 1833 O.S. The first element may be from the OE adjective har 'grey, hoary', or from OE hæra 'a hare'. The second element (if the name is ancient) is OE castel 'a castle, a camp', perhaps referring to some ancient earthwork or structure on the hill here, or possibly OE ce(a)stel 'a heap of stones'. There are two canal tunnels here, one 2,897 yards long built in 1770-7, the other 2,882 yards long, opened by Thomas Telford in 1827: see SHC 1934 (i) 110.

**HARE HILLS** in Beaudesert Old Park ¼ mile west of Upper Longdon (SK 0514). *Harehall* 1340 SHC 1921 24. 'Hare hill'.

**HAREGATE** 1 mile north-east of Leek (SJ 9957). *Haregate* 1544 (1883) Sleigh 72, *Hare yate* 1634 Leek ParReg, *Hare Yate* 1747 Poll, *Hare Gate* 1842 O.S. The first element is uncertain: possibly OE hæra 'hare', but OE hær 'hoary, grey' or OE *hær 'a rock, a heap of stones' (cf. Swedish har 'stony ground': Ekwall 1960: 218, but on the existence of *hær see Harewood). *Yate* is from OE geat, 'gate', possibly here in the sense 'pass': the place lies on the south side of the steep valley of the Churnet.

**HARETHORN** (unlocated, in Bradley near Stafford.) *Harethorn* c.1200 SRO D986/27.

**HAREWOOD** (obsolete, in Perton), *Harewood* 1258 SHC IV 138; **HAREWOOD** 1 mile north-west of Cheadle (SK 0044), *Harwood* 1483 SHC VI NS (i) 148, *the longe harwood, the grete Harwood or the Cote Harwood* 1610 SHC 1934 (ii) 40, *Harewood* 1616 SHC VI NS (i) 9, *Horwoods* 1762 SRO D1203/B/12/1-3, *Harewood Hall* 1836 O.S. From OE hæra wudu 'hare wood', or (more likely, since hares are animals usually found in open areas, and no other recorded place-name with wudu has the name of a wild or game mammal as its first element: Coates 1997: 454) 'grey (hoar) wood'. In principle the first element of these names could be *hæra*, genitive plural of a supposed *hær 'a stone', but doubt remains about such word: see Coates 1997: 454. A semi-technical British term for surviving areas of wildwood may have been Letocetum (see Wall), the translation of which survives in the name Harwood (from OE hær 'grey') found in several counties: see Coates 1997: 453-8; PN Ch IV 227-8; VCH XX 29. See also Lordsley.


**HARLEY** (unlocated, near Lea or Drointon or Bagot's Bromley.) *Harele, Harleia* early 13th century SRO D986/43, *Harlee, Harley, Harley broc* 13th century SHC VIII 164, *Harleye* 1280 SRO D938/588, *Hareleye, Harleye*, *Harley* 'late 13th century *ibid.* 581-2[7912], *Harleye* 1324 *ibid.* D603/A/Add/439, 1349 *ibid.* 567[7922]. Perhaps from OE hær 'hoary, grey, stone, stony ground', or OE hæra 'hare'. with
OE leah. See also SHC XI NS 170. Great Harley in Croxton us recorded in 1797: SRO D5721/1/24/1-14. See Harley Thorns.

**HARLEY THORN (FARM), HARLEY THORNS** 2 miles north-west of Swynnerton (SJ 8439). ? Harlegher 1301 SHC VII 97, Harleye 1334 SHC XI 50, (Shelton) Harnage 1368 SRO D641/5/T/11, (Shelton under) Harley 1381 SHC XIII 160, Horeley 1617 SHC 1934 (ii) 52, Hairleythorn 1777 SRO D641/5/E(V)/10, Harleythornwood 1796 SRO D641/5/E(c)/36, Harley Thorns 1833 O.S. Perhaps from OE hara, leah 'the wood (or clearing) with the hare', but the 1617 spelling suggests the possibility of a derivation from OE horh, horu 'filth, dirt', in place-names often 'mud'. Harnage is evidently an error. Thorns suggests an abundance of thorn bushes. Rarelyhead and Rarely head are recorded in the Harley area in 1732-3: Swynnerton ParReg.

**HARLOW WOOD** ½ mile west of Mayfield (SK 1446). Harlow 1775 Yates, Harlow Wood 1836 O.S., Harlow (Farm) 1847 SRO D1134/7/1. Possibly from OE har 'hoary, grey; stone, stony ground', with OE hlæw 'mound, tumulus', so 'the grey mound or tumulus', or 'the tumulus on stony ground': Harlow Greave (Harlow-greave 1686 Plot 404, 1798 Shaw I 33) was a large mound here, probably artificial, now destroyed: StEnc 270. However, the proximity of the place to Mayfield (q.v.) suggests that the first element may be OE here 'army, host, multitude', but also used for 'the whole people', so possibly 'the mound of the people', denoting a meeting-place. Cf. Harlow, Essex; Harlow Hill, Northumberland. Greave is from OE græfe 'a grove, a copse', often found in Staffordshire as greave. The surname Harlow is recorded in association with this area 1664x1699 (SRO D514/M/15). See also Fords Rice.

**HARPER CLOUGH** (obsolete) 1½ miles south-west of Heathylee (SK 0362). Harper Clough 1842 O.S. See Clough. Harper may be from a family or occupation name: see Harpersend.

**HARPERSEND** 1 mile north of Upper Hulme (SK 0162). Harpersend c.1870 Rental. From the former Harpur-Crewe estates here: VCH VII 4-5.

**HARPER’S GATE** at the south end of Rudyard Lake (SJ 9557). Harpers Yate 1568 SHC 1938 154, Harpers Gate 1816 SRO DW1909, 1842 O.S. Evidently from a personal or occupational name; e.g. Robert le Harpere is recorded in 1340 (SHC 1913 79). Harpers Farm (Harpers Farm 1842 O.S.) lies 1 mile north-west of the north end of the Lake. After Rudyard Lake became a popular tourist resort in the middle of the 19th century, Harper’s Gate expanded and became known as Rudyard. See also Rudyard.

**HARPING** (unlocated) a hamlet in Walsall: see Shaw 1801: II 73. Harping 1801 Shaw II 73.

**HARPLOW** 1 mile south-west of Cheadle (SJ 9941). Harplow 1668 SRO D593/8/2, 1836 O.S. It is unclear whether Orpley otherwise Arpley, recorded in 1599 (SHC XVI 41), refers to this place.

**HARRACLES HALL** 2 miles north-west of Leek (SJ 9557). Harecheles 1279 SHC VI (i) 100, Harachils 1313 Banco, Harecel 1470 (1883) Deed Sleigh, Harracles 1559 SRO DW1702/2/6, 1605 Sleigh 1883 20, Harrackles 1568 SHC 1938 153, Harracles 1583 SHC III (ii) 7, Haracles 1635 Leek ParReg, Harracles 17th century Duig, Harracles 1798 Yates. The first element would seem to be from OE hær 'grey, hoar', which may have come to mean 'boundary' (the place is near a parish boundary),
with OE *eccels 'an addition, land added to an estate', so giving 'land added to an estate near the (parish) boundary'.

HARRETHORN (unlocated, possibly near Hednesford.) Harrethorn 1339 SHC 1931 241.

HARRISEAHEAD 1 mile south-west of Biddulph (SJ 8656). Harriskey head 1662 Wolstanton ParReg, Harriskey-head 1671 ibid, Harrowsey Head 1798 Yates, Harrisa, Harriseahead 1811 SRO D997/viii/6, Harrissea Head 1836 O.S. Seemingly 'the head or top of the hay or enclosure of Harris'.

HARSTON ROCK, HARSTON WOOD ¼ mile north-west of Whiston (SK 0347). Harston Rock & Wood 1814 plan, 1837 O.S., 1840 TA. From OE hār, stān 'the grey stone or the boundary stone', from a prominent upright stone which lies on the boundary between the townships of Whiston and Foxt. See also Warstones.

HARTESMERE (unlocated, in Hamstall Ridware.) Hartesmere 1596 SBT DR18/1/1875, Harte(sm)ere 1596 SBT DR18/1/1874-1875, Hartsmere (farm) 1618 SBT DR18/1/1899, Hartysmeere (Farm) SBT DR18/1/193.

HARTLEBURY 1½ miles north-west of Worfield (SO 7497). Hartlebury 1833 O.S., Artlebury 1841 PRO HO107/908. Early spellings have not been traced, and the name is probably of no great age, perhaps transferred from Hartlebury, Worcestershire, 18 miles to the south-east. If ancient, perhaps 'Heortla's fortification or manor', from OE burg. The name Heortla is only evidenced in Hartlebury, Worcestershire: see PN Wo 242-3. In Shropshire since the 12th century.


HART'S FARM I mile south-east of Abbots Bromley (SK 0923); HART'S FARM, HART'S COPPICE 2 miles north of Abbots Bromley (SK 1008). Probably to be associated with the Hart family, recorded in this area since at least the 17th century: 'lands in Bromley Great Park occupied by Thos. Hart': SRO D742/A/2/10.

HARTSHILL 1 mile south-east of Newcastle under Lyme (SJ 8645). ? Herthull 1272 SHC XVII 201, Hardeshull 1373 SHC VIII NS 65, H(ert)ishille, hertishil 1420 Signet Letter C81/1365/26, Hartshill 1550 SRO D593/B/1/14/4/7, Hartshill 1584 SRO D593/B/1/14/4/13, Harts Hill 1732 Stoke on Trent ParReg. From OE heor(a)t 'hart, male red deer', giving 'the hill of the hart'.

HARTWELL 4 miles north of Stone (SJ 9139). ? Hortwell 1154-94 SHC XI 332, Hurtwall 1293 SHC VI (i) 266, Hurtwell 1337 STHC XI NS 26, Hertwall, Hertvalle 1347 ibid. 189, Hertewall 1366 STHC VIII NS 33, Hertwalle 1396 STHC XV 80, Hartwall c.1562 SHC IX NS 31, Hartwell 1583 SHC 1924 53, 1592 SHC 1930 287. From OE heorot 'hart, male red deer', with Mercian OE wella 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream'.

HARVILLS HAWTHORN 2 miles north-west of West Bromwich (SO 9893). Humvill 1255 Fees, Heranyl 1294 SHC 1911 219, Herunvyll 1338 SHC 1913 66, Hervyle 1419 SHC XVII 67. From the Heronville or Harvill family who held land here from at least 1271: see for example SHC 1928 279;
Ede 1962: 25-6. A tree called Harvyl's Oke is recorded in 1531. The district was known as Harvills Oak by the mid 18th century, and Harvills Hawthorne by 1816, although the northern stretch of Dial Lane was still called Harvills Oak; VCH XVII 7.

HARVINGTON BIRCH 1½ miles west of Brewood (SJ 8508). A Harrington Birch 1825 Brewood ParReg, Harvington Birch 1834 O.S. The Harvington element is unexplained (unless transferred from Harvington Hall in Worcestershire, a Catholic house with hiding places: the Giffards of Chillington, on whose estate the house stands, were staunch Catholics, associated with the escape of Charles II after the battle of Worcester - see Boscobel), and the name may not be ancient: the farmhouse here appears to date from the 18th or 19th century. Harrington Parke, recorded in 1601 (Codsall ParReg), is probably to be associated with Harvington Hall, 1 mile west of Beckbury in Shropshire (see TSAS Yd Series IX 59; 73-4; the Harrington family are first recorded in the local parish registers in 1574: ibid. 93). The Birch element is probably from ME bruche 'newly enclosed or cultivated ground', normally found in or close to ancient forests and wastes: Harvington Birch lay deep in Brewood Forrest. Cf. Long Birch, near Brewood; Breach Mill near Hagley; the Breach in Halesowen; the Breach near Belbroughton; the Bratch near Enville; and the Bratches in Norton Canes.

HARWOOD (seemingly an alternative name for Lordsley (q.v.) near Mucklestone), Harwodde 1529 SHC 1910 19, HARWOOD (unlocated, in Cheadle), the harwood 1614 SHC 1934 30. See Harewood.

HASALLHURST (unlocated) Hasallhurst 1590 SHC 1930 (ii) 51. From OE hæsel 'hazel', and OE hyrst 'woody eminence, copse, wood'.

HASELBACHE (unlocated, in Waterfall.) Haselbache 1185 (1798) Shaw I.3. From OE hæsel 'hazel', and OE bece 'a well-defined stream valley', so 'the steep sided valley with the hazels'.

HASELEY (obsolete) south-east of Radford Bridge, east of Stafford: VCH V 6 (SJ 9421). Campo de Halseyley c.1297 VCH V 3, Haseley 1474 ibid. 6, c.1532 ibid, 1613 SHC NS IV 16, the manor of Haseley beside Berkswtche c.1480 SHC VII NS 269, Haseley Manor or Haseley Farm 1732 SRO D260/M/E/353a. Perhaps the same derivation as Halsey (q.v.), with OE ðæc.

HASELOUR 4 miles north of Tamworth (SK 2010). Hazeloure 13th century SHC XVIII 61, ? Halsenor 1309 WL 103, Haselwor 1369 SHC VIII NS 232, Hawlore 1373 BCA MS3878/28, Haseloverere 14th century Duig, Haslore 1417 SHC XVII 61, Haslowe 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 71, Hasulhowre 1539 SHC NS IV 217, Haislor 1577 BCA MS3878/120, Hassleore 1644 SHC 4th Series I 213, Haslover or Haselor 1796 Duig. From OE hæsel 'hazel', and OE ofer 'a flat-topped ridge with a convex shoulder', hence 'the flat-topped ridge with the hazels': the place lies at the southern end of such a feature, which is clearly marked by hatchuring on the first edition 1" O.S. map of 1834. Cf. Haselor House and Harvington, Worcestershire (PN Wo 106, 238); Haselor, Warwickshire (PN Wa 211).

HASHALL (unlocated, in or near Audley.) Hashall manor 1492 SHC 1912 257.

HASTECOTE (unlocated, in or near Kinver.) Hastcote 1294 SHC VII 9, Hascote 1474 SHC NS IV 196, Hascote 1578 SRRC 2089/2/3/1, Hastecote, Hascott 1602 SHC 1935 445, 462, Hascott 1602 SHC 1935 462, Hastecote 1617 SHC VI (i) NS 42. It seems possible that this is the same place as Halfcote (q.v.).
HASWIC (unlocated) in Seisdon Hundred. Haswic 1086 DB. Probably Ashwood (q.v.).

HATCHLEY 2 miles north of Dilhorne (SJ 9845). Hatchley 1574 SHC XIII 297, 1609 BCA MS3180/196, 1610 SHC III NS 39, New Hatchley 1798 Yates, Hatchley 1836 O.S. Possibly from OE hæcc 'a hatch', generally meaning 'a gate, especially in a forest', but sometimes with the meaning 'floodgate, sluice'. This place is near a stream. The second element is OE lēah.

HATELEY HEATH 1 ½ miles north of West Bromwich (SO 0093). Hateley Heath 1577 Willett 1882: 216, 1654 BCA MS3145/96/1, 1834 O.S. The place is said formerly to have been called Longmore (Willett 1882: 209), or Longnolre, and also known as Hackle Heath (StEnc 272). The Hateley or Hayteley family is said to have been recorded in the area from the early 15th century: StEnc 272.

HATHERTON 2 miles north-west of Cannock (SJ 8804). Hagedornonde 996 (for 994) (17th century, S.1380), Hardedone 1086 DB, Hatherdon 1203 Ass, Hatherdene, Hetherdon 1292 SHC VI (i) 233, Hatherdone 13th century Duig, Hathurdon 1265 Banco, Hatherdone 1365 Banco, Haderton 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 88. 'The hill where hawthorn grows', from OE hagußorn 'hawthorn, whitethorn', with OE dün 'hill'.

HATTONS, THE HATTONS 2 miles south-east of Brewood (SJ 8804). Hadton 1227 Ass, 1424 SHC XVII 94, Hattone 1292 SHC VI (i) 237, Hatton 1302 SHC VII 96; HATTON in Swynnerton, 5 miles north-west of Stone (SJ 8337), Hetone 1086 DB, Hatton' 1206 Pleas, Hadton 1227 SHC IV 43, Atton 1263 SHC IV 157, Aiton 1689 StSt 13 20015 1. From OE héð- tān 'The tān on the heath'. There are Upper and Lower Hattons at both places.

HAUEKESLYH (unlocated, near Norton in the Moors.) Hauekeslegh 1227 SHC XI NS 240. From Mercian OE heafoces-lege 'the fallow land of the hawk'. See also Hawksyard.

HAUGHTON Ancient Parish 4 miles south-west of Stafford (SJ 8620), Haltone, Halstone 1086 DB, Halgetone 1161-82 SRO (1/7972), Halucheon 1189 SHC I 173, Hailton 1201 Ass, Haldeton 1227 SHC IV 53, Haliston 1236 Fees, Halaweton 1284 SHC VI (i) 154, Haltewon 1284 FA, Halington, Halecunde, Halctone, Haleghonde 13th century Duig, Haleughton' 1327 SHC VII 214, Haleughton 14th century Duig, Houghton 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 67, Hawghton 1603 SHC 1940 38; HAUGHTON (obsolete) 2 ½ miles north-west of Ramshorn (SK 06483), Haughton 1798 Yates. 'The tān by the nook of land or water meadow', from OE halh, of which halch and halech are ME forms. The place near Ramshorn now appears on maps as Windy Harbour.

HAUKESCLYF (unlocated, possibly near Talke.) Haukesclif 1282-3 SHC XII NS 251, 1298 SHC XI NS 251. From Mercian OE heafoc 'a hawk', with OE clif 'a cliff, a bank', so 'the hawk's cliff'.

HAUKESHILL (unlocated) In Bagot's Bromley. Haukeshill 1306 SHC XI NS 24. From Mercian OE heafoc 'a hawk', with OE hyll 'hill'.

HAUKESMOR (unlocated, in Blithfield), Haukesmor 1402 SHC XI NS 203; HAUKESMOR (unlocated, in Rickerscote), Haukesmor 1346 SRO 85[7904]. From Mercian OE heafoc 'a hawk', with OE mör 'Hawks' moor'.

HAUNTON 5 miles north-east of Tamworth (SK 2310). Hagnatun 941 (14th century, S.479), Honeyeton 1231 SHC VI (i) 34, Hageneton 1249 FF, Auneton 1259 SHC IV 139, Hainton c.1260
SHC 1937 62, Hauneton 1271 Ass, Hanneton, Anneton, Hagan, Hagana, Haguna, Hagne 13th century Duig, Hamton 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 70, Hawnton 1565 (1798) Shaw I 412, 1599 SHC 1935 188, Haunton 1695 Morden. Possibly 'Hagona's or Hagene's tān', but a more likely derivation is from OE hagena, genitive plural of OE haga 'hedge, enclosure', with OE tān, so 'the tān with or at the hedges or enclosures'. Haunton, recorded in 1252 (SHC 1937 47), is Hampton near Stansley (q.v.).

HAWFORDE (unlocated, possibly in Eccleshall.) Hawforde c.1565 SHC 1938 73.

HAWKBACH (obsolete) in Upper Arley (SO 7682). Auchebech pre-1172 SHC 1924 152, Haukebache, Hawkebach 1360-98 PN Wo 31, 1547 Pat, Howkebaiche 1551 BM, Haukebach 1577 Saxton, Haukebache 1603 SHC XVIII 34, Haukebach 1686 Plot, Hauke bach 1695 Morden, Hawkbach 1756 (1801) Shaw II 254, 1834 O.S. From Mercian OE heafoc 'a hawk', and OE bece 'well defined valley with a stream', the second element particularly common in the Shropshire hill country but less common in Staffordshire. Hawkbach was in the part of Staffordshire which lay on the west of the Severn, and may have been the site of an early river crossing: StEnc 274. The name survives in Hawkbatch Valleys (SO 7677). In Worcestershire since 1895.

HAWKESWALL CLOUGH (unlocated, possibly in the Audley/Balterley area.) Hawkeswall Clough 1599 SHC XVI 194. From Mercian OE heafoc 'a hawk', with Mercian OE welle 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream', with OE clöh 'a small valley with steep sides'.

HAWKESYARD (PRIORY) in Armitage (SK 0616). le Haukeserd 1337 SHC 1913 319, Haukesherd 1367 SHC VIII NS 37, Haukesort 1395 SHC XV 66, Haukesyerd 1414 SHC 1921 10, Haukeserthe 1418 SHC XVII 66, Hawkes yarde upon Trent c.1540 Leland, Haukesley 1566 SHC 1925 128. A Gothick house built c.1760, known originally as Armitage Park, renamed c.1839 after the medieval house which once stood here. The house was left in 1893 to the Dominican Order, who built Hawkesyard Priory above the house, on completion of which the house was renamed Spode House. The original name of the place (which stands on rising ground above the river Trent) is from OE heafocscearde, probably from OE heafoc 'hawk', with OE *scearde 'a gap, a cleft, a pass', giving 'the gap with the hawk': there is a pronounced gap adjoining the west side of this place. However, Field 1993: 76-7 prefers to interpret OE heafocscearde as 'a woodland clearing in which hawks were flown for falconry'. A derivation from the OE personal name Hafoc cannot be ruled out, but is improbable. Cf. The Hawkshutts, Hawkbach. Haukesyerd near Danebridge is recorded in 1347 (Eyre): see also Danebridge.

HAWKLEYS, THE (unlocated, between Codsall and Albrighton.) Upper Hanckesleye 1310 SRO D593/A/2/5/1, Hankeley 1393 SRO D593/A/2/5/11, Hauckleys 1678 Codsall ParReg, the Haughtleyes 1687 ibid, the Hawkleys 1755 ibid, Hawkleys Farm 1788 SRO D802/33. The 1310 and 1393 forms may be mistranscriptions for Hau-, since -n- and -u- are similar, if not identical, in early documents, in which case from Mercian OE heafoc, lēah 'the wood or clearing with the hawk'.

HAWKSHUTTS, THE 2 miles north-west of Brewood (SJ 8509). Hawkeserde, Haukeserde 1362, 1383, Hodgheade (p) 1601 Brewood PerReg, Hawkshed 1640 SRO 590/464, Hawkesyard Farm 1674 SRO D590/154, the Hawkesyard 1683 Oakden 1984: 47, Hawkshed howse 1679 SHC 1919 241. From OE heafocscerde 'a woodland clearing in which hawks were flown for falconry' (see Field 1993: 76-7): cf. Hawkesyard Priory. The place was in Brewood Forest. Hawkeheath in Brewood, recorded in 1608 (SHC 1948-9 16), may be associated with this place.

HAWKSWELL (ROUGH) (obsolete) on the north side of Himley Park (SO 8892). Hawkswell Rough 1834 O.S. From OE heafoc 'a hawk', with Mercian OE walle 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream'. Rough is a term applied to uncultivated pieces of land, especially slopes going down to a stream: Foxall 1980: 10.

HAWK'S YARD 3 miles north-west of Warslow (SK 0663), Hawkeserd 1281 SHC 1911 178, Hauckheserd 1284 SHC 1911 186, Haukeserd 1322 ibid. 98, Hawkesyerd 1407 DRO D2375M/1/1, Hawkesyerde, Hawkesyerd 1568 DRO D2375M/55/2, Hawkesyerd otherwise Hawkesearthe 1616 SHC VI NS (i) 6, Hawkesyard 1681 Alstonefield ParReg, Hakesyard 1687 ibid; HAWKESYARD (unlocated, in Dilhorne), Hawkesyard 1393-1503 SRO D260/M/T/7/5/134 - see Hawkesyard Priory.


HAYHILL 1 mile west of Biddulph (SJ 8757). Heay Hill 1665 Biddulph ParReg, The Hay Hill 1836 O.S. Perhaps from Mercian OE (ge)heg 'fence, enclosure', with OE hyll 'a hill', so 'the enclosure at the hill', but the 1665 spelling leaves such derivation uncertain: see also Hey House.

HAY HOUSE 2 miles north-west of Penkridge (SJ 9017), Le Heyhouse 1547 VCH V 124, the Hay House 1585 ibid, The Hayhouse 1609 Penkridge ParReg, Hayhouse 1618 ibid, The Hayhouse 1654 Bradley ParReg, Hayhouse Farm 1676 SRO D948/2/2/1; HAY FARM 1 mile south of Bobbington (SO 8088), (Atte)hay 1327 SHC VII (i) 252, Hay later 14th century VCH XX 69, The Hays 1833 O.S. From Mercian OE (ge)heg 'fence, enclosure', but see also Hay House.

HAYS, HAYES HEAD 2 miles north of Butterton (SK 0860)). Hayheade 1608 SHC 1948-9 100, Hays, Hays Head 1842 O.S. A common name, from Mercian OE (ge)heg 'fence, enclosure'. Curiously, the 1842 O.S. map shows two Hays a short distance apart here. See also Haysgate.
HAYSEECH 1½ miles south-west of Rowley Regis (SO 9584). *Haysitch* 1812 Plan, *Hayseech* 1851 White. The name is preserved in Hayseech Road. Perhaps from Mercian OE *(ge)heg* 'fence, enclosure', and OE *ste* 'watercourse'.

HAYSGATE 1 mile north-east of Warslow (SK 0959). *Heysgate* 1593 ParReg, *Heyes Yate* 1592 Alstonefield ParReg, *Hayes Yat* 1608 SHC 1948-9 61, *Hees Gate* 1769 ParReg, *Heys Gate* 1798 Yates, *Hays Gate* 1840 O.S. Perhaps from Mercian OE *(ge)heg* 'fence, enclosure', with OE *geat* 'gate', possibly here in the sense 'pass', so 'the enclosure at the pass'.

HAYWOOD, GREAT 5 miles north-east of Rugeley (SJ 9922). *Haiwode* 1086 DB, *Haywode*, *Heywood*, *Heiwode* 12th and 13th centuries Duig, *Heywde* 1253 SHC 4th Series IV 117, *Magna Heywode* 1311 SHC 1911 79, *Heywode* 1311 SHC 1939 74, *Heywode Magna* 1428 SHC 1939 84, *Heywod* 1461 HAME 468, *Heywood* 1538 SHC 1939 84. 'Enclosure wood' or 'enclosed wood', from Mercian OE *(ge)heg* 'fence, enclosure', often found as the latinised *haia*, meaning 'a part of the forest fenced-off for hunting', with OE *wudu* 'wood'. The place was a park in Cannock Forest, enclosed by the bishops of Lichfield. *Great* is a later addition, doubtless dating from when Little Haywood (recorded in 1432) was created.


HAZELHURST BROOK a tributary of the river Churnet. From OE *hesel-hyrst* 'hazel wood'.


HAZEL SLADE 3 miles south-west of Rugeley (SK 0212). *Hazell slade* 1682 Dep, 1834 O.S. From OE *hesel*, *slad* 'the valley with the hazel trees'.

HAZEL STRINE 1½ miles south-east of Stafford (SJ 9420). *Hazel Strine* 1775 Yates, 1836 O.S. From OE *hesel* 'hazel', with ME *strind* 'a stream', often found as dialect *strine*, so 'the stream with the hazel trees'.

HAZELS 1 mile north-west of Kingsley (SK 0048). *Haseles* 1302 SHC 1911 59, *Hazeles, Hazelee* 1356 SHC 1913 165, *? Haseles* 1369 SHC VIII NS 227, *Hazles* 1836 O.S. From OE *hesel* 'hazel', so 'the hazel trees'.


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HEADLESS CROSS 1 mile south of Redditch (SO 0365). Hedley 1275 SR (p), 1294 Ipm (p), Smethehedley 1300 Pat, Hedley Cross 1464 Pat, Hedles Crosse 1549 Pat, Headleys Cross 1789 canal map, Headless Cross 1832 O.S. From OE hæð lēah 'the lēah of the heath', which developed into Hedley's Cross, of which the present name is a corruption. In Tardibigge parish, forming part of Staffordshire from c.1100 until 1266, in Warwickshire until 1844, and since that date in Worcestershire. Le hedeles Cross between Lichfield and Freeford is recorded temp. Edward III (SHC VI (ii) 186), with the meaning 'cross with the head or crosspiece broken off'.

HEAD POOL (obsolete) ½ mile south of Wolseley Hall (SK 0109). Cattail Pool 1887 O.S. Seemingly an artificial pool, now dried up, which appears on the Colwich tithe map of 1839: see PMA 31 1997. The 1887 name is of interest, since it suggests a derivation from 'halh frequented by wild cats' (cf. Cattal, West Yorkshire), but much earlier forms would be needed for certainty.

HEAKER (unlocated) Heaker 1590 SHC 1930 (ii) 99. Possibly High Carr (q.v.).

HEAKLEY (HALL FARM) 2 miles north-west of Bagnall (SJ 9051). Heekleigh 1240 (1798) Shaw I xxvi, Heycele c.1560 SHC 1938 24, Heycle, Heyceley 1567 ibid. 1938 47, 33, Nether Henkley 1567 SHC XIII 261, Heyckley 1572 ibid. 287, Heckley 1586 SHC 1927 160, Haickley 1592 Norton-in-the-Moors ParReg, Haiceley 1595 ibid, Overheackley, Netherheackley 1601 SHC XVI 208, Over Hecle, Nether Hecle 1613-4 SHC 1934 31, Over Heckley 1657 BCA MS917/1664. A curious name (see also Heakley Heath and Heakley Mill, which appear to have similar forms) for which no convincing derivation can be offered. It is not certain that all of the spellings refer to this place.

HEAKLEY HEATH (obsolete) between Wednesbury and West Bromwich (? SO 9992). Heakley Heath 1775 Yates. The absence of earlier spellings leaves the name uncertain; see also Heakley (Hall Farm).

HEACKLEY MILL (unlocated, in Triesull.) Heykeleye Mulne 1357 SHC XII 150, Heyclif mill 1412 VCH XX 192, Heackley Mill 1648 SRO D740/8/13. No derivation can be offered for this name; see also Heakley (Hall Farm). From a mill probably on Smestow Brook.

HEAMIES 2 miles north-east of Eccleshall (SJ 8531). Haymees 1334 SRO D59[7941], Heymys 1414 SHC XVII 53, ? Haymes 1428 SHC XI 229, Heymes 1462 SHC VII NS 253, ? Heymes 1569 SHC XVII 217, Hemies 1590 Eccleshall ParReg, Heymies 1597 SHC 1932 344, Haymis 1608 SHC 1948-9 99, Heymes 1646 SHC 4th Series I 267, Heymeece 1673 SRO D590/261, Hamys 1679 SHC 1919 228, Heamis 1679 SHC 1914 58, Upper Heamis, Lower Heamis 1775 Yates. The place is on a 386' hill, so perhaps from OE hēah 'a high place, a height', with the second element OE meós 'a moss, a marsh, a bog' or from the river Meece which runs at the foot of the hill. The place is 2½ miles south-east of Millmeece, and 1½ miles south of Coldmeece, and it likely that it formed 'High Meece' as part of a group of places with this element.

HEATHCOTE GRANGE unlocated, but 'probably situated in the neighbourhood of the modern Grange Farm in the north-west of Seighford parish': VCH III 254. Heythehouse Grange 1535 VCH III 254, Heathcote Grange 1538 SHC 1914 94, 1608 SHC III NS 15, The Grange upon the Heyth 1539
SHC V NS 322, *Hethcote grange* 1539 MA. 'The grange at the cottage on the heath'. The place was a grange of Ranton priory.


HEATONLOW ¼ mile north of Heaton (SJ 9563). The Low 1842 O.S. From OE hlāw 'mound, tumulus': see Lowe.

HECKLEY - see BROMLEY, ABBOT'S; HEACLEY (HALL FARM).

HEDESDALE (unlocated) Hedesdale 1423 SHC XVII 91. Perhaps from the OE personal name Hiddi (see Edgeland), with OE dael 'valley'.


HEIGHLAY GREENE (unlocated, near Ranton/Ellenhall) Heighlay Greene 1531 SHC 1912 46.

HEIGHLEY. HEIGHLEY CASTLE 4½ miles west of Newcastle-under-Lyme (SJ 7747, SJ 7746). Heolla 1086 DB, Helyh (Castle) 1227 Ch, Heleye 1273 Ipm, Heleye 1274 SHC 1911 160, Heley c.1540 Leland, Helay Castle c.1565 SHC 1938 113, Heley 1587 SHC XV 182, Heyley Castle 1686 Plot. Perhaps from OE hēah-lēah, 'high clearing or wood', notwithstanding the DB spelling - the place lies at a pronounced hill. A hybrid name incorporating Welsh heol 'a road, a way' is unlikely, but not impossible.

HELLECUMBE (unlocated, near Swinscoe). Hellecumbe c.1260 Okeover 231M. The single spelling precludes any firm derivation for the first element, but the second is OE cumb 'a coomb, a deep hollow or valley'.

HEM HEATH 1 mile east of Trentham (SJ 8841). Heath Hem 1576 Trentham ParReg, Hemme Heath 1668 ibid, Hem Heath 1671 ibid, 1799 Faden, Hem Heath 1836 O.S. From OE hēm 'hem, border', with OE hēd, giving 'the place at the edge of the heath', or 'the heath at the boundary'. The place lies to the north of a parish boundary, le Hem in Little Barr is recorded in the late 13th century (SRO 3764/2[27572]), presumably associated with Hemend, Hem Cross and Hemend Moore recorded in 1654 (BCA MS3145/96/1), and the Hemme in Colwich is recorded c.1535: SHC NS X (i) 165.

HEMLOCK'S FARM, HEMLOCK'S BRIDGE 1 mile north-east of Cannock (SJ 9910). Hemelok' 1354 Ct, Hemlock 1568 StSt: 12 2000 70, le hem lock 1580 Anglesey Ch, Humlokyate 1370 St, Astons hemlockes, Hie hem lockes, Thorney hemlockes 1520 Survey, Hemlocks Farm 1834 O.S. Probably from ME hemeloc (from OE hymlice, hymblice) 'hemlock'.
HEMP HOLME (obsolete) 1 mile north-west of Mavesyn Ridware (SK 0717). *Hempholm* 1325 (1798) Shaw I 176, *Hemp Holme* 1834 O.S. *'Holm where hemp (OE henep) grew'*; cf. Hempholme, Yorkshire East. For *holm* see Hulme.

HEMPSTALLS on the north side of Newcastle-under-Lyme (SJ 8446). *Hempstalls* 1836 O.S. Remembered in the names Hempstalls Lane, Grove and Court. Perhaps 'the stalls or stables at the place where hemp (OE henep) was grown'.

HENBACHES (unlocated, in Upper Tean) *Henbaches* 1647 SRO DI203/A/4-6. Perhaps from OE *henn* 'wild birds' with OE *bece* 'pronounced stream-valley', so 'the stream valleys with the wild birds'.

HEN CLOUD a gritstone outcrop on high moorland ¼ mile north-west of Upper Hulme (SK 0161). *Hen-Cloud* 1686 Plot 171. Probably from OE *hēah* (oblique *hēan*), *clād* 'high cloud', with *cloud* meaning here 'mass of rock, outcrop, hill'; cf. Cloud. It is unclear whether *Clowde*, recorded in the parish of Leek in 1451 (SRO DW1761/A/4/29), refers to this outcrop. *Clude* is recorded in the 14th-century poem Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, parts of which may have been set in this area: see Elliott 1984: 64; 95.

HEN HOLE (obsolete) 2 miles east of Biddulph (SJ 9157). *Hen Hole* 1815 EnclA, 1842 O.S., *Han Hole* 1880 Kelly. From OE *henn*, *hol* 'a hollow where hens were kept'.

HENHURST ½ mile south of Anslow (SK 2124). *Hennehurst* 1327 SRO DW1734/2/1/101B, *Henhurst* 1601 SRO D603/E/1/61, *Henhurste* 1709 SRO D603/L71. From OE *hyrst* 'a hillock, knoll, copse, wooded eminence', and OE *henn* 'wild bird', so 'the wooded hill with the hens or wild birds'.

HENRIDDING FARM on north-west side of Endon (SJ 9153). *Hen Riddings* 1704 Leek ParReg, *Hen Ridding* 1816 SRO DW1909/E/9/1, *Henridding* 1836 O.S., *Penrhydding* 1932 JNSFC LXVI 190. Perhaps from ME *hen ryding* 'high clearing', or 'the clearing with the hens'. The 1932 Welsh-influenced version of the name is unexplained. *Henridding*, recorded in 1687 (SRO D239/M/T/731), is near Thorpe Cloud, Derbyshire.

HENWOOD in Tettenhall Wood, 2 miles west of Wolverhampton (SO 8899). *Hernwood Leasow* 1672 SRO D4092/C/1/49. The name is recorded in 1517, and appears to have been attached to a field adjoining Lower Green, Tettenhall: VCH XX 7.

HERBAGE ½ mile north of Upper Elkstone (SK 0559). *Harebache* 1439 VCH VII 27, *Herbach* 1660 Alstonefield ParReg, *Hie Herbacht* (sic) 1666 *ibid*, *Harbitch* 1686 *ibid*, *Hairbage* 1749 Bowen, *Herbage* 1775 Yates, 1840 O.S. Notwithstanding the later forms, a derivation from ME *erbage* 'vegetation, especially grass, used as pasture', seems unlikely, so perhaps from OE *hār* 'grey, stony', or OE *hara* 'hare', with OE *bece* 'well defined stream-valley', so giving 'the stony stream valley' or (less likely) 'the stream valley with the hares'. *Hie Herbacht* is High or Upper Herbage, implying the existence of a Lower Herbage.

HERBERDES_MULNE (unlocated, in Gnosall). *Herberdesmulne* 1321 SHC 1911 347. Perhaps from the OFr personal name Herbert, introduced by the Normans (DES 228), so 'Herbert's mill'.
HERMITAGE on the north-west side of Froghall (SK 0247). Armitage 1656 Ipstones ParReg, Hermitage 1836 O.S. The Hermitage is also recorded in 1531 in the Ranton/Ellenhall area (SHC 1912 46), Hermitage in Handsworth in 1649 (BCA MS3145/62/2), and the Hermitage in Mayfield c.1875 (SRO D514/M/1). Self-explanatory.

HERMITAGE, THE sandstone caves ¼ mile north-east of Bridgnorth (SO 7498). Hermitage of Athewildston 1328 Eyton 1854-60: III 352, Hermitage of Adlaston 1333 ibid, Hermitage of Athelardeston 1335 ibid, the Heremitage c.1540 Leland ii 86, The Hermitage 1833 O.S. Eyton 1854-60: III 352 mentions the tradition (see e.g. Leland ii 86; Gough 1806: 111 19; also TSAS 11878 159-72) that the brother of King Athelstan (c.895-939), king of Wessex 924-39, ended his days here in retirement from the world: 'In this forest or wood (as some constantly affirme) kyng Ethelstane's brother ledde in a rokke for a tyme an hermite's lyfe. The place is yet sene and is caulyd the Hermitage': Leland c.1540 ii 86. The age of the tradition is unknown, but Athelstan had four brothers, Ælfweard, Edmund, Edred and Edwin. The first died young, the second was banished and drowned, and the other two both took the throne. Three of Athelstan’s sisters were nuns. The place has been in Shropshire since the 12th century. For other hermitages in Staffordshire see VCH III 136-7.

HERONVILLE (obsolete) - see HARVILLS HAWTHORNE.

HERTHESHORN (unlocated, possibly near Crakemarsh/Creighton.) Herteshorn 1337 SHC 1913 59. Perhaps from OE heor(o)t’stag', possibly with OE horn 'a horn-like projection; a spit of land', so giving 'the projecting piece of land in the shape of a stag's horn'.


HETELSDALE (unlocated, possibly Huddale.) Hetelsdale 1199 SHC III 169. Perhaps from an unidentified personal name with OE deel 'valley'.

HEWELL GRANGE (unlocated, possibly in Weston Coyney or Dilhorne, perhaps to be associated with Highhaugh (see Delph House).) Huwanhale 1264 SHC 1924 137, Hunethalen 1291 Tax, Hunehalgh 1313 SHC XII NS 278, Hivall 1539 MA, Hyvall 1676 SHC 1914 92. Shaw 1801: II viii locates the place on Wetley Moor, as does Erdeswick 1844: 495: 'On Wetley Moor is Hewell, or Hyvall, Grange, called, in the Lichfield tax-book Hunehalgh'. VCH III 253 says 'in Dilhorne'. The forms are inconsistent, and no suggestion can be offered for the derivation. The place was a grange of Ranton priory. It is unclear whether Hunkall, recorded c.1646 (1801 Shaw II 5), refers to this place.

HEWELL GRANGE 3 miles south-east of Bromsgrove (SO 0068). Hewell(e) 1275 Ass, 1275 PN Wo 363, 1291 Tax. Perhaps from OE heah, weelle 'high spring'. In Tardebigge parish, forming part of Staffordshire from c.1100 until 1266, in Warwickshire until 1844, and since that date in Worcestershire.

HEXTALL 1½ miles west of Seighford (SJ 8525). Hegstal 1176 P, Hehstall 1227 Ass, Hestgastall 1272 Ass, Hekstule 1273 SHC VI (i) 58, Heckstall 1295 SHC VII 28, Heghsale 1347 SHC VIII 90, Extolls 1851 White. Possibly from OE hege-stall 'place with a hedge or enclosure' (EPNE i 241, where 'Hextells, St[affordshire]', presumably this place, is cited), the two elements being found together in a charter of 844x848 (11th century, S.205) and in another undated charter no later than the 10th century.
(11th century, S.1591), both relating to Crowle in Worcestershire. Since the place lies on the north side of Clanford Brook, there is the possibility that the second element has the alternative meaning 'pool in a river', so 'enclosure at the pool in the river'.

**HEXTONS FARM** 1½ miles north of Upper Arley (SO 7582). Hekstane 1227 Lytt Ch, Heyston 1293 SHC VII (i) 172, Heckston 1306 SHC VI (i) 217, Heyston 1312 SHC IX 43, Hecstal 1327 SHC VII (i) 247, Heckston 1520 FF, Heck-stones 1686 Plot 168, Heckstones 1801 Shaw II 254. A difficult name, but possibly from OE hac 'hatch', or from OE hæah 'high', with with OE stān 'stone'. Haecce is found as a landmark in an Anglo-Saxon charter of Rolleston of 1008 AD (14th century, S.920), and may be from hæcc, which often had the specific meaning of a structure (often of wattle) across a river to trap debris above a ford, or serve as a floodgate or sluice, or more often to serve as a fish trap - and this place lies near the river Severn. A possible derivation from the well-recorded OE personal name Hēahstān, with a second element such as stān or stān, which had disappeared at an early date (a phenomenon paralleled elsewhere, cf. Hexton, Hertfordshire), is also put forward in PN Wo 31. However, Plot 1686: 168-9 records that the place provided particularly good quality stones for sharpening scythes, knives, etc., so perhaps from hack, a word for tools used for cutting and digging, although OED has no evidence of early use. In Worcestershire since 1895.

**HEY HOUSE** 1 mile south of Madeley (SJ7743). Heyhouse 1513 JNSFC LX 1925-6 46, Heyhous 1514 ibid. 38, Hay House 1833 O.S. Perhaps from Mercian OE (ge)heg 'fence, enclosure', or from OE hēgh 'hay', with OE hās 'house', giving 'the house at the enclosure', or 'the hay-house', i.e. the building where hay was stored, but a derivation from OE hēah 'high' is also possible. See also Hay House.

**HEYLAYTHUL** (unlocated, probably near Longdon.) Haylaythul 1313 SHC 1921 7. Perhaps associated with Cleat Hill (q.v.).

**HEYLEY, DEEP** (unlocated, near Sedgley). Deep Heeley 1715 SRO DW3222/295/1-2, Deep Hayley 1814 Himley ParReg, Deep Heyley 1816 ibid.

**HEY RIGGE** (unlocated, near Hillswood north of Leek.) Hey Rigge 1613 SRO DW1702/1/20. Possibly to be associated with Heghegge, recorded in 1380: SHC 1910 265.

**HEY SPRINK** 1¼ miles south-east of Madeley (SJ 7842). From Mercian (ge)heg 'fence, enclosure', often meaning 'a part of the forest fenced-off for hunting', with ME spring, spryng, 'a copse, a young plantation', from OE springan 'to burst forth', sometimes found in the region as sprink.

**HEYWOOD GRANGE** 2 miles north-west of Dilborne (SJ 9645). Hyghwalgrange 1464 SHC IV NS 135, Hymealgrange 1469 SHC IV NS 167, Hye Hall 1518-29 ECP, Heywall Grange 1655 PCC, ? Highwall 1691 SRO D1326/12, Haywood Grange 1778 Cheadle ParReg, 1837 O.S. The modern name is evidently a corruption of 'the grange surrounded by the high wall', or possibly 'the grange at the high spring', from Mercian OE walle (see also High-Hall-Hill). The place was a grange of Ranton priory: VCH III 253.

**HIGGE POOL** (unlocated, in the far north of the county.) Higge poole 1662 Alstonefield ParReg, Higpoole 1681 ibid.

HIGH CARR 3 miles north-west of Newcastle-under-Lyme (SJ 8350). *High Carr Ridges* 1601 SRO D3272/5/25/1-30, *Hey Carr* 1626 Wolstanton ParReg, *Heycar* 1622 Tooth 80, *Haecar* 1623 JNSFC LXIV 1930-1 131, *Hey Carr* 1626 ParReg, *Heycarr* 1666 SHC 1921 162, *The Carr* 1733 SHC 1944 4, *High Car* 1833 O.S. The first element may be from OE *hēg* 'hay', with ON *kjarr* 'marsh, wet moor, boggy copse', so giving 'the wet moorland land on which hay was cut', rather than OE *heah* 'high' (the place lies on high ground) or Mercian OE *(ge)hēg* 'a fence, an enclosure; a part of a forest fenced off for hunting'. See also Heaker.

HIGHDOWN (COTTAGES) on the Staffordshire/Worcestershire boundary, on the south-west side of Iverley (SO 8780). *High Down* 1775 Yates, *Down* 1832 O.S. From OE *dān* 'a hill'.

HIGHFIELDS 1 mile south-west of Stafford (SJ 9121). *Westons Highfield* 1644 StComm, *High Fields* 1775 Yates, 1836 O.S. Seemingly to be identified with *Hidefield* 1540 (SRO D18104226), *Hide Fields* or *High Fields* c.1548 (SHC VIII (ii) 143-4), *Hydefeldes* 1559 (SHC IX NS 7), *the Hyde feildes* 1564 (ibid. 11), *Hydefeldes* 1608 (SHC 1948-9 26), in which case 'the fields near Hyde (Lea)', rather than 'the high fields'.

HIGH FOREST 2¼ miles north-east of Heaton (SJ 9865). *High Forest* 1535 Dieulacres Inventory, 1539 SHC IX NS 301, *High-forest* 1542 (1883) Sleigh 71, *Highe Forest* 1592 SHC 1930 220, *le High Forrest* 1595 SHC 1932 127-8, *High forest* 1640 Leek ParReg, *High Forest* 1703 *ibid*, 1842 O.S. Either 'the forest on the higher ground', or 'the northern-most forest': see Middle Forest.


HIGHGROVE FARM 1 mile south-east of Kinver (SO 8582). *Heygrave* c.1200 VCH XX 136, *Haygreve* 1262 *ibid*, *Haygreave* 1387 *ibid*, *Highgreaves* 1683 *ibid*, *The High Groves* 1683 *ibid*. 'The high grove'.

HIGH-HALL-HILL 1 mile east of Yoxall, south of Woodhouses (SK 1518). ? *Haywall* 1337 Hardy 1908: 24, ? *Hatwalles* 1340 *ibid.* 26, *Gythewalhyll* 1543 SHC 1910 51, *Hyghwall Hill* 1563 SHC XIII 226, *High-hall hill* 1679 SHC 1919 267. Perhaps from Mercian OE *welle* 'spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream', meaning 'the spring on the hillside'. Wall House lies 1 mile north-west. The suggestion that 'Highwall Hill was another name for Yoxall' (SHC XII 212) is without foundation.

HIGHLAND (unlocated, near Cheslyn Hay.) *Highland under Cheslyn Hay* 1271 SHC 4th Series XVIII 82.


**HIGHLOWS, THE** on the north side of Yarnfield (SJ 8633). *Highlows* 1727 SRO D641/5/T/17, *The Highlows* 1836 O.S. Presumably 'the high lows or burial mounds' (from OE *hlæw*): at least one tumulus is recorded here: StEnc 284. See also Queen's Low.

**HIGH OFFLEY** - see OFFLEY, HIGH.

**HIGH ONN** - see ONN, HIGH.

**HIGHLIDES** 1 mile east of Checkley (SK 0338). *Heyridges* 1579 SRO D543/B/1/1/2-3, *Hayridge* 1618 SHC NS VI (i) 31, *Heybridges* 1675 SRO D1057/A/1/9/1-7, *Highridges* 1836 O.S. Possibly 'the high ridges', or 'the ridges where hay was made'.


**HIGH RIDGE** ¼ mile east of Swythamley Hall (SJ 9764). *Hay Rudge* 1621 SHC 1934 24. Seemingly 'the ridge where hay was made'.

**HIGHWAY FARM** 1 mile south-west of Keele (SJ 7944). The place is recorded in 1331 (HOK 16).

**HIGHWOOD** 1 mile south of Uttoxeter (SK 0931). *the Highwood* 1711 D786/15/2. 'The high wood'.

**HILCOTE** 1 mile north-west of Chebsey (SJ 8429). *Helcote* 1086 DB, *Ulecote* 1227 SHC IV 59, *Hulcote* 1326 SRO 3764/28[27576], *Hylcote* 1419 SHC XVII 67, *Hillcourte* c.1540 Leland ii 172. From OE *hyll-cot* 'cottage or shelter at the hill'. See also Newbold. It is recorded in 1679 that 'Newbold and Hiclote - these were anciently 2 distinct place...but by reason of their lying together, and continuing for so many ages in ye possession of ye same family (ye house at Newbold being also decayed and gone) they have in these latter times generally passed under ye name of Hiclote only': SHC 1914 66-8.

**HILDERSHOLME** (unlocated, near Pipe Ridware.) '...Hildersholme, which was formerly surrounded by two arms of the Trent; but, the South arm being diverted, this holme now lies on the South side of the river...': Shaw 1798: I 170. The name may well be from the OE personal name Hildel: a meadow in Ridware is recorded as *Hildebdalsholme* (ibid.), of which Hildersholme may well be a contraction.

Hildeliston c.1250 SHC 1911 426, Hyndolvestone 1277 *ibid.* 167, Hydelweston 13th century SHC VI (i) 21, Hildelveston, Hydleston, Hyldreston 13th century Duig, Hilderston 1577 Saxton. From the OE personal name Hildewulf, hence ‘Hildewulf’s tan’. Cf. Hindolveston, Norfolk, which has the same derivation.

HILKLOW (unlocated, possibly near Chesterton in Worfield.) *Hilklow* 1602 SRRC 2028/1/5/8.

HILL, HILL HALL - see OFFLEY GROVE.

HILL CHORLTON - see CHORLTON, HILL.


HILLFIELDS HOUSE in Upper Arley (SO 7881). *la Hulle* (p) 1327, 1332 SR. ‘The hill’. In Worcestershire since 1895.


HILL HALL (FARM) 1 mile east of Wall (SK 1206). *Hill Hall (Farm)* 1664 SRO DW3222/82-87, *Hill Hall* 1649 (1801) Shaw II 30*, 1798 Yates, *Hill Farm* 1801 Shaw II 53, *Hill Hall Farm* 1834 O.S. From a 367’ hill here.

HILL HOUSE on south side of Upper Elkstone (SK 0558). *Hill House* 1675 Alstonefield ParReg. ‘The house on the hill’: the place lies on the side of a 1394’ ridge.


HILL RIDWARE - see RIDWARE, HILL.


pet-form of Helen or Ellis or similar (see DES 231), or possibly from OScand hiallr, hjalli in the sense of 'a ledge on the side of a hill', as found in Norwegian place-names (cf. Helsby, Cheshire): the places lie on the side of a pronounced hill to the west of the river Churnet. Or possibly from ON hellir 'a cave', found in place-names with the meaning 'a cave-like ravine or hollow', perhaps referring here to the steep-sided valley of the river Churnet to the east (and note the part natural and part man-made cave below Hillswood at Dieulacres Abbey: see Fisher 1969: 14), though it is perhaps unlikely that a Scandinavian element would be compounded with 'wood': ON lund might be expected. Jollyfe is from the Jolliffe family: see Erdeswick 1844: 249; Sleigh 1883: 33, 35; see also Joliffe's Banks. VCH VII 197 records that Hills Wood was called Abbey Wood by the late 19th century. The 1836 1" O.S. map shows a Hills Wood 2 miles south-east of Cheddleton (SJ 9950), on the south-west side of what is now Hills Farm. The history of the name has not been traced. Cf. Helsby, Cheshire.

HILLYLEES on south side of Swythamley (SJ 9764). Hillyleis 1542 (1883) Sleigh 71, Hilley leyes 1662 Leek ParReg, Hilly Lees 1698 ibid, 1842 O.S. ‘The hilly meadow’, from OE läs.

HILTON near Featherstone, 5 miles north-east of Wolverhampton (SJ 9505). Hylton 996 (for 994) (17th century, S.1380), Halteton 1086 DB, Hulton 1262 For; HILTON in Shenstone parish, 1 mile south of Muckley Corner (SK 0805), Hiltun 996 (for 994) (17th century, S.1380), Hltone 1086 DB, Hulton 1332 Duig, Hilton, Hilltown 1794 Sanders 254; HILTON FARM 1 mile north of Sheriffhales (SJ 7613), Hilton 1327 SHC VII (i) 245, Hylton 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 99, 1546 SHC XI 292, Hilton 1651 Sheriffhales ParReg, Hilton (sic) 1666 SHC 1927 70, Hilton Farm 1833 O.S.; HILTON 1 mile south-east of Worfield (SO 7795), Hulton 1256 Eyton 1543-60: II 112, Hulton’ 1298 TSAS LXXI 1996 27, Hilton 1752 Rocque, Hilton 1833 O.S. A very common name, from OE hyll-tän ‘tän on or by a hill’. Early maps (e.g. Smith 1599, Kip 1607, Speed 1610, Blaeu 1648) show Hilton near Kiddermore Green to the north-west of Chillington (SJ 8508), presumably Hyltons Kerrimore recorded in 1650 (SRO 590/466; cf. Hilton (p) 1629 Brewood ParReg)), which is almost certainly to be associated with the hamlet now known as Coldham, evidently with a change of name to avoid confusion with Hilton near Sheriffhales and Hilton near Featherstone. Hilton near Worfield has been in Shropshire since the 12th century.

HIMLEY Ancient Parish 5 miles south of Wolverhampton (SO 8891). Himelei 1086 DB, Humelilega 1185 P, Humilega 1187 SHC I 131, Humelele 1242 Fees, Hulmelegh 1271 SHC V (i) 154, Himelegh 1286 SHC VI (i) 163, Hemele 1306 SHC VII 149, Humelye, Humeleye 1323 SHC 1911 355, Humely 1361 SHC VIII NS 15. From OE hymele, lēah ‘lēah where hymele gows’. Hymele may have been the hop or a similar plant (EPNE I 276). Cf. Himbleton, Worcestershire, Hymelten 884 (S.219), Hymelune c.977 (1373), Himelton 1086 DB.

HINE HYLLE recorded in the boundary clause of a charter of Marchington of 951 AD (14th century, S.557), has been identified by Hooke 1983: 103 as near Marchington Cliff on the boundary of Hanbury (73K 1329), but the similarity of the name to Houndhill is noteworthy. Hine Hylle would appear to be from OE htwan, hīgan, Mercian OE hīne (plural) ‘a household, the members of a family; a religious community (monks or nuns)’. When the element occurs in place-named of pre-Conquest origin, it is likely to be a reference to ecclesiastical ownership. The place was probably on the border with nearby
Hanbury (see Shaw 1798: I 85-6) where a nunnery associated with St Werburgh is said to have been founded c.680 (Hibbert 1908: 10; VCH III 135), and Hine Hylle may have been granted to the nuns there. The place lay within Needwood Forest. Cf. Hinton and Hine Heath, Shropshire. Hine Hill, Beckbury (on the Staffordshire-Shropshire border) is recorded as Hinell c.1735: VCH Sa XX 240-1; PN Sa III 105.

HINKSFORD 2 miles north of Kingswinford (SO 8689). Henkeston 1271 SHC V (i 179, ? Hymoksford 1296 SHC 4th Series XVIII 186, Hinkesford 1300 SHC V (i) 179, Hincksford 1749 Bowen, 1834 O.S. From OE hengest 'a horse, a stallion, a gelding', or from the OE personal name Hengest or Hynca, with the second element tūn, later ford. The place is on the river Smestow and a tributary stream.

HINTS Ancient Parish 6 miles south-east of Lichfield (SK 1503). Hintes 1086 DB, 1199 FF, 1220 Ass, Hymyts, Hyntis 1469 SHC IV NS 159, Hynce 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 187, 1577 Saxton, Hints als Hence 1539 (1801) Shaw II 15, Hynse 1601 SHC XVI 208. The name has been held from at least the end of the 18th century (see Shaw 1801: II 14) to be the English plural of Welsh hynt 'road', from British *sento-, an element rare in Wales and Cornwall, but found in Breton coastal names (Padel 1985: 132), in which case indicating that the name must have been used by Welsh speakers through the period when S- changed to H-, usually considered to be the middle or second half of the 6th century (Jackson 1953: 521), and evidence of the relatively late survival of Welsh speech in the Lichfield area, but it should be noted that Jackson 1953: 519 considers such derivation 'quite uncertain', and the name possibly pre-Celtic. The terminal -es and -se in the early spellings is not necessarily an indication that the name was plural: the Normans often added -s to English place-names, particularly shorter names (see for example early spellings for Stone), but the consistent endings make a plural word probable. The name might possibly be the Welsh equivalent of English Stratton. The place lies on a very pronounced hill on Watling Street with far-reaching views both east and west along the Roman road: Shaw (1798: I 14) claims to have heard the name Hendon (i.e. OE hēan dān 'high hill') used by antiquaries for the place. It is perhaps surprising that this place was not named after the very prominent natural mound (named Golds Clump in SHC 1916 208; see also JNSFC 5 1965 39) which stands on the summit of the hill on the south side of the road here. There is another Hints, almost certainly with the same derivation, 3 miles west of Neen in Shropshire.

HISTONS HILL ½ mile south-east of Codsall (SJ 8602). Uchestones field 1362, 1399, 1424 VCH XX 84. The name of one of the Codsall open fields. The single spelling, if reliable (Shaw 1801: II 287 gives Duchestonesfield), suggests a derivation from a personal name, or perhaps from ME huche, hucche 'hutch, ark, chest, coffer', perhaps with reference to some outcrop. The area has long been quarried for sandstone, and lies on a lost Roman road running south from Pennocrucium: see Horovitz 1992: 34-5. If Duchestonesfield is correct, the first element might be an unidentified personal name, or the name may simply be a shortening of d'Uchestones. It may be noted that Joh'ne de Istones is recorded in association with Blymhill and Brineton in 1332 (SHC X 123).

HITCHETT HILL on the north side of Draycott in the Clay (SK 1529). Hitchett Hill 1836 O.S.
HIXON in Colwich and Stowe parish, 5½ miles north-east of Stafford (SK 0025). Hvstedone 1086 DB, Huchtesdona 1130 SHC 1 2, Heisteduna 1179 ibid. 93, Hunstedun 1228 SHC IV 50, Huhtsdon 1239 Ass, Huccesdon c.1276 SRO 597[7911], Huncisdone 1276 SHC 1911 177, Huntesdon 1284 SHC VI (i) 141, Huncesdon 1287 SHC VI (i) 173, Huytesdon 1289 Ass, ? Hutteedon 1297 SRO DW1734/J2268, Huchesdon, Huchesdon 1303 SHC VII 112, Huchesdon 1306 SHC 1911 61, 1310 ibid. 73, 1349 SRO D938/91, Hughceson 1327 SHC VII 71, 1345 SHC XII 43, Hughtesdon 1327 SHC 1913 119, Hugheston 1363 SRO DW1781/1/48, Huxton 1428 SHC XVII 121, Hukstone 1477 SHC VI NS (i) 106, Hyston 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 75, Hynton 1586 SHC 1927 153, Hickston otherwise Hixton 16th century Duig, Hickson 1686 Plot, Hixton 1778 Yates. Probably (though the forms are inconsistent) from the rare OE personal name Hyht, found in a Worcestershire charter of 963 AD (S.1303; Hooke 1990: 256-61), with OE dán ‘hill’. The place lies on the north-west side of a large rounded hill of over 400'.

HOAR CROSS 4 miles east of Abbots Bromley (SK 1323). Horcros 1230 P, Harecros 1236 SHC 1911 403, Horecros 1255 ibid. 125, Horecreys 1255 (1798) Shaw I xvi, La Croiz 1262 SHC IV 152, Horecros 1247 SHC 4th Series IV 80, 1251 Ch, la Croz 1263 ibid. 153, Orcross 1267, Harecres 1248, Horecros 1268, Whorecrose 1513 Duig, The Horcrosse 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 174, Horecros 1577 Saxton, Hore-cross 1686 Plot. ‘Grey or boundary cross’, from OE hár ‘hoary, grey’, or ‘boundary’. Needwood Forest in Elizabethan times was divided into four wards or bailiwicks, Tutbury, Marchington, Yoxall, and Barton. According to the perambulations, all the wards met at Hoar Cross.

HOARSE CLOUGH (unlocated, probably on the north-west side of Hollinsclough (?SK 0567).) Hoarse Clogh 1683 Alstonefield ParReg. The first element may be ‘horse’, but ME hors, which became Modern hoarse, was applied to the cry of a raven (OED). Clough is from OE eðh, ME clough ‘stream valley’, so perhaps here ‘the stream valley with the horse’, or ‘the stream valley where ravens are heard’.

HOBBERGATE 2 miles north of Stone (SJ 9137). Hazeburzteate, Hacheburggate, Hobbergate 1192 SHC 1911 417, Habberyate 1288 SHC VI (i) 174, Hacheburgata c. 13th century SHC ibid. 17, Hober Gate 1836 O.S. The spellings indicate a derivation from OE hæcc burh-geat ‘the hatch by the gate or entrance to the manor or fortification’ (see VEPN I 85-6), though no archaeological or historical evidence has been traced of any fortification here.

HOBBLE END 1¼ miles south-east of Great Wyrley (SK 0005). Obbeleye c.1300 SRO D1790/A/10/2, the ob(h)leye(s), the ob(h)lies 1302 Vernon, 1548 to 1617 Survey, the Oblyes 1563 SHC 1931 226, 1617 Willmore 1887: 440, Hobble End 1834 O.S. From OE *hobb(e) ‘a tussock, a hummock’, with OE lēah ‘wood, clearing’, and ende, giving ‘the wood or clearing with tussocks at the end or outskirts of the place’. The word end was often applied to squatter dwellings on heathland or waste.

HOBcroft (FARM) in Warslow (SK 0858). Hobcroft 1737 Alstonefield ParReg. From ME hob ‘a sprite, elf, hobgoblin’, with OE croft ‘a small enclosure of arable or pasture land, an enclosure near a house’.
HOBHILL 1 1/2 miles west of Bramshall (SK 0433); HOB HILL (obsolete), 1 mile south-west of Abbey Hulton (SJ 9148), Hob Hill 1836 O.S.; HOB HILL near Knightley (SJ 8024), Near Hob Hill 1839 (TA). A common name, from ME hob 'a sprite, elf, hobgoblin', so 'goblin hill'. Hob Hill near Knightley may have an earthwork on its summit (StEnc 292): hob, sprites and goblins are often associated with pits, holes and ancient earthworks.

HOB HOUSE (obsolete) 1 mile north-east of Upper Hulme (SK 0361). Hobhouse 1634 Leek ParReg, Hob House 1733 Alstonefield ParReg, 1842 O.S. From ME hob 'a sprite, elf, hobgoblin'.

HOBMEADOWS 1 mile south-west of Onecote (SK 0354). Hobmeadow 1695 Leek ParReg. Perhaps 'the meadow haunted by the hobgoblin', from ME hob 'a sprite, elf, hobgoblin'.

HOBRIDING (obsolete), 1 mile south-west of Anslow (SK 2023)). Hobberudding 1546 SRO DW1734/2/3/9/25, Hobberobins 1550 SRO DW1734/2/3/112b, Hobriddin 1737 Burton upon Trent ParReg, Hobriding 1821 WSL 73/22/43, Hobriding 1834 O.S. From ME hob 'a sprite, elf, hobgoblin' with OE *ryding 'a clearing, an assart, land taken into an estate from waste', here possibly 'the clearing frequented by hobgoblins'.

HOBS HOLE 1 mile north-east of Aldridge (SK 0601), Hob's Hole 1834 O.S.; HOBS HOLE 2 miles north of Wednesbury (SO 9896), Hobs Hole 1775 Yates, Hob's Hole 1834 O.S.; HOBSHOLE (obsolete, in Freeford), Hobshole 1729 SRO D661/4/5. ME hob is 'a sprite, elf, hobgoblin', and ME hole 'a hollow, dingle, or small valley'. Cf. Goblins pit Wood and Goblins pit Farm, 1834 O.S., in Walsall Wood; Hobbe Hey brooke in Bloxwich 1597, Dent & Hill 1896: 104. Hobs, sprites and goblins are often associated with pits, holes and ancient earthworks.

HOBRIDING 1 mile south of Farewell (SK 0710). Hobbestone 1392 VCH XIV 202, Hobbestone (Lane) 1571 ibid, Hobstone Hill 1834 O.S. Probably from the surname Hobb, with OE stān 'stone'. The 1571 spelling probably refers to what is now Hobstone Hill Lane.

HOCCUM 1 1/2 miles south-west of Worfield (SO 7493). Hoccumb 1272 Eyton 1854-60: III 112, Hoccumbe 1292 ibid. 113, Ocumb 1292 ibid. 216, Hoccom 1292 Jury List, hoccombe 1301 Rees 1975: 249, Hoccombe 1327 SR, 1525 SR, hokcum 1502 TSAS 3rd Series III 120, hawcum 1555 TSAS 3rd Series IX 1909 124, Hoccom, Hoccum 1562 Worfield ParReg, Hoeom 1602 SRRC 2028/1/5/8, Hocam 1752 Rocque. Perhaps from OE hoc-com 'the coomb or short spoon-shaped valley where hocks or mallows grew'; cf. Oakham. The place lies on a ridge with a valley on both sides, a stream flowing through the one on the east. It is unclear whether Hockmull, recorded in 1283 (Eyton 1854-60: III 113), is to be associated with this place. Cf. Hockham, Norfolk.

HOCKER (obsolete) 2 miles west of Longnor (SK 0564). Hocker Head 1683 Alstonefield ParReg, Hocker 1840 O.S. See Hockerhill.

HOCKERHILL 1/2 mile west of Brewood (SJ 8708). The Hockerill, The Hockerhill 1799 SRO QS B, Hockerill Farm 1834 O.S. A not uncommon name of uncertain origin. Hocker may represent an old word for 'a hill' or 'a hump', from OE *hoker, cognate with German hocker 'a knob, a hump' (Gelling & Cole 2000: 193), giving a meaning 'hill with a hump' (cf. Ocker Hill (q.v.)). There is no hill here, though 18th century maps (e.g. Yates 1775) show a post windmill, which may have stood on an earlier
mound, now vanished. It is also possible that OE *hocer was a nickname applied to poor land: cf. Hockerill, Hertfordshire. Hochull is recorded c.1270 (SHC 1928 15), and may refer to this place, but is more likely to be in the Wombourne area. See also Hocker.

**HOCKLEY** on the south side of Uttoxeter (SK 0933). Hockley 1834 White. Perhaps from OE hoc-leah 'the leah where hocks or mallows grew'.

**HODDESDONE** (unlocated, in Blurton.) Hoddesdon c.1200 SRO D593/B/1/23/3/2/2, Hoddesdone ?13th century SHC XI 310. From the OE personal name *Hod, so *Hod's dán or hill': cf. Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire.

**HOFTON'S CROSS** at Cauldon Lowe (SK 0748). Hoftons Bank 1748 SRO D240/D/98, Haughton 1775 Yates, Hoftons Cross 1800 SRO D240/D/139, 1836 O.S., Offman's or Hofton's Cross 1886 Redfern 1886: 46. Perhaps from the personal name Houghton or similar. The cross, described by Redfern 1886: 46 as a large unhewn stone in a meadow at Caldon Low, may be the rough stone cross on a green facing The Crosses Inn: StEnc 204.

**HOGS HILL** a 283' hill 1 mile south of Harlaston (SK 2209). Hogshill 1684 (1798) Shaw I 402, Hoggshall 1686 Plot, Hogs Hill 1798 Yates, Hogs hill 1834 O.S. The first element is probably OE hogg 'hog', or (perhaps less likely) *Hogg, an unrecorded personal name: cf. Hoggeston, Berkshire. The second element is hill, notwithstanding the 1686 spelling.

**HOLBEACHE** 1½ miles south-east of Upper Arley (SO 7878). Holbeache Farm 1889 O.S. Perhaps a relatively modern name: it does not appear on the 1834 O.S. map. If ancient, the derivation is likely to be as Holbeche (q.v.): the place lies at the head of a stream valley.

**HOLBECHE, HOLBEACH** 5 miles south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 8890). Holebache 1300 and 1327 SHC 1913 8, SHC VII (i) 247, Holebache 1300 SHC V (i) 179, 1323 SHC 1911 358, Holebache 1327 SHC 1913 6, Holbach 1333 SHC X 87, Holbeach 1686 Plot, Bolbatch [sic] 1822 Himley ParReg. From OE hol 'a hole, a hollow', and usually found in place-names as an adjective 'lying in a hollow, sunken', with OE bece 'a steep-sided valley with a stream' (cf. Hawkbach). This place would appear to be the ebles bece mentioned in a charter of 996 (for 994) (17th century, 5.1380). Holbeche Mill was formerly identified as Hubbals Mill, but the latter, later known as Harpsford Mill, lies on Mor Brook at Morville: see WMA 41 1998 63.

**HOLDEN, THE** (obsolete) 1 mile east of Burslem (SJ 8849). Houldon 1656 Norton-in-the-Moors ParReg, The Holden 1836 O.S. Perhaps from OE hol as an adjective 'lying in a hollow, sunken', with OE denu 'hollow (i.e. deep) valley': there is a pronounced stream valley here.

**HOLDITCH** south-east of Chesterton, near Newcastle-under-Lyme (SJ 8248). Holdeditch 1307 SHC XI NS 266, Holdych 1485 SHC VI NS (i) 158, Holdich 1522 SHC XI NS 8, Holdyche 1582 SHC XVII 228, Holditch c.1685 SHC 1941 124. From OE hol 'a hole, a hollow', usually found in place-names as an adjective 'lying in a hollow, sunken', with OE dic 'ditch, dyke', so 'deep ditch' (cf. Holditch, Dorset). The name may be connected with traces of a Roman settlement discovered here, or a medieval ditch traced over the Roman site, or from the mining of ironstone, which began here as early as the second century A.D: see VCH II 108.
HOLE 1 1/2 miles north-west of Butterton (SK 0657). Hole 1695 Leek ParReg, 1840 O.S. From OE hol 'a hole, a hollow'.

HOLE BROOK a tributary of the river Churnet, ? Holdebrook 1282-3 SHC XI NS 259, Holbrooke 1636 Deed; HOLE BROOK a tributary of the river Tame, The brook of Holebro(o)k 1286 For, 1505 Peramb, Holbrook 1617 Willmore 1887: 439. From OE hol 'a hole, a hollow', usually found in place-names as an adjective 'lying in a hollow, sunken', hence 'stream in a hollow'. 'Another Holbrook ran into the Tame at Perry Barr, and marked the bounds of Sutton Chase from Bolestille': Dent & Hill 1896: 137.

HOLE CARR 1 mile south-west of Hollinsclough (SK 0565). Holehouse 1414 VCH VII 33, Hole Carr 1568 ibid. 33, the Hole 1657 Alstonefield ParReg, Carr Hole 1840 O.S. From OE hol 'a hole, a hollow', usually found in place-names as an adjective 'lying in a hollow, sunken', with ON kjarr 'brushwood', ME ker 'a bog, a marsh, especially one overgrown with brushwood', replacing OE hās (or ON hús) 'house', hence 'the boggy place with brushwood in the hollow'.

HOLEDALE (unlocated, near Hyde Lea, Stafford, possibly near Moss Pit: see SHC VIII (ii) 128). Holedale 1166 SHC I 181, 1194 SHC II 266, 1203 SHC III 118, c.1210 SHC XI NS 125, c.1225 SHC II 275. Hyde Lea (near Stafford) and Holedale seem to have been parts of the same estate: see SHC II 266; SHC VIII 128. Holedale may also have been called Holeden (ibid.), or Holedene SHC VI (i) 24. The name is evidently from OE hol 'a hole, a hollow', usually found in place-names as an adjective 'lying in a hollow, sunken', with OE dæl and denu, both meaning 'a valley', so 'the deep valley'.

HOLEGODE (unlocated) (Honour of) Holegode 1426 SHC XVII 112. An honour is defined as 'a seigniory of several manors held under one baron or lord paramount' (ME): OED.

HOLE HOUSE 1 mile north of Endon (SJ 9254). the Wholle Howse 1568 SHC 1931 219, Hole House 1697 Leek ParReg, Househouse 1744 Stoke on Trent ParReg, hole House 1803 SHC 1933 149, Hole House 1836 O.S. Possibly from OE hol 'a hole, a hollow', usually found in place-names as an adjective 'lying in a hollow, sunken', so 'the house in the hollow'.

HOLINDALE (unlocated, possibly near Penkridge). Holindale 1203 SHC III 119. From OE holegn dæl 'holy valley'.

HOLLIES COMMON 1 mile north-west of Gnosall (SJ 8121), le holyes 1327 SHC VII (i) 238, 1332 SR, Holyes 1342 SHC 1913 86, Parva Holneze 1350 SHC XIV (ii) 35, the Holies 1381 SHC XVII 202, Holyes 1451 Ct, le(z) hollies 1585 Ct, 1595 QSR, 1621 and 1658 PCC et freq, (The) Hollies 1679 SHC 1919 222; THE HOLLIES (unlocated, 1 mile north-east of Heath Hayes (SK 0310), ? Hollies 1586 SHC 1927 132, Wildmoores hollies 1686 Plot, Wildmore Hollies 1749 Bowen, The Hollies 1834 O.S.; HOLLIES (unlocated) in Weston Jones parish, the Holyes 1308 WSL Deed. 'Place at the hollies'. Parva is 'little', implying another nearby place of the same name which was larger (Magna). Wildmore was evidently from the extensive heath on which lay Heath Hayes.

HOLLY BANK FARM (obsolete) 1/2 mile south of Uttoxeter (SK0932). Hollingbury Hall 1585 SRO D786/20/10iii, Hollinberie Hall 1587 SRO D786/20/8iv, Hollingbury Hall 1602 SRO D786/2/19, Hollenbery Hall 1611 SRO D786/2/26, Hallyn Hall 1616 SRO D786/8/1, Hollingbury-Hall 1686 Plot
274, Hollin or Hollinbury Hall 1721 SRO D786/8, Hollingbury Hall 1836 O.S. From OE holegn, with OE beorg 'a hill, a mound', or possibly OE burh 'fortified place, manor', so 'the hill or manor or fortification with the holly tree or trees': the place lies on a hill. See also Redfern 1865: 20-21, 250.


HOLLINHALL 1 mile north of Heaton (SJ 6395). Holynhall c.1539 LRMB, Hollin Hall 1842 O.S. 'Holly hall'. It is unclear whether Hollinknolle and Hollin Knowle, recorded in Heaton in 1646 and 1649 (SRO 322/M/10, 322/M/13a-b) relate to this place.

HOLLIN HAY (WOOD) 2 miles south-west of Leek (SJ 9653). Holynehay c.1220 StSt 5 9, Hollin Hay Wood 1836 O.S. From OE holegn-(ge)heg 'enclosure with the hollies'.

HOLLIN HOUSE 1 mile north-west of Endon (SJ 9154). Holin House c.1562 SHC IX 42, Hollin House 1836 O.S. From OE holegn 'the holly tree'.

HOLLINS on north side of Talke (SJ 8353), Hollen Wood 1733 SHC 1944 65, Hollins Wood 1799 Faden, 1833 O.S.; THE HOLLINS (obsolete), 1 mile south-east of Market Drayton (SJ 6932), now in Shropshire, Hollins 1694 SRO D681/E/5/21, Le Hollins 1707 SRO D681/E/5/21; HOLLINS (FARM) 2 miles south of Audley (SJ 7949), the Hollins 1733 SHC 1944 22, Hollins 1799 Faden, The Hollins 1833 O.S.; HOLLINS 1½ miles south-east of Consall (SJ 9947), Holyns 1320 SHC 1911 92, Hollins 1599 SHC 1935 98, Hollyns 1602 ibid. 445, the Hollins 1704 Kingsley ParReg; HOLLINS (obsolete) 2 miles east of Biddulph (SJ 9157), Holyns (p) c.1225 StCart, (ye) Hollins 1666 ParReg, 1815 EA, 1842 O.S. From OE holegn 'holly', so 'wood with the hollies' and 'place at the hollies'.

HOLLINSCLOUGH 2 miles north-west of Longnor (SK 0666). Howelsclough c.1395 VCH VII 37, Howescloough 1472 Banco, Howelles Clough 1565 FF, Howellas Clouge 1565 SHC XIII 240, Howelscough 1570 FF, Howelscloough 1574 SHC XIV 169, Hooscloughe 1575 SHC XVII 222, Hoscloughe 1580 SHC XIV 212, Hoarse Clough 1583 ParReg, Hoos(e)clough 1586 FF, Hollesclough(e) 1596 ParReg, Holesclood, Holes Clouge 1600 ibid, Hores Clough 1731 Letter, Hollins Clough 1775 Yates, Hollinsclough 1831 CensusRet. The modern spelling, which occurs only since 1775, implies a connection with OE holegn 'holly', and Oakden held the root to be OE hol 'a hollow' (TSSAHS IX 1967-8 34), but the early forms indicate a derivation from a personal name. PN Ch V (II) 288-9 records Howeliscloutht 1287, an *unlocated place in Macclesfield Hundred, derived from the OWelsh personal-name Houel, and that seems the most likely explanation here. Cf. Howsen, Worcestershire (PN Wo 117). The clough ('narrow valley with steep sides') element is from the short ravine here in which a stream flows north to the river Dove.

HOLLOWAY FARM 2 miles south-west of Madeley (SJ 7640). ? Holywall 1606 SHC XVIII 61, holywall (lane) 1615 SHC 1934 (ii) 29, Holloway Lane Farm 1823 SRO D798/1/11/11, holloway (lane) 1833 O.S. Other forms would be needed for certainty, but perhaps from 'the spring or well at the holly', from Mercian OE wælle 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream'.

HOLLOW MILL FARM 1 mile west of Wall Heath (SO 8689). Hollow Mill 1678 VCH XX 213, 1834 O.S. Evidently associated with Hollow Moor, recorded in this area in 1690 (HRO E12/V1/KY/7),
probably from OE hol(h) 'a hole, a deep place in water', also 'a hollow, a depression in the ground'. Hollow Mill Farm lies on the west bank of Smestow Brook, which may suggest that the name is from a deep part of the river here.

**HOLLY BUSH** 1 mile north-west of Newborough (SK 1326). *Holly-bush, Hollybush* 1798 Shaw I 68, 94, *Holly Bush (Hall)* 1836 O.S. Self-explanatory. The place was a hunting lodge in Needwood Forest: Shaw 1798: I 68, 94.


**HOLLYFORD** (obsolete, on the river Sow near Shugborough). The ford was replaced by a bridge (now vanished) in the 18th century: SHC 1970 90. It is unclear whether this place is to be associated with the remains of an ancient bridge discovered between Great Haywood and Tixall in 1938: StEnc 591.

**HOLLY WALL FARM** 2 miles south-east of Kidsgrove (SJ 8552). *the Halywalle* 1366 JNSFC LIX 1924-5 64, *Haliwalle, Halywalle* 1366 Ct, *Halliwell* 1586 SHC XVII 235, ? *Hallywall(feilde)* 1597 SRO D1463/1, *Holywell* 1623 Wolstanton ParReg, *Halliwell* 1657 ibid, *Holy Wall* 1836 O.S. From OE hælig-welle 'Holy spring': cf. Halliwell, Lancashire; Haliwell, Middlesex, and Holywell in various counties. The 1366 record mentions a chapel at this place, and VCH VIII 93 suggests that there was also a hermitage. See however VCH III 136 which concludes that the hermitage was probably at Tunstall in Wolstanton.


**HOLM (FARM, COTTAGE)** ½ mile north-west of Alton, on the south side of the river Churnet (SK 0642), *Holmes* 1770 SRO D240/D/236, *Holme* 1836 O.S.; **HOLME FARM** ½ mile south-west of Mayfield (SK 1445); HOLM, LE (unlocated, in Levedale), *le Holm* 1294 SRO D260/M/7/5/137; HOLM, LE (unlocated, in Hamstall Ridware), *le Holm* 1297 SHC XVI 296. See Hulme.

**HOLNEY** (unlocated, near Lower Rule: see VCH IV 84.) *Holneypol* 1312 SHC IX 33, *Holney* c.1341 SHC XII (i) 291, *Parva Holneze* 1349 SHC XIV (ii) 35. Perhaps originally 'holly pool', from OE holegn pöl, with pöl later replaced by ðg 'island, land on a stream or between streams'. Possibly to be associated with Reulemill Pools, south-west of Lower Reule Farm (SJ 842190). *Parva* is Latin for 'small', implying another, *Magna* ('great'), Holney.

**HOLT HILL** ½ mile north-west of Newborough (SK 1226). *Holt-hall* 1311 (1798) Shaw I 94. See also Kingsley Holt. If the early spelling is correct, from OE holt 'a wood', so 'the hall at the wood'.

**HOLY AUSTIN ROCK** at the north end of Kinver Edge (SO 8383). *Holy Austin Rock* 1801 VCH XX 122. Presumably from a former hermitage in the sandstone caves here: ME Austin is the vernacular form of Augustine. *le Ostyn redyng* (perhaps 'the Augustinians' cleared land', from OE *ryding*) recorded in 1444 (VCH XX 122) is probably to be associated with this place.
HOLYOAKE’S FARM 2 miles north-west of Redditch (SO 0168). le Haliok 1255 Ass, Holiok 1275 SR. From OE hālig-æc ‘holy-oak’, or ‘holy cross’: see Hooke 1990: 405-6. Cf. Holyoakes, Leicestershire. In Tardebigge parish, forming part of Staffordshire from c.1100 until 1266, in Warwickshire until 1844, and since that date in Worcestershire.

HOLYWELL PARK (unlocated, in Castle Church.) Hathwelpark 1439 Oakden 1984: 80, Holywell parke 1460 ibid, Holywell parke 1462 ibid. ‘The park of the holy spring or well’, from OE hālig ‘holy’, and Mercian OE wealle ‘a spring’, and (sometimes) ‘a stream’. The spring is also mentioned in the field-name le holiwallefeld 1364 ibid.

HOMBRIDGE (obsolete.) The lower part of Ford Brook in Walsall was called Hammerwich or Hambridge Forge Brook (VCH XVII 143), or Wombrook (SRO D260/M/F/1/2/f43d). Wombrugg 1282-3 SHC XI NS 263, Wombridgeford 1590 SHC 1930 (ii) 116, Wembrokford 1597 SRO D260/M/F/1/2/f43d, Wombridge Ford 1591 VCH XVII 174, Wombrooke fforde 1617 Willmore 1887: 440, Hombridge Pelsall 1640 SHC XV 213, Hombridge 1665 Wolverhampton ParReg. Perhaps from OE wamb ‘womb, belly’, perhaps with reference to former pool here, or possibly a bulging topographical feature, with OE brycg ‘bridge’. Cf. Wombridge, Shropshire; Wombwell, Yorkshire. See also Wombourne.

HOMBRIDGE or HOMEBRIDGE - see HAMMERWICH.

HONEYWALL FARM 1 mile west of Keele (SJ 7945). Honey Wall 1805 Stoke on Trent ParReg, 1833 O.S. The late spellings make a derivation from ‘the spring with agreeable water’, from Mercian OE wealle ‘spring, stream’, or ‘the bee-hive wall’ from OE weall (hives often took the form of straw skeps kept in 'bee-boles', recesses in garden walls: see TSSAHS XIII 1971-2 43-5) equally possible. Honey Wall Meadow in Penkhull is recorded c.1811: SRO D3272/7/2/2/67-8.

HONGENDEHUL (unlocated, perhaps near Drointon.) Le Hongendehul pre-1284 SRO 543[7902]

HONGGERSHILL (unlocated, perhaps at Hilderstone.) Honggershill 1593 SHC 1930 (ii) 340. See also Hungry Hill.

HOO (THE), HOE (THE) A common place-name, of which there are several examples in Staffordshire (e.g. The Hoo, 1 mile north-west of Enville), generally of hamlets or homesteads. The name comes from OE hōh ‘a heel, a hill-spur’. A settlement called Hoo recorded (as Ho) in 1271 (SHC V (i) 141), 1293 (SHC VI (i) 283), and 1336 (SHC 1913 53), and La Hoo in 1371 (SRRC 2089/2/2/24) is probably Blundies (Blunders 1827 O.S.) north-east of Enville, named after the Blundel family: VCH XX 93. Hoo Farm (? Howe 1562 SHC 1931 184) lies to the north on a hill-spur. Hoo, recorded in 1457 (SHC IV NS 100) has not been identified.

HOO (unlocated, at Bradley near Wednesbury.) la Hoo 1290 Ipm, 1308 SHC X 4, the Hooes 1659 SRO D260/M/T/92. The place gave its name to an ancient house called The Hoo, which is said to have stood at or near the site of Bradley Hall near Wednesbury (Shaw 1801: II 105; WA II 90). The name appears to have derived from the Hoo family, said to have been of Norman descent: Ede 1962: 89. See also Melleshohe; Maleshou.

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HOO BROOK a tributary of the river Manifold. Harbrocke 1434 (17th century) Survey, Howbrook or Holebrook 1586 Harrison, le Holbroke 1593 QSR, Howbrook, How-brook 1686 Plot 105. The conflicting early forms make any derivation uncertain, but perhaps from OE höþ 'a heel, a spur of land', or ON haugr 'a natural height, a hill, a heap, an artificial mound, a burial mound' (perhaps with reference to Ossoms Hill, around which the stream flows on the north), or from OE hol 'a hole, a hollow', commonly found in stream-names as an adjective 'deep, lying in a hollow': the brook runs in a deep valley.

HOOKGATE 1 mile south-west of Ashley (SJ 7435). Hook Gate 1731 Salt 1888 132, 1833 O.S. 'The gate with the hook'.

HOO MILL on the river Trent, 1 mile south-east of Ingestre (SJ 9923). Hore-mulne 1302 SHC VIII (i) 197, Howemulne-grene 1331 SHC XII 291, Hoo Mill 1425 SRO D240/I/1/3, 1775 Yates, 1836 O.S., Howe Mill 1887 SHC VIII (i) 197 fn.1. This may be the half-mill for which Ingestre is credited in Domesday Book: see Derby & Terret 1971: 206. Perhaps from OE höþ 'a heel, a spur of land': there is a long and broad ridge of land here with a heel-shaped profile. The earliest spelling may well be a mistranscription, but if correct, the name is from OE horu 'filth', although it might be surprising to find that element associated with OE mylen.

HOPE '/z mile south-west of Alstonefield (SK 1255). Hope 1371 SHC VIII NS 264, Hooper 1540 (1798) Shaw I *156, Hope 1512 NA DD/P/CD/140, Hope 1551 SHC 1912 183, 1585 SHC XVII 233, Hope 1596 SHC XVI 154, 1695 Morden. From OE hop, in the West Midlands probably meaning 'enclosure in a marsh or enclosure in heathland', and in some cases, particularly in the west of the region, with the particular meaning 'remote valley', as here. See also Bradnop.

HOPEDALE 1 mile south-west of Alstonefield (SK 1255). Hopedale 1512 NA DD/P/CD/140, Hopedale in Aystenfield 1657 Okeover Deeds, Hopedale 1775 Yates. 'The valley of Hope village': see Hope. There is a Hopedale in Derbyshire; the 1512 spelling may refer to that place.

HOPESTONE FARM 1 mile east of Ipstones (SK 0349). Hope Stone 1775 Yates, Hopestone Farm 1880 Kelly. From OE hop, in the West Midlands probably meaning 'enclosure in a marsh or enclosure in heathland', an example of the former being Hopwas, and of the latter Hopton, and in some cases, particularly in the west of the region, with the particular meaning 'remote valley', as in Bradnop and Hope. Here the meaning is probably 'a plot of enclosed land in a marsh', with OE stān 'stone': there is a large rock outcrop in marshy land here. See also Hopstone; Ipstones.

HOPPYNGS (unlocated, near Highlands Park, Tatenhill. ) Hoppyngs 1330 (1798) Shaw I 113.

HOPSTONE ½ mile north-west of Claverley (SO 7894). Hopestan 1209 Eyton 1854-60: III 97, Hopston 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 123. In Shropshire since the 12th century. Probably the same derivation as Hopestone Farm (q.v.).

HOPTON 2 miles north-east of Stafford (SJ 9425). Hotone 1086 DB, Hortuna 1166 SHC 1923 297, Hoppeton 1203 SHC III 133, Hopton 1203 ibid. 77, 1242 Fees, Opton 1253 SHC IV 126, ? Okton 1295 SHC VII 25, Chepton 1377 SHC 4th Series VI 14. OE hop-tān 'tān or settlement in a valley', from OE hop, meaning in the Midlands 'a small secondary or blind valley', but here probably 'an enclosure in
heathland'. The battle of Hopton Heath (an area shown on old maps as St. Amon's Heath, and recorded as La Bruera, Bruera iuxta Hopton late 13th century (SRO 413-4[7912]), Haya de Hopton 1291 (SRO 416[7912]) was fought nearby to the east on 19 March 1643. Bruera is from Latin brueria 'heath, heathland'. Waste ground or common known as Hopton Outwood is recorded in 1548 (SHC 1912 169), 1550 (SHC 1910 77), 1552 (Hopton Outwood alias Hopton Short Wood SRO D1798/H. M. Chetwynd/38), and as Hopton Outwood c.1560 (SHC 1910 77).

HOPWAS 2 miles west of Tamworth (SK 1704). Opewas 1086 DB, Hopewees 11th or 12th century Sawyer 1979a: xxxvii, Upwas 1203 SHC III 113, Hopewas 1271 SHC V (i) 153, Hopwas 1286 ibid.175, Hopper c.1540 Leland, Hopwaias 1577 Saxton, Hopwas 1607 Kip, Hoppas 1686 Plot. From OE hop, here probably with the meaning 'an enclosure in fenland' (see Gelling 1981: 10), with OE wesse 'land liable to sudden flooding and drying-out' (cf. Alrewas; Pur Brook; Wassebroc; Buildwas; Sugwas). Hopwas Hay was one of the Seven Hays of Cannock Forest (q.v.), and extra-parochial until 1857.

HORDEN (unlocated) Horden 1240 SHC IV 237. Probably from OE horh-denu or horu-denu 'the muddy valley'.

HORDLE SPRING (obsolete) 1 mile north-west of Middle Mayfield (SK 1345). Hordle Sprink 1836 O.S. Possibly from OE hord-hyll 'treasure mound' (see also Gold's Wood), with sprink representing a form of spring, 'newly-planted trees'. Cf. Hordle, Hampshire.

HOREWOOD (unlocated, in Kinver) - see COMPTON HALLOWES.

HORNINGLOW 1 mile north of Burton-upon-Trent (SK 2325). Horninlowe c.1225 BL Stowe Ch 82, Horninglow, Horninglawe 13th century frequently Duig, Hornyglowe 1316 SHC 1911 89, Horninglow temp. Henry I Burton, Horninlowe 1327 SR, Hurnynglowe 1332 SHC X (i) 106, Hornyngslowe 1450 HLS, Horninglowe 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 154. The first element is probably from OE horning 'a bend, a corner, a spit of land, a headland' (Shaw 1798: I 24 describes '...an angular hill projecting into that expanse of meadows near where the two great rivers of this county, the Trent and Dove, wind into union'), or from a hill-name hornig, derived from horn and meaning 'horn-like hill or peak', with OE hlæw 'hill, burial mound.'

HORNINGLOW CROSS (obsolete) on the south side of Rolleston (SK 2326). Hart 1985: 217 suggests that Horninglow Cross was formerly dottes hlawe, dotdes hlæw 'Dot's or *Dottir's hlæw', from an ON personal name which occurs in DB, mentioned in a charter of Rolleston of 1008 AD (14th century, S.920). The name recurs as Dodeslawe in the 12th century Burton Abbey survey of Wetmore (SHC 1916 221), Doddeslawa in 1290 (NSJFS 1 1972 56), Dodduslo in the late 13th century (SRO DW1734/J1615), and is found as the field-name Dodsow (near Horninglow Cross) in the Rolleston tithe map of 1837: Hooke 1983: 95.

HORSE BRIDGE over the river Churnet 1 mile south-east of Longsdon (SJ 9653). Horseyate Bridge 1604 QSR, Horse Bridge 1815 EnclA. 'The bridge for horses', formerly with a gate.
HORSEBROOK 1 mile north of Brewood (SJ 8810). Horsebroc 1262-72 Brewood Ch, Hossebrooke 1478 Ipm, Horshbrooke 1608 SHC 1948-9 128. 'The brook frequented by horses'. See also Bell Field Farm.

HORSECROFT FARM (obsolete, ¼ mile north of Leek (SJ 9857). the Horsecroft c.1540 AOMB, 1619 Deed, Horsecroft yate 1639 ParReg, Horse Croft Gate 1842 O.S. From OE hors 'horse', with OE croft 'a small enclosure of arable or pasture land, an enclosure near a house', so 'the small enclosure with the horse'.


HORSELEY FIELDS 1 mile east of Wolverhampton (SO 9398). Horsleawe 1204 SHC III (i) 143, Horseley Fyld c.1538 SHC 1912 114, Horseley Fyldhe 1560 BCA MS3145/118/1, Horseley Field 1615 SRO D593/B/1/26/11/8, Orsley Field 1770 Sketchley. Shaw (1801: II 150) gives, in undated chronological order, Horslow, Horsecroft-field, Horsley-field, Horseley-field. From OE hors 'horse', with OE hlāw 'tumulus, burial mound', one of many tumuli which stood in this area: see Shaw 1801: II 150. Perhaps associated with Horseley More (q.v.).

HORSELEY HEATH 2 miles north-west of West Bromwich (SO 9692). Horseley-Heath 1686 Plot 122. From OE hors, lēah 'the lēah with the horse'. It is unclear whether Horseleye, recorded in 1327 (SHC VII (i) 234) is to be associated with this place.


HORSELEWELLE (unlocated, possibly in the West Bromwich area. ) Horslewelle c.1227 SHC II (i) 275.

HORTON 3 miles west of Leek (SJ 9457), Horton 1239 Ass, 1252 Ch, Hyrton 1273 SHC VI (i) 59, Hortoneshay 1307 SHC XI NS 255; HORTON (unlocated, in Offlow Hundred, possibly on the higher ground of Hademore (SK 1708)), Hortone 1086 DB, Horton c.1235 VCH XIV 247, 1513 OSS 1936 55, 1539 BCA MS3878/70. From OE horh-tūn or horu-tūn 'tūn on muddy land', or 'the dirty tūn'. For Horton in Offlow (which still existed in 1377) see Shaw 1798: I 379; SHC 4th Series VI 10; VCH XIV 240; TSSAHS XX 1978-9 loose map.

HORTON HAY (obsolete) on the north side of Biddulph Moor (SJ 9160). the haye of Horton 1282 Ipm et freq., Hortones hay 1307 ibid, Horton Hay 1507 Ipm, 1528 StarCh, 1658 ParReg, 1686 Plot, 1775 Yates, Horton hayes, Horton hayes temp. Elizabeth I Chanc, 1616 FF, Horton Hay (House) 1842 O.S. From Mercian OE (ge)hēg 'enclosure', so 'the enclosure belonging to Horton (q.v.)'. The place is now within Biddulph parish.

HORWOOD (unlocated, possibly near Draycott in the Clay.) Horwood 1660 DRO 157/DD/P/37/1. From OE hors-huddu 'the dirty (i.e. muddy) wood'.

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HOSINGTON (unlocated, possibly near Newcastle.) Hosington c.1565 SHC 1931 206.

HOSYLEYE (unlocated, possibly near Alton.) Hosyleye 1284 FA.

HOUGH, THE 1 mile north-west of Eccleshall (SJ 8129), the Hough 1655 Eccleshall ParReg; Hough, THE a former hamlet south of Forebridge, Stafford (SJ 9222); see VCH VI 194, le Halgh after 1290 SRO D938/47, Halgh ?13th century SHC VIII (i) 134, le Halgh 1310 SHC 1911 75, the Haugh c.1358 ibid. 187, the Hough 1405 SRO D641/1/2/46, 1709 SRO D260/M/T/5/122, The Hough Ho 1836 O.S. From OE höh 'heel, a spur of a hill'. See also VCH VI 194.

HOUGHER WALL on the south side of Audley (SJ 7950). Houghwall 1668 Audley ParReg. Hough Wal, Haughawall 1733 SHC 1944 6, 15, Ougherwall 1890 O.S. From a well of this name, mentioned in 1733 (SHC 1944 15), almost certainly from OE höh 'heel, a spur of a hill': the place lies at a pronounced headland. The place is commemorated in Hougher Wall Road.

HOUGHWOOD 1 mile north-west of Bagnall (SJ 9250). Hooghe Wood c.1562 SHC 1938 24, Hough Wood 1836 O.S. From OE höh 'spur of a hill': the place lies on the end of a pronounced hill.

HOUNDHILL a 320' conical hill at Marchington, 3½ miles south-east of Uttoxeter (SK 1330). Hugenhill 1204 SHC III (i) 93, Howenhull' c.1260 SHC 4th Series IV 89, Hounil', Honnul temp. Henry III ibid. 127-8, Howenhull' c.1260 SHC 4th Series IV 89, Hoenul, Hoenul c.1260 (1798) Shaw I 85, Hounhull 1262 ibid, Unenhull 1290 SHC VI (i) 204, Honhull 1292 (1798) Shaw I 85, Hounville 1294 SHC VII 26, Hounhul 1300 (1798) Shaw I 85, Hunhyle, Hunhyl, Hogenhull 13th century Duig, Hornhull 1301 SHC 1911 270, Hunhull 1306 SHC VII 163, Howenhull 1309 SHC 1911 296, Houghtenhull 1324 ibid. 361, Howaull 1329 (1798) Shaw I 86, Hounhull 1357 (1798) ibid, Howenhull 1386 (1798) ibid, Howenhull, Hounhull, Hounhill 14th century Duig, Houndhull, Houndhill 1460 (1798) Shaw I 86, Hownhull 1539 SHC XI 279, Houndhill c.1569 SHC IX NS 101, Hugenhill 1608 SHC III 93, Hound Hill 1836 O.S. The terminal is OE hyll, 'hill'. The first element seems to be from ON haugum, dative plural of haugr, 'a natural height, a heap, an artificial mound, a hillock, a hill, a barrow', frequently used of a hill or a hilltop resembling an artificial mound, which were, as in Scandinavia and Iceland, adopted as observation points or meeting places (EPNE i 235-6). The plural form is curious, perhaps from cairns or tumuli which once existed on the summit: Hoon (Hougen 1086, Hougen(e) 1275, Houen(e) 1330 PN Db 573), in Derbyshire, 2 miles north of Tutbury and 6 miles east of Houndhill, has the same derivation, probably referring to a group of tumuli, one of which is now called Hoon Mount: Gelling 1988: 138; Gelling & Cole 2000: 174. A tumulus is recorded in a field at Moreton near Houndhill: Redfern 1886: 38. Hoon lies a mile or so north of the river Dove, Houndhill a mile or so south of the Dove. Possibly this name was applied to a larger area which included both places, hence the plural form. Cf. Howe, Norfolk; see also Bignall Hill, Bignall End. Hollinhead records that on 13th November 1012, during the reign of King Ethelred, a massacre of the Danes began at Wellowyn in Hertfordshire, or 'at a place in Staffordshire called Hown Hill': Redfern 1865: 338. hine hylle (q.v.), recorded in the boundary clause of a charter of Marchington of 951 A.D. (14th century,
S. 557), has been identified by Hooke 1983: 103 as near Marchington Cliff on the boundary of Hanbury, and notwithstanding the similarity of the name to Houndhill the philological evidence shows that the two names cannot be the same place. It may be noted that PN Ch V (I:1) 54 proposes a derivation from ME hāne (from OE hān) 'a rock, a boundary stone' for Houndbridge, Cheshire, which has early forms withHONE-, HOND-, HUNE-, HOWNE-, Hun-.

**HOWARD HALL** in Yarnfield (SJ 8633). One of a number of Government establishments built in the area in the early 1940s and named after naval heroes. See also Beatty Hall, Drake Hall, Duncan Hall, Frobisher Hall, Nelson Hall, Raleigh Hall, Rodney Hall.

**HOWSESTYDDDES** (unlocated, possibly near Ravenscliffe.) Howsestyddes 1579 SRO D1229/1/3/62. From OE hūs-stede 'the site of a house'.

**HUDDALE** (FARM) 1 mile east of Cauldon (SK 0949). Huddendale c.1220 SHC V (i) 51, Huddesdale 1227 SHC IV 61, Hud(e)lesdale 1227 CoramR, Huddelale 1229 Ass, Hyd(d)alesdale c.1240 Okeover, Hudlesdale 1254 Okeover, Hudlesdale 1299 SHC VII 63, Hudlesdale c.1310 SRO D1229/1/4/50, Hudlisdale temp. Edward II D1229/1/4/48, Hudlesdale 1324 SRO D1229/1/4/50, 1333 SHC X 114, Hudlesdale 1458 SHC XI 237, Hudhill 1844 TA. The forms are not consistent (and it may be noted that SHC XIII 39 identifies Hudlesdale, recorded in 1345, as Hillsdale (q.v.)), but probably from the OE personal name Hud(d)a, with OE dael 'valley'. Cf. John Huddle, recorded in this area in 1449: SHC III NS 185. See also Hetelsdale, Huddlesford.

**HUDDLESFORD** 1 mile north-west of Whittington, near Lichfield (SK 1509). Huddlesford 1634 SRO D15/11/26/9, Hudlesford 1686 Plot, 1749 Bowen, Huddlesford 1834 O. S. Evidently 'Hud(d)el's ford': the personal name was a diminutive of Hudd: DES 242.

**HUG BRIDGE** over the river Dane 2 miles north-west of Heaton, and the name of an associated manor on the Staffordshire-Cheshire border (SJ 9363). Huggebridge 1230 SHC X 115, Huggebruge 1275 SHC V (i) 120, Hugvebrugge 1323 SHC X 115, Hokebrugge 1431 PN Ch I 55. By tradition from the Christian name of Hugh le Dispenser, an early landowner who may have been responsible for building or rebuilding the old bridge, a medieval passagium or toll-road. A compilation of other place-names beginning Ug(g)-, Ig-, Hig-, Uck-, has been used as evidence for an OE element *ucga, *(h)ycg(a), usually identified as a personal name *Ucga, *Hyega, and a ME element (h)ugge-, (h)ug(g)-, supposedly the personal name Hugge, which developed into Hugh: see PN Ch III 45; V (I:1) xv), or for some otherwise unrecorded OE noun *hucg, *hycg 'mound, hill', cognate with OE hygel, ON haugr 'hill, mound', originally 'a heap': see PN Ch V (I:1) xv. Cf. Hollands Mill, Worcestershire, Huggesbrig mylne, PN Wo 40.

**HUGGEFORD** (unlocated) in Hilderstone. Huggeford 1278 SHC 1911 33, c.1396 SHC 1910 306, Hugford 1319 SHC X 30, Huggeford 1316 ibid. 64. It seems likely that the place took its name from the Huggeford family, which had acquired Hilderstone by 1272: SHC XII NS 155; SHC 1911 399.

**HULHORD** (unlocated, in Wombourne.) Hulhord 1336 SHC 1928 34. The word-order precludes a derivation from OE hord, hyll 'hill where treasure was found', and no alternative can be suggested.
HULLOCK'S POOL  1 mile north-east of Audley (SJ 8051). Hullockespole 1298 SHC XI NS 250, HulLOCALPOL, Ullockespol 1307 SHC XI NS 264, Olokkespole 1493 SHC 1912 256, Hullocke Poole 1596 Audley ParReg, Whillocks Pooll 1733 SHC 1944 50, Hullocks Pool 1833 O.S. The first element would appear to be from the ME surname Hulcoc or similar, a diminutive of Hulle, a pet-form of Hugh. There are a number of small pools in this area.

HULME  4 miles east of Stoke on Trent (SJ 9345), Hulme 1203 FF, 1227 ibid, Hom' 1208 Cur, 1218 FineR, (H)ulmo 1225 Cur, Hulm' 1225 Bracton, Ulmo 1226 SHC IV 39, Hulm, Holm under Kevermund 1293 SHC VI (i) 239, Hulm Weston 1293 ibid. 239, Hulm(e) junta Weston 1428 SHC XI 229, Holme 1601 SHC 1934 (ii) 6, Hoome 1616 SHC NS IV 88, Home otherwise Howme 1619 SHC VII NS 192, North Hulme, Old Holm 1749 Bowen, North, Middle and Old Holm 1775 Yates, Hulme 1836 O.S.; HULME (unlocated, in Billington near Stafford), Holm 1208 SHC III (i) 142, Hulm 1209 ibid. 175, SHC 1914 86, Holm 1307 SHC VII 126. Generally held to be from ODan hulm 'a small island, a piece of land on a stream, dry ground in a marsh', but recent research suggests that hulm may be an English dialectical form of ON holmr (with the same meaning): see Fellows-Jensen 1997: 79-81. For Kevermund, see Carmoundhead. Weston is Weston Coyney. Lower Hulme in Caverswall is recorded in 1681: SRO D660/8/11. Bates Farm, on the east side of Maer (SJ 7838) appears as The Holme on the 1833 1" O.S. map. See also Holm.

HULMEDALE FARM  1 mile south of Werrington (SJ 9446). Hulme Dale 1836 O.S. See Hulme.

HULME, UPPER 3 miles north-east of Leek (SK 0160), Hulm c.1214 Dieul, Holme 1218 Pat R 1216-25 168, Hulm c.1245 SHC 1911 439, Huln 1247-8 SHC NS IX 318, Ovre Hulme 1284 SHC 1911 187, Holm under la Roche 1358 SHC XII (i) 162, Hulme 1395 SHC XV 72, Ouhulme 1648 Leek Par. Reg, Upper or Over Hulme 1775 Yates; HULME END 1½ miles south-west of Sheen (SK 1059), Hulme 1227 Mills 1998: 190, Hulme End 1840 O.S. For the hulm element see Hulme. The first place is on the river Churnet (la Roche is The Roaches (q.v.)); Upper is to distinguish it from Holme near Stoke on Trent, but there is also a Middle Hulme here (medulhulme 1548 PRO SC2/202/65, Middleholme in Leek Fryth 1574 SRO D3272/5/13/27), and a Nether Hulme is recorded: Uverhulme et Middehulm et Netherhulm (13th century Dieul.). The original site of Hulme itself may have been at or near New Grange (1521 Dieulacres Inventory, 1842 O.S.), a farmhouse (at SJ 9960) submerged when Tittesworth reservoir was enlarged c.1960: SHC 4th Series 19 fn.9.

HULTON - see ABBEY HULTON.

HULWARE, LE (unlocated, in Milwich.) le Hulware ? 13th century SHC XII NS 173. An intriguing name, probably from OE hyll 'hill', with OE ware 'dwellers', hence 'people who lived at the hill', but the derivation must remain speculative in the absence of other spellings.

HUMESFORD BROOK a stream which enters the eastern end of Aqualate Mere, also known as Guild Brook or Gill Brook: see Robinson 1988: 46.

HUMPAGE GREEN (obsolete, 1 mile south-east of Eccleshall, north-east of Pybirch Manor on the Stafford-Eccleshall road (SJ 8428)). Heuntenbach c.1220 SHC 1914 68, Huntchenbach c.1266 SHC III
214, 1270 SHC V NS 217, Huntinbach 1272 SHC IV 194, Huntebache 1282 SHC VI (i) 152, Huntенbach 1293 ibid. 263, Huntenebache 1306 SHC 1911 67, Huntebache 1375 SHC XIII 121, Huntebache 1413 SHC XVII 44, Huntbatche 1601 Eccleshall ParReg, Huntbache 1607 ibid, Humpidge Green 1775 Yates, Humpage Green 1836 O.S., 1891 O.S. Possibly from OE huntena, the genitive plural of hunta ‘huntsman’, with OE bece ‘stream in a steep-sided valley’, so giving ‘the huntsmen’s stream in the well-defined valley’. Humpage Green lay on the north side of a slight ridge of higher land running roughly parallel to and to the south of the Stafford-Eccleshall road, which would not be topographically appropriate for a bece name, and it must be assumed that Humpage itself lay nearby.

HUNDRED ACRES on the west side of Peasley Bank (SJ 8929). Hundreacre (sic), Hundredesacre 1251 SHC 1913 183. Nearby Pirehill is one of the Staffordshire Hundred meeting places, and the early spellings show that the name of this place (the only example of the name Hundred Acres traced in Staffordshire) originated from OE acer ‘field, ploughed land’, so perhaps ‘the ploughed land associated with the Hundred meeting place’. Field 1993: 260-1 cites a collection of Hundred Acres names from throughout England, almost all relatively recent (two early examples may not incorporate the word ‘hundred’), and suggests that they are ironic names for small fields. In the case of this name, however, there can be no doubt (given the early date and the genitive -es) that the name is to be associated with the Hundred meeting place (which may have been nearby, rather than on what is now called Pire Hill (q.v.)), and forms a notable exception to the general rule. Hundred Acres is inexplicably marked as Whitgreave on the first edition 1” O.S. map of 1836, with Whitgreave to the south shown correctly as Whitgreave. See also Pirehill.

HUNGRY HILL 1½ miles west of Brewood (SJ 8507), Hunger Hill 1660 Blount, 1808 SRO D590/17/23-26, Hungry Hill 1775 Yates, Hungary Hill 1834 O.S.; HUNGER HILL Hampstall Ridware (SK 0918), Hunger Hill 1834 O.S.; HUNGERSHEATH (FARM) 2 miles west of Maer (SJ 7638), Hungeryheahe 1583 Betley ParReg, Hungersheath 1664 SHC V (ii) 163, Hunger Heath 1833 O.S. A common derogatory name for a hill or heath with poor or ‘hungry’ soil, but in some cases possibly from OE hangra ‘a wooded slope’. An Anglo-Saxon charter of 1012 (13th century, S.930) mentions hunger hylle in Wetmoor, Hungrehul, Hongerhulll (undated) is recorded in Whitmore (SHC 1913 241, 244; see also Honggershill), and Hungarhill in Broad Street, Leek, is recorded in 1621: SRO D4645/A/1/1-25.

HUNTEBRIGE (unlocated) Huntebrige 1227 SHC IV 44.


HUNTINGTON 2 miles north of Cannock (SJ 9713). Estendone 1086 DB, Huntendon’ 1167 P, 1198, 1236 Fees, Huntingdon 1262, 1271 and 1300 Duig, Hontyndon 1333 SHC 1939 74, Huntenton 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 187, Huntington otherwise Ramshorne 1616 SHC VI NS (i) 10, Huntington alias Ramshorne 1616 SHC 1928 143. From OE hunta ‘a hunter, a huntsman’, with OE dün ‘a hill’, so ‘the huntsmen’s hill’, or from the OE personal names Hunta, with -ing connective. The place was in the heart of Cannock Forest. The DB form suggests (if correct) an older form based on OE ēastan dün ‘the
hill to the east'. For the identification of the DB form with this place see SHC 1923 24-8. The 1616 alternative is curious and unexplained, but see Ramshorn, Ramsor.

HUNTELY 2 miles south of Cheadle (SK 0041). Huntley 1332 SRO D1229/1/4/12, 1472 SHC IV NS 181, 1584 SHC XV 151, 1594 SHC 1932 109, 1600 SHC 1934 6, 1656 Leek ParReg, Huntley 1426 SHC III NS 168. Probably 'the leah of the huntsman', or from the personal name Hunta. See also Castle Croft.

HUNT'S FARM 2 miles north-west of Lichfield (SK 1012). Hunts Farm 1834 O.S. Probably from the Hunt family, recorded in the area in 1760: VCH XIV 234.

HURDEN (HALL) 1 mile east of Barlaston (SJ 9039). Hurdens Hall Farm 1913 SRO D997/XI/2A&B, Hurdens Hall 1930 O.S. Early spellings have not been traced.

HURDLOW ½ mile east of Upper Hulme (SK 0260). Hordelowe 1539 AOMB, Hordelowe 1542 (1883) Sleigh 71, Hordelowe, Hordlowe 1546 SHC 1912 350-1, Hurdelow(e) 1599 Dep, Hurdelowe 1607 QSR, 1639 Leek ParReg, Hurdlow 1842 O.S. From OE hord, hlæw 'tumulus with the treasure-hord'. Cf. Hordlow, Derbyshire: PN Db 366.

HURSTAGE, THE ½ mile north of Hilderstone (SJ 9435). The Ostriches 1920 O.S. The name is said to be found locally as Horesych and pronounced locally as The Ostriches: TNSFC 1908 132; 1922 169. Possibly therefore from OE horu-s%'filthy brook': cf. Harborne.

HURST HILL 1 mile east of Sedgley (SO 9394). Hurstemore 1273 SHC 1911 156, Hurst' Hill 1537 Inq, Hurst Hill 1581 Sedgley ParReg, 1582 SRO D260/M/T/1/114, 1834 O.S. From OE hystr 'hillock, copse, wooded eminence', originally with OE mór 'a moor', here probably 'high waste-land'.

HURST WOOD 1 mile east of Colton (SK 0620). From OE hystr 'hillock, copse, wooded eminence'. Perhaps associated with Holihurst, recorded in 1327 (SHC VII 217).

HURT'S WOOD 1½ miles north of Ilam (SK 1353). Hurt's Wood 1838 O.S. From the surname Hurte: Nicholas Hurte of Castern is recorded in 1618 (FF).

HUSPHINS 1 mile west of Codsall (SJ 8404). Ursphants c.1725 SRO D802/32, Ursfins 1730 Codsall ParReg, Ursfins 1738 ibid, Ursfins 1744 ibid, the Ursfins 1778 et freq ibid, Ursins 1804 ibid, Hushpins Farm 1788 SRO D802/33, Hushpins 1834 O.S. This curious name has not been traced earlier than the seventeenth century, and no suggestions can be offered for its derivation.

HUSSEY HALL (unlocated) 1 mile south-east of Penkridge (?)SJ 9313). There were two manors of Penkridge at DB, one held by the King, the other by the Church. The King's manor was granted to the family of Hose or Hussey in 1155: SHC 1931 254.

HUSTANS (unlocated, possibly in the Alton area.) Hustans 1599 SHC 1935 195.

HUTTS FARM 1½ miles north-east of Ellastone (SK 1244). The Hutts 1779 Ellastone ParReg, 1836 O.S. Possibly from ME hutte 'a heap', or ModE hut: see PN Db 3 528; PN La 110.

HYDE, THE 1 mile south-west of Brewood (SJ 8707), la Hide, Hyde 1199 Ass, la Yde 1211 SHC III 193, la Huyde 1317 SHC 1924 32; HYDE, THE north-east of Kinver (SO 8484), Hyde 1293 VCH XX
123, 1749 Bowen. From OE *hidd* 'hide of land': see Introduction. The name is not uncommon: there seems to have been a Hyde in Freeford (Shaw 1801: II app. 14); *Lehide* within Penkridge parish recorded in 1553 (SHC XII (i) 214); a hamlet of Hyde near Butterhill (q.v.) in Bradley, near Stafford, probably cut out of the larger manor of Coppenhall in the mid-12th century (*Hidecopenhall* 1516 SHC XIII 182; see also VCH V 138-40, 142; Darlington 2001: 19); land called *Hyde* at Weston under Lizard: SHC II NS 134; and *Hida* in Sheriffhales is recorded in 1175-5 (Eyton 1854-60: IX 163; Rees 1985 273).


**HYDENHALL** (unlocated) *Hydenhall* 1267 SHC 1913 265.

**HYDE PARK** (obsolete) a park near Hyde near Butterhill first mentioned in 1372: Darlington 2001: 16.

**HYGHT** (unlocated) *Hyght* 1563 Church Eaton ParReg.

**HYNDEBADESHALL** (unlocated, in Bentley near Walsall). *Hyndebadeshall* temp. Henry III (1801) Shaw II 93. Perhaps from the OE personal name Hildebeald or similar, seemingly with OE hall 'a hall, a large residence', a rare element in early Staffordshire names.

**ICFORD, YCFORD** (unlocated, possibly outside Staffordshire - Icford in Oxfordshire is recorded in 1711 (ORO CJ/IV/11), or the spellings may refer to Ditchford, Warwickshire: see SHC I 163). *Icford* 1199 SHC III (i) 52, *Ycford* 1200 ibid. 66.

**IDLEROCKS** ¼ mile north-east of Moddershall (SJ 9337). *Idlerocks* 1915 SRRC 4629/1/1915/105, 1946 O.S. Early spellings have not been traced, but if the modern spelling is correct, ‘idle-headed’ is recorded from 1598 for someone who was crazy (OED), so perhaps here ‘the crazed or jumbled rocks’, or from the dialect idle ‘soft stone used for whitening stone floors, etc.’: EDD. However, there is some evidence that the name arises from a mistranscription of the first two letters of Sale Rocks (possibly recorded in *la Sale*: SHC VII 208), which take their name from nearby Sale Brook: see StEnc 307.

**IDMORE HEATH** - see EADMORE HEATH.

Rental, *Ilam* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 12, *Ilam* 1567 SHC XIII 267. The spelling is generally *Ilam* from the 16th century. Possibly from a British name of the river Manifold, *Hile*, related to Irish *sliam*, 'drop, distil, sow, spit', Welsh *hil* 'seed, spawn', which has been held to mean 'trickling stream', with the plural form analogous to OE *Liminum* 'Lympne', from *Limen* 'river' (see Ekwall 1928: 207; Ekwall 1960: 262; and Coates & Breeze 2000: 335, where some doubt is expressed about this derivation), or perhaps 'at the pools, at the deep places in the river', from the dative plural of ON *hylr* with lengthening of the syllable in ME giving Hylum (see Wrander 1983; cf. Healam, North Yorkshire). The particular phenomenon at Ilam is the re-emergence in 'boiling holes' at the foot of the limestone rock on which stands Ilam Hall of the rivers Hamps and Manifold, the Hamps having run underground from near Waterfall (q.v.), and the Manifold having taken a subterranean course from just south of Wetton Mill near Grindon, and it might be expected that any name referred specifically to such a striking feature, called 'the spring at Ilam' by Plot (1686 89). If from *Hile*, therefore (and for British *S* appearing as English *H* see Hamps, ME *Hanespe*, from British *samostsp2*), possibly with the particular reference to the emerging rivers, and meaning 'the discharging or erupting waters'. Ekwall 1928: 216 also records that 'a river-name stem *il-* is found in various names...no certainty can be attained as regards the etymology, because there are several possible derivations...[including] the root of W[elsh] *ilio* 'to ferment', which is held to belong to a root *tl* 'to swell...all that seems certain is that [the name of the River Isle in Somerset] is pre-English'. A name suggesting fermentation or swelling would seem particularly apposite for emerging underground rivers. Other possible derivations include Welsh *llwym* 'bare, bleak, poor' (see Padel 1985: 151-2), with an unidentified first element; or OE *lum(m)* 'a pool', with an unidentified first element, perhaps OE *fg* 'piece of land in a marsh' (cf. Iden, Sussex); or OE *fg* 'a yew tree'. Finally, the suggestion in Duignan 1902: 83-4 of a derivation from OE *hillum*, the dative plural of OE *yll* 'hill', giving '(at) the hills', can be rejected since (as noted in TSAS 4th Series I 1911 XXXIV 17 fn.59) the forms do not support such a derivation.


*Ina's Rock* 1 mile east of Alton Towers, on the north side of the Churnet Valley (SK 088428). Early spellings have not been traced, but possibly from the legendary local connection of this area with King Ine: see Slain Hollow.

derivation from the puzzling OE element *ing, perhaps meaning 'a hill, a peak' (though the hill here is hardly pronounced), with OE (ge)strēon (and its variant (ge)streond) 'treasure, property, wealth, riches, gain, profit'. A more likely derivation, however is from a Brittonicised *engyst (cf. Welsh ing, yng) from Latin angustiae (in vulgar Latin angustie) 'the narrows', found in Ingst in Gloucestershire (Coates & Breeze 2000: 48, 54-7), which lies a mile or so from a narrowing of the river Severn, and in continental place-names such as Angoisse (Dordogne). Such a name would have been taken into OE as *Engest, and the substitution of i for e is not an irregular philological phenomenon. The flood plain of the river Trent narrows opposite Ingestre, and evidence of episodic flooding has been revealed in archaeological evaluations: see ArchIng. The second element is clearly from the name of the river Trent, but in some spellings appears to have been influenced by OE -straund, -rand 'river bank', OE (ge)strōn 'treasure', and OE trēon, the plural of OE trēo 'tree'. Town Field (The Town Field 1836 O.S.) on the south side of Ingestre (SJ 977244) may mark the site of the original village. For a brine spring at Ingestre see Marsh, The.

INGLE HILL between Freeford Manor and Swinfen Hall (SK 1036). Ingle Hill 1637 SRO DW1738/C/6/4. Possibly from OE *Ing'hill', with OE hyll `hill' (though the existence of OE *ing is not certain), in which case the interesting 'hill-hill-hill' (cf. Ingleton, West Yorkshire), but the Inge family are recorded in this part of the county (see Shaw 1798: 406, 409), and the name may be 'Inge hill'.

IPSTONES 4 miles north-west of Cheadle (SK 0249). Ypestans (p) c.1175 Okeover, Yppestan 1175 SHC I 73, Ipestane 1205 Ass, Ipestanis 1201 Cur, Ipestains (p) 1201 Cur, Hipestan, Hippestan, Hipstanes 1204 SHC III (i) 105-6, Ipestanes 1206 Cur, Ispstone 1220 Ass, Ibestane 1227 ibid, Iwestan 1244 SHC IV 102, Yppestanes c.1240 SHC 4th Series IV 117, Ippestanes 1244 FF, Iweston, Ipestanis 1244 SHC IV 102, Hypestanis, Uppestan 1261 SHC 1911 426-7, Ibestane, Ibestanes 1244 SHC IV 102, Hypestanis, Uppestan 1261 SHC 1911 426-7, Ippstonus 1284 SHC 1206, Hippestans 1291 Blymhill, Ipstones 1310 Banco & freq, Ypstonus 1395 SHC 1939 14, Ippistones 1347 SHC XII 54, Ypstones 1532 SHC 1912 87, Ibeston 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 36, Ibstone 1655 Leek ParReg. A derivation from an OE personal name *Ippa with OE stān 'stone', so *Ippa's stone', is quite possible here, but the forms and topography point towards a derivation from OE yppe, a derivative of upp 'up', meaning 'a raised place, a platform', perhaps also in place-names 'a look-out platform', or 'an upper place, a hill' (although Ekwall 1960: 266 noted the absence of spellings with u, and felt a derivation from the personal name was more likely), with OE stōn 'stone', perhaps here with the meaning 'look-out place at the stone or outcrop': there are a number of rock outcrops hereabouts, including Hopestone 1 mile to the east, and standing stones said to be known as the Sun Stone (q.v.) on Ipstones Edge: StEnc 311. Ipstones Edge lies one mile to the north. Cf. Ibstone, 9 miles west of High Wycombe, Ypestan in 1086 (DB). See also Turner's Knipe; Sharpcliffef.

ISEWALL - see EYESWALL.

ISLE FARM 1 mile east of Heaton (SJ 9662). Isle 1842 O.S.

IVERLEY 3 miles south-east of Kinver (SO 8781), on the Staffordshire-Worcestershire border. Iverley 1293 VCX XX 126, Iverley 1603 SHC 1940 65, Iverley (House Farm) 1895 O.S. Probably

IVETSEY (BANK) on Watling Street, 4 miles east of Brewood (SJ 8310). Uvetshay, Oveyhotes haye, Ovetts hay, Uvetshay 13th century Duig, Quyotesha 1326 SHC 1911 370, Overzateshaye 1412 SHC 1910 311, Ovylheteshay, Ovioteshay 14th century Duig, Everettes Hayes 1563 SHC XIII 225, Ivittsay, Ivetteshay 17th century Duig, Ivetsea Bank 1767 (1801) Shaw II xvii. The terminal hay is from Mercian OE (ge)heg 'a fence, an enclosure', probably in this case a forest enclosure: the place was formerly in the north-west corner of Brewood Forest (VCH II 336). The first element is the OE personal name Ufecæt, a late development of the OE name Wulfgeat, which had by DB become Ulu(u)iet, Ulviet and by 1204 Oviet (see Oakden 1984: 169; SHC III (i) 110). It is possible that the place is to be associated with Wulfgeat, a thegn recorded in 963 who held an estate at Upper Arley that descended to his kinswoman Wulfrun who used it to endow the foundation of Wolverhampton (see Whitelock 1930: 54-7, 163-7; Hart 1975: 366), or perhaps with Wulfgeat whose will dated perhaps c.1006 mentions Wolverhampton, Donington, Kilsall, Penkridge, and Tong, all places not far distant from Ivetsey (see Whitelock 1930: 54-7, 163-7), but the name Wulfgeat is by no means uncommon: ibid. 164. The Bank is a high point on Watling Street, which was lowered during road improvements c.1985. The Bradford Arms Hotel marks the height of the former road.

IVINDON (unlocated, possibly south-west of Wootton, near Eccleshall.) Ivindon 1298 Spufford 2000: 295.

JACKFIELD near Smallthorne (SJ 8750). Jacparok 1408 VCH VIII 119 note 54, Jacks field, Jacksfilds 1696 Burslem ParReg. 'Jack's field'. paroc is from ME pearroc `paddock'.

JACK HAYES 1 mile south-west of Bagnall (SJ 9249). Jack Hay 1816 SRO DW1909/E/9/1, Jack Hays 1836 O.S.

JAMAGE (obsolete, 1 mile south of Talke (SJ 8251)). ? Gamaches 1194 Pipe, ? Gamages c.1198 SHC II 74, 1203 SHC III 95, 1212 SHC 1911 385, Gamages temp. Henry III ibid. 148, Gemetts 1479 SHC 1944 57, Gaminets 1733 SHC 1944 57, Ganimch 1733 ibid. 72, Jamitch 1777 SRO D4842/15/2/10, Gem Edge 1799 Faden, Jamitch 1833 O.S. A curious name, possibly transferred from Gamaches in Eure, Normandy, recorded as an Anglo-Norman family-name: see for example Matthew de Gamages 1198-1214 who held land in Staffordshire: SHC II 74; Eyton 1854-60: IX 38; Cf. Mansell Gamage, Herefordshire.

JAMES BRIDGE 1½ miles south-west of Walsall (SO 9897). James Bridge 1541 SRO D1810/f.49, 1617 Willmore 1887: 439, James Bridge (Green) 1669 SRO DW1921/3, James bridge 1775 Yates, 1834 O.S. A bridge on the Walsall-Darlaston road over the Sneyd (or Bentley) Brook recorded in the 1330s (VCH XVII 167-8), although the age of the name is uncertain, as is the identity of the man after whom it was apparently named.

JARCUMVILLE (unlocated) Jarcumvile 1276 SHC VI (i) 77, 1289 ibid. 185.
JEFFREYMEADOW 1 mile south of Alton (SK 0740). Jeffery Meadow 1748 D240/D/96, Jeffery Meadow 1775 Yates, Jeffery Meadow 1836 O.S. Evidently from a personal name. Hugh Jafres is recorded in this part of the county in 1342: SHC 1913 92.

JEFFRYNS HAYS 1 mile east of Balterley (SJ 7749). Jeffernes Feild 1602 AD, Jeffreus heys 1663 Audley ParReg, Jeffrons heyes 1664 ibid, Jeffronsheyes 1667 ibid, Jeffrons Hays, Gefrons Hase 1733 SHC 1944 7, 37, Jeffrons Hays Farm c.1736 SRO D1788/A5/i, Jefferen Hayes 1833 O.S. From a descriptive surname such as Jevon, Jeavons, Jevons (from OFr jovene, Latin juvenis 'young'), with Mercian OE (ge)heg 'enclosure'.

JOANNE BRIDGE (obsolete) where Charlemont Road crosses the river Tame in West Bromwich (SO 0293). Jone Bridge 1526 Dilworth 1967: 53, Joanne Bridge 1577 ibid. 53, 1804 EnclA., Joane Bridge 1684 SRO D564/3/1/23. The name is associated with Jone or Joanne or Joan Mill which lay in Wigmore Lane, West Bromwich (SO 0293), Jone Miln 1526 Dilworth 1967: 53, Jane Mill 1602 ibid. 54. The derivation of the name is unexplained, though a personal name Joan or Joanes (DES 255) is likely.

JOHNSON HALL ¼ mile south-west of Eccleshall (SJ 8228). Johanneston c.1233 Rees 1997: 82, Joneston 1228 SHC 1924 167, Jonesstone 1327 SHC VII (i) 212, 1359 SHC VIII 102, Joneston 1347 SHC 1913 122, Jonson Hall 1601 Eccleshall ParReg, Johnson Hall 1834 O.S. Evidently 'Johannes (John's) tan', with the later addition of hall. See also SHC II (ii) 92 fn.

JOHNSON'S WOOD (FARM) 1½ miles south-west of Almington (SJ 7132). From Thomas Johnson who died in 1635 in a house he had built in Johnson's Wood: SHC 1945-6 183. The place was also called Hawkhurst: SHC 1945-6 24.

JOLIFFE'S BANK (unlocated, near Bridge End on the west side of Leek (? SJ 9757).) Joliffe's Banks c.1800 SRO D3272/1/4/3/17-20. Jollyfe is from the Jolliffe family: see Erdeswick 1844: 249; Sleigh 1883: 33, 35; Jolliffe 1892; see also Hillswood.

JOL POOL, JOLPOOL BROOK ¼ mile north of Sandon (SJ 9431). Early spellings have not been traced, but if ancient, perhaps from the personal name Jol, Johel, Joel, Juel, of French (possibly Breton) origin: DES 256. The surname Joly is recorded in 1465 (SHC NS IV 135), and Joll, Jolle is recorded in Lichfield 1552 (SHC 1912 194-6), perhaps to be associated with Yolls Lane (1575), Joles Lane (1599), Joyles Lane (1610), the earlier name of George Street: VCH XIV 42. Or possibly from ME iuel, tuwele, tuell, from OFr joel 'treasure, jewel, gem', perhaps 'the jewel-like stream', or possibly in a literal sense: eight Roman coins were discovered discovered in the bank of the stream in 1979: SMR 01810. It has been suggested that the name of the pool may have been Jelpel, or was at least pronounced as such: JNSFC XLII 1907-8 143.

JONES'S WOOD 1 mile north-east of Swinscoe (SK 1448). Jones's Wood 1885 O.S. Perhaps to be associated with Janneyes Barn, recorded in 1702: Okeover E5089.

KEELE 3 miles west of Newcastle-under-Lyme (SJ 8045). Keel 1156 SHC XII NS 53, Kiel 1169 ff, 1185 SHC I 119, 1203 SHC III 114, Kyel 1173 SHC I 67, Kell 1199 SHC III 42, Kele 1199 ibid. 57, Kyel 1173 SHC I 67, 1230 P, Kele 1199 SHC III 57, 1511 HLS, Kel 1211 FF, 1277 SHC VI (i) 91,
1282 ibid. 121, Kell 1250 SHC XI 318, Kyll 1286 SHC VI (i) 167, Keke (sic) 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 52, Keel 1833 O.S. Possibly from ME kye, the Northern plural of OE ca 'cow' (Southern ME plural ky(n(e)), with OE hyll 'hill', hence 'cows' hill', as proposed by Ekwall 1960: 269, but other examples of names incorporating kye are much further north (Kiddal, West Yorkshire; Kyroe, Northumberland; Kyo, Durham), and cf. Coole in Cheshire with C- spellings), and a derivation from ON kjolr 'a keel', in the sense of 'a ridge with the appearance of an upturned boat, or which separates the waters' (the English word 'keel' derives from the Scandinavian word) cannot be ruled out, since there is a ridge on the hill here (clearly indicated by hatchuring on the first edition 1" O.S. map of 1833; see also Gelling 1981: 11, where the hill is described as having 'a very narrow summit') which forms the Severn/Trent watershed. Supporting evidence may be detected in the nearby names Kettlemoor (q.v.), which might incorporate an ON personal name, and Nabbs (q.v.). It has been suggested (see for example StSt 8 1996 2) that the Anglo-Saxons would not have realised that Keele lay on a watershed, but sections of the pre-Conquest Staffordshire-Shropshire boundary on the south-west of the county follows the watershed, probably quite deliberately: see TSAS 4th Series VI 1916-7 123-6. For completeness, it may be noted that Welsh cel means 'hiding, cover, concealment' (perhaps in place-names meaning 'shelter': Padel 1985: 46), but also 'keel'. Cf. Keelby, Lincolnshire.

KEELING FORD (obsolete, a ford across the river Dove, ½ mile north-west of Marchington (SK 1331)). Kyljord 1323 SHC 1911 355, 1327 SHC VII (i) 223, Keeling Ford 1836 O.S. The derivation is uncertain, but the surname Keeling is found, e.g. John Kelyng recorded in 1301 (SHC 4th series XVIII 195); John Keeling, recorded in 1600 (SHC 1935 293).

KELMESTOWE (obsolete, in Clent.) Kelmstowe 1327 SHC VII (i) 253, Kelmystowe 1462 SHC N NS 124. Shaw 1801: II 242 states: '...there was anciently a certain district adjoining to, if not surrounding St Kenelm's chapel, called Kelmestowe...'. Kenelm (properly Cynehelm) was the son of Coenwulf of Mercia, who is said to have become king while still a child on the death of his father in 821, and by tradition was murdered in Clent Forest at the instigation of his jealous sister Cwoenthryth or Cwenthryth. Although the body at first lay hidden, its whereabouts were miraculously revealed to the pope as he celebrated mass in Rome. Once exhumed, Kenelm's remains were transferred to a shrine at Winchcombe, Gloucestershire, where they became a focus for miracles, and by the later 10th century or earlier he was venerated as a saint. The story is first recorded c.1150, but the origins of the cult are unclear. A real Mercian ætheling named Cynehelm is known to have existed, but little is known of him, and he is not recorded after 812 AD: Williams et al 1991: 98; see also Love 1966: lxxxix-cxxxix, 50-89; Ashley 1998: 260, 801; Preest 2002: 199, 201. The name incorporates OE stōw 'a (holy) place, site of periodic assembly, typically associated with a saint'. See also Spelstowe.

KELSON (obsolete) 1 mile south-east of Dilhorne (SJ 975424). Kelson 1775 Yates, 1836 O.S.

KEMLOW, THE (unlocated, in Blurton.) the Kemlow 1787 SRO D4842/11/1/140-141. The second element would appear to be OE hlāw 'mound, tumulus', usually with the latter meaning in Staffordshire.

KEMPSAGE (FARM & LANE) 1¼ miles north-east of High Offley (SJ 7927). Early spellings have not been traced, but perhaps from the surname Kemp(e): John Kempe of Levedale is recorded in 1377
Or possibly associated with Kemsey (q.v.). The second element may be OE an 'oak-tree'.

KEMSEY (MANOR) 2 miles south-west of High Offley (SJ 7624). Kemseye 1278 SHC IV 283, 1316 SHC XII (ii) 57, 1324 SHC X 55, Kemsey 1314 SHC VI NS (ii) 79 fn.1, Kem esse, Chemesey 1326 SHC X 62, Kemsehaye 1351 SHC 1913 143, Kemmesey 1408 SHC XVI 64, Kemsey 1614-5 SHC 1934 30, 1616 SHC VI NS (i) 10, 1679 SHC 1919 235, 1833 O.S. The first element is uncertain, but may be associated with the root of Kempsage (Farm and Lane) (q.v.). The second element is perhaps OE eog 'raised land in marshland, land by a stream': the place lies on a stream.

KENDAR WOOD to the north of Okeover (SK 1548). Kendar 1799 Okeover T31. Possibly associated with (pasture called) Kendall recorded in 1538 (SHC VII NS 63) and 1547 (Okeover F18). An interesting name. The place lies on a small tributary of the river Dove. Although early spellings for this name have not been traced, Kendall in Westmorland is held to be from the dael or valley of the river Kent', a river-name identical with Kennet, probably of British origin, but it may also be noted that the name of the county of Kent may derive from Celtic canto-, Welsh cant 'rim, border; border land' (though there is no agreement between philologists on this point), and this place lies against a stream running into the river Dove, which forms here the Staffordshire-Derbyshire boundary.

KENT HILL (FARM) ½ mile west of Audley (SJ 7950). the pasture called the Kenthill 1612 SHC 1944 83.

KENTSHAY (unlocated, in Keele.) Kentshay 1410 HOK 21.

KERNSLEY (unlocated, possibly near Kingsley.) Kernsley 1711 DRO D3155/WH472.

KERRY HILL an 810' hill 1 mile south of Bagnall (SJ 9249). ? Kery 1194 Pipe, ? Kyryjaule 1310 SHC IX (i) 21, ? Kry 1331 SHC 1913 27, 1343 ibid. 103, Kerealhull 1434 SHC 1933 (ii) 36, ? Kyvyell-hill 1454 SHC XII NS 73, SHC VII 251, Kerealhyll 1537 Ct, Kyry 1331 SHC 1913 27, Kerealhyll 1537 Ct, Kyryehill 1599 SHC XVI 196, Kerry Hill 1803 SHC 1933 149, 1836 O.S. There is a possibility that the name has as its root a British river-name Kyre, related to Cory, Curry, Cory, names commonly found in Cornwall, Devon and Somerset, but unrecorded elsewhere, except Kiddemore Green (q.v.), Kyre Brook (and a number of associated place-names, including Kyre Magna and Kyre Parva, Kyrebach, and Kyrewood) in Hereford and Worcester, and possibly Currie, Lothian. Its frequent occurrence in south-west England suggests a possible derivation from an OCornish word meaning 'a brook' or 'a valley', which may have had a Celtic base *kour- or similar, connected with Welsh ceu- 'hollow' (cf. Welsh ceunant, etc.), and the name here may have been adopted from Welsh at about the end of the sixth century, although this hypothesis is far from certain: see Jackson 1953: 310-1, 316, 341. A more likely derivation may be from the surname Kerrial, found in Croxton Kerrial, Leicestershire, granted to Betram de Cryoil in 1242, and Nicholas de Kyriel in 1247 (Ekwall 1960: 134). The surname is from Criel in Seine-Inferiere. The place lies on the north side of Wetley Moor, from which drain a number of streams. See also Kyrywilyhaile.

KETELBERNESTONA (unlocated) Ketelbernestona 1208 SHC II 148. A significant name of the type known to philologists as Grimston-hybrid, or Toton-hybrid, where an ON personal name is combined...
with OE tan. The meaning is probably 'the tan of Ketilbi9rn', or 'the tan of the Kettle Brook or Burn' (Ketelbearne, glossed as Chetelbert, is recorded in 1072 as a witness to a grant of Wrottesley to Evesham abbey, and was brother of Turkil, who may have held land at Syrescote in 1086 (VCH IV 52), and son of Alwin, Sheriff of Warwickshire who died before 1086, who both also witnessed the grant: SHC II 179.) It is possible that the place may be Ketelburstone, recorded in Suffolk (SHC XVI 229).

KETELSHUL. (unlocated, possibly near Chell.) Ketelshul 1272-90 SHC 1911 446. Probably from the ON personal name Ketill, so 'Ketill's hill'.

KETTLEBROOK on the south-east side of Tamworth (SK 2103). Ketelbroke 1436 Ct, Kettle Brook 1770 EnclA. The place takes its name from Kettle Brook, a tributary of the river Tame. Kettlebrook (Collery) 1834 O.S., Kettel 1845 Map. Perhaps from ON ketill (or the Scandinavianised form of OE cetel) 'a kettle', but when found in place-names connected with water (here OE bröc 'brook') perhaps meaning 'bubbling', so 'the bubbling brook'. The place was on the Staffordshire-Warwickshire border until transferred into Staffordshire in 1965.


KETTLEMOOR. (obsolete) 1 mile north-west of Keele (SJ 8046). Kettlemoor 1833 O.S.; Kettesmoor 1836 TNSFC 1963 57. Early spellings have not been traced (but cf. Big, Far & Near Kettle Hill (fields), recorded in 1862 in Knutton: SRO D3272/3/6/21), but if ancient perhaps from ON ketill (or a Scandinavianised form of OE cetel) 'a kettle', found in place-names with the meaning 'a deep valley surrounded by hills' (which would be appropriate for this place). However, the 1836 spelling points towards a personal name, and Adam Ketel is recorded in Keele in 1327 and 1332 (SHC VII (i) 199; SHC X 83), and John Ketel in 1338 (HOK 21 fn.47). Perhaps therefore from the ON personal name Ketill, in which case perhaps supporting evidence for a Norse derivation for the name Keele (q.v.); see also Nabbs. See also Kettle Hill.

KEVERMUNT, KEVERMONT. (obsolete) - see CARMOUNTHEAD.

KEYWELL GREEN. (obsolete) 2 miles north-west of Butterton (SK 0458). Kewall Green 1677 Leek ParReg, Keywell Green 1842 O.S. The first element is uncertain: a derivation from OE Cy 'cows' is possible, but see discussion of this element under the entry for Keele. The second element is Mercian OE walle 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream'. Green indicates a grassy area in woodland, heathland or moorland. The place is now called Lower Green Farm.

KIBBLESTONE. 2 miles north of stone (SJ 9136). Cublesdon ?12th century SHC VI (i) 22, 1271 ibid. 49, 1293 ibid. 276, 1380 SHC XIII 154, Cúblesd' c.1224 Rees 1997: 65, Cubblestone 1288 SHC XIII 174, Cubblesdon, Cubeleton 1329 SHC XI 4, Cúbbleston' 1333 SHC X 92, Kybleston 1383 SHC XIII 203, Kebiston 1476 SHC VI NS (i) 104, Kebylstone 1478 ibid. 115, Kybollston 1567 SHC XIII 264, Kebollston 1586 SHC 1927 166, Kibleston 1643 SHC 4th Series I 27, Kibbleston 1666 SHC 1921 80, Kibblestone (Hall) 1922 O.S. Erdeswick 1844: 30 states that 'Cubleston is a goodly large manor, containing these hamlets following: viz. Mayford, Oldinton (vulg. Olton), Berryhill, Cotwaldeston, Mathershall, the Spot-Grange, Snelhall, and Woodhouses'. The same source (p.31) also
suggests that the place was 'called also Culmsdon'. Cobintone 1086 (DB) has been variously identified with this place and Cubbington in Warwickshire (VCH IV 46), but the latter seems more likely: see SHC 1916 169; see also Cobintone. The name Kibblestone (which does not seem to appear on any early map) is evidently from the OE personal name *Cybbel, so ‘*Cybbel's dun' or ‘*Cybbers tan': the second element varies in the earliest spellings. Cf. Kibblesworth, Durham. See also Cottesdon.

KIDDEMORE GREEN 1½ miles west of Brewood (SJ 8508). Kudimor, Kudymor 1308 Ipm, Kyrremore, Kyr(r)ymore, Kerrymore 1383, 1387, 1723 Ct, Kerrimore-greene 1657 WCRO CR1291/190, Kadimore 1659 Deed (NCBrewood), The Kerrimores 1661 Lease (NCBrewood), Kerrimore (lane) 1681 Will, Kiddimoor green 1686 Plot. No definite derivation can be given for this name, for which there appear to have been alternative first elements, but it is unlikely that the name is connected with ON kjarr (ME ker) 'a bog, a marsh, particularly one overgrown with brushwood', as suggested in Oakden 1984: 38. The root may be a British river-name Kyre, related to Cury, Curry, Cory (see Kerry Hill). There is a small stream in a shallow valley here. Cf. Kyre, Kyrewood, Kyre Brook, Little Kyre, Kyre Magna and Kyre Wyard, all in Worcestershire (PN Wo 55-6); Kyrebach, Herefordshire, and see Ekwall 1928 97-8, 233; also the river Piddle in Dorset, which may have had the British name Car(e)y: Watts 1979: 131 fn.12. The present spelling of Kiddemore (which, curiously, reflect the earliest spellings, which would otherwise appear to be aberrant) has evidently been influenced by Kidderminster, some 20 miles to the south. The second element is OE mōr, meaning in the Midlands 'marshland', hence 'marshland of the stream called Kyre'. The Green element suggests a clearing in woodland: the place lay deep in Brewood Forest, a name of part-British origin. Kyry, recorded in 1344 (SHC 1913 103; also Richard Kyry 1331 ibid. 27, and the surname Kyrre, associated in 1467 with Pillaton Hall: SHC 1928 155) may be connected with this place. Cf. Kerry Lane, on the west side of Eccleshall (SJ 8228). See also Kerry Hill; Willenhall.

KIDDLESTICH (obsolete) 1 mile north-west of Uttoxeter (SK 0733). Kidlesick 1658 Redfern 1865: map, Kiddlestich 1658 Redfern 1886: 89, Kiddlestick c.1752 SRO D4156/1-35, 1834 O.S., Kiln Sich 1775 Yates, Kidlesick 1886 Redfern 1886: 353. A curious name of uncertain age. If ancient, the first element might be from kiddle, ‘a wicker fish trap; a weir or barrier in a river with an opening for catching fish; a person in charge of a fishing-weir', with OE styce 'a piece of land', or OE stc 'a stream'. Since the place lay on high ground but within half a mile of the river Tean, perhaps 'the piece of land occupied by the keeper of the fish weir'. The curious spelling from Yates' map offers an alternative derivation 'the stc or stream with the kiln', but seems likely to be an aberration. A gibbet is said to have stood at Kiddlestich, and it seems possible that Redfern's spelling might reflect a colloquial expression for such a structure.

KIDSGROVE 6 miles north-west of Stoke on Trent (SJ 8354). Kydcrowe c.1596 SHC 1932 324, Kiderow, Kidcrewe 1656 Wolstanton ParReg, Kiderew 1680 SHC 1919 264, Kiderow 1686 Plot, Kidcrew 1695 Morden, c.1733 SHC 1944 42, 62, Kidcrew 1747 Bowen, Killegrew 1763 SHC 1934 (i) 67, Kid Crew 1775 Yates, Kidsgrove 1807 SHC 4th III 12, Kidcrew 1832 Teesdale, Kidsgrove 1836 O.S. The various versions of this name - the place has developed rapidly in recent centuries, particularly after it became the base for workers on the Harecastle Tunnel built in 1766-77 - show that
the root is an obsolete dialect word *crew(e)*, also found as *creuh, crow, crough, crue*, apparently of British origin (cf. PrWelsh *crou, Modern Welsh *crau, Cornish *crow, Breton *kraou, Irish *cro*), all with the meaning 'pen, sty, hut, hovel'. In this case the name is from *kidcrow, kidcrew*, used in the Cheshire area for a calf-crib (Halliwell). The meaning is 'the place of the stall or fold of the calves'. See also EDD, and Jackson 1879, where *crew* is explained as 'a pen for ducks and geese', also citing Bailey 1782: 104: 'Swine-crue - a swine-sty or hog-sty. An old word'. Evidently during the later eighteenth or early nineteenth century *grove* was felt to be a more refined element than the earlier *crew*. See also Wakelin 1969: 273-81.

KIDSHOUSE (unlocated, possibly near Wolstanton.) *Kydhowses* 1565 SHC XIII 240, *Kidhouse* 1647 Wolstanton ParReg. Possibly the same meaning as *Kidsgrove* (q.v.).

KILBY (obsolete, at Blithbury Bank, ¼ mile north of Blithbury (SK 0820).) *Kylby* 1379 SHC XVI 173, *Kilbynumshall* 1307 (1798) Shaw I 201, *Kilby-hall* 1332, 1407 ibid, *Kileyby hall* 1395 ibid, *Kilebolondes* 1411 ibid, *Kylbye* 1459 Parker 1897: 366, *Kibbithall c.1598* Erdeswic 1844: 246. '...though the name of Kilby-hall is lost, several of the neighbouring enclosures still (in 1797) retain the name of Kilby or, corruptedly, Gilby fields': Shaw 1798: I 201. From Sir William de Kileby (of Kilby, Leicestershire), who married the daughter of Sir William de Malveysin (of Mavesyn Ridware) at some date between 1100 and 1135: ibid. See also JNSFC 4 1964 366; StEnc 319.

KIMET (unlocated, possibly near Trysull.) *Kimer* late 14th/early 15th century (1801) Shaw II 208.

KINCHALE (unlocated, possibly near Pipe Grange Farm, 1¼ miles south-west of Lichfield (SK 0908).) *Kynchehal* 1325 SHC 1939 93, BCA MS3415/158, *Kinchale, Kinchalen* 1367 SHC 1939 99, *Kynchale* 1401 ibid. 83. The Kynchall family held property here in 1299: VCH XIV 201. It has been suggested that Broad Lane near Pipehill may be *Kynchall Lane*, recorded in 1412: VCH XIV 202. *Kynchall moor* in the Edial area is recorded in the early 16th century (VCH XIV 212), presumably *Kynchalmor* recorded in 1410 (BCA MS3415/213).


KING'S BRIDGE (unlocated, on the river Trent.) *King's bridge* 1510 Dent & Hill 1896: 115.

KINGS BRIDGE (unlocated, in Moseley near Wolverhampton). *Kings Bridge* 1693/4 SRO D118/10/4. Perhaps associated with the escape of Charles II after the battle of Worcester in September 1651: the king took refuge in Moseley Old Hall during his escape. The bridge over the river Penk on the west side of Coven, known as *Jackson's Bridge*, was formerly *King's Bridge* (Horovitz 1992: 260), perhaps for the same reason. The identity of Jackson is unknown, but it may be noted that Charles II adopted the alias William Jackson during his escape: *ibid.* 131.
KINGS HILL on the north side of Wednesbury (SO 9895), Kyngeshulleslone, Kyngeshullforlong] 1315 SHC 1911 322, Ede 1962: 31, Kingshill (Field) 1684 BCA MS3145/91/2, Kingshill, Kingshill field 17th century (1801) Shaw II 88; KINGSHILL (obsolete) ½ mile south-west of Sedgley (SO 9195). Kingshill 1834 O.S. 'The king's hill'. Of the place near Wednesbury, Ede 1962: 108 fn.43 observes: 'No certain explanation of this name can be given; a derivation from a Saxon king or battle must be rejected. Possibly it was manorial demesne land when the King held the manor or it may indicate a part of Wednesbury, a royal manor, as opposed to Darlaston'.

KINGSLEY (obsolete) a manor in Tettenhall parish, on the summit of Tettenhall Wood (Shaw 1801: II 200), 1 mile south-west of Tettenhall (SO 8798). Kyngeleye 1286 SHC V (i) 168, Kyngesleye 1300 ibid. 180, 1346 SRO D593/A/2/16/4, Kingsley otherwise Kinfare 17th century VCH XX 21-2. 'The King's leah or clearing'. The place was at one time held by the king: SHC V (i) 168; see also Tettenhall (Regis). Kingsley Wood (which became Tettenhall Wood) was a detached portion of Kinver Forest: VCH XX 29, hence Kinfare: see SHC VI (i) 258; Jones 1894: 268.

KINGSLEX Ancient Parish 2 miles north of Cheadle (SK 0146). Chingeslei, Chingesleia 1086 DB, Kingslegh 1227 Ass, Kingslee 1232 Eyton 1854-60: X 71, Kingsle 1248 SHC IV 110, Kynchesley 1385 SHC XIII 191. 'The King's leah or clearing'. Kingsley Moor, ½ miles west of Kingsley (SJ 9946) is recorded as Kingsley Moor in 1628: Okeover T752. See also Consall; Kingstone.

KINGSLEY HOLT 1 mile south-east of Kingsley (SK 0246).? Hout 1247 Cl, ? Holt 1359 SHC XII 164, the Houl 1594 Kingsley ParReg, Holt 1775 Yates. From OE holt 'wood'. The identification of the earlier spelling with this place is uncertain - Holt Hill, 1 mile north-west of Newborough (SK 1226) is another possibility

KINGSLOW 2 miles west of Pattingham, on a pronounced hill (SO 7998). Kyngeslow 1283 Eyton 1854-60: III 113, Kynggesloue 1327 SR, Kynggesloue 1376 SHC XIV 141, Kyngelowe 1542 SRO D593/A/2/11/9, Kingsloue 1562 Worfield ParReg, Kingslow 1602 SRRC 2028/1/5/8, Kingslow 1833 O.S. From OE hlåw 'hill, burial mound'. Presumably from a tumulus on the hill. It is of interest that Rog'o le Kyng or Kyne is recorded in Pattingham in 1327 (SHC VII (i) 249) and 1332 (SHC X (i) 131). Nearby to the north is Stanlow (q.v.). In Shropshire since the 12th century.

KING'S LOW a tumulus near Tixall (SJ 9523); see WMA 1987 30 38-9. From OE hlåw 'hill, burial mound'. A stone cross from South Wales is said to have been erected here in about 1803: Erdeswick 1844: 70. See also Guendelawe; Queen's Low.

KINGSNORDBY 2½ miles south-west of Bobbington (SO 7787). Nordlegh 1086 DB, Norley c.1086 Eyton 1854-60: I 109, Norley c.1295 SRRC 2028/1/2/2, Northlegh 1305 Eyton 1854-60: 153, Nordeley Regs 1525 SRS 3 109, Nordley Regis 1695 Morden. 'The north leah' (perhaps in relationship to Alveley) with the later addition of Regis to show that it was at one time held by the king. Since the 12th century in Shropshire.

KINGS POOL (obsolete) on north-east of Stafford (SJ 9323). Kyngespole 1292 SHC VI (i) 250, Kyngespol 1350 SHC 1913 135, Kyngs pole 1495 SRO (216/7902), Kings poole (Medes) 1610 Speed, Kingston Pool 1775 Yates. From the royal fish pool which existed here from at least 1157 until c.1600:
VCH VI 210-11. See also SHC VIII (ii) 105. *Medes* is from OE *mǣd* ‘a meadow’, very common in OE, ME and later field-names.

**KINGSTANDING** a mound, 3 miles south-east of Aldridge (SO 0895), possibly a tumulus, 15' in diameter and 3' high, said to have been destroyed in 1814 and later reconstructed, possibly nearby (see TSSAHS XXXII 1990-1 90; StEnc 321), and marked by a circular clump of trees in 1818 (see Scott 1832: 312), which was a Hundred meeting place, *Kings Standing* 1834 O.S., KING’S STANDING a ploughed-out mound (see StEnc 321) in Needwood Forest (SK 1624), *the King’s standing* c.1580 (1798) Shaw I 64, *King’s Standing* 1658 ParSurv, *Kingsstanding* 1681 Edwards 1949: 159, *King’s-Standing* 1798 Shaw I 66, *Kingsstanding* 1836 O.S. By tradition Kingstanding near Aldridge was so-called after the mound was used as a platform by Charles I when reviewing troops on 16 October 1642, and although Needwood Forest was visited by James I in 1619, 1621 and 1624, and by Charles I in 1634 and 1636 (VCH II 356), and King’s Standing is said to have been a favourite resting place of James II (VCH II 356), ‘the name of King’s-Standing [in Needwood Forest] certainly existed early in Elizabeth’s reign at least, and most probably had its origin from [a visit by] Henry VII’: Shaw 1798: I 66. Both names derive from ME *stand* ‘a hunter’s station or stand from which game was shot’. OED quotes Digby MS 182 xxxv (c.1400): ‘Thenne shulde the maister of the game ... meete the kynge and brynge hym to his stondynge... ’. The word developed to mean a kind of roofed grandstand, two or more stories high, with open sides through which the progress of the hunt could be observed. A standing lodge differed from a hunting lodge in that women and older men who were following the hunt would rest at a standing lodge, sometimes for a whole day, and the hunters would use it as a base between chases, while a hunting lodge would be used as overnight accommodation. One of the most famous standings is the misnamed Queen Elizabeth’s Hunting Lodge, built by her father, Henry VIII, as a standing at Chingford, Essex. See also AJ lxxviii 33-3. The place near Aldridge (which was associated with Sutton Chase, a royal forest extending westwards almost to Walsall, until granted by Henry I to Roger, Earl of Warwick) has given its name to a district to the south. There is another King’s Standing (King’s Standing 1887 O.S.), 3 miles north of Lichfield (SK 1213), a mound in an open area within Ravenshaw Wood, but the name does not appear on the 1834 O.S. map, and its history is unknown. Cf. King's Stand Farm, Nottinghamshire; King's Standing, Sussex.

**KINGSTONE** Ancient Parish 3 miles south-west of Uttoxeter (SK 0629). *Cunegeston* 1166 SHC I 223, *Kingeston* 1166 P, 1227 SHC IV 61, 1242-3 Fees, 1275 SHC V (i) 118, *Kingestan* 1199 SHC III (i) 48, *Keneston* 1403 SHC XV 108, *Kynston* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 68, *Kynstonne* 1602 SHC 1935 475, *Kingston* 1663 SHC II (ii) 41, *Kingstone* 1953 O.S. From OE *cyninges-tan* ‘the king’s farm or manor’. The name Kingston(e) is found in at least 15 counties, and this place is the most northerly. The first spelling indicates Scandinavian influence from ON kunung. This place is not recorded in DB, but it has been suggested that the name implies an early royal interest: in the Anglo-Saxon period the king owned in every shire a *cyninges-tan*, a key element in the organisation of justice and finance managed for the king by a reeve, where food rents and the income from cases heard in the Hundred courts were collected: see JEPNS 20 13-37. These legal structures may have been in place by the early 7th century: Hough 1997: 55-57. However, other research suggests that places of this name were probably subordinate berewicks, rather than royal vills: Faith 1997: 150-1. Youngs 1990: 415 gives Kingston as
the usual civil parish parish spelling, with Kingstone as the ecclesiastical parish form, but the O.S. retains Kingstone. See also Consall; Kingsley.

**KINGSTONE HILL** 1 mile east of Stafford (SJ 9523). *Kinesdun* c.1209 SRO D938/228, *Kinesdonehul* c.1298 ibid 938/277, *Kinesdonehull* 1300 ibid. D938/279. *Kynesdone hul* 1317 ibid. 938/294. 'Cyne's dún or hill', to which the tautological 'hill' was added. The place is to be associated with Kingstone Brook (q.v.), which runs to the east of the hill southwards into the river Sow near its junction with the river Penk, and Kingstone Pool (*Cynespol* 1320 SRO D938/297), a licence for the creation of which, with a mill, was given 1161x1182 (SRO D938/1). The pool is shown on the 1836 first edition 1" O.S. map, but appears to have become woodland before the end of the 19th century. Names associated with this area are *Kenesdonewey* 1292 SRO D938/271 and *Kinesdonefeld* c.1298 ibid. D938/277.

**KINGSTONE BROOK** 1 mile east of Stafford. *Kinesbroc* c.1178 SHC VIII 172, *Kenesbroc*, *Kynesbroc* 1261 SHC 1914 120-1, *Kenesbroc* c.1350 SRO D938/10. Evidently 'Cyne's brook'. See also Kingstone Hill.

**KING STREET** - see CUTCLESTONE.

**KINGSWINFORD** Ancient Parish ¼ mile west of Dudley (SO 8888). *Swinford* 951x955 (15th/16th century, S.579), *Suinesford* 1086 DB, *Suineforda* 1130 SHC I 2, *New Swyneford Regis* c.1322 1911 353, *New Swyneford* 1325 Inq, *Kyngeswynford* 1394 SHC XV 62, *Kyngessynford* 1433-50 Plmpt Pet C1/2/18(21), *Kynes Swenford* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8, *Swynford Regis* 1563 SHC IX NS 34. 'The ford of the swine'. The ford occurs as *swynford*, a boundary mark in the charter of 951x955 (15th/16th century, S.579), on the river Stour, 2½ miles to the south, and the name may have been applied to the north-south road which crossed the ford, which would explain the origin of Kinswinford and Old Swinford (q.v.). A bridge, mentioned in 1255, replaced the ford, and gave its name to Stourbridge. *Kings* is a medieval addition to distinguish Kingswinford from Old Swinford and other Swinfords: it was a royal manor from at least 1066.

KINVASTON 1 mile south-west of Penkridge (SJ 9012). Kinwaldestun, Kineuoldeston 996 (for 994) (17th century, S.1380), Chenwardestone 1086 DB, Kinaldeston, Kinedelston 1203 SHC III 118, 126, Kyneswaldestan 1227 Ass, Keneston 1403 SHC XV 108, Kenaston 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 90. 'Cynewald's tun'. A reference to Stonewall alias Kinwaston in 1553 (Mander & Tildesley 1960: 54) is unexplained, but a possible, if enigmatic, clue is found in Penkridge ParReg, which records a baptism in 1596 of 'J Wall of Kinvaston'.

KINVER Ancient Parish 4 miles west of Stourbridge (SO 8483). (the wood called) Cynibre 736 (17th century, S.89), Cynefare(s-stane) 964 (17th century, S.726), Chenevare 1086 DB, Chenefara 1130 SHC I 14, Kinefara 1177 SHC I 85, Kenevara 1183 ibid.107, Kynefare 1262 SHC V (i) 154, 1300 ibid. 179, Kenefare 1271 ibid. 138, 1331 SHC XI 21, Kyngfare 1596 SHC XVI 158, Kinfare 1834 O.S. An ancient name that has not been satisfactorily explained. Ekwall 1936: 266 felt that the earliest spelling is an adaptation of a Welsh Cynfre, with the first element influenced by OE cyne- 'royal'. Jackson 1953: 647 suggests a possible derivation from British *Cunobriga, adopted in the second half of the sixth century, developing into OE Cynibre, Cynefare. The element Cuno- is not uncommon in early place-names, but the precise meaning is unresolved: see Rivet & Smith 1979: 328-9. Ekwall 1959: 37 suggests that the name may mean 'dog hill' (from Celtic *cuno 'hound', well attested in Celtic names: it has been noted that the Celts admired their hunting dogs greatly, and Cuno- in their personal name carried similar inferences to the word lion today: the element was born by kings (such as Maelgwn 'princely hound') and saints (Kentigern 'hound-like lord'): see Coates & Breeze 2000: 126-8. (The meaning 'high', often cited, has been shown to be erroneous: see EPNE i 120). There may be a connection with the probably Celtic name Kinder, the highest hill in the Peak District: see Coates & Breeze 2000: 165-6. Whatever the first element, it seems to have been rationalised into the OE adjective cyne- 'royal', or OE cyne, cēne 'bold, keen, fierce, warlike'. The second element is normally assumed (since at the end of the Roman period b was pronounced rather like v) to be the mutated form fre of the Welsh (and Cornish) bre 'hill', from British *brigā, Late British *brega (Kinver lies at the foot of the 543' hill of Kinver Edge), which appears to have changed at an early date via -ver (for parallels cf. Dinnever, Cornwall, and Mellor, Lancashire and Derbyshire), to a form more readily intelligible to the Anglo-Saxons, OE fare, fær 'road, (difficult) passage', hence 'royal (? or public) highway' (cf. OE cyne-strēt 'public road'), although fær, which seems to have gone out of use as a place-forming term at a very early date, is found in only a handful of names in the east of England. Such development of the second element might refer to the medieval route, known in 1300 as Chester Way, between the south-west of England and Chester, which ran along Kinver High Street and remained in use until c.1800 (VCH XX 94, 126; presumably Chester roade in Kinver recorded in 1679: SRRC 1045/145): early medieval kings are known to have visited Kinver. It is of interest, however, that Shaw (1801: II 262), amongst other possible derivations, considers 'Cyne, Chine, or Chene, royal, great, etc., and Fare, a road, as in thorough-fare...a great or royal road...so that the name might not have regard to the hill, but to the Roman road which lay across this forest and passed near the town ...'. (Two miles south-west of Kinver is Kingsford, cenunga ford in a charter of 964 AD (17th century, S.726), which is recorded as Keniggeford in 1262 (SHC V (i) 139), Kynyingford and Kyngesford in 1300 (SHC V (i) 180), said to be from 'Ford of the people of C(o)ēn or C(o)ēna': PN Wo 259; see also
Hooke 1990: 172. The first edition 1” O.S. map of 1833 shows two Kingsfords some half a mile apart to the west and south-west of Kinver Edge, one in Staffordshire, the other in Worcestershire. See also Kingsley.) The general use of the spelling Kinver is recent. The form Kinfare evolved from medieval usage, and remained the usual spelling until the 19th century. Saxton used the form on his maps (1577), and later cartographers until Browne (Plot 1686) used the same spelling. In the 18th century the alternative spelling Kinver appeared, and had become established by the 1840s, although the use of Kinfare lingered on for many years. The first edition 1” O.S. map uses Kinver and Kinfare on adjoining sheets in 1833 and 1834. The place gave its name to the vast Kinver Forest. It may also be noted that the name Kinfolka, ‘royal folk’, is recorded in a Worcestershire Survey c.1150: see PN Wo 18; Ekwall 1960: xiv. Above Kinver village lies an iron-age hillfort, recorded as Bury in 1293 (VCH XX 122), and le Bury in 1456 (VCH XX 141), with which the place-name may in some way be connected. It has been suggested that Cynefares-stane (‘The Stone of Kinver’, possibly a boundary stone: see WMANS 18 1975 9; Hooke 1990: 172; StEnc 721), perhaps associated with John atte Stone, recorded in 1324 (SHC 1911 362), was at Start’s Green on the south-west boundary of Kinver, or that it was Vale’s Rock or a vanished hoarstone: VCH XX 119 (but see also Hooke 1990: 172, where a location at SO 824822 is suggested). See also Boltstone. Novo burgo (‘new town’) is recorded in Kinver in 1227: SHC IV 70.

**KINVER EDGE** the high ground to the west of Kinver (SO 8383). ? Egge 1300 SHC SHC V (i) 180, Kinver Edge 1686 Plot 398, 1833 O.S.

**KINVER FOREST** so-named by 1168: VCH XX 118; VCH II 343. An area designated as Royal hunting ground that covered the south-west corner of the county and extended into Worcestershire. At its greatest extent it included Seisdon, Trestull, and part of Tettenhall, Lower Penn, Wombourne, parts of Himley, Kingswinford, Amblecote, Wollaston and Oldswinford, Pedmore, Hagley, Broom, Chaddesley Corbett, Churchill, Hurcott, Kidderminster, Wolverley, Upper Arley, Feckenham, Tardebigge, Enville, Morfe and Bobbington. After c.1327 it shrank to an area roughly between Smestow on the north and the county boundary on the south, with Tettenhall Wood a detached portion on the north. The three Hays were Ashwood, Chasewater and Iverley. See also Kingsley.

**KIPLASS (LANE & FARM)** 1½ miles south-east of Stone (SJ 9431). A curious name for which early spellings have not been traced and for which no suggested derivation can be offered.

**KIPPAX** (unlocated, possibly near Burton upon Trent.) Kippax 1349 SHC XII 77. A place of this name is in West Yorkshire, and is perhaps from the OE personal name *Cyppa, with OE æsc ‘ash-tree’, partly Scandinavianised to -æsk, and so producing -ax: Ekwall 1960: 279.

**KIRKSTEADS** 1½ miles north of Grindon (SK 0856). Kirksteds 1700 SRO D1132/1/17, Great and Little Kirksteds 1727 D1132/1/14, Kirksteds 1917 JNSFC 1916-7 81. Perhaps from a partly Scandinavianised form of OE circe-stede ‘site of a church’, with OE circe replaced by the cognate ON kirkja: cf. Kirkstead, Lincolnshire. Kirk Flat, recorded as a Grindon field-name in 1839 (TA) may be associated with this place. The field-name Kirkmedwe is recorded in Stapenhill in 1404 and 1441: SHC 1937 154, 168.
KITCHEN BROOK a tributary of the river Dove in Alstonefield. *Kitchinbrook* 1593 DRO D2375M/106/27, *Kytchen brukke*, *Kitchenbrocke* 1611 DRO D2375M/57/1. Evidently from OE *cycene* 'a kitchen', but the sense in which it is used here is unclear.

KNAVES CASTLE (obsolete) an earthwork, now destroyed, on the south side of Watling Street at Ogley Hay, 1 mile north of Brownhills (SK 0406). In the 17th century it was recorded that: '[i]t is circular and hath some three ditches about it. I believe the diameter of it is not above twenty yards at most. The midst of it is not above two or three yards square [i.e. square yards], and hath a breastwork about it in the nature of a keep. One gate, or entrance south': Aubrey 1980: 388, see also VCH I 345-6; JNSFC 5 1965 45. *Cnaven castle* c.1308 (1801) Shaw 58, *Knaves-castle* 1752 (1798) Shaw I 11, *Knaves Castle* 1686 Plot. From OE *cnafa*, ME *cnav, knave* 'boy, servant'. Earthworks were commonly called castles, and perhaps when modest in size the ironical 'earthwork of the boy or servant'; cf. the recurring Maiden's Castle, an unexplained name not uncommonly applied to prehistoric earthworks. Perhaps to be associated with *Knaves Hay* recorded in 1576: SRO D603/E/2/1-16. The place is remembered in Knaves Castle Avenue, Castle Close and Old Castle Grove on the north side of Watling Street.

KNENHALL 3 miles north-east of Stone (SJ 9237). *Knenoll* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 135, *Kuenall* 1567 SHC XIII 264, *Knewall* 1577 SHC 1926 49, *Knevall* 1577 SHC 1924 49, *Kenanelle* 1604 SHC XVIII 40, *Kuerhall* 1620 SHC VII NS 211, *Kneythall* 1644 SHC 4th Series I 38, *Knenhall* 1644 *ibid.* 178, *Knewhall* 1686 Plot, *Knewhall* 17th century SHC XII NS 86, 1836 O.S. A puzzling name of uncertain derivation: the early spellings show typical transcription confusion of *n* and *u*. The first element may be a short-form of a personal name, but if the second element is OE *cnoll* 'a hill top, a knoll, a hillock', the first element might be OE *cneo(w)* 'knee', perhaps used topographically for 'a knoll or hillock with a knee-like bend'. Or the second element may be OE *halh*, or possibly OE *hylh* 'hill': the place lies on the west side of an irregular hill. Erdeswick 1844: 30, 32 records Snelhall c.1600 in Kibblestone, but does not mention Knenhall. It is clear that the name is a transcription error for Knenhall.


The term 'cniht', normally only found in the South Midlands and South of England, probably means 'a household servant of a lord, a knight'. Cf. Knightley. A grange of Ranton Abbey lay at Knighton near Adbaston: VCH III 253-4. The county boundary which follows the river Tern deviates dramatically to encompass Knighton near Willoughbridge.

**KNIGHTSFIELDS** - see **KNIGHTSLANDS**.

**KNIGHTSLAND** 2 miles south-west of Uttoxeter (SK 0830). Knyghteslond 1306 SHC VII 149, 1306 SHC 1911 65, Knights Lant 1724 D3259/Add/1, Night Lands 1775 Yates, Knightsland 1832 Teesdale, Knights Land 1836 O.S. From OE cniht 'retainer, young man, knight', with OE land, lond 'land'. Knightfields (Knights Fields 1832 Teesdale, 1836 O.S.) lies 1 mile to the north.

**KNIPE WOOD** ½ mile south-east of Belmont Hall (SK 7649). Knypewood 1707 Okeover T760, Knipace Wood 1890 O.S. Probably from ON gnipa 'a steep rock or peak, an overhanging rock in a valley': see also Turner's Knipe.

**KNIVEDEN** 1 mile north-west of Bradnop (SK 0056). Kniveden c.1275 StCart, Kynueton c.1241 SHC 1924 218, Knypetun 1262 TutCart, ? Kneweton 1284 SHC 1910 299, ? Naveton 1422 SHC XVII 40, Knyveton 1450 ibid, Knyveden c.1539 LRMB, Knivedon, Gniveden 1635 ParReg, Knivden 1656 PCC, Knivdan 1798 Yates. Perhaps from the OE feminine personal name Cenigifu (with the stress shifted at an early date), with an uncertain second element, probably OE tān, although the earliest spelling suggests OE denu 'valley': the place stands on a hill of 869', with a stream valley on the east. Knayton, Yorkshire, is Cneveton in 1223, and Kneeton, Nottinghamshire, is Knivetun in 1236: Ekwall 1960: 281; PN Nt 226-7. The stream in the valley to the east is recorded as Knyvenbroc in 1223 and 1227: Harl.

**KNOTBURY** 1 mile north-west of Flash (SK 0168). Knotbury 1727 Alstonefield ParReg, 1765 StSt 8 1996 80, 1842 O.S, Notbury 1775 Yates. Probably from OE cnotta, ME knot 'a hillock, a rocky hill, a cairn', more often found in the North West, with OE burh 'a fortified place', here perhaps referring to some ancient earthwork or other archaeological feature, or a natural feature having such an appearance. The place has been tentatively identified with a knot, mentioned in the 14th-century poem Sir Gawain and the Green Knight (see Elliott 1984: 61, 92-3; also Castle Cliff Rocks; Hen Cloud; Ludchurch; The Roaches). Knotbury is marked on the 1890 O.S. map 1 mile north-east of Ipstones (SK 0351), but the history of the name has not been traced. See also Nutborough.

**KNOWLES** ¼ mile north-east of Upper Hulme (SK 0161), Knolles 1308 SHC NS XI 258, lez Knolles 1432 DRO D2375M/126/2/11, le Knollys 1476 DRO 2375M/53/8, Knowles 1548 DRO D2375M/190/3, ? Knowles 1565 SHC 1938 76, the Knowells 1575 DRO D2375M/53/8; **KNOWLES FARM** 1 mile north of Endon (SJ 9254), The Knowls 1836 O.S.; **KNOWLE STYLE** in Biddulph (SJ 8856), Knole 1663 Biddulph ParReg; **KNOWL END** ½ miles east of Audley (SJ 7751), Le Knoile 1298 SHC XI NS 248, Kol 1377 SHC 4th Series VI 12, Knole Ende 1599 SHC XVI 194, Knoll 1575 Audley ParReg, Knowl End 1833 O.S.; **KNOWL BANK** 1 mile east of Betley (SJ 7749), le Knoile 1282 SHC XIII 213, Knowle 1592 Betley ParReg, Knowle end 1695 ibid; **KNOWLE FARM** 1
miles south of Lichfield (SK 1207), Le Knoll temp. Edward II SHC 1939 94, Knoll 1571 SHC XVII 218; KNOWLE FARM 1 mile south-east of Stowe (SK 0125), Knol 1292 SHC 1937 95, the Cnolle 1347 SHC XII 66, Knowle Close 1741 SRO D1798/HM47/17, Knoll 1775 Yates; KNOWLESWOOD 1 mile west of Broughton (SJ 7333). Knowles Wood, Knowle Wood 1687 SRO D681/E5/21, Knowlwood 1772 SRO 828/37, Knowle Wood 1833 O.S.; KNOWLESWOOD 1 mile south-west of Hales (SJ 7333), Knollwood 1562 SHC 1945-6 117, Knowl Woodde 1570 ibid. 146; LONG KNOWL 3 miles north-east of Wolverhampton (SJ 9401), le Knolle 13th century Duig, Long Knowle 1834 O.S.; KNOWL WALL 2 miles north of Swynnerton (SJ 8539), the No Wall 1732 Trentham ParReg, Nowall 1739 Tooth 2000b: 39, Knowl-wall, Stone 1753 Barlaston ParReg, Know wall 1768 Trentham ParReg, New Wall, New Hall 1812 Tooth 2000b 39, Knoll Walls 1836 O.S. From OE cnoll 'hill top, summit, hillock', the last place probably with Mercian OE wcelle 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream'. There is a conspicuous knoll rising to nearly 600 feet at Knowleswood, and Gelling & Cole 2000: 157 notes that Knowle Farm near Lichfield lies on a spacious hill which has a small, flat-shaped summit rising from it immediately behind the farm.

KNUTSHALL (unlocated) Knuttshall manor 1648 (1798) Shaw I 282.

KNUTTON in Wolstanton parish, 1 mile north-west of Newcastle-under-Lyme (SJ 8346). Clotone 1086 DB, Cnoton 1212 SHC 1933 (ii) 11, Cnutton 1227 Ch, Knocton 1255 CH, Knotton 1256 Ch, Knottoun 1333 SHC 1913 229, Knootton 1594 Eccleshall ParReg. Possibly 'Cnutt's tan', although the possessive s might have been expected in at least some of the forms, so perhaps more likely to be a Scandinavianised form of OE cnotta 'a knot, a hillock', so giving 'the tan at the hillock': see Fellows-Jensen 1990: 13-21.

KNYPERSLEY on the south of Biddulph (SJ 8856), Kniperslee c.1247 SHC 1911 419, Knypersleye, Kniprisleega 1272-3 SHC XI NS 245, Kniprisleega 1278 ibid. 245, Knybereleye 1298 ibid. 247, Knypersleye 13th century Duig, Knyperesley 1315 SHC 1911 85, Knypresley 1362 SRO 49/8043; KNYPERSLEY (HALL) 2 miles south-west of Marchington (SK 1029). Kympresleye 1323 SHC IX (i) 95, Knypersley 1414 SHC XVII 16, ? Knypersley c.1477 SHC VII 276, (a pasture called) Knyperesleye c.1484 SHC XI NS 60, Knipersley 1775 Yates, 1798 Shaw I 92, Knypersley 1836 O.S. The first element of these names is uncertain. A connection with ON gnipa 'steep, overhanging rock', or Norwegian knip 'narrow place' is improbable, even though there are gritstone features at the first place, including the so-called Gawton stone (see Plot 1686: 106), a huge rock fallen from the cliff in Knypersley Park (which may have formed an overhanging rock before it fell), since the medial -r-in the spellings would need to be accounted for. The terminal is OE leah. Knepresleye, recorded in 1327 (SHC VII (i) 217) may refer to either place. Cf. Turner's Knipe.

KNYPYNGESTYLE (unlocated, in Tipton.) Knypynestyle 1444 (1801) Shaw II 229. Perhaps from a constricted stile that 'nipped'.

KOCKYLEYE (unlocated, probably in the far north of the county.) Kockyleye 1333 SHC X 115.

KORMODESTUN (unlocated) Kormodes tun temp. Henry III SHC 1939 85. Possibly associated with Carmourthead (q.v.).
KYNESLEY (unlocated, in or near Loxley, south-west of Uttoxeter). Kynardesey, Kynardesle 1324
SHC X 47, 53, Kynardesleye 1324 SHC 1911 363, Kynardesley 1381 Hardy 1908: 62, Kynarseye 1414
SHC XVII 20, Kynnardesley 1465 SHC IV NS 138, Kynnersley 1474 SRTO DW1733/A/1/1,
Kynnyshleye temp. Henry VIII SHC X NS 1 146, Kynesley 1564 SHC XVII 212, Kynsley 1566 SHC
1938 168, Kynnesley 1567 ibid. 33. If ancient perhaps ‘the lēah of Cyneheard’ (cf. Kinnersley,
Shropshire), but it would seem that the Kynnersley family of Staffordshire descended from John de
Kinnardesleye (c.1200-1275) of Kinnardesleye Castle in Herefordshire. In 1327 Loxley manor passed
by marriage to the Kinnersley family of Kinnardesleye Castle when John Kynnersley married Joanna de
Ferrers, sister and heiress of Thomas de Ferrers, Lord of Loxley. The family name became attached to
the place, which is not mentioned by Erdeswick, Plot or Shaw. See also Erdeswick 1844: 512-3. It is
unclear whether The Old Town, which appears on the first edition 1” O. S. map of 1836 (at SK 058304;
Old Town 1887 O.S.), is connected with this place. Other places called Kinnersley are recorded in
Shropshire, Surrey and Worcestershire: DES.

KYNGESLEYE HETH (unlocated, at Teddesley.) Kyngeslewe Heth temp. Elizabeth I SHC 1939 123.
See Kyngesoke Heth. ‘The heath at the lēah of the king’.

KYNGESOKE HETH (obsolete) ½ mile north of Huntington (SJ 9713). Rough Hills and Kyngesoke
Heth adjoining Teddesley Hay temp. Elizabeth I SHC 1939 123. ‘The heath with the king’s oak’.
Probably to be associated with Kyngesleye Heth (q.v.).

KYRKELOND (obsolete) a field-name in Ilam. Kyrkelond 1538 Survey. From ON kirkja ‘church’,
with OE land ‘land, estate, tract of land’, so ‘the church land’.

KYRKESLEYE (obsolete) a field-name in Consall. Kyresleye 1327 SHC 1913 16. From ON kirkja ‘a
church’ (which may have replaced OE cirice), with OE lēah, so ‘the lēah belonging to (Cheddleton)
church’.

KYRYWILYHAILE (unlocated) Kyrweleheyle (p) 1286 SHC 4th Series XVIII 176, Kyrywilyhaile
1306 SHC VII 166, perhaps to be associated with Kyryaule 1310 (1798) Shaw I 21 (cf. Robert
Kyryaul, recorded in 1298: SHC VII (i) 48). SHC VII 166 identifies this place as Willenhall, and the
earliest spelling is associated with the Rushall/Aldridge area. Kyryellesmedo is recorded in Yoxall in
1421: SRO D170/M/2. Seemingly associated with the Kerrial family: see Kerry Hill.

LACHES, THE in Brewood parish, 1 mile east of Coven (SJ 9207). Lece broc 996 (for 994) (17th
century, S.1380), The Laches 1834 O.S. From OE *lece ‘a stream flowing through boggy land, a bog’;
the field-name Lachebrok is recorded in this area c.1290 (SHC 1928 109), with adjoining land called
Lachewalleburne (ibid; see also Forsberg 1950: 72). Cf. Lechlade, Gloucestershire.

LADDEREDGE 2 miles south-west of Leek (SJ 9654). Latherich 1338 Su, Ladderedge early 16th
century VCH VII 202, Ladderedge 1538 Ct, Ladderedge (Court) 1556 SRO D593/B/1/24/2, Latherich
(Court) 1610 SRO D593/B/1/24/2, Ladderedge 1632 SRO D593/E/6/15, Ladderich, Ladderitch 1648
Leek ParReg, Lathridge 1653 ibid., Ladderedge 1698 ibid, Lathered 1813 Bourne, Ladderedge
1836 O.S. Perhaps from ON hlada (found as dialect lathe) ‘barn’, with OE hrycg ‘ridge’.

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LADFORDFIELD 1 mile east of Ellenhall (SJ 8626). Lotford 1209 SHC III (i) 175, 1611 SHC III NS 67, Ladford (Pool) 1836 O.S. Possibly from ME lote 'to lurk, to lie concealed', so 'the hidden (overgrown ?) ford': the place lies on Gamesley Brook.

LADY DALE WELL a spring with a 19th century stone structure on the south side of Leek (SJ 9855). Lady Wall Dale 1587 VCH VII 88, Ladaway-dale c.1750 (1883) Sleigh 146, Lady Way Dale 1873 SRO D4855/3/1/1-12, Laddermedale 1883 Sleigh 146. A spring named in honour of Our Lady, the Virgin Mary: see VCH VII 88.

LADY EDGE 3 miles south-west of Longnor (SK 0562), the Ladie Edge 1645 SRO QSR f.10v, Lady Edge 1839 Encla, 1840 O.S.; LADYEDGE 1 mile north of Ipstones (SK 0251), ? Lady Ridge 1695 Leek ParReg, Lady Edge 1836 O.S. 'The sharply ridged land dedicated to Our Lady'. VCH VII 29 suggests that the first place is recorded in the later 14th century, though the footnote gives the date 1571.

LADYHURST (unlocated, in Knutton.) Lawedihurst temp. Henry III SHC 1913 230, Ladyhurste 1334 ibid. 230. 'The hurst or wooded eminence dedicated to Our Lady, the Virgin Mary'.

LADYMEADOWS 1 mile south-east of Bradnop (SK 0253). Lady Meadowes 1656 Ipstones ParReg, Meadows-place 1665 Leek ParReg, Lady Meadow 1695 ibid. 'The meadows dedicated to Our Lady, the Virgin Mary'.

LADY MOOR 2 miles south-east of Biddulph (SJ 9055). Ladie More 1547 SHC 1912 161, Ladie Moore 1568 SHC 1931 219, Ladymare yate 1625 JNSFC LX 1925-6 72, Ladymoor Gate 1659 Biddulph ParReg, Ladymoor, Ladymoor Gate 1799 Faden, Lady-Gate 1836 O.S.; LADYMOOR (obsolete) on the south-east side of Ettingshall (SO 9395). Ladymoor 1810 SRO D695/1/9/33-41, Ladymoor (Colliery) 1834 O.S. 'The moorland dedicated to Our Lady, the Virgin Mary'.

LADYSMITH FARM 2 miles south-east of Abbots Bromley (SK 1122). Gullet 1775 Yates, Gulletts 1832 Teesdale, The Gullets Farm 1836 O.S. Originally from ME golet (from a diminutive of OFr goule 'throat'), here in the sense 'a water-channel, a gully': there is a short stream passing through the place falling steeply to nearby Pur Brook. Re-named to commemorate the relief of Ladysmith during the Boer War on 28 February 1900 by General Buller.

LADYWELL (WOOD) A spring with supposedly curative properties cut into a sandstone outcrop on Orton Hill on the south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 8794). Ladywell (Hill) 1840 TA, Ladywell 1840 Census. Perhaps the same place as Wodewell ('the spring at the wood') recorded in the 13th century: VCH XX 200. The name suggests a later association with the Virgin Mary. See also SHC IX (ii) 107.

LAMBER LOW ¼ mile north-east of Waterhouses (SK 0850). From OE lambra, genitive plural of lamb 'lamb', with OE hlæw 'mound, tumulus', so 'the lambs' tumulus'

LAMMASCOTE on the east side of Stafford (SJ 9323). Le Lombercote 1273 SHC 1911 151, Lanpucotes, La Lamputtus after 1352 (16th century) SRO 96[7904], Lombercote 1433-4 SRO D641/1/2/53 rot. 2, Lambircote 1439 MinA, Lombrucote c.1445 Ipm, Lambcots 1537 SRO DW1721/1/1 f.140, Lambercotes 1548 Survey, Lambercoats 1550 VCH VI 207, Lambercotte c.1610
map, Lammascote 1775 Yates, Lamberscot 1788 BL Eg. MS 2862 ff.52v-53, Lamberscott 1846 VCH VI 207. From OE lamb, genitive plural lambrä 'lamb', hence 'the cottages where lambs were reared'.

LAMSLOUGH, LAMSLOW (unlocated, possibly near Lapley.) Lamslow 1327 SHC VII (i) 243, Lamsloough 1332 SHC X 123.

LANDER'S WOOD 1 mile south-west of Milwich (SJ 9630). Lauder's Wood 1836 O.S. From the Landor family which owned property here: SHC XII NS 126.

LANDYWOOD 1 mile south-east of Cheslyn Hay (SJ 9906). Londewood 1657 Wolverhampton ParReg, 1670 Ct, Landywood 1695 Morden. Launde is a ME word derived from OFr lande, launde, which is the root of modern lawn. It originally meant 'an open ride or glade in a wooded area'. The place lay within Cannock Forest. It is unclear whether Londenhall, recorded in 1234-40 (TestNev), refers to this place.

LANE END (obsolete, in Longton (SJ 9043)). Meare Lane ende 1564 SHC XIII 231, le Meare land end 1597 SHC 1935 IV 13, Mearlane end 1585 SHC XV 160, Meir Lane End 1679 SHC XII 59, Mairlane end 1679 SHC 1919 259, Lane End 1836 O.S. Shaw 1798: I 34 mentions '...a place called Lane-end, the road there being closed up.' Mear Lane is the section of Roman road (Margery numbers 70a and 181) between Blythe Bridge and Longton on the first edition 1" O.S. map of 1840 (Meer Lane 1775 Yates), evidently from OE (ge)mere 'boundary' (see Meir): a hundred and parish boundary run along this length of road. See also SHC XII 59.

LANE GREEN on the south side of Bilbrook (SJ 8703). Loan Green 1741 Codsall ParReg, Lone Green 1747 ibid, Lane Green 1834 O.S. Possibly from the dialect word loan 'arable land', or lone 'lane', but the forms are too late to be certain. The green here is recorded c.1640: VCH XX 12. The first edition 1" O.S. map of 1833 shows a Lane Green 2 miles north-east of Alveley (SO 7885).

LANESFIELD 1½ miles south-east of Wolverhampton (SO 9395). Lanesfield 1834 O.S. Said to derive from the Lane family who lived at Rookery Hall: StEnc 448.

LANEY GREEN in Shareshill, 1 mile west of Cheslyn Hay (SJ 9606). Loany Green 1704 Penkridge ParReg, Lanes Green 1775 Yates, Lowney Green 1834 O.S., Lowney Green 1838 SRO D351/M/179. Possibly from the dialect word loan 'arable land', or lone 'lane', but the forms are too late to be certain.

LANGLEY 1 mile south-east of Wolverhampton (SO 8696). Langley 1798 Yates. From OE lang-leah 'the long wood or glade'. The name is preserved in Langley House and Langley Road.

LANGLEY LAWN 3 miles south-west of Brewood, near the Staffordshire-Shropshire border (SJ 8406). Longelay(medewe) 1349 SRO D593/A/2/5/7, Longeley Cavende (? Lawende) 1507 SHC V NS 231, longeley land 1569 Ct, Launyland 1668 Codsall ParReg. From OE lang-leah 'the long wood or (as here) glade', with ME launde 'an open space in woodland, a forest glade, woodland pasture', usually meaning in this area 'an open passage through woodland'. Cf. Blymhill Lawn, Coven Lawn, Oaken Lawn. Another Langley is recorded in Eccleshall (perhaps near Horseye) c.1523: SHC 1938 5.

LANGOT 1½ miles north-west of Bishop's Offley (SJ 7631), Langett 1610 SHC III NS 27, Langot Lane 1930 O.S.; LANGOTT (unlocated, in Dunwood); Langett 1621 SRO D4908/2/4/1-14, Langott

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1712 ibid; LANGUET (unlocated, in Cheadle), Languet 1293 SHC VI (i) 245, Langett 1610 SHC III NS 27; LANGOT (unlocated, in Tutbury), the Langot 1601 (1798) Shaw I 56; LANGET (unlocated, in Anslow), Langet 1563 HLS 555, the Langet 1563 ibid. 238. From OE *langet 'a long strip of land': cf. the Langet, Herefordshire.

LANGWAY (unlocated) Langway 1599 SHC 1935 99.

LAPLEY Ancient Parish 4 miles south-west of Penkridge (SJ 8712). Lepelie 1086 DB (listed in Northamptonshire), Lapeleia 1130, Lappaleia 1200 P, Lappale 1286 SHC VI (i) 170. Possibly 'Leppa's leah', derived from the OE personal name *Hlappa or Hlappa (PN Wo 298) or *Lappa (DES), but it is more likely that the first element is from OE lappa meaning 'a lap, the skirt of a garment', and in a topographical sense 'district', and perhaps 'land at the edge of an estate or parish'. The place is on the eastern border of Wheaton Aston parish. Cf. Lapworth in Warwickshire. See also Forsberg 1950: 62.

LASK EDGE 2 miles east of Biddulph (SJ 9157). Laxege 1239 VCH VII 72, Laskedge 1673 SRO DW1761/A/4/197, Lasco Edge 1807 SHC 1960 11, Lask Edge 1810 SRO DW1909/N1/2, Lax Edge 1811 Bourne, Lask Edge 1815 Encl A, 1842 O.S. The earliest form points towards a derivation from the adjective lax 'loose', meaning when applied to stones, etc., 'loose in texture', so here 'the escarpment with the loose stones', lax having developed into lask by metathesis. It may be noted, however, that the surname Lax is recorded, e.g. in Derbyshire in the 18th century: DRO D258/2/34/6. Laxege Liulfneslode recorded in 1237 (Cur) would appear to refer to this place, which lies at the southernmost part of a pronounced ridge; the second word is unexplained.

LATHBURY'S HILL on the south-west side of Draycott in the Clay (SK 1528). Probably from the Lathbury family: Richard Lathbury is recorded in Fauld in 1557: SRRC 513/2/18/7/2; see also SRO D786/5/6.

LATHERFORD 4 miles south-west of Cannock (SJ 9307). Loddersford 1300 OpenFds, Lod(d)er(e)ford 1343 to 1511 Vernon, Lodresford 1358 PIR, Lotherford 1442 Vernon, Ladderford 1534 Ct, Latherford 1834 O.S. From OE loddere 'beggar', hence 'the ford frequented by beggars'.

LAUGHTON HOUSE (FARM) (unlocated, possibly near Mayfield or Rocester.) Laghenhous (p) 1423 SRO D3272/13/16, Laughtonhous(e) (p) 1494 SRO D786/2/2, Loughtonhouse (farm) 1538 SHC 1912 125, Laughtonhouse (p) 1494 SRO D786/2/2, Laghtonhouse (p) 1539 SHC NS VI (i) 80, Loughtenhouse (p) 1539 SHC V NS 305, Laughton House Farm 1745 SRO D1134/21/2.

LAUND (FARM) 2 miles north-east of Ipstones (SK 0451), Laund 1836 O.S. From ME launde 'an open space in woodland, a forest glade, woodland pasture'. See also Lawn.

LAWN (obsolete) 1 mile south of Bucknall (SJ 9145), Lawnds 1691 Okeover T762, Lownd 1705 Stoke on Trent ParReg, ye Lawn 1752 ibid, Lawn 1836 O.S.; LAWN FARM (LITTLE) 1 mile south-east of Bagnall (SJ 9350), Laund Farm 1836 O.S.; LAWN FARM ½ mile east of Consall (SJ 9948), the Laund 1696 ParReg, The Laund 1836 O.S.; LAWNS FARM ¼ mile east of Tatenhill (SK 2122), The Lawnes c.1760 SRO D615/M7/4. From ME launde 'an open space in woodland, a forest glade, woodland pasture'. See also Laund (Farm).
LAWNHEAD 1 mile south-west of Ellenhall (SJ 8324). Lawn Head 1829 SRO D615/ES/4/9/2, 1833 O.S. Evidently associated with the Launde recorded in 1585 (Ellenhall ParReg), and perhaps with Launde recorded in 1537 (VCH III 254), from ME launde 'an open space in woodland, a forest glade, woodland pasture'.

LAWTON (unlocated, in Alton.) Lawton 1754 SRO D240/D/106. See also Lawton Park.

LAWTON GRANGE ½ mile south-east of Wall (SK 1005). Early spellings for this name have not been traced.

LAWTON PARK (unlocated) Lawton Park 1686 Plot 166. From the reference in Plot it is evident that the place lay in a lead-producing area, so perhaps to be associated with Lawton (q.v.).

LAYTON (unlocated, perhaps near Bagot's Bromley, but see also Leighton.) Layton in Pyrell Hundred 1539 SHC NS V 315.

LEA, THE 1 mile north of High Offley (SJ 7728). La Lee 1282 SHC 1914 77, Gibbetsley 1569 SHC 1945-6 113, Gybbettesley, Gymbattles Ley 1572 SHC XIII 292, Gybbettes Ley 1590 SHC XVI 100, Ley 1608 SHC 1948-9 99, Gebersley otherwise Jeverdsley 1610 SHC III NS 39, Gilbert's Lea 1833 O.S. The first element is uncertain, but may be from OE lēg 'fire', here in the sense 'beacon fire': the place lies on the north-east slopes of a 420' hill, marked by prominent hatchuring on the first edition 1" O.S. map of 1833, or OE lēa, dative of OE leah 'wood or clearing', with the later addition of what may be ME gibet 'gibbet' (here in the plural), giving 'the beacon or clearings where the bodies of felons were displayed'. But the 1572 spellings come from records which sometimes give fanciful spellings, and it is possible that the 19th century name is more accurate, so perhaps to be associated with Gilbert who held Loynton, 3 miles to the south-west, as well as Chipnall and Cheswardine, at DB: VCH IV 31. Cf. Gilberdescroft (undated): SHC IV 277.

LEA, THE an ancient estate in Graiseley on the south-west side of Wolverhampton (SO 9097): see WA I 389. la Leye 1261 SHC 1950-1 52, Lega 1321 ibid. 52, Lee 1441 SHC NS VI (ii) 208, The lea 1577 Saxton, Ye Lee 1599 Smith, The Leu (sic) 1610 Speed, 1690 sellar, Lea-hall Farm 1790 Sale Partics. An old house known as The Lea existed until the 1840s: StEnc 332. The name is preserved in Lea Road. See also SHC 1919167.

LEACROFT 1½ miles south-east of Cannock (SJ 9909). Lecroft (p) 1327 Mis, 1346 (p) Banco, Lecroft, Lee Croft 1327 SHC VII (i) 245, Leycroft(e) 1493 Ipm, Lecroft 1432 SHC XVII 141, Leycroft 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 187, 1567 SHC 1938 90, Leacroft 1599 Smith. From the OE adjective lēge 'fallow, unploughed, untilled', found in OE only in compounds, with OE croft 'a small enclosure of arable or pasture land, an enclosure near a house', hence 'the fallow croft'. Leacroft Hall (Lea Croft 1836 O.S.) lies 1 mile north-east of Fulford (SJ 9639), but the history of the place is unknown. It is possible that some of the spellings above relate to that place.

LEADENDALE 2 miles east of Barlaston (SJ 9239). Leaden Dale 1798 Yates, 1836 O.S. The age of this name is uncertain, but if ancient there are several possible derivations, including OE hlēo-denn dæl
'pasture with a hljo or shelter in the valley' (cf. Lydden, Kent), 'Leod’s dale or valley' (cf. Leadenham, Lincolnshire), or a derivative of OE lød ‘reed meadow grass’. OE Ætæden dæl ‘valley of lead’ is improbable, although ‘iron pyrites and sulphuret of lead (galena) are common in the coal measures’; see Langford 1872: I 23. There is a pronounced stream valley here. It is possible that the place is to be associated with the unlocated Leighton (q.v.), in which respect it may be noted that Leyden House lies at the end of Leadendale Lane, a cul-de-sac.

LEA (FARM & HEATH) 1 mile south-east of Drointon (SK 0225), Lee 1248 SHC VIII 163, 1309 SHC 1911 75, La Lee c.1256 SRO (576/7922), La Lee 1293 SHC 1924 189, Lea 1836 O.S.; LEA FARM (unlocated, near Grosvenor (SO 7693)), Lega 1221 Eyton 1854-60: III 101, La Lee 1272 ibid, the Lea 1333 ibid, Le Lee 1697 SRRC 5586/1/157. From OE lēah ‘wood, woodland clearing’.

LEAFIELDS (FARM) 1 mile north-west of Brewood (SJ 8709). leefylde(s), leefeildes 1535 Survey, Leyfields 1775 Yates. From the OE adjective læge ‘fallow, unploughed, untilled’, found in OE only in compounds, with OE feld, which meant originally cleared open land, and later enclosed land, hence ‘the open fallow land’.

LEA HALL ¼ miles north-west of Armitage (SK 0616). Lee Hall 1583 (1798) Shaw I *210 fn.3, 1699 SRO D1161/1/1/3, Lee 1653 (1798) Shaw I 210*. The late spelling does not allow a derivation to be suggested.

LEA HEAD MANOR on the Staffordshire-Cheshire border, 2 miles south-west of Madeley (SJ 7542). Leehedd 1485 SHC VI NS (i) 158, Lea Head 1798 Yates, 1833 O.S. The place lies at the head of the river Lea.

LEAMONSLEY 1 mile west of Lichfield (SK 1009). Leomondsley (Moggs) 1514 SRO DW1851/8/50, Leomondsley 1676 SRO DW1851/8/51, Leomansløy 1714 SRO D15/10/1/36, Leomonsley 1780 SHC 4th Series VI 152, Leomansley 1781 SRO D15/11/14/49, Lemonsley (Mill) 1834 O.S., Leamonsley 1887 O.S. Perhaps from a British river-name associated with Welsh llif, Cornish lif ‘flood, stream’ (probably from lim): cf. River Leam (Warwickshire and Northamptonshire, (on)Leoman, (of) Leoman 1033 (c.1225) S. 967: see Hooke 1979: 119), Lyme (Devon and Dorset), with OE lēah (cf. Lemon Brook; see VCH XIV 37; Gelling 1979: 112), or (less likely) from a personal name such as Leoman (Searle 1897: 336). The element Moggs in the 1514 spelling is unexplained, but may be associated with mucg, a word of unknown meaning: see PN Ch III 170-1, 202. See also Lemon Brook.

LEAMORE 1 mile south of Bloxwich (SJ 9900). leymore 1420 Sims 1882 14, leymore 1525 SRO D260/M/T/7/2, Leamer 1834 O.S. Perhaps from OE læge ‘fallow’, with OE mōr ‘moor, waste’, so ‘the uncultivated waste’.

LEA, RIVER a tributary of the Checkley Brook leading into the river Weaver. The Lea Brook, the water Lee 1612, the Lea 1656 PN Ch I 18. Lea Brook was the earlier name for Checkley Brook. The Lea Brook, the river Lee and The Lea are topographically connected with Betley Water, so-called from the place-name Betley. The name is a back-formation from Lea Hall, the name of a place on Checkley Brook. The river-name Lee flu (Saxton 1577) may have been applied to this stream, though Ekwall
1928: 241 connects it to a brook that flows to the Weaver a little north of Checkley Brook and runs not far from Lea Hall.

LEATON ½ mile south-east of Bobbington (SO 8190). *Laetonia* 1086 VCH Sa II 124, Eyton 1854-60: I 109, *Leton* 13th century SRRC 5735/2/22/5/1, *Leeton* 1540 SHC XI 283, *Leton* 1554 SRO 3764/92[31759], *Leaton or Lawton* 1749 Bowen. From OE lēah, with OE tūn. Early spellings may be *the Lee*, recorded in the later 13th century (VCH XX 70), *Lee, la Lee* recorded in 1327 (SHC VII (i) 252), and *la Lee, Le Leye*, recorded in 1332 (SHC X (i) 129).

LEE HALL (unlocated, in Barlaston: SHC XII NS 82.) *la Lee* 1418 SHC XII NS 82, *Lee Hall* 1460 ibid, 1608 ibid.

LEEK Ancient Parish 10 miles north-east of Stoke on Trent (SJ 9856). *Lec* 1086 DB, *Lech* c.1100 Chester, 1188 SHC I 136, 1199 SHC II 83, *Lecu* 1165 ibid. 252, *Lech* 1189-90 ibid. 83, *Lec* 1199 ibid. 36, *Leech* 1220x1223 CEC 381, *Levch* c.1240 SRO DW1761/A/4/9-10, *Leik* 1244 SHC I 295, *Leke* 1247 Ass, 1297 SHC I 212, *Leike* 1298 SHC XI NS 251, *Leck* 1318 (1883) Sleigh 51, *Lake* 1425 SHC XVII 100, *Lyk* 1426 ibid. 113, *Lye* 1474 SHC IV NS 189, *Leke* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 29, *Leike* 1577 Saxton. An interesting name. Sleigh 1883: 1, 86 put forward a derivation from Welsh lêch ‘rock, crag; a flat stone’ (which he seems to associate with ‘shrine’), which was taken up by Duignan 1902: 90-1. Ekwall 1928: 246-7 felt that the name ‘must have been the name of the upper Churnett or an arm of it, on which are Leek or Leekfrith’, and subsequently suggested that the name derives from a conjectural OE *lece*, possibly meaning ‘a brook’, derived from OE *lecan* ‘to drip, leak’, corresponding to ON leka (1960: 292). Other authorities (see for example EPNE ii 26; JNSFC XXI 5-6; Gelling 1984: 25; Gelling & Cole 2000: 21; VCH VII 84) have put forward a derivation from ON lêkr ‘brook, stream’, perhaps referring to Spot (i.e. Spout) Water, which gave its name to Spout Lane (*Spoutyate, Spoutgate* 1643 Leek ParReg, now Brook Street), from ME spouten ‘to discharge liquid’, or its tributary fed from a spring, now dry, on the edge of St Edward’s churchyard, which ran along the west side of St Edward Street, formerly Spout Street. Another spring near the church may have fed le Kirkebrok or Kyrkebrooke (possibly an early name for Ball Haye brook), a name with Scandinavian influence, recorded in 1281 (SRO A/4/168[10/3]; SRO DW1761/A/4/68; VCH VII 84). It seems likely that the root of this name is indeed OE *lece* ‘to drip, to leak, to dribble’ (cf. Modern leak, and leach ‘to cause liquid to percolate through some material’), with reference to the spring itself, which was strikingly situated at one of the highest points in the area, in a place of early religious activity, and perhaps to be associated with fragments of pre-Conquest crosses with fragmentary runic inscription and other early stonework in St Edward’s churchyard (VCH VII 137; see also Lekebourne). It has been argued (see Gelling 1984: 25; Gelling & Cole 2000: 21) that there is little evidence for the existence of OE *lece*, but its rarity might be explained if the word had a narrow meaning such as ‘leak’, and the adjective hlec ‘leaky’ is found in OE (Bosworth-Toller Supplement 550). It has been suggested that ‘Leek would probably not have been anybody’s first choice for a settlement’ (Gelling 1992: 137), but the place lies on a well-watered hill in a loop of the river Churnet, and it is now clear that in the Anglo-Saxon period a large estate was centred on Leek and perhaps Rudyard: SHC 4th Series 19 1995 5-12. The township of Leek is more properly Leek and Lowe (e.g. *Leek and Lowe* 1583 SHC XV 145), but the origin of Lowe is uncertain:
it may be from Lowe Hill (q.v.), or Catteslowe (q.v.), or from a mound in which a cremation burial was found in Birchall Meadows to the west of the Cheddleton road in 1859 (VCH VII 85), but the lowest part of Mill Street was at one time known as Lowe Hammill (e.g. Loe Hammel 1704 Leek ParReg), from hamel, a dialect word for hamlet - Low Hamlet is recorded in 1666: SHC 1925 165, from Lowe Hill: JNSFC XXXIX 1905-5 159. Cf. Leake (Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire), and Leek, Lancashire. Leek Wootton, Warwickshire, probably has the vegetable name.

LEEK FOREST (obsolete) recorded c.1170 (VCH VII 197). The extent of the Forest is not known, but it appears to have been detached from Macclesfield Forest in the 13th century following the grant of the manor of Leek to Dieulacres abbey (VCH Ch II 178), and included Leekfrith and Rushton Spencer (VCH VII 80), and perhaps Gun and Wetwood (VCH VII 197). The Forest was more properly a chase, from OFr chace 'chasing, hunting, a hunting ground, wild park-land', which was a term applied to an area subject to Forest law but not held by the king: see VCH II 335. In this case the Forest rights were held by the Earls of Chester: VCH VII 80; also VCH Ch II 178.

LEEKFRITH - see FRITH.

LEES - see (WHISTON) LEES.

LESE FARM on the east side of Billington (SJ 8920). the Lees, Leys, Lea Leighes, the Leyse (undated) SHC VIII (i) 122, Lees Farm 1562 VCH V 92, Lees House 1695 ibid, Leys Farm 1798 Yates, Lees Farm 1836 O.S. Perhaps to be associated with Legh, recorded in 1290 (SHC VI (i) 199.

LEES GRANGE (obsolete) at the Dissolution St Thomas' priory (q.v.) was known as Lees Grange: VCH VII 265.

LEES HOUSE FARM on the north-west side of Okeover (SK 1448). (pasture called) Leez 1538 SHC VII NS 63, the Lees 1547 Okeover F18, Lees House 1836 O.S. From OE lēs 'pasture, meadow-land', or the plural of OE lēah, or possibly from OE lēg 'fire', used here in the sense 'beacon': cf. Leysdown, Kent. The place lies at the north end of a short rounded ridge.

LEESIDE on north of Rudyard Lake (SJ 9260). ? Leyland 1327 SHC VII 233. 'Pasture or meadow-land', from OE lége 'fallow' with OE land 'land, estate, a tract of land'.

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LEETECH (obsolete) on the north side of Coven (SJ 9007). Leet Each 1739 Brewood ParReg, Leetech 1834 O.S., Leer-each 1832 Teesdale. Early forms have not been traced, but perhaps from OE (ge)lēt 'water-course' (perhaps with reference to the former ironworks: VCH V 20-21), with an unidentified second element. There is no evidence to show that Leight Each, recorded in 1707 (SRRC 112/1/2792), refers to this place, but the similarity of the names is noteworthy.

LEIGH. CHURCH Ancient Parish 5 miles north-west of Uttoxeter (SK 0235). Lege 1002 x 1004 (11th century, S. 906; 11th century, S. 1536), Lege 1086 DB, Leyam c.1160 SHC III (i) 224, Leia c.1177 ibid. 227, Leye 1256 SHC 1911 19, Leyes 1294 SHC 1925 89, Leigh 13th century ibid. 73, Leigh 1724 D3259/Add/1. From OE lēah, in the dative form lēge. By the 12th century the place-name Field (q.v.) 1 ½ miles to the south is found attached to the name: VCH IV 44 fn. The place was also known as Malbanc's Leigh, from the name of an early owner: SHC III 224. See also Bokeley(e); Dods Leigh.

LEIGHTON said to be a forest in the Meir Heath area, enclosed in the 18th century: Shaw 1798: I 44. From OE lēac-tān, 'tān where vegetables were grown'. The word lēac meant literally 'leek', but in place-names is generally taken to mean 'vegetables'. It is possible that Layton in Pyrell Hundred, recorded in 1539 (SHC NS V 315) is to be identified with this place, although the context in which the name appears suggests a location in the Bagot's Bromley area. See also Leadendale; Leyton.


LEKEBOURNE (unlocated, a tributary of the river Churnet.) Lekebourne (p) 1321 Coram. An interesting stream name, which appears to be 'Leek stream', or perhaps 'the stream fed by the spring on the hill at Leek' (see Leek). The element burna (which tends to be associated with larger streams) is rare in Staffordshire, and all other examples come from the southern part of the county. See also Ludburn.

LELEHEVED (unlocated. ) Leleheved 1271 SHC IV 183. From OE heafod 'a head or end (of anything)', in this case probably a topographical term in the sense of a headland, perhaps with OE lēl 'twig, withe', so 'the headland with the twigs'.

LEMON BROOK a former tributary of the river Churnet, north of Ipstones, marked on Yates' map of 1775 and Stockdale's map of 1795, probably what is now known as Coombes Brook: Yates' map shows Lemon House near what is now Bottomlane Farm (SK 0251). No early forms are available, but the derivation may be identical with Lemon Brook, Deveon; Lem Brook, Worcestershire; the river name Leam, found in Northamptonshire and Warwickshire; and the river Lymm in Lincolnshire. Probably from a British word *Lemand 'elm', found in OIrish lem, Irish leamh, and (with an irregular long vowel) Welsh llwyf (see Ekwall 1928: 244-5). A derivation from ME læomten 'give light, shine', so 'the shimmering brook', or from OE leofmon, ME leman 'beloved', is possible but less likely. It is possible that Leman Sych, mentioned by Shaw (1798: I 232), Lemansyche recorded in the late 13th century (VCH XIV 57), evidently a stream near Lichfield cathedral, is to be associated with Leamonsley (q.v.). Sych(e) is from OE stē 'a watercourse'.

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LEOMINCHISTRETE, LEOMINCHESTRETE  Seemingly an ancient road near Shifford’s Grange: see SHC 1945-6 26, 30; Palliser 1976: 40. *Leominchistrete* 1298 SHC 1945-6 30, *Leominchestrete* 1447 *ibid.* 26. A curious name, possibly containing a personal name such as Leofman, but oddly reminiscent of Leominster in Herefordshire, although there appears to be no connection between the two places. The name may be associated with Little Manchester (q.v.). The terminal appears to be OE *strēte, strēt* ‘a paved road, a Roman road’.

LEPER HOUSE, LEPER WELL  2½ south-west of Brewood (SJ 8704). *the lepre house* 1597 Codsall ParReg, 1652 Ct, *Leopard House* 1827 O.S., *Leper House* 1834 O.S. From a sulphur well said to have been frequented by lepers for its curative powers. By tradition a house or hospital for lepers existed nearby, possibly on or near the site of the present Leper House Farm: VCH V 20; VCH III 136. *The Lazar House* recorded in Lapley in 1838, evidently to be associated with Lazarus field between Ivetsey Road and Bellhurst Farm (SJ 8411), has the same derivation: Weate 1972; Oakden 1984: 172. Lazar Lane runs south from Milford to Cresset Pool and Wood, but the history of the name is not known. See also Freeford.

LETOCETUM, ETOCETO - see HAREWOOD; LICHFIELD; WALL.

LEVEDALE  2 miles north-west of Penkridge (SJ 8916). *Levehale* 1086 DB, *Levedhal* 1198 SHC III (i) 51, 1208 FF, 1242 Fees, *Levedhale* 1199 SHC III (i) 170, *Levedenhal*’, *Levedeshale* 1242 Fees, *Ledhal*, *Levedhale* 12th century Duig, *Lovedale* 1397 SHC XV 76, *Leydall* 1532 SHC 4th Series 889, 1562 SHC XVII 211, *Leavedall* 1603 Penkridge ParReg. ‘Leofede’s halh’, possibly influenced by OE *levedi* ‘lady’, i.e. the Virgin Mary, from OE *hlæfdige*. No record has been traced of land here dedicated to the Virgin, but 2 acres of land here were held by St Thomas’ priory at Stafford (SHC VIII 173), and a medieval chapel is recorded here in 1552 with a meadow in Bradley belonging to it called *St. Laurence meadow*: SHC 1915 207. *Chapel Yard*, recorded in a perambulation of 1772 (Penkridge ParReg) may mark the site. See also Tividale.

LEVENODESHAY (unlocated, probably near Hayend, ½ mile north-west of Hamstall Ridware (SK 0919)). *Levenodeshay temp. John Shaw* 1798: I 155. Possibly from the OE personal name Lēofnāp, with Mercian OE *(ge)hēg* ‘enclosure’, so ‘Lēofnāp’s enclosure’. Perhaps to be associated with *Levenathesh*, recorded temp. John (Shaw 1798: I 155). *Lawrence’s Wood*, recorded in 1836 (O.S.), now Hayend Wood, may incorporate traces of the name.

LEWKENORE, LEUKENORE (unlocated) a manor in Ronton. *Lewkenore* 1454 SHC 1914 95. See also SHC III NS 213. Named after the Lewkenor or Lewknor family (whose name is from Lewknor in Oxfordshire, (at) *Leofcanoran* c.994, ‘Lēofsa’s hām’), who held the place from the late 14th century: SHC 1914 96; see also SHC III NS 213. The place was formerly known as Doyle Manor: SHC 1914 95; SHC III NS 213. It is unclear whether *Loquikehach*, recorded in the Saverley area in 1284 (SRO D1790/A/12/23) is to be associated with this place. See also Doyle.


The earliest spellings, which without doubt relate to this place (see TNSFC 1963 48-9), contra the suggestion (Tooth 2000b: 120) that they relate to Ladderedge (q.v.), appear to be from the OE personal name Læofhere, with OE -ingas 'the dependants or people of', and OE hēafod 'headland, summit, upper end, source of a stream', varying with OE (ge)set 'dwelling, place of residence; place where animals are kept, fold', hence 'the dwelling-place or animal-fold of Læofhere's people'. The shorter forms are clearly a contraction of the earliest spellings.

LEYES GRANGE (unlocated) in Crakemarsh. the Grange of leyes c.1251 VCH III 226, Lee Grange 1538-9 ibid. 228. Perhaps from OE lēas 'meadow, pasture'. Lee Grange or Stichbrooke Grange is recorded in the 18th century (SRO D260/M/F/3/3): see Stychbrook.

LEYS 2 miles east of Kingsley (SK 0347). Leys c.1291 Tax, Whiston Lyeseuse 1328 Ipm, Leyesheuese 1331 SHC 1913 32, Lyeshenese 1331 ibid, Lees 1616 FF etfreq, Leghes 1335 (p) Banco, Whiston Lees 1608 FF. From OE lēswa (the dative singular of lēs) 'at the pasture'.

LEYTON (unlocated) Leyton 1592 SHC 4th Series IX 57. See Layton; Leadendale; Leighton.

LICHFIELD Ancient Parish 15 miles north of Birmingham (SK 1109). Letoceto 4th century IA, (On)lucisfelda, (An)liscifeldi, Lyccisfelda c.715 (11th century) Life St. Wilfred, Lyccifeld, Liccifeld c.737 Bede, Licefeld, Lichesfeld c.1130 SHC I 3, 1164 ibid. 38, Lichefeld 1140s VCH XIV 38, Licefeld c.1148 VCH XIV 38. In the mid-13th century the name was taken to be from OE líc (ME lich) 'body, corpse', with the meaning 'field of corpses' attributable to a battle. The historian Matthew Paris (d.1259) suggested that the name commemorated the slaughter of 999 Christians, martyred under the emperor Diocletian between 284-305 AD, and associated the event with the fictitious St. Alban. The story appears not to have been taken seriously in Lichfield (Leland does not mention the incident in his account of his visit c.1540), but in 1549 the new city corporation commemorated the massacre in the design of its seal, and attempts were later made to use local place-names to support the story: in the 1570s it was claimed that the local place-names Boley and Spearhill referred to bows and spears used in the massacre, and as late as 1819, following the discovery of human bones, Elmhurst was identified as the scene of the massacre. A variant of the story claimed that the corpses referred to by the element Lich- were those of the army of three Christian kings defeated at Lichfield by Diocletian, and various places were identified as the burial place of the Christian dead, including Elmhurst, St. Michael's churchyard, Borrowcop Hill, and the site of the cathedral. Another theory, put forward in the later 17th century, proposed that the name is from OE lece 'stream, boggy ground near a stream' (see Plot 1686: 398; SHC 1950-1 147), but that derivation is impossible. The name is in fact not English but derives from British *Lêtaicaiton meaning 'grey or brown wood' (cf. Welsh llwyd 'grey, brown', from British *lêt-, and Welsh coed, from Celtic *caito-, 'wood'; the usual rendering of the first element is 'grey', but the word 'crosses the English perceptual
boundary between grey brown' (JEPNS 12 73)), which became PrWelsh *Lëtgèd, giving OWelsh Luitcoyt, developing at some time in the 7th century into OE *Lycced, (Jackson 1953: 327, 332-4) to which was added OE feld, generally interpreted as 'open land', but at the time of the English incursions perhaps with the special meaning 'common pasture', and applied when the English began to cultivate that pasture: see Gelling 1981: 14. When the name was first recorded in the Antonine Itinerary in the 4th century it referred to the Roman station of Letocetum at Wall, 2 miles south-west of Lichfield, perhaps itself named after a pre-Roman wood or large estate named *Lëtocaïton which in Romano-British times may have extended some distance north of Watling Street, and was later transferred to its present location (cf. Penkridge). The name may therefore be 'the feld near or belonging to Luitcoyt', or 'the common pasture in (or beside or near) the grey or brown wood', the colour presumably indicating the predominant species or perhaps denoting lichen-covered trees: cf. Muckley Corner. A Welsh elegy, the Marwnad Cynddylan, or 'Lament for Cynddylan', possibly composed c.655, refers to a great raid on Caer Llutoed. The name (the caer of the grey or brown wood' or 'caer of Luitcoyt') is normally interpreted with caer as 'walled town', but the element could also mean 'village, city', perhaps but not certainly Letocetum: Lichfield could not be described as a fortified place, since its defences did not exist until about the mid-12th century (VCH XIV 39), but it could properly be described as a village. The spellings c.715 with the prefix on- (or an-) suggest (with parallels elsewhere) an area of some size called 'in Lichfield', and that 'Lichfield' came to mean the principal place in that area, in which case Lyccidfelth is likely to have been a late 7th century development of the existing name of a large area, gradually applied more narrowly to the cathedral and its immediate area: VCH XIV 38. A very full account of the history of the name Lichfield can be found in VCH XIV 37-9 and TSSAHS XXVIII 1986-7 1-13; see also Coates 1997: 453-8. On Caer Lwytygoed and Letocetum see TSSAHS XXXIII 1981-2 7-10. See also Christiansfield; Harewood. For Lichfield street-names see VCH XIV 40-42.

LICKSHEAD (obsolete) 5 mile west of Ramshorn (SK 0844). Likshead 1705 Alton ParReg, Lickshead 1753 SRO D240/D/229, Lixhead 1834 White, Lickshead 1834 O.S. A curious name of uncertain origin. See also Licks Wood.

LICKSWOOD ½ mile south-west of Ramshorn (SK 0844). Lick's Wood 1834 O.S. See Lickshead.

LIDGETT, THE (obsolete, ½ mile north of Beacon Hill, 2 miles sout-west of Penkridge (SJ 8913). the new lyddeatt 1610 Ct, The Lidgett 1834 O.S. From OE hlid-geat'swing gate'. See also Lydiate.

LIGHT OAKS 1 mile south-west of Bagnall (SJ 9250). Light Oaks barn 1816 SRO DW1909/E/9/1, Oaks Barn 1836 O.S.

LIGHTS, THE on the north side of Watling Street, in Lapley parish, 1 mile south of Wheaton Aston (SJ 8511). Near, Middle & Far Lights Meadow 1838 TA. In 1548 it was recorded that unidentified donors had given lands worth 8d. net per annum to maintain a candle or light before the rood in Lapley church: SHC 1915 144. This place was evidently that land.

LIGHTWOOD 2 miles south-east of Longton (SJ 9241). Lyhtwudc 1230 SIC 1921 18, ? Litlewode 1277 SIC XI 308, Lichwode c.1280 SRO D593/B/1/23/7/1/1/, Lyghtwode 1306 SIC 1911 65, Lyghtwode 1325 SRO D714/1, Lyghtwoode c.1374 Pape 1928: 147, ? Littilwode 1391 SIC XI 198,
...Lightewood heathe alias Meare heath... 1544 SHC 1910 74, Lightwood heath c.1576 SHC 1931 186, Lightwood Heath alias Trepwood alias Meare Heath 1577 SRO D593/B/1/23/23, Lightwood Forest otherwise Cocknage Bank 1736 SRO Q/RDm/14b; LIGHTWOOD on north-east side of Cheadle (SK 0143), Lyttewode 1338 SRO D1275/3, Lyghtwood 1539 SHC XI 280, Lightwoode (Croft) c.1560 SHC 1938 172; LIGHTWOODE HEATHE (unlocated, at Keele), ? Lichwodehet ?13th century SHC XI 321, Lightwoodde Heathe 1592 SHC 1930 (ii) 285; LIGHTWOODFIELDS 2¼ miles north-west of Uttoxeter (SK 0534), Lyghtwode 1306 SHC 1911 67, Lightwood field 1636 SRO D5684/8, Lightwood Field 1836 O.S.; LIGHTWOOD on the western edge of Penn Common (SO 9080), Lightwood 1717 StEnc 359. From OE líoht, wudu 'the wood with the well-spaced trees, i.e. allowing light to penetrate', (perhaps used with reference to silver birch: VEPN I 103), alternating (in the case of Lightwood near Longton, if the forms relate to that place) with 'little wood'. For Lightwood near Longton, see also Shooters Hill. Lightwood Forest (Lightwood Forest c.1714 SRO D593/H/3/30), which included land in Meirheath, Normacot, Blerton Common and Cocknage Banks, was enclosed under an Act of 1734: see SHC 1931 90. For Trepwood see Threapwood Head.

LILLEBORN (unlocated, possibly near Thickbroom, or perhaps the name of the stream running north-east between The Bodnetts and Dunstall Farm (SK 1703)). Lilleburne (p) pre-1147 SHC 1910 312, Lilleborn 1234-40 (1798) Shaw I xxvi, Lilleburn 1237 SHC 1910 295, 1240 SHC IV 236, Lilleborn', Lilleborne 1242-3 Fees, Lileborn 1243 SHC 1911 403, Lillebourne 1242-3 Fees, Lileborn 1243 SHC 1911 403, Lillebourne 1301 SHC VII 82, c.1325 Shaw 1798: I xxvi, ? Lilleburne 1347 SHC XVIII 269. Perhaps from OE lytel, burna '(the place by) the little burn or stream', although the absence of -t- is surprisingly consistent. If the place was near Thickbroom (which the context of the 1240 and 1242-3 spellings suggests may be the case), the second element might be connected with Bourne Brook (called Black Brook west of Hints, and presumably Burne mentioned in 1235 (SHC 1910 295), la borne 1300 (SHC 1939 91)), perhaps 'the little bourne or burn', meaning a tributary, possibly what is now called Littlehay Brook. This place may be associated with the unlocated DB Litelbech (q.v.). See also Little Hay.

LIME CROFT (obsolete, in Alton Park (SK 0843).) Linacroftes 1274 SHC 1911 160, Lime Croft 1836 O.S. Probably from OE in 'flax', with OE croft 'a small enclosure of arable or pasture land, an enclosure near a house', giving 'the small piece of arable land used for growing flax'.

LIMEPITS 1 mile north-west of Whitmore (SJ 7941). Lymputtes c.1300 SHC 1913 239, 1327 SHC VII (i) 199, Lin Pitts 1668 Trentham ParReg, Lime Pitts 1742 SRO DW1082/C/6/1-4, Lim Pits 1833 O.S. Self-explanatory.

LIMES, THE on high ground 2 miles south-west of Newcastle (SJ 8243). (Botterton-juxta-) Lyme 1208 SHC V (i) 234, ye Lymes 1687 Trentham ParReg, Limes 1759 ibid, 1799 Faden, Lymes 1833 O.S. See Lyme. Botterton is Butterton.

LINBROOK a tributary of the river Swarbourn running into the river Trent. Limbreuk 1286 For, 1300 SHC V (i) 176, Lynbroke 1540 Ct, Lynbrooke 1611 Survey, Limbre(o)ke 1650, 1658 Parl Survey, ? Limbrooke 1798 Shaw I 60. The first element is probably from OE hlimme 'stream, torrent', or OE hlynn 'noise, din', hence 'the noisy brook', particularly appropriate for this swift-flowing stream.
LINCHFORD (unlocated) Linchford 1288 SHC 1911 194.


LINTHURST (FARM) 2 miles west of Tatenhill (SK 1722). Linthurst Banks 1658 DCL 380. Probably from OE lind 'lime-tree' and OE hyrst 'a copse, a woode eminence', so 'the copse of lime-trees', with ME banke 'bank, ridge'.

LION'S DEN a lane 1/2 mile south-east of Hammerwich (SK 0706). Lion's Den 1881 VCH XIV 259. From the late middle ages called Elder Lane, the name is seemingly from Thomas Lyon, who lived here in the 1840s: VCH XIV 259. See also Mottley Pits.

LITELBECH (unlocated, but see also Lilleborn) in Offlow Hundred. Litelbech 1086 DB. If the name is accurate (and many Domesday names are very corrupt) the first element of the name is evidently 'little', with the second seemingly from OE bece 'beech tree', or OE bece 'steep-sided stream valley'. However, a derivation from OE bece can be discounted because beech, for climatic reasons, was found only in the south of England in the OE period. The place cannot now be identified. It is recorded in DB (which provides the only known reference to the name) in association with Burouestone (q.v.) and Weforde (Weeford), probably because all three places were held by the same person as members of the Bishop of Lichfield's manor of Lichfield. The place may have lain near Weeford, but might also have been some distance away, possibly associated with another holding of the bishop. la Bech (unlocated) in Offlow hundred is recorded in 1179 (SHC I 93) and 1199 (SHC III 43), and may be the place of the same name south-east of Stowe in Lichfield recorded in the 12th or 13th century (VCH XIV 7), which was held by one of the members of Lichfield (VCH XIV 7; SHC I 93), and is presumably to be associated with Beech Lone, recorded in 1361 (Deed), Bechfeld temp. Edward II (SHC VI (i) 185), Bechfeld temp. Edward III and Richard II (SHC VI (ii) 185), Bechfeld 1336 and 1374 (SHC 1939 94, 100), which is close to Borrowcop Hill (q.v.), and may be associated with Burouestone. If the second element in Litelbech is to be identified as bece, the watercourse may be the stream joining Trunkfield Brook from the higher ground to the east, though the word is normally found referring to well-marked stream valleys. Shaw 1798: I app. xiii identifies Litelbech as Littlebench, which has not been traced, but Pipe Wolferson suggested that 'Littlebech may prove to be Little-heth, i.e. the same hamlet, just beyond Thickbrome, in Weeford, now spoken Littlehay': Erdeswick 1844: 300; 545. See also Little Hay near Shenstone.

LITLEY 1 mile south-west of Cheadle (SK 0042). Lutley 1601 SRO D538/A/5/53, Littley 1609 SHC III NS 52, 1836 O.S., Litley (Hay Farm) 1770 SRO D1229/1/4/19. 'The small leah'. Litteleg in Blithfield is recorded in 1252 (SHC 1937), and as Luttye in 1325 (ibid. 124), but has not been located.

LITTLE ASTON - see ASTON, LITTLE.
LITTLE HAY 1½ miles south-east of Shenstone (SK 1202), Littlehay frequently 13th century Duig, Lutlehay 1269 SHC IV 170, Littlehay 1327 SHC VII 198, Luttelhay 1379 SHC XVI 174; LITTLEHAY (unlocated, near Cheadle), Lutlehaie 1203 SHC III 92, Luttehay 1276 SHC 1911 168, Lytlehay, Littlehay, Littlehaie 1297 SHC VII 42-3, Littlehay (sic) 1327 SHC VII (i) 215, Lutlcyhay 1337 SHC 1913 65, Littthay 1377 SHC XIII 141; LITTLE HAY obsolete, on the south-east side of Colton (SK 0520), Littlehay 1322 SHC 1914 159, Luttellhay 1325 SHC IX (i) 109, Leythay 1542 SHC 1916 331; LITTLEHAY (unlocated, possibly near Shobnall or Branston), Littlehay c.1250 (1798) Shaw I 22, 23; LITTLEHAY (unlocated, possibly in Anslow), Littlehay, Lithlehaya c.13th century SHC V (i) 48-9, Luttelhay 1341 HLS, Littlehay n.d. Shaw 1798: I 35. From OE lytel 'little', and Mercian OE (ge)heg 'a fence, enclosure', here meaning 'the small enclosure'. Until the early 18th century the place near Shenstone was part of a vast heath. Erdeswick 1844: 300 states that it was known c.1800 as Littleheth. For Little Hay near Colton see see Parker 1897: 162-4; SHC XI NS 27 fn.1, 45; SHC 1914 153. See also Litelbech; Morehay.

LITTLEHAY BROOK a tributary of the Crane Brook running into Black Brook, which flows into the river Bourne. Littlehay Brook 1784 Survey - see LITTLEHAY.

LITTLE HEATH 2 miles north-west of Penkridge (SJ 9017), The lyttle heath by Leavedall 1609 Penkridge ParReg; LITTLE HEATH GREEN ½ mile west of Almington (SJ 6934), Little Heath 1684 SRO D861/E/5/21. Self-explanatory.

LITTLE ONN - see ONN, LITTLE.

LITTLEPARK on the Staffordshire-Derbyshire border, ¾ mile north of Okeover (SK 1548). the Little Park 1640 SRO D3155/6881.

LITTLE SANDON - see SANDON.

LITTLE STOKE - see STOKE-BY-STONE.

LITTLETON - see BESCOT.

LITTLEWELL (unlocated, in Baltereley.) Littlewell 1705 BCA MS3558/72.

LITTLEWOOD 1 mile north-east of Cheslyn Hay (SJ 9807), Luttelwode 1380 Banco, Little Wood 1834 O.S.; LITTLEWOOD (unlocated) in Okeover, Luttulwde c.1225 SHC 4th Series IV 105; LITTLEWOOD (unlocated, in Barlaston), Litlewode 1277 SHC XI 308. Self-explanatory.

LITTLEWORTH on the south-west side of Woodseaves (SJ 7925), Littleworth 1833 O.S.; LITTLEWORTH on the south-west side of Hednesford (SK0111), Littleworth 1834 O.S.; LITTLEWORTH 2 miles west of Rocester (SK 0738), Littleworth 1836 O.S.; LITTLEWORTH on the west side of Stafford (SJ 2223), Little Worth 1775 Yates; LITTLEWORTH on the east side of Stafford (SJ 9323), Littleworth 1794 SRO D240/E/F/8/20. A common name, a self-explanatory derogatory term for poor land.

LITTYWOOD an ancient moated manor house in Bradley parish, 3 miles north of Penkridge (SJ 8818). Lvtiude 1086 DB, Lutiwude 1203, 1204 P, Litivude 1206 Cur, Littewude 1230 SHC IV 229,
Luttewd c.1251 SRO D59[7909], Luttywode 1289 SHC 1911 45, Lottewode late 13th century SRO (76/7909), Luteywode 1301 SHC 1911 270, Lutewode 1315 ibid. 1911 85, Lutelwode 1390 FF, Luttewode 1406 SHC XVI 49, Lyttewode 1592-3 Eliz ChancP, Lyttywood 1601 SHC 1934 (ii) 4, Littlewood, Littywood 1624 FF. The principal feature of this place is a great circular double moat, 650' in diameter, which may be pre-Conquest, perhaps developed from a prehistoric earthwork, and possibly the original caput of the de Stafford family: VCH IV 74-5, 79-80. A puzzling name. The first element is uncertain. The derivation proposed in Ekwall 1936: 126, OE *litel, *iséel 'little' with the second element lost, does not seem entirely satisfactory, despite the spellings with a medial i, so possibly connected in some way with OE *lúttian 'to hide, to lurk, to ambush' (northern dialect lute 'to lurk, to lie hid': EDD), used in some topographical sense such as 'sanctuary, refuge', meaning 'the wood where refuge was sought', or from the associated OE *lytig 'crafty, cunning', perhaps here 'the place or earthwork into which animals were driven and trapped'. A further possibility is that the first element is from OE *hýd (plural hildu, hleodu) 'a slope, hillside, declivity', giving 'the wood on the hillside': the place (which is on a watershed) lies on the slopes of Butter Hill (503'): cf. Lythwood, Shropshire. That would not, however, explain the medial -i- or -e-. Whatever the root, the first element clearly evolved into ME lutel, luttil 'little'. The second element is OE wudu 'wood'. It may be noted that the name Littimore, which appears to be associated with this place, is recorded before 1261 (SHC IV (i) 220-1), and in 1299: SHC VII (i) 61. Lightiwode, possibly in Marchington, is recorded in 1306 (SHC VII 149), but may be associated with Lightwoods (q.v.). The unlocated Lutheburgh (q.v.) may have the same root as Littywood, and might refer to an ancient earthwork.

LIZARD in Shropshire, 7 miles west of Brewood (SJ 7809), included here because of its association with Weston-under-Lizard (q.v.). Lusgerde 664 (12th century, S.68), Lusgeard 680 (12th century, S.72), Lusegarde 1199 (1285) CH, Lusyard, Lusard 1199 Rees 1997: 11-2, Lusard 1247 Rees 1997: 94, Lusgarth, Lusegard 1265 ibid. 136-7, Lousyerd 1282 SHC VI (i) 154, Lusgarde, Lisgarde 1291 Tax, Loseard c.1298 Rees 1997: 95, Lousyord 1307 SHC VII 180, Lousyerd 1324 SHC 1911 111, Luseord 1404 SHC XV 111. Formerly thought to be from Welsh *ilys-garth 'hall by a hill' (Johnston 1914: 348, 502; Ekwall 1960: 120), the OE spellings Lus- show that ilys cannot be the first element. The 7th century forms make a derivation from OE or OWelsh equally possible, and plausible derivations can be offered in both languages. Possibly therefore from Welsh ilus 'bilberries', with Welsh garth 'mountain ridge, promontory, hill; wooded slope, woodland, brushwood, thicket, uncultivated land', so giving 'bilberry hill' (see Coates & Breeze 2000: 195; but note observation of Dr Oliver Padel, 'unconvinced by...ilus bilberries'...mainly because...[little] evidence for the use of this word in place-names, particularly as the first element in compound names...[but] it would at least fit phonologically': personal communication 2 December 1995). The name was adopted (or coined) by the Anglo-Saxons when they reached this area in about the mid 7th century, and it is possible that they took the name from its phonological similarity to be (or coined the name anew) lás geard, from OE lás 'louse' and OE geard 'a fence, a hedge, an enclosure' (a rare element in place-names, and especially so in early names): Lizard Hill is a great low rounded hill (with a number of Roman forts on the northern side, to the south of Watling Street, and a lost Roman road running north to south on the east side of the hill), with an unusual fold or cleft to the south of the summit, and the shape of the hill is indeed
suggestive of a louse, with the 'fold' separating the body from the head. That the name is derived from the hill can be deduced from the name Weston-under-Lizard, for that place is not known to have been a manorial part of Lizard, so the reference to Lizard must be presumed to be to a topographical feature. A hill to the north of Lizard Hill is shown on the 1827 first edition 1" O.S. map of Shropshire as Lydiards Hill. For completeness it may be added that there is evidence that the word las is often found with words denoting 'barrow, hill', where the meaning 'louse infested' would be inappropriate, and it has been suggested that it may have been used to describe something small and insignificant: Luston, Herefordshire, is believed to incorporate the element in that sense. But it seems possible that the association is related to the shape (and possibly size) of the hill or mound, i.e. 'louse-shaped', and las may have been a nickname for such hills or tumuli, cf. lusdune 'louse-hill' mentioned in a charter relating to Oldswinford, Worcestershire, of 946x955 (15th/16th century, S.579; see Hooke 1990: 165). Cf. Loosebarrow, Dorset; Loushill, Somerset; Luscott, Devon (see EPNE i 198). See also Luzlow. Drayton subus Lusyerd is recorded in 1365 (SHC VIII NS 24), and is almost certainly a lost settlement now remembered in Drayton Lodge, 2 miles north-east of Shifnal in Shropshire (SJ 7509).

LLEPERISDALE (unlocated, in Barlaston) Lleperisdale 13th century SHC XI 324. Seemingly 'the valley of the Ieper(s)'.

LLOYD, THE 1 mile south-east of Almington (SJ 7133). le loyds-yardes c.1570 SHC 1945-6 148, a pasture called the Loyd 1585 SHC 1945-6 192, the Loyd 1623 ibid. 191, the Loyde 1750 SRO 828/28, The Loyde 1833 O.S. The place lies on a stream, so almost certainly from OE hlýde, a derivative of hlýad 'loud', with the meaning 'a torrent or swift noisy stream' (cf. Ludlow and Ludford, Shropshire; Ludwell, Derbyshire). See also Lloyd (Brook, Hill & House).

LLOYD (BROOK, HILL & HOUSE) 3 miles south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 8894). hlýde bróc 985 (12th century, S.860), Ludebroc 1206 SHC III (i) 219, Lude c.1220, 1242 SHC 1928 12-14, Lydebrok 1294-5 ibid. 23, Luithulle 1317-8 ibid. 30, the Lude 1353 (1801) Shaw II 222, la Lyde 1406, 1410, 1416-17 SHC 1928 63-5, Lodbroke 1424 Wodehouse, Lidbroke 1442 SHC 1928 47. An ancient and well-recorded name which is linked to both a brook (now Lyde Brook) and a hill, the latter recorded as Monte de la Lude in 1292 (SHC 1911 209) and the Hill of la Lude 1317 SHC 1928 28. A derivation from OE hlýða 'a slope, a hillside' (EPNE i 252) might be supported by the earliest spelling and would fit the topography here, with its particularly prominent hillside. If that is correct, the stream will have taken its name from the feature. However, the later forms point strongly towards a derivation from OE hlýde, a derivative of hlýad 'loud', with the meaning 'a torrent or swift noisy stream' (cf. Ludlow and Ludford, Shropshire; Ludwell, Derbyshire). The stream here appears to have been called Smallbroke in 1416 (SHC 1928 65). A derivation from OE hlýda, hlýda 'a seat, a bench', perhaps in the sense 'ledge', cannot be ruled out completely. There is little likelihood of a derivation from the OE personal name *Hlýd. See also Lloyd, The.

LOACHES BANK (obsolete) the name of a former earthwork, now levelled, near Bourne Pool, Aldridge, about 100 yards to the west of the Old Chester Road: Willmore 1887: 12-13 (SO 0799). Loaches Banks 1831 Lewis. Willmore 1887: 12-13 describes earthworks which covered 2 acres, and there is a plan of the camp (which shows two superimposed earthworks) in Shaw 1798: I plate A, 10-
11, but the site is not named. The site may have originated as an Iron Age enclosure, or could be medieval: see TSSAHS XXIV 1982-3 34; TSSAHS XXXII 1990-1 90-1. Ric' o de Erdbury is recorded in nearby Aldridge in 1327 (SHC VII (i) 230), and Arbora Meadow and Arbory Meadow (unlocated) are recorded in Aldridge in the 17th century (SOT D260/M/T/12), presumably Harborough Meadow recorded in 1864 (SRO D1317/1/15/2/2), perhaps from Old English eorpb urg 'earth fortification', possibly an early reference to this earthwork. The name Loaches is perhaps from the surname of an occupier: the surname Loach is believed to be from OE loch, 'loach, an edible freshwater fish ' (DES 282), and it may be noted that this place adjoins Bourne Pool. Or perhaps from OE *lece 'a stream flowing through boggy land, a bog': c.f. The Laches. There seems little likelihood that this name is associated with Luitcoyt, from which the name Lichfield (q.v.) derives. Cf. Land called Loshes (1536), Laysshes, Laisse, Losses (1598), later Loches, Lowches, Lowchers, Lawshes, Losshes, in Earls Colne, Lincolnshire.


LODE (HOUSE) 1 mile east of Alstonefield (SK 1455) The Load 1658, 1675, 1679 Alstonefield ParReg, the Loade 1678 ibid, Load 1834 White, or perhaps in some cases 'crossing': see Hampton Loade. From OE lad 'watercourse': the place lies in a valley running down to Load Mill on the river Dove.

LODYNGTON (unlocated: the context in which the name appears suggests as association with Dudley, but the place is perhaps Loddington, Leicestershire, possibly held by Roger de Somery from his second wife Annabel who brought lands in Leicestershire including Great Dalby, which in 1086 was jointly held with Loddington by Robert de Bucy). Lodynton 1273 SHC 1911 153, SHC IX (ii) 25, Lodyngton 1305 SHC VII 135. 'The rån associated with Luda'.

LOGES (unlocated, at Rodbaston: see SHC 1911 260; SHC 4th Series XVIII 79.) Loges 1209 SHC III (i) 209, c.1238 (1798) Shaw I xxvii, 1298 SHC 4th Series XVIII 21, 1300 SHC 1911 262. From ME log(g)e 'a lodge, a hut, a cottage', perhaps here meaning 'a house in a forest for temporary use', perhaps here the residence of the Forester of Cannock Forest. Les Logges, recorded in 1399 and associated with the keeper of Kinver Forest, appears to have been constructed c.1373 at Coppidhull (unlocated) within Kinver Forest: VCH II 347.

LOGGERHEADS a hamlet based on a crossroads 1 mile south-east of Mucklestone (SJ 7335). Loghead 1657 Newcastle ParReg, Loggerheads 1775 Yates, Loggerheads 1798 Yates, 1808 Baugh, The Logger Heads 1833 O.S. The age of this place-name is unknown, but although, as noted in Duignan 1902: 96, Loggerhead is a dialect word for the knapweed, Centaurea nigra, found on wet ground (EDD), it is almost certain that the name is from a public house predating the present The Three Loggerheads (Logger Heads 1872 P.O.), which until recent times was the only building here: it appears from Baugh's 1808 map of Shropshire to have stood on a wedge-shaped island at the junction of the four roads which meet here. A loggerhead was a term for 'a blockhead, a dull stupid person' (EDD), probably from dialect logger 'heavy block of wood', and the words 'We three loggerheads be' was the
inscription on a common public-house sign, in which two wooden heads were shown, the unsuspecting spectator being the third (OED), a jest probably alluded to by Shakespeare in 1588 when he speaks of 'the picture of we three' in 'Love's Labour's Lost', and in Twelfth Night, Act II, scene 1. The expression 'to go to loggerheads' later came to mean 'to fight or squabble' (Halliwell), but is not recorded in that sense until 1831 (Chambers), and is not relevant here. It is likely that the public house was The Loggerheads, with a sign showing two clowns or fools (see Yonge 1923: 167-8), and was replaced by a triangular inn-sign in the gable of the public-house which pictured three jovial bumpkins with the legend 'We three loggerheads be', with a Staffordshire knot (JNSFC LXVI 1931-2 186), which destroyed the nature of the joke. Gough 1968: 177 mentions in 1706 an alehouse at Shrewsbury in 1642 called 'the Loggerheads', which was known as 'ye Loggerheads in Baylie' in 1521 (Lloyd 1942: 37): the three leopards' heads in the arms of Shrewsbury are said to have been known as loggerheads. Loggerheads is also recorded near Mold, Flintshire, and in Wiltshire: see Larwood & Hutton 1866: 39; 458-9. Cf. Loggerhead Farm, Great Wyrley, 1792 Ct.

LONCO BROOK a tributary of the river Mees. The stream forms the Staffordshire-Shropshire border north-west of Forton. This place-name is found in Longhale 1332 to 1364, Lonkeshall medowe 1487, Lyncolfeuilde 1493, Lynco medowe 1527, Lonco platt 1599, Loncol ne hill, moor, pitts 1618, Lon colle field butes 1618, Loncale flatts 1693, Loncall 1720 (forms from Oakden 1984: 150; 152), Loncall field c.1700 (SHC 1932 71). Oakden 1984: 150 suggests that the derivation is from OE lang halle 'long hall', with the unvoicing of -g becoming -k. However, Welsh llwnc, Cornish *lonk, Breton lonk 'gulp, gullet' may be noted (see Padel 1985: 153), though it is unlikely to be found here. The form Wlonkeslowe is linked with this name in SHC 1916 142, without date, source, or explanation, but is a 13th century spelling for Longslow, 1 mile north-west of Market Drayton: see PN Sa I 183. Platt is from ME plat 'a flat place, a footbridge', here probably in the latter sense.

LONDON, LITTLE on north side of Willenhall (SO 9698). Little London 1658 Wolverhampton ParReg, 1721 WA II 36, 1749 Bowen, 1834 O.S. Perhaps from land here which is said to have been owned by City of London Companies, including the Merchant Taylors' Company (StEnc 363), or from an area set aside as a resting place for drovers and cattle on the drove-road from mid- and north-Wales to London, as also places of the same name in Alveley, Munslow and Oswestry (Shropshire): see Foxall 1980: 24; PN Sa III 176, which describes the place in Alveley as a squatter settlement. Other places called Little London are recorded from the 19th century in Walsall and near Harlaston: StEnc 362.

LONE (unlocated, on the south side of Wolverhampton.) la Lone 1293 SHC VI (i) 283, 1321 BCA MS3145/288608, 1329 SHC I 325, 1349 SHC XII 89, 1368 BCA MS3279/351231, le Lone 1319 SHC X (ii) 29, 1327 SHC VII (i) 249, la Lona 1350 (1801) Shaw II 204. A common name: 'the lane'. There
are many references to the name in the 14th and 15th centuries. *le Lone* is recorded in Caverswall in 1327: SHC VII 215.

LONEDALE (unlocated, in Tillington.) *Lonedale* (undated) SHC VIII (i) 122. Perhaps to be associated with *Londehall*, recorded c.1238 (1798) Shaw I xxvii.

**LONG BIRCH** 2 miles south of Brewood (SJ8705). *le longebruch* 1425 Ct, *Longbryche* 1540 Deed, *Longburch* 1682 Browne, *Long bryche* 1540 Plot. From OE *brêce* 'cleared or newly cultivated ground'. By metathesis, or shifting of the *r*, the words become *burche* and later *birch*. *Long Birch* means simply 'long piece of newly-cleared land'. Strangleford Birch and Harvington Birch are 2 miles west of Brewood. The country hereabouts was formerly part of Brewood Forest (q.v.). The name is not unique in Staffordshire: see e.g. *Long Birche* in Eccleshall, recorded in 1570 (SHC 1926 78).

**LONG COMPTON** - see COMPTON.

**LONG CHURCH** (unlocated, near Shifford Grange). *(vallem de)* *Longchurch* 1447 SHC 1945-6 28, 30. A curious name which remains unexplained.

**LONGCROFT (FARM)** 1 mile north-west of Yoxall (SK 1420). *Longcroft temp. Henry III* (1798) Shaw I 102, 1817 Pitt. From OE *lang* 'long', with OE *croft* 'a small enclosure of arable or pasture land, an enclosure near a house', so 'the long enclosure of arable land'.

**LONGDOLES** (obsolete) 1 mile south-west of Weston Coyney (SJ 9144). *Longdoles* 1836 O. S. Perhaps to be associated with *Lonedale*, recorded in 1199 (SHC IV 282), in which case 'the long valley'. Otherwise 'the long pieces of land forming shares in the common field', from ME *dole*.

**LONGDON** Ancient Parish 4 miles north-west of Lichfield (SK 0814). *(ae't)* *Langandune* 1002x1004 (11th century, S.906; 11th century, S.1536), *Langedun* 1158 P, *Longedon* 1166 SHC 1923 295, *Langedon* 1195 P, 1242-3 Fees, *Longdon* 1268 SRO D603/A/Add/189, *Langgedn, Langgedon, Langedon* 13th century BCA MS3415/132-3, *Longodon* 1346 BCA MS 3415/174, *Lo'gedon* 1350 BCA MS3415/184, *Lankedon* 14th century BCA MS3415/144. 'Long hill', from OE *langan-dün*, presumably the high ridge between Longdon and Rugeley. Plot 1686: 406 mentions an ancient square earthwork, later known as Longdon Camp, at the east end of Longdon church (see also VCH I 346; StEnc 366; cf. *Berridun* in this area, perhaps from *byrig-dân* 'hill with the fortification', recorded in 1350 (BCA MS3415/184), and *le Berywey*, recorded in 1382 (BCA MS3415/197)), perhaps to be associated with Borough Lane, a road running south-west from Longdon shown as *Burrough Lane* (from OE *burh* 'fortification, manor') on Yates' map of 1775, presumably associated with *Burrow Lane*, marked as a place on the O.S. map of 1834 to the south of Upper Longdon, and *Burwayne Lane* recorded in 1506 (OSS 1936 51), although the *burh* may be Castle Ring (q.v.): see also Burwey. Shaw 1798: I 227 could detect no trace of any earthwork at Longdon, but note *Castle Croft* in Longdon, near Russell's Bank, recorded c.1737 (SRO D260/M/T5/125). TSAS 4th Series I 1911 xxxiv 18 fn.82 observes, without explanation, that *Langandune* is not this Longdon, but offers no other identification. See also Broughton.

**LONGEBRUGG** (unlocated, near Fisherwick). *Longebrugg* 1309 WL103. 'The long bridge'.
LONGFORD a local name for the section of Watling Street between Churchbridge and Four Crosses, south of Cannock (SJ 9609). ? Langeford 1310 SHC X 7, ? Longeforde c.1418 (1801) Shaw II 94, Longford House 1895 O.S. Long strete is given in a charter of 996 (for 994) relating to Hatherton (17th century, S.1380: see Hooke 1983: 78, 82), and is believed to relate to Watling Street here: see also Longgosfordeshet (Longfordheath) undated, SHC 1928 143. (All the other forms in Oakden 1984: 60 relate to Longford in Shropshire: see PN Sa I 181-2). The second element is OE ford, often found where the word is best translated as 'causeway', and that meaning may apply here. The name Longford is not uncommonly applied to Roman roads (see particularly Jermy 1992: 228-9; Jenny & Breeze 2000: 109-10), for example, south-west of Market Drayton for a length of the road (Margary number 19) between Pennocrucium (Water Eaton) and Chester, and the name often suggests the existence of a Roman road. Early confirmation of the name of that road is found in 1319, when the Sheriff of Shropshire acknowledged that the Royal Road called Longeford, between Bletchley and Newport, was dilapidated and impassible from water overflowing from adjacent marshes, and a levy of pontage was granted for necessary repairs: TSAS 2nd Series I 155. Longefordeweye in Alrewas is recorded in 1328 (Alrewas Ct), and may refer to Riknild Street, or to a weg ('way') leading to that road.

LONGHAY (unlocated, in Anslow). Longhay c.1240 (1798) Shaw I 35, Longhaye 1292 ibid. From OE lang, (ge)heg 'fence, enclosure', so 'the long enclosure'.


LONG LOW near Wetton. From OE lang-hldw 'long burial-mound', with reference to two neolithic round barrows linked by a bank, an arrangement which may be unique in England: see NSJFS 1965 56.

LONGNOLRE (unlocated, but possibly what is now Hateley Heath (q.v.), 1½ miles north of West Bromwich (SO 0093.).) Longnolre by Nortune n.d. Shaw 1798: I 173. From OE lang (weak dative singular langan) 'long', with OE alor 'alder', hence 'the tall alder tree', or, more probably, 'the long alder-copse'. Nortune is unexplained, but may be evidence that the place was actually near Norton Canes.


LONGNOR in Bradley parish, 3 miles west of Penkridge (SJ 8614). Longenalre 1086 DB, Langenalre 1242 Fees, Lungenalre 1285 FA(p), Longenolre 1327 Duig. From OE lang (weak dative singular langan) 'long', with OE alor 'alder', hence 'the tall alder tree', or, more probably, 'the long alder-copse.

LONGPORT on the west side of Burslem (SJ 8649). the long bridge 1544 SHC 1910 247, Longe Bridge 1569 JNSFC LX 1925-6 63, Long Bridge 1680 SRO D4842/14/1/2-3, Longbridge 1766 Simms 1894: 383, Longport 1783 BCA MS917/1391, 1836 O.S. It has been suggested that at least some places with this name held markets along their main street, hence 'long port or market' (see Ekwall 1936: 182-3), but Ward 1843: 155-6 states that 'Formerly, the few cottages standing here had the name of
Longbridge, from a foot-bridge of planks, which extended about one hundred yards along the side of a wash or brook-course, through which the old high-way, from Burslem to Newcastle, passed, before the making of the Turnpike Road; but on completion of the canal, and the erection of several houses and manufactures on its banks, the place acquired its present name. See also SHC 1910 247; SHC 1934 (i) 32; VCH VIII 109.

LONGRIDGE 1 mile north-west of Penkridge (SJ 9115). Langerig(g)e 1199 Ass, 1274 FF(p), Langerig, Lunridge 1253 SHC IV 125, Lonrigge 1276 SHC VI (i) 74, Longerygg 1307 SHC VII 174, Langrigge 1399 Pat, Lonrigge, Langerugge 13th century, Longerugge 14th century Duig, Long Riche 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 89. From OE lang, and OE hrycg 'long ridge'.

LONGSDON 2 miles south-west of Leek (SJ 9654). Longusdon (p) c.1223 Chell, Longeston 1240 Harl to 1290 Ipm, Longesdon 1242 Fees, 1252 Ch, 1331 SRO D1337/1, Langesdun' c.1246-61 StCart, Longrisdon 1274 Ipm, Langesdon' 1275 Cl, Long(e)don 1327 SR to 1560 Pat, Longisdon Syde 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 32, Longysdon 1547 Ct, Long(e)don 1327 SR to 1560 Pat, Longisdon Syde 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 32. From OE lang-scaga 'the long copse'.

LONGSHAW ½ mile south-east of Bradnop (SK 0154), Longshawe 1241 SHC 1911 438, Longeshaghe 1337 SHC XI 143, Longschawe 1511 Okeover T696; LONGSHAW 1 mile north-east of Oakamoor (SK 0745), Longshaw 1746 SRO D240/B/3/35. From OE lang-scaga 'the long copse'.

LONGSTONE (unlocated, possibly near Leek.) Longstone 1634 Leek ParReg.

LONGTON one of the towns of Stoke on Trent (SJ 9043). Langetun' 1242 Fees, Langeston c.1249 SHC 1911 146, Longeton' 1251 Fees, Langeton 1304 SHC VII 124, Longelton 1316 SHC IX (i) 52. 'Long tān'. This common name often denotes a settlement strung out along a pre-existing ancient road. In this case the place lies on the Roman road (Margary number 181) which runs from Rocester to Stoke on Trent.

LONGWEY (unlocated). Longwey 1598 SHC 1935 80.

LORD'S WELL a chalybeate well at Sinai Park (SK 2223). Shaw 1798: I 24 mentions an inscription in stone recording that the well was rebuilt by William, Lord Paget, in 1701.

LORDSLEY 1 mile east of Mucklestone (SJ 7437). Lordes ley, Lordisley otherwise Harwodde 1529 SHC 1910 19, Lords Ley 1530 SHC 1912 33, Lordsleys Spring 1790 D240/E/F/8/37, Lordsley 1830 Moule, Lord 1834 O.S. Spring is a newly-planted wood or a coppice, or a spring of water.

LORDSMORE (unlocated, near Uttoxeter.) Lordsmore c.1737 SRO D260/M/T/5/125.

LORDSPIECE 1 mile north-west of Upper Mayfield (SK 6546). Lords Piece 1836 O.S. Possibly from the surname Lord(e): Henry Lorde of C Aldon is recorded in 1452: SHC VII NS 56.

LOSKESFORD (unlocated, possibly near Almington.) Loskesford 1327 SHC VII (i) 203.
LOUDON (unlocated, possibly near Hamstall Ridware.) Loudon 1686 SBT DR18/22/7/6.

LOUCEKESHULL (unlocated, by the river Blithe near Caverswall.) Louecokeshull c.1270 SHC VIII (i) 150.

LOUNT FARM 1 mile north-west of Colton (SK 0321), Lund c.1200 SRO 103[7934], c.1225 SHC VIII (ii) 155, le Lounde c.1230 ibid. 156, Le Lound pre-1260 SRO 107[7925]; LOUNT FARM 1 mile south-west of Rolleston (SK 2126), Lant 1798 Yates, The Lount 1832 Teesdale, Launt 1836 O.S.;

LOUNTS, THE (obsolete) 2½ miles south of Madeley (SJ 7641), The Lounts 1833 O.S.; LUNT, THE 1 mile south of Willenhall (SO 9696), le Lounde is recorded in Field near Leigh in the 14th century: Tooth 2000b: 176.

LOUSEY BANK (obsolete) 1 mile west of Butterton (SK 0556). Lousey Bank 1840 O.S., Lousy Bank 1891 O.S. Perhaps from OE hlöse 'a shed, a shelter', later 'pig-sty'. The name was presumably considered unattractive, which may explain why the name Golden Hill appears on modern maps.

LOW, THE 1 mile south-east of Elford (SK 1909), low hill 1760 WSL 114/31, The Low 1834 O.S.; THE LOW 2 miles north-west of Sheen (SK 0862), le Low 1399 VCH VII 27, Lowe 1413-15 ibid, the Lowe DRO D2375M/189/14, the Loes 1585 Alstonefield ParReg, Lou 1612 ibid.; THE LOW on the south side of Worfield (SO 7695), the lowe 1522 Worfield CA, The Lowe 1567 Worfield ParReg, The Low 1833 O.S.; A common name, from OE hlæw 'hill, mound, and (the usual meaning in Staffordshire) burial mound'. The Low near Worfield has been in Shropshire since the 12th century. See also Heatonlow.

LOW HILL 2 miles north of Wolverhampton, on Bushbury Hill (SJ 9201), Lawe c.1240 WA II 95, Lawia c.1240 ibid. 96, La Lowe 1287 SHC 1911 193, Lowe 13th and 14th centuries, the Lowe Hyll 1545 SHC XI 289, Le Lohill 1612 SHC IV NS 38, Low 1686 Plot; LOWE HILL a 770' hill 1 mile southeast of Leek (SJ 9955), Lowe 1240 (1883) Deed Sleigh, 1332 SHC X 115, 1538 (1883) Sleigh 17, 1608 SHC 1948-9 106, Leke Lowe 1614 FF, Lowe at Leek c.1619 SHC VII NS 205, Lecke Hyll 1622 FF, Lowe 1583 SHC XV 145, Low Hill 1798 Yates. From OE hlæw 'hill, mound, and (the usual meaning in Staffordshire) burial mound', with OE hill 'hill'. A large tumulus (now destroyed) is recorded on the hill at Bushbury: Plot 1686: 403; NSIFS 1965 59.

LOWTON HALL (obsolete, on the south side of Little Onn (SJ 8415).) Lowton Hall 1808 Baugh.

LOXLEY 2½ miles south-west of Uttoxeter (SK 0631). Locheslei 1086 DB, Lokesle 1177 SHC XII NS 278, Lockesley 1227 SHC XI NS 18, 1236 Fees, Lockesleye 1292 SHC VI (i) 239, Churchlokesleye c.1300 SRO DW1733/A/2/11, Lokesle 13th century Duig, Lokkusley 1375 SHC VIII NS 293, Loxley 1473 HLS, 1605 SHC 1940 301. Perhaps from the OE personal name *Loc(c), or *Lexa, with OE leah 'clearing', but OE lox meant a lynx, and the name may possibly be linked to a similar animal. Cf. Loxley, Warwickshire (PN Wa 235); Loxley, Surrey (PN Sr 236). Loxley Cottage appears on the first edition 1" O.S. map of 1836 2 miles north-east of Yoxall at what is now Scotch Hill (SK 1622), but the history of the name is unknown.
LOYNTON 1 mile north-west of Norbury (SJ 7724). Levantona 1080 SHC I 183, Levintone 1086 DB, Levon, Livintuna 1162 SHC I 183, Laenton 1191 Pipe, Livinton 1199 SHC III 169, Lavenden 1242-3 Fees, Leynton 1281 Ass, Levnton 1309 SHC X (i) 4, Lemynton 1317 SHC IX 62, Leyntone 1380 SHC XVII 193, Loyalton 1576 SHC 1926 39, Levington 1598 SHC XVI 184, Laynton 1686 Plot 209, Loynton 1719 WSL 78/43. 'Luofa's tan'. See also SHC VI NS (ii) 79 fn.1.

LUCEPOOL ½ mile north-east of Yoxall (SK 1519). 'Pike pool', from ME luce 'a pike'.

LUDDEBECHE (an unlocated stream in the Leek area). aquam de Luddebeche 1217x1272 Barraclough 1988: 378. From OE hlüd, often applied to streams, meaning 'loud, noisy', with OE bece 'a pronounced stream-valley', so 'the well-defined valley with the stream called Lud', or 'the stream that flowed through the well-defined valley called Luddebeche'. The stream evidently lay in the area given by the earl of Chester for the founding of Dieulacres abbey (see Elliott 1984: 45; Barraclough 1988: 378), and may indeed be the same watercourse as Lud Brook (q.v.). See also Lud Brook; Ludchurch.

LUD BROOK Oakden 1984: 13 suggests that this is a lost tributary of the river Churnet, but it is probably that stretch of the river Churnet that flows around Leek: StSt 5 1993 9. Luddebroc 1330 Ch, 1345 Coram R, Luddebrok 1346 Pat, Lodebroc 13th century Dieul. From OE hlüd-bröc 'the loud brook': perhaps to be identified with Luddebeche. See also Luddebeche; Ludchurch.

LUDBURN 1⅔ miles north-west of Sheen (SK 0962). Ludbourne 1566 Deed, 1582 SHC XV 140, Ludbourne 1599 DRO D2375/M/106/27, Luddburne 1600 Alstonefield ParReg, Ludburn 1671 ibid. Perhaps from OE hlüd-burna 'the loud stream or torrent': the place lies on the upper reaches of the river Manifold. However, the element burna is rarely found in the north of the county, and it is possible that the second element is a metathesised form of ON brunnr 'a well, a spring' (see VEPN 11 50-1). See also Lekebourne.

LUDCHURCH or LUD'S CHURCH 1 mile south-east of Swythamley, near the Cheshire border, in Rushton Spencer parish (SJ 9865). Ludchurch 1686 Plot, Lud Church 1747 Bowen. A deep natural chasm in the millstone grit which, from of its moss-covered rocks, and descriptions of holes at either end, together with other topographical evidence from the poem to support a North Staffordshire setting, has been persuasively identified as the 'Green Chapel' in Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, written by an unknown author c.1400: see Elliott 1984: 45ff; Elliott 1997: 105-30; NSJFS 17 20-49. The description of the Green Chapel in Gawain reads: 'Hit hade a hole on pe ende and on ayper syde, and ouergrowen with gresse in glodes aywhere, And al watz hols inwith, nobot an olde cave, or a creuisshe of an olde cragge...his ortore is vgly, with erbez overgrowen...': Tolkien & Gordon 1967: 60. It is doubtless no more than coincidence that in mythology one of the chief gods of the Britons was Lludd or Nudd, a legendary king of the British mentioned by Geoffrey of Monmouth, supposedly the brother of the historically real Caswallon, which would place Lud's existence at about 60BC. Lludd is recognisable in later times as the mythical King Lud, perhaps to be associated with Lud in 'Lludd and Llefelys' in the Welsh Mabinogion (Ashley 1998: 69), or King Lot or Loth, alluded to frequently in Arthurian legend and romance as king of Lothian and Orkney and husband of Arthur's sister Margawse or Morgause, and the father of Gawain himself. The church element in the name is difficult to explain, but if the identification of Gawain's Green Chapel is correct (and the chapel is also described in the
poem as a kirk, the Northern, from Scandinavian, word for 'church'), the poem may have adopted an existing local name, or perhaps the local people understood the association with the poem and thereafter named the chasm church (although a descriptive Green or Gawain's might have been expected), and the reason for the name became forgotten. There is a popular but unevinced local tradition that Ludchurch was used as a secret place of worship by the Lollards, a religious sect who were the followers of John Wycliffe (1330-84). The legend records that soldiers attracted to the place by singing killed a young girl called Alice, who was buried at the entrance. Alice was said to be the daughter of Walter, called de Lud-Auk, and the 'church' was supposedly named after Lud-Auk or the Lollards, abbreviated to Luds. The origin of the tradition (and any evidence of the existence and identity of Lud-Auk) is untraced, but the legend is unlikely to predate the 19th century: Hackwood 1906: 18 suggests that the tale originated in 1546, but gives no source. It is of interest however that in an ancient poem Moliant Cadwallawn ('Eulogy for Cadwallon', identified as Cadwallon ap Cadfan, king of Gwynedd, d.634), Cadwallon is styled laydawc Prydain, "battle-hosted one of Britain/ruler of the armies of Britain": Kirby 1977: 34, and Maxen Wledic (? Lud-Auk), identified as Magnus Maximus, a Roman who proclaimed himself Emperor during his command of troops in Britain and after defeating Gratian in Gaul in 383 was recognised as Theodosius, Emperor of the East, but was defeated and executed by Theodosius for ordering his troops to invade Italy, was a great folk hero in Celtic folklore (cf. Middle Welsh gwledic 'leader, ruler, lord, emperor'), and in some sources is named as the father of the legendary King Arthur. Ludchurch ravine has also been known as Trafford's Leap, supposedly from a former occupier of Swythamley Hall whose horse leapt the cleft during a hunt. The absence of early spellings for Ludchurch - the age of the name is unknown, though it was evidently well-established by the later 17th century (Oakden 1984: 13 inexplicably suggests that it is Victorian) - precludes any certain derivation, but the element Lud first appears in the names Luddebroc (see Lud Brook) and Ludebeche (q.v.), both of which are recorded in the original charter by which Ranulph de Blundeville, earl of Chester, gave land for the building of Dieulacres abbey near Leek: the area in which Ludchurch lies was part of the abbey's endowment: Elliott 1984: 45. Lud in place-names is normally associated with OE hlād 'loud', frequently linked to an element denoting water (cf. Luddebeche; Lud Brook; Ludburn; also Ludbrook, Devon; Ludlow, Shropshire; Ludwell, Derbyshire), but might here be appropriate with reference to echoes, or from the personal name Luda (cf. Luddenham, Kent; Luddington, Lincolnshire; Ludham, Norfolk). Plot 1686: 173 gives the following account of the place: ‘...the stupendous cleft in the rock between Swithamley and Wharford commonly call’d Lud-Church, which I found by measure 208 yards long, and at different places 30, 40 or 50. foot deep; the sides steeped and so hanging over, that it sometimes preserves Snow all the Summer, whereof they had signal proof at the Town of Leek on the 17 of July their Fair Day, at which time of year a Wharnford Man brought a sack of Snow thence, and poured it down at the Mercat Cross, telling people that if any body wanted of that commodity, he could quickly help them to a 100 load on’t’. For a list of publications on legends associated with Ludchurch, see Elliott 1984: 51 fn.39-40. Litchurch in Derbyshire is recorded as Ludecerce in 1086 (DB), and Ludchurch in 1234, perhaps meaning 'Luda's church' (PN Db 452; the derivation 'small church', from OE ðtel, ðtel 'little, small', given in Ekwall 1960: 300 is most improbable, notwithstanding a handful of spellings such as Litlecherche, recorded in
The parish of Yr Eglwys Lwyd, in Pembrokeshire, is in English 'Ludchurch': the earliest reference to the place is 1324, but there is uncertainty whether the name is of English or Welsh origin: see Charles 1992: xxv; II 509.

LUDINTON (unlocated, possibly Luddington, Warwickshire.) Ludinton 1206 SHC III (i) 139.

LUDSTONE 1 mile north-east of Claverley (SO 8095). Ludeston 1163 SHC II (i) 190, ? Ludesdon 1190-3 SHC III 217, Ludesdon 1250 Cl, Loddesdena, Loddesdon 1271 SHC 4th Series XVIII 71, Ludesdon' 1333 SR, Ludston 1530 FF 8. From the personal name *Hlūd, with the second element either OE dūn 'hill' or OE tūn, with the earliest form favouring the latter, but the majority favouring the former: the place lies on the west flank of a rounded ridge rising to 357'. Since the 12th century in Shropshire.

LUD-WALL (unlocated, between Longton and Normacot). Lud-Wall 1679 SHC XII 59. Perhaps from OE hlāðe 'loud, noisy', with Mercian OE welle, usually in the West Midlands 'a spring', so 'the noisy or bubbling spring'.

LUFFULLEWODE (unlocated, possibly near Pipe: see VCH XIV 214.) Luffullewode 1537 SHC XI 276, Luffullewode 1598 SHC XVI 175, Loughfulwood 1624 SHC X NS (i) 64. Oakden 1984: 65 considers that the name relates to fields in Cannock, and suggests a derivation from OE jīl wudu, 'the foul or dirty wood', prefixed by OE luh 'pool', so the pool at the dirty wood', but luh is a very rare element, and such derivation most improbable. The place is probably to be associated with Leefhull between Cannock and Lichfield recorded in 1307 (WL 100), and Lefful, recorded in 1309 (WL 103).

LUM EDGE, LUM POOL 2 miles north-west of Warslow (SK 0859); Lumpoole 1626 Rental, The Lum, Lum Pool 1842 O.S.; THE LUM 1 mile north-west of Madeley (SJ 7645). Perhaps from the dialect word lum 'woody valley, deep pool in a river' and (in Derbyshire) 'a small wood or grove': see PN Db 33. However, lum is a dialect word found in the northern counties for (i) 'a chimney, a vent' (EDD), (ii) 'a small wood or grove' (EDD), and a term used in north Staffordshire metal mining areas for 'a lode, vein or fissure' (Ekwall 1960: 307 gives 'a well for the collection of water in a mine'), and the 1833 O.S. map shows Furnace Mill close to The Lum, suggesting that Lum Pool was perhaps associated with lead mining. Cf. Lumb, Lancashire; Great Lumley, Durham.

LUNT - see LOUNT.

LUPIN 2 miles north-west of Alrewas (SK 1416). Loppe (p) 1259-60 SHC X NS I 272, Loopin Chapel 1660 Erdeswick 1844: 316, Looping (brook) 1752 SHC X NS I 272, Loopin (House) 1775 Yates, Lupin (Gate) c.1800 SRO D615/M/1/8, Lupin Bank 1834 O.S. Perhaps from ON hlaup 'a leap' (cf. Loups, Yorkshire North), or more likely the dialect word loup 'a place where a river becomes so contracted that it can be easily leapt' (EDD): the place is where the road from Alrewas to King's Bromley crosses the Bourne Brook.

LUTH BURN a tributary of the river Trent. Probably identical in derivation to Ludburn (q.v.).

LUTHEBURGH (unlocated) Lutheburgh 1269 SHC IV 170. Possibly Lytlebiri (q.v.).
LUTLEY 1¼ miles north-west of Enville (SO 8188). Luctelega 1166 SHC 1923 298, Luteleg 1199 P, 1221 SHC IV 221, Liutteleio 1208 SHC III 143, Luttelega, Lutelega 1262 For, Lotteleye 1271 SHC V (i) 140, Lutley, Lotteleye 12th and 13th centuries Duig, Lutteleye 1332 SHC X (i) 129, 1472 SRO C140/520 27. Perhaps from an OE personal name such as Luda or Luta. Lutley in Worcestershire (Ludele(ya) 1169, Ledele, Lod(e)leye 1275, Lotteleye, Lutteleye 1291, Lotteleye 1327 (all PN Wo 298-9), Upper Lutley, Lower Lutley and Lutley Mill 1834 O.S.) lies 1 mile west of Halesowen (SO 9483), and some of the above spellings may relate to that place.

LUZLOW (obsolete, 1 mile south-east of Bagnall (SJ 9349).) Lusse-Lees (otherwise Lusselows) 1803 SHC 1933 149, Luzlow 1837 O.S. Perhaps OE lās, hlāw 'louse hill or tumulus', perhaps with the meaning 'the louse-shaped burial-mound' (see also Lizard), or possibly from OE hlōse 'pigsty', probably originally 'a shed, a shelter', found in dialect lewze, loose (EPNE i 253), so 'the burial-mound at the shelter'.

LYCHEHALE (unlocated, perhaps near Rocester.) Lychehale 1359 SHC XII (i) 160.


LYDE BROOK a tributary of the river Smestow. Hlyde broc 985 (12th century, S.860), Ludbroc 12th century Wodehouse, Lydbrok, Lydbrok 1294-5, 1315-7 Wodehouse, Lodbroke 1424-5 ibid. The stream is associated with Lloyd House and Lloyd Hill (q.v.), and is probably from OE hlīde 'the noisy stream'. Cf. Lydbrook, Gloucestershire. See also Lloyd Hill; Lloyd House.

LYDIATE (unlocated, in Wednesbury), Lydeyate 1280 SHC VI (i) 147, Lydyate 1415 SHC XVII 58, 1575 SHC XIV 178; LYDIATES HILL on the south-east side of Baggeridge Wood, Lidget Hill 1834 O.S. From OE hlīd-geat 'a swing-gate'. The Lydyatt family, recorded in 1548 (SHC 1928 132), may be associated with the second place. See also Lidgett.

LYME A name not yet fully explained by philologists, which came to be applied to a district, a forest and a river. In Staffordshire the element is (or was) found in, or associated with, Burslem, Butterton, Chesterton, Hales, Madeley, Newcastle under Lyme, Whitmore under Lyme, and the unlocated Shortelyme and Lymehalwe. The element is perhaps of similar origin to a river Lyme which gave its name to Lyme Regis in Dorset (Lin, Lym in charters of 774 (S.263) and 938 (S.442)). A derivation from a root *lim- connected with modern Welsh llif 'flood' now seems to be accepted by philologists as more likely than a British stem *lemo-, meaning 'elm' (Ekwall 1928: 274 suggests that a forest-name Lyme may well have been derived from a river-name), but the origin is far from certain, and the possibility remains that the name is from an as-yet unidentified root, perhaps meaning 'bare or exposed district' or similar (cf. Mod Welsh llwm 'bare, exposed, destitute, poor', ModIrish lomm 'bare': see PN Ch 15-6), or is an unexplained Celtic, or even pre-Celtic, name 'denoting part - usually the western edge - of the southern Pennines, the Peak, and the rim of the Cheshire plain': see Coates & Breeze 2000: 1 335. A pre-Celtic name might derive from IE *(e)lei 'bend, forearm; limit', or the name may have been taken direct from Latin limes, limitum 'limit'; limen, liminen 'threshold', perhaps to mark an upland area considered particularly inhospitable. Jackson 1953: 555 believed the root incorporated
an English m, substituted from a Welsh sound perhaps in the seventh or late sixth century. There are frequent references in the 13th and 14th century to boscus de Lyme. The name had been thought (for example by Lucius the Monk, quoted in Gough 1806: 530) to refer to a forest, but more recent theories are that the forest connection is a secondary development from a term which originally applied to the southern part of the Pennines, i.e. land over 400' stretching from east Cheshire to north-eastern Derbyshire, and from south Lancashire to north Shropshire. The earliest recorded reference to the name Lyme is c.1125 (although Lyme Handley, Audlem and Burslem are all recorded in DB, proving that the element is pre-Conquest in date), and an analysis of places incorporating the name suggests that it was applied to a long narrow strip of land, perhaps the original name of the escarpment running along the north-west border of Staffordshire. A more detailed survey and analysis of the name is given in Gelling 1992: 63-5, and PN Ch I 2-6; see also Pape 1928: 4-5. Dodgson has observed that 'the significance of the form of the place-name, regardless of the meaning, is that it shows English m substituted for Pr. Welsh lenited m, as contrasted with the substituted English v in R. Dane...': PN Ch V (II) 294. See also Shortelyme.

LYME BROOK a tributary of the river Trent. Lyme Brook 1686 Plot. Probably a back-formation from Newcastle under Lyme, through which the stream runs (cf. Burslem). Since early examples have not been found, it seems possible that the name is due to a misunderstanding of the addition under Lyme, found in Newcastle under Lyme, etc. - see Lyme. If the name Lyme derived from a river-name, it is unlikely that it was that of this stream, which is insignificant (see Ekwall 1928: 274). An earlier name for the watercourse may have been Are: see Newcastle under Lyme. There is a reference to Limbreuk 'between Hopewas wood and Tunstall wood' in 1300 (SHC V (i) 176), but the name is probably from OE hlimme 'a stream, a torrent': see Linbrook.

LYMEHALWE (unlocated, in Leek.) Lymehalwe c.1287 SHC 1911 429.

LYME HEATH (unlocated, in Tunstall.) the Lyme heath 1603 JNSFC LXIII 1928-9 52, The Lymeheath 1613 D1229/2/4/1, The Lyme Heath 1614 SHC 1931 70. 'The heath at Lyme (q. v.).'


LYMESYE (unlocated, possibly near Lichfield.) Lymesia 1223 SHC IV 27, Lymeseye 1281 SHC VI (i) 118, 1286 ibid. 160, Lymesey c.1312 SHC 1941 173, Lymesye 1323 SHC IX 128. Perhaps transferred from Limesy in Seine-Maritime or Seine-Inferieure, France.

LYME WYE (unlocated, in Little Wyrley.) Lyme Wey 1395 SHC VI (ii) 193.

LYMEWELL (unlocated, between Hopwas and Dunstall: Shaw 1798: I 433.) Lymewell 1798 Shaw I 433.

LYMFORD (obsolete) 1 mile north-east of The Cloud (SJ 9164). ? Lynme 1298 SHC XI NS 256, Lymford 1332 SHC X (i) 115, 1539 SHC VI NS (i) 84, Lymforde c.1565 SHC 1938 76, Lymford 1619 SRO DW1761/A/4/157[9], Limb Ford 1775 Yates, Lymford 1842 O.S. Possibly from OE hlimme 'a
stream, a torrent' (the place lay near the river Dane), or from *The Lyne* (q.v.), as suggested in PN Ch I 56. See also Lymm Bridge. *Lymeforde*, recorded c.1565, appears to have been in Alstonefield: SHC 1938 76.

**LYMINGFORD** (unlocated, in Kinver Forest.) *Lymingford* 1262 SHC V (i) 138.

**LYMME BRIDGE** (obsolete) on the river Dale 1½ miles north-east of The Cloud (SJ 9165). *Lymm Bridge* 1775 Yates. Possibly from OE *hlimme* 'a stream, a torrent', but see also Lymford.

**LYNACRE** (unlocated, in the north-west of Pipe Ridware: see Shaw I 163, 166*.) *Linacre* late 12th century (1798) Shaw I 166*, *Lynacre* late 13th century SRO 3764/8[31724]. From OE *ln* 'flax', with OE *acer* 'field, ploughed land', so 'the field where flax was grown'.

**LYNCROFT** 1 mile north-west of Lichfield (SJ 1010). *Lyncroft* 1262 Duig, *Lincroft* 1812 EnclA, 1834 O.S. From OE *ln* 'flax', with OE *croft* 'a piece of enclosed land used for tillage or pasture, a small piece of land adjacent to a house'. Possibly to be associated with *Lindenescroft*, recorded in 1203 (SHC III 116).

**LYNDON** 1½ miles north-west of Kinver (SO 8285), *Lyndon* c.1290 SRO D1485/6, 1440 SRO Tp 1273 r.h. safe box, 1456 SRO D1485/6, 1545/6 SRO Tp 1273/12/1 No 9, *La Lynden* 1371 SRRC 2089/2/2/4, *Lynne Hall* 1583 Erdeswick 1844: 430; **LYNDON** (obsolete) in West Bromwich (SO 0092), Line c.1692 StSt 11 1999 63, *Lyndon* 1834 O.S. From OE *ln* 'flax', with OE *dán*.


**LYNN** 4 miles south-west of Lichfield (SJ 0704). *La Lynd* (frequently) 1262 SHC V (i) 139, 1271 For, *Lynn, Lynda* 1274-5 SHC 1923 275, *Lynde* 1311 (1798) Shaw II 55, 1348 SHC XVII 289, *La Lynde* 1286 SHC V (i) 173, 1315 SHC XVII 289, 1375 SHC XIII 126, *Lynde otherwise Lynn* 1592 SHC 1930 217; *Lynne or Lyndon* 1801 Shaw II 55. From OE *lind* 'linden or lime-tree'. In medieval poetry the word *linde* was frequently used for trees in general, and the plural *lindes* for a grove.

**LYNTERSWOOD** (unlocated, perhaps near King's Bromley.) *Lynterswood* 1559 SHC 1931 156. See Lyntus, with which this name may be associated.

**LYNTUS** 2 miles north of Lichfield (SK 1312). *Lyntun*, *Lenton* 1327 SHC VII (i) 234, *Lynton* 1332 SHC X 84, *Lenton* 1332 ibid. 105, *Lyntus* 1834 O.S. Perhaps from OE *lind-tun* 'lime-tree tun', later *lind-hās* 'the house at the lime-tree'. In 1834 O.S. the name is attached to a copse, which is now Big Lyntus. Another smaller copse nearby to the east is Little Lyntus.

**LYONS, THE** 1 mile west of Enville (SO 8186). *The Lyons* 1834 O.S. Perhaps from the name Leon: Henry III granted Leon de Romelegh a licence to assart in Horwood within Kinver Forest in 1268 (SHC V (i) 82, 158; SHC 1911 140), and his son, also Leon, was granted a similar right by Edward I (ibid.). See also SHC VI (i) 82. For John Lyoynne (1301) see SHC VII 81. It is likely that *Liones*
meduwe recorded in 1300 (SHC V (i) 180, *Liones medwive* in Jones 1894: 29), is to be associated with this place: VCH XX 94.

LYONS LODGE (unlocated, possibly near Biddulph.) *Lyons Lodge* 1661 Biddulph ParReg, *Lyons Lodge* 1666 ibid.

LYSWAYS 4 miles north-west of Lichfield (SI 0913). *Lisuis* 1167 Duig, *Lisewis* 1199 SHC III (i) 41, 1243 SHC 1911 402, *Liswes* 1242-3 Fees, *Leswes*, *Liswys* 13th century Duig, *Lychewyz* 1307 SHC XI NS 265, *Lisewis* 14th century SHC 1921 34, *Lyswis* 1686 Plot 157 Seemingly transferred (with anglicised pronunciation) from Lisieux in Northern France, which is 15 miles north-east of St. Pierre-sur-Dives, the mother house of Tutbury Priory which had holdings in Needwood Forest, and presumably also this place (which lies outside the Forest): SHC 4th Series IV 3. This would explain why the c.1250 spelling is indexed *Lisieux* in SHC 1924 388. Lisieux in France is from the northern Gaulish tribe, the Lexovii: see JEPNS 23 1990-1 11. See also Clark 1995: 272. Shaw 1798: I 223 mentions ‘...Leswes (afterwards called Arblaster) hall...’.


LYVERSEGGE (unlocated, in Walsall.) *Leverich* 1327 SHC VII 224, SHC 1928 179, *Leverished* 1355 (1801) Shaw II 304, *Lyversegge* 1425 SHC XVII 101, *Lyveriche Field* 1554 SOT D260/M/T/1/112/22, *Lyverich* 1616 SOT D260/M/T/1/49, *Leverich (Field)* 1633 BCA D260/M/T/1/33, *Liverich (Fields)* 1696 BCA D260/M/T/1/119a. The spellings suggest a derivation from an OE personal name such as Léofste or Léofshere, with the second element variously OE hrycg ‘a ridge, a long narrow hill’, OE hēaqfod ‘the end of a ridge, the upper end or top’, and OE ecg ‘edge, the crest of a sharply pointed ridge, a steep hill’, all being elements which could apply to the same type of feature.

MADELEY Ancient Parish 4½ miles west of Newcastle-under-Lyme (SJ 7744), *Madanlieg* 975 (11th century, S.801), *Madelie* 1086 DB, * Maddell’ 1177 SHC XII NS 278, *Maddleye-under-Lyme*, *Madelegh*, *Madeleye* 13th century Duig, *Madeleye-subtus-Lynam* 1333 SHC 1913 228; MADELEY (FARM) in Checkley parish, 3 miles north-west of Uttoxeter (SK 0537), *Madelie* 1086 DB, *Madeleye* 1176 FF, *Maddleye Alfogh* 1332 SHC X 112, *Madeleyhome* 1415 SHC XVII 29, *Madeleg’ Alfachk’*, *Maddeleg’* 1242 Fees, Maddeley, later Madeley Ulfac or Madeley Alfac VCH IV 51 fn., *Maddeley Alfac* 1293 SHC 1911 47, *Madeleye Alfogh* 1377 SHC 4th Series VI 7, Maddelyholme otherwise Madeley Socke 1559 SHC 1924 139, Medley Holme c.1564 SHC 1938 148, Madeley-holme 1644 (1798) Shaw I 68, *Madeley House*, Madeley Wood 1836 O.S.; MADELEY WOOD BARN (obsolete) 1½ miles north-east of Colton (SK 0622), *Madeley Wood Barn* 1836 O.S. From a OE personal name *Mad(d)a*, so ‘*Mad(d)a's lēah or clearing*. Ulfac was the name of the tenant in DB, and the name was added to the place-name to distinguish it from other Madeleys, but the meaning of Socke is unclear, unless from OE soc ‘suck, sucking’, perhaps used in the sense ‘drain, drainage’ (see EPNE ii 133), or from late ME sock, used in the north of England for ‘a ploughshare’, and sometimes meaning ‘ploughing’ (OED), or perhaps a corruption of Madeley’s Oak. Holme is from ON holmir ‘an isle, a small island, a water-meadow’: Madeley Farm lies on the river Tean. Any doubt about the identification of *Madanlieg* with
Madeley in Staffordshire is removed by the reference in the same charter to wriman forda, which is associated with nearby Wrinehill. Maideleye in Cannock Forest is recorded in 1346: SHC 1939 75.

MAER 6½ miles south-west of Newcastle-under-Lyme (SJ 7938). Mere 1086 DB, 1242 Fees, Mare 1198 SHC III 29, Meer 1291 Tax, Mere 13th century (frequently) Duig, Mayer 1471 SHC IV NS 178, Meire 1586 SHC 1927 128. From OE mere 'lake, mere': there is a large pool here (presumably the '60 acres under water' recorded in 1562: SHC XII 236), feeding the river Tern which flows into Shropshire. For details of the prehistoric hill-fort here see JNSFC LXVI 1931-2 91-100.

MAERWAY LANE (FARM) 2 miles south of Madeley (SJ 7640). The Meyre Lones 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 44, Merewelane 1610 SHC III NS 34. 'The lane which is the way to Maer'.

MAGHILLS (unlocated, perhaps near Keele.) Maghelles field 1565 SHC 1938 38, Meghills 1678 StSt 11 1999 67, Maghills c.1692 ibid. Possibly from the surname McGill or similar, recorded as Macgeil in 1231 (DES 292), or perhaps from OE mægðe hyll 'mayweed hill'. The hard g would not normally be expected from mægðe, but may have been regarded as correct in later times in the light of earlier spellings. Cf. Maghull, Lancashire.

MAIDENSBRIDGE at Wall Heath, % mile south of Himley (SO 8790). Maidensbridge 1727 SRO D1132/1/14, Maiden Bridge 1834 O.S. The bridge lies on Maiden's Brook, which formed the boundary between Himley and Kingswinford, and may have taken its name from OE (ge)mdre 'boundary', perhaps with OE dān 'hill', so 'the stream of the hill at the boundary', but OE maegden 'maiden' is a common element in place-names, usually applied to lanes, bridges, fords and similar places supposedly frequented by young unmarried women: cf. of maegidna brycge 11th century, S.1591. meidenesford is recorded in the bounds of Bilston and Wednesfield in 985 (12th century; S.860): see Hooke 1983: 72, 74, 113. See also Maiden's Well.

MAIDEN'S WELL on the south side of Uttoxeter (SK 0932). Maydenswall (Close) 1646 SRO D786/10/3, Maidenswall (Close) 1665 SRO D786/10/5. 'The spring frequented by maidens': see Maidensbridge. Redfern 1886: 54-5, 347 suggests that the well was anciently Marian's Well or Maiden's Wall Well, wall probably from Mercian OE wael 'spring', with the later addition of 'well'. The name is evidently to be associated with Maiden Field, one of the open fields of Uttoxeter: ibid.

MALBANK or MAUBAN FRITH - see ALSTONEFIELD FOREST.

MALESHOU - see MELLESHOHE.

MALTON (unlocated) Malton 1547 SHC 1950-1 41.

MANCHESTER, LITTLE (unlocated, near The Arbor in Mucklestone (SJ 7137).) A curious name, said to have existed from at least c.1854 (JNSFC XLII 1907-8 110; see also SHC 1945-6 26; TSAS XLIX 1937-8 88), perhaps derived from Leominchistrete (q.v.) as a result of 19th century antiquarianism. The element chester in ancient names is usually from OE cester 'a city, a (Roman) town, an old fortification'. A large low mound enclosed by a wall of huge rough stones forming a rectangle has been recorded here: JNSFC LXXII 1937-8 117-8; JNSFC LXXIII 1938-9 113. However,
the name has not been traced in early records (Manchester, recorded in 1351 (SHC 1913 146), probably relates to the city), and appears to have been relatively recent and short lived.

**MANIFOLD, RIVER** a tributary of the river Dove. *Water of Manifould* 1434 Survey, Manifold c.1540 Leland, *aqua de Manifo(u)ld* 1573, 1618 Ct, *Manifold(e)* 1577 Saxton, 1586 Harrison, 1686 Plot, c.1598 *Manifold(e)* Erdeswick 1844: 480. From OE *manigfeald*, literally 'many folds or turns', perhaps with reference to the disappearance of the river underground at Wetton Mill near Grindon, to emerge at Ilam, i.e. vertical as opposed to horizontal folds: see Ekwall 1928: 278. Cf. Mangfall, a tributary of the river Inn in Germany. The pre-English name of the river is unknown, but see Fawside.

**MANNESMORE** (unlocated, in Rushton Grange: VCH III 235.) Mannesmore 1223 SHC XII NS 30, Manesmore 1223 VCH III 235, Maunesmor 1256 Ch, Monsmore 1539 VCH VIII 116, Mansmore 1838 *ibid.* 116. Possibly from the OE personal name Mann, or the ON personal name Man, so 'Man's or Mann's moor'.

**MANSTY HILL** 2 miles south-east of Penkridge, *le Manstonshill* 1547 SHC 1950-1 40, *(le)* Manstone(s)hill 1548 Survey, Manston Hills 1537 SRO D260/M/T/5/102; **MANSTY HEAD** Mansty(e) Head 1682 Dep; **MANSTY WOOD** Mansty Wood 1834 O.S.; **MANSTY FARM** Manstie 1589 SHC 1928 164; **MANSTY POOL** Mansty Pool 1682 Hatherton (all c. SJ 9532). It would seem that Mansty Head and Mansty Farm are from OE *(ge)mêne 'common', and stiğ 'a path, a narrow road', normally applied to an ascending path or road, meaning 'the communal ascending path'. Mansty Hill, which perhaps originated as 'the hill with the Manstone', whatever that might have been, has evidently been influenced by the other names.

**MANWAY FIELD** (obsolete, on the north side of Wednesbury (SO 9795). Moneway 1325 SHC 1911 323, Monway Field 1684 BCA MS3145/91/2, Manway Feild 1686 BCA MS3145/114b, Manway Field 1834 O.S. Perhaps from OE *manig, monig* 'many', with OE *weg* 'a way, a path', so 'the place with the several paths'.

**MANWOODS** on north side of West Bromwich (SO 0292). Manwoodes 1649 BCA MS3145/62/2, Manhoods (sic) 1733 SHC 1944 53, Manyards 1775 Yates, Manwoods 1798 Yates, Manwood 1834 O.S. Early spellings have not been traced, but perhaps 'common wood', from OE *(ge)mêne 'common, communal'. Cf. Manhood, Sussex; Monwood Lea, Warwickshire (PN Wa 76).

**MAPLE BROOK** forming the southern boundary of Longdon - see Chesthall.

**MAPLE HAYS** 1 mile west of Lichfield (SK 0909). Mabbley hays 1498 VCH XIV 211, Mabberley Hay c.1530 SHC VI (ii) 166, Mapel Hey 1674 *ibid*, Maple Hayes 1704 *ibid*, Pipe or Maple Hays Farm 1728 *ibid*, Maple Hayes 1834 O.S. The name may have been originally 'the enclosure (from Mercian OE *(ge)heg) at Malbert's iðst' (Malbert is an OFr personal name of German origin: cf. Mablethorpe, Lincolnshire - Ekwall 1960: 310) which developed into 'the enclosure with the Maple tree'. Maple bridge is recorded here in 1597: VCH XIV 195. Pipe may be from the conduit which ran from here and supplied Lichfield with water: see Pipehill; Pipe Grange.

**MARCHINGTON** in Hanbury parish, 3½ miles south-east of Uttoxeter (SK 1330). *at Marcham* 951
Marchantun 1002x1004 (11th century, S.906; 11th century, S.1536), Merchamstone 1086 DB, Merkintona 1179 SHC I 93, Mercinton Hy II Derby, Merckinton 1230 Ass, c.1235 Rees 1997: 67, Merchinton' 1242-3 Fees, Mersinton 1276 SHC VI (i) 80, Marchaunton 1605 SHC 1940 297. Since the place lies on the south side of the river Dove, which forms the boundary of Staffordshire and Derbyshire, the derivation has been taken to be 'the tān of the Marcham people', who took their name from OE mearc 'boundary', and OE hām 'home, village': see Ekwall 1960: 314. However, it is very likely that the name is derived from OE merece 'smallage, wild celery (Apium graveolens)', with OE ham(m), hom(m) 'an enclosure; a meadow, especially a flat low-lying meadow on a stream; flat land on a river or in a river bend', so giving 'the flat land by the river of the people dwelling by the wild celery': see Cole et al 2000: 141-48. The plant grows in salt water, and a saline spring is recorded near Draycott Mill, 1 mile north-north-east of Draycott in the Clay (Redfern 1865: 15), and Salt Brook runs from Needwood Forest through Draycott in the Clay and into the Dove. In the same area are Saltbrook Cottage (at SK 168298) and Saltbrook Lane. See also Nomina 23 2000: 141-7. This name is a rare example of an English name to which the tan element was added later (but see Ashburton in Devon, which has OE tān added to an earlier Æscburna), seemingly between 951 and 1004 AD. The place is also the only probable example of a ham(m) name in Staffordshire, but see also Trentham and Hamley. Cf. Marcham, Berkshire; Marchwood, Hampshire; Marchamley, Shopshire, and see particularly PN Sa I 194-6. See also Marsh Barn Farm; Salters Croft.

Marchington Woodlands 1 mile south-west of Marchington (SK 1128). Marchington Wodeland 1472 (1798) Shaw I 86, Woodland, Marchington Woodland 1586 SHC 1927 131. Self-explanatory - see Marchington. The township included the north-western corner of Needwood forest.

Mare Brook a tributary of the river Dove, Mare brook 1804 Map; MARE BROOK a tributary of the river Swarbourn, mceran broc 1008 AD (13th century, S.920), Marbrouck 1286 For, Meriroke 1338 Ipm, 1379 Banco, Marebroke 1434 Rental; MARE BROOK a tributary of the river Tame, Mare Brook 1847 TA. All these names derive from OE gemere 'boundary', with bröc, hence 'stream which forms a boundary'. Marbroke(house) is recorded near Leek in 1535 (Dieulacres Inventory), presumably to be associated with Marbroucke in Leek recorded in 1597 (SHC 1935 IV 99).

Mareford (unlocated, perhaps near Perton.) Mareford 1327 SHC VII (i) 253. Perhaps from OE gemere 'boundary', so 'the ford at the boundary'.

Maring (unlocated, possibly near Mixon.) Maring 1256 Ch.

Marley Hollows (Farm) 1 mile south-east of Fulford (SJ 9637). It is unclear whether the place is to be associated with Marledhey, recorded in 1537 (MA), from Mercian OE (ge) heg, so 'the hay or enclosure where the land was treated with marl'.

Marnshaw Head 2 miles west of Longnor (SK 0564). Marinshawe 1566 Deed, Merneshawes 1626, 1651 Rental, Mount Shaw, Mount Shaw Head 1840 O.S. Perhaps from the personal name Marrin (DES 299), with OE scaga 'a small wood, a copse'.

Marsh, The (unlocated, near Castlechurch.) Le Mersh 1231 SHC XII 5, Marisco 1235 SHC VIII (ii) 129, Merse 1279 SHC VI (i) 110, Marisco 1281 ibid. 106, 1290 SHC 1911 198, Marreys 1301 ibid.
MARSH BARN (FARM) on north side of Handsacre (SK 0916). Marchbarne, Merchbarne, M'chbarne 1586 SHC 1927 130-1, 135, Marchebarne 1590 SHC 1930 (ii) 197, Marchbarne 1594 SHC 1932 39, Muchbarne 1597 ibid. 301, Marshallbarne 1608 SHC 1948-9 41, March Barns c.1644 SRO 793/7, Marche Barne 1676 WCRO CR1291/169, Marsh Barn 1814 Armitage ParReg, March Barn 1834 O.S. Although the place lies a few hundred yards south of the river Trent, which forms a parish boundary here, a derivation from OE mearc 'boundary' can almost certainly be ruled out on philological grounds, and the root is almost certainly OE merece 'smallage, wild celery' (see Marchington), giving 'the barn where the wild celery grew'. The name was applied in the 19th century to a building, possibly the barn itself, now vanished, to the east of the present farm.

MARSTON 6 miles west of Penkridge (SJ 8314), Meresitone 1086 DB (listed in Northamptonshire), Merston 1203 SHC III 87, Mershton 1316 FA; MARSTON 2½ miles north of Stafford (SJ 9227), Merestonam 1081 SHC 1914 104, Mertone 1086 DB, Mershton 1316 FA, 1440 SHC 1914 155. From OE mersc-tân 'tân by a marsh'. Meresitone recorded in 1086 (DB) has been identified as Amerton (q.v.), but may well be another entry for Marston near Stafford.

MARTEN HILL, MARTIN HILL in Swinscoe (SK 1447). Mortons Hill 1743 Okeover E17, Martin's Hill 1781 Okeover T82-3, Martin Hill 1797 ibid. T87. Seemingly from a personal name. The O.S. uses the name Martin Hill for the farm, and Marten Hill for the hill.

MARTIN'S LOW 1 mile north-west of Waterfall (SK 0752). Martins lowe 1631 Senior, the Common or Moore called Martins low 1631 ibid, Martinslow(e) 1764 ParReg, Martings Low 1775 Yates, Martin's Low, Martinslow Farm 1836 O.S. Perhaps from the OE personal name Martin or Martin, so 'Martin's or Martin's hlåw or burial mound', or from ME marten 'a weasel, a marten', or possibly from OE (ge)mârtün 'boundary tân': the place lies on a parish boundary.

MAUBAN or MALBANK FRITH - see ALSTONEFIELD FOREST.

MAVESYN RIDWARE - see RIDWARE, MAVESYN.

MAWPLECROSSE (unlocated, in Wood End, Yoxall.) Mawplecrosse 1640 SRO D4533/1/4/1.

MAYDENES (unlocated) Maydenes 1345 SHC XII 44.
MAYDINLEGH (unlocated, in or near Needwood Forest: Shaw 1798: I 156.) Maydinlegh c.1215 (1798) Shaw I 156, Maydenlegh (spring) n/d (1798) Shaw I 109. Seemingly 'the maiden's leah or clearing'.

MAYFIELD Ancient Parish 2 miles south-west of Ashbourne (SK 1545). Medevelde 1086 DB, Machefeld, Malefeld c.1150 SHC VII NS 128, Matlefelt c.1175 ibid. 134, Matherfeld c.1203 SHC 4th Series IV 42, 1252 Ch, 1269 Ass, Methelfeld 1183-4 SHC 1937 19, Mathelfeld 1227 SHC IV 58, 1309 SHC 1911 73, Mathefell, Mathefell 1275 SHC V (i) 118, Mathelfeld 1292 VI (i) 265, Over Matherfeld 1293 SHC 1911 47, Maafelt, Maynfelt ?13th century SHC VII NS 139-40, Madderfeld 1304 WL 37, Malefeld 1307 SHC VII 181, Mathelfeld 1309 SHC 1911 73, ovemastemathelfeld 1324 ibid. 103, Overmast Matherfeld 1327 SHC 1912 253, Matherfeld 1327 SHC VII 201, Quema Mathefeld 1329 SHC I 298, Kirkmatherfeld 1386 SHC 4th IV 220, Mathefeld, Mathfield, Mayfield 14th century Duig, Malefeld 1448 SHC NS III 179, Malfeld 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 130, Over Mathefylde, Mydle Mathefylde, Nether Mathefylde 1583 SHC XV 150, Mafield 1656 Leek ParReg, Mathfield 1686 Plot 404, [upper] Mathefield, [Nether] Mathfield, Mathfield 1695 Morden, Upper Mayfield, Mayfield Cottage, Mayfield Hill, Middle Mayfield 1836 O.S. It has been suggested that the name incorporates OE méaddre 'madder' (see e.g. Ekwall 1936: 110, 1960 318; Gelling & Cole 2000: 275), but botanists say that the plant is unlikely here, and the original -l- (and the proximity to Harlow Wood (q.v.) and Motcarn (q.v.) may be noted) makes a derivation from OE mathel 'meeting, council' (Clark 1995: 224 suggests that the element is one of the rarest), with OE feld 'field, open land' (as proposed by Duignan 1902: 100-1) certain. The 1324 and 1327 forms appear to be Overmost Matherfeld (i.e. Uppermost Mathelfeld, from ME overmast), and the 1386 form with a Scandinavianised form of OE cirice 'church' (which it probably replaced), is evidently Church Mayfield: DB records a priest at Mayfield, which implies that a church existed at that date. It may be noted however that in 1620 Nether Mathfield is described as otherwise Churchfield: SHC VII NS 199. The meeting place was perhaps the hlaw of Harlow, but see also Marten Hill and Motcarn. Early maps (e.g. Bowen 1749, Yates 1798, O.S. 1836) show Church Mayfield in larger and bolder print, whereas Mayfield is shown on modern maps centred on Hanging Bridge. Mayfeld Smeethe (from OE mæb 'mowing', i.e. Mayfield's Meadow: see also Okeover) is recorded in 1420: Okeover T22: see also Okeover. Cf. Matlock, Derbyshire; Matlask, Suffolk; Malton, West Yorkshire. Another Mayfield lies ⅓ mile south-west of Tutbury (SK 2027), but the history of the name has not been traced.


MEAFORD (pronounced Meff-ford [mefəd]) 1⅓ miles north-west of Stone (SJ 8835). Meford, Mesford 1086 DB, Medford 1175 P, Medford 1250 SHC IV 123, Mefford c.1280 SHC VIII (ii) 139, Mayford 1792 Andrews 1936. Probably 'ford at the junction of streams', from OE (ge)myssé 'stream junction' - the Trent is joined by a tributary at this place - or from OE méd 'meadow', giving 'meadow-
for'd'. There are said to have been two manors of this name here: SHC VIII (i) 139. *Meaford Moor alias Hooks Green* is recorded in 1707: SRO D593/B/1/19/2.


**MEDENALE, MEDALL GREEN** (unlocated, in Compton near Kinver.) *Medenale, Medall Green* 1453 and 1562 VCH XX 139. Possibly from OE *magden halh* 'maiden's halh'. Perhaps associated with Meddins Lane on the west side of Kinver, recorded in 1854: VCH XX 140.

**MEDLEYWOOD BARN** 1 mile south-east of Admaston (SK 0622). *Middlehay* 1347 SHC 1919 12, *Madeley Wood Barn* 1836 O.S. 'Middle hay or enclosure', from OE (ge)heg.

**MEECE, RIVER** a tributary of the river Sow. *Mesebrock* 1272 FF. Probably from OE *mēos* 'moss, bog, marsh': it is more likely that Millmeece, Coldmeece and Heamies (q.v.) took their names from the river, than the river was named after those places.


**MEER OAK** 1 mile north of Pattingham, at the junction of Deer Leap and Hollies Lane (SJ8300). *Le Tyndede Meer Oke* 1298 SHC VI NS (ii) 55; Jones 1894 158, *Meer Oak* 1686 Tettenhall ParReg, 1750 Codsall ParReg, 1834 O.S., 1891 O.S. An oak-tree mentioned in 1298 as the boundary mark between the manors of Pattingham, Wrottesley and Perton (VCH XX 10), but long lost by 1894: Jones 1894: 158. From OE (ge)mēre 'boundary'. *Tyndede* is unexplained, but possibly from the past participle of OE *tind* 'to set fire to, to ignite', so perhaps 'the burned oak at the boundary'.

**MEES BROOK** a tributary of the river Sow. *Mesebrock* 1272 FF. From OE *mēos* 'moss, bog, marsh'.

**MEES, RIVER** a tributary of the river Tern. *Mees* 1266 Ch, 13th century Dugd vi 390. From OE *mēos* 'moss, bog, marsh'.

**MEGACRE** 1 mile south-east of Audley (SJ 8150). *Magacre* 1733 SHC 1944 69. The most likely derivation is 'the ploughed land with the magpies', from OE aecer "field, ploughed land'.

**MEG A FOX HOLE** (obsolete) a cave on Kinver Edge. *Mag-a-Fox Hole, Meg a fox-hole* 1686 Plot 172, 414, *Meg o' Fox Hole, Meg a Fox Hole* c.1750 Wilkes; VCH XX 122 fn.71. Perhaps from Margaret-of-the-fox-earth whose death is recorded on 8 June 1617: StEnc 441.

**MEGCROFTS** ¼ mile north-east of Ipstones (SK 0250). *Meg Croft* 1837 O.S., *Meg crofts* 1872 P.O., *Meggrofts Farm* 1880 Kelly. 'Margaret's croft or enclosure', from OE *croft* 'a small enclosure of
arable or pasture land, an enclosure near a house’. It is unclear whether Meggscroft, recorded in 1494, 
and Meggercrofts, recorded in 1514 (OSS 1936 48, 56) refer to this place.

MEIR 2 miles south-east of Longton (SJ 9342). Mere 1242 SHC XI 315, 1261 MRA et freq to 1564 
Pat, La Mere 1250 SHC XI 319, le Meere 1447 SHC III NS 177, Mere juxta Caryswall 1535 VE, 
Meyre 1564 FF, Meir 1656 ParReg, Meare 1695 Morden, Mear 1836 O.S. Almost certainly from OE 
(ge)mère 'a boundary, a border': the place lay on the boundary dividing Normacot and Stone from 
Blurton and Trentham (SHC 1910 74-5; see also SHC XII 59), and Meer Lane appears on Yates’ map 
of 1775 on the Roman road between Stoke and Rocester (Margary number 181, 70a) where the road 
forms the boundary between Pirehill and Tormonslow hundreds. However, a derivation from OE mere, 
usually meaning 'pool' is etymologically possible. The place lies in a valley, and although there is no 
record of any sizeable pool here (see however Ward 1843: 559), there is slight evidence of a causeway, 
suggesting the existence of wet ground (see SHC 1912 219 fn.1), to which the term mere was 
sometimes applied: PN Sa 111244.

MEIRHEATH 2½ miles south-east of Longton (SJ 9240). Lightewood heathe alias Meare heathe 
c.1545 SHC 1910 74, Mereheath 1585 SHC XVII 228, 1592 NA 157DD/2P/19/1, mereheathe 1596 
SHC 1932 236, Meer Heath 1677 Caverswall ParReg, Mere Heath 1732 Stoke on Trent ParReg, Mare 
Heath 1756 Swynnerton ParReg. See Meir.

MELLESHOHE, MALESHOU a lost hamlet in the Great Wyrley-Essington area: see StSt 10 1998 97. 
Melesho c. 1137 VCH 111223, Maileshou 1304 Cli, see also Shaw 1801: 11313. The name is said to 
incorporate the uncommon OE personal name Mula (or ON Muli), found in the field-names le 
mowelebruche 1296, le Moulesgrene 1347 (Vernon) in Essington (see Oakden 1984: 55; StSt 10 1998 
97), but the evidence is doubtful. The second element is OE hāh 'a heel, a spur of land'. This is likely 
to be the same place as Midlesteheo, recorded in 1313 (1801 Shaw II 58).

MERE BROK (unlocated, possibly near Amerton or Chartley.) Merebrok 1338 SHC 1913 71. 
Probably 'boundary brook', from OE (ge)māre, brōc, or from OE mere 'a pool, a lake'.

MERE FARM, MERE HALL 1¼ miles north of Enville (SO 8289). the Meyre 1534 SHC 1912 73. 
From OE (ge)māre 'a boundary, a border': the places lie near the boundary between Enville and 
Bobbington.

MERE HILL ½ mile south-west of Throwley Hall (SK 1052). The history of the name is not known, 
but possibly from OE (ge)māre 'a boundary, a border', or from the mere or pool near Throwley Hall 
(see Throwley).

MERETOWN in Forton parish, 1 mile north-west of Newport (SJ 7520). Mera 1086 DB, Mere 1189 
P, More 1284-5 SHC 1910 299, Meerton, Mearton 1686 Plot, Meer Town 1798 Yates. From OE mere 
'a pool, a lake'. The place adjoins Aqualate Mere (q.v.). See also JEPNS 24 30-41.

MERLVALE (unlocated, possibly in the Hilderstone/Stallington area, but see also Murdeford.) 
Merivale 1326 SHC 1911 371. If the spelling is reliable, perhaps from OE meargealla, m ergelle
'gentian' (cf. Malborough, Devon; Marlborough, Wiltshire), with French vale 'valley' (an element rare in Staffordshire), so 'the valley with the abundance of gentian'.


MERRIL GROVE 3 miles west of Longnor (SK 0464). Merilgre(a)ve 1556 Deed, 1651 Rental, Merrill Grove c.1870 Rental. From OE (ge)mere, hyll 'boundary hill', with OE grife 'copse', hence 'the copse on the boundary hill'. The place lies at a height of 1290'. Cf. Merrill Farm, Derbyshire.

MERRIL'S HALL or MEROLS (obsolete) on the north-east side of Wolverhampton (SO 948999: TSSAHS XXIV 1982-3 55). The place is said to be recorded in TA 1838, from the Merrill family recorded in Wednesfield: TSSAHS XXIV 1982-3 55.

MERRY HILL in Brierley Hill (SO 9286), Murihull 1327 SHC VII (i) 246, Murtyull 1332 SHC X 86, Murihill 1340 Mander & Tildesley 1960 8, Myrry hill temp. Henry VIII SHC X NS (i) 115, Merry-hill 1686 Plot; MERRY HILL 2 miles south-east of Wolverhampton (SO 8897), Murihill 1340-1 SHC 1928 35, Murhills 1397 (1801) Shaw II *221, Merryhill 1647 Survey, Merry Hill 1895 O.S. From OE myrge 'pleasant, sweet, delightful, agreeable'. Murihurst, recorded in 1327 (SHC VII (i) 248), and Muryhurst, recorded in 1332 (SHC X 87), may be associated with Merry Hill in Brierley Hill.

MERRYTON LOW on Morridge (SK 0460). Meriloneslowe 1223 SHC 4th Series 19 5 fn.3, Merryton Low 1842 O.S. 'The boundary-lane tumulus', from OE (ge)mere, lone, hlâw: there is a Bronze-Age tumulus here which formed a Leek parish boundary-mark (SHC 4th Series 19 5; VCH VII 211).

MESTY CROFT 1 mile east of Wednesbury (SO 9995), probably midway between the crossings of the river Tame at Hydes Road and Crankhall Lane: Dilworth 1976: 103-4. Misty Croft 1684 BCA MS3145/91/2. Perhaps 'the field or little farm with the mistletoe', from OE mistel, with OE croft 'a small enclosure of arable or pasture land, an enclosure near a house'.

MICKLEDALE 1 mile south-west of Abbot's Bromley (SK 0723). Muccledale, Micheldale c.1292 SHC 1937 96. From OE micel 'much, great, large' and OE dæl 'valley': the valley or dale here is now part of Blithfield reservoir.

MICKLE HILLS 1½ miles south-west of Lichfield (SK 0908). Mykyll Hylle, otherwise Pype Hylle 1659 (1798) Shaw I 312, Mickle Hill 1834 O.S. From OE micel, hyll 'big hill'.

MICKLEWOOD 2 miles south-east of Penkridge (SJ 9411). Mykelwode 1467 SHC 1928 145, Myckulwodde 1525 ibid. 146, Micklewood 1657 Survey. From OE micel-wudu 'the big wood'.
MICKLINGS (obsolete) 1 mile south-east of Alton (SK 0841). Micklings 1798 Yates, 1836 O.S. Perhaps from OE micel 'big', with OE ings, perhaps here with the meaning 'hills': see Ekwall 1960: 265, sub. nom. Ingon. The place lies on a junction of parish boundaries, on the side of a 541' hill.

MICKLOW 1 mile south-west of Stone (SJ 8832). Micklowes 1539 MA, the Micklowes alias Michael House...alias Micklocloses 1677 SRO D593/B/19/2/21/1, Micklows (Heath) 1739 SRO D628/19, Micklow 1798 Yates, The Micklow House 1836 O.S. Although early forms are not available (unless Mukelichale 1273 SHC 1911 151 refers to this place, which seems unlikely), the name is from OE micel 'big', with OE hlâw 'hill, mound, tumulus', from some lost burial-mounds which stood here. There are a number of burial mounds recorded in this area.

MIDDLE CLIFF ¼ mile west of Bradnop (SK 0054). Midlesclif 1223 Ward 1843: app. ii, Midlesleclift 1227 Harl, c.1266 StCart, Middelisteclif 1256 Ch, Middle Cliff 1596 Okeover T697, Middle Clff(e) 1676 Leek ParReg. From OE midlest 'middlemost', with OE clif 'cliff, rock, steep descent, promontory', so 'the cliff in the middle of the area'.

MIDDLE FOREST (unlocated, north of Leek.) ? La Foreste 1308 SHC XI NS 257, Middle Forest 1539 SHC IX NS 301, le Midle Forrest 1621 SHC 1934 24. See also High Forest.

MIDDLEHILLS (FARM) in Caldon (SK 0849). Field-names Long Middlehill Close, Further Middlehill Close, Mean Middlehill are recorded in 1664: Okeover T754.

MIDDLETON (obsolete, in Biddulph.) Middleton 1453 SHC XII 16, 1679 SHC XII 7. Chetwynd states in 1679 that Middleton was an alternative name for Middle Biddulph: SHC XII 7.

MIDDLETON (obsolete, in Hammerwich (SK 0607).) ? Middelton 1269 SHC IV 175, Midleton 1370 SHC VIII NS 245, Middleton 1381 VCH XIV 259, 1393 SHC XV 50. 'The middle tan': evidently the place lay between Overton and Netherton (q.v.). The name was still in use in 1871: VCH XIV 259.

MIDDLETON (GREEN) 3 miles south-west of Checkley (SJ 9935). Middleton 1272 SHC IV 187, Midleton 1375 SHC XIII 121, Middleton Greene 1607-8 SHC 1948-9 54. 'Middle tan'.

MILES GREEN 1 mile south-east of Audley (SJ 8049). Miles Greene 1539 SHC NS V 270, Myles Greene 1558 Audley ParReg, Miles Green 1693 Betley ParReg, 1833 O.S. It is unclear whether Mees Green, recorded in 1733 (SHC 1944 7, which does not mention the name Miles Green) refers to this place. If it does, it would explain why StEnc 393 gives a derivation from the Mee family.

MILFORD ¾ miles south-east of Stafford (SJ 9621). Myfforde (flate), Milforde wichale 1570 Survey, Milford 1759 SRO D1798/587, 1770 SRO D1368/3, Milford 1798 Yates, Milton or Milford 1801 Shaw II 325, Milford 1836 O.S. 'The ford with the mill'. Wichale in the 1570 spelling is unexplained, but may be from OE wâl halh: one specialist meaning of wâl is 'salt-works', and this place lies in an area of salt-springs. According to VCH V 3, Milford near Stafford first occurs in the late 18th century. Milfordbrooke, probably in Great Haywood, is recorded in 1611: SRO D603/E/4/5. Muleford, recorded in 1271 (SHC V (i) 154) may refer to a place south of Wolverhampton.

MILK HILL a 938' hill 1 mile north-east of Cauldon (SK 0949). Milkhills 1664 Okeover T754, Miskill (Gate) 1717 Ellastone ParReg, Milkhill 1713 Okeover T761, Milkhill Gate 1747 Poll, Milk Hill
Gate 1775 Yates, Milk Hill (Gate) 1836 O.S. Perhaps from OE meoluc 'milk', with OE hyll 'hill', presumably from the watercourses coloured by limestone quarrying here, with geat 'gate, pass', so 'the opening or pass (or gate) of Milk Hill'. The 1717 spelling is evidently a transcription error.

MILL BROOK a tributary of the river Dane. From OE myl(e)n 'mill'.

MILDALE 1 mile south-east of Alstonefield, on the river Dove (SK 1354). Le Mylne dale 1594 DRO D2375M/57/1, Milndale 1604 SHC 1940 287, ? Milsdale 1633 DRO D258/18/18/2-10, Milldale 1695 Alstonefield ParReg, Mil Dale 1749 Bowen. From OE myl(e)n 'mill' and OE del 'valley'.

MILL DALE FARM ¼ miles north-east of Balterley (SJ 7650). Knights Mill House 1733 SHC 1944 38, Knights Mill 1799 Faden. The place lies on Dean Brook.

MILL FLEAM a tributary of the river Dove which flows to the north of Tutbury and forms part of the Staffordshire-Derbyshire boundary. milne Fleame 1798 Shaw I 56, Fleam or Little Dove 1908 VCH I 357. From OE myl(e)n 'mill', with OE *fleama 'river, stream'. The fleam or mill-stream serving Tutbury Mill.

MILL HOLMES (unlocated, near the river Trent in Yoxall Parish.) Mulneholm 1176 SHC 1914 137, Milne Holmes 1567 SHC IX NS 26. From OE myl(e)n 'mill', with ON holmr'small island, piece of land surrounded by a stream'.

MILLHOUSE (unlocated, in what is now Patshull Park: TSSAHS VIII 1966-7 49; TSSAHS XI 1970-1 35 suggests at SJ 809010). Mulnehouse 1294 SHC VII 10, Mulnehous 1327 SHC VII (i) 251, Mulehouse 1401 (1801) Shaw II 282, Milhoues 1479 SHC VI NS (i) 120. The settlement of this name appears to have been cleared during the creation of the Park in the 1740s: VCH XX 162.

MILL HOUSE FARM on the south-east side of Cheadle (SK 0142). Mulnehouse 1435 SHC XVII 151, Milnehowses 1609 SHC NS III 14, Milnhowse 1617 SHC NS VI (i) 14, Mill House 1836 O.S. From OE myl(e)n hás 'mill-house'.

MILLIAN BROOK a tributary of the river Sow on the north-west of Stafford. Early spellings have not been traced, but perhaps from OE myl(e)n 'mill', influenced by the word million.

MILMEECE 3 miles north of Eccleshall (SJ 8333). Mess 1086 DB, Mes 1208 Cur, Meis 1218 Cl (these forms could be for Cold Meece), Mulnemes 1289 SHC XV 19, Mylmes 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 104, Mill Meece 1833 O.S. From OE mëos 'a moss, a marsh, a bog' or from the nearby river Meece or Meese Brook (q.v.), with OE myl(e)n 'mill'. See also Heamies, above.

MILST (unlocated, in or near Leek.) Milst 1662 et freq Leek ParReg. This may be an abbreviated form of Mill Street, which is described as a hamlet in 1548: Leek Court Rolls PRO SC2/202/65.

MILTON 4 miles north-east of Stoke on Trent (SJ 9050). Mulneton 1227 (1843) Ward 1843: app. iv, c.1287 ibid. 296, Milton 1539 MA, Mylton 1613-4 SHC 1934 31, Milton Milne 1625 JNSFC LX 1925-6 73, Million 1749 Bowen. From OE myl(e)n-tán 'mill tân'.

MILWICH Ancient Parish (pronounced Mill-ich [milich]) 5 miles south-east of Stone (SJ 9732). Melewich, Mylewiche 1086 DB, Mulewich 1166 SHC 1923 296, 1177 SHC XII NS 278, Mulewyz
c.1192 SHC VI (i) 12, Millevyz 1236 Fees, Mulewis 1242 Fees, Molewyke 1286 SHC VI (i) 161, 
Millevyz 1288 ibid. 174, Molewych 1337 SHC 1913 63, Mylwyche 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 59. From 
OE myl(e)n 'mill', with OE wi. The place is in an area of salt springs (see e.g. Ingestre, Salt, 
Shirleywich), and lies on salt strata, so the specialised meaning of wic 'salt-working place' is possible.

MINNBANK 3 miles south-west of Madeley (SJ 7540). Mynn Bank 19th century SRO D3211/99, 
Minnbank 1920 O. S. Early spellings have not been traced - the place does not appear on the 1833 1" 
O.S. map - but unless the name is recent, it would seem to be from Welsh mynyd 'a hill', which was 
adopted as OE myned (see Coates & Breeze 2000: 335): the place lies on a pronounced hill of 541'. 
See also Minnie Farm. Cf. Bosley Minn and Wincle Minn, on high ground between Bosley and Wincle 
in Derbyshire, near the Staffordshire border (SJ 9466).

MINNIE FARM 1 mile south-west of Audley (SJ 7948). Early spellings have not been traced, but if 
the name is ancient (it does not appear on the 1833 1" O. S. map, but the printed Audley ParReg. 
suggests that it is found in the registers as Minna), perhaps from Welsh mynydd 'a hill', which was 
adopted as OE myned: the place lies on the northern flanks of a pronounced ridge. See also Minnbank.

MIRES BROOK a tributary of the river Blithe. Perhaps from OE myrr 'bog, swampy ground'.

MITHAM unlocated, on the river Trent near Hanford, possibly at the junction with the river Lyne. the 
Mitham where the two river meet 1689 Ward 1843: app. lxii, the Mytham 1739 SRO D593/B/1/14/10. 
From OE (ge)m9be (a derivative of maßa) 'the confluence of streams'. See also Mythaholme.

MITTON 2½ miles west of Penkridge (SJ 8815). Mutone 1086 DB, Muton' (p) 1194 Cur, Mutton 
1203 SHC III 105, Muiton' (p) 1221 Ass, Mitton 1236 Fees, Mutton' 1242 Fees. From OE (ge)m9be-tân 
'the tân near the confluence of streams'. The place lies near the confluence of Church Eaton Brook and 
a stream flowing from the north.

MIXON 5 miles north-east of Leek (SK 0457). Myxle 1167 Eyton 1854-60: X 36, Mixa 1199 SHC III 
(i) 53, Mixenn, Mixene 1203 ibid. 122, Mixne 1219 FF, 1227 Ch, Mixene 1256 Ch, Mixen 1274 SHC VI 
(i) 64, Mixene 1333 SHC X 116. From OE mixen 'the dunghill'.

MOAT BANK (HOUSE) between Wall and Muckley Corner (SK 0806). The Moat House 1633 SRO 
D15/10/1/14, Moat Bank 1834 O.S. From ME mote 'a hillock, mound entrenchment; a moat; a 
protective ditch filled with water'. According to VCH XIV 292 the name is from a rabbit warren in the 
form of an embankment with protective ditch which existed near here in 1450, but see also Pipehill; 
Pipe Grange.

MOAT BROOK a tributary of the river Penk forming part of the boundary between Brewood and 
Codsall. mot-brooke 1638 Codsall ParReg, the Moatbrook 1798 ibid. Probably from a former moated 
site at Moor Hall (q.v.) or Wood Hall (q.v.), Codsall: VCH XX 79, 82. The stream seems to have been 
called Longmeadow brook in 1411: VCH XX 34. Since Bilbrook (q.v.) is believed to have taken its 
name from this stream, it is perhaps surprising that the stream is not named Billerbrook or similar.

MOAT FARM 1 mile north-west of Audley (SJ 7851), Matt (Meadow) 1689 SRO DW1826/26, Mott 
1733 SHC 1944 1, 1799 Faden, Moathouse 1890 O.S.; MOAT HALL, MOAT HILL, MOAT LANE
¼ mile south of Newborough (SK 135246), le Motte lone 1499 SRO DW1733/A/3/15, Moat Hall, Moat Lane Gate 1836 O.S. From ME mote ‘a hillock, mound entrenchment; a moat; a protective ditch filled with water’.

MOBBERTLEY 1 mile south of Cheadle (SK 0041). Mobberley (brook) 1668 SRO D1275/7/15, Moberly 1798 Yates, Mobberley 1836 O.S. Early spellings have not been traced, but since Thomas Maberley held land hereabouts in 1565 (SHC XIII 245), and William Mobberley in 1588 and 1597 (SHC XV 186; SHC XVI 170), it is possible that it has been transferred from Mobberley in Cheshire. If not, and ancient, the name was perhaps originally OE gemôlt-borg, léah ‘the wood or woodland clearing with an assembly mound’, possibly associated with the ancient earthworks at Castle Croft (q.v.). Mobberley Baen (see Castle Croft) is unexplained.

MOBBERLEY BROOK a tributary of the river Tean. See Mobberley.

MOCKBEGGAR HALL (obsolete) in Essington parish, 4 miles north-west of Walsall (SJ 9704). Mockbeggar Hall 1808 Baugh. A curious brick oval-plan three storey building with gothic windows on the first floor (illustration StEnc 398) erected in the 18th century as miners' tenements by the Vernons of Hilton Hall on heathland in Essington Wood. The name Mockbeggar became popular after its use in a poem of 1622 by John Taylor (1580-1653, a seaman, pedestrian and author of doggerel verse who became known as 'the Water-Poet' because he was at one time a Thames waterman), and came to mean 'a house with an inviting external aspect, but within poor and bare, and therefore disappointing to those who come to beg' (EDD), here because travellers on the London road who saw the conspicuous building and made a long detour to beg alms found it occupied by the poor. John Taylor made several journeys around England in the first half of the 17th century, and visited Lichfield and Stone in 1639, but there is no evidence that he was in any way directly connected with this place. Shaw 1801: II (unpublished sheets 320) says of nearby Great Wyrley: 'The collieries here are very flourishing, and give employment to numerous inhabitants of this populous hamlet, yet Wyrley bank is still proverbial for its paupers begging about the distant country'. The building, demolished in 1936, was at what is now known as Springhill, and became known as Colliers Castle later in the century: 1895 O.S. Oakden 1984: 50 states that Colliers Castle derives from a sarcastic reference to the coaltips here, but it was almost certainly so-called from the miners who lived in the hall. See also Hackwood 1896: 120, who mentions this place and another place of the same name in Harborne. Mockbeggar's Hall is also recorded at Rocester: TNSFC 1927 168.

MODDERSHALL 2½ miles north-east of Stone (SJ 9236). Modredeshale 1086 DB, Modreshalle 1305 SHC VIII (i) 162, Mothersall 1551 SHC XII 209, 1708 SBT DR10/1401, Mottershaw, Mothershaw 1747 Poll, Moddershall 1836 O.S. 'Môdrâd's halh'. Withnall Forest (alias Moddershall Heath) is recorded in 1696 (SRO DW1742/14-17), and Mothersall Heath (alias Withnall Forest in Kibblestone) is recorded in 1808: SRO D593/B/120/9-10: see also Withnall.

MODEN HILL at Cotwall End (SO 9193). Mouldenhill 1587 Sedgley ParReg, Modenhill 1658 ibid, Modernhill 1662 ibid, Modern Hill 1847 Hackwood 1898: 37. Perhaps from OE molda 'top of the head' (cf. ON *moldi), used in a topographical sense of a hill-top, so here 'the hill with the tops'. Moldi is a common name for hills in Norway. Cf. Mouldsworth, Cheshire.
MOISTY LANE on the west side of Marchington. Mistelane 1617 D4038/A/6/1, Mistorfield's Lane 1636 Redfern 1886: 127, Mistelane (Close) 1663 SRO D4038/A/6/2, Mistey Lane SRO D4038/A/6/7, Misteylane 1685 SRO D4038/A/6/1/viii). Redfern 1886: 17 mentions 'Moisty or, as old writings call it, Mister Field's Lane...'. Perhaps therefore 'the lane associated with Mr Field', rather than 'mistletoe lane' or 'the lane with the fields with trees on which mistletoe grows', from OE mistel,

MOISTY LANE on the west side of Marchington. Mistelane 1617 D4038/A/6/1, Mistorfield's Lane 1636 Redfern 1886: 127, Mistelane (Close) 1663 SRO D4038/A/6/2, Mistey Lane SRO D4038/A/6/7, Misteylane 1685 SRO D4038/A/6/1/viii). Redfern 1886: 17 mentions 'Moisty or, as old writings call it, Mister Field's Lane...'. Perhaps therefore 'the lane associated with Mr Field', rather than 'mistletoe lane' or 'the lane with the fields with trees on which mistletoe grows', from OE mistel,

MOLEHOUSE 2 miles east of Biddulph (SJ 9156). Moles House 1842 O. S. Possibly to be associated with Moll 1634 Biddulph ParReg.

MOLINEUX on the west side of Wolverhampton (SO 9199). Mr. Molineuxe's Close 1751 Taylor. From the family of that name (said to have come to England from Flanders in 1307) who were prominent in the town in the first half of the 18th century. The house known as Molineux House was built by the ironmaster John Rotten in 1744, and was owned by the Molineux ironmaking family from 1754 to 1860: ES 6 August 2003. See also WA II 28-33; StEnc 399. A stadium for Wolverhampton Wanderers Football Club was created here in 1889.

MONETVILE (unlocated) Stafford. Monetvile 1086 DB. A name found in DB but otherwise unrecorded, unless 14th-century references to a field-name Munthull(e) (Darlington 2001: 15) refer to the same place, which seems quite possible. Nigel de Munevilla is recorded in Parker 1897: 19, but the place is unidentified. The name Monetvile has long intrigued historians. It has been suggested that the place, which almost certainly formed part of the manor of Bradley (VCH IV 3), was a small estate granted for the upkeep of Stafford Mint (SHC XI NS 227-30; VCH IV 53 fn.), and was from monetae villa 'the vill of the mint': the existence of a mint at Stafford in the time of Edward the Confessor is well recorded, and three mint-masters are known from the reign of William I (SHC 1927 210). The Latin word monet (OE mynet) is associated with minting (Latham 1965: 303), often appearing on early coins in full or abbreviated to mean 'moneyer', and DB has references to mints or moneyers (de moneta) in Dorchester, Bridport, Hereford, Leicester, Huntingdon, Lewes, Shrewsbury, Wareham, Worcester, Colchester, Ipswich and Norwich. The DB record for York contains a reference to Nigel de Monnevile who held one mansion formerly the property of a certain moneyer (cujusaam monetarii). The design of coinage was changed every two or three years, and it was an offence to use obsolete coinage. It seems that moneyers normally operated from their own private workshops which may have been concentrated in a particular area of the town: see Lapidge et al 1999: 318. Moneyers were taxed personally in respect of their office until William the Conqueror imposed the tax of the mint ('geldum monetae') on the town, or in the case of some towns a tax de monetae, which in some Domesday entries is specifically said to be payable by the moneyers. Each town had its fixed establishment of moneyers, ranging from one-moneyer units up to a seven-moneyer mint at Hereford and Canterbury and an eight-moneyer mint at London. Domesday Book implies that the sheriff or other authorities dealt with the moneyers of a town as a group for revenue purposes. A bishop or abbot might have had a moneyer, as for example in the case of Hereford. See specially Metcalf 1987: 281; 284; 287. Monetvile may have been where the Stafford moneyer(s) operated, but it is unclear whether a minting place outside the town has parallels elsewhere. A possible derivation of the name from French mont 'hill' and ville 'town' might
be appropriate for a new settlement away from the old low-lying site of Stafford, but no parallels have
been traced for either of the nouns mont or ville used quasi-adjectivally either in French place-names or
place-names in England of French origin: Gelling 2001. There is the possibility that the word monet is
connected with PrWelsh mónith, Welsh mynydd, OE munt, myned, OFr, ME mont 'a mount, a hill',
meaning 'hill town': the place has tentatively been identified as Castle Church (q.v.), which lies at the
foot of the prominent hill on which stands Stafford Castle. It may be noted that the DB reference to 'the
vill of Burton' may be Burton in Castle Church (see VCH IV 49 fn.13), which may have adjoined
Monetville. Castle Hill (Castelhull' 1439 MinA.) is the only prominent hill in the area unaccounted for
by name by early antiquaries: see SHC VIII (ii) 13-4, 16; also TSHCS 1971-3 11. Cf. Menutton,
Shropshire (Munetune 1086, Monetone' 1272, 1284), and Myndtown, Shropshire (Munete 1086, PN Sa I
201, 217; III 228-9); Minton (unlocated), in Worcestershire (Moneton, Munton 1275, 1332, PN Wo
49); and Munentone in Mold, Flintshire, recorded in DB but unlocated (Davies 1959: 114). However,
Gelling 2001: Appendix 1 notes that the ridge on which Stafford castle stands is probably not high
enough to deserve the name Mynydd, and if Munthull(e) is to be identified with Monetville, the former
is described as lying 'next to the road which leads from the castle towards Billington' (Darlington 2001:
15), suggesting that it lay to the west of the castle and some distance from it, and its precise location
remains unidentified. For completeness, it may be added that names of this type are said to have been
associated with an Anglo-Norman form of low Latin munita, for immunitas, 'privileged district, one
free from seignorial rights': see Johnston 1914: 370. Finally, it must not be forgotten that the name
Monetville in this single spelling may be slightly or utterly corrupt, as not uncommonly the case in DB.

MONKEY GREEN West Bromwich. The development of this area in the early 19th century was
financed by a building society, and it has been suggested that the name may come from a slang
expression 'a monkey on the house', meaning a mortgage (VCH XVII 10, see also EDD 150), but
monkey was also a dialect term for a young hare: see Field 1993: 74; EDD 150.

MONKFORD (obsolete, in Cheddleton). Monckesford 1254 SHC 1911 123, Munecford c.1254 ibid.
441, Munksford c.1255 ibid. 440, Muncford 1261 ibid. 427, Munkford c.1275 ibid. 442, Munkeford
1327 SHC VII (i) 217, Munkeforde 1413 SHC XVII 43. 'The ford of the monks', presumably to be
associated with Dieulacres Abbey. It may be noted that Mungesfordseye is recorded here in the 13th
century (Dieulacres), the final element from OE o7g'island'.

MONKSBRIDGE (obsolete) The old bridge where Icknield Street crossed the river Dove north of
Burton upon Trent: see Plot 1686: 400. pontem de Egintona super aquam de Dove 1255 BurtAbSurv,
pontem Monachorum 1330 Ass, le Munkbrugg' 1383 Cor, Monkebrigge 1394 Pat, Lytulmonkbryge
1406 Ch, Monkysbryge 1465 SHC 1939 128, Monks-bridg 1686 Plot 400, Monks Bridge 1775 Yates.
From OE munuc, brycg 'the monk's bridge'. Shaw 1798: I 26 states that the bridge, formerly called the
bridge of Egenton (from nearby Egginton in Derbyshire), was so-named because it was erected by John
de Stretton, prior of Burton. See also PN Db 459-60.

MONKS WOOD (obsolete) 1 mile south-east of Cheddleton (SJ 9751). Monkes woode 1529 StarCh,
Monkes Woode c.1535 SHC X NS I 144, Monks Wood 1836 O.S. Self-explanatory. The place was held
by Dieulacres Abbey: SHC X NS I 148.
MONMORE 1 mile south-east of Wolverhampton (SO 9397), Monnemere c.1240 WA II 95, Monnemere 1291 Tax, Monnemere 1327 SHC VII (i) 249, Monnemefeld 1355, Monnemere 1385 SHC 1928 131, Monmore 16th century Duig, Monmore Greene 1707 SHC 1938 229; MONMORE LANE ¼ mile north-east of Willenhall (SO 9798), Monnemedewe 14th century, Monnemefeld 1550 Duig, Number Lane 1834 O.S.; MONWAY FIELDS ¼ mile east of Wednesbury (SO 9995), Moummer Field 1538 SHC 1912 113, Monway Field, Monway Gate 1682 SRO DW1813/1/4. Perhaps from the common OE personal name Mann(a) or Monn(e), or OE mann, monn 'a man', denoting in the plural 'community', with OE mere 'lake, pool, mere' (which frequently becomes more in place-names), or medewe 'meadow'. All the places are low lying. Mon-Moor meadow (unlocated) in Cannock is recorded in Shaw 1801: II unpublished sheets 319.

Mons Hill between Tipton and Upper Gornal (SO 9392). Monshull 1294 SHC 1911 222, Mounshull 1307 SHC VII (i) 173, Mounsalls 1562 SHC XIII 221, Mouncels 1563 Erdeswick 1844: 241, Mons Hill 1812 mining plan, 1834 O.S. Possibly from the ON personal name Man, so 'Man's hill'.

MOOR END (FARM) 1 mile north of Gnosall (SJ 8322). the Moor 1381 SHC XVII 203, Moreend 1586 SHC 1927 134, Moor End 1655 Church Eaton ParReg, More End 1677 Gnosall ParReg, Moor End 1834 O.S. Self-explanatory.

MOOR FARM 1 mile north-east of Tamworth (SK 2205). The place lies on Warwickshire Moor (q.v.), and was in Warwickshire until transferred to Staffordshire in 1965.

MOORFIELDS - see RODNEY HALL.

MOOR HALL near Penkridge. Mora 1227 Ass, (la) Mor 1261 Penkridge Inq, 1285 FA, 1293, 1345 Coram R, 1312 Pat, Morehalle 1475 SHC VI NS (i) 95, The Mor Hall 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 88, manerium de Morehall 1548 Survey, the more Hall 1578 ibid, Moorhall 1598 Ct, the Morehall 1616 Penkridge ParReg. From OE mor 'the marshland', with hall added later. The moor may have been ofer duone mor mentioned in the bounds of Bedintun (Pillaton) in a charter of 996 (11th century, S.879): see Hart 1975: 196-8; Hooke 1983: 90-3. Sawyer 1968: 270 gives this charter date as 993. Perhaps the same moor as Mor, recorded in 1261: SHC 1927 110. Moor Hall 1 mile west of Madeley appears on the 1833 O.S. map. Moorhall at Wall, near Lichfield, is recorded c.1562: SHC 1931 159.

MOOR HALL 1 mile east of Bagnall (SJ 9450), Morehalle 1415 SHC XVII 52, Moor Hall 1775 Yates; MOOR HALL (obsolete) 1 mile north of Gnosall (SJ 8322), a prebendal manor house, Morehall 1360 Pat, 1496 SHC 4th Series VII 170; MOOR HALL (obsolete) 2 miles west of Codsall (SJ 8503), Moor Hall 1538 VCH XX 82, a formerly moated site, the hall having been demolished by 1796 (ibid.). From OE mor, giving 'the hall on marshy ground', but the first name may be from John le More, prebendary there in 1338: SHC 1927 110. Moor Hall 1 mile west of Madeley appears on the 1833 O.S. map. Moorhall at Wall, near Lichfield, is recorded c.1562: SHC 1931 159.

MOORLANDS, THE a district in the north of the county, north-west of Leek. Mora juxta Lech 13th century Dieul, the Moorland 1329 VCH VII 78, Moreland(e) 1414 Coram, SHC XVII 20, c.1540 Leland, Moreland Hills 1610 Speed, the Moorelands 1644 SHC 4th Series I 149, Moreland hills 1798.
Shaw I 88. From OE mór 'a high tract of barren uncultivated land', and OE land 'a tract of land of large area'.


**MOORSIDE** ½ mile south-west of Onecote (SK 0454). Moorside 1745 SRO D3816/2/5/1. Self-explanatory.

**MOORVILLE (HALL)** 1 mile south-east of Cellarhead (SJ 9546). Moorville 1836 O.S.

**MORA** (unlocated, in Wolverhampton manor.) Mora c.1249 SHC 1911 144.

**MOREHAY** (unlocated, in Colton.) Morehay 1391 SHC XV 33. See also Littlehay.

**MORETON** 1 mile north-east of Colwich (SK 0222), Mortone 1086 FA, Moreton 1461 HAME 485, Malton 1613 SHC 1931 271, Moreton 1798 Yates; MORETON 3 miles south-east of Newport (SJ 7817), Mortone 1086 DB, Morton 1280 SHC VI (i) 148, Morton, Mortone, Moorton 1381 SHC XVII 199; MORETON 1¼ miles south-east of Marchington (SK 1529), Mortone 1086 DB, Morton 1244 SHC IV 102, 1610 SHC III NS 51. From OE mór-tán 'tun by a marsh or fen'. The 'manor or reputed manor of Moreton, Rugeley' recorded in 1705 (SRO 1237/59/60) is presumably to be associated with Moreton near Colwich. A very common place-name: over 50 are recorded in DB.

**MORETON BROOK** a tributary of the river Trent. *Mortonbrook* 1395, 1467 Ct. 'The stream by Moreton (q.v.).'

**MORFE** 1 mile north of Enville (SO 8288). Moerheb, Morheb 736 (8th century, S.89), Morve 1086 DB, Morf 1123 SHC 1932 298, Morve 1166 P, Morf 1166 SHC I 49, Morf 1235 SHC 1924 387, 1268 *ibid.* 140, 1271 SHC VI (i) 52, Overmorffe, Nedermorf 1470 SHC NS IV 166, Morfe House, Little Morfe, Morfe Hall, Morfe Heath Farm 1833 O.S. An interesting name, usually held to be British, perhaps a shortening of PrWelsh *mór*, Welsh mawr 'big', with dref 'village', or from Welsh morfa 'a marsh, an upland moor', although the loss of *tr* as early as the 8th century would be surprising (see Coates & Breeze 2000: 334), and the topography makes such a meaning questionable. Professor Richard Coates tentatively suggests (personal communication 2 April 2002) a derivation from British *mārosanjo* or *mārosamjon* 'greatsummer-place'; which would give *mörhef* in Brittonic, and if that survived into OWelsh, possible OE renditions morheb and morhef, with the *h* dropped as in later Welsh compounds where the stress is on the first syllable, but doubts the plausibility of any such name. The name Morfe is historically attached to the ancient Forest of Morfe (Morfe forest 1613 SRO D593/I/14/2/15), which appears to have covered a large area from Enville to Quatford: Eyton 1864-60: III 212 records that it was 'at least 8 miles in length, and perhaps 6 in width. Its northern boundary was the Worfe, and its south-eastern extremity by Morf hamlet'. *The Morf Common* 1732 Rocque and Morf Farm 1833 O.S., 1½ miles south-east of Bridgnorth, now Common Farm, indicate the extent of the area. The charter in which the earliest spellings are found is a grant by Æthelbald, king of the Mercians, to Cynebert of land for a monastery at Husmere (see Whitelock 1955: 450
The grant mentions silvam quam nominant cynibre and silva moreb, 'the wood called Cynibre' and 'Moreb wood'. Those places later evolved into the adjoining royal forests of Morfe and Kinver, with Kinver lying in the south-west corner of Staffordshire and part of north-west Worcestershire, and Morfe lying between Kinver and the river Severn. It has been suggested that Moerheb is probably the same word as the 12th century Morref (Moray, Scotland): see McClure 1910: 260. A lost wood-name Morezyf, Moreyf is found in Westbury, Wiltshire, in the 13th century (see Mawer 1929: 2-3; PN Bk xiii), probably from OE morgen-gifu 'a morning gift': see Morrey and Morghull. For the suggestion that Moerheb is to be identified as Kidderminster Heath see King 1979: 73-91; Dark 1994.

MORFE VALLEY 2 miles south-west of Claverley (SO 7791). See Morfe.

MORGHULL (obsolete, to the south-west of Streethay, north-east of Lichfield: see Harwood 1806: 566; SHC VII (i) 227; VCH XIV 275.) Morschale c. 1157 SHC 1924 87, Morehale c. 1177 ibid. 83, Morschale c. 1208 ibid. 89, Mornhale post-1268 ibid. 347, Mogenhall 1278 SHC 1911 35, Morehale 1302 SHC 1939 91, Morwhale 1303 ibid, Morghale 1319 ibid. 93, Morghale 1344 SHC XII 35, Moghale 1347 SHC 1939 120, Morughale 1348 SHC XII 15, Morghwhale 1309 SHC 1939 120, Morghwhale 1513 SHC XII 181, Morfall otherwise Murrall otherwise Mortall 1571 SHC XVII 218, Moford 1571 SHC IV NS 192, Marfowle 1588 SHC XVII 235, Morehaghe otherwise Morghall 1601 SHC XVI 208, Morghall otherwise Morefall otherwise Mortall 1618 SHC VI NS (i) 32, Morfall 1678 SRO DW1738/A/1/1, Morghull 1798 Shaw I 363. See also SHC VI (ii) 187 fn; Shaw 1798: I 121, 363. Some forms suggest a possible derivation from OE mór, hrycg, halh 'moorland ridge halh', but the topography alone rules out such derivation, but the most likely derivation (as suggested in VCH XIV) is from OE morgen-gifu 'a morning gift': Anglo-Saxon marriages (which were arranged by parents) were in two stages, the 'wedding' or pledging, at which terms were agreed and the bride-price paid, and the 'gift', or giving-away, accompanied by feasting: see Whitelock 1930: Addenda; Lapidge et al 1999: 302-3. Place-names incorporating morgen-gifu are found in various parts of the country: see for example PN Ess 276, PN Wa 224, PN W 186. After the Conquest a medial g with a back vowel invariably gives w, hence Modern morrow; see also Morrey. The second element is almost certainly OE halh. VCH XIV 275 suggests that the place may have been deserted by the 1480s (though Shaw 1798: I 363 describes it as 'a small hamlet', so perhaps repopulated). Its location, possibly near Bexmore Farm, is indicated by Valley Lane (formerly Morughale Lane), on the north-east side of Lichfield.

MORICEMOR (unlocated, in Dilhorne.) Moricemor 1679 SHC 1914 91. Said to be from Morice de Stanton, a forester: ibid. It is unclear whether Morelesmor, recorded in 1306 (SHC 1911 65) is to be associated with this place.

MORLAND (unlocated) Morland 1414 SHC XVII 15. 'The land on the moor'.

after the Conquest a medial g with a back-vowel invariably becomes w, and there are early examples of the shortening of the compound: see Moor Farm, PN Ess 276), literally ‘morning gift’, meaning ‘land given by a man to his bride on the morning after their marriage’ (Whitelock 1930: Addenda; Mawer 1929: 19; Lapidge et al 1999: 302-3): cf. Morghull, and field-names The Murray and Black Morray in Shropshire (Foxall 1980: 62), The Morrey, Hampshire, and Morrif, Warwickshire (Field 1972: 142). Middle Morrey and Higher Morrey are 5 miles north-west of Market Drayton in Shropshire, but the derivation has not been researched.

**MORRIDGE** a high ridge over 3 miles long, mainly in Onecote, Leek (SK 0254), Morridge hill c.1233 BM, Morrug(ge) 1227 Harl, 1254 to 1345 Loxdale, 1340 (p) Ipm, 1374 Coram, Mor(r)usage c.1278 St Cart et freq to 1634 Bradnop Deeds, Morregge 1328 SRO D1229/1/4/52, Moryche Eliz ChancP, Mor(r)e(d)g(e) 1413 ProcJP, 1591 QSR, 1662 Okeover Deeds, Morgage Syde 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 31, Mor(r)idge 1570 Pat, 1612 FF, 1713 Will, 1659 (1883) Sleigh 3, ? Moreage 1611 SHC III NS 48, (Black Mare of) Morridge 1749 Bowen; MORRIDGE TOP 1½ miles south-east of Flash (SK 0365), Moryche 1564 SHC 1938 99. 'The moorland ridge', or perhaps in some cases 'the moorland edge' from OE mör 'moorland' and OE hrycg 'ridge' or OE ecg 'edge, the crest of a sharp ridge'. The varied spellings also reflect differing local pronounciations: those with -u- reflect the West Midland pronunciation of hrycg - see Rugeley. The Black Mare of 1749 is probably to be read as Blackshaw (q.v.).

**MORRILLOW** 2 miles north-east of Milwich (SJ 9835). Warilare 1227 SHC IV 52, Woralawe c.1230 SHC VI (i) 11, Warylowe 1266 SHC IV 160, Warrilowlowe c.1285 SHC 1911 436, Warlowe 1293 SHC VI (i) 239, 1305 SHC VIII (i) 153, 1341 SHC 1921 19, Werrelow 1302 SHC 1925 97, Werelowe 1349 SHC XII 81, Warelowe 1475 SHC VI NS (i) 94, Warrilowe 1522 SHC 1925 121, Wariloe 1559 SHC 1926 138, Warralowe 1559 ibid. 139, Warriloe 1583 ibid. 53, Warrilowe 1611 SHC IV NS 13, Morrelowe, Morreloewa 1645 SRO D1367, Morrilow 1742 SRO D1380/1/9, Moralow Heath 1798 Yates, Morrillow Heath 1836 O.S., Mariley Heath 1837 TA. If the early spellings are to be identified with this place (Worrylowefeld 1332 SRO D1229/1/4/12, Warrylowefelda 1413 SRO D1229/1/4/15, Warrowlo Field 1655 NA DD/4/P/24/2, Warrilow 1672 SRO D615/D/149 was in Cheadle: SHC 1934 7), the derivation may be from OE wearg-hlaw, where the meaning may be 'felon-mound or tumulus', i.e. where felons were hanged, but wearg also meant 'wolf', so possibly 'wolf-mound or tumulus': see JEPNS 27 94-5. The surprisingly late change from W- to M- is curious, and presumably due to 17th century mistranscriptions of two easily-confused capitals. See Warrilow Brook.

**MOSE** 1 mile south-east of Quatford (SO 7590). Mose 1262 Eyton 1854-60: III 194, c.1300 Rees 1997: 154, 1833 O.S. From OE mos (associated with OE mōs) 'bog, swamp, morass'. In Shropshire since the 12th century.

**MOSELEY** in Bushbury parish, 3 miles north of Wolverhampton (SJ 9204), Moleslei 1086 DB, Mollesleg 1227 Ass, Mollesle 1242 Fees, 1286 SHC V (i) 169, Molesle 1255 SHC V (i) 113, Moleston, Moles 1271 SHC V (i) 149, Mollesle 1286 ibid. 169, 1332 SHC X 126, Moleseye, Mollesleye 13th century Duig; MOSELEY 1 mile west of Hollinsclough (SK 0466), Mollesleye 1327 SHC VII (i) 250, 1333 (p) ibid; MOSELEY 1½ miles north of Bilston (SO 9498), Mollesleye,
Molesley 12th and 13th century Duig, Mollesleg 1227 SHC IV 52, Molleston 1273 SHC VI (i) 59, Mollesleye 1327 SHC VII (i) 250, Mollesley 1333 SHC X 127. From the common OE personal name Moll, hence 'Moll's lēah' (and in 1273 tūn).

Moss (obsolete, ¼ mile south-west of Shenstone (SK 1003)), le Mosse 1305 SHC XVII 269, Mosse 1531 (1801) Shaw II 47, 1564 SHC XVII 245, (Manour of) Mosehouse 1665 TSAS VII 1918-9 32, The Moss 1834 O.S.; MOSS ½ miles west of Talke (SJ 8053), The Moss House 1621 SRO DW1082/B/5/1-13, Mosse House 1833 O.S.; MOSS BEDS on the west side of Uttoxeter (SK 0734), le Mos 1306 SHC 1911 67. From OE mōs 'a bog, a swamp'. The first place, granted to the abbots of Osney in 1129 (SHC XVII 245), appears to have changed its name c.1900 to Shenstone Court. Beds may refer to the flat surface of a wet bog.

Moss Carr 1 mile south-east of Hollinsclough (SK 0765). Mofcure 1402-3 DRO D2375M/1/1, Mofcure (? Moscure) 1416-7 ibid, Musture 1474-5 ibid, Moscare 1566 Deed, Mosker 1599 Alstonefield ParReg, Mescorbrooke 1603 ibid., Moscarrbrooke DRO D2375M/106/27, Moscarr 1614 DRO D2375M/57/1, Moss Carr 1775 Yates. Perhaps from ON mōsi 'moss, lichen; bog, swamp', with ON kjarr 'brushwood', so 'the boggy ground overgrown with brushwood'. The two earliest spellings almost certainly have transcription errors.

Moss Fields (obsolete) on the north side of Adderley Green (SJ 9245). Mossfields 1679 Caverswall ParReg, Moss Fields 1836 O.S. From OE mōs 'a bog, a swamp', so 'the boggy fields'.


Mosslee Hall 1½ miles north-west of Ipstones (SK 0050). Moseliye 1298 SHC XI NS 257, Maysileg' 13th century Dieul, Moselegh (p) 1311 Ipm, Moseley 1583 Visitation, Moslee 1644 SHC 4th Series I 227, Mosseley 1609 Antrobus, Moselie 1686 Plot, Mossleigh 1775 Yates. From OE mos lēah 'the mossy or boggy lēah'.

Mossley on the west side of Bloxwich (SJ 9802). Mosley, Moseley 1665 ibid, Mosley 1613 SHC IV NS 42, Mosley Field 1834 O.S. From OE mos 'a bog, a swamp', with OE lēah. StEnc 405 records the name Matteslye c.1300, but no source is given, and an association with this place seems improbable.

Moss Pit 1½ miles south of Stafford (SJ 9220). ? le mosse 1548 SHC 1950-1 41, Moss Pit Bank 1725 SRO D856/1, Mospit bank 1749 Bowen, Moss Pit 1775 Yates, Mospit 1836 O.S. From OE mos-pytt 'the mossy or boggy pit or hollow'. A large pit or hollow, probably an ancient quarry, lies on the west side of the main Stafford to Wolverhampton road.

Moss Pool Meretown (SJ 7520). Moss poole 1686 Plot 46, Moss Pool 1833 O.S. From OE mos 'a moss, a marsh, a bog'

Moss Wood, Mosswood Farm Cannock. Mossefurlong 1369 Ct, mosses flatt 1570 Survey, the mosses 1570 Survey, le mosses als le mosse 1580 Anglesey Ch. From OE mos 'bog, swamp'.
MOTCARN SPRINK 1 mile east of Middle Mayfield (SK 1345). Motcarn Sprink 1836 O.S. Possibly from OE (ge)mōt, which had two meanings, 'a meeting, an assembly', and 'a junction of streams', with Welsh carn 'a heap of stones, a cairn', and sprink representing a form of spring, 'newly-planted trees or coppiced trees with new shoots', so 'the tree shoots at the cairn where assemblies took place', or 'the tree shoots at the stream junction' (two streams join here), but in the absence of early spellings such derivation must remain speculative, and indeed the name may not be ancient. Cf. Mayfield; Harlow Wood.

MOTE, LE (obsolete) a moated site adjoining Lapley Priory. le mote 1338 SHC 1913 70, 1389 Inq. From ME mote 'a moat, ditch or trench'. See also TSSAHS XXIV 1982-3 44.

MOTELOWE - see MOTTLEY PITS.

MOTES an unlocated manor, possibly near Loxley. Motes c.1594 SRO DW1733/A/1/4[7].

MOTTLEY PITS at Common Plot, Stonefield, 1 mile north-west of Stone (SJ 8935). Motley Pits 1798 Act, Mudley Pits 1860 P. O.; Mottley Pits Terraces 1908 VCH. A name of unknown age (it is unclear whether Motelow, recorded several times in the 14th century, e.g. SHC XII (i) 74, 130; SHC 1913 325, refers to this place), given to earthworks here which are probably old gravel pits and the remains of ridge and furrow, with lynches on the boundary bank adjoining an old road: see TNSFC 1881 23; TNSFC 1898 32 133-155; TNSFC 1936 70 91; VCH I 373-4. Possibly from OE (ge)mōt, here meaning 'meeting, assembly, moot', with OE lēah (or OE hlēaw), so 'the lēah (or mound or tumulus) where assemblies were held': meeting places were often at mounds. There is no evidence to support local tradition (see for example Erdeswick 1844: 38) that the earthworks are associated with the Civil War or the Duke of Cumberland's forces in 1745.

MOTTY MEADOWS 1 mile south-west of Marston (SJ 8213). Mutty Meadow 1682 SHC 1309, (Great) Motty Meadow 1735 SHC II (ii) 145, 1841 TA, Motty meadow, Mutty meadow 1798 Shaw I 110, 113. Duignan suggests that the name here may mean 'a small lump or mound' (from ME mote), and Oakden 1984: 130 gives 'spotted', which may be from the local dialect motty 'mottled' (from OFr mot), perhaps with reference to the chequered flowerheads of Fritillaries which have long grown in abundance here: see Shaw 1798: I 104, who mentions the 'fritillary, chequered daffodil'. Another possible derivation is the local word motow (evidently from moity, meaning 'a half or small share'): EDD gives the (Staffordshire, obsolete) meaning 'a parcel of ground', and Halliwell 1850: 563 illustrates it with the quotation: 'The rent of a piece of meadow ground, in two parcels or mottows, is to be appropriated to the poor of Bradley in the county of Stafford'; see also SHC 1913 187 fn.1. Bradley is some 5 miles distant, assuming it is not the place of the same name near Bilston. But the vicar of Lapley and Wheaton Aston in the early 18th century was John Mott, and at least some of the meadows were glebe land (Shaw 1798: I 102), which suggests the further possibility that the name may be from a local surname, although the earliest spelling pre-dates that period.

MOTTY MEADOWS BROOK a tributary of the river Penk. From Motty Meadows (q.v.).

MOUNT PLEASANT There are a number of places of this name in Staffordshire, for example 1¼ miles south-east of Brewood (SJ 8907), Mount Pleasant 1885 O.S.; MOUNT PLEASANT in Lapley
(SJ 8712), Mount Pleasant 1838 T.A; MOUNT PLEASANT ½ mile south of Kingswinford (SO 8887); MOUNT PLEASANT 1 mile south-west of Fenton (SJ 8844); MOUNT PLEASANT ½ mile north-east of Forsbrook (SJ 9741); MOUNT PLEASANT in Brierley Hill (SO 9285), Mount Pleasant 1834 O.S.; MOUNT PLEASANT in Chesterton near Newcastle under Lyme (SJ 8349), Mount Pleasant 1833 O.S., MOUNT PLEASANT on the north-east side of Leek (SJ 9956), Mount Pleasant 1891 O.S. It has been observed that places of this name, which is very common and found throughout the country, often lie on or near Roman roads. There is no conclusive evidence to link the name with such roads, but it is of interest that the first place lies directly on the course of a lost Roman road (Margary number 190) running south from Pennocrucium (Water Eaton); the second near a Roman road running north-west from Pennocrucium (Margary number 19); the third near the Roman sites and roads at Greensforge (Margary number 192); the fourth and fifth close to the Roman road running south-east from Stoke on Trent (Margary number 181); the sixth some three miles east of the Roman road running south-east from Greensforge (Margary number 192); and the seventh in one corner of the Roman fort at Chesterton. The age of all of the names is unknown. (There is another Mount Pleasant just inside Cheshire 1 mile south-west of Mow Cop, with a Roman road 2 miles to the south, and a Mount Pleasant just within the Shropshire border 2 miles north of Hinstock, within 1 mile of the Roman road from Pennocrucium to Chester (Margary number 19).)

MOUSEHALL (FARM) 1 mile east of Amblecote (SO 9185). Mushal c.1200 SHC 1928 12, Moushal c.1294 SHC 1928 23, Moushal (p) c.1378 ibid. 39, Moushall 1663 SHC II (ii) 32, Mousall 1691 Guttery 1950: 47, Mousehall Farm 1834 O.S. From OE mōs-halh 'mouse-infested halh'.

MOUSEHILL (unlocated, in Pelsall: see Shaw 1801: II 94.) Moushul (p) 1378 SHC 1928 39, Mousehill 1694 (1801) Shaw II 94. From OE mōs, hyll 'the mouse infested hill'. Cf. Humphrey Mowshall, recorded in 1601: SHC 1935 400.

MOW COP a rocky 977' hill north-east of Kidsgrove on the Staffordshire-Cheshire border, 2 miles north-east of Kidsgrove (SJ 8557). Mole-Hill (or Mole Copp) 1192, Mowl, Mowel (rocha de) c.1270 (all from PN Ch II 308), Mowul 1278 SHC XI NS 245, 1286 VCH II 187, Mowhul 1286, Mowell 1298, Mouhul 1313, Molehelle 1320, Molle 1525 (all from PN Ch II 308), Mow copp hill 1577 Saxton, Mowcopp Hill 1607 Kip, Mowle Hill 1616 SRO D1229/1/3/83, Mole-cop 1686 Plot, Mole Cop 1798 Yates. Ekwall 1936: 143-4 gives a derivation from OE mūga 'a stack, a pile', probably with reference to a boundary cairn on the hill, but possibly from an old name of the hill, Mūga, either because the sense 'mound, hill' existed in Old English, or owing to the likeness of the hill to a haystack. However, the earliest spellings suggest a derivation from Welsh moel 'bald or smooth-topped hill' (in which case a late name because of the implied use of a form diphthongised in Welsh), with the tautological ME West Midland hull 'hill', here meaning 'rocky hill', developing into ME mow (from OE mūga) 'a stack, a heap', perhaps with reference to a summit cairn or the distinctive shape of the hill, with OE copp 'hill, summit', and perhaps a later change to the jocular 'molecop' (molehill), from late ME mulle, molle, molehill, which correspond to MDu mol, moll(e), the origins of which are obscure, ('mole' in OE was *mold(e)wearp, wond or wondeweorpe), before the reversion in recent times to the earlier form. On the summit of the hill is an artificial ruin, representing a ruined castle, built c.1752: AJ 120 1963 247. A
pamphlet of 1642 referring to Mow Cop mentions '...a very high hill, called Cop in the English maps but in the old Saxon language Hiperbolian Talke, which is a large hill in English, as Talke on the Hill which signifies a bush on the hill...': SCH I 1965 21 (cf. Talke). It appears that a tumulus from which Culverdslow (q.v.) took its name was also known as Mole Cop (VCH VIII 205), and is probably to be identified with Moll 1628 Wolstanton ParReg, Moule 1658 ibid, Mould 1661 ibid. A place called Mow Cop, 1 mile north of Flashbrook, just within Shropshire (SJ 7224), is recorded as Mole Copp in Edgmond ParReg.

MOXHALE (unlocated, possibly near Hoar Cross.) Moxhale 1307 SHC VII 190.

MOXLEY 1½ miles west of Wednesbury (SO 9695). Mockeslawe 1259 SHC 1911 131, Maxlowe c.1364 SHC VIII NS 196, Mockestowe, Maxlowe, Moxkeslowe, Maxelowe 14th century Duig, Maxlowe 1424 SHC XVII 106. The forms suggest a derivation from an OE personal name *Mocc, with OE hlāw 'tumulus', changing (as frequently the case) to ēlah. It appears that a place called Moxlowes existed at Snowell near Bushbury in the 17th century: see SHC 1928 106.

MUCHALL 2 miles south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 9096). Muhclealis 1184x1203 SHC III (i) 229, Mushall 1190x1206 ibid. 219, 1228 SHC IV 69, Mushal c.1200 SHC 1928 12, ? Mukelichale 1273 SHC 1911 151, Migehall 1274 Penn ParReg v, Moushal 1294 SHC 1928 23, Muxhall, Moxhall 1300 ibid, Mugehalle c.1300 Mander & Tildesley 1960: 8, Muxhale 1332, Muchale 1409 SHC XI 110, Michehale 1430 SHC XVII 138, Muchale (p) 1484 SHC 1928 51, Muchell 1486 ibid. 51, Muchall 1547 SHC 1950-1 41, Muchall 1553 ibid. 42, Michole 1587 Penn ParReg, Mycholl 1624 ibid, Muchall 1686 Plot, Muchhall 1775 Yates, Muchall 1798 Yates, Mitchell 1834 O.S. In ME much in its forms of mucche, muchel, michel, mochele, mukil, mikil, etc., was used as an adjective in the sense of 'great, large' (cf. Much Wenlock), but the earliest spellings show that an alternative name may have derived from OE mās hālθ 'the hālθ infested with mice' (or possibly 'the hall infested with mice': hālθ is a rare element in Staffordshire place-names, but the Chapter Court of Penkridge appears to have been held here in the medieval period: SRO D260/M/F/5/87), which developed into Much- from the medial -sh-. The place is remembered in the name Muchall Road.

MUCHEBERGE (unlocated, in Bentley near Walsall.) Mucheberge temp. Henry III (1801) Shaw II 93. Seemingly from OE micel, mycel 'great', with OE beorg 'hill, mound, tumulus', probably here 'the great mound or hill': OE hlāw would normally be expected in Staffordshire if the name applied to a tumulus. The hill may be Pouke Hill (q.v.).

MUCKLESTONE, Ancient Parish 4 miles north-east of Market Drayton, the most western parish in Staffordshire (SJ 7237). Moclestone 1086 DB, Mukleston 1221 FF, Mokelston 1280 SHC VI (i) 104, Mokelestone 1306 SHC 1921 17, Mukleston' 1332 SHC 112, Mickleston, Mokleston 1411 SHC 1936 203, Mogolston 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 42, Muckleton or Muggleston 1747 Bowen. The forms point towards OE micel, mycel 'great, large', and OE stān 'stone', perhaps with reference to the two stones a mile to the east known as The Devil's Ring and Finger (q.v.), part of a Neolithic chambered tomb, or (less likely) from the well-recorded OE personal name Mucel, with OE stān, so 'Mucel's stone, rather than 'Mucel's tān'. le Stones, recorded in 1332 (SHC X 101), may refer to this feature. Mucklestone is shown as Muxton on the 1833 O.S. map. The parish of Mucklestone lay in Shropshire until transferred
to Staffordshire in 1866. It may be noted that Mucleston and Muleston, recorded c.1225 have been identified as Milson (in Shropshire): Rees 1997: 74-5.

MUCKLEY CORNER 3 miles south-west of Lichfield (SK 0806). Mukelay pre-1250 SHC 1924 297, Mucklely Heath, Muckley Heath 1565 SHC 1926 91, Muckle Corner 1775 Yates, 1788 SHC 4th VI 166, 1801 Smith. Duignan (MidA II 172) states that in early deeds Muckley is called Mucklow, but subsequently (1902: 104) refers to 16th and 17th century forms Mucklow, in which case (and none of Duignan’s spellings has been traced) the derivation is probably from OE micel, mycel ‘great, large’, with OE hláw ‘tumulus’: see Gelling 1988: 134. There is a slight possibility that the derivation may be ‘Mucel’s hláw’. OE hláw ‘tumulus’ not unusually becomes -ley in Staffordshire. There are various tumuli and earthworks along the course of Watling Street (cf. Knaves Castle; Offlow; Rowley Hill), though no tumulus is recorded here. The place lies at the junction of Watling Street and the road south from Lichfield, hence Corner. Shaw 1798: I 356 refers to ‘a public house called Muckle Corner’. If the name does not in fact incorporate hláw (and the evidence is far from certain) there is the intriguing possibility that the name contains OE leáh ‘a clearing’, but ‘the great clearing’ is improbable, so perhaps leáh in its earliest sense ‘woodland’, denoting an area called ‘the great wood’, possibly to be associated with Luitcoyt: see Lichfield. It is unclear whether Muhclealis, recorded in 1184x1203 (SHC III 229), relates to this place.

MUCLEHOLM (unlocated, near Willowbrook Farm near Alrewas, in the angle formed by Icknield Street and the river Trent (? SK 1815.)) Mucleholm 1259 SHC X NS I 265, Mukulholm c.1300 TSSAHS XX 1978-9 loose map, Mickleholme meadow c.1750 ibid. Seemingly from OE micel, mycel ‘great, large’, with ON holmr ‘a small island’, which produces the odd ‘large small island’, so perhaps ‘the larger islet’.


MURDEFORD 1 mile south-west of Bobbington (SO 7988). Merdivale 1654 Claverley ParReg, Merdivall 1686 ibid, Murdeville 1833 O. S. This has the appearance of a French name, from merde ‘filth’ and vale ‘valley’, so ‘the filthy or miry valley’, with a relatively recent and unexplained change of the second element to ‘ford’, but is more likely to be a rare example of a name of unknown etymology so far recorded only in three places, all in Shropshire: Mardol in Shrewsbury (Mardeval’ c.1215), and Mardol Road and Mardol Lane in Much Wenlock (Mardeuole 1321): see PN Sa 111260. In Shropshire since the 12th century.

MUSDEN GRANGE ½ mile north-west of Iam (SK 1251). Mvsedene 1086 DB, Mosedene 1178 CroxdenCh, Mosedena 1184 CartAnt, Musden 1232 SHC IV 89, Museden 1234 FF, Grange de Moseden 1291 (1798) Shaw I xxiii, Moseden 1319 CroxdenCh, Musden(e) 1448 Banco, Musden Gra(u)nge 1538 LP, Mousden otherwise Mosden grange 1584 SHC XVII 231, Musden 1598 SHC 1935 147, Upper Musden Grange, Lower Musden Grange 1836 O.S. From OE mása-denu ‘mouse valley’, doubtless the long narrow valley in Musden Wood. There was a grange here of Croxden Abbey, and the place was extra-parochial until 1857: TNSFC 1913 62; NSJFS 1961 137. Musden Low (Musden Low 1836 O.S.), from OE hláw ‘burial mound’, lies on the summit of the 1179’ hill here.

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MUSEFORD (unlocated, possibly near Stansley: SRO D603/A/Add/117-8.) Museford 1252 SRO D603/A/Add/117-8. 'Mouse ford'.

MUSHROOM GREEN in Brierley Hill (SO 9386). Mushroom Green 1820 Greenwood, Musham 1834 O.S., Mushroom Green 1895 O.S. NSIFS 1915 56 suggests that the name comes from musham, a term used in mining circles for crushed shale, and found in Shaw 1801: II 66 for high quality ironstone, but there is no reason to suppose that the name is not from 'the grassy open space where mushrooms grew'.

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MUXTON - see MUCKLESTONE.

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MUXTON - see MUCKLESTONE.

MYNERS (unlocated, possibly near Blakenhall near Barton under Needwood: see Shaw 1798: I 60.) Myners 1306 SHC VII 161, 1323 SHC IX (i) 96, 1326 SHC 1911 105, 1334 SHC XI 56, 1407 SHC XV 121, 1409 SHC XI 219, Migners c.1331 SRO DW1733/A/2/19, Myneres 1374 SHC XIII 101, Myners Mote 1529 ibid. 269, Myno c.1594 SRO DW1733/A/1/4[7]. Perhaps from the name Myners or Mynors: the Mynors family are recorded in Uttoxeter and Fisherwick in 1419 (VCH XIV 241), and were of Blakenhall, near Barton under Needwood: SRO Mynors Papers. A pedigree of the family is given in Shaw 1798: I 117.

MYTHAHOLME 1 mile south-east of Alrewas (SK 1814). Mytham 1601 (1798) Shaw I 138, Little Mitheholm c.1699 SRO DW1851/8/8, Mitham House 1775 Yates, Mitha Holme House 1798 Yates. From OE dative plural (ge)mjJe `the mouth of a river where it runs into another, a confluence of rivers'. The place lies close to the junctions of the rivers Trent and Tame, and Trent and Mease. Mytheholme in Rocester is recorded in 1664 (SRO D786125/2), and field-names Mythams, Mythams alias Muthams, and Mytham Meadow recorded in Walsall in the 16th century (SRO D260/M/T/1/14). See also Mitham.

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MYVOD on the north side of Wednesbury (SO 9995). Myvod House 1879 SCHAS M37/1. Seemingly a relatively recent transferred Welsh name.

NABB BROOK a tributary of the Alders Brook which flows into the river Dove. From The Nabb (q.v.).

NABB FARM 1½ miles south-east of Alton (SK 0840), ? Nabbes 1608 SHC 1948-9 37, Nabbs 1704 Alton ParReg, The Nab 1710 SRO D240/D/83, Nabbs Head 1717 Okeover T764, The Nab 1836 O.S.; NABB BROOK a tributary of the Alders Brook which flows into the river Dove; NABB (obsolete) between what is now Finney Green and Banktop Farm, Madeley Heath (SJ 7946), Nabbs 1833 O.S.; NAB END 1 mile east of Hollinsclough on the Staffordshire-Derbyshire border (SK 0766), Nab 1600, Nabbe 1602 Alstonefield ParReg, ? Nabfoot 1637 Leck ParReg, Nab End 1842 O.S.; NABB WOOD (obsolete, on north-east side of Kidsgrove (SJ 8454)), Nabbs Wood 1836 O.S.; NABBS (obsolete, 1 mile north-west of Keele (SJ 7946), Nabbs 1833 O.S. Although early forms are not available, there is little doubt that the names are from ON nabbi, nabbr 'a projecting peak, a knoll, a hill', an element occurring chiefly in minor names (cf. Nab, Cumberland; Nottinghamshire; Yorkshire), and commonly found in Staffordshire. There are several hills over 500' at Nab, and Nab End is on a hill of over 1000'. Higher Nabbs and Lower Nabbs, 1 mile south-west of Wildboarclough, are just across the border in
Derbyshire, and a hill called The Nabs is on the Derbyshire side of the river Dove 2 miles south-west of Alstonefield. A Nabfoot, presumably at Nab Hill (1842 O.S.), shown as Nab Hill (sic) on Yates' map of 1775 on the west side of Leek, is recorded as Nabbe in 1542 (1883) Sleigh 71, and in 1641 (Leek ParReg), presumably Nabbe recorded in 1550 SHC 1928 283; Nab's Hill (uncolocated) is recorded in Cannock in 1821 (Oakden 1984: 60); and a Nab Leasow in Cannock (ibid. 79). Le parke Nebbe c.1590 (SHC 1929 354), Parke Nabbe 1592 (SHC 1930 276) was in Alstonefield parish, and Nab feet, to the north-east of Upper Hulme, appears on Yates' map of 1775. Crocketts Nabb in Kingsley (Tettenhall) is recorded c.1716 (SRO D3160/10/5), perhaps the same place as Nabb or Nabb's Croft in Tettenhall Wood, recorded in 1823 (SRO D3160/10/15). Tettenhall Wood is on a high escarpment, but it would be surprising to find ON names in this part of the county (though see Gunstone), and the antiquity of the names must be doubtful. See also Cocket Knob.

NAILOR (obsolete) 1 mile north-east of Biddulph (SJ 9057). Kna\lo\oe 1669 Biddulph ParReg, Knalo\oe 1673 ibid., Nailor 1842 O.S., Knowlow 1930 O.S. Perhaps from OE *cnearr, ME knar 'a rugged rock', with OE hlæw 'mound, tumulus'. See also Naychurch.

NAPLEY HEATH 1 mile north-west of Mucklestone (SJ 7138). Mapley Heath 1686 Norton in Hales ParReg, Maple Heath 1692 ibid, Napeley Heath 1763 ibid, Maple Heath 1808 Baugh, Napeley Heath 1811 Encl.A. Perhaps 'heath at the I\eh with the maples', but in Staffordshire OE hlæw, invariably meaning 'burial mound', often became -ley, and the proximity of this place to the prehistoric chambered tomb known as The Devil's Ring and Finger (q.v.) may be noted. See also Mucklestone.

NARROWDALE 1\4 miles north of Alstonefield (SK 1257). Narendale c.1275 SHC V (i) 120, Norwedale 1277 SHC 1911 168, Narewedale 1293 FF, 1319 Ass, Nar(ud)dale 1299 Banco, Narwedal 1331 DRO D2375M/55/3, Narrowdale 1594 DRO D2375M/190/4, 1599 Smith. 'The narrow valley'. '[S]o very lofty, that the Inhabitants there for that quarter of the year, wherein the Sun is nearest the Tropic of Capricorn, never see it at all; and at length when it does begin to appear again...they never see it till about one by the clock, which they call hereabouts, the Narrowdale noon; using it proverbially when they would express a thing done late at noon': Plot 1686: 110.

NASH END 1 mile north of Upper Arley (SO 7681). Le Nasshe Eynde c.1330, 1412 PN Wo 31, Nashe Ende 1602 SHC 1935 456, Nashend 1686 Plot, Nash end 1747 Bowen. One of many examples of Ash with a transposed n from an. In Worcestershire since 1895.

NAYCHURCH 1\4 miles north of Upper Hulme (SK 0161). Knachurcher ?1413 DRO D2375M/1/1, 1432 VCH VII 33, 1580 SHC XIV 212, Knachurch 1612 DRO D2375M/106/27, Knalochurch 1626 Rental, Nachurch 1651 Leek ParReg, Naychurch 1682 Alstonefield ParReg, Kna Church 1702 Leek ParReg, Nay Church 1842 O.S. A puzzling name, possibly from OE cneor 'knee or bend', with reference to the slight deviation in the nearby road which is said to be Roman (Margary number 713 and O.S., but the present road appears to have been created c.1765 as a turnpike road, with the earlier route from Leek to Buxton passing between Hen Cloud and The Roaches to Flash: see Bowen's map of 1749; NSJFS 1978-9 NS 4 37-8; VCH VII 195; also Sleigh 1883: 199), or more likely from OE cnearr, ME knar 'a rugged rock' (see also Nailor). The place lies below Ramshaw Rocks. The second element is unexplained. In other places the word 'church' has developed from the British cr\oe 'mound, hill,
to an early period as became s, and became associated with OE cirice 'church'. It is not possible to say whether this has happened here. However, the word church is not infrequently added to natural features in this area (cf. Dovedale Church, a rock at Ilam; Ludchurch (q.v.)), and the element may refer to a rocky church-like outcrop by Naychurch Farm.


NEACHELLS 2 miles east of Wolverhampton (SO 9499). Echeles 1293, 1304 SHC 1911 231, 276, 1332 SHC X 127, 1370 SHC XIII 73, Necheles 1327 SHC VII (i) 174, Echels, Escheles 14th century, Necheles 1462 SHC 1928 187, The Nichell 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 159, Neychelles 1589 SHC XVIII 4, Necheles, Echells otherwise Nechells, Nechells 16th century Duig, Nechilles 1608 SHC III NS 23, Neachalls 1633 Wolverhampton ParReg, Nechells 1801 Shaw 11150 From OE *echeles 'an addition, land added to an estate', from OE eaca 'addition, increase', a word common in the North Midlands from the 13th century. The n is from atten 'at the'. There is an Echells between Handsacre and King's Bromley.

NEEDWOOD, NEEDWOOD FOREST 4 miles west of Burton upon Trent (SK 1724). Not recorded before the Conquest: the earliest reference is in the 1120s, but the forest almost certainly existed before that date: VCH II 349. Nedwode 1198x1208 SHC 4th Series IV 43, c.1200 ibid. 77, 1329 SHC XI NS 25, Neidwode 1254 SHC 1937 50, Netewode 1425 SHC XVII 102, Chacia nostra de Nedwoode 1248 VCH II 349, Nedewode 1256 MinA, Neede Wodde c.1540 Leland. The name perhaps means 'wood in which refuge was sought in time of need' (cf. Littywood), or possibly 'forest from which wood and timber were obtained when needed', or 'forest in which feudal service or duty was undertaken', from OE nted 'need, distress, necessity, duty, poverty, hardship'. Strictly the forest was a chase, since it was held by a subject, originally Henry de Ferrars, rather than reserved for royal hunting. It covered an area between the rivers Trent, Dove and Blithe: NSJFS 8 49-50. It survived, albeit in shrunken form, until 1811: VCH II 354. The Abbots Bromley horn dance may be connected with the villagers' former rights in the forest. The ten parks in Needwood Forest were Stockley, Castle-hay, Shireholt (Sherholt), Hanbury, Highlands, Barton, Agardesley, Castle, Rowley and Rolleston: Shaw 1798: I 60-61. There were 32 gates into the Forest: 20 are named in StEnc 413. See also Castle Hayes Park.

NEILD'S FARM 1 mile north-east of Heaton (SJ 9663). Neild's Farm 1892 O.S. From the name Neild (see Nield).

NELSON HALL (obsolete) in Cotes Heath (SJ 8235). One of a number of Government establishments created in the area the early 1940s and named after naval heroes. See also Beatty Hall, Drake Hall, Duncan Hall, Frobisher Hall, Howard Hall, Raleigh Hall, Rodney Hall. See also StEnc 414.

NETIER GRANGE or NETIER HULME 2½ miles north-east of Leek (SJ 9960). Nether Hulm(e) 1240 Deed (1883) Sleigh, 1284 Inq aqd, Nether(e)holm(e) 1284 Ipm, 1284 Ipm. For Hulme see Hulme. The first word is from OE neðera (or ON neðri) 'lower', to distinguish the place from Middle and Upper Hulme. The place (known locally as Lower Hulme) is also known as New Grange (q.v.).
NETHERHOLM  (unlocated, perhaps near Bury Bank.) Netherholm 13th century SHC VI (i) 8. From OE neodera (or ON nedri) 'lower', with ON holmar 'island, land by or between streams'.

NETHERLAND GREEN  2 miles south-east of Uttoxeter (SK 1030). Netherland Green 1775 Yates, 1836 O.S, Netherland 1872 P.O. From OE neodera, lond 'the nether or lower land'. The green element denotes a grassy open space, probably in woodland.

NETHERSET HEY  1 mile south-east of Madeley, immediately to the north of Madeley Great Park (SJ 7843). Netherstedeplace 1401-2 NSIFS 3 1963 53, (a wood called) Netherscydhaye 1531 SHC 1912 46, Nethersit Hay 1833 O.S. Associated with the short-lived Nethersethey Park (c.1395-1401): TNSFC 1963 53-5. The names are perhaps from the OE adjective neodera 'lower', with OE (ge)set 'dwelling, place of residence, animal fold' apparently replacing OE stede 'place, site of a building', and (in early sources) 'dairy farm', and OE scydd 'a hovel, a shed'. The Hey element is from Mercian OE (ge)heg 'a clearing, an enclosure', found in ME for the latinized haia, meaning 'a part of a Forest fenced off for hunting'. See also NSIFS 3 1963 53-5.

NETHERTON  (obsolete, in Hammerwich (SK 0607)), Netherton 1319 VCH XIV 259; NETHERTON (obsolete, at the foot of Tinacre Hill, south-west of Wightwick (SO 8798)), Netherton 1327 VCH XX 10, 1880 O.S. 'Nether or lower tan'. The name Netherton in Hammerwich remained in use until at least 1871: VCH XIV 259.

NETHERTOWN 1 mile north-west of King's Bromley (SK 1017). Nethertown, Netherton 1100x1135 (1798) Shaw I 153, Nebertown, Neperetown 13th century SHC XVI 260, Ridware Netherton 1323x1377 (1798) Shaw I 151, Nethertowne 1414 (1798) Shaw I 35, 1579 SHC XIV 202, 1609 SHC III NS 25, North Town 1749 Bowen, Nethertown 1834 O.S. 'Nether or lower tan'. It has been suggested that Ridware (DB) refers to this place: VCH IV 47. Shaw 1798: I 151 suggests that Walter's Ridware (n.d.) may be Netherton, the name taken from the holder at the time of DB.


NETTLES  (unlocated, in Mavesyn Ridware,) le Netteles 1325 (1798) Shaw I: 176, le Neteles 1362 (1798) Shaw I 177, Netelesserd n.d. (1798) Shaw I: 170, Nettles (Pit) c.1654 WaCRO CR1908/16/12. From OE net(e)le, netel 'nettle'.

NEUTHORP (unlocated, perhaps near Hampstall Ridware, but possibly outside Staffordshire.) Neuthorp 1413 SHC XVII 47. From OE prop, ON porp, meaning in the Danelaw 'secondary settlement, an outlying farmstead or small hamlet dependant on a larger place', with ME nêwe 'new'. Possibly associated with Garardesthorp (q.v.).

NEWBOLD  1 mile north-east of Barton-under-Needwood (SK 2019), Newanbolde 942 (14th century, S.484); NEWBOLT in Chebsey parish, at Hilcote (SJ 8429), Neuboutine 1175 SHC I 71, Newbolt c.1220 SHC 1914 68, Neubaude 1236 Fees, Neubold 1288 SHC VI (i) 176, Newbolt juxta Chebseye 1317 SHC 1914 69, Newbolde, Newbolt c.1462 SHC VII NS 254-5; NEWBOLD ENDE (obsolete) in Rugeley (SK 0417); Newbold Ende 1570 SRO DW1734/2/3/38. From the OE adjective
niwe 'new', with OE bold 'house, dwelling-place' The second place later became known as Hilcote (q.v.): SHC VI (i) 176 fn. See also Badenhall, Chebsey. There are two places of this name in Shropshire. PN Sa II 135 notes that compounds with niwe greatly outnumber other classes of names containing the related words bōtl and bold. Cf. Newbald; Newbuildings Farm; Bold.

NEWBOLDS, THE (obsolete) 2 miles north-east of Wolverhampton (SJ 9300). Neubold c.1272 (1801) Shaw II 150, Newbold c.1295 Mander & Tildesley 1960: 31, le Neubold, Newboldesbruche, le Newbolt, Newboldes alias Bayliestyles 14th century Duig, Newbold 1355 SHC 1913 158, Newbold 1372 SRO D593/B/1/26/6/20/3, Newbolds 1570 SRO D1790/A/2/144, Newballs 1707 BCA MS3145/63/1a&b, Newbold Farm 1775 Yates. From the OE adjective niwe 'new', with OE bold 'house, dwelling-place'. See also Newbold.

NEWBOROUGH 7 miles south-east of Uttoxeter (SK 1325). Edgareslegge 1086 DB, later Agardsley. Newboreg 1280 SHC VI (i) 98, Neuborey 13th century Duig, Newburg 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 76. The older name meant 'Eadgar's lēah'. It changed to Newborough (from the OE adjective niwe 'new', and burh 'fortified place', or, as here, 'a borough, a market town') with the creation of the new borough by Robert de Ferrers III in 1263: VCH II 349. See also Agardsley. Novo Burgo recorded in 1141 (SHC 4th Series IV 75) and later was seemingly an extension of the borough of Tutbury: VCH II 349; VCH III 331. See also Kinver for Novo Burgo.

NEWBRIDGE 2 miles west of Wolverhampton (SO 8999). Novo Ponte 1286 SHC V (i) 171, Novum pontem 1327, (Atte)newebruge 1332 SHC X 127, Newebrugge 1379 SHC XIII 150. 'New bridge'. The London to Holyhead road passes over the river Smestow here. The name implies the existence of an earlier bridge.

NEWBUILDINGS FARM ¼ mile west of Newport (SK 0326). Newbyggynge 1417 SHC XVII 61, Le Newbyggynge 1464 SHC 1939 128. From ME bigging 'a building', later 'an outbuilding, an outhouse', a word not normally found outside the north of England. Le Newbyggynge is recorded in Burton upon Trent in 1465 (SHC 1939 128), and as Newbyggyn now called le Horninglowstrete, to be identified as Horninglow Street on the south side of Burton (SK 2423), in 1479 (SRO D4379/5/13).

NEWCASTLE UNDER LYME on west side of Stoke on Trent (SJ 8445). Nouël Oppidā cū soca sub Lima ('New Castle with its jurisdiction under the Lyme') 1166 SHC 1923 297, novum castellum de Staffordshira c.1142 StEnc 415, Novum Oppidum sub lima (New Castle under the Lyme') 1168 SHC I 55, Noui Castelli, Nouo Castello 1190 Ch, Novi Castro sub Lima 1235 SHC 1935 296, Novum Castrum subitus Limam 1250 Fees, Novum Castrum Super Are (Nef Chastel Sus Are) 1305 Chr. & Mem. 98, (de) Newcastle Super Are 1316-17 Letter Books of the City of London, Newcastell 1489 HLS, New Castel under Line c.1540 Leland: 'so cawllid of a brooke renning thereby, or of an hille or wodd thereby, so cawllid'. The name is perhaps from the 'new castle' built in the town possibly at the end of the 11th century (AJ 120 1963 289); the earliest reference is 1149 (VCH VIII 11), or between 1140 and 1146 (StEnc 415), perhaps to distinguish it from the 'castle' or Roman fortification at Chesterton (q.v.), or the old castle at Stafford (VCH IV 26), or one that might have existed at Trentham (JNSFC XLVII 1912-3 144-50; SHC XII 75; VCH VIII 11), or perhaps from a rebuilt castle on the same site (see StEnc 415; 598), although there would appear to be no record of any earlier castle. Are would seem to be an old
name of Lyme Brook, perhaps identical with Ayr, Scotland, and the river Aire in the West Riding of Yorkshire, perhaps of pre-English origin: see Ekwall 1928: lx, 1-3. The element Lyme is generally believed to refer to Lyme Forest, meaning 'place of the elms' (not limes), but it seems possible that Leland's statement may be correct: the 'wodd thereby, socawllid' was presumably what is now The Limes (q.v.), or Shortelyme (q.v.). See also Lyme.

NEW CHAPEL - see THURSFIELD.

NEWCHURCH in Needwood Forest, 6 miles west of Burton upon Trent (SK 1423). Christ Church on Needwood 1836 O.S. So-named from Christ Church, built in 1809 for the benefit of disafforested parishioners at the time of the enclosure of Needwood Forest: Erdeswick 1844: 279.

NEW CROSS 1 mile north-east of Wolverhampton (SO 9399). Newcroste 1670 SRO D4407/74[SF91], New Cross 1834 O.S. The nature of the cross is not known, but the name implies the existence of an 'old cross'. The name Crossbyrches, recorded c.1272 (Shaw 1801: II 150) may be associated with this name, although the word 'cross' could also mean a field lying athwart another: Foxall 1980: 9.

NEWFIELDS 1 mile west of Wetley Rocks (SJ 9449). The Dork 1836 O.S. The older name is curious, possibly from dialect dawk, 'a hollow, a depression, a furrow' (EDD; OED), though the word is only recorded in Yorkshire (PN W Yo III 180), but a more likely derivation may be a British river-name *Dorce, derived from the root derk- (in Welsh drych 'aspect', OE torht 'bright': Ekall 1928: 128-9; 1960: 148), so 'the clean, bright stream': the place lies close to the headwater of a stream running north into Stanley Pool. The same river-name is found in Dorchester, Oxfordshire, and Dorking, Surrey.

NEW FOREST Novam Forestam, Nova Foresta c.1199 SHC 11 95,98,115. A royal forest in the north of the county, extending from Tunstall in the north to Tixall in the south, and from west of the Trent to Painsley in the east, which was disafforested in 1204: VCH II 348-9. The enclosed part of this Forest was called the Haye of Clive (SHC II 98), haiya de Clive 1234-40 (TestNev), haya nostra de Clyfjuxta novum castrum subtus Limaur 1271 (SHC V (i) 155). It has been suggested that the Forest was so-named because it was reafforested by one of the Norman or Plantagenet kings after Newcastle had come back into royal hands in the middle of the 12th century: SHC 1923 301-2. See also NSJFS 8 1968 48; StEnc 421.

NEW GRANGE 2½ miles north-east of Leek (SJ 9960). nova grangia c.1291 Tax, New Grange 1521 Dieulacres Inventory, (lo) New(e)gra(u)nge c.1539 LRMB, c.1540 AOMB, New Gra(u)nge 1560 Pat, 1634 ParReg, 1842 O.S., Newe Grandge 1630 SHC II (ii) 14. Self-explanatory. The place was a grange of Dieulacres Abbey, and appears to have been the same place as Nether Grange or Nether Hulme (q.v.). It was submerged when Tittesworth reservoir was extended c.1960: SHC XIX 1999 7.

NEWHAY 2 miles north-east of Cheadle (SK 0444), the Newehey 1316 VCH III 227, Hay Wood 1836 O.S.; NEW HAY (unlocated, near Gentslshaw) Cannock, (le) New(e)hey, Neuhey, Newhay(e) 1348 Anglesey Ch, 1348 SHC 1939 77, 1360 (p) Ipem, 1379 Banco, Newhay 1461 SHC 1939 109, Newhey 1528 SHC XI 268; NEW HAY (unlocated, in West Bromwich), Nova Haya 1223 SHC IV 24; NEW HAY (obsolete) on the north side of Smallthorne (SJ 8851), Newe Hayes 1598 Norton in the Moors ParReg; NEWHAY (unlocated, in Kele), Newhay 1410 Harrison 1986: 21. From OE ntwe, (go)hëg 'the new enclosure'.

NEW HOUSE (obsolete) 1 mile south-west of Blythe Bridge (SJ 9338). Newhouse 1554 SRO SD4842/18/1, c.1680 SHC 1919 262, New Ho. 1798 Yates, New House 1836 O.S.

NEW INN (obsolete) in Handsworth (SO 0489), Newe Inne 1546 SHC XI 291, 1565 SHC XIII 252, 1615 SHC IV NS 79, New Inn 1749 Bowen, New Inn (Hall) 1798 Yates, 1834 O.S.; NEW INN (obsolete) two places, two miles apart, one 1 mile north of Claverley (SO 8095), the other 1½ miles north-west of Bobbington (SO 8293): Shaw (1798: I 15) mentions '...the two new inns...' (citing Wilkes c.1758; see also the two New Inns 1762 SRRC/5586/14/2-3), and each appears as New Inn 1752 Rocque - the reference to the Newe Inne in 1604 in Pattingham ParReg, New Inn in 1625 in Claverley ParReg, and New Inn or Bowling Green New Inn in 1769 (SRRC 5586/2/1/499) could refer to either; NEW INN (MILL) (obsolete) ½ mile north-east of Trentham (SJ 8741), New Inne 1537 MA, the new inne 1609 Trentham ParReg, New Inn (Mill) 1834 O.S. Self-explanatory.

NEW INVENTION 1½ miles south-west of Bloxwich (SJ 9701). ye new invention neare Snead 1663 Wolverhampton ParReg, New Invention 1747 Bowen, The New Invention 1834 O.S. The suggestion in Hackwood 1908: 180-1 that the name derives from a hawthorn bush pushed into a chimney to stop it smoking is almost certainly apocryphal: see Tildesley 1951: 187, where it is suggested that the name may be a corruption of an earlier name. That seems equally unlikely. The word invention in the 17th century had two main meanings, 'a finding or discovery' (e.g. 'the Invention of the Cross', the reputed finding of the Cross by Helena, mother of the Emperor Constantine, in 326 AD), and 'a novelty or original device', as in ModE. There is every possibility that the name does indeed refer to some local finding or discovery, or some novelty or invention, not necessarily made here, perhaps relating to mining or ironworking or the pumping of water, the nature of which remains unknown, or even from a beerhouse of that name, commemorating the site of such a discovery. It may also be noted that OED records as one 17th century meaning of invent 'to bring into use formally or by authority', so a meaning 'the newly authorised activity or business' is not inconceivable, and a public house name for a beerhouse previously unauthorised is a possible explanation. The name is not unique. There are two places called New Invention in Shropshire; one is in a pronounced stream valley 2½ miles south of Clun (on which see N&Q 183 380-1, where it is suggested that the name was formerly The Vention, possibly named from a water-driven loom on the Redlake Stream: Foxall 1980: 66 states that it was the first place in the district where spinning was carried out by water power); the other is near High Ercall. Cf. Ragged Invention.

NEWLANDS 2 miles south of Abbot's Bromley (SK 0721), Neulond temp. Edward I SHC 1937 113, Neweland 1309 SHC IX (i) 9, 1402 SHC XI NS 210, Newland c.1311 ibid. 118, Newelond 1337 SHC
XI 143, Newlande 1425 SHC IV NS 113, 1565 SHC 1931 171, 1597 SHC 1935 23, Newland 1836 O.S.; NEWLANDE (unlocated, in Cannock), Newlande 1544 SHC 1939 79, Newelande 1580 ibid. 79; NEWLAND (unlocated, in Barton under Needwood), Le Newland 1330 (1798) Shaw I 113. 'The land newly-cleared for cultivation'. Newelond in Ellerton Grange is recorded c.1518: SHC IX NS 95.


NEWPLACE (unlocated) Newplace 1419 SHC XVII 67.


NEW SPRINGS 1 mile south-west of Talke (SJ 8153). Newspringe 1661 Audley ParReg, New Springe 1733 SHC 1944 71, New Spring 1799 Faden, New Springs 1833 O.S. The word spring meant both a flow of water rising from the ground, and a copse of young trees or coppiced trees with new shoots. The second meaning is more likely here.

NEWSTEAD (obsolete, ¼ mile south-west of Blurton (SJ 8941)), Newstead 1537 VCH III 259, Newstede 1537 MA, 1568 Trentham ParReg, Newstidd 1576 SHC 1926 43, Newsted, Newstidd 1703 ibid, Newstead c.1714 SRO D593/H/3/30, New Stead 1798 Yates, 1836 O.S.; NEWSTEAD (obsolete, 1 mile south-west of Cheddleton (SJ 9650)), Newstead 1836 O.S. From OE stede with various meanings, but often denoting 'a farm or estate'. The element is rare in the West Midlands.

NEWTON 1 mile south-east of Draycott in the Moors (SJ 9838), Niwetone 1086 DB, Neutonam, Neutona c. 1160 SHC III (i) 224-5, Newton 1294 SHC 1925 89; NEWTON in Blithfield parish, 5 miles north of Rugeley (SK 0325), Niwetone 1086 DB, Neuton 1252 SHC 1937 47, c.1293 SHC NS XI 165, 1306 SHC VIII i 145, Neweton 1433 SHC XVII 145; NEWTON 2 miles north-west of Worfield (SO 7397), Newton 1525 SR, 1564 Worfield ParReg, Newton 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 118, Newton 1752 Rocque. 'The new tan'. Newton near Worfield has been in Shropshire since the 12th century.


NEW YORK ¼ mile west of Upper Elkstone (SK 0459). New York 1842 O.S, 1851 White. From a copper and lead mine of that name that closed in 1859: VCH 11267. The name is not uncommonly found applied to remote places.

NEW ZEALAND 2 mile south-east of Heaton (SJ 9761). New Zealand 1891 O.S. Names of this type were frequently applied to places that were particularly remote, as here.

NIELD ¼ mile east of Flash (SK 0366). Le Neelde 1455 DRO D2375M/1/1, Michael Nyelde's croft 1566 Deed, Needlede 1582 SHC XV 140, Neild 1599 Alstonefield ParReg, the Neilde Eie 1599 ibid, Neilde Eie 1601 ibid, Needle Eye 1603 ibid, Nield Bank 1651 Rental, Nield Eye 1683 ParReg, Needles Eye 1744 SRO D1029/2/23, Nield 1842 O.S. The forms show that there has been some confusion with 'the eye of a needle', but indicate a derivation from the name Neal(e), Neild, Nield (said to be brought
to England by the Normans: see DES 320 *sub nom* Neal, etc.), with OE *e&* 'dry ground in wet land', so 'Neild's dry ground in boggy land'. Rich. Neeld is recorded in 1662 in Leek ParReg. See also Neild's farm.

**NIMMINGS PLANTATION** (obsolete) in Clent. *Nemmynges* 1429 PN Wo 280. From OE *niming*, a word applied to land taken into cultivation or enclosed. The place was in Staffordshire from the early 13th century until 1844, when it became part of Worcestershire. See also Rumble & Mills 1997: 32.


**NODDY FIELD VALLEY** (obsolete) on south-west of Cannock Wood (SK 0211). *Noady feild* 1682 Dep, *Noddy Field* 1834 O.S. Oakden 1984: 60 suggests a derivation from the dialect adjective *noddy* 'weak, ailing' (EDD), used in a derogatory sense for poor land, and since early spellings have not been traced, that may be correct, but the possibility of a derivation from a personal name or surname cannot be ruled out: see JEPNS 3 24. It may also be noted that ME *atten oðe* (literally 'at the ash-heap or funeral pyre') may become Node, Noad or similar, perhaps marking the site of early beacons. This place lies at the foot of a prominent un-named hill of 787', almost the highest point in central Staffordshire: the only higher land is Castle Ring, which lies one mile to the north-east and is 10' higher, but any beacon at Castle Ring would be obscured across a large southern sector by the hill here. The hill-name may have been Noady Hill or similar, from which Noady Field may have taken its name. No documentary or other evidence for such a beacon has been traced, but a beacon on the hill would have been visible for a considerable distance. It may be noted that a field called *Noddy field* is recorded in Compton (Kinver) c.1712 in association with other fields including Blazehill Meadow: SRO D801/2/2. Cf. Noddyshall (Cottages), Surrey JEPNS 3 1970-1 24. See also VEPN I 5-6.

**NODDY PARK** in Aldridge (SK 0601). *Noddy Field* 1768 StEnc 424, *Noddy Park* (Lane) 1777 BCA MS3558/63/8. Noddy Park Farm is said to have existed in the 17th century: StEnc 424-5. For possible derivations see Noddy Field Valley: the place is on high ground. The name is perpetuated in Noddy Park Road. Duignan (MidA 1117 1) mentions a tumulus or butt in Noddy Park, Aldridge, and a Noddy Park near Daw End in Rushall.

**NOONSUN COMMON** ¼ mile west of Ipstones (SK 0149), *Noon Sun Common* 1836 O.S.; **NOON SUN** 2 miles north-east of Upper Hulme (SK 0462), *Noon Sun* 1777 Alstonefield ParReg, 1839 *EnclA*. Perhaps applied to places that remained in shadow until mid-day.

**NOOOSE (LANE)** in Willenhall (SK 9498). *le Nous* c.1272 (1801) Shaw II 150, late 13th century WA II 89, *the Nose* 1514 SRO D593/I/1/19/1, *Noose Lane* 1775 Yates, *Noose (Lane)* c.1800 D593/H/3/402. Possibly from OE *nōs(e)* 'a nose, a headland, a promontory' (found in this sense in Beowulf), although the phonology is very problematic, and it is unclear what topographical feature in this area might be so-described.
NORBURY Ancient Parish 5 miles north-east of Newport (SJ 7823). *Norberie* 1086 DB, *Norbiri* 1198 P, *Norhbye* 13th century Duig, *Norbere* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 170, *Northbyri* c.1540 Leland. From OE *burh*, dative *byrig*, 'fortified place, manor-house', probably here meaning 'the northern manor-house'. It is unclear what place this is north of: Oulton is to the south, but is not mentioned in DB, so may not have existed in 1086.

NORE HILL 1 mile north-west of Pattingham (SO 8199). ? (Atte)novre 1295 SHC 1911 237, ? atte Novere 1317 SHC V NS 223, *Nore* 1323 SHC IX (i) 94, 1327 SHC VII (i) 251, 1410 SHC XVI 71, 1494 SHC XI 253, *Le Nore juxta Pattingham* 1334 (1801) Shaw II 281, Norhere c.1585 SRO D1237/49, 1695 Morden, 1752 Rocque, *Noah Hill* 1833 O.S. The earliest spelling, if it relates to this place, indicates a derivation from OE *ofer* 'a bank', more specifically 'a flat-topped ridge with a convex shoulder' (see Gelling & Cole 2000: 203), which sometimes takes an initial N from OE *atten* '(place) at the'. The locations of Norhulle, recorded in 1276 (SHC 4th Series XVIII 18, 107), and Noherhall, recorded in 1625 (West Bromwich ParReg) are uncertain, but may well have the same derivation. Camden 1674: 125 notes 'Nore, the same with [i.e. as] North'.

NORMACOT 4 miles south-east of Stoke-on-Trent (SJ 9242). *Normancote* 1086 DB, *Normantona*, Normacot 1177 SHC XII NS 279, Northmannescote 1227 Ch, Normancote 1242 Duig, 1414 SHC XVII 13, Normaunte, Normancaute 1251-2 Fees, Nomannescot 1256 Ch, Normecote Graunge 1472 SHC IV NS 183, *Normicoat* 1733 Stoke on Trent ParReg. Northman was used for 'Norwegian' or an OE personal name, sometimes contracted to Norman, and the derivation is probably 'the Northman's or Norwegian's cot or shelter'. A grange of Hulton Abbey existed here from at least 1242: StEnc 426.

NORMANESWELL (unlocated, in Lichfield.) *Normaneswell* early 13th century SRO D948/3/1, Novemonnis welle mid-13th century SRO D948/3/2. 'Norman's (or the Northman's) spring', from Mercian OE *welle*.

NORMAN'S WOOD, NORMANSWOOD FARM ½ mile east of Stowe (SK 0127). *Normans Wood* 1775 Yates. The name Norman was found in OE, so (if ancient) perhaps 'the wood of the Northman or Norwegian', or 'Norman's wood'. 'No-man's wood', is unlikely, as the place is neither remote nor on a boundary. The place may be associated with Normansle (q.v.). *Normans* is recorded in 1578 (SRO D260/M/T/1/41), and *Normans Meadow* in 1758 (SRO D260/M/T/1/85), but the location is uncertain.

NORMANSLE (unlocated, possibly near Checkley.) *Normansle* 1272 SHC IV (i) 187.

NORTHALE (unlocated, possibly the moated site south of Bath Farm, Brewood (SJ 8507): see SHC VI (i) 192; Horovitz 1992: 62-3.) *Northale* 1280 SHC VI (i) 150, 1362 SHC SHC XIII 25, 1377 SHC XIV 144, 1426 SHC XVII 113, *Northalle* 1577 SHC XIV 194. Probably 'northern halh' rather than 'northern hall'.

NORTHOVERE (unlocated, possibly near Crakemarsh/Creighton.) *Northovere* 1337 SHC 1913 58. Evidently from OE *norð ofer* 'the northern flat-topped ridge with a convex shoulder'.

NORTHULL, NORTHERULL (unlocated) *Northull* 1261 SHC IV 149, *Northerhill* 1294 SHC VII 25. See also Northulle.
NORTHULLE (unlocated, perhaps in the Denstone area.) Northulle 1191x1194 CEC 261. See also Northull, Northerhull.

NORTHWOOD 1 mile north-east of Hanchurch (SJ 8542), Norwerde 1166 SHC I 153, Northwude 1227 SHC VII (i) 6, Northwud 1247 SHC IV 239, Trentham Wode, called Northwode 1359 SHC XII 171; NORTHWOOD ¼ mile north-east of Ellastone (SK 1243), Norwade 1197 SHC II 68, Norwerde 1198 SHC I 136, Northwode 1275 SHC V (i) 120, Norwood 1666 SHC 1925 191, Northwood 1749 Bowen; NORTHWOOD (unlocated, in or near Wrottesley), Northwode 13th century SHC VI NS (ii) 50. Self-explanatory.

NORTHYCOTE 3 miles north of Wolverhampton (SJ 9303). Northicote 1199 SHC III 48, Northicoten’ c.1240 WA II 100, Northicine 1255, Northcote 1286 SHC IV 239, Northkot 1293 SHC 1911 231, Nordcote 1327 Duig. 'Place) north of the cot or shelter', the i coming from the terminal of the OE adjective northan.

NORTON BRIDGE 1 mile north-east of Chebsey (SJ 8630). Norton Bridge c.1795 SRO DE615/EX/1. Early spellings have not been traced, and the name may not be ancient, but Whitelock 1930: 154 suggests that Nordtune, recorded in the will of Wulfric Spot 1002x1004 may be this place, or Norton in Hales, Shropshire, or Norton Cuckney, Nottinghamshire. The place lies on Meece Brook.

NORTON CANES Ancient Parish 6 miles north of Walsall (SK 0107). ? at Nordtune 951 (14th century, S.554), Norteone 1086 DB, Norton 1166 SHC 1923 195, Norton-super-le-Canok 1289 SHC VI (i) 183, Norton Juxta Canke 1532 SHC IV 175, Norton Kains, Norton Kaynes 1566 SHC 1931 230, Norton Kaines otherwise Norton Coyne otherwise Norton-on-Canuck 1579 SHC XIV 205, Norton-Kaynes c.1609 SHC III NS 37. 'North town', possibly because it lies on the north side of Watling Street. Birch 1885-93: III 50 No. 891 seems to identify the 951 spelling with Norton Canes, but no evidence has been traced to support the identification: see SHC 1916 91. The derivation of the Canes element is unclear, although the southern boundary of the manor is formed by Gain’s Brook; the Gayne meadow is recorded in 1693 (SRO D1317/1/10/1/2-3); Gain’s Gap c.1699 (SRO D1317/1/13/1); and a Gains Lane also exists. Canes or Gains perhaps represents the name of a former landowner: Master John de Canes, ‘rector of Norzbourgh’, is a witness to a deed to which Richard de Bentley of Norton is a party c.1300: SRO D1790/A/10/2. Arnold de Kanes is recorded elsewhere c.1207 (SHC 1937 27), and John de Kaine c.1260 (SHC 1924 153), and the surname Caine, Cahaiges, Cahaingn’, Cahaingn’ are found in 1221 (Pleas), evidently from Cahaignes in Eure, though no evidence has been traced of any association with this place. For completeness, it may be added that Canes is Latin for ‘dogs’, though it is difficult to explain the association here (but note also that Cheadle (q.v.) was also called Hound Cheadle or Dog Cheadle, for reasons which remain unknown).

NORTON FARM ¼ mile south of Cold Norton (SJ 8830). Norton Farme 1661 Swinnerton ParReg. The name is from Cold Norton (q.v.).

SHC VI (i) 95, Norton Super le Mores 1285 FA, Norton under Kevermunt 1288 SHC VI (i) 175, Norton super moras subitus Kevermund 1303 Erdeswick 1844: 98, Nortonothemores 1315 SHC IX 49, Norton Woodhouses in le Mores 1592 SHC 1930 226; NORTON GREEN & LITTLE NORTON 2 miles north-west of Brownhills (SK 0207); NORTON GREEN 1 mile south-west of Brown Edge (SJ 8952). 'The tan north of another', in the first case with OE mör 'marshland, a high tract of barren uncultivated ground'. There is another Norton Green to the north of Norton in the Moors. For the element Keuremunt, Kevermunt see Carmounthead.

NORTON, COLD 2 miles south-west of Stone (SJ 8732). Coldenorthon, Coldenorhton, Colde Norton 1227 SHC XI NS 240, Calde Norton 1227 Ch, Coldenorton' c.1313 SHC 1941 173, Coldenorton 1319 SHC V NS 223, Norton 1625 JNSFC LX 1925-6 73, Cold Norton 1836 O. S. The spellings indicate a derivation from 'cold or exposed north tan'. See also Chebsey.

NOTHILL (FARM) 2½ miles north-west of Uttoxeter (SK 0737). Knotel 1764 Croxden ParReg, the Notel 1770 ibid, the knoteale 1772 ibid, Nothill 1836 O. S. Perhaps from ON knottr, OE cnotta 'a hard mass', used topgraphically for 'a hillock, a rocky hill, a cairn', found chiefly in the north-west of England, with OE hyll, so meaning here 'the rocky hill'.

NOWELISHEY (unlocated, in Seighford.) Nowelishey undated SHC 1914 86. From the family of Noel or Noell, who founded Ranton Abbey and held property in the area for several centuries: see e.g. SHC 1914 66-7 (pedigree), 68-9, 83, 85.


NUTBOROUGH (unlocated, in Chesterton near Newcastle.) Noteburgh c.1391 SRO D641/1/2/35, Noteburgh 1427 Cl 1422-9 318, Nutburch 1433 SRO D641/1/2/53, Noteburgh c.1445 Ipm, Nuborough 1453 SRO D641/1/2/72. Perhaps from OE cnotta 'a hillock, a rocky hill, a cairn', more often found in the North West, with OE burh 'a fortified place', here perhaps referring to the lumpy earthworks of the Roman fortification at Chesterton.

NUT WOOD 1 mile north-west of Gnosall (SJ 8122). Nut Wood 1833 O.S. Perhaps Natiwude, recorded in 1206 (SHC III 136). Self-explanatory.

OAK HILL 2 miles south-west of Newcastle-under-Lyme (SJ 8643). Ochull, Okhul ? 13th-14th century SHC XI 321-2, Ochull 1346 SRO DW 1082/A/4/4, Oak Hill 1836 O.S. Self-explanatory. It is unclear whether Okehill, recorded in 1308 (SHC 1911 297), refers to this place. There is an Oakhill on the north-west side of Upper Tean (SK 0039), but earlier spellings have not been traced.

OAKAMOOR 3 miles east of Cheadle (SK 0544). Ocuallemor 1327 SHC 1913 14, Okwallemor 1328 ibid. 17, Okwallmor 1331 ibid. 31, Okam More 1573 SHC 1931 179, Okemore 1602 SHC 1935 441, Oakallmore 1636 Cheadle ParReg, Oaakamore 1680 ibid, Oakeymoore 1686 Plot, Oakway Moor 1693 SHC 1947 56, Oakemore 1798 Yates. The early forms show that the original meaning was 'the moor with the spring at the oak', incorporating Mercian OE wcelle 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream', which has survived only as an intermediate -a-. Another Oakamoor (Okamoor 1624 SHC 1970 86) seems to have existed to the west of Shugborough: SHC 1970 map 110.

OAKEDGE on Cannock Chase, to the south of Colwich (SK 0120). Oak Edge (Wood) 1593 SRO DW1781/5/2/1, Oakedge (Hill) 1641 SRO DW1781/5/16/1-14, Oak Edge Estate alias Greenwood 1771 SRO D615/M/6/42, Oakedge 1808 Baugh, Oakedge (Park) c.1833 SRO D615/M/6/53. Oakedge Hall was originally called Whitby Wood, built by John Whitby (d.1752). It was eventually acquired by the Ansons of Shugborough who renamed it Oakedge Hall, occupied it for a few years during the enlargement of Shugborough Hall, then demolished it: Burne 1961: 23-4. See also StEnc 429.

OAKEN 1 mile west of Codsall (SJ 8502). Ache 1086 DB, Aks 1234-40 TestNev, Ak' 1242 Fees, Halken c.1250 SHC VI NS (ii) 49, Oca 1253 SHC IV 124, Hoken 1292 SHC VI (i) 249, Ocke, Oke 1293 ibid. 239, Oke, Oken 13th century Duig, Oke 1327 SHC 1913 8, Okne 1377 SHC 4th Series VI 8, Okene 1378 SHC XIII 149, Weken 1462 SHC IV NS 121, Woken 1577 Saxton, Oken alias Oking 1653 BCA 867/463. Ekwall 1960: 346 gives a derivation from OE acen, a derivative adjective of OE ac meaning 'of oaks', hence '(place) of the oaks', but an adjective would not be expected to form a place-name, the A- and O- forms rule out ac, and the name would seem to be from OE acum, dative plural of ac, so '(place of) the oaks'. A name unique in England, which is curious, since oak trees must have been ubiquitous in the Anglo-Saxon period, so perhaps with some specialised meaning, now lost, involving oak trees or oak timber. There was a grange of Croxden Abbey here: VCH III 226. Oaken Lawn (Oaken lawne 1691 Codsall ParReg) lies 1 mile to the east of Oaken, on the north side of Kingswood Common (SJ 8403), from ME launde 'open space in woodland, a forest glade, woodland pasture'.

OAKENCLOUGH 2½ miles south-west of Longnor (SK 0563). Oconclogh 1419-21 DRO D2375M/1/1, Oconcloghoue 1556 Rental, Okencлож 1568 DRO D2375M/55/2, Okenclough(e) 1599 ParReg, Okenclough 1655 DRO D2375M/58/3, Oakenclough 1794 Stockdale. From OE acen, clōh 'oaks ravine'. A stream here runs through a deep oak-lined ravine. Cf Oaken Clough in Hayfield, Derbyshire. See also Clough.

OAKESWELL in Wednesbury (SO 9894). Okeswell or Hopkins Newhall Place 1662 Ede 1962: 78-9; TSSAHS 1988-9 XXX 65, Oakes-Well-Hall 1672 (1801) Shaw II 87, Oakeswell Hall 1708 Ede 1962: 79. From Mercian OE welle 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream', so 'the spring at the oaks'. A house existed on the site by 1421, and the hall, known as The Rookery in the late 19th century, was demolished in 1961-2: TSSAHS XXX 1988-9 65; see also Ede 1962 77-9.

OAKHAM I mile north of Rowley Regis (SO 9689). Hocume 1674 BCA MS3532/Acc1935-054/444070, Hocum, Hoocom 1687 Rowley Regis ParReg, Holcom 1723 ibid, Oakham 1817 Pitt, 1834 O.S. Seemingly OE hocca-häm 'hám where hocks or mallows grew' (cf. Hoccum), though the forms suggest a long vowel.

OAKLEY in Croxall parish, 7 miles north-east of Lichfield (SK 1913), (at) Aclea 1002x1004 (11th century, S.906; 11th century, S.1536), Acle 1086 DB, c.1187 SHC II 261, 1260 SHC X NS I 275, Acleia c.1180 SHC III (i) 205, Ocle 1199 ibid. 47, Ochley 1272-3 SHC XI NS 243, Axell 1294 SHC XII NS 267, Acleia, Okeley 13th century Duig, Okele 1320 SHC 1911 97, Ocleye 1327 SHC VII 215, Oakley 1332 SHC X 107, Oakley 1798 Shaw I 387, Oakley Mill 1834 O.S.; OAKLEY in Mucklestone parish, 2½ miles north-east of Market Drayton (SJ 7036), Aclei 1086 DB, Akele 1236 Fees, Okle 1265 SHC IV 159, Ockleye 1327 SHC VII (i) 215, 1334 SHC XI 184, Ockelyne 1666 SHC 1921 131. From OE ac, ēah 'oak wood', or 'glade where oaks grow'. Croxall was transferred from Derbyshire to Staffordshire in 1894, but Oakley ('...an old manor, situated about a mile North-west from the church beyond Elford park, and seems to derive its name from the fine oak-trees still growing in this vicinity... ': Shaw 1798: I 387) has always been in Staffordshire. The fact that both Oakleys lie on the county border is coincidence. Modern maps show Oakley 1 mile west of Brewood (SJ 8608), but the place probably takes its name from the 19th century Oakley Farm (Oakley House 1861 SRRC 4752/19/20): no trace of the name has been found in earlier records.

OAKS FARM at Callingwood (SK 1923). Le Hokes under Rohay temp. Edward I SHC 1937 113. 'The oaks under Rough Hay'.

OAT HILL (unlocated, in Trysull.) Othull 1354 (1801) Shaw II 208, Watt-hill or Oat-hill 1603 (1801) ibid. 207. Possibly from ME ód 'beacon, bonfire', so 'the hill with the beacon'. Or the name is perhaps associated with William Othull, recorded in the area at an early date (Shaw 1801: II 208).

OCKER HILL in Tipton, 1 mile south-west of Wednesbury (SO 9793). Hocherrhill 1747 Bowen, Ocker Hill 1787 Act, Hockeshill 1788 Harrison map, Ochre Hill 1798 Yates, Oker Hill 1808 Baugh, Hockerhill 1834 O.S. Possibly from OE *hocer 'a hump, a rounded hill', or from OWelsh ochr 'a side, shelving locality': there is a considerable hill here. However, Shaw 1801: II 85 mentions 'a reddish earth gotten at Tipton', and it is conceivable (though not likely) that the 1798 spelling accurately reflects the origin of the name, from ochre found here. Cf. Hockerills Farm, Worcestershire. It is unclear whether Ochull, recorded in 1271 (SHC V (i) 143), refers to this place. Ockerhill in the parish of Meare is recorded in an undated document: SRO D1229/1/3/33. See also Hockerhill.

ODDO HALL on the north-west side of Ipstones (SK 0150). Odda Hall 1837 O.S., Odo Hall 1890 O.S. The age of this name is uncertain, but if ancient (which is unlikely) possibly from the personal
name Odda, held to be a hypocoristic form of names beginning Ord- (see Insley 1999: 4-5), perhaps betraying a Norse origin (see Björkman 1910: 99-100; and note Oda who held Aston-by-Stone in 1066 (DB): VCH IV 40).

ODYNSMEDUE (unlocated) a field-name in Hammerwich. Odynsmedue 1360 SHC 1921 38. The likelihood that the name is from the Norse god Óðinn, equivalent to the Anglo-Saxon god Woden (and the proximity of Hammerwich to the other Staffordshire place-names incorporating the names of pagan gods, and to Lichfield, may be noteworthy), is improbable, but the name could be from an Anglo-Scandinavian byname (see Tenvik 1938: 32), or possibly from Welsh odyn ‘kiln’ surviving as a loan word: see Om. Odyn’s Fee in Penmark, Dinas Powys, ‘would appear to be the personal name Odin, Odyn, from a diminutive form Odinele, of an original Odo, Otho (Otto), OGer. Audo…introduced into England by the Normans. Well-evidenced in DB: Pierce 1968: 189. Or perhaps from the OE personal name Odwine. The second element is ME mēdewe ‘meadow’.

OFFANDYKE (unlocated, in Trentham, perhaps near Strongford or Kingswood Bank.) Offandyke c.1909 SHC XII NS 74. ‘Offa’s dyke’, presumably attached to some ancient linear earthwork here, but the date of the spelling and the original source are unrecorded. The name is also said to be recorded as Offandyne: StEnc 432.

OFFLEY, BISHOPS 3½ miles west of Eccleshall (SJ 7729). Offleia 1086 DB, Offley Cyprian 1203 SHC 1914 81, Offleia c.1233 Rees 1997: 82, Offleg’ Cyprian 1242 Fees. Offa was a common OE personal name, hence ‘Offa’s lēah’. At the time of DB and afterwards it was held by the bishop of Lichfield. Cyprian is from Sir Cyprian de Offley, who held the place in 1203: SHC 1914 81. Cf. High Offley; Offlow.

OFFLEY, HIGH Ancient Parish 6 miles north-east of Newport (SJ 7826). Offeleia 1086 DB, Hegheoffele 1293 SHC VI (i) 291, Hee Offley 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 175, High Ofley 1610 Speed. ‘Offa’s lēah’. Cf. Bishops Offley; Offlow.


OFFLOW 3 miles south of Lichfield, in Swinfen on the northern boundary of Shenstone parish (SK 1205), one of the meeting places which gave their name to the five administrative Hundreds into which Staffordshire was divided. Offlaw, Offlawe 1086 DB, Offlawehundredum 1182, 1185 P, Offelaw 1189 Fees, Offelawe 1203, Offelawe 1227 Ass, Offlowe 1255 RH, Offlowe 1272 Ass, 1327 SR, 1330 Cl, 1402 FA, Uffelowe 1307 Ass. ‘Offa’s mound or tumulus’, from OE hlǣw ‘hill, mound’, but in Staffordshire almost invariably ‘tumulus’. The name Offa was not uncommon, and there is no evidence to connect this place with the king of the same name. A more detailed discussion of this name will be found in the Introduction. Cf. High Offley; Bishops Offley. See also Offlow in Hamstall Ridware.

OFFLOW According to Shaw 1798: I 152 the name of the combined manors of Cowley and Netherton in Hamstall Ridware. In DB Hamstall Ridware lay in the Hundreds of Pirehill and Offlow, and the part in Offlow may have become the manor of Offlow: Shaw 1798: I *154.
OGLEY HAY 5 miles north of Walsall (SK 0506). Ogintune 996 (for 994) (17th century, S.1380), Hocintyne 1086 DB, Hogeley 12th century Duig, Hoggel' 1256 SHC 1911 127, Oggelay 1271 SHC V (i) 154, Oggelye 1300, Oggelay 1431 Duig, Hogley (Lodge) 1775 Yates. Probably from an OE personal name Hocca, Occa, Oga or Ogga, with the later terminal leah replacing the earlier tun. Formerly one of the Hays or Bailiwicks of Cannock Forest.

OILS HEATH 1 mile north of Butterton (SK 0758). Oils Heath 1840 O.S. Possibly from the family named Oilli, Oyley, Oilly, Oyly recorded in the 12th and 13th century: SHC XVII 240, 252; SHC 1923 259; Sleigh 1883 56. The surname is probably from one of the five Ouillys in Calvados: Ouilly-le-Basset, Ouilly-le-Vicomte, Ouilly-du-Houlley, Ouilly-la-Ribaude and Ouilly-le-Tesson. Or perhaps from the name Hoyle (a south Yorkshire dialectical pronunciation of Hole), with the typical Staffordshire loss of the initial H. See also Doyle; Stokedoily.

OKEMERE (unlocated) the water of Okemere 1275 Banco. From OE Æc-merce 'the pool of the oak'.

OKEOVER 2 miles north-west of Ashbourne (SK 1647). Acofre 1002 Wills, Acovre 1086 DB, Acoure 1130 SHC I 3, Hacchoure 1150x1159 SRO D603/A/Add/21, Akoure 1188x97 SHC 1937 20, Acovera 1197x1213 ibid. 28, Hacovre 1241 SHC VII NS 16, Acovre 1257 SHC XII NS 274, Acovere 1269 SHC VII NS 18, Acove 1279 SHC 1911 175, Ockeovre 1335 SHC XI 140, Oker 1507 SHC VII NS 60, 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 12. 'The slope or ridge where oaks grew', from OE Æc 'oak', with OE ofer 'flat-topped ridge with a convex shoulder': the place lies at the mouth of a steep valley to the south of a flat-topped headland with convex shoulder on the west bank of the River Dove. For 16th century field names in Okeover see SHC VII NS 63-6, 73. Waste in Okeover called Okeover Smethe (probably from OE meþ 'mowing', so 'Okeover's Meadow: see also Mayfield) is recorded in 1324 (Okeover T16), and Okovermethende in 1475 (Okeover T277): see also Mayfield. OLDALL (unlocated, in Consall.) See WOLFDALE.

OLDALL (obsolete) 1 mile north-west of Claverley (SO 7893). Woldebery. Oldbure, Wolfbere (p) 1840 TA. From OE ald-burh 'old fortification', perhaps referring to some ancient earthworks here: see also Wall Hill. Some or all of the early spellings might relate to Oldbury in Shropshire, 1 mile south-west of Bridgnorth (SO 7191). Oldbury Moor in Gornal Wood is recorded in the 18th century (Hackettwood 1898: 103); and field-names Oldbury are recorded south of Hilton near Worfield (SO 7895): TA.

OLDCOTE (obsolete) in Kidsgrove (SJ 8553). Olecote 1273 SHC VI (i) 59, Oulecote 1327 SHC VII (i) 206, 1353 NSFC LIX 1924-5 49, Oulekot c.1360 ibid. 55, Oldscote 1567 SJH 1938 131, Ollcote c.1575 SHC 1912 204, Ollcot 1637 Wiltston ParReg, Oldcote 1650 SRO D1229/1/3/26, Ouldcott 1679 SHC XII NS 34, Oldcote 1679 ibid. 36, Oldcote 1836 O.S. Perhaps 'owl cottage', from OE Ælco tecote, but that would leave the later -d- unexplained, unless from a supposed 'old cot'.

OLDEFORDE - see HALFCOT.

OLDENHILL FARM (unlocated) in Clent. Hodenhull 1237 1pm. Duignan 1905: 120 gives untraced forms including Aldenhulle, Oldenhull, which suggest 'Ealda's hill'. In Staffordshire from the early 13th century until 1844, when it became part of Worcestershire.
OLDERSHAWES 1 mile south-west of High Offley (SJ 7725). Hildershawes 1833 O.S., Oldershire 1851 White. Early spellings have not been traced, but perhaps from OE alor scaga 'alder copse'. As noted by Ekwall 1960: 349, OE alor is owler in many dialects.

OLDE STYCHELEYS (unlocated, near Canwell.) Sticeleia c.1148 VCH III 214, Stitchesleia 12th century ibid, Olde Stycheleys temp. Henry VIII ibid.

OLDFIELD 1 mile north-east of Cheddleton (SJ 9952). le olde fylde 1561 AD 6, Old Fields 1810 EnclA, Old Field 1836 O.S. The word old is ambiguous, and could mean 'disused' or 'in use for a long time'. The precise meaning here is uncertain.

OLDFORD (unlocated, in Stapenhill.) Le Oldeforde 1342 SHC 4th Series VI 91, SHC 1913 90. Probably 'old' in the sense 'former, disused'. Transferred from Derbyshire in 1894.

OLDFURNACE 2 miles east of Cheadle (SK 0443). Old Furnace 1693 SHC 1947 64. There were ironworks here from at least the 17th century: VCH II 116.

OLDHAY TOP 1 mile north-west of Meerbrook (SJ 9762). Oldhay (p) 1332 SR, Ould Hay 1698 Leek ParReg, Old Hay 1842 O.S. From Mercian OE (ge)heg 'enclosure', so 'the top or high part of the old enclosure'.

OLD FALTINGS 2 miles north of Wolverhampton (SJ 9200). Olde Falinge 12th century Duig, Oldefalling 1271 SHC 4th Series XVIII 93, Oldefallyngge 1286 SHC V (i) 173, Holdefallinge 1332 SHC X 126, Oldefallynghe 1342 SHC 1913 93, Oldefallynges 1350 SHC 1928 78. Probably from Mercian OE faelling 'a felling of trees, a clearing', or from Mercian OE faelging 'a piece of ploughed or newly cultivated land', sometimes used in the region as a measure of land: see Ekwall 1923: 23. The place was within Cannock Forest, close to its western boundary. Fallings Heath is 1 mile north of Wednesbury.

OLD HAG 1½ miles north-east of Heaton (SJ 9763). old Hagg 1663 Leek ParReg, Ould Hag 1697 Leek ParReg, Old Hag 1842 O.S. Probably from OE *hagga 'hawthorn', or possibly dialect hag 'coppice'.

OLD HILL in Rowley Regis (S9586); the Owldhill 1556 SHC 1936 216, Old Hill 1727 Rowley Regis ParReg; OLD HILL (unlocated, in Stone); Old Hill 1703 SRO D4913/C/1/2; OLD HILL (WOOD) (obsolete) 1 mile north-east of Audley (SJ8251); Old Hill (Wood) 1836 O.S. Possibly from OE olde 'a steep slope', or even in some cases from Celtic *alt 'hill', so 'the hill called (by the Angles) Olde, or (by the Britons and afterwards by the Angles) *Alt': see Coates & Breeze 2000: 229-231.

OLDINGTON 2 miles north-west of Worfield (SO 7397). Holdington 1238x1250 Eyton 1854-60; III 112, Oldinton 1301 SHC 1939 187, Oldynton 1525 SR, Oldington 1564 Worfield ParReg, 1651 SRO D4092/C/1/39. In Shropshire since the 12th century. See also Olton.

OLD PEEL FARM 1 mile south-west of Audley (SJ 7850). Peele 1575 Audley ParReg, Peele apud Betteley 1587 ibid, Peele 1587 Betley ParReg, the Peelhouse 1612 SHC 1944 82, the Peel 1733 ibid. 4, Old Peel (& New Peel) 1799 Faden. A curious name, possibly from ME pel(e) 'a palisaded and moated enclosure', although that use is not recorded in OED until 1596. Peel has also been proposed as
a variant of the not uncommon Mockbeggar (q.v.), pel being an abbreviated form of repel, or from peel in the sense 'rob': see PN Sa III 216.

OLD RIDGE 1¼ miles south-east of Ipstones (SK 0448). Olderuge 1327 SHC VII (i) 217, 1333 (p) SR, Old(e)rich(e), Old(e)ryche (p) 1331 Ipm, 1442 AD 5, Olderych 1419 SHC XVII 37, Old(e)rech (p) 1438 AD 5, ? the Ouldrign 1693 Kingsley ParReg, Old Ridge 1775 Yates. Perhaps from OE eald 'old' with OE hrycg 'ridge', giving 'the old ridge', though the meaning of such name is unclear, or possibly from Celtic *alt'hill' so 'the ridge on the hill called Alt'.

OLD ROAD - see HANFORD.

OLD SPRINGS (FARM & HALL) 1 mile and 1¼ miles south of Almington (SJ 7032). yolde Spring c.1570 SHC 1945-6 147, woods or pastures called Old Springs 1603 ibid. 168. The word springs meant a flow of water or young tree shoots. In this case the word probably has the former meaning: good springs of water are recorded here: SHC 1945-6 129.

OLD SPRINGS ¼ mile south-east of Swythamley Hall (SJ 9764). Perhaps to be associated with le Springe, recorded in 1621 (SHC 1934 24). Probably 'the long-used spring of water'.

OLDSWINFORD Ancient Parish 1 mile south of Amblecote (SO 9083). Swinford 951x955 (15th/16th century, S.579), Swineford 1086 DB, Swyneford, Swineford 1235 Fees, 1291 Tax, Old Swynford 1291 Ipm, Oldeswyneford, Woldswynford 1327 SR, 1438 Pat. From OE swin, ford 'pig or boar ford'. The 'old' distinguishes this place from Kingswinford (q.v.), which sometimes appears as New Swinford. Wold is a dialect form of old. The ecclesiastical parish is properly Old Swinford. Oldswinford was included in the Staffordshire township of Amblecote, but transferred to Worcestershire in the 19th century: see Youngs 1991: 484-5.

OLIVE GREEN 1 mile south-east of Hamstall Ridware (SK 1118). Gallows Green 1741/2 SRO D789, Olive Green 1775 Yates, Gallows green 1798 Shaw I 152, Olive Green 1801 Smith, Gallows Green 1806 Hamstall Ridware ParReg, 1834 O.S. The place, which appears to have had alternative names, was presumably the site of the manorial gallows. The present name was perhaps adopted by residents as less macabre.

OLIVER'S GREEN on the west side of Denstone (SK 0940). Presumably to be associated with Cromwell's Green recorded by Redfern 1886: 75, a name attached to a double-ditched earthwork, from a supposed association with Oliver Cromwell.

OLIVER HILL a 1684' hill, the highest point in Staffordshire, to the north of Flash (SK 0267). Hill Top 1798 Yates. Early spellings have not been traced, and the age of the name is unknown, but presumably a family name (for Oliver/Olliver families in Alstonesfield/Fawfield Head in 1666 see SHC 1925 233-6), perhaps from Thomas Oliver, agent of the Harpur Crewe estate in the early 19th century (StSt 8 1996 72-3); Ralph Oliver, farmer and carrier of Flash, mentioned in 1872 (P.O. 696); George Oliver of Heathylee recorded in 1880 (Kelly); or James Oliver, recorded in a Quarnford Rental c.1870, and presumably the donor of a reredos to Flash church c.1901 (VCH VII 55).

OLMETON (unlocated) Olmeton 1234-40 TestNev.
OLRENSCHAWE (unlocated, probably near Uttoxeter or Marchington, or perhaps Ollerenshaw (Hall) in Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire: see Tooth 2000b: 176.) Olrenschawe 1306 SHC 1911 67. The meaning of this name, which may have given rise to the Staffordshire surname Olrenshaw, is the same as Aldershawe (q.v.).

OLTON (obsolete.) A settlement which existed 1 mile west of Pattingham until the creation of Patshull Park in the 1740s: VCH XX 162 (SO 7999). Oldinton 1294 SHC VII 10, Oldynton '1333 SHC X (i) 130, Olton 1336 VCH XX 167, 1374 ibid. 162 fn.34, Oldington 1401 (1801) Shaw II 282, Oldyngton 1435 SHC III NS 133, Woldyngton 1538 SHC XI 276, Oldington 1603 VCH XX 167, Oulton 1695 Morden, Olton early 19th century VCH XX 162. The -ing- in some of the forms suggests 'the tan of the family or followers of a man called Alda'. See also Oldington; Oulton.

OLYNGH, OTYNGH (unlocated, a park in the manor of Sedgley.) Olyngh, Otyngh 1291 SHC 1911 202. Perhaps to be associated with Ettingsall Park (q.v.), or with Ettymore (Road) on the west side of Bull Ring.

ONECOTE (pronounced Uncut [AnkAt]) 5 miles east of Leek (SK 0455). Ancote 1199 FF, Ancot 1204 SHC III 104, Onecot (p) c.1266 StCart, Onechot (p) c.1270 Loxdale, Hunicote 1271 SHC VI (i) 51, Onecote 1272 Ass, Honecota (p) c.1275 Loxdale, Onecot 1298 SHC XI NS 257, Onyecot 1306 SHC VII 171, Onecote 1325 SHC 1911 366, Uncote 1413 SHC XVII 7, Oncote 1553 SHC 1926 15, Oncott near Whittle 1599 SHC XVIII 16, Angcotes 1631 D476/75-77, Onkot 1703 Alstonefield ParReg: ONCOTE 1 mile west of Great Bridgeford (SJ 8626), Onekote 1381 SHC XIII 166, Uncote 1596 SHC XVI 159, Oncote Hall c.1727 D615/M4/15, Oncote 1836 O.S., Oncote (Coppice) 1995 O.S. From OE an ‘one, single’, with OE cote ‘cottages’, giving ‘the lonely cottages’, or perhaps from the OE personal name Anna or Onna: cf. Onneley. Whittle mentioned in the 1599 spelling is Whittle (Upper and Under) (q.v.). See also Coudry.


ONNELEY 1¼ miles north-east of Woore (SJ 7543). Anelege 1086 DB (Shropshire), Oneleia 1185 TpR, Onilegh 1211 Cur, Onileg 1212 SHC III 153, Onylye 1293 SHC VI (i) 228, 1323 SHC IX (i) 93, Onelay, Onaylay 1381 SHC VIII NS 359-61, Anneley 1577 Saxton. ‘Anna's or Onna's leah’, or (since the spellings have only one n) from OE ana leah ‘the single or lonely leah’. Cf. Onecote; Olney, Northamptonshire.

ONN, HIGH & LITTLE in Church Eaton parish, 6 and 7 miles south-east of Newport (SJ 8216 & 8416). Otnham 1081 SHC 1914 104, One (High Om), Anne (Little Om) 1086 DB, Onna, Othna c.1130 Ordericus, Onne 1221 FF, Onna 1230 Cl, Oyme 1233 VCH IV 95, 1293 SHC VI (i) 289, Olne, Great Onne, Little Onne 1253 SHC IV 128, Honne 1260 ibid. 145, Parva Honne 1272 SHC IV 191, Little onne 1293 SHC 1911 49, Oten Edisch 1343 SHC 1913 106, Hygonn 1430 SHC XVII 127, Great Om 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 96, Hyghon 1577 Plot, Alta Onne otherwise Highe Omne 1592 SHC XVI 131. From the plural MWelsh odynau, ModWelsh odynau, probably borrowed from PrWelsh *Odenou.
after the loss of the British final endings, later with the loss of the e through syncope, and weakening of
the final -ou to OE -a or -e: see TSAHS 1995-6 XXXVII 139; Coates & Breeze 2000: 197-8. The early
Welsh laws mention the rights and obligations relating to kilns, and even distinguish between those
with flues and those without. These places - which lie very close to, and are separated by, a lost Roman
road from Pennocrucium to Chester (Margary number 19), which may well have been in use when the
kilns were constructed - evidently borrowed their name from Brittonic in the late 6th century, when the
area was first occupied by the English. The plural forms show that there was more than one kiln at
these two places, but whether only one at each place, or several which were divided into two estates is
not known. Cf. Odencolc, recorded in 846 near Thurlstone, Devon, from OCornish odon 'lime-kiln'.
The second element of the 1343 form is from OE edise 'an enclosure, an enclosed park'. The 1081
spelling is from a charter of William I (from Monasticon II 966), in Erdeswick 1844: 31. See also
Odynsmedue and Oulton House Farm for other possible examples of the element in Staffordshire.

ORBETON, HERBETON (unlocated) in Hopton. Orbreton 1161x1182 SRO (1/7972), Orbeton pre-
1182 SHC 1909 145, Erburton, Orbeton c.1200 SHC VIII (i) 176-7, Herbertum 1203 SHC III 95,
Orbrichton c.1240 SHC 1913 307, Herbreton 1261 SHC IV 148, Orreberton c.1350 SRO (10/7962),
Eburton 1351 SHC 1913 146, Arborton 1581 SHC XVII 227, Herbeton 1778 D240/E(A)2/222.
Described in 1679 as 'Anciently a small village, long since depopulated": SHC 1909 145; 'between St
Thomas' Priory and Tixall, not far from Kingston Cover. Now absorbed into Coton': SHC VIII I 177;
see also SHC 1913 222-3. The inconsistent forms are confusing, but perhaps from an OE personal
name Ordbrihht or similar, with OE tān.

ORCHARD FARM the northernmost habitation in Staffordshire, 1 mile north of Flash (SK 0168).
Orchard Farm 1737 VCH VII 52, Orchards 1775 Yates, The Orchard 1842 O.S. Presumably from
fruit trees which grew here, or (since this is high ground where fruit trees might not normally be
expected) perhaps from the surname Orchard, recorded in the area in the early 17th century: SHC
XVIII 56. The place is associated with coal mining: see StSt 9 1996 71.

ORCHARDS, THE on the south side of Okeover (SK 1547). the Orchards 1776 Okeover E26-7,
Orchard 1798 Yates, Orchards 1836 O.S.; ORCHARD, THE (unlocated), in Alstonefield, the Orchard
1563 SHC 1931 125. The first place may be associated with an Orchard in Oker recorded in 1508:
SHC VII NS 64. Presumably from fruit trees, but see also Orchard Farm.

ORDLEY BROOK a tributary of the Tit Brook, which flows into the river Dove.

ORDSEY (obsolete) 3 miles north of Walsall. Ordeiseie 996 (for 994) (17th century, S.1380),
Ordescia 1247 SHC 1911 407. "Ord's island'. *Ord is not recorded as an OE personal name (though
the weak form Orda is recorded: Redin 1919: 52), but formed the first element of many names, e.g.
Ordbeorht, Ordgar, Ordfrith, etc., and was an early ME family name.

ORGREAVE 1½ miles north-west of Alrewas (SK 1416). Orggrave 1195 f. P, Orgrave 1203 SHC III
104, Oregrave 1260 SHC X NS (i) 276, Oregraeve 1269 SHC 1910 129, Orggrave, Ordegrave 13th
century Duig. The second element is held by Ekwall 1960: 350 to be OE greafe 'grove', with an
uncertain first element. Greafe is difficult to distinguish from OE graf 'a trench, a ditch'. The first
element may be an unrecorded OE personal name Orda, or be from OE ord 'point, sword', which may have had a topographical meaning such as 'shaped like a point'. Gelling & Cole 2000: 228 suggests that the name may incorporate ord 'point' with reference to the shape of the wood or to an adjacent topographical feature. A derivation from OE ðra græf 'ore pit' is proposed for Orgrave, Lancashire, and Orgreave, West Yorkshire (see Ekwall 1960: 350), but for this place, although there is a history of coal mining, that etymology would not account for the -d-. The place was in Alrewas Hay in Cannock Forest, near the Trent. Cf. Orgreave, Yorkshire West; Orgrave, Lancashire.

ORSLOW in Church Eaton parish, 5 miles south-east of Newport (SJ 8015). Horslage 1195 P, Horselawe 1203 Fine, 1208 Ass, c.1215 Rees 1997: 62, Hors(e)lowe 1208 FF, 1285 Ch, 1298 to 1468 Ipm, Orselawe 1242 Fees, Horselegh 1294 SHC 1911 227, Horselowe 1298 ibid. 236, Orsoloowe c.1301 Bod. 31, Orselowe 14th century Duig, Horslow 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 96. Perhaps 'Horsa's burial mound', or 'the horse's mound', from OE hlæw 'low, tumulus'.

ORTON 4½ miles south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 8695). Overtone 1086 DB, Overton c.1195 SHC III (i) 219, Orton frequently 13th century Duig, Oueron 1388 SRRC 2089/2/2/8, Monte de Huerton 1391 SHC XV 36, Overton otherwise Orton 1597 SHC XVI 163. Probably from OE uferratān 'ridge settlement' (Orton Hill reaches a height of 535'), though it is not possible to distinguish OE ofer tān 'ridge settlement' and OE uferra tān 'higher settlement'.

OSCOTT 4 miles south-west of Aldridge (SO 0794); Oscote 1297 SHC VII 43, 1344 Ch, Oscott 13th century Duig, 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 74, Oscote c.1566 SHC 1938 57, Awscote 1587 SHC 1929 203, Oscote 1617 SHC VI NS (i) 24, Oscott 1680 SHC 1919 268, Auscot 1686 Plot, 1747 Bowen; OSCOTE (unlocated) in Church Eaton; Auscott, Auskott 1597 QSR. The terminal is clearly OE cot 'cot, cottage, shelter', and the qualifier may be from one of many OE personal names beginning with Os-, such as Osa, Oswald, Osbeorn, Osmod, Oswulf, etc. The first place was originally at what is now known as Kingstanding, and the name has been transferred to the area surrounding Oscott Roman Catholic College 3 miles to the east, known as New Oscott since it was built in 1838.

OSFIELD (unlocated, possibly near Mayfield.) Osfield 1656 Leek ParReg, Osfuld 1657 ibid.

OSSOMS HILL a 1093' hill 1 mile west of Wetton (SK 0955). Ossomshall 1836 O.S. Early forms have not been traced, but if ancient possibly from the OE personal name Ósmund, which is found in the parishes of Osmaston by Derby and Osmaston by Ashbourne, Derbyshire (see PN Db 595), the latter 10 miles to the south-east of Ossoms Hill, or from the ON personal name Ásmundr. A cave in the hill here is called Ossoms's Cave, but early spellings have not been traced.

OTIHERTON 1 mile south of Penkridge (SJ 9212). Orretoine 1086 DB, Oðerton 1166 SHC 1923 295, Otherton 1242 Fees, Æ Oderstone 1421 SHC XVII 77. The forms suggest a derivation from OE ððer 'other', giving 'the other, or second, tān' (cf. Othery, Somerset).

OTTIWELL (unlocated, said to be between Audley and Heighley Castle: introduction to printed Betley ParReg). Otiwell 1619 Betley ParReg. It is said that this name is a corruption of a place called the Devil's Well, a sacred well dedicated to St Ottilia, whose French name Odille became corrupted by popular etymology into Old De'il: introduction to printed Betley ParReg; see also StEnc 178.
OULIES, GREAT (unlocated, probably in Uttoxeter.) *the great Owleys 1651 SRO D786/7, the Owleys 1684 SRO D7/3, Great Oulies 1735 SRO D786/7/4.

OULTON 1 mile north of Stone (SJ 9135), *Oldington(e) (p) 1268 Coram, 1370 FF, Oldeton 1280 SHC VI (i) 99, Oldington 13th century Duig, Aldeton c.1350 SRO (10/7962), Overoldyngton 1364 Misc; OULTON, UPPER & LOWER 1 mile south of Norbury (SJ 7822), *Oldington(e) (p) 1268 Coram, 1371 FF, Oldyngton 1364 Misc, O(u)lton 1413 Deed (et freq.), Nether Oldington, Overoldyngton 1405 SHC XVI 45, Wolton 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 170, Netherolton 1608 SHC 1948-9 112. The -ing in the various forms suggests *the tân of the family or followers of a man called Alda*, rather than *ald tân* 'the old tân'. Many of the forms are too imprecise in context to identify which Oulton is meant. See also Olton.

OULTON 1 mile west of Rushton Spencer (SJ 9262). Oulton 1651 SRO DW1761/A/4/150, Holton 1798 Yates, Oulton (Wood) 1842 O.S., *The Oultons* 1849 SRO D5003/2/3/1. Without earlier spellings it is not possible to put forward a likely derivation.

OULTON HOUSE FARM ½ mile north-west of Milwich (SJ 9633). Oten 1568 SHC 1931 211, Oulton House 1836 O.S. Probably *the old tân*, but the absence of early spellings makes the derivation uncertain: see Oulton. Whilst the early spelling is probably a local phonetic version of Oulton, it is not impossible that the name derives from Welsh *odyn* 'kiln', from an older PrWelsh *otna. Odyn* would have been in OWelsh *odin*, with the spelling *otin* (cf. OCornish *oden*). The name might well have developed into Oulton from knowledge of other places of this more common name. The 1568 spelling may refer to the moated site a short distance north of the present house. See also Odynsmedue; Orin.

OUNSDALE on north side of Wombourne (SO 8693). The name would appear to derive from one of the open fields of Wombourne, Holendenesfelde c.1314 SHC 1928 22, Holundenesfeld 1316 ibid. 26, Holendenesfeld 1347 ibid. 37, Hounden field 1483 VCH XX 209, Houndel 1767 SRO D1368/1, Ounsdale 1834 O.S., Houndale (Leasow) 1840 T.A. The name is from OE holen denu 'valley with the hollies', with OE feld 'open country', later 'field'. The older name Houndel survives in Houndel Bridge on the Staffordshire & Worcestershire canal at Ounsdale.

OUSE, THE (unlocated, in the Uttoxeter/Dove Bridge area.) *the Ouse* 1678 SRO DW1733/A/2/56. From OE wâse 'a muddy place, a marsh, a mire'.

OUSLEY BROOK a tributary of the Rangemoor Brook which runs into the river Dove. Possibly from OE wâse 'a muddy place, a marsh', with OE leah. Evidently associated with Ousley Wood (1836 O.S.), 1 mile north-east of Ellastone (SK 1244), and Ousley Cross.

OUSLEY CROSS 1½ miles north-east of Ellastone (SK 1244). Oseyle Cross 1629 Ellastone ParReg, Ouseley Crosse 1682 ibid, Ousley Cross 1836 O.S., Ouzley Cross late 19th century SRO D240/E(A)2/187. Possibly from OE wâse 'a muddy place, a marsh', with OE leah, or perhaps a surname: see SRO D644/3/1; StEnc 440. There is an ancient socketed stone cross base here. See also Ousley Brook.

OUTCLOUGH (obsolete) 1½ miles north-west of Norton in the Moors (SJ 8853). *The outclough* 1645/6 SRO QSR A1645/6ff12-3, *The Outclough* c.1715 SRO D5240/1/8-13, Outclough 1836 O.S.
From OE ət, əte 'outside, on the outskirts', used to describe '(a place) lying on the outskirts or further away from something', but usually as an affix with an adjectival function meaning 'outer, more distant', with OE *clôh, ME clough 'a steep sided valley', so 'the further valley or ravine'.

OUTLANDS 2 miles north of Adbaston (SJ 7730). Outlands 1672 Eccleshall ParReg. 'The land outside the settlement'.

OUTWOODS 2 1/2 miles east of Newport (SJ 7818), Outwoods 1666 SRO DW1736/iv/1, the Outwood(s) 1674 Gnossall ParReg, Outwoods Common 1797 EncIA, Outwoods 1834 O.S.; OUTWOODS 1 mile east of Anslow (SK 2225), Outwoode 1499 StEnc 440, owtwoods of Burton 1560 SRO D603/E/1/7, the outwood 1619 HLS 537, Outwoods 1709 SRO D603/L71, Outwoods (Common) 1771 SRO M/7/21. From OE ət, əte 'outside, on the outskirts', used to describe 'a place lying on the outskirts or further away from something', but usually as an affix with an adjectival function meaning 'outer, more distant'. The first place is close to the Staffordshire-Shropshire border. Horninglowe outwoodes is recorded in 1619 (SRO DW1734/1/4/166), Hopton Outwood in 1548 (SHC 1912 169), and Outwood Gate, on Biddulph Moor (SJ 9058), in 1842 (O.S.).

OVEREND (unlocated, in Handsworth.) Overend c.1564 SHC 1938 68. Possibly to be associated with Weuerend, recorded c.1565: SHC 1938 8.

OVERTON 1 mile east of Checkley (SK 0438), Overton 1236 SHC XII 178, c.1559 SHC 1925 139, 1580 SHC XV 129, Hoverton 1836 O.S.; OVERTON an alternative name for Upper Biddulph (SJ 8961): see Biddulph, Overton 1333 SHC X 94, Ovurton, Overton 1343 SHC XII 25, Overton c.1535 SHC 1912 75, 1662 Biddulph ParReg; OVERTON on west side of Hammerwich (SK 0607), Overton 13th century VCH XIV 259, 1327 SHC VII (i) 232. From OE ofer tan 'ridge settlement' or OE uferra tan 'higher settlement' - it is not possible to distinguish the two.

OXFORD 1 1/4 miles north-east of Norton in the Moors (SJ 8753). New Oxford 1836 O.S. Perhaps to be associated with Oxneford (unlocated, but possibly near Bucknall), recorded in 1327 (SHC VII (i) 198), and OXENFORD, recorded in 1332 (Tax), which may have been the 'old' Oxford.

OX HAY 1 mile west of Meerbrook (SJ 9760), Oxehay 16th century CtAugm, 1725 Okeover, 1842 O.S.; OXHEY (unlocated) Oxhey 1461 HAME 485. From Mercian OE (ge)heg 'fence, enclosure', so 'the enclosure with the ox'.

See also WA 1278-28 1; Mander & Tildesley 1960: 31; 42.
OXLEY in Bushbury parish, 1 1/4 miles north of Wolverhampton (SJ 9002). Oxelie 1086 DB, Oxelea 1228 SHC IV 62, Oxleg 1236 Fees, Oxle 1242 Fees, 1271 SHC V (i) 154, 1279 SHC 1911 175, Oxleg 1262 SHC V (i) 137, Oxley 13th century Duig, Ox Ley 1775 Yates. From OE oxa 'ox', and OE læah.

PACKINGTON in Weeford parish, 3 miles north-west of Tamworth (SK 1606). Padintone, Pagintone 1086 DB, Pakinton, Pachinton 1166 SHC 1923 295, Pakintona 1177 SIX XII NS 278, Pakinton 1242 Fees, Packington 1296 (1801) Shaw 11 26, Packynton 1335 ibid. In the absence of a common noun which could account for the first element of this name, it must be assumed to be from an unrecorded OE personal name Pac(c)a, so giving "*Pac(c)a's tân" or 'the tân of *Pac(c)a's people': see Ekwall 1960: 356.

PADBURY (LANE) 1 mile south-west of Chorley (SK 0610). Padebury temp. Henry VIII SHC VI (ii) 166, Padburies 1561 HLS 582, the little Padburies and the great Padburies 1608 SHC 1934 (ii) 43. Perhaps from OE *padde 'toad', with OE byrig, dative of burh 'fortification, manor house', so possibly 'fortification with the toads'. Perhaps to be associated with Padwall (q.v.).

PADWALLE (unlocated, possibly near Longdon.) Padwalle 1481 OSS 1936 42. Perhaps from OE *padde 'toad', with Mercian OE welle 'spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream', so 'toad spring'. Perhaps to be associated with Padbury (q.v.).

PADWICK 1/2 mile north-east of Sharpcliffe (SK 0152). Parnwic c.1245 SHC 1911 439, Padewick 1275 SHC V (i) 118, Padewyk 1292 SHC 1911 216, 1304 ibid. 433. Possibly 'the noticable for the surfeit of toads', from OE *padde 'toad'.

PAGET'S BROMLEY - see ABBOTS BROMLEY.

PAINLEY (HILL) 3 miles west of Uttoxeter (SK 0333). Pynlawe 1272 SHC IV 187, Paynelowe 1293 SHC VI (i) 227, Paynlowe 1327 SHC VII (i) 222, 1332 SIX X (i) 111, Paynlow 1341 SHC 1921 19, Painley 1562 SHC IX NS 213, Painley Hill 1596 SHC XVI 152, Payley-hill 1686 Plot, Painley Hill 1836 O.S. The hill evidently gave its name to Painley, shown to the east of the hill on the 1836 O.S. map. The earliest spelling suggests a derivation from OE pinn 'peg, pin', used topographically of narrow ridges, with OE hlâw 'tumulus, mound, hill', hence 'the narrow ridge with the tumulus', or possibly 'the ridged tumulus'. An alternative derivation is from the OE personal name Pægna (found in Bede as Pægnalaech): cf. Paignton, Dorset, or from Pain, a French personal name, identical with OFr païen 'heathen' (from Latin paganus), originally 'villager, rustic', later 'heathen'. If from a personal name, that same name may be found in Paynsley (q.v.).

PAGET'S BROMLEY.

PALFREY GREEN 1 mile south-east of Walsall (SO 0197). Palfrey Green 1386 VCH XVII 157, Palfrey-Green-Leasow 1520 (1798) Shaw I 80, Palfrey's Field, Palfrey's Green 1528 SRO D593/A/2/20/35, Palfrey's Field lying next to Palfrey's Green 1540 SRO D593/A/2/20/36, Palfrey Green 16th century, Palfrey Green 17th century Duig. From ME (from OFr) palfre 'riding horse'.

PALMERS CROSS 2 miles north-west of Wolverhampton (SJ 8801). ? Cros 1359 WA I 268, Palmers Cross Corner 1613 map of Tettenhall Hay PRO, VCH XX 12 fn, Palmers Cross 1788 Codsall
ParReg. Palmer's Cross 1801 Shaw II 202, 1834 O.S. The OED defines a palmer as 'a pilgrim who has returned from the Holy Land, in token of which he carried a palm-branch or palm leaf; also, an itinerant monk under a perpetual vow of poverty; often simply a pilgrim'. It seems possible that the name is from a pilgrim cross which stood here. The surname le Palmer is not uncommon in Staffordshire. For a lost Palmerecros in Derbyshire see PN Db I xl, and for Palmer's Cross in Derby, see PN Db 455.

PANNIERS POOL at Three Shires Heads (SK 0068). Pannyer poole 1533 Bateman 1861, Paviner pool 'usually called Panniers’ 1654 ibid. Perhaps because the pool is supposedly shaped like a pannier, or from the panniers of packhorses resting here: a number of packhorse trails met at this point. Or possibly from a surname.

PARADISE 1 mile south-east of Coven (SJ 9206). le olde paradis 1338 Ct, Paradise 1775 Yates, 1834 O.S. 'The perfect or beautiful place', but perhaps also used (though unlikely here) in a disparaging way of places quite the opposite. The reference to olde in 1338 suggests the possibility that the name may refer to some archaeological feature: the place lies on a Roman road (Margary number 190) which ran south-east from Pennocrucium (Water Eaton). The ModE word parvis 'the enclosed area in front of a building', sometimes 'the portico or colonnade in front of a church; a church porch', derives from Latin paradisum, and might explain some names of this type. It has also been suggested that such names might refer to the growing of Paradise seed imported from Morocco or Tripoli in the 15th century: Foxall 1980: 26; PNEF 33; 152. Paradise also occurs 2 miles west of Brewood, near Pearce Hay Farm, but the age of the name is unknown; 1 mile south of Alton (1798 Yates, 1836 O.S.); at Lane End, Willenhall (1721 WA II 36); at Castle Church (Paradyse 1462 Oakden 1984: 81); at Horton (Paradise 1652 SRO DWI 702/1/25), and in Audley (the Paradise 1646 SRO D916).

PARKES HALL - see PERSEHOUSE HALL.

PARKFIELD 1½ miles south of Wolverhampton (SO 9296). Parkfeilds 1659 Sedgley ParReg. 'The fields in the Park (of Ettingshall)'.

PARKHALL 1 mile west of Cheadle (SJ 9943). Parkehall 1340 SHC XII 178, 1583 SHC XV 147, 1499 SHC XII 178, Parkhall 1347 SHC XI 162, 1411 SHC XVI 91, 1609 SHC III NS 52, Parke Hall 1663 SHC II (ii) 50. 'The hall at the park'. It has been suggested that Parkhall may have been another name for the manor of Cheadle: see SHC XII 178, but also SHC XVI 90-2.

PARK HALL on the west side of Weston Coyney (SJ 9244). Parkhall 1411 SHC XVI 90, one new erected messuage or house called The Park Hall 1589 SRO D5100/42, 1836 O.S. See also SHC XVI 90-1.

PARK PALES ¾ mile north-west of Bishop's Wood near Brewood (SJ 8309). Park Pales 1836 O.S. Park pales were 'a special palisade of cleft-oak stakes': Rackham 1990: 153. The place lies on the boundary of Weston Park.

PARK SPRINGS (FARM) 1 mile south-west of Hales (SJ 7333). Sprinkes (young tree shoots) are recorded in 1562: SHC 1945-6 117. The place was known as Goatman's Hill in 1684: SHC 1945-6 190.

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PARLES (unlocated, possibly in Handsworth.) *Parles* 1181 SHC I 96, 1194 SHC III (i) 28, 1208 *ibid.* 148, 1228 SHC 1924 251, c.1238 (1798) Shaw I xxvi, 1279 SHC 1911 173.

PARON'S WOOD (unlocated, in Wolseley Wood.) *Paron's Wood* c.1520 SRO DW1781/5/1/1-3.

PASFORD 1 mile west of Pattingham (SO 8099). *Paffard (Bridge)* 1542 SRO A/2/11/9, *Pafford (Bridge)* 1543 SRO D593/A/2/11/9, *Pasford (Brooke)* 1716 SRRC 2161/107, *Basford or Pasford (Mills)* 1717 SRO D564/3/4/9; VCH XX 173. Perhaps from OE *pæpford* 'the ford at the path', with -thf- developing into -ff-: cf. Stafford. Basset's Mill is recorded in 1403 (VCH XX 178), associated with Ralph Basset who held land in Pattingham in 1257 (*ibid.*), but there is little likelihood that this name could be a corruption of Basset's Ford.

PATMARSH 2 miles north-east of Worfield (SO 7498). *Pattmarsh* 1722 SRRC 5586/2/1/467-468, the *Patmarsh* 1816 SRRC 5586/5/5/158. In Shropshire since the 12th century. Early spellings have not been traced, but the first element may be associated with the personal name found in Pattingham (q.v.).


PATTINGHAM Ancient Parish 6 miles west of Wolverhampton (SO 8299). *Patinghâ* 1086 DB, *Patingeham* 1157 SHC I 25, *Patingeham* 1169 P, *Pattinghamham* 12th century Duig, *Patingham* 1275 SHC VI (i) 66, *Patyncheham* 1380 SHC XIII 154, *Patyngehamhome* 1433 SHC XVII 142, *Patyncham* 1448 SHC 1939 193, *Patengham* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 185, *Patbingham* 1574 SRO 2089/2/2/57, *Pattengem* 1762 Trewsly ParReg. The *ham of *P(e)atta's people'. A more detailed discussion of the name will be found in the Introduction. The 1380 and 1448 spellings are evidence of the soft -ing- pronunciation of -ing- which was still heard until recent times. The ancient parish of Pattingham consisted of two townships and manors, Pattingham in Staffordshire and Rudge in Shropshire. Since 1866 each has been a civil parish in its own county. See also Patshull.

PATYNGEHAMBORNE (unlocated, in or near Pattingham.) *Patyngehamborne* 1424 Brighton 1942: 120. Incorporating OE *burna* 'stream', so 'The Pattingham stream'.

PAYNSLEY ¼ mile west of Draycott in the Moors (SJ 9838). *Lyfamesleg* 1086 (DB, formerly identified as Checkley: VCH IV 41), *Paynesleigh* 1348 SHC 1925 107, *Paynesley* 1413 SHC XVII 9,
Peynesley 1529 SHC 1912 31, Painsley c.1540 Leland, Painsley 1599 Smith, Paynsley 1611 SHC IV NS 13, Painsley, Peynsley 1644 SHC 4th Series I 68-9, Paynsley 1686 Plot 107. The DB form is clearly aberrant, or conceivably an earlier name. The derivation would seem to be from a personal name, possibly the same as that proposed as a possible derivation for Painley (q.v.), with OE lēah.


PEAK DISTRICT the rugged high ground of north-west Derbyshire and northern Staffordshire. Pecsatna lond 7th century Tribal Hidage, Peacesdele 1015 (11th century, S.1503), Peeke 1326 SHC X 66, Peek 1338 SRO D593/B/1/24/1/1, the Peak 1686 Plot 135. 'District of the peak dwellers', from OE *pēac with OE sæte 'settlers, dwellers', genitive plural sætna. Lond is from OE lond 'land'; -dele from OE dēl 'a share of land, a district', a rare place-name element. See also Totmonslow.

PEAKSTONES 1 mile east of Alton (SK 0542). Pekston, Pekstone 1361 SHC XIII 19, Pekestones 1414 SHC XI 225, Peykestony 1541 StEnc 447, Peakstones 1604 SHC 1940 194, Pixton otherwise Peakestones 1612 SHC IV NS 23, Peakstones 1686 Plot, Peak Stones Rock 1836 O.S. From OE *pēac 'hill, peak', the name meaning here 'the pointed stones'. See also Thor's Cave.

PEARCE HAY 2 miles west of Brewood (SJ 8408). Pecehaie 1207 SHC III 140, Perechay 1370 SHC XIII 62, Peyrse hey 1569 Ct, Pearce Hayside 1646 Survey, Peircehay or Priests hay 1723 ibid, Pearsey Hay 1775 Yates. From Mercian OE (ge)heg 'a fence, an enclosure', so 'the enclosure of Pearce or Piers'. Pearce and Piers are common personal first names from OFr Piers: DES 351. Although the Bishops of Lichfield had a wood here (see Bishop's Wood), 'priests' hay' is not supported by the other forms, and would in any event be difficult to explain. The place lay within Brewood Forest.

PEARL BROOK a tributary of the river Sow. From OE pyrle 'bubbling', a common spring or stream-name, with OE brōc 'brook'.

PEARL WELL (obsolete) in Lyndon in West Bromwich (SO 0092). Pearl Well 1851 White. Described in White 1851: 682 as 'a remarkably fine spring of pure water'. From OE pyrle 'bubbling', with Mercian OE wcelle 'a spring,' and (sometimes) 'a stream'.


PEATSWOOD 1 mile east of Market Drayton (SJ 6933). Payt's hyll 1576 SHC 1945-6 86, Peats Wood 1699 ibid, Peats Wood 1833 O.S. From the Peat, Peyte, or Payt family of Almington who held
land here: see SHC 1945-6 136. StEnc 447 suggests that the place was also called Skelhorne Spring and John Preston's Hill.

PECKSTOWE (unlocated) Peckstowe 1327 (1798) Shaw I 40. Possibly from OE *pēcā 'peak', with OE stōw 'a place, a place of assembly, a holy place', in which case a name of some interest, but the single form makes any derivation speculative.

PEDELE (unlocated, possibly near Doxey/Seighford.) Pedele 1304 SHC VII 120. Possibly 'Pēoda's īnāh', but the single spelling precludes any certain derivation.

PEEL, OLD 1 mile south-west of Audley (SJ 7850). Peele 1586 Betley ParReg, Peele Greene 1656 ibid, Old Peel Carr, New Peel 1798 Yates, Old Peel 1833 O.S. Possibly from OE pel(e) 'a stockade, an enclosure formed by a palisade'.

PEGS WOOD (BIG & LITTLE) ½ mile north of Okeover (SK 1549). Pegs Posterne 1640 Ipm, Peggs Wood 1752 Okeover E18, Pegs Wood 1838 O.S. From the surname Pegg: cf. Joseph Pegg 1775 (Okeover E6). Posterne is from ME posterne 'a back door, a secondary gate'.

PELL WALL 1 mile south-east of Market Drayton (SJ 6733), in Shropshire. Pellwall 1833 O.S. Pell Wall Hall, which was built in the 1820s, is said to have taken its name from one of the fields here: SHC 1945-6 258. The first word may be from the southern dialect word pell, meaning 'a deep place, a hole of water' (EDD). The second word is Mercian OE wcelle, meaning 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream'. A spring of water in a deep cavity is recorded here: SHC 1945-6 258. Pīl Will, recorded in the north-west of Onecote in 1845 (VCH VII 215) may have the same derivation, or the first element may be from ON pīl 'a willow', with the second word meaning the same, indicating that pīl had become meaningless.

PELSALL 3 miles north of Walsall (SK 0103). Weoleshale (for Peoleshale) 996 (for 994) (17th century, S.1380), Peleshale 1086 DB, 1327 SHC VII (i) 249, Peleshala 1167 P, Poleshale 1286 SHC V (i) 174, Pellyshale 1307 SHC 1911 287, Pieleshale 1310 ibid. 307, Pelleshale 1311 ibid. 309, Peleshale 1339 SHC 1913 74, Pellsall 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 144. 'P8o1's halh', the second element possibly meaning here 'land between two streams': see Hooke 1983: 77. The personal name Pēol is also found in the name Peolesford in the charter of 994 (17th century, S.1380) in which Pelsall is first recorded.

PENDEFORD in Tettenhall parish, 3½ miles north of Wolverhampton (SJ 8903). Pendeford 1086 DB, Pendefort late 12th century Rees 1997: 42, Penneford 1222 SHC IV 19, Pendeford 1249, 1273, 1278, 1316 SHC 1911, 1282 Ch, Penford 1277 SHC 1887 177, Pondeford 1284 FA, Penford 1577 Smith SRO, Penford 1686 Plot, Penford als Penkford 1747 Bowen, Penford 1775 Yates. The name is generally held to be 'Penda's ford'. The personal name may be connected with the powerful pagan king Penda, who ruled Mercia c.626-655 AD. It is probable that other Mercians bore the same name, but apart from its occurrence in place-names, the only example of the name in early records refers to the king (see PN Wo 223). Place-names believed to incorporate the name - which may possibly be a shortened form of the recorded personal names Pendræd, Pendweald, and Pendwulf - include Penley (Flintshire), Pinbury (Gloucestershire), Peddimore (Warwickshire), and Pinvin and a lost Pendiford in
King’s Norton (Worcestershire). The names are concentrated in the West Midlands, and may commemorate a particular and early phase of Anglian colonisation (see Brooks 1989: 163-4, which does not include this name, and Jones 1998: 29-62, which does). The place lies on the north side of a pronounced sandstone hill (Pendeford Rock 1828: SRO D3186/8/1/30/5) rising from the river Penk. A Roman road (Margary number 190) running south from Pennocrucium (Water Eaton) towards the Roman sites at Greensforge has been traced through Pendeford across the summit of the hill, suggesting the possibility of a derivation from Welsh *ffordd* ‘road’: see Jermy & Breeze 2000: 109-110. It may be added that MED suggests that *pende* may have had the meaning ‘pound; enclosure; pond’, and there is a pool (noted by Plot 1686: 45, 167 as able to foretell rain) in low lying ground close to the river Penk here, making ‘ford at the pond’ a possibility. TSSAHS XII 1970-1 35 identifies two possible sites of the original settlement of Pendeford, SJ 900050 and SJ 895038. The name Pendeford has now been given to a large modern housing development to the south-west on what was formerly Wolverhampton Airport. A Penfordelle (unlocated, but unlikely to be associated with this place) is recorded c.1220: SHC 1921 19. See also Patshull; Pendlestone.

PENDLESTONE (FORT) 1 mile north-east of Bridgnorth (SO 7294). Pendestan early 13th century Rees 1997: 88, Pendeston Mill 1226 Eyton 1854-60: III 116, Mill of Pendaston 1227 Eyton 1854-60: I 303, Pendelstanes, Pendelstany mulmne 1298 TSAS LXXI 1996 27, Pendlestone Rockes, Pendlestone Milles c.1560 Bellett 1856: 206, Penstone 1593 TSAS X 1887 142, Pendlestone (Mills) 1739 ibid. 196, Pendlestone (Rock) 1833 O.S. The earliest spellings point to ‘Penda’s stone’ (see also Pendeford), later influenced by *pendle*, ‘an overhanging part, natural or artificial’, and pendle-stone, ‘a local term for various kinds of beds or stone as occurring in quarries’: OED; see also Halliwell 1850: 614. The place lies on the banks of the Severn under crumbling sandstone cliffs. The Fort is a sandstone pseudo-Gothic castellated structure built c.1854 on the site of Pendlestone Mill on the banks of the river Severn. The place has been in Shropshire since the 12th century. Cf. Pendle (Hill) and Pendlebury, Lancashire.

PENDRELL HALL 1 mile north-west of Codsall (SJ 8504). Built c.1870 (and originally known as Pendryl Hall: VCH XX 79) and named after the Penderel or Pendrell family of nearby Boscobel, White Ladies and Hubbal Grange, tenants of the Giffard family of Chillington, who assisted Charles II in his escape after the battle of Worcester in September 1651: DNB.


PEN FARM on a 1227’ hill 1 mile south of Butterton (SK 0755), The Pen 1836 O.S., Pen 1851 White; PEN FIELDS 1 mile south-east of Keele (SJ 8043), Pennfield 1378 HOK 17, Pennefield 1537 JNSFC LXI 1926-7 36, Penfields 1708 Swynnerton ParReg, c.1750 HOK 70, Pen Fields 1833 O.S. Possibly from OE *penn* ‘a pen, a fold’, but the elevated position of both places might point towards the same derivation as Penn (q.v.). *Pen Brook* is recorded in the Thornes/Upper Stonnal area c.1840: TSSAHS V 1963-4 67.
PENK, RIVER a tributary of the river Trent. Penk 1577 Saxton, Penk flu. 1610 Speed. A back formation (perhaps pre-English and due to a misunderstanding of a British expression such as Dufr Pencruc 'Pencruc river': see Ekwall 1928: xlvii; liv), from Penkridge (q.v.), i.e. the river (unusually) takes its name from the place. In early times a different back-formation was used (Penchrich 996 Mon, Pencrigh c.1175 SHC VIII 133, Pencriz 1300 For., Penck 1567 SHC XIII 270), but at a later later date became the Penk by a wrongly-perceived division of the name. Cf. Painshaw, Durham.

PENKHOLME on the north side of the river Trent, south of Pipe Ridware (SK 0917). Penkholme 1600 (1798) Shaw I 183, 1648 SRO D260/M/T/5/140. The second element is ON holmr 'a small island, a piece of land partly surrounded by a river or rivers'. The first element may be a stream-name transferred from the river Penk (q.v.).

PENKHULL 1½ miles south-west of Newcastle under Lyme (SJ 8644). Pinchetel 1086 DB, Pencula 1177 SHC I 87, Pencul 1169 ibid. 56, 1195 SHC II 47, Penchille 1200 SHC II 103, Penkhil 1230 P, Pennchul c.1249 SHC 1911 145, Penkel 1292 ibid. 242, Penkhull 1300 SHC 1911 57, Pencle 1607 Kip, Pennkhill 1686 Plot. The earliest form is from British Pencet 'end of the wood' with OE hyll 'hill', giving 'hill by Pencet': see Ekwall 1960: 362; Gelling 1984: 171, 183, 190. The implication is that a British place Pencet lay at or near the hill. A field-name Little Penkshull appears on the tithe map 1840 adjoining the stream south-east of Claverley and north-east of Bulwardine. See also Penkridge.

PENKRIDGE Ancient Parish 5 miles south of Stafford (SJ 9214). Pencric 858 (? for 958) (14th century, S. 667), c.1000 (11th century, S.1534), Pancriz 1086 DB, Penchrich 1156, Peinc(h)riz 1158 P, Penkerich(e) 1360 to 1545 FF, Penkerage 1449 Banco, Pankryd 1564 Mercator, Penkridge vulg Pankrage 1724-47 Defoe, Penkridg 1610 Speed, Penkridge 1749 Bowen. A British name from *penno- (Welsh pen) 'head, end, headland' (and as an adjective 'chief'), and a derivative of OBritish crüco (Welsh crug, OCornish cruc) 'hill, mound, tumulus', so giving British *Pennocroucion 'headland tumulus', 'chief mound', or 'head of the mound'. The name is discussed in more detail in the Introduction. The name Penkridge is not unique: see for example Penkridge Hall, 3 miles north-east of Church Stretton, Shropshire (built c.1590 by Rowland Whitbrooke, whose wife came from Penkridge in Staffordshire: VCH Shrops X 27), and Penkridge Hall (otherwise Penkridge Lake Farm), recorded in the 13th century, 5 miles east of Runcorn (PN Ch II 155). The reference to Penchrych-under-Lyme in 1293 (SHC VI (i) 256) is presumably a transcriptional error, and perhaps refers to Penkhull (q.v.). Cf. Penchrise, south of Hawick: Pencriz 1380 (Watson 1926: 354).

PENKRIDGE WELL (obsolete) the name given to a meadow between Yew Tree Lane and Wrottesley Road at The Wergs (SJ0601) from which a spring formed the head of the river Penk. Penkridg Well 1296x1307 SHC 4th Series XVIII 184; VCH XX 1. The name is commemorated in the road-name Penk Rise.

PENN HILL west of Seisdon (SO 8495), Penn Hill c.1300 VCH XX 185; PENN HILL 3 miles south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 8895), Penn Hill 1834 O.S. For the derivation see Penn, Upper & Lower. Penn Hill near Seisdon may have been the meeting-place of Seisdon Hundred: see Seisdon.
PENNOCRUCIO, PENNOCRUCIUM  a Roman settlement on Watling Street, ½ miles west of Gailey (SJ 9010). *Pennocrucio* 4th century (8th century) Antonine Itinerary. For a discussion of this name see Introduction. The spelling -*crucio* derives from the ablative form, giving 'at Pennocruc'.

PENN STONES (obsolete) 1 mile south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 8695). *Penn Stones* 1840 TA. Perhaps from stones marking the boundary of Penn. The name is remembered in Pennstones Lane, formerly Pound Lane: Dunphy 2002: 104, 120.

PENN, UPPER & LOWER Ancient Parish 3 miles south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 8995). *Penne* (Lower Penn) 1086 DB, *Penna*, *Penne* (Upper Penn) 1086 DB, *Penne Buffard* (Lower Penn) 1212 SHC 1911 387, 1236 Fees, *Netherpenne* 1271 For, *Church Penne* 1293 SHC 1911 49, 1300 SHC VII 85, *Overpenne* 1318 Ch, *Upper Penn, Lower Penn* 1834 O.S. Almost certainly from the British *penn* 'head, end, headland': Upper Penn lies on the highest point of a long ridge, Lower Penn on a distinct headland (*Penn Hill* 1834 O.S.). The names add weight to the evidence that a substantial enclave of Welsh-speakers remained in this area well into the Anglo-Saxon period. *Nether* is from OE *neopera* 'lower'. *Buffard* is from the Buffry or Buffere family who held the place: see SHC I 201-2; SHC II 10; SHC 1941 63. It is possible that the name Penne was applied to a considerable area of high ground to the south of Wolverhampton, and included, for example, Pensnett (q.v.). Evidence for this may be seen in the name *Penwie* (i.e. 'Penn weg') found in a charter dated 996 (for 994) (S. 1380), and applied to a trackway to the north of Wolverhampton, '...the forerunner of the road to Cannock, which formed the north-western boundary of Wednesfield...': Hooke 1983: 72-5.

PENWOOD (FARM) 1 mile north-west of Sedgley (SO 9094). *Penwood* 1659 Sedgley ParReg, *Penn Wood* 1798 Yates. The area is now part of Penn Common, and in 1659 included Gospel End (q.v.): Sedgley ParReg. See Penn, Upper & Lower.

PENNYCROFTS ¼ mile east of Stafford (SJ 9323), *Crossapenyes croft* 1546 VCH VI 185, *Pennycroft* 1670 ibid. 185, *Pennycroft* 1877 ibid. 192; PENNYCROFT WELL (obsolete) on the north-east side of Uttoxeter (SK 0934), *Pennycroft Well* 1836 O.S. From OE *pening* 'penny', a common field-name element indicating the rent payable (Field 1993: 193), with OE *croft* 'a small enclosure of arable or pasture land, an enclosure near a house'. The earliest spelling for the first place indicates that there was a cross there. Pennycott Well (from OE *wcelle* 'a spring') was a sulphurous spring: Redfern 1865: 15, remembered in the names Pennycroft Lane and Pennycroft Road.

PENNY MOOR (obsolete, on the south-west side of Calf Heath (?SJ 9208)). *Penny Moor* 1832 Teesdale.

PENQUALL LEYS (unlocated, in Sheen.) *Penquall leys* 1673 SRO D633. Perhaps from OE *penuc* 'a small pen', with Mercian OE *wcelle* 'a spring', so 'the leys or meadows at the small pens by the spring'.

Pensenet 1357 *ibid.* 458. An intriguing name. The spellings suggest two different names used interchangeably, or possibly for different but close places. In one name the first element is probably from British *penno-,* OWelsh penn 'head, end, headland' (possibly the plural pennou), given the elevation of the place, rather than OE penn 'a small enclosure, a fold', with OE sned 'detached piece of land, a piece of woodland' (cf. Sneyd), hence perhaps 'wood on Pen hill' (cf. '...one wood called Pennak...'), recorded in 1272, identified as a wood which covered the southern slopes of Brierley Hill: Guttery 1950: 8). However, the meaning 'a piece of woodland' is derived from a reading of a charter of 843 A.D. (S. 293), and is not free from doubt: see Ekwall 1960: 428; EPNE ii 131. Another possibility is that the name may be 'the detached piece of land belonging to the manor of Penn (q.v)'. Pensnett lies some four miles north of Pensnett, but Penn Common extended well to the south-east, as evidenced by the first edition 1" O.S. map of 1834, and Upper Penn, Lower Penn and part of Sedgley appear in consecutive entries in DB, all held by William Fitz Ansculf: VCH IV 54. Ekwall 1960: 362 suggests that the other form with the spelling Peninak may be seen as evidence of Norman influence: Pensned became by sound-substitution Peninet, which came to be read as Peninec, and evolved into Peninak perhaps due to the influence of French names ending in -ac, but the various spellings now available throw considerable doubt on that explanation, with the forms pointing towards a derivation from later OE penig 'penny' (and certain lands called Penny Oak recorded in Himley in 1587 (SHC X (ii) 56) may be noted), with OE ãc 'oak-tree, so 'penny oak-tree', though no explanation can be offered for such name, unless it can be seen as a later rationalisation of an earlier name.

PENSNETT CHASE (obsolete) 'The chase associated with Pensnett'. A chase was an area subject to Forest law but not held by the king; in this case, the Earls of Dudley. The Chase, which covered a large area, extending to Gornalwood, Sedgley, Dudley Wood, Kingswinford, Himley, Enville and Bobbington, and as far south as the river Stour (Guttery 1950: 9, 11; HRO E12/V1/ NB/14), is recorded from at least c.1230 (Guttery 1950: 7) or 1254 (StSt 3 1990-1 25), with the name appearing as Pennyoke Chase 1291 SHC IX (ii) 39, the Chace of Pensned 1322 Guttery 1950: 9, Pensnet Chace 1633 *ibid.* 20, Pensnet chase 1686 Plot 1686: 98, Pinsnett Chace 1775 *ibid.* 9. Duignan 1902: 118 says: 'It may be that Pensnett Chase was once a part of Kinver Forest, which it adjoined, and, becoming the property of a subject, became a 'chase', not subject to the laws of the Forest, and, being detached, acquired the terminal snead'.

PENSNETT SPA (obsolete) at Pensnett (q.v.). In the early part of the 19th century, attempts were made to develop mineral springs here (mentioned by Plot 1686: 98-9) into a spa. 'T[his] saline spring is situated near to the margin of a rivulet...Archill-brook, issuing from rising ground of that name, near the Holly-hall...serves as the county boundary...In 1823 a neat row of buildings was erected over the Spring, containing hot and cold baths': Scott 1832: 138-140; see also Guttery 1950: 26. Holly Hall (Holly Hall 1834 O.S.) lay just inside the detached portion of Worcestershire at SO 9089. The spring probably gave rise to the name Spring Mire (SO 9289), which straddles the boundary of Staffordshire and Worcestershire. The name Saltwell is also given to this area.

PENWIE - see PENN, UPPER & LOWER.
PENYVAL (unlocated, possibly near Gospel End: Hackwood 1898: 12.) Penyval 1273 SHC 1911 156. See Pensnett.

[PEPPERHILL an area of high rounded ground on the Staffordshire-Shropshire border 2 miles north-west of Pattingham (SK 8102), and the site of a hall probably built by Sir John Talbot [d.1549] in the early 16th century, probably the 'goodly Logge on the High Toppe of Albrighton Parke...on the very egge of Shropshire' as noted c.1540 by Leland v 18. Pepper Hill c.1540 Leland v 18, Pepperhill 1564 TSAS XI 1899 102, 1577 Saxton, Peperhill 1599 Albrighton ParReg, Pepperhill 1599 Smith, 1643 (1798) Shaw I 61, 1686 Plot, Pepper Hill 1749 Bowen, 1834 O.S. Early spellings have not been traced: WJ January 1905 351 records that 'Colonel Thornycroft took very considerable trouble to trace its history, but the information he was able to obtain is very meagre, notwithstanding he, at his own expense, had special searches made at the British Museum extending over many weeks'. Peppercombe, Hampshire, and Pepper Ness, Kent, are believed to be from OE *piper 'a piper', which seems unlikely here. It is not likely that the name incorporates the OE personal name Pyppa or Pyppa, (Pyppa was father, or immediate predecessor, of Penda (see Pendeford), and grandfather of Peada (see Patshull, which this place adjoins)), but might if ancient be from a personal name *Pyphere or similar. Various other derivations are possible. Payment of rent in pepper is recorded in Staffordshire in the 14th century (see JNSFC LIX 1924-5 61), and this name may be associated with payment of that type. The topography does not fit a derivation 'hill shaped like a peppercorn', i.e. small and rounded, but would fit a derivation from a Germanic base *pip-, 'to swell': see PN K 593. However, the most likely derivation for the Staffordshire name Pepperhill is from OE *pipere 'a stream, watercourse, spring' (cf. Peppering, Sussex): a Wrottesley estate map of 1634 (SRO D3548/1) shows The Condet head ('the conduit head') on the north-east corner of the Wrottesley estate above Pepperhill at SJ 832021. Pepperhill is now in Shropshire: the county maps of Saxton (1577), Smith (1599), Browne (1682), and Bowen (1749) all indicate or suggest that the place is in Staffordshire; Rocque (1752) includes the place in Shropshire. See also Pepper Street.

PEPPER STREET on the north side of Silverdale. TSAS II 1879 321 and 356 suggest that the name Pepper 'occurs upon a great number of fragments of Roman roads in Cheshire and Staffordshire', and that Pepper Street to the north of Keele (Pepper Street 1799 Faden) is a Roman road from Chesterton to Bury Walls in Shropshire (sic). No evidence has been found to support the suggestion: the surname Pepper appears in the Keele ParReg from the mid-18th century (see also HOK 54, 71), and it seems likely that the lane is named from the family: the lane near Keele appears to have been called previously Haying Lane (HOK 14). There is another Pepper Street in Newcastle-under-Lyme. A detailed discussion of the name Pepper Street (and other names incorporating Pepper, including Pepper Hill), appears in PN Ch V (I:1) 17-18; see also PN Wa 163 for Pepper Lane in Coventry. A supposed Roman road known as Pepper Street near Hawkstone is recorded in TSAS 3rd Series VI 1906 Misc. iii. See also Pepperhill.

PERRY BARR 3 miles north of Birmingham (SO 0791). Pirio 1086 DB, Piri 1176 SHC I 78, Perl, Perii 1199 SHC III (i) 55, Pirhe 1236 Fees, Pirie 1242 Fees, Pyrie frequently 13th century Duig, Pyrryber, Pyryrbar 1529 SHC 27-8, Pereford (sic) 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 74, Pirrie Barr 1561 SHC
1931 137, Pury-barr 1686 Plot. From OE pirige 'pear tree'. For Barr see Barr, Great. See also SHC XII 46. Since 1928 the place has formed part of Birmingham: StEnc 454.

PERRY CROFTS on north side of Tamworth (SK 233). Pyrycroft 1233 SHC XII 23, Perrycroft 1548 SRO D641/1/288, Perricrofts or the Large-peri-croft, Peare-tree-Croft 17th century SRO D260/M/T/2/9. From OE pirige 'pear tree', with OE croft 'a small enclosure of arable or pasture land, an enclosure near a house'.

PERRY HALL 3 miles north-east of Wolverhampton (SJ 9600). Pirie 1294 SHC 1911 237, Pyrye 1332 SHC X (i) 127, Pyrie, Perye 14th century Duig, Perry Hall 1664 SHC II (ii) 29, 1834 O.S. From an ancient house, dating from at least the 16th century (Mander & Tildesley 1960: 52, 96), which took its name from OE pirige 'pear tree'.

PERSBUTT (obsolete, 1 mile north-west of Eccleshall (SJ 8129)). Pesebutt 1274 SHC 1921 22, Persbut 1833 O.S. Probably from OE pese 'pea', sometimes referring to a wild plant resembling a pea, e.g. marsh trefoil, also called buck-bean, with OE butt 'thick end', here perhaps meaning the headland of one of the open fields. The OE word pese was singular, and when over time the final e was dropped, peas was regarded as a plural, and the singular pea created by those ignorant of the history of the word: Ekwall 1959: 64. Peafield Coppice appears on modern maps 1 mile south-west of Pershall (SJ 8028). See also Pershall.

PERSEHOUSE HALL (unlocated, in Sedgley.) Parsus Hall 1582 Sedgley ParReg, Pershouse hall 1601 ibid, Persehall-hall 1801 Shaw II 222, Pershouse 1844 Erdeswick 1844: 369. Roper 1976: 78 states that Perkes Hall was sometimes called Persehouse Hall, and that the family, who had been in Woodsetton from at least 1439, sometimes used the name Parkes. Hackwood 1898: 13 cites a statement: 'The park of Dudley Castle extended as far as Eve Lane, Upper Gornal, including Park Farm, the Wren's Nest and the Old Park between Tipton and Wren's Nest. Most of this would be in Sedgley Parish. Parkes Hall stood between Sedgley and Woodsetton'. See also Shaw 1801: II 222; SHC 1923 94-5. The map in SHC 1944 shows Park Hall some 2 miles north-west of Great Barr. A pedigree of the Persehouse family appears in MidA I 133-8, 162-4; Willmore 1887: 295-7.

PERSHALL 1 mile north-west of Eccleshall (SJ 8129). Peleshala Helye, Peleshalla Helyce 1167 SHC I 48, 158, ? Pereshulla 1188 ibid. 137, ? Pessehal 1203 SHC III 86, Peselhale 1205 ibid. 135, Peshale c.1233 Rees 1997: 82, ? Pesale, Pesenhale 1269 SHC IV 173, Pyshale 1272 SHC III 18, Peshall 1280 SHC VI (i) 121, Pessahull 1284 SHC I 158, Pessall 1297 SRO DW1734/12268, Peshale 1342 SHC XI 153, Peshale 1374 SHC XIII 111, Pershale 1414 SHC XVII 20, Peysall 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 102, 1560 SHC IX 114, Pershald 1600 Eccleshall ParReg, Peshall otherwise Pearshall 1616 SHC NS VI (i) 3, Peirshall 1708 SBT DR10/1401. If the 1167 forms are to be trusted, then as Pelsall (q.v.). But given the other spellings and other nearby names (e.g. Persbutt), probably from OE pese 'pea', sometimes referring to a wild plant resembling a pea, e.g. marsh trefoil, also called buck-bean, with OE hale, dative singular of OE halh. Helye is from a former tenant, Helyas or Helias fitz Geoffrey: SHC I 51; 158; SHC 1914 43. Some of the spellings may relate to Peasley Bank (q.v.). Peafield Coppice appears on modern maps 1 mile south-west of Pershall (SJ 8028). Peforcer, possibly near Ranton, is recorded in an early undated deed: SHC IV 276.
PERTON in Tettenhall, 3 miles west of Wolverhampton (SO 8598). Pertone 1086 DB, Ptona 1166
SHC 1923 296, Periton 1193 P, Perton' 1198 Fees, Portun', Porton' 1242 Fees, Porton' 1250 Fees,
Pirton 1606 CKS U269/T144, Purton 1686 Plot 168. From OE peru 'a pear', so peru tân, 'pear-tree tân', perhaps meaning here 'pear-orchard' (cf. OE appel-tân 'apple-orchard'). 'This parish [Tettenhall] has one singularity in the fruit way; it has produced a peculiar kind of pear, called Tettenhall pear, and known by no other name; many hundreds of the trees grow in this parish, though not, or scarcely to be found at all, at any considerable distance. The tree is large, and a plentiful bearer, the fruit well flavoured, and bakes and boils well, but will not keep long enough, even for carriage, to any considerable distance, unless some time before it is ripe: the average annual produce of this parish is many thousand bushels more than its own consumption. The whole duration of the pear, from its becoming fit for use to its decay, about one month, during which time all the neighbouring markets are so plentifully supplied, that it often scarcely pays for picking and carrying in. This pear makes but an indifferent perry, and is therefore not much applied that way: in plentiful seasons, and it is seldom, otherwise, large quantities are eaten by hogs, which are suffered to pick them up as they fall': Pitt 1791: 89, quoted in Shaw 1801: 11199. A reference to the castle of Perthon in 1286 (SHC 4th Series XVIII 142) may refer to Perton Hall, a moated medieval house which stood at Old Perton (SO 860986): TSAHS XXIV 1982-3 58; VCH XX 10. No other reference to a castle has been traced. The name Perton has been adopted for a modern housing development on the former airfield at Wrottesley Park.

PESSELL FARM 1 mile north of Edingale (SK 2113). Le Peyshylle (Pyttes) 1541 Derby, Pessall (pit) 1581 Brookhill. Seemingly from OE pese, hyll 'peas hill'. Transferred from Derbyshire in 1894.

PETHILLS, PETHILLSHEAD 2 and 2½ miles respectively north-west of Waterhouses (SK 0652 & 0452), Puttel(l)s a 1214 (1883) Sleigh, 1535 BE, Pethills 1251 VCH VII 212, Pathullis c.1251 VCH III 226, Pitelesle 1272 SHC IV (i) 193, Putelles 1540 VCH III 226, Pytills 1540 AOMB, Pettell 1560 Pat, Pethilles 1570 SHC XIII 279, Petchullis, Pechuls, Pethulles alias Pethuls milne holme, Pittefeild 1571 SHC 1931 126-7, Pethills 1608 SHC 1948-9 26, Pethills 1636 Leek ParReg, Pethills 1747 Bowen, Pethills 1842 O.S.; PETHILLS 1 mile south-east of Flash (SK 0365), Pethills 1602 ParReg, c.1870 Rental. It has been suggested that Pethills in Sutton Downes, Cheshire, may be from ME pightel 'a small enclosure' (PN Ch I 155), but the spellings with put(t)- make that derivation for the first two places improbable, even though they are said to have been land owned and enclosed by Croxden Abbey (VCH III 226), so probably from OE pyt 'pit, hollow', hence 'the hills with the hollows': Ironpits (Iron Pits 1836 O.S., perhaps to be identified with Petchuls mylne homes 'which places are as well known by the names of Pittefeild': 1571 SHC 1931 127) lies to the east of Pethills near Waterhouses, suggesting that the hollows are ancient bell-pits from mining. The late forms for Pethills near Flash make any derivation uncertain: perhaps as Pethills near Waterhouses, or from ME pightel. The possibility of a derivation for the place near Flash from ME pete 'peat', giving 'the hills were peat was dug', is improbable, since the usual spelling for peat was peat(e) or pete (cf. the field-names Peatefeild 1626, Peatefeeld 1651, Hollinsclough; le Pethiles in Cheshire, PN Ch V (I:1) xix), and peat is not in any event dug from hills.
PHEASEY on the southern side of Barr Beacon (SO 0695). Veysies Farm 1610 StEnc, veysies Farm in Barre 1648 BCA MS3883/608964, Pheasey Farm 1799 StEnc. Said to be from Simon Vesey who held property here in 1559: TSSAHS XX 1978-9 51; StEnc 457.

PHILLEY BROOK a tributary of the river Smestow, Follbrok 1316 SHC 1911 329; FILLEY BROOK a tributary of the river Trent. The latter appears in the bounds of Darlaston in hær fulan broc scyt on Trentan 956 (11th century, S.602: see Hooke 1983: 85-9). The derivation is from OE fēl 'dirty, foul, filthy, muddy', perhaps meaning in some cases 'dark'.

PICKARDS FARM 1 mile north-west of Upper Arley (SO 7681). Pykaslond, Pikarslond, le Pykards 1357, 1460, 1485 PN Wo 32. From the surname Picard, recorded from 1276 (Ass), probably originally from Picardy in France. In Worcestershire since 1895.

PICKMERE, PICMOOR in Weston-under-Lizard (SJ 7811). ? Pikemere 1327 SHC VII 209, Pikemore 1380 SHC II NS 61, Pickmore 1679 SHC 1919 242, Pikemere 1752 Rocque, Pike Mere 1763 GM 445-6, Pitmoor Pool 1775 Yates, Pitmoor-pool 1798 Shaw I 106, Pike More 1833 O.S. Probably from OE pē-merē 'pike-pool' (see Ekwall 1936: 100), or (less likely) 'pool with the pointed end' (the pool shown on Rocque's 1752 map of Shropshire has no pointed end). It may be noted however that an area of land known as a pike is recorded in Staffordshire in 1402 (SHC XI NS 204), though the word does not seem to have been in common use, and is not mentioned in Halliwell. The pool here was an artificial pool which has now been drained. It is possible that the earliest spelling is from OE mōr 'marshland', but that would make the first element difficult to explain, unless pike as an area is involved. The name is now applied to the junction of Watling Street and the Newport-Wolverhampton road. Cf. Pickmere, Cheshire.

PICKNALLS on the south-west side of Uttoxeter (SK 0833). the Picknall (later Red Hills) 1686 SRO D1194/10/4, the Picknall 1693 SRO D758/1/1-4, the Picknoll 1731 SRO D758/1/6, the Picknalls 1741 SRO D758/1/7. Perhaps from OE pēcnoll 'the knoll with the peak or point'.

PICKSTOCK (unlocated, in Levedale.) Pikestoke c.1238 (1798) Shaw I xxv, Pickstoke 1281 SHC XII NS 127, Piestoke, Picstok 1284 FA, Pickstoke 1314 SHC IX 45, Pyeke Toke, Pickstoke, Pikes toke 1315 SHC X 15, Pixstoke 1323 SHC IX 89, Pixstok 1324 ibid. 101, Pikes teke 1324 ibid. 106, Pikes toke 1325 ibid. 108, Pykstoke 1325 ibid. 110, 1414 SHC XVII 49, Pickstoke 1380 SHC XVII 193, Pycke Stocke hay 1565 SHC 1938 9, Pickstock Leyes 17th century SRO D260/M/T/5/4. Perhaps from OE pēc 'point, hill' and OE stoc 'place', sometimes 'holy place', or 'secondary settlement, outlying cattle farm', so here possibly 'the outlying farmstead by the pointed hill': Levedale lies on a 357' hill. Leyes is from OE lēs 'meadow, pasture'. Pigstockheys Covert (Pyckstocks heyes 1598 Ct) lies ½ mile north-west of Levedale (SJ 893175), and may mark the location of this place. Some of the above spellings may relate to Pickstock, 3 miles north-west of Newport (SJ 7223).

PIGGENHOLE (unlocated, in Fawfieldhead.) Pigeng Hole 1775 Alstonefield ParReg, Aging hole 1778 ibid, Piggen Hole 1789 ibid, Piggenhole 1870 Rental. 'The hollow frequented by wood pigeons'.

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PIKELOW on the east side of Waterfall (SK 0851), Pike Low 1775 Yates; PIKELOW (unlocated) on the north side of Upper Cotton, Pikelow 1775 Yates. From OE *ptc 'point, hill' with OE hlāw 'mound, tumulus', so 'the pointed burial mound'.

PIKERING, PYKERING (unlocated, a fishery in Tillington.) Pikering 1275 SHC 1925 81, SHC VI (i) 72, Pykering 1276 ibid. 81.

PILLATON, PILLATON HALL 1½ miles south-east of Penkridge (SJ 9413). Bedintona et Pilatehala 1116-33 Burton, Piletahala 1185 (1798) Shaw I 3, Pilatonhall 1271 For, Pylatenhale, Piletenehale, Piletahala 13th century Duig, Piletenehale 1300 For, Peltinall 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 88. A name that perplexed earlier scholars: Duignan 1902: 119 was forced to postulate a derivation from Pontius Pilate. In fact the name means *halh where pilled oats grew*, presumably a field-name (cf. the field-name Pillar's Croft in Brewood (Pyllyttes crofte 1562, Pyllerscroft 1576: Oakden 1984: 45; Field 1993: 96)) which by confusion of the second element *hal* and *hall* attached itself to Pillaton Hall, the ancient seat of the Littletons. Pilled oats are those in which the grain is free from husk or glumes. The OE form was presumably *Pil-atan halh* 'the halh with the pilled oats'. It has been suggested that the earlier name of Pillaton was Bedintun (q.v.), but although Pillaton was held with Bedintun in the 12th century (SHC 1916 31), it was not identical with that place, and is later represented by Pillaton Hall alone (VCH IV 44 fn.). Curiously, Yates' 1775 map of Staffordshire shows *Pile-eaton Hall* (sic) 1½ miles north-east of Penkridge, some distance from Pile-eaton. The bounds in a charter of land at Wetmore dated 1012 (13th century, S.930) conclude with a statement that *pylltunes landes* belongs half to Wetmore and half to Rolleston. Although many miles from both of those places, Pillaton belonged to Burton Abbey (Shaw 1798: I 3; SHC V (i) 7, 22, 35, 37, 40, 42; StSt 8 1996 24), and it might be thought that the name refers to Pillaton, which may then have been a berewick or demesne farm (see Hart 1975: 241), but Sawyer 1979a: xxix shows that *Pilltunes Landes* should read *Willtunes Landes*, referring to Willington in Derbyshire, which was given to Burton Abbey by Edward the Confessor between 1042 and 1050 (ibid. xlvi; see also Hooke 1983: 38-9). It may be noted however that *Pylett'holme* near Horninglow is recorded in 1309 (BL Camp. Ch. V 17). The name is not unique: the field-name *Pilatenhalewh* (1209), *Pilatenhale* (1360), *Pylatenhale* (1300, Peulesdon 1307 SHC IV 55). The first element of the Shropshire place-name appears to be a personal name *Pēofel, a diminutive of Pēof(a), with OE dūn 'hill', hence **Pēofel's hill**: see Gelling & Cole 2000: 172. The absence of any

PILSTONES (obsolete) 1 mile south-east of Swynnerton (SJ 8534). Pilson 1722 SRO D641/5/T/8, Pilstones 1727 SRO 641/5/T/17, the Butterstone Pilson 1746 SRO D641/5/T/8, Pilstones 1812 SRO D641/5/T/9, The Pilsons 1836 O.S. map, Pilstones Farm 1922 O.S. In the absence of early forms no suggestions can be offered for this name, unless (which seems most improbable) there is a connection with Puleston and Puleston Hill, 3 miles north-west of Newport, Shropshire (SJ 7322), found frequently in early records (e.g. Pivelesdon 1228 SHC IV 53, Puywellesdone 1240 (1798) Shaw I xxv, Pivelesdon 1272 SHC IV 204, Puyweliesdon 1275, 1277 ibid. 284, Peulesdon 1275 SHC VI (i) 66, Pivelesdon 1275 ibid. 72, Pynlesdon 1276 ibid. 55, Pywreliesdon 1277 SHC IV 81, Pylesdon 1277 ibid. 85, Pulesdon 1300 SHC 1924 129, Peulesdon 1303 SHC VII 112, Pyleson 1307 SHC IV 55). The first element of the Shropshire place-name appears to be a personal name *Pēofel, a diminutive of Pēof(a), with OE dūn 'hill', hence **Pēofel's hill**: see Gelling & Cole 2000: 172. The absence of any
medial -v- in this name suggests (if the name is indeed ancient) a derivation from OE pil 'stake', although 'stake stones' is not readily explicable. The reference to Butterstone in the 1746 form is unexplained.

PINCHLEY (obsolete, 2 miles north of Mayfield (SK 1548).) Pincheney(e), Pyncheney(e) c.1240 Okeover, 1294 Banco, Pynchene Syde 1443 Okeover E9, Pynchney 1508 SHC VII NS 73, Pynchney (meydow) 1538 Ipm, the two Pinchlees 1640 Ipm, Pinchley 1838 O.S. From OE ðg 'island, land partly surrounded by water, well-watered land', with the French surname Pinchon (see DES 352) so 'Pinchon's well-watered land', with īthah later substituted for ðg. See SHC VII NS 141.

PINNOCK (obsolete, between Burslem and Tunstall (SJ 8750).) Pinox 1775 Yates, Pinnock 1799 Faden, Pinnox (Colliery) 1836 O.S. Ekwall 1960: 367 suggests that Pinnock in Gloucestershire may be a diminutive *pennucc or *pennoc, formed from British pen 'hill', either in British or English, but EPNE ii 62 gives OE *pennucc, ME penok, pinnok, from OE penn 'a small enclosure, a fold', later 'an enclosure for animals', so here perhaps 'a small animal-pen', found chiefly as field-names in the west of England from the 13th century. Cf. Pinnock, Gloucestershire; Pinnocks, Wiltshire.

PIPE, RIVER a tributary of the river Trent. Pipebrouk 1286, 1300 For. From OE pipe 'pipe, water course', with OE brōc 'brook', meaning here 'the brook with the small channel'.

PIPE HALL (obsolete) 1½ miles south-west of Hamstall Ridware - see QUINTIN'S ORCHARD.

PIPE HALL 1 mile west of Lichfield (SK 0909). The Pype Hyll (sic) 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 183. From Pipehill (q.v.). See also Quintin's Orchard.

PIPEHAY (FARM) on the east side of Draycott in the Clay (SK 1528). Pipe Hay 1798 Shaw I 83, Pipehay (Lane) 1836 O.S. From Mercian OE (ge)heg 'a fence, an enclosure', here perhaps in the sense 'an administrative area within a forest area', i.e. Needwood Forest. The Pipe element is from the family who took their name from Pipe near Lichfield and acquired this place c.1295: Shaw 1798: I 83. The place may be associated with Rough Hay Park: see Shaw 1798: I 83; SHC 1912 222.

PIPEHILL, PIPE GRANGE 1½ miles south-west of Lichfield (SK 0908). Pipe c.1140 VCH XIV 198, Magna Pipa, Parva Pipa (Great Pipe and Little Pipe, 1 mile to the north-west) 1166 SHC 1923 295, Pypa 1294 SHC 1939 86, Pipe 1361 ibid. 115, Herdevykepipe 1349 SHC III 280, Herdevyky, Pyperdevyky 1374 SHC XIII 118, Pype 1527 ibid. 82, Pypehill 1562 SHC XIII 221, Pipe-Hardyke otherwise Pipe-Minor 1589 SHC XV 197, Pipehill otherwise Pipehardwicke 1593 SHC XVI 131, Pipe Hull c.1598 Erdeswick 1844: 241, Mykyll Hylle, otherwise Pype Hylle 1659 (1798) Shaw I 312. From OE pīpe 'conduit, water-pipe, water-course', perhaps referring to a water conduit from Maple Hayes south of Pipe Hall to the cathedral Close which was created between c.1140 and c.1170 when two springs were granted to Lichfield cathedral by Thomas of Bromley (VCH XIV 95; SHC 1950-1 161; AntJ 56 (i) 73-9), although that derivation was doubted by Ekwall 1928: 327, and the conduit at Lichfield may have been copied from that at Christ Church, Canterbury, which was constructed in about the late 1150s (the Bishop of Lichfield was previously prior of Christ Church), which would post-date the earliest recorded reference to the name, so possibly from water found in natural subterranean strata in the area (see Shaw 1798: I app. 9), or from Lemonsley or Pipe Brook which
rises near the conduit: VCH XIV 95; 198. Lichfield was for many centuries supplied with water from
springs rising in Pipe manor: see Leland ii 100-101. But evidence exists of a mysterious but remarkable
oak palisade, and associated ditch some 12’ wide and 5’ deep, running for over 500 yards at Pipe Place
Farm to the north-west of Wall: Shaw I 1798 19-20; TSSAHS XXIII 1980-1 2-3; Wells 1998: 117.
The feature, if the description can be relied upon, appears to have followed the natural contour and
been aligned with Wall, suggesting that it may perhaps have been a typical Roman aqueduct supplying
Letocetum, which was still in existence in the Anglo-Saxon period, and so perhaps accounting for the
element ‘pipe’ which occurs in a number of place-names in a sizeable area hereabouts: see Leah et al.
1998: 117; but note also the structure said to explain the name of Moat House (Farm) (q.v.). Pipehill
was known as Hardwick or Pipe Hardwick from the 14th to the 17th century (VCH XIV 286), from OE
heord(e)-wrc ‘a livestock farm’. Pipe Grange, held by the prior of St John’s Hospital in Lichfield,
existing by 1298 and was known by Pipe Grange by 1377: VCH XIV 289. Little Pipe (Pipa Minor or
Parva Pipa) was also known as Prees (VCH XIV 69), so-called from ‘the impropriated parish of Prees,
Shropshire’: Shaw 1798: I 292; see also SRO DW3222/290/1-40. See also Handsacre.

PIPE RIDWARE see RIDWARE, PIPE.

PIPER’S HILL on the north side of Himley (SO 8891). Piper’s Hill 1834 O.S. See Pepperhill for
possible derivations.

PIPE WOOD ½ mile south-west of Blithbury (SK 0819). Pipe Wood 1798 Yates, 1836 O.S. Perhaps
named from the streams that rise here.

PIREHILL 2 miles south of Stone (SJ 8931). Pirehel, Pireholle, Pereoll(e), Pereholle 1086 DB,
Pirhill’ 1199 Fees, Pirehulle 1203 Ass, Pirhull’ 1212 Fees, 1230 P, Pyrhull 1227
Ass, 1275 Fine, 1283 Ipm, Pirhul 1228 Pat, 1252 Fees, Pirul 1254 Ipm, Pyrehulle 1269 Ass, Pyrhlle
1281 SHC VI (i) 117, Pirhull 1285 Fees, Pyre-hill Hill 1775 Yates, Pyre Hill 1798 Yates. The name of
one of the five ancient Staffordshire Hundreds, now attached to a rounded 463’ hill on the west side of
the river Trent. The name is possibly connected with ME piren ‘to peer’, ModE peer ‘to look narrowly’,
Low German piren ‘to scan’, here meaning ‘look-out hill’ (see Gelling 1988: 211; 1992 144; also Ekwall
1928: 333), perhaps more apposite for a hill with commanding views (as here) than the usual root put
forward for such names, OE pirige ‘pear-tree’ (see Duignan 1902: 120). In that respect the frequent
absence of a vowel after the r, and the modern pronunciation, may be significant. The ‘look-out’
association is also found in Totmonslow, another of the Staffordshire Hundred names. Although
Modern pyre, from Latin pyra, pira, meaning ‘bonfire, funeral fire’, is not recorded before 1658 (OED),
the Latin word is well-recorded from c.950 (Latham 1980: 384), and it is not inconceivable (but
improbable) that the name could record the early use of the hill as a beacon or for some other activity
involving fire. See also Elmhurst near Stafford.

PIRIE (unlocated, probably in or near Gunstone.) la Pyrye, la Piri 1284 SHC VI (i) 139, Pirie 1422
SHC XVII 77, Lypyrye 1425 ibid. 106, Pirre 1539 SHC NS VI (i) 75. From OE pirige ‘pear-tree'.
PIREWASSE a boundary mark on Pur Brook, mentioned in a charter of 951 relating to Marchington: see Hooke 1983: 103-6, who locates the place at SK 122266. *Pirewasse* 951 (14th century, S.557). For the first element see Pur Brook. The second element is -waesse, meaning 'land liable to sudden flooding and draining': cf. Alrewas.

PIRLEWALLSICHE (unlocated, probably near Newcastle-under-Lyme.) *Pirlewallsiche* c.1300 SHC NS XIII XIII 239. From OE pyrle 'bubbling', a common stream-name, with OE Mercian wælle 'a spring', and (sometimes) a stream', and OE stæ 'a small stream', so possibly 'the small stream fed by the bubbling spring'. Cf. Purlwell Lane, Yorkshire (PN West Riding Yorkshire 2 180).

PITCHINGS FARM ¼ mile north-east of Waterhouses (SK 0950). *Pitchins* 1836 O.S. See also Piping Hole.

PITTENSHALL (unlocated, in Hallon.) *Pittenshall* 1775 SRRC 1045/244-5.

PLARDIWICK ½ mile west of Gnosall (SJ 8120). *Plerdewirke* 1199 SHC III (i) 167, *Plerdewike*, Plerdewicke, Plerdewyck, Plerdewyck 1199 FF, 1268 PIR, *Plerdewirke* 1199 SHC III 167, *Plardswicke* 1585 Ct, *Plaidwicke* 1602 SHC 1935 476, *Plordeuwicke* 1607 FF, *Plordewecke* 1632 SHC V NS 169, *Plardewick* 1833 O.S. The second element is OE wic, but the first is uncertain. Coates 2000: 21-2 suggests a derivation from a compound of OE plega 'play', and the OE element -rædenn 'condition; rule, government', producing *Pleg-rædenn*, with a meaning such as 'place where the right to conduct games exists', so 'wic at or of the place called *Pleg-rædenn*, or perhaps from the OE personal name Plegheard. Another possibility is a derivation from OE plega with OE heord(e)wæc 'sheep farm', so giving 'the sheep farm where games were played'. A derivation from OWelsh paladyr, plural pelydr (with the stress falling on the penultimate syllable: see Watson 1926: 345) 'a spear-shaft', possibly given as a stream-name (and the Doley Brook has a noticeably straight course between Gnosall and Plardiwick) can probably be ruled out, though the element is not unknown in place-names: Geoffrey of Monmouth mentions the 'fortress of Mount Paladur, which is now called Shaftsbury'; see also Spearhill, and a discussion of paladr in Coates & Breeze 2000: 74-6, which mentions river-names incorporating Welsh words for 'spear', 'knife' and 'needle'.

PLAT 1 mile west of Consall (SJ 9548). Early forms are not available, but presumably from ME plat 'a flat place, a footbridge'.

PLATT BRIDGE 1 mile north-west of Eccleshall (SJ 8129). *Plat Bridge* 1833 O.S., *Platt Bridge* 1838 SRO D641/3/R/5/5. Although early spellings have not been traced, presumably from ME plat 'a flat place, a footbridge', here in the latter sense, the word 'bridge' having perhaps been added when the meaning of plat had become forgotten. Another Platt Bridge is recorded in Yoxall in 1684: NA DD/4P/24/109.

PLECK 1 mile south-west of Walsall (SO 9997), *The Pleck* 1576, 1617 VCH XVII 157, 1686 Plot 314; PLECK 1 mile north of Whitmore; PLECKS (unlocated, in Ettingshall), *Plecks Meade, the Plexe* 1569 SRO D4407/56-7[SF73-4], *the Plecks* 1667 SRO D440/90[SF107]. From ME plecche 'a small enclosure or plot of land'.

POINTHORNE 1 mile south-east of Croxden (SK 0739). ? Pointon temp. Henry III Shaw 1798: I 172, Pouynthorn 1694 StEnc 461, Pinethorn 1762 Croxden ParReg, Pinethorn 1763 ibid, the Pithorn 1779 ibid, Pointon 1775 Yates, Pointhorn 1836 O.S. Possibly from OE Pohhing-born 'the thorn-tree associated with Pohha or Pohta' (see Redin 1919: 77): cf. Pointon, Lincolnshire. OE pohha had the meaning 'pocket, bag'.

POLE (unlocated, possibly near Alton or Denstone.) Pole 1339 SHC 1913 77. From OE pol 'pool'.

PONES BROOK on the north-western boundary of Lichfield. Pones Brook 1806 Harwood 1806: 357. See Pones Mill.

PONES MILL (unlocated, in Nether Stowe (SJ 1110).) Pone'smylle 1460 (1801) Shaw II app. 10, Pownsmyle 1514 OSS 1936 56, Ponds Mill 1678 SRO DW1738/A/1/1, Pones Mill als Pound Mill 1744 SRO DW1738/C/5/6. A mill held c.1180 by Gilbert Poun, and in 1261 by Geoffrey Poun: SHC 1914 125. The name is found in Pownes fields recorded in 1647, and preserved in Ponesfield Road: see VCH XIV 71. Perhaps to be associated with Pounes well, recorded c.1400: SRO DW1721/1/148-9.

POOL HOUSE ½ mile north of Audley (SJ 7951). Poole 1584 Audley ParReg., Poole House 1833 O.S. Evidently from a former pool here.

POOL END 1 mile north-west of Leek (SJ 9658). Poolend 1736 Church Faculty, 1811 EnclA, 1842 O.S.

POOL FARM 2 miles north-west of Meerbrook (SJ 9763). Le Pole howse c.1539 LRMB, Pool House 1842 O.S. From Turner's Pool here.

POOL GREEN FARM in Tatenhill (SK 2022). Le olde pole grene 1546 SRO DW1734/2/3/924*v, the Olde poole grene 1550 SRO DW1734/2/3/112b, Old Pool Green Farm 1744 SRO D603/E/1/696. 'The grassy open area near the old pool'.

POOL HALL on the south-east side of Leek (SK 0055). Pool Hall 1695 Leek ParReg.

POPINJAY 1½ miles south-west of Uttoxeter (SK 0732). Poppingey Fields 1775 Yates, Popinjay 1836 O.S. Redfern 1886: 370 suggests that the old name of this place was Poppingham, but no other evidence has been traced to support such name.

POPLAR STYLE (unlocated, probably near Claverley, since the place is recorded several times in Claverley parish register.) Popler stile 1641 Claverley ParReg, poplar 1651 ibid, Poppler style 1658 ibid. 'The stile at the poplar tree'.

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PORTOBELLO 2 miles east of Wolverhampton (SO 9498). *Porto Bello* 1775 Yates, 1834 O.S.; *Portobello* 1850 Tresull ParReg. The age of the name is uncertain, but it occurs in other counties, normally to commemorate the naval victory at Porto Bello in 1739. Cf. Portobello Farm, Warwickshire; Portobello and Portobello Mine, Derbyshire.

PORT VALE (obsolete) in Burslem (SJ 8649). *Port Vale (Tileries)* 1871 SRO DW1885/6/3. A name that became attached to the Burslem football club, which was based at Port Vale House in 1892. The club was known as Burslem Port Vale until it moved to Hanley c.1911. The port element is from a wharf on the Trent & Mersey Canal.

PORTWAY 1 mile north-east of Rowley regis (SO 9788). *Portway* 1641 Rowley Regis ParReg, 1686 Plot, Mordern 1695, *Port Way* 1834 O.S. A common name (e.g. *Port Way*, Uttoxeter, 1601 (1798) Shaw I 56; *Porte Waye* (undated), in Haughton/Coton Clanford (PRO C1/1376/14-15), from OE *portweg* 'a road leading to a town or market'. Nash 1781: I 521 mentions 'a Roman road called Portway' at Oldbury. The *portway that leads to Bilston*, recorded c.1538 (SHC 1912 113) is almost certainly *portstrete* mentioned in a charter of Bilston and Wednesfield in 985 (S.860): see Hooke 1983: 74, identified by Duignan 1888: 12, n.11 as a continuation of the Portway in Wednesbury. The road from Forton to Newport was called *Portway* in 1618: Survey. Shaw 1798: I 29 records the *Portway* in 1257 in the Rolleston/Tutbury area, and Portway Lane runs from Wigginton to Harlaston.

POSTERN HOUSE FARM ½ mile north of Tatenhill (SK 2023). *Postern House* 1774 SRO D11/M/02, *Postern House* 1834 O.S. From ME *posterne* 'a back door, a secondary gate', presumably from a park gate here.

POTHOOKS BROOK a tributary of the river Penk. Probably from *pot-hook*, an S-shaped iron hook for suspending pots over a fire, to reflect the meanders of the stream.

POTTAL POOL on the western edge of Cannock Chase, in Hatherton parish (SJ 9714). *Pottals Slade* 1806 SRO D3186/8/1/30/17, *Pottal Pool* 1814 EnclA, *Pottal Pools* 1834 O.S. Perhaps from OE *potte* 'deep pit or hole', with OE *halh* or OE *hol(h)* 'hole, deep place in water, cave, burrow', but OED gives *pottle, pottel* as obsolete words for a measure of capacity equal to two quarts, so possibly an ironic name for a small pit or pits: there are gravel workings in the immediate area. Slade is from OE *slæd* 'low flat marshy land, a valley'.

POTTERIES, THE an expression in use during the latter half of the 18th century (Wedgwood), and according to the OED a name first recorded in 1825 (but earlier examples have been traced, for example *the potteries* on 1794 gravestone of Jonathan Shelley in Barlaston churchyard) for the pottery and porcelain producing area of North Staffordshire, including Stoke-on-Trent, Burslem, Hanley, Longton, Fenton and Tunstall, but not including Newcastle-under-Lyme.

POTTERIESLEGA (unlocated, perhaps near the north side of Bagot's Park.) *potteres leage* '951 (14th century, S.557), *Potterslega* 13th century SHC XI NS 163. 'The ìtah of the potter(s)'; *potter* was possibly a term used for not only for a maker of clay pots, but also for a maker of metal vessels: Blair & Ramsay 1991 93-4. Apart from this place-name, the word potter is not recorded until 1284: Ekwall 1960: xxxiii, citing OED.
POUKE HILL 2 miles north-west of Walsall (SO 9999), **Poukehill** 1661 SRO D802/25, **Powke-hill**, **Powk-Hill** 1686 Plot 174, 212, **Pouch Hill 1775** Yates, **Pouk Hill Quarry** 1834 O.S. From OE *pēca* (Welsh *pwca*, ON *puki*), ME *pouke* 'demon, sprite, hobgoblin', a common element in place-names, particularly with reference to hills and pits: cf. Puckering, Hertfordshire; Puckington, Somerset; Pucklechurch, Gloucestershire. Pouke Hill was a huge conical hill of hard bluish-black basalt with veins of white quartz, calcite and zeolite, some 300 or 400 yards in circumference, totally destroyed by quarrying by the early twentieth century, in an area which was formerly isolated, wooded and near a large heath: see WJ August 1908 209-11. StEnc 464 mentions pasture here called *Poukeloftons* in 1565. *Powgh* is recorded in 1536 (SRO D4407/28[SF65]), and may be associated with this place. Powke Lane in Rowley Regis probably has the same derivation. See also Mucheberge.

PREES - see PIPEHILL.

PREOSTESLAND (unlocated, in or near Wolverhampton.) *Preostesland of Wulfrenehantun* 11th or 12th century Sawyer 1979a: xxxvii. Possibly to be associated with Prestwood or Priestfield(s) (q.v.). This was probably a record of ownership of land rather than a place-name proper.

PRESFORD BROOK a tributary of the river Sow which flows to the north of Coton Clanford. From Presford (q.v.).

PRESFORD (HOUSE FARM & BRIDGE) 2 miles west of Stafford (SJ 8722, 8823). *Prestefordde*, **Presford** 13th century SHC IV 277, **Presford (Barn)** 1836 O.S. From OE *prēost ford* 'priest ford'.

PRESTESMORE, PRESTYSMORE (unlocated, in Talke), Le Prestesmore, Prestysmore c.1492 SHC 1912 256; PRESTESMORE (unlocated, in Shareshill), le Prestesmore 1441 Oakden 1984: 118. 'The priests' moor'.

PRESTFORD BROOKE (unlocated, in Brewood.) *Presteford broke* 1303 (1801) Shaw II 293, *Presford broke* 1409 (1801) ibid. 293.

PRESTON 1 mile west of Penkridge (SJ 9014). *Preston* c.1215 HMC (Middleton 57), 1261 Penkridge Inq, c.1340 ECP, 1548 Survey, 1563, 1620 FF. 'The tan of the priests', perhaps to be associated with the priests who served the parochia of the minster church at Penkridge.

PRESTWOOD 3 miles north-east of Wolverhampton (SJ 9401), *Prestwode* 1199 SHC III 39, 1286 SHC V (i) 164, 1399 SHC 1910 145; PRESTWOOD 3 miles north-west of Stourbridge (SO 8686), *Prestevuda* 1166 SHC 1923 298, **Prestwode** 1276 SHC VI (i) 82, Prestwode, **Prestwode** 13th and 14th century Duig, *Prestwoodes ferme* 1537 SHC 1912 88; PRESTWOOD 1 ¼ miles south-west of Ellastone (SK 1042), *Prestewude* 1197 SHC II 68, **Prestwolde** 1307 SHC XI NS 1307, Prestwolde 1324 SHC 1911 360, **Prestwood 1666** SHC 1925 191, 1749 Bowen, 1836 O.S. From OE *prēost wudu* 'priest's wood'. The first place lay within Cannock Forest and was held by the monks of Wolverhampton (see also Preostesland, Priestfield(s)), the second in Kinver Forest and held before the Conquest by the bishops of Worcester. The spellings of the place near Ellastone suggest an alternative containing OE *wald* 'a wood', later 'open upland', an element rare in Staffordshire. **Prestwood Rydway** is recorded in 1567 (SHC 1931 166), possibly in the Balterley area, but has not been located.
PRIESTFIELD(S) in Bilston, 2 miles south-east of Wolverhampton (SO 9397). *le Prest Felde* 1458 (1801) Shaw II 170, *Prestfield* 1571 SRO D4407/18[SF35], *Prest Field* 1708 SRO D260/M/T/5/123. Land which was once divided between the churches of Penkridge, Stretton and Bilston. See also Preostesland; Prestwood.

PRISONS, THE (unlocated, in Bilston.) *The Prisons* 1458 Langford c.1872: 334, 1635 D1798/666/22[316], 1801 Shaw II 170. The derivation of this curious name (found as a field-name *Little Prisons* in 1771) is not known.

PUR BROOK a tributary of the river Blithe. *on pire broc, of pirebrok* 951 (14th century, S.557), *in pire broces heafde, after pire broc* 996 (11th century, S.878), *Pirebroc* c.1205 HMC Var Coll 11, 290, *Pilesbroc* 1192x1247 SHC 4th Series IV 79, *Perbroke* 1548 Ct, *per brooke* 1559 Survey, *Perbrooke* 1711 SBT DRI8/22/7/21, *Pirebrook* 1844 Erdeswick 1844: 275. Possibly from a word connected with Norwegian *píra* 'to trickle, to peer', although the history of the word (cf. Pirchill) is unclear: see Ekwall 1928: 333. Hart 1975: 207 prefers a derivation from OE *pūr* which he gives to mean 'bittern, snipe' (but according to BT 'tern and black-headed gull'), rather than from OE *pirige* 'pear tree', but the spellings make the latter the most likely derivation, with *pire* representing a reduction of *pirige*. *Pire* is found in *Pirewasse* (q.v.) on Pur Brook. See also Purleyhill.

PURLEYHILL 1 mile north of Hamstall Ridware (SK 1020). *Per Hill* 1775 Yates, *Purlieu hills* 1798 Shaw I 152, 155, *Purl Hill* 1832 Teesdale, *Parley Hill* 1836 O. S. The OED defines *purlieu*, first recorded in 1482, as 'a piece or tract of land on the fringe or border of a forest, originally one that, having been (wrongly, as was thought) included within the bounds of the forest, was disafforested by a new perambulation, but still remained in some respects, especially as to the hunting or killing of game, subject to provisions of Forest Law': the place lies to the west of Needwood Forest. However, Purleyhill is on the east side of Pur Brook, and the two names may be associated.

PUTLEY on the west side of Bearnett, south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 8894). *Puttelye, Puttelyth* 1262 SHC V (i) 139, *Putteleye, Puttesleye* 1286 *ibid.* 158, (wood of) *Putley* 1286 SHC 4th Series XVIII 114, *Puly(feld)* 1378 SHC 1928 39, *Puttlesey* 1666 SRO D260/M/T/4/85, *Putt Lease* 1672 SRO D260/M/T/4/99. '...on the narrow neck of land which connects the Lloyd with the bulk of Lower Penn...': printed Penn ParReg vi. The name is preserved in various field-names on the south and west side of Bearnett, and Bearnett House was built in 1854 on the the site of Putley Villa: Dunphy 2002: 49. Possibly from OE *pytt-lēah*, 'the lēah with the pit or pits'. Perhaps the same place as, or associated with, *Putte, Puthous* (q.v.). See also VCH XX 212.

PUTTE, PUTHOUS (unlocated, perhaps in Bushbury, or the same place as Putley (q.v.).) *la Putte* 1220 SHC IV 13, *Putte* 1255 SHC V (i) 112, 1311 SHC 1911 308, 1322 *ibid.* 352, (in the) *putte* 1327 SHC VII (i) 251, *Puthous* 1417 SHC XVII 60. From OE *pytt* 'a pit, a natural hollow, an excavated hole', with OE *hās* 'house', perhaps meaning 'the house at the pit or excavation'.

PYAT'S BARN 1 mile south-west of Rushton Spencer (SJ 9261). *Plaes Barn* (sic) 1842 O.S. From the family named Piatte, recorded in 1580 (SHC XIV (i) 213), Pytt, recorded in 1590 (SHC 1935 97),
Pyatt or Pyott, recorded in the late 16th century (VCH VII 219-220), who occupied property in Rushton.

PYEBIRCH MANOR 1 mile south-east of Eccleshall (SJ 8428). Pipebriche 1298 Survey. Seemingly from OE pipe 'conduit, water-pipe, water-course', with OE brécc 'land broken up for cultivation', so 'the cultivated land with the drainage pipe'.

PYECLOUGH 2 miles south-west of Hollinsclough (SK 0464). Py(e)clough 1556 Deed, 1566, 1561 Rental, the Pye Cloughe 1583 Alstonefield ParReg, Pyeclough(e) 1591 DRO D2375M/106/27, Pyeclough 1635 Leek ParReg. From OE pte-clôh 'steep valley or ravine of the magpies', or perhaps 'steep valley or ravine infested by gnats or midges': cf. Pycombe, Sussex (Ekwall 1960: 376). See also Clough.

PYE GREEN 2½ miles north of Cannock (SJ 9814). Pye Green 1880 Kelly. From ME pre-grene 'the grassy place frequented by magpies'. An earlier name for this place may have been Deakin's Grave (Dickens Lodge 1758 SRO D603/L181, Dakins Lodge 1775 Yates, Dickin's Grave 1821 map; see StEnc 721). There is another place called Pye Green, also known as Dab Green (? Teb Green 1655 Betley ParReg), in Whitmore parish.

PYKE BURCHE (unlocated, possibly near Wood Eaton, or perhaps Pyebirch (q.v.).) Pyke burche 1586 SHC 1927 179.

PYKSHILL (unlocated, near Pipe Hall.) Pykshill 1688 SRO D650/6/4.

PYNLCUDON (unlocated, possibly near Stone or Walton.) Pynludon 1284 FA.

QUAMENDEHULLE (unlocated, in Leekfrith.) Quainendehul 1330 Ch, Quamendehul 1346 Pat, Gaviendhul 14th century Deed, Quamendehulle 1467 SHC IX NS 363. Possibly incorporating OE cwelm 'spring', with usual West Midland vowel change (see PN Sa 111 25), with OE ende 'end, the end of an estate, district or quarter of a village or town', and OE hyll 'hill', so 'the hill at the end with the spring'.

QUARNFORD an area 5 miles south-west of Buxton (SK 0166). Querneford 1228 SHC IV 64, Cornford 1282-3 SHC XI NS 258, Quernyford 1307 ibid. 257, ...a vaccary [cow pasture] called Quernyford... 1308 Cal IPM, Cornford 1308 SHC XI NS 258, Corneford 1421 SHC XVII 96, ? Kerneford 1340 Pat, Quernford 1396-7 SHC XV 78, Corneford 1447 SHC III NS 174, Wharnford 1614 DRO D2375M/106/27. From OE cweorn 'mill, millstone', so 'quern ford', i.e. 'ford by a mill', or 'ford by the place where mill-stones were made, or over which mill-stones were carried'. The ford was perhaps the one over the river Dane at Gradbach.

QUARRY, THE ¼ mile north-west of Audley (SJ 7850). Quarne 1744 SHC 1944 4, Quarrel 1744 ibid. 15, The Quarrels 1744 ibid. 23. The various forms are inconsistent, but point towards a derivation from OE quarelle 'quarry', rather than OE cweorn 'a mill, a watermill, a place where mill-stones were quarried', although the place does lie on a watercourse.
QUARRY HEATH 1 mile east of Penkridge (SJ 9413). Quarr(e)y Heath 1598 Ct, 1622 FF, 1634, 1682 ParReg. From ME quarrere 'quarry', and OE hēð 'heath'. Perhaps to be associated with Stondelf 'the stone diggings' recorded in 1261: SHC 1950-1 47.

QUATFORD Ancient Parish 2 miles south-east of Bridgnorth (SO 7391). Quatford 1086 DB, Quatoford 1271-2 Ass, c.1540 Leyland, Quhatford 1595 PR(H) 3. 'The ford in the district called Cwat(t)': see Quatt. In Shropshire since the 12th century. It may be noted that Watford Farm in Hartington Upper Quarter in Derbyshire is found as Quatford c.1104: SHC 1924 328; PN Db 372, but it is unlikely that the name (which is probably 'wheat ford') has the same origin as Quatford near Bridgnorth: PN Db 372.

QUATT Ancient Parish 4 miles south-east of Bridgnorth (SO 7588). ? Quatone 1086 DB (listed under Warwickshire), Quatte 1212 Fees, 1291 Tax, 1363 SHC X NS (ii) 113. It seems possible that the place called Cwatbrycg (896 ASC) was Bridgnorth (see PN Sa I 56-9, but also Groom 1992: 19, where it is suggested that the burh at Cwatbrycg guarded a bridge between Quatford and Eardington), though the existence of any bridge at Bridgnorth before the tenth century is doubtful, notwithstanding the brycg element. The meaning of the name Quatt, which seems to have applied at an early date to a sizeable district, has long been the subject of speculation, and the name must be considered unsolved, though an English derivation is more likely than a Welsh origin. Various derivations, none particularly convincing, have been advanced, including (i) OE cwēad 'dirt, mud', which is unlikely since an OE name ending in d would not be expected philologically to change to t in Quatt or Cwatbrycg (see Ekwall 1960: 376-7; TSAS LVII 1961-4 45 fn.13, 14); (ii) an OE word related to modern quat (not recorded before 1579 in OED, but perhaps found in the name Leofwine Cwatt, recorded in 1015: S.1503; Searle 1897: 335; Whitelock 1930: 60-1, 173), possibly in a topographical sense 'a mound or tumulus' (several of which are recorded hereabouts: see Hardwicke MS IV, WSL, which mentions a round tumulus, the Round Hill, 200 paces north-west of Quatford Castle, and another similar hill to the south-west; and note especially Panpudding Hill, a huge artificially modified natural mound on the south side of Bridgnorth); (iii) Welsh coed, earlier coyt 'forest' (put forward in Eyton 1854-60: I 104) which presents philological difficulties, since a rounded vowel is not likely to have developed early enough to produce a 9th century OE place-name form Cwat-: the sound is likely to have been 8th century in Welsh, and the normal form in English place-names is Chet-, Chit-, etc. (on which see Gelling 1992: 66-71), and for this derivation the area would have had to be Welsh-speaking in the 8th century, which is unlikely (see Jackson 1953: 327), but if there were any other evidence for continuity of Welsh spoken in the Bridgnorth district into the 8th century, this could itself be used to support it (personal communication from Paul Bibire 17 November 1996); (iv) from OE cwatern (from Latin quattuor), meaning 'the dice-like square', with reference to a remarkable group of mounds (said to be tumuli) arranged in quincunx pattern (like the spots on a domino) surrounded by a bank or ditch forming a square recorded 'on Morfe [Common]' in the 1740s (see Harthorne 1841: 91, 101; Bellett 1856: 5-7; Eyton 1854-60: III 213, and the original report of the excavations in TRS 464, May-July 1742, 134-6 (sic, and not TRS 460 as quoted in Bellett 1859: 5)), a feature which (if the mounds were indeed ancient) would seem, like the name, to be unique, and which could well have given its name to a wide area. The mounds, the location of which is now lost (but possibly at Sandybury on the 1" O.S.
map of 1833), appear to have been destroyed by ploughing in the early 19th century. Quatt has been in Shropshire since the 12th century. Quateway (presumably 'the way or road to Quatt' is recorded in a 16th century deed relating to Upper Arley: VCH Wo III 5. See also PN Sa I 58, 248; TSAS LVII 1961-4 37-46.

QUEELANE (FARM) 2 miles south of Uttoxeter (SK 0830). Quee Lanes 1775 Yates, 1836 O.S. A curious name. Possibly from the Northern dialect quee 'a female calf' (Halliwell).

QUENNEDALE unlocated, perhaps on Tixall Heath (see VCH III 261 fn.18), but the first form suggests a location in Ingestre. Quennedale in Iggestroud 1161x1182 SRO 1/7972, Quennedale c.1200 SHC VIII (i) 135, 1261 SHC 1914 121. Perhaps from OE cwēne dał 'the woman's valley'. OE cwēn meant 'queen, wife'; OE cwēne meant 'woman, female serf, prostitute'.

QUEEN'S LOW a tumulus near Tixall (SJ 9623), Queen's Low 1686 Plot; QUEEN LOW (unlocated) on Ribden, 1 mile south of Cauldon (? SK 0747), Queen Low 1686 Plot 404. From OE hlīw 'hill, burial mound', with OE cwēne 'queen', or the OE female name Cwēne. For Queen's Low see WMA 1987 30 38-9. See also Guendelawe; King's Low; Quennedale. Other lows in the area included Le Heghlow, recorded in 1346 (SRO D938/350), and Stanilyowe, recorded in 1347 (ibid. D938/352).

QUEENSVILLE on the south-east side of Stafford (SJ 9322). Adopted as the new name for the hamlet of Spittal Brook, so-named from the brook associated with the hospital of St. Leonard (Spittall 1487 VCH V 91), to commemorate Queen Victoria's coronation in 1838: VCH VI 194.

QUESLETT 3½ miles south of Aldridge, in Great Barr (SP 0694). Queeslade, Queeslade 16th century Duig, Queislet 1686 Plot 403, Queeslet 1766 ABG, Queeslet 1834 O.S. From ME queest 'wood-pigeon', with OE slēd 'small valley'. The place lies in a hollow.

QUINTIN'S ORCHARD 1½ miles south-west of Hamstall Ridware (SK 0818). Pipehalle 1319 (1798) Shaw I 166*, Pypehalle 1420 ibid, Pypehal orcharde 1443 ibid, Pip-hall 1560 SHC 1925 27, ? Quintaynes Leasowes or Nevalles Heies 1654 WaCRO CR1908/16/12, ? Quintons Barn 1700 SRO D260/M/T/3/134, Quinton's orchard ibid, Quinton's Orchard 1834 O.S. For Pipe see Ridware, Pipe. According to Shaw (1798: I 166*) the later name is from that of the occupier ('Quinten or Quinton, corruptedly Quintin or Quintyn') in 1606 and later, and (1798 I 357): 'Quintyn, or St. Quintyn, is a name and family of note for antiquity and possessions in Wall, Lichfield and Longdon...derived of French lineage that took their name from St. Quintyn, a town in Picardy, and most likely settled in this nation in the reign of William I. In 1286 Ralph Quenten/Quynten/Quyntyn of Fradley was forester of Alrewas and keeper of the prison at Cannock: SIIC 4th Series XVIII 110, 128-9, 143. and keeper of the prison. See also Pipe Hall. Shaw 1798: I 166 observes 'there is no reason to believe that the antient manerial residence [of Pipe Hall] was not situate on the Trent, but at or near Linacre...'.

QUIXHILL 1 mile north-west of Rcester (SK 1041). Quikesville, Quicksall 1191x1194 CEC 261, Quhecol, Kuhicel pre-1236 SHC 1921 37-8, Wiekeshull 1236 SHC 1911 405, Wikeshull 1240 SHC IV 237, Wytekeshull 1242 Fees, Whydekeshull 1272 SHC IV 211, Quikeshull 1272 FF, 1279 Ass, Quyshull 1277 SHC 1911 31, Wexhull 1277 SHC V (j) 91, Wykehull 1309 SHC X 4, Quetical 1327 SHC VII 217, Quyxsale 1387 SRO 3764/98[40001], Cwykhill 1529 SHC 1912 35, Quiksett 1666 SHC 504
1925 194, Quiksill 1686 Plot, Quikshill 1798 Yates. Ekwall 1960: 377 gives 'Cwic's hill', but some spellings point towards an alternative OE form with an OE personal name *Wittuc, which may be found in Uttoxeter (q.v.), less than five miles from Quixhill, suggesting that the same individual may be associated with both places. Whittingslow ('Hwittuc's tumulus'), 3 miles south-west of Church Stretton, and Whixall, both in Shropshire. A puzzling name for a hamlet which lies in a valley bottom: the name was evidently taken from that of a nearby hill.

RAD BROOK a tributary of the river Churnet. Rad Brook 1842 O.S. Almost certainly from OE ređad brōc 'the red brook': see Rudyard.

RADBROOK FIELD (obsolete) on south-west side of Rugeley (SK 0316). Redebroke 1262 (1798) Shaw I 107, reddebrooke 1570 Survey, redbrookefield 1585 Comm, Redbrook Meadow 1885 EnclA. The name is more likely to be from the colour of the water in the brook (perhaps stained from iron) than from OE hreōd 'reed'. See also Radmore.

RADDLE FARM on the east side of Elford (SK 1910), Raddle Farm 1834 O.S., 1863 BCA MS3878/966; RADDLE FARM 1½ miles north-east of Edingale (SK 2213), Raddle Farm 1834 O.S. Perhaps from raddle 'to paint or mark with raddle; to colour with red', so 'the red-painted farmhouse', or 'the barn where rams were raddled', presumably associated with the obsolete Raddle Barn (1834 O.S.), 1 mile south-east of Harlaston (SK 2209). Cf. Raddlebarn, Worcestershire (PN Wo 349).

RADDLEPITS on the Weaver Hills (SK 1045). Raddlepits 1836 O.S. Raddle is a variant of ruddle 'red ochre' (from OE rūdu 'red or ruddy colour'), used for marking sheep. There is an ancient earthworks here (VCH I 376 mentions a line of trenches 166 yards long; see also SHC 1916 207), and it is unclear whether the name has been attached to the earthworks because they resembled raddle pits, or whether the place was actually used as raddle pits: evidence for the latter may be found in the name Wredon (q.v.). Raddlepits in Ipstones is recorded in 1644 (SHC 4th Series I 213), and Plot 1686: 124 mentions 'Ruddle or Red-Ocher they dig very good at the parish of Ipston'.

RADDLE STICH (obsolete) on the south-east side of Mobberley (SK 0141). Raddle Stich 1775 Yates, Raddlestich 1791 SOT SD4842/20/64, Raddle Stich 1841 O.S. From raddle, a variant of ruddle 'red ochre', with OE sēc 'watercourse', so giving 'the stream coloured by raddle'.

RADECLIFF (unlocated) Radeciff 1256 Ch.

RADFORD a crossing of the river Penk, 1 mile south-east of Stafford (SJ 9321). Radfordbregge 1476 SHC VI NS (i) 98, Radford bridge 1576 SHC 1926 33, Ratforde Bridge 1600 SHC 1930 270, Ratford Bridge 1608 SHC 1948-9 82, Radford Bridge 1775 Yates, Radford 1836 QS. In most cases the common name Radford probably means 'red ford', often from the colour of the soil at or near the ford, but some places of this name may be from OE rāдеford or rъ́деford 'horse-riding ford', presumably denoting a ford unsuitable for crossing on foot. The bridge here, recorded temp. John (VCH VI 197), was formerly of considerable importance, as shown by its maintenance by the Hundred, and evidently replaced the ford hereabouts (see VCH V 2). The bridge also marked the boundary of the Forest of Cannock: SHC VIII (ii) 133.
RADLEY MOOR the name of several fields between Little Aston and Fotherley in Shenstone over which runs the ancient Icknield Street (SK 0902). The name might be from OE *rād* 'road', from Icknield Street, but if it is to be identified with *æt reod lege* mentioned in a charter of 957 of land at Aston and Barr (12th century, S.574), then perhaps from OE *rēad* 'red', denoting the colour of the soil or vegetation, with OE *lēah*, hence 'red lēah' with later *moor*.

RADMORE LANE (FARM) 1½ miles west of Gnosall (SJ 7920). Redamora 1157 P, Rademora 1156, 1158 *ibid*, Radmore 1227 ch, Radmo(o)re Lane 1481 Ct, 1668 Survey, 1775 Yates, Radnor lane 1695 Morden, Radmore Lane 1833 O. S. From OE *rēad-mōr* 'the red marshland', possibly so-coloured from clay or peat-staining.

RADMORE WOOD ¼ mile north-east of Abbot's Bromley (SK 0825), Redmora c.1220 SHC 1937 35, Rodemore 1275 *ibid.* 79, Radmore 1836 O.S.; RADMORE, RED MOOR ¼ mile south-west of Cannock Wood (SK 0411), Radenor 1141-9 BM, Redamora 1157, Rademora 1156, 1158 P, Redemore c.1235 SHC XII 274, Radmore 1227 Ch, Rydemore 1291 (1798) Shaw I xxi, Redemoor 1279 SHC VI (i) 93, Redde More 1505 OSS 1936 51. Possibly from OE *hrēod-mōr* 'marshland where reeds grow', but the spellings also suggest OE *rēad-mōr* 'red moor', from the colour of the soil or vegetation (and Redmoor (sic) Stream and Red Gutter stream near Cannock Wood are said to have been stained as they flowed over ochrous outcrops up to 18" thick: MidA III 59; WJ 1904 247). Radmore near Cannock Wood is the site of the Cistercian abbey of Radmore founded in c.1143 which moved to Stoneleigh in Warwickshire c.1154 which VCH III 225.

RADWAY HILL 2 miles north of Kinver (SO 8586). Presumably from the red colour of the soil here - see also Redford.

RADWOOD 2 miles west of Whitmore (SJ 7741). Radwode 1272 SHC VIII 151, Radewode 1335 SHC XI 50, Radwood 1386 SRO DW1082/A/3/3, (the hall of) Radwood c.1565 SHC IX NS 180, 198, 1609 SHC III NS 46, Meare Radwood 1606 SHC XVIII 61, Radwood (house) 1679 SHC 1914 16. Possibly 'the reedy wood': it is very unlikely that the name *hreoditan more* 'the reedy moor', found in the bounds of a charter of Madeley of 975 (11th century, S.801), is to be associated with this place as suggested in Hooke 1983: 106-9; see also Hart 1985: 96. Meare is Maer.

RAGGED INVENTION (obsolescent) 2 miles west of Codsall (SJ 8504). Ragged Invention 1834 O.S. The meaning of this long-disused name, which seems to have been linked to what is now known as Wheatstone Farm, is unknown. Ragged had the meaning 'rough, irregular, jagged, and (of sounds) harsh, discordant', so possibly 'the noisy invention or contraption'. Cf. New Invention.

RAGLIS (obsolescent) ¼ mile north of Crumpfield (SO 0166). Raglis 1832 O.S. Perhaps from the surname de *Wraggeleye*, found in the Subsidy Roll of 1275, from Ragley in Worcestershire: PN Wo 364. In Tardebigge parish, forming part of Staffordshire from c.1100 until 1266, in Warwickshire until 1844, and since that date in Worcestershire.

RAILS FARM 2 miles north-east of Biddulph (SJ 9158). The Rails 1842 O.S. Said to be from the railed fence that enclosed Horton Hay in the early 15th century: VCH VII 67.
RAKE END on north-west of Hill Ridware (SK 0718), Le Rake 1334 (1798) Shaw I 200, Rakeynd
1523 ibid, Rake Ende 1562 SHC XIII 219, Raikend 1834 O.S. Perhaps from ME rake 'a rough path'.
The word end meant not a terminal point, but simply 'a place', and was often applied to squatter
dwellings on the outskirts of a settlement.

RAKE GATE 2 miles north-west of Wolverhampton (SK 9002), ? Bake Gate [sic] (alias Wyotts
meadow) c.1635 SHC 1928 106, Rake Yate 1649 map TSSAHS XXI 1979-80 16, a meadow called
Rake gate... 17th century SHC 1928 102, Bake Gate 1702 Bushbury ParReg, Rake Yeates 1712 ibid,
Rake Yate 1778 WALS DX13/17, Rake Gate Farm 1895 O.S., Bake Gate 1921 O.S. Perhaps from ME
rake 'a rough path', but more likely from a gate made from a discarded horse-drawn implement.

RAKE HILL on north side of Burntwood (SK 0509). Rackhill 1597 VCH XIV 199, Bakehill Lane
1670 ibid. The road now called Rake Hill was known as Stephen's Hill in the early 19th century: ibid;
1834 O.S. Perhaps from ME rake 'a rough path', or a more recent term for an incline, so perhaps 'the
hill with the steep path'.


RAKES, THE 1 mile south-east of Sheen (SK 1159). Rackes Head 1657 Alstonefield ParReg,
Raikeshead 1660 ibid, the Rakes 1740 ibid, Rakes 1829 SRO D538/A/5/59,1840 O.S. From OE hrace
'throat', used topographically in the sense of 'a pass', so 'the head or end of the narrow valley': cf. The
Rake, Sussex. The place was also known as Bartine Edge in 1651: VCH VII 242.

RAKES DALE ½ mile west of Alton (SK 0642). Rakes Dale 1836 O.S. Perhaps from OE hrace or
hrace 'throat', used topographically in the sense of 'a pass', with OE dael 'valley'.

RAKEWAY 1 mile south-east of Cheadle (SK 0241). Rakeway c.1680 SHC 1919 269,1798 Yates,
1836 O.S. From OE hrace 'throat', used topographically in the sense of 'a pass', found in 14th century
England as rake 'a way, a (rough) path', but perhaps here in the more recent meaning 'a slope, an
incline', so 'the way or track in the narrow valley', or 'the sloping track': the place lies on a hillside.

RALEIGH HALL 1 mile north of Eccleshall (SJ 8330). One of a number of Government
establishments built in the area in the early 1940s and named after naval heroes. See also Beatty Hall,
Drake Hall, Duncan Hall, Frobishar Hall, Howard Hall, Nelson Hall, Rodney Hall.

RAMENSCLOUGH (unlocated, in Leek.). Ramensclough 1562 SHC IX NS 113. Perhaps a
mistranscription of Raven's Clough (q.v.).

RAMMESHEMED (unlocated) Rarnmeshed 1305 SHC VII 124. Perhaps the same place as Rommeseude,
recorded in 1327 (SHC 1913 14).

RAMSHAW, RAMSHAW ROCKS 1 mile north-east of Upper Hulme (SK 0162). Ramshaw 1842
O.S., The Rocks 1842 ibid. The second element is OE scaga 'a grove'. For the first element, see
Ramshorn or Ramsor. Cf Ramshaw, Derbyshire.

RAMSIORN or RAMSOR (pronounced Ramser [remza]) 5 miles east of Cheadle (SK 0845).
Rumesoura 1197 P, Romesovere 1275 SHC V (i) 120, Ramnesoure 1307 SHC XI NS 263,
Roumesover 1327 SHC XI NS 186, Rommesude 1327 SHC 1913 14, Rommesover 1327 ibid.17, Romesor 1309 IPM, Rommessore 14th century Duig, Ramsor 1538 et freq Ellastone ParReg, Ramshorn 1723 ibid, Romshorn 1809 ibid. The first element is probably from OE rammes, genitive singular of ramm 'a ram', or OE hrafn 'raven', or a derived OE personal name. A derivation from OE hramsa 'wild garlic' is unlikely, since the plant favours woodland at lower levels. The second element is OE ofer (frequently shortened to ore) 'slope, hill-side, ridge'. See also Huntington.

RANASHE (unlocated) Ranashe 1414 SHC XVII 23.

RANGEMOOR 1 mile north-east of Ellastone (SK1245). Rangemoor (Wood) 1836 O.S. Early spellings have not been traced. Rangemoor Lane, Rangemoor Wood and Rangemoor Brook incorporate the name here.

RANGEMORE 1 mile north-west of Tatenhill (SK 1822). Rauenwolmesmor 1337 Ct, Rauenesmor 1337 Hardy 1908: 26, Rangemoor (House & Wood) 1836 O.S. The first spelling appears corrupt, so possibly *Hra; fn's or Hrafn's moor' (*Hra; fn is an OE personal name, *Hrafn is an ON personal name), or 'the moor of the raven, from OE hrafn. The place was also known as Tatenhill Gate (1838 O.S.), being one of the gates of Needwood Forest: StEnc 470.

RANGER, THE 1 mile south of Oakamoor (SK 0543). StSt 12 2000 70 associates Ringie c.1595 (Middleton 5/165/52/3d) with this place, but the spelling suggests that the place may be Ring Hey (q.v.).

RANSLOW FARM I mile south-west of Salt (SJ 9427). Ranslowe c.1785 SRO D240/ER/1/21. The age of this name is not known, and it is unclear whether it is to be associated with Rollowe, recorded in 1279 (SHC VI (i) 138). A derivation from the ON personal name Hrani, with OE hlaw 'tumulus, burial mound', poses philological difficulties with the first element, but the name evidently incorporates OE hläw. An estate called Ranslow appears to have existed near Lichfield Road, Stafford, c.1790, perhaps near Weeping Cross: see SRO D240/ER/1/21; SRO 5593/9/33a.

RANTON or RONTON Ancient Parish 4½ miles west of Stafford (SJ 8524). Rantone 1086 DB, Rantonie c.1182 SHC II 256, Rampton, Ramton 1208 SHC III (i) 142-3, Ranton 1209 ibid. 175, Ranton 1236 Fees, Raunton 13th century Duig, Routon 1350 Erdeswick 1844: 136, Rannton 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 67, Rantron c.1540 Leland, Runton 1471 SHC IV NS 175, Ramton c.1540 Leland. Probably from OE rand 'edge, border, bank', hence 'tun on the border' (the place is in Pirehill Hundred one mile from the boundary with Cuttlestone Hundred), or (perhaps more likely) 'tun at the bank': JNSFC XXXVI 1901-2 118 describes nearby Brough Hall as 'a strongly entrenched position on high ground...connected with Ranton by a remarkable earthwork or vallum about 25' wide, traces of which are also to be seen in the wood to the north of Ranton Abbey on the way to Ellenhall', such earthwork (presumably the 'vallum or raised road in the neighbourhood of Ranton Abbey' mentioned in VCH I 186) perhaps the Wal (from OE weall 'a wall, a rampart of earth or stone') recorded in 1213 (SHC III 161). The foundation charter of Ranton Abbey, created as a cell of Haughmond Abbey in Shropshire before 1166 (SHC 1914 94), refers to the name as the house of St Mary des Essarz (VCH III 251), also recorded as de Sartis or Essars Abbey (Erdeswick 1844: 136), or des Essarz, Exsartis (SHC IV 264,
267), from ME (OFr) *assart, essart* 'a clearing in woodland', often shortened to *sart*, and frequently found in ME and later field-names: 'the monastery had probably been built on assarts from the waste of the manor': SHC IV 264 fn.1. Ranton was extra-parochial until 1857. The Ordnance Survey gives Ranton, but the name is sometimes found as Ronton. The parish registers show that Ranton was generally used for the abbey and liberty, and Ronton for the parish. See also Broad Heath.

RATHERSEATES (unlocated, in Alstonefield.) *Ratherseates* 1603 SHC 1946 66, *Radder Seat(e)s* 1607, 1737 Alstonefield ParReg, *Rotherseat* 1661 ibid. Perhaps from OE *hrider, hrjder* 'an ox, cattle', or the ON personal name Hraði, or ON *raðr* 'red', usually in allusion to the colour of soil (though each of those suggestions poses philological difficulties), with ON *satr* 'mountain pasture', or ME *sete* 'a house, a permanent residence'. It is unclear whether *Rashets*, recorded in 1586 (SHC 1927 172) is to be associated with this place.

RAUENSHYLL (unlocated, in Bignall.) *Rauenshyll in Bignoo* 1492 SHC 1912 256. From OE *hrcefn hyll* 'raven hill'.


RAVEN'S CLOUGH 1½ miles north-west of Rushton Spencer (SJ 9163). *Raven's Clough* 1596 VCH VII 224, *Ravensclough e* 1604 Eliz ChancP, 1607 SHC III NS 9, *Ravens Clough* 1775 Yates, 1842 O.S. 'The clough or steep valley frequented by ravens'. See also Clough; Ramensclough.

RAVENSCLOUGH BROOK a tributary of the river Dane. From Raven's Clough (q.v.).


RAVENSHILL 1679 SHC XII NS 212, Ransell, Rensall 1690 Betley ParReg, Ravenshill or Ranshall 1744 SRO D1461/7/10, Ravenshall 1833 O.S. From OE hrafn halh 'the halh of the ravens', or possibly 'Hrafn’s or *Hraefn’s halh': Hrafn is an ON personal name, and *Hraefn an OE personal name.

RAVENSHEAVE 2 miles north of Lichfield (SK 1213). Ravenshaw Wood 1887 O.S. From OE scaga 'a copse, a grove, a small wood', so 'the small wood with the ravens'.

RAVENSHURST 1 mile north of Harborne (SO 0285). Ravenhurst 1656 Dugdale, Ravens House 1775 Yates, 1787 Cary, 1804 Smith. From OE hyrst 'hill, wooded hill, copse', so 'the wooded hill with the ravens'. The name is remembered in Ravenshurst Road.

RAVENSHURST 1 mile north of Harborne (SO 0285). Ravenhurst 1656 Dugdale, Ravens House 1775 Yates, 1787 Cary, 1804 Smith. From OE hyrst 'hill, wooded hill, copse', so 'the wooded hill with the ravens'. The name is remembered in Ravenshurst Road.

RAVENS REST (obsolete) 1 mile west of Codsall, just within Shropshire (SJ 8304), Raven Nest 1741 Codsall ParReg, Ravens Nest 1775 Yates; RAVENS REST (obsolete) 1 mile south of Newborough (SK 1323), Ravensnest (Gate) 1788 VCH II 350, Ravens Nest 1836 O.S. Ravensnest recorded in 1203 (SHC III 95) is unidentified, but may be the place near Codsall.

RAWNESHAWE (unlocated, in King's Bromley.) Rawneshawe 1599 SHC 1931 156. Possibly associated with Reyneseshawnes (undated), recorded in Shaw 1798: 1132.

RAWNPIKE OAK from a great oak which, damaged by lightning, stood until 1932 at the foot of Castle Ring on Cannock Chase (SK 0412). Raunpick, raunpike and rampick are dialect words for a tree beginning to decay at the top from age: EDD. See also Rawnsley. A replacement tree was planted in 2000. See also StEnc 472.

RAWNSLEY 1 mile east of Hednesford (SK 0212), Rawnsley 1895 O.S.; RAWNSLEY HILLS 1 mile north-east of Hednesford (SK0212), Rawnsley Hills 1834 O.S. Oakden 1984: 60 suggests a derivation from OE hraefn, hrafn 'raven', with OE lath, hence 'the leah frequented by ravens', but early forms have not been traced, and the name may not be ancient, in which case it may have the same root as nearby Rawnpike Oak (q.v.).

RAY HALL or REA HALL 2 miles south-west of Great Barr (SK 0294). Rehall 1215 Duig, Reahall 1599 LIRO D187/1/6, Reahall, Rea Hall 1609 BCA MS3810/196, Rea Hall 1655 Willett 1882: 201, Ray Hall 1834 O.S. The place is probably so-named from OE eoa 'a stream': the river Tame runs here. In OE charters at þære eoa 'on the river' is commonly found, and the last word has taken on part of the preceding word to form rea, ray, rhee, all of which are found as stream names in various parts of the country. The derivation of this type of name (said to date from about the 12th century) is held by Ekwall 1928: 337 to have been deduced by Duignan 1902: 125-6.

REA CLIFF FARM 1 mile north of Horton (SJ 9458). Raycliffe, Raycliff, Raycliffe 1538 SIIC NS X (i) 139, Pey Cliff (sic) 1566 SRO DW1761/A/4/79, Reacliff 1675 ParReg, Raecilf Farm 1842 O.S. From OE at þære eoa 'at the river', a common expression which often becomes Rea by misdivision (see also Ray Hall), so here 'the cliff or bank above the river': the place lies on the west side of a valley above what was Dunsmore Brook, dammed c.1793 to create Rudyard reservoir. The 1566 spelling is likely to be a transcription error.
REAPS MOOR 2 miles north of Warslow (SK 0861). *Reaps moor* 1595 VCH VII 29, *the Reapes* 1601 ParReg, *Reapsmore, Reaps Moore* 1650 *ibid*, *Reposmoore End* 1682 *ibid*, *Reppemoor Top* 1775 Yates, *Repemoor* 1787 Cary, *Repsmoor* 1794 Stockdale, *Reaps Moor* 1840 O.S. The first element is uncertain, but the surname Reap is recorded (DES 374), or possibly from ME repe 'sheaf of corn' (cf. Reaps, in Charlesworth, Derbyshire: PN Db 71), suggesting that this area was cultivated.

RED BROOK a tributary of the river Swarbourn. *Red(e)broke* 1262 Hardy 1907: 42, *the Redebroke* 1330 (1798) Shaw I 113, 1603 DuLaMb. The first element is either from OE read 'red' or OE hrgod 'reed'.

RED BULL ½ mile north of Almington (SJ 7035). *Red Bull* 1733 BCA MS3069/Acc1930-022. From a public house of this name.

RED CROSS (obsolete) on south side of Biddulph (SJ 8856). *Red Cross* 1791 SHC 4th Series 13 137. From a tall square red freestone pillar: *ibid*. Carvings on the cross are said to date from the 19th century: JNSFC XXIV 1890 26. The pillar is now in Knypersley churchyard: StEnc 473.

REDDAL HILL on the north side of Cradley Heath (SO 9586). *Reddall Hill* 1834 O.S. In the absence of early spellings any derivation must be conjectural, but perhaps if ancient from OE read 'red', or OE hrød 'reeds', or OE *röd 'clearing', with OE halh, with the later addition of hill.


RED EARTH 2 miles north-west of Leek (SJ 9759). *Ruudeuorth* 1298 SHC XI NS 248, *Reede yerth* 1504 (1883) Sleigh 126, *Red Earth alias Overhouse* c.1560 SRO DW1702/1/6-8, *Redyerth* 1563 SRO DW1702/1/6-8, *the Redde Earth* 1564 *ibid* et freq., *Readd-eerthe* 1569 (1883) Sleigh 120, *Redearth* 1604 SHC 1946 74, *Readhearth* 1609 SHC 1948-9 119. From a remarkable area of red-coloured soil here (see TNSFC 1885 54), which may also be the origin of the name Rudyard (q.v.).

REDFORD (unlocated, on Smeatow Brook near Gothersley.) *Redford* 1690 HRO E12/V1/KY/7. See also Radway Hill.

REDGREET 3 miles north-west of Eccleshall (SJ 7830). *Ridgreet* 1600 Eccleshall ParReg, *the Reedgreitt* 1603 *ibid*, *the Readgreite* 1606 *ibid*. From OE greot 'gravel', so 'the place with the red grit or gravel'.

RED HALL (FARM) 1 mile south-west of Halmer End (SJ 7847). Red Hall 1681 Audley ParReg., 1833 O.S.

RED HALL ½ mile south-east of Broom (SO 9078). *Le Rede wall* 1373 PN Wo 378. Perhaps from OE hrød-wælle 'the reedy spring': a derivation from OE reød-wælle 'red spring' seems improbable. Since 1844 in Worcestershire.
Redhill on the south-west side of Tutbury (SK 2028). Redhill 1798 Shaw I 58.

Red House 1 mile south of Cauldon (SK 0847). Red House 1836 O.S. Presumably from a red house here, but see also Weaver Hills and Raddlepits.

Redhurst Wood 1 mile north-west of Essington (SJ 9604). le Redehurst 1351 Vernon, Redhurst 1526 ibid. From OE rēad-hyrst 'the red wooded eminence'.

Red Moor - see Radmore.

Redmoor Brook a tributary of the river Trent. Probably from OE rēad 'red', from the colour of the soil or vegetation, or OE hrēod 'reed', with OE mōr 'marsh, bog'.

Redshaw 1 mile south-east of Heaton (SJ 9661). Red Shaw 1820 EnclA, 1842 O.S. From OE scaga 'a copse, a grove, a small wood', with red here probably meaning 'red soil' (see Redearth), so 'the small wood on the red earth'. See also Redshaw Wood.

Redshaw Wood to the north of Rudyard Hall (SJ 9660). Red Shaw 1820 EnclA, 1842 O.S.. The name is from OE scaga 'wood, copse', so 'the wood near Redshaw (q.v.)'.

Red Street 2 miles south of Talke (SJ 8251). Red Street 1594 Audley ParReg, Redstrete 1608 SHC 1949-50 53, Red-streete 1634 Wolstanton ParReg, the Red street 1636 Plot 159, 1733 SHC 1944 58, 1747 Bowen. There seems little reason to doubt the statement in Plot 1686: 161 that the name is from a red-coloured iron-ore which was mined here, though red earth is sometimes found at places where burning processes have taken place, and there is some slight evidence that glass-making may have been carried out here: see PMA 31 1997 45. The street element, if ancient, may originate from a Roman road associated with the Roman site at Chesterton: with the exception of Roman roads the element is rarely found in Staffordshire names. The only evidence that has been traced to support the suggestion in SHC 1916 140 and the printed Audley ParReg. that the name is from Ridge Street is reference to Rudge Street in 1554 (SHC XII 213), Ridgestrete in 1572 (HOK 27), and Ridge Street in 1585 (Audley ParReg.), which seem likely to refer to this place, in which case the derivation self-explanatory, but the change to Red noteworthy.

Reeve End on the north-west side of Yoxall: Stuart 1990: 7 (SK 1419). Reeves End 1628 BCA MS3558/292, Reeve End 1631 NA DD/P/6/3/40, Reevend 1665 NA DD/4P/24/109, Rev End 1684 NA DD/4P/24/109. Presumably to be associated with land called a Reevesthinge (sic) recorded in 1613: NA157DD/5P/9/68: thinge is from OE jing 'a meeting, assembly, court'. An Elizabethan survey of Tutbury mentions 'twenty eight copyholders, which are called Reeves-places...every tenant holding by copy of court-roll a tenement...by the name of Reeves-place, shall be Rev when it cometh to his course, and shall collect the rent of the manor and the profits of the courts, [etc]': Shaw 1798 I 29. See also Rew End.

Reule, Upper 1 mile west of Haughton (SJ 8420), Over Rewle 1686 Plot; REULE, LOWER 1¼ miles south-west of Haughton (SJ 8419), Roel 1184x1228 SHC XII (i) 273, Rohale 1168 P, Ruhale 1199 Ass, Rughal' (p) 1222 Cur, Rowl' (p) 1221 Ass, Reul 1241 SHC 1924 134, Roewelle 1285 SHC.
1911 189, Rewyl 1286 ibid. 43, Roule 1297 SRO DW1734/J2268, the rule 1618 Bradley ParReg, the Rule 1650 ibid, Nether Rewle 1686 Plot. Roel or Rowell (Rawelle DB) in Gloucestershire is held to be from OE ra-wella 'roe stream' (Ekwall 1960: 391), but the spellings in that case have Ra-, in addition to Ro-. This place may have the same derivation, or the first element might be OE rāh, with Mercian OE welle 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream', hence 'the rough spring', although such name is not readily explicable. Some spellings suggest the second element may be OE halh. It is not inconceivable that the root is OFr rueelle (from rue 'street' with the diminutive suffix -elle) 'a small road, a track, a path' (cf. Rewell, Sussex; see also Mawer 1929: 89), and in that respect it may be noted that the parish registers invariably use the definite article for the name. The possibility that the name is transferred from Rouelle or Ruelle near Angoulême in Poitou-Charentes, France, cannot be ruled out completely: cf. Frankwell; Desire, Le.

REVEDGE 1 mile south of Bradnop (SK 0053). Ruhegg 1223 SHC XII NS 30, Revehegg’ 1227 Harl, Refeggis c.1255 SHC 1911 427, Refegg c.1270 SHC 1911 442, Refeggmers c.1278 ibid. 430, Refeggé 1304 ibid. 433, Reteg c.1302 ibid. 443, Revegg' 1317 ibid. 433, Ryflugge 1331 SRO D1337/1, Reveegge 1332 SHC X 115, Rauache 1414 ProcJP, Reveedge 1644 Leek ParReg, Revi(t)ch 1649 ibid, Reveegge 1686 Plot. Some of the spellings may relate to Revedge (q.v.).

REVIDGE a 1312' hill 2 miles west of Hulme End (SK 0759), Revage Side, Great & Little Revage Hill 1839 EnclA, Ravage Top 1840 O.S, Revidge Lodge, Moor & Side c.1870 Rental. Given the topography, probably with the same derivation as Revedge (q.v.), some of the spellings cited for which may relate to this place, but the spellings here are late and there can be no certainty.

REW END (unlocated, a hamlet in Yoxall: Shaw 1798: I 98.) Rew-end 1499 (1798) Shaw 1 98. Possibly associated with Reeve End (q.v.).

REW LACH 2 miles north of Warslow (SK 0961). Rewlach c.1422 VCH VII 27, Rowlach(e) 1566 Deed, 1633 Rental, Rowelash 1659 ibid, Rue Lache 1676 Alstonefield ParReg, Rowlatch 1769 Rental, Reulach 1774 ParReg, Rowlatch 1840 O.S. A name recorded in the 1420s: VCH VII 27. Possibly from OE rāh ‘rough or uncultivated ground’, with OE *lece ‘a stream flowing through boggy ground’, here meaning ‘the boggy area with the stream in the rough ground’.

REYNOLDS HALL (obsolete) 1 mile north-east of Walsall (SO 0200). Reignalds Hall 1589 Walsall ParReg, Reynolds Hall 1595 HaRO 44M69/G3/39, Renols Hawle 1590x1603 Backwood 1895: 52, Reynolds Hall 1595 HantsRO 44M69/G3/39, Reynolds Hall 1610 SHC 1934 40, Raynolds Hall c.1630 SHC II (i) 14, Reynald’s Hall 1663 SHC II (ii) 50, Renals hall 1679 VCH XVII 146, Reynolds Hall 1798 Yates. The old hall, named after the Reynolds family (Raynald 1302 SRO D1790/134), was an ancient structure, demolished in the late 18th century to mine limestone beneath (Shaw 1801: II 74-5), which stood near the site of Reynolds Hall Farm, demolished in 1897: VCH XVII 152. See also SHC 1982 19-20.

RIBDEN 1½ miles south of Cauldon (SK 0746). Wrebedun 1328 Ipm, Wrybedon 1327 SHC 1913 14, Wrebesdon 1331 ibid. 31, Wrubden 1339 ibid. 77, Ribden 1608 SHC 1948-9 12, 1686 Plot. Perhaps
from an OE personal name *Wrybba, which may have been an umlauted side-form of Wrobba, with OE dān 'hill'. Cf. Wribbenhall, Worcestershire (Ekwall 1960: 539).

RICKERSCOTE in Castle Church parish, 2 miles south of Stafford (SJ 9220). Ricardescote 1086 DB, Richardescote, Richardscole 1275 SHC VI (i) 72, Rikardescote 13th century Duig, Rycescot 1564 SHC 1928 156, Richardscole 1603 Penkridge ParReg, Ricscote 1686 Plot. 'Ricard's cottage'. Ricard is a name introduced by the Normans.

RICKTHORN (obsolete) on the Staffordshire-Shropshire border, 1 mile south-west of Bobbington (SO7989). Pickethorn (sic) 1316 SHC 1911 329, Rikethorn 1327 SHC VII (i) 252, Ryckethorne, Rykethorne 1332 SHC X (i) 129, Rickethorne 1338 SHC 4th Series XVIII 205, Pykthorn 1531 SRRC 5735/22/1, Rycthorn (p) 1539 SHC VI (i) 68, Ryckthorne 1608 SHC 1948-9 41, Richthorn 1775 Yates, Rickthorn Farm 1832 Teesdale, Rickthorn 1833 O. S. Possibly from an unrecorded OE *ric 'stream, ditch', hence 'the thorn-bush at the ditch'.

RIDDING - see STOCKING.

RIDDING FARM ½ mile south-west of Anslow (SK 2024). Ryding, Ruyding 1287 SHC VI (i) 168, New Rydinge 1297 SHC VII (i) 45, Ruydunges 1303 SHC 1911 59, Ruydeinges 1326 HLS 267, le Ruddyng 1415 Hardy 1908: 95, le Ruddynge 1494 ibid. 138, Ryddyng 1516 ibid. 177, Ryding 1570 SHC XVII 218, Roding 1592 SHC XVIII 7, Anslow Riding 1836 O. S. From OE *ryding 'a clearing, an assart, land taken into an estate from waste'. See also SHC 1912 222.

RIDEWARE BROOK a tributary of the river Trent. aqua de Rideware 1255 Ipm. From the four Ridware villages (q.v.).

RIDEWARE MORHAY (unlocated) Rydeware Morhay 1324 (1798) Shaw I *154, Morhay (undated) ibid. *153. See also Hamstall Ridware; Hill Ridware; Mavesyn Ridware; Pipe Ridware.

RIDGEACRE 1 mile south-west of Harborne (SO 0083). Ruggiacre 1327 SHC VII (i) 229, Ridgacre 1749 Bowen. From OE hrycg 'a ridge' and OE acer 'field, ploughed field', so 'the cultivated land at the ridge'.

RIDGE, THE 2 miles east of Cheddleton (SJ 9951), the Ridge 1572 AD 6, the ridge in Fernihaulgh 1586 AD, The Ridge 1836 O. S.; RIDGE 1 mile south of Longnor (SK 0862), Ridge 1687 Alstonefield ParReg. Self-explanatory.

RIDGEHILL 1 mile north-east of Madeley (SJ 7845). Cylethyll otherwise Rydgehyll 1574 SHC XIV 174, Ridghill 1614 SHC 1934 32, Ridgill 1644 SHC 4th Series I 55, Ridge Hill 1798 Yates, 1833 O. S. Self-explanatory. The 1574 alternative name is curious and unexplained, unless from OE clāte 'burdock': cf. Cleat Hill'.

Shaw I *app. 22, Rudgeway (n.d. Shaw 1798: I 35; app. 22). Ridgeway or Rudgeway are names frequently borne by ancient roads, medieval forms being typically Ruggeway, la Rugge, Ruggeway, from OE hrycg with OE weg 'a way, a path, a road', giving 'the road running along the ridge'. The first place may be associated with Rugges, recorded in 1448: SHC III NS 169. An ancient road, possibly Roman, from Chester to Worcester over Rudge Heath (near Rudge south of Pattingham) is recorded as la Rugge and the Stanway ('stone-way'): Duig 126; Shaw 1798: 134-5.

RIDWARE, HAMSTALL. Ancient Parish 4 miles east of Rugeley (SK 1019). Rideware 1086 DB, *Rideware 11th or 12th century Sawyer 1979a: xxxvii, *Ridewala 1155 SHC I 20, *Ridwara 1169 P, Hamstede Ridwale 1236 Fees, Hamstal, Media Ridewar 1242 ibid, *Rydeware 1281 SHC II 257, Widewarhamstall 1281 SHC VI (i) 120, Hamstall Rudwer 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 5, Rudware Hampstall 1586 SHC 1927 181, Hampstall Ridware alias Hamscall Ridware alias Ridware Hampsall alias Ridware Hamscall 1629 SBT DR18/1/1910a. The DB form may relate to Cowley (q.v.), near Nethertown, and the forms marked * may refer to any of the other other Ridwares. The first element of this name is from a group of people who took their name from a feature probably derived from British *ritu-, ancestor of Welsh rhyd 'ford', or possibly OE *ride 'riding-path'. The former is more likely, for the four settlements incorporating the name lie between the rivers Blithe and Trent, where river crossings have assumed a particular importance, or the 'ford' may have been a road through wet ground between the two rivers (see Gelling & Cole 2000: 91; Breeze & Coates 2000: 335). The second element is OE -ware 'dwellers', hence 'people who lived by the ford (or bridleway). Hamstall is OE hâm-stall 'homestead, residence', meaning in this case 'demesne farm' or similar (Hamstallmedwe in Penkridge is recorded in 1357: SHC 1931 256). See also Hill Ridware; Mavesyn Ridware; Pipe Ridware; and Rideware Morhay.

RIDWARE. HILL. 4 miles east of Rugeley (SK 0817). For Ridware see Hamstall Ridware. The Hill element is recorded in 1346 le Hul (Shaw 1801: II 199), Hullo n.d. (Shaw 1798: I 169), Hulcausey 1359 (Erdeswick 1844: 232), with part of it Alwynehull (later corrupted into a farmhouse name The Hall in the Hole), from Alwyne who held land on the hill (ibid.). Causey almost certainly means 'causeway' (see e.g. Leland c.1540: ii 101, who mentions the causey between the two pools at Lichfield) but is still used in Northern and Midland dialect with its earlier meaning 'paved path or pavement': OED. See also Hamstall Ridware; Mavesyn Ridware; Pipe Ridware; and Rideware Morhay.

RIDWARE, MAVESYN (pronounced Mavis-son [meivisan]) Ancient Parish 4 miles east of Rugeley (SK 0816). Ridvare 1086 DB, Ridewale Mauvaisin 1236 Fees, Mavesen Rudward 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 62. For Ridware, see Hamstall Ridware. Mavesyn is from the Malveisin or Malvoisin family (one of whom is said to have fought with the Conqueror at Hastings: see Shaw 1798: I 167; 205) who held the manor in the 12th, 13th and 14th century, when it passed to females - Shaw 1798: I 205 records how the name was then '...vulgarily pronounced Mason or Ma'syn Ridware...'. The DB spelling may refer to Nethertown (q.v.). See also Hamstall Ridware; Hill Ridware; Pipe Ridware; and Rideware Morhay.
RIDWARE, PIPE 4 miles east of Rugeley (SK 0917). Ridewarre 1086 DB, Pyp Riwrear 1371 SHC VIII NS 266, Pipe Ridware 14th century Duig, Pyyp Rudwer 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 62. For Ridware, see Hamstall Ridware. Pipe comes from the de Pipe family, from Pipe near Lichfield, who held the manor in the 13th and 14th century. Shaw 1798: 161 records that Pipe Ridware was 'formerly called Media, or Parva [Little] Rideware'. See also Hamstall Ridware; Mavesyn Ridware; Hill Ridware; Rideware Morhay; Pipe; Nethertown.

RILEYHILL 1 mile south of King's Bromley (SK 1115). Riley Hill 1798 Yates, 1801 SRO D357/D/10, 1834 O.S. From OE ryge 'rye', with OE leah, so 'the hill at the clearing in which rye was grown.'

RINDLEFORD 1½ miles north-west of Worfield (SO 7395). Ryndelford 1525 SR, Rendelford 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 118, Rynaldsford 1536 SRRC 5586/1/423, Ringlefford 1577 Saxton, Rindleford 1752 Rocque, 1833 O.S. Probably from the North Western dialect rindel 'a small brook; to trickle slowly' (EDD), so 'the ford across the slow-moving stream'. In Shropshire since the 12th century.


RING HEY 1½ miles north-east of Cheddleton (SJ 9953). Ryngheye 1327 SHC VII 217, Ryngeye 1345 SHC XII 37, 69, Ryngelseyeye 1346 ibid. 53, 1409 SHC XVI 66, Rungehey 1536 SHC XI 273, Rungehay 1565 SHC XIII 266, Ring Hey 1836 O.S. The first word would seem to be from OE hring 'ring, circle', perhaps connected with some prehistoric stone circle - there may have been a monument called Bride Stones near Cheddleton: Shaw 1801: II 2 quotes from the notes to Holliday's poem 'The British Oak': '...Bride Stones, as they have been called time out of memory, have been found in or near Chedleton...[t]hese Bride Stones the author has not yet had an opportunity of seeing...'. No other reference to such supposed monument has been traced. However, from the -unge spellings it is not impossible that the element is OE hrung, *hrynge 'a rung, pole, stake'. Ekwall 1960: 394 suggests that names with this element are likely to refer to a primitive bridge over marshy ground formed by poles placed close together at right angles to the direction of the road. The second element is from Mercian OE (ge)heg 'enclosure'. Cf. East Rounton and West Rounton, Yorkshire; North Runcton and South Runcton, Norfolk. See also The Ranger.

RING HILL (COVERT) 1 mile north-east of Codsall (SJ 8804). Ring Hill 1842 TA. It is possible that this name is to be identified with Rankehull 1453 Ct, Rankyll 1584 Ct, in which case the name is perhaps from OE ranc, hyll 'the hill with the heavy growth of coarse vegetation'. It appears that the field-name Rankellesput recorded in 1320 (Oakden 1984: 48), which perhaps incorporates the ON personal name Hrafnkell, so giving 'Hrafnkell's pit' (from OE pyt), was at or close to Broomhall near Brewood (SHC V NS 225), and is not to be associated with this place.

RINGSTONE FARM ½ mile north-west of Werrington (SJ 9348). Ringstone Farm 1995 O.S. The name does not appear on the first edition 1" O.S. map, and early spellings have not been traced, but is
supposedly from a large stone with a round hole in it mentioned in an account of the perambulation of Bucknall manor boundary in 1803: StEnc 476.

**RISING BROOK** 1 mile south of Stafford: see SHC VIII (ii) 103 (SJ 9221), Rysond brooke 1538 Star Ch, Risom Brook c.1571 SHC VIII (ii) 40, Rysombo(ro)ke 1585 Comm, Rysembrooke 1590 SHC 1930 82, Risingbrook farm 1658 SHC VIII 125, Risan brook 1663 ibid. 103, Rising brooke (meadow) 1669 WRO 705:24/1071, Risonbrook c.1680 SHC 1919 212, Rising brook 1836 O.S. ‘...a small estate...of about 35 acres in the parish of Castle Church...’: SHC VIII (ii) 103; RISING BROOK on south-west side of Rugeley, Rysynge broke(hillis) 1554 SRO DW1734/2/3/43, Rysombrook(e) 1585 Comm, c.1680 GKNB, Rising Brook or Sneyde Brook 1742/3 SRO D603/E/204. The first element is possibly OE hrtsen 'growing with brushwood' (cf. Rising Bridge, Northamptonshire).

**ROACH GRANGE** 2 miles north of Meerbrook (SJ 9963). Ro(a)ch(e) grange 1240 (1883) Deed Sleigh, grange de Rupe 1246 VCH VII 197, Roche-graunge 1406 (1883) Sleigh 51, Roach grange 1564 Sweythamley MSS, Rocheagrayne 1624 SHC NS X (i) 65, Rochgrange 1634 et freq Leek ParReg. ‘The grange (of Dieulacres Abbey) by the Roaches’: see The Roaches. de Rupe in the 1246 spelling is from Latin rupes, rupis 'a rock face; a cliff'.

**ROACHES, THE** a gritstone outcrop on high moorland 4 miles north-east of Leek (SK 0063). Roches c.1340 SRO D1333/1, la Roche 1358 SHC XII (i) 162, 1361 SHC XIII 18, Roch 1637 Leek ParReg, Leek Roches 1686 Plot 171, Rotch 1697 Leek ParReg. From OFr, ME roche 'rock'. (Cf. Roach, Derbyshire; Roche, Cornwall). Perhaps to be identified with be rogh rocher ‘the rugged rocky mass’ mentioned in the medieval poem Sir Gawain and the Green Knight: see Elliott 1984: 3. Rocks on the west side of The Roaches were called The Five Clouds from 1681: VCH VII 194. Sleigh 1866: 173 mentions four jutting rocks, the Bully Thrumble (both bully and thrumble have various meanings in OED and EDD, but it is not possible to put forward a sensible meaning here), the Marebach Rock (perhaps from OE (ge)mére, bete ‘boundary stream’), the Raven’s Rock, and the Sugar Rock (possibly from sugar-loaf 'a moulded conical mass of hard refined sugar': OED). See also Ludchurch; Roach Grange.

**ROBIN HILL** 1 mile east of Biddulph (SJ 9057). Perhaps to be associated with Robinstone 1665 Biddulph ParReg.

**ROBIN HOOD’S SHOOTING BUTTS** (obsolete) a name formerly applied to a group of mounds, believed to be prehistoric tumuli, in the area around Elford Low (SK 1909); Robin Hood’s Shooting Butts c.1750 (1798) Shaw I 381, Robin Hoods Butts 1771 SRO D3720/2/2, (a remarkable eminence, which is called) Robin Hood’s Butt 1818 Parson & Bradshaw; ROBINS HOOD FORD (obsolete, on the river Trent, adjacent to Tucklesholme), Robins hood ford [sic] 1549 (1798) Shaw I 23. Place-names associated with the legendary outlaw are common in many parts of England, but most date from recent centuries: see Holt 1989: 187-90; JEPNS 30 1997-8 43-52. It may be noted that both of these names are on the river Trent, which flows through Nottingham, traditionally associated with the outlaw. A tumulus at Lowfields, on the south-west side of Combridge (SK 0937) called Robin Hood’s butts is recorded by Redfern 1865: 25-6, evidently the origin of Lowfields, from OE hlítw ‘mound, tumulus'.

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ROCESTER Ancient Parish (pronounced Roe-ster \([rau sta]\)) 4 miles north of Uttoxeter (SK 1139).

Rowcestre 1086 DB, Rowcestre 1191x1194 CEC 261, Roffecestre 12th century Duig, Rowcestre 1208 FF, Rovecestre 1225 ibid, Rocestre 1246 Ch, Roffa 1281 SHC VI (i) 151, Rowcestre 13th century Duig, Raccestre' 1360 SHC VIII 172, Rovecr 1405 SRO D786/3/4, Rugcestre 1414 SHC XVII 16, Rovett 1454 Okeover T56, Ractur 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 109, Rowcettre c.1588 SHC 1927 177, Raucestr' 1360 SHC VIII 172, Rowcetr 1405 SRO D786/3/4, Ruggestre 1414 SHC XVII 16, Rovett 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 109, Rowcestre 1610 Speed. Ekwall 1960: 389 suggests 'Hrþwulf's or Hrof's Roman fort'. However, the spellings do not support those names, Hrof is a very doubtful personal name, and Mills 1998: 289 prefers OE rugh 'rough', or an unidentified personal name. The second element is OE ceaster 'fortress, Roman city', pronounced chester or sometimes softened to cester in the Mercian dialect, is invariably indicative of Roman occupation, extensive traces of which have been found here: see StEnc 479.

ROCHEFORD (unlocated, possibly near Comberford). Rocheford 1294 SHC VII 11, 1343 SHC XIV 60, Rochford, Rocheford 1342 SHC XVII 274, Rochford 1366 SHC XIII 49, Rochefforde (p) 1503 OSS 1936 50. Perhaps from OFr, ME roche 'rock', so 'the ford at the rocky outcrop'.

ROCKHALL between the Roaches and Hen Cloud (SK 0099). Rockhall 1770 VCH VII 194, Rock Hall 1842 O.S. From a cave here inhabited from at least the early 17th century, which was incorporated into a Gothic-style shooting lodge c.1900: VCH VII 194.

RODBASTON 2 miles south of Penkridge (SJ 9211). Redbaldestone 1086 DB, Rembaldeston 1195 SHC II 45, Redbaldeston 1198 P, Rembaldeston 1194-5 SHC X NS I 195, Rodbaldeston 1221 Ass, 1236 Fees, Rothelboldeston 1282 SHC VI (i) 152, Rostlaston 1385 SHC XIII 194. 'Redbeald's tân'. At the time of Domesday the place was held by Richard the Forester, and his descendants were chief foresters of Cannock Forest, probably residing at the moated site here (VCH V 120-22), perhaps the land at Rodbaston attached to the office of Chief Forester from before the Conquest to c.1246 (VCH II 339). A castrum or castle is recorded at Rodbaston in 1215 (VCH V 120 fn.32), but no castle in the usual sense is known, and the description may have applied to the moated house which stood some 500 yards north-west of Stables Farm at SJ 921124: VCH V 121. See also Loges.

RODBERDES LAND (unlocated, in Offlow Hundred. ) Rodberdes land 11th or 12th century Sawyer 1979a: xxxvii. The name Rodbert was technically a Germanic name introduced via Norman French during the reign of the Emperor and became very popular; see also DES 380. Cf. Rodbardesfeld in Shelfield, recorded in 1317: VCH XVII 279.

RODDIGE 1 mile east of Fradley (SK 1713). Redich, Redihige c.1300 TSSAHS XX 1978-9 loose map, Roddige 1834 O.S. It is unclear whether Rodeyre, recorded in 1310 (SHC 1911 109), relates to this place. See also Rodinge.

RODEFORD (obsolete, 2 miles north-west of Wolverhampton (SJ 8601).) Rodeford 1260 SIIC 4th Series 13 6, Rodesford 1300 SHC V (i) 180, Redesford 1327 SHC VII (i) 255, Reddyesford 1539 SHC VI NS (i) 67. The name was attached to a mill which stood near the present Wergs Hall. Perhaps from OE röd 'a rood, a cross', with reference to a cross, known as Bell Cross, which stood at the junction of Wergs Road, Woodhouse Road and Keepers Lane: VCH XX 12.
RODINGE (unlocated; perhaps near Morghall or Elmhurst, or perhaps the same place as Roddinge (q.v.)). Rodinge 1567 SHC XVII 216, 1598 SHC XVIII 14.

RODMAN (unlocated; perhaps near Tutbury: SHC 1912 222.) Rodman (undated) SHC 1912 222.

RODNEY HALL (obsolete) at Cotes Heath, 1 mile west of Swynnerton (SJ 8335). A hostel built c.1938 for the Royal Ordnance factory at Swynnerton, but never completed. Named after Admiral Rodney, the 18th century naval hero. The place is now called Moorfields. See also Beatty Hall, Drake Hall, Duncan Hall, Frobisher Hall, Howard Hall, Nelson Hall, Raleigh Hall.

ROE LANE (FARM) on south side of Newcastle-under-Lyme (SJ 8443). Wrd 1307 SHC XI NS 262, le Wro 1327 SHC VII (i) 199, 1332 SHC X (i) 61, 82, 1360 SHC XII (i) 166, Rowloune 1487 SHC XI 329, Row-lane 1689 (1843) Ward 1843: apx. xi, ? ye Row 1731 Swynnerton ParReg, Roe Lane 1773 Newcastle under Lyme ParReg, 1836 O.S. From ON vrá, rá 'a nook, a corner of land', found in Scandinavian place-names for 'a secluded or outlying place, a patch of cultivated ground projecting from the main part of an estate': see EPNE ii 232. Found quite frequently in ME field-names as wro, wray, roe and ray 'a nook, a secluded spot, a cattle shelter': see Field 1993: 129. The initial w is always retained in ME in the Danelaw. Cf. Roe Farm (Lane), Chaddesdon, Derbyshire (PN Db 545). The 1307 form may be a transcription error for Wro. See also Roe Moor; Rowe, The.

ROE MOOR (unlocated, in Norton-in-the-Moors.) Roe Moor Meadow 1614 SRO D1798/166, Roe Moor 1773 SRO MS917/1628. In the absence of earlier spellings the derivation is uncertain, but possibly as Roe Lane (Farm) (q.v.), or from OE râ 'roe deer', with OE mør 'moorland, marsh'.

ROLLESTON ON DOVE Ancient Parish (pronounced Roll-ston [roulston]) 4 miles north of Burton-on-Trent (SK 2327). Rodulfeston 941 (14th century, S.479), Rôfestun 1002x1004 (11th century, S.906, 11th century, S.1536), Rollestone', Rolleston 1008 (12th century, S.920), Rolvestone 1086 DB, Rolveston 1252 Ch, Rolinstone 1309 SHC 1911 71, Rolluston, Rollustone, Rolleston 1373 HILS, Rolstone 1468 SHC IV NS 158, Rellyston 1563 HILS. From OE 'Hroðulf's tan', or from the Scandinavian name Hröðulf, giving *Hröðulf's tân'. If the personal name is Scandinavian, the place-name is of a type known as a 'Grimston-hybrid' (or a 'Toton Hybrid': see Cameron 1996: 74-5), i.e. a name in which OE tân is combined with an ON personal name. It is possible that the name may date from the taking over of established English settlements by the victorious Danes of the great army of 865 AD: see Gelling 1988: 232-4. The parish changed its name from Rolleston to Rolleston on Dove in 1983. See also Gunstone.

Rollowe (unlocated, possibly near Salt.) Rollowe 1279 SHC VI (i) 138. Perhaps from a personal name such as Hrolla, a short form of Hröðláf, with OE hlâw 'tumulus, burial mound'. It is unclear whether this name is to be associated with Ranslow Farm, 1 mile south-west of Salt (SJ 9427).

ROMANS GATE (unlocated, in Audley.) Romans-gate 1612 SHC 1944 82, land called Romans 1697 SRO D1788/A7/C, The Rummans 1733 SHC 1944 2, Rummons 1733 ibid. 4, Romans-gate 1733 ibid. 82. Perhaps indicative of archaeological remains.
ROMENHALE (unlocated, possibly near Ellastone or Quixhill.) Romenhale 1293 SHC VI (i) 217. Perhaps from OE (set prej) rūman halh ‘the spacious halh’.


ROMESCUMBE (unlocated, in Arley.) Romescumbe 1255 SHC V (i) 114. Possibly from the OE personal name *Rum, a short form of names beginning Rüm- (see Ekwall 1960: 392 s.n. Romsey), with OE cumb ‘a short spoon-shaped valley’.

ROMESHELDE (unlocated) Romeshelde 1298 SHC XI NS 251, 1307 ibid. 265. Possibly from the OE personal name *Rum, a short form of names beginning Rüm- (see Ekwall 1960: 392 s.n. Romsey), with OE helde ‘a slope, a declivity’.

ROMESCUMBE (unlocated, in Arley.) Romescumbe 1255 SHC V (i) 114. Possibly from the OE personal name *Rum, a short form of names beginning Rüm- (see Ekwall 1960: 392 s.n. Romsey), with OE cumb ‘a short spoon-shaped valley’.

ROYSLEY 3 miles south of Halesowen (SO 9679). Rameslege 1086 DB (listed in Warwickshire), Rameslea 1166 SHC 1923 298, Ramesleg 1203 Bowcock, Rammesle 1207 ibid, Romesley(e) 1270 Ct, 1291 Tax, 1293 Ct, Rummesleye 1355 Pat, Romesley 1500 Nash, Ramesley 1686 Plot. Perhaps from OE hramsa ‘wild garlic’, or OE ramm ‘ram’, or an OE personal name *Hræm or *Ram, with OE lēah. In Shropshire since the 12th century.

RONTON - see RANTON.

ROOST HILL 2 miles south-east of Leek (SK0053). Rusthill 1589 SHC 1929 145, 1590 SHC 1930 (ii) 54, 1602 SHC 1935 518, 1667 Leek ParReg, Rowsthill otherwise Rohnstehill 1619 SHC VII NS 207, Roost Hill 1607, 1639 Leek ParReg, 1766 SHC 1935 518, Roosthill otherwise Rohnstehill 1619 SHC VII NS 207, Roost Hill 1607, 1639 Leek ParReg, 1766 SHC 1935 518. 'The rust-coloured hill'. It is uncertain whether Roost, recorded in 1327 (SHC VII 198) is to be associated with this place. Roosthill Wood (Roost Hill Coppice 1836 O.S.) lies 1 mile south-west of Newborough (SK 1224), but early spellings have not been traced.

ROSEBANK 1 mile south-west of Cheddleton (SJ 9451). Rosebank 1627 Deed, 1697 ParReg, 1880 Kelly, Rose Bank 1836 O.S. Self-explanatory.

ROUCH ⅓ mile north of Hulme (SJ 9346). the Rouch alias the Rowarth 1661 SRO D4731/6/1-7, the Rouch 1689 Ward 1843: lxi, Rouch 1705 Stoke on Trent ParReg. Possibly from rouch(e), an obsolete form of rough: OED.


ROUGH HAY 2 miles west of Burton-upon-Trent (SK 2023). Ruyhall 1275 SHC 1937 79, Rohay 1284 ibid. 83, 1292 ibid. 86, c.1292 ibid. 97, 1307 SHC VII 176, Rough hey vulgi Rewy 1722 Burton
upon Trent ParReg, **Ruff hay** 1736 SRO D4219/1/2. From OE *rāh* 'rough, uncultivated', with OE *halh*, replaced by Mercian OE *(ge)heg* 'enclosure'.


**ROUGH KNIPE** - see **TURNER'S KNIPE**.


**ROUGHSTONE HOLE** (obsolete). 1¼ miles north-west of Ipstones (SK 0153). *Roostonehole* 1717 Okeover E5092, *Roostone Hole* 1743 SRO D694/1-6/13, *Roughstone Hole* 1836 O.S. Perhaps from OE *rāh sta:n* 'rough stone', with OE *hol(h)* 'a hole, a hollow'.


**ROUSTER** 2 miles north-east of Heaton (SJ 9764). *Roaster* 1826 SRO 4974/13/2/7, *Rouster* 1842 O.S. An intriguing name, perhaps to be associated with the field-names *Roster Bank* and *Roster Croft* recorded in Leekfrith in 1831 (Survey). *Roaster*, recorded in 1811 (PRO W097/45/152), probably refers to Rocester.


**ROUTHESLEIGH** (unlocated, possibly in the Newcastle area.) *Routhesleye* 1289 SHC VI (i) 192, *Routhesleigh* 1349 SHC XII 77, *Routheleigh* 1349 ibid. 79.


**ROKE, THE** 1¼ miles south-east of Whitmore (SJ 8238). *the Row* 1729 Swynnerton ParReg, *the Row* 1810 SRO D641/5/E(L)/4, *Row Farm* 1813 SRO D641/5/E(L)/5, *The Rowe* 1920 O.S. Perhaps from ME *row*, applied to things (often trees) arranged in a straight line, or possibly from ON *vrd, rd* 'a nook, a corner of land', found in Scandinavian place-names for 'a secluded or outlying place, a patch of cultivated ground projecting from the main part of an estate': see EPNE ii 232. See also Roe Lane (Farm).
ROW HILL on the north-east side of Coton in the Clay (SK 1729). Probably to be associated with Rowe (Meadow) 1698 SRRC 513/2/31/2/2.

ROWHURST (unlocated) Rowehurst 1300 BL AddCh. 46638, Rowhurst 1392 BL AddCh. 46643. From OE rāh hyrst 'the rough copse'.

ROWLEY 2 miles north-west of Yoxall (SK 1221), Rouueleia 1086 DB, Roele temp. Henry III Tut. Cart, Roulee c.1290 SHC 1937 94, Rowleye 1296 SHC 1911 250, Rowlegh 1324 ibid. 358, Roweley 1424 SHC XVI 105, Rowley 1686 Plot 205; ROWLEIGH (unlocated, in Gratwich), Rowleigh 1562 SHC 1938 111. From OE rāh leāh 'rough leāh'.

ROWLEY on south-west side of Stafford (SJ 9122), Roweleye als Roweleg' 1291 Ipm, Row(e)lowe 1300 Banco, Rowelowe, Rowelawe 1300 SHC VII 72, Rughlowe 1306 SHC 1911 65, Rowlowe 1401 StaffAcc, Rolowe 1410 SHC XVI 72, Rowley 1486 VCH V 90, c.1630 SHC II (i) 21, Rowlowe 1539 VCH V 90; ROWLEY ½ mile north-east of Worfield (SO 7696), in Shropshire since the 12th century, Roulowe (p), Roeloe (p) 1524 SRS 3 33, Rowley 1602 SRRC 2028/1/5/8, 1752 Rocque, 1833 O.S. From OE rüh-hläw 'rough mound or tumulus'.

ROWLEY GATE 2 miles west of Leek (SJ 9556). Throwleyate 1515 VCH VII 203, Rowley Gate 1562 HRO B47/S19, 1836 O.S. The first element may be OE frūh 'water-pipe, conduit', originally 'a hollowed-out tree trunk', but here perhaps from ON brú 'trough', in the sense 'steep-sided valley': the place lies on the west side of a steep valley in which runs the river Churnet. The second element is OE leāh, with OE geat 'a gate, a pass, a gap between hills'. Yates' map of 1775 shows two adjoining places, the northern Rowley, the southern Gate. Cf. Throwleigh, Devon; Throwley, Kent.

ROWLEY HILL 2½ miles south-west of Penkridge (SJ 9011). Rolae 1203 SHC III 91, Rowleyfield 1284 to 1358 Deeds, Rowley Hill (Field) 1606 VCH IV 167, Rowley Hill 1798 Shaw I 31, 1834 O.S. From OE rāh-hläw 'rough-tumulus', with OE hyll 'hill'. There is a tumulus on a headland here, noted before 1798 (Shaw 1798: I 31), which may be the basis of the name Penkridge (q.v.): see VCH I 376; JNSFC 1965 48. Tumuli called The Rowleys are recorded in Mayfield in 1916: VCH I 376; SHC 1916 208. See also SHC 4th Series 11 177 fn.29, which states that the Staffordshire historian Sir Simon Degge differed from Robert Plot in the interpretation of Rowlow 'between Mayfield and Ellastone'. Rowley Hill in Upper Penn is recorded in 1753: WALS DX-240/22.

ROWLEY REGIS 3 miles south-east of Dudley (SO 9687). Roelea 1173, RULEGA 1174 P, 1182 SHC I 101, Reuley, Rohele, Reuleg 12th century Duig, Ruleg. Rulegh' 1240-1 Cur, Ruleye 1272 Ass, Rugeleye 1280 SHC VI (i) 109, Rowlyewe 1291 SHC IX (ii) 31, Rowleye 1294 SHC VII 9, Rughel 1242 SHC IV 96, Reuleg, Rule 13th century Duig, Rouleye Somery 1322 SHC 1911 351, Kings Rowley c.1564 SHC 1931 173, Rowley Regis otherwise Kings Rowley 1604 SHC XVIII 20. From OE rāh 'rough, uncultivated', hence 'rough leāh'. Although Erdeswick 1844: 345 states that Rowley Regis 'at the conquest, remained in the king's desmesne, and so continued till the 20th of his reign', the place is not recorded in DB, and the Regis element does not appear before the 1330s, by which time some part must have belonged to the king, presumably that part granted to Halesowen abbey at the death of John.
de Somery in 1322. Somery is from Sommeri near Rouen in Normandy; the family of that name held the Barony of Dudley towards the end of the 12th century: see SHC 1941; Erdeswick 1844: 345.

ROWNALL in Cheddleton parish, 6½ miles north-west of Cheadle (SJ 9549). Rvgehala 1086 DB, Rownal 1221 Ass, Magna et parva Roughenhale 1272 ibid, Roughenhale 1273 SHC VI (i) 54, Ronnaal 1274 SHC 1911 160, Rowenhall 1274-90 Loxdale, Rownal(l), Ron(e)hale 1274 Ipm, Ronnal 1274 SHC 1911 160, Rowenhall(e) 1279 Ass, Great Rowenhale, Little Rowenhale 1284 SHC VI (i) 136, Rowenhale (p) 1294 Orig, Rewenhale 1306 GDR, Roughenhale 1327 Ipm, Rownall 1328 Ipm, Rouneals (p) 1380 AD, Rownall 1479 AD 1, Great & Little Rownnall 1558 BM, Rownall 1566 SHC IX NS 82, Rawnall 1589 SHC 1929 40, Rawnall in the Moors 1733 SHC 1944 50, Rownall 1755 Bowen. From OE rūh 'rough, uncultivated', hence 'rough halh'. See also Erdeswick 1844: 344.

ROWNEY FARM 1 mile south-east of Mucklestone (SJ 7335). Les Rounales 1304 SHC XII NS 278, a wood called Rounhay 1361 SHC 1945-6 46, Rowney 1833 O.S. It is unlikely that Reynolds, recorded in 1666 (SHC 1921 137) is to be associated with this place.

ROYALS FARM 1 mile north-east of Tamworth (SK 2205). Rye Hills or Royals 1834 O.S. Seemingly 'hills where rye was grown'.

ROYLEDGE ½ mile north-west of Upper Elkstone (SK 0459). Royledge 1648 Leek ParReg, Rilidge 1694 Alstonefield ParReg, 1842 O.S, Ryleedge 1775 Yates, Rylage 1850 TA. Names with Roy- can derive from Ruy- (cf. Royton, Lancashire), so possibly OE rye, hyll 'rye-hill', giving 'the edge of the rye-hill', but Royle was a family name in north Staffordshire (see VCH VII 200, 202, 202; Tho. Royle 1636 Leek ParReg), and so possibly 'Royle's edge'.

RUCK OF STONES (obsolete, in Sandwell (SO 0289).) the Ruck of Stones 1617 Willmore 1887: 440, 1732 BCA MS3069/Acc1930-022, 1771 BCA MS3375/445769, 1801 Shaw II 125, 1834 O.S., Ruck of Stones (Farm) 1820 BCA MS3375/445769. An interesting example of the Midlands and Northern dialect ruck 'a pile, a heap' (EDD). The mound lay on a parish boundary (StEnc 485), and may have originated as a boundary marker. A field-name Ruck of Stones or Rack of Stones is recorded in Wellington, Shropshire: Foxall 1980: 28.

RUDGE 6 miles west of Wolverhampton (SO 8197), Rigge 1086 (DB, listed in Warwickshire), Rugge 1188 SHC I 137, 1303 SHC VII 105, Ruge 1194 Bowcock, Rigge 1197, Ruge 1240 ibid, Rugge 1253 ibid, 1324 SHC 1911 104, Rudge 1652 Pattingham ParReg; RUDGE 1 mile south of Ashley (SJ 7634), Rigge 1086 DB, Rugge 1166 SHC 1914 14, 1307 SHC XI NS 265, 1307 SHC XII 251, 1512 SHC XII 181, Rughe(haye) 1227 SHC IV 73, Ruges 1484 SHC VI NS (i) 157, Rudge 1585 SIIC XV 160, Rydge 1617 SHC VI NS (i) 42. From OE hrycg 'a ridge, a long narrow hill'. The first place has been in Shropshire since the 12th century. For Rudge near Ashley see also SIIC 1914 14-5.

RUDGE BANKE (unlocated, in Ferny Hough). Rudge Banke 1600 SIIC 1935 214.

RUDGE STRETE (unlocated, possibly in the Burslem area, or perhaps Red Street (q.v.)). Rudge Strete 1554 SIIC XII 213.

RUDGEWAY - see RIDGEWAY.
RUDLOW (obsolete, '...at Tatenhill-wood-lane about half a mile West of Callingwood-hall...supposed to be Rudlow': Shaw 1798: I 37; 110 (SK 1923).) Roddelowe 1272 SHC IV 259, Rudelowe 1290 SHC VI (i) 204, Rodelowe 1304 SHC 1911 63, Ruddelowe 1313 SHC IX 39, Rudloe 1618 SHC VI NS (i) 57, Rudlow 1686 Plot 414, Rodelowe 1798 Shaw I 60. The second element is from OE hlāw ‘mound, tumulus’ (Plot 1686: 414 records a tumulus here), with an uncertain first element - perhaps from OE rod’a clearing in the forest’, or from OE rudig ‘red, ruddy’ - see Rudyard. Cf. Radlow, Herefordshire.

RUDYARD 2 miles north-west of Leek (SJ 9659). Rudegeard 1002x1004 (11th century, S.906; 11th century, S.1536), Rudierd 1086 DB, Rudehard 1199 SHC III 36, Rodehierd, Rodiehierd c.1255 SHC 1911 426, Rodehierd ?1272 SRO NRA list 216, Rodewart 1275 SHC V (i) 117, c.1280 SHC 1911 431, Rodeyard 1286 ibid. 432, Rodehierd c.1290 ibid. 432, ? Rudeworth 1299 SHC XI NS 248, Rodezard 1307 SHC XI NS 255, Rudeyard 1330 Ch, Rydorpe 1365 (1883) Sleigh 126, Redeyerd 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 33, Rudyerd 1842 O.S. The second element is OE geard ‘yard, enclosure’. The first element has caused surprising difficulty. Ekwall 1936: 395 held that the place took its name from the adjoining Rudyard Lake, said to mean ‘enclosure where rudd were kept’, although the word rudd has not been recorded earlier than the 17th century, and the fish are said to be inedible. That derivation has since been discounted on the grounds that it is unlikely that a word for a fish would be associated with a non-water element, and more importantly because the lake was in fact formed by damming the Dingle Brook to create a reservoir to feed the Caldon canal in about 1799 (Sleigh 1883: 159 gives the date 1793; see also StEnc 485). Bowen’s map of 1749 shows ‘New Pool being the head of the river Trent’ to the north-west of what is now Rudyard, but Yates’ map of 1775 shows no pool. It has also been suggested that the name is from OE rûde ‘red, ruddy’, hence ‘enclosure where rye was grown’ (Ekwall 1936: 395, EPNE i 198, EPNE ii 88, Oakden 1967-8: 34, Mills 1998: 293, VCH VII 216), or the OE personal name Ruda or Rudda, giving ‘Rud(d)a’s enclosure’ (Duignan 1902: 128, Paffard 1996: 3, VCH VII 216). There can be no doubt that the name derives from OE rudig ‘red, ruddy’, from the colour of the soil here, perhaps in particular a prominent area of red earth at Red Earth Farm (q.v.): Rudyard Hall adjoins Redearth Wood and Red Earth Farm, hence ‘the yard or enclosure with the red soil’. Possibly the name was taken from the coloured area at Red Earth Farm before Red Earth became a separate estate: the earliest spelling that has been traced for Red Earth is Rudeworth (1298). The geological map shows that Rudyard Hall lies on the junction of the (Triassic) Bunter Sandstone and Conglomerate with the (Carboniferous) Millstone Grit and Culm Measures. The stream which runs into the north end of Rudyard Lake is Rad Brook (1842 O.S.), here probably meaning ‘the brook with red-coloured water’. See also Redshaw. The hamlet of Rudyard became gradually deserted in the 19th century, particularly after Rudyard Lake (known as Rudyard Reservoir until c.1850: StEnc 486-7) became a popular tourist resort in the middle of the century, when the hamlet of Harper’s Gate south of the lake expanded and was renamed Rudyard. It was at Rudyard that J. L. Kipling and his wife became engaged; their son, born in India, was named Rudyard after the place. It is likely that Rudheath, Cheshire, and possibly Rudford, Gloucestershire, have the same first element as Rudyard.

RUE BARN (FARM) 2 miles south-west of Eccleshall (SJ 8027). ? the Rewes 1603 Eccleshall ParReg, the Reu barne 1627 ibid, Rue Barn 1775 Yates, 1833 O.S. Perhaps from late ME rue ‘the shrub Ruta graveolens or similar’, formerly much used in medicine, although a derivation from OE hrtōw,
related to OE hrēowan 'to rue, to regret', so 'the regretted barn' cannot be ruled out completely. The place is on a 400' hill.

**RUE HILL** 1 mile south-east of Cauldon (SK 0847). Rowlow 1686 Plot, 1775 Yates, Row Hill 1798 Yates, Bue Hill (sic) 1836 O.S. From OE rūh-hlāw 'the rough mound or tumulus', the second element now replaced by hill. There is a Rue Hill in Weston Jones, but early spellings have not been traced.

**RUELOW (WOOD)** 1 mile north of Kingsley (SK 0148). Ruelow 1836 O.S. From OE rieh-hlāw 'the rough mound or tumulus'. See also Rue Hill.

**RUGELEY** Ancient Parish 8 miles south-east of Stafford (SK 0418). Rvgelie 1086 DB, Rug(g)elega 1156-7 P, 1199 P, Reg gele 1199 SHC III 60, Regeley 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 13, Pays Baylywicke otherwise Rugeley Baylywicke 1583 SHC XV 147, Ridgeley 1570 SHC 1939 157, Ridgley 1586 SHC 1927 129. 'Leah on a ridge', from OE hrycg 'a ridge, a long narrow hill'. The identity of the ridge is uncertain: there is high ground on the north-east side of the river Trent, and the high ground of Cannock Chase lies to the south-east. It would appear that an early alternative for this name was Puteo or Pays: Puiz is recorded in 1195 (Fees), 1198 (SHC III 40), Puteo in 1195 (Pipe), 1225 (SHC IV 37) and 1236 (Fees), Puysland in 1359 (SHC VI (ii) 16), and Puysbaillie in 1398 (SHC XI 204). However, Puisland and Rugeley are noted as separate places in 1649: SHC VI (ii) 101. The name is from the bailiwick formerly held by the family of Dupuis or de Puteo, tenants of the bishop of Lichfield at Rugeley and Hereditary Foresters of the bishop (ibid.), or the Peytos or Petos family, originally from Poitou in France (SHC XNS I 212); see also SHC XII (i) 284. See also SHC I 38; SHC VII 92-3; SHC X (ii) 216-7; SHC 1927 13; Oakden 1984: 66.

**RUITON** on west side of Upper Gornal 'occupying a fine lofty limestone eminence, which had formerly a beacon, and commands a most extensive prospect ...': White 1834 (SO 9191). Ruton' 1327 SR, Rowerton 1684 Sedgley ParReg, Rewarton 1685 ibid, Rewardine 1702 Roper 1952, Routon 1749 Bowen, Rewarden 1795 Roper 1952, Ruiton 1895 O.S. The inconsistent spellings make any etymology difficult. The first element may be Welsh rhīw 'a slope or hill-side', and the second may be OE worpign 'enclosure, open place in a village or farmstead', so perhaps 'the village or farmstead at the place called Rhiw'. It is unclear whether Ruton, recorded in 1271 (SHC V (i) 142) refers to this place, or to Ryton in Shropshire or Ryton under Dunsmore, Warwickshire.

**RUMBELOWS** (FARM) (obsolete) in Wednesfield, 1¼ miles north-east of Wolverhampton (SJ 9200). Tromelow c.1272 (1801) Shaw II 150, le Tromelowe 1339 PN Wa 31, Tromelowe 1360 ibid, Romyelow 1420, 1428 ibid, Tromlow 1392 SRO D593/B/1/26/6/6/14, le Rombelose 1576-7 SHC 1910 164, le Thromylowes 16th century Duig, Trombeloves 1614 SRO D593/B/1/26/11/12, Thombelowe, Tromelow 1801 Shaw II 150, Rumballows 1834 O.S, Tromelowe Farm 1895 O.S., Rumbelows Farm 1907 O.S. The first element is from þēon, the dative of OE þēo 'three', and the second is OE hlāw 'low, tumulus', giving 'the three tumuli'. When the name was prefixed by at 'at', the initial letter of the name became confused with the end of the preposition, which produced at Romelow, rather than at Tromelow. Alternative forms of the name appear to have been used from the 15th century. Cf. Tremelau Hundred and The Rumbelow, Warwickshire (PN Wa 31, 247). There is a Three lows 2½
miles north-west of Wootton (SK 0746), but early spellings have not been traced. On the surname Rumblow, see DES 386.


**RUMFORD HILL** 2 miles east of Enville (SO 8587). Rumford Hill & Pool 1834 O.S. Early forms are not available, but evidently from the OE adjective rūm ‘roomy, spacious’, hence ‘the wide ford’: the place lies above the Smestow Brook.

**RUSCOTE** - see BROCKHURST.


**RUSHLEY** ¼ mile north-west of Ilam (SK 1251). Rush(e)ley 1605 QSR, 1777 Blore ParReg, 1838 O.S. From OE ryse, leah ‘the rushy leah’. Rushley Bridge (Rushley Bridge 1729 Alstonefield ParReg) crosses the river Manifold to the north.

**RUSHTON SPENCER, RUSHTON JAMES** 5 miles north-west of Leek (SJ 9362). Risetone 1086 DB, Russton 1227 SHC IV 225, Russton 1282-3 SHC XI NS 247, Ruston 13th century Duig, Rusheton Jamys 1306 SHC 1911 437, Rouston ‘1307 SHC XI NS 255, Russheton Spencer 1399 SHC XV 88; **RUSHTON GRANGE** (obsolete, on west side of Cobridge (SJ 8748)), Risctone 1086 DB, Rushton 1223 SHC XII NS 30, Rushton grange 1653 Burslem ParReg, Rushton Grange 1836 O.S. From OE ryse ‘rush’, and OE þān, hence ‘the rushy þān’. The first place, originally the northern part of the manor of Rushton known as Hug Bridge (q.v.), was so-named from marshland in the valley on the east side of the township, and from the early 14th century after the Despencer family, who once held the place (SHC IV 245; SHC IX NS 300; VCH VII 223), the second perhaps after James de Audley (d.1272), an early lord of the manor: VCH VII 219, 221. Rushton Grange, established at Rushton by the Cistercians of Hulton Abbey by 1235 (VCH VIII 107), is preserved in the name Grange Park.

**RUSSELL’S BANK** in Upper Longdon, 1 mile west of Longdon (SK 0514). Russell Bank c.1714 SRO D260/M/T/5/125.

**RUSSELS HALL** 2 miles north-west of Dudley (SO 9291). Russelleshalle 1315 Ipm, Russel Hall c.1538 SHC IX (ii) 90, Russells 1571 ibid. 92, Russels 1577 Saxton, Russells 1610 Speed, Russells Hall 1834 O.S. From the Russell family, who held the place from at least 1275 (Ipm). See also SHC IX (ii) 37; StEnc 737.
RYDER'S HAYES (FARM) 1 mile north-east of Pelsall (SK 0304). Rideres Heye 1298 SHIC 1928 161, Rydders Heys 1643 Pelsall peramb., Ryder's Hayes 1834 O.S., Rider's Ease 1841 Census. Perhaps 'the riders' hay or enclosure', from Mercian OE (ge)heg.

RYEBROOK a tributary of the river Hamps; RYEBROOK a tributary of the river Trent, Riebroke 1504 Ipm. Possibly from OE ryge 'rye', hence 'the brook where the rye grows', but for the first place the absence of early forms makes any derivation uncertain. See also SHC 1924 286 for Rybrok as the name of Stafford Brook.

RYECROFT 1½ miles north-west of Butterton (SK 0558), Rycroft 1683 Alstonefield ParReg, Rycroft 1686 ibid; RYE CROFT ½ mile west of Rushall (SO 0199), Rucroft 1317 WSL A/3/37, Rucroft 1327 SHC 1912 252, 1352 WA II 100, Rucroft 1349 SHC 1913 131, Ryecroft 1834 O.S., Rycroft Farm 1895 O.S. From OE croft 'a small enclosure of arable or pasture land, an enclosure near a house', hence 'the small enclosure by the house, where rye was grown'. rye halan, 'rye nook', recorded in a charter of Pelsall in 996 (for 994) (17th century, S.1380), may be Rye Croft: Hooke 1983: 76. Ruycroft, recorded in 1326 (SHC IX (i) 112), and Ruycroft, recorded in 1327 (SHC VII (i) 174), have not been located.

RYEHILL ½ mile south-west of Little Onn (SJ 8414). The Ryehill 1675 Bradley ParReg, Rye Hill 1678 ibid. Self-explanatory.

RYELANDS, THE (unlocated) ½ mile north-west of Croxall (SK 1914). Rye Lands 1581 Derby. From OE ryge, land 'the estate or piece of land with the rye'. Transferred from Derbyshire in 1894.

RYKNIELD STREET, RYKNILD STREET or RYKNELD STREET a Roman road (Margary number 18b, 18c) running through Gloucestershire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Staffordshire and Derbyshire. Hikenildstrete 1070 SHC 1916 302, Ad regalum viam quae vocatur Ikenhildestrete; Stratum regiam quae appellatur Ykenild; via regia vel le Rieneldde strete 12th century, Rikelinge strete 13th century, Rykenyldeestrete 14th century (the above extracts, except the first, relating to parts of the road between Lichfield and Derby), Stanistrete c.1203 SHC 1924 67, le Stantway, Ykenilde strete 13th century SHC XVII 263, Hykeneldis strete c.1257 SHC 1937 56, Rigning-way 1798 Shaw I 19 (all referring to the road in Shenstone parish). Another road (Margary number 181), apparently Roman (called in part Mear Lane between Blythe Bridge and Longton on the 1840 1" O.S. map), between Derby and Chesterton near Stoke-on-Trent, which runs via Rocester and Draycott in the Moors, is called Rikenilde Strete in the supposed foundation charter (almost certainly a much later forgery: see Tomkinson 1994: 73-102) of Abbey Hulton of 1223 (Ward 1843: App ii; SHC 1916 141, VCII Wa I 242); Rikenildestrete c.1230 (SHC 1921 18); or Richmilde Street (Dugdale 1817-30: v 715), the m seemingly an error for n (see also SHC 1934 38). The R is perhaps due to corruption of MB at there Ikenilde strete to at the Rikenilde strete. Another Ikenild Way, apparently Roman, runs 3 miles south of Burford in Oxfordshire. Thorpe Salvin, 5 miles north-west of Workop, was anciently Rikenhildhorp (Duig), but is not known to have any connection with any ancient road. It seems likely that Icknield and variants thereof was a name adopted by the Anglo-Saxons for ancient roads and trackways, after the ancient Icknield Way, perhaps Neolithic in origin, which runs from Norfolk to Hertfordshire, the name.
of which (recorded as Icenhylt or Icenhilde Street in pre-Conquest sources: VCH Wa I 241) may be connected with the Iceni tribe, which is believed to have inhabited Norfolk. OE hilde means 'war, battle', but is only found used in poetry, and no example is known of its use in conjunction with OE weg 'way' or stret 'street, Roman road'. See also Shaw 1798: I 16-19; VCH Wa I 241-2; PN Wa 2-3; TBAS 60 1936 42-55.

RYPPELEYELOND, RYPLEY MEADOW (unlocated, in Gratwich.) Ryppeleyelond 1348 SHC XII (i) 293, Rypey (meadow) 1562 SHC 1938 111. Probably from OE *ripel, found only in place-names, cognate with Norwegian ripel 'strip', and surviving as dialect ripple 'a coppice, a thicket', with OE leah and OE land, with various meanings including 'estate, district, portion of a village', so perhaps 'the estate of the clearing with the thicket'. There is little likelihood that the name incorporates the OE tribal name Hrype, found in Repton, 20 miles to the east, which was probably founded by members of the northern tribe whose name survives in Ripon: Stenton 1970: 270; Rumble 1977: 169-71. Cf. Roberti de Rippa recorded in 1186-7 (SHC 113 1); Thoma de Rippel recorded in Burton upon Trent in 1327 (SHC VII (i) 226). See also PN Db 23-4; PN Wa 7; PN Wo 2.

SADDLESALL on the north-west side of King's Bromley (SK 1117). Saddlesall 1564 SHC XIII 235, Saddleshall (Meadow) 1626 WRO CR1908/48, Saddlesall 1720 SRO D1101/5/18, 1730 (1798) Shaw I 160, 1834 O.S. The name is attached to a piece of land which is effectively a large island formed where the river Trent divides and rejoins (by a 'new cut' according to StEnc 493; the O.S. marks the southern branch of the river as New Trent). The first element is possibly OE sadel 'saddle', a word sometimes used to describe a saddle-like ridge or similar feature (cf. Saddleworth, Yorkshire), here perhaps referring to the shape of the island, if such is ancient (cf. Saddle Acre recorded in Blithfield in 1677: SHC 1919 29), or bend in the river, but Johannes Sedale is recorded in 1402 (SHC NS XI 210), and this place-name may incorporate a similar personal name. The second element is probably OE halh, here almost certainly with the meaning 'remote land enclosed by a river', rather than hall, a rare element in Staffordshire place-names.

SALE (BROOK) - see IDLEROCKS.

SALE (SALE FARM, LOWER SALE HOUSE) 2¼ miles south-west of Marchington (SK 1127), Sale 1414 (1798) Shaw I 46, temp. Elizabeth I (1798) Shaw I 60, Sale Corner 1697 SRRC 513/2/18/11/3, Over Sale 1775 Yates, 1801 Smith; SALE FARM (THE) 1 mile south-west of Alrewas (SK 1514). la Sale 1271 SHC 4th Series XVIII 96, Sale Farm 1834 O.S.; SALE CORNER (unlocated, in Fauld), Sale Corner 1696 SRRC 513/2/18/11/3; SALES FARM 1 mile north-east of Yoxall (SK 1420), ? the Sale 1661 DRO D3155/WH113, Sale 1558 (1798) Shaw I 46; SALE (unlocated, in Elmhurst: SHC 4th Series XVIII 96.) Sale 1271 SHC 4th Series XVIII 96. Possibly from OE salh, dative sale, 'sallow', a small willow-like tree or shrub, so 'the place at the willows', though it may be noted that Rackham 1990: 108 states that the word sale is also applied to a coppice area within a wood, and such derivation may be more appropriate for some of these places.

SALISBURY HILL a pronounced hill on the south side of Market Drayton (SJ 6732). Early spellings have not been traced, but by local tradition (for which no evidence has been found, but see Twemlow.
1912: viii; 30) named after Lord Salisbury of the Yorkist forces, who is said to have camped here after the battle of Blore Heath in 1459: SHC 1945-6:93.

SALLOWE (unlocated) Sallowe 1360 SHC VII NS 8. Possibly to be associated with Sallyfield Lane (Sally Lane 1836 O.S.) in Stanton (SK 1447): see SHC VII NS 8. Probably from OE salh 'sallow', mainly used of certain species of low growing or shrubby species of genus Salix (especially Salix caprea), as distinct from 'osiers' or 'willows'.

SALLY MOOR (obsolete) 1 mile north of Ramshorn (SK 0846), Saly Moor 1798 Yates, Sally Moor 1836 O.S. Probably from OE salh 'sallow', mainly used of certain species of low growing or shrubby species of genus Salix (especially Salix caprea), as distinct from 'osiers' or 'willows'.

SALT on the west side of the river Trent, 3 1/4 miles north-east of Stafford (SJ 9527). Selte 1086 DB, Salt 1166 SHC 1923 297, Saute 1236 Fees, Saut' 1242 Fees, Salt by Trente 1293 SHC 1911 53, Sallt 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 57. From OE *selte, Mercian OE *selte 'salt-pit' or similar. The name is self-explanatory but curious, for whilst there are (or were) salt-springs in the area around Salt (see e.g. Ingestre; Shirleywich), there is no evidence of any kind, archaeological or documentary, of any brine springs or salt processing here. The place-name Halen, suggestive of Welsh halen 'salt', recorded in 1002x1004 (11th century, S. 906; 11th century, S. 1536) and previously associated with this place, is now believed to refer to Hawne, near Clent, Worcestershire (see Sawyer 1979a: xxx-xxxi), which derives from OE healum, dative plural of health. Halenmor, recorded in 1273 (SHC 1911 152) was also near Clent, presumably adjoining Halen.

SALT BROOK a tributary of the river Trent that rises in Needwood Forest and runs through Draycott in the Clay. Saltbroke 1435 SRO DW1733/A/3/12. Evidently so-called from contamination by salt springs. Saltbrook Cottages lie at SK 1629, and the name is also found in Saltbrook Lane. See also Marchington.

SALTER'S WELL FARM on the south side of Bagnall (SJ 9150). Salters Well 1836 O.S.

SALTERFORD (obsolete) a ford across the river Churnet to the east of Alton (SJ 0941), presumably on the site of Saltersford Bridge 1608 (SHC 1948-9 82), Salters Bridge 1836 (O.S.). Salterford 1583 SHC 1929 64. The ridgeway from Alton towards the ford is recorded as Salterfortherigg, i.e. Salter'sford-ridge, in 1339 (SHC 1913 77), and is now known as Saltersford Lane (Salters Ford Lane 1836 O.S.). See also NSIFS 12 1972 122. Salterisford (unlocated, in or near Branton) is recorded in the late 15th century (SHC 1937 180), and may be the Salterforde recorded in 1344 (Hardy 1908: 38). See also Salthmoor.

SALTER'S BRIDGE over the river Tame, 1 mile south-east of Alrewas (SK 1813). Saltersbridge 1293 TSSAHS 1991-2 XXXIII 13, Saltbrugge 1388 SHC XV 5, Saltestbrugge 1389 ibid.10, Salterbrugge 1390 ibid.17, la Sattersbridge, pontis voc' Salters c.1535 SHC VI (ii) 166, Saltar's bridge c.1540 Leland ii 103, Salters bridge 1601 SHC 1930 413, 1608 SHC 1948-9 82, 1632 SRO Q/SR/205, Salter's bridges 1644 (1798) Shaw I 71, Salters bridg 1686 Plot 244. From OE saliere 'a salter, a salt-worker, a salt-merchant', and OE brycg 'bridge'. So-called because it carries the Saltway, an ancient road along which salt was presumably transported. Perhaps to be associated with Saltholme,
recorded c.1535 (SHC VI (ii) 166, probably the same place as Great Salterholme, a meadow in Alrewas recorded in 1618 (SRO D541), and as Salterholme in 1825 (SRO D615/D/148). The bridge was renamed Chetwynd Bridge, after the Chairman of the Quarter Sessions at the time of its construction, when rebuilt in Coalbrookdale cast-iron in 1824, and appears on modern maps as Chetwynd or Salter's Bridge. Salters Bridge is recorded in Moseley, north of Wolverhampton, in 1693/4 (SRO D718/10/4), possibly on the road between Stafford and Wolverhampton. There is a Salters Lane in Walsall Wood, perhaps on the line of a saltway to Birmingham. Shaw Lane (SHC 1547 Ct, 1632 Lease (Tw)) in Forton was earlier known as Salters Lane, 1460 to 1516 Deeds (Tw): see Oakden 1984: 148. Salteslone in or near Stafford is recorded in 1392: SHC 1928 276.

SALTERS CROFT (unlocated, in Hanbury.) Salters Croft 1699 SRRC D513/2/18/17/2. See also Marchington.

SALTERSHALL FARM on north-east side of Bobbington (SO 8190). Saltershall Farm 1840 VCH XX 72. The age of this name has not been traced, but the proximity of the place to Salters Park Farm (q.v.) may be significant.

SALTERS PARK FARM 1 mile south-east of Bobbington (SO 8189). Saltershill 1496 VCH XX 71. 'The hill of the salter or a man named Salter'. See also Saltershall Farm.

SALTER'S WAY (obsolete) in Uttoxeter: Redfern 1886: 58, 83. Salter's Way otherwise Portway 1886 Redfern 1886: 83. The existence of such name is doubtful: ibid.

SALTFORD (unlocated, possibly south of Wolverhampton.) Salford c.1270 WA I 278, 1287 SHC 1911 193, 1324 ibid. 361, 1327 SHC VII (i) 249, 1386 SHC XVI 27, 1405 ibid. 59, Saldeford 1311 ibid. 308, Salford 1347 SRO 3764/122[27573], Salforde 1395 SHC XV 67, Salford 1539 SHC VI NS (i) 63. There are no recorded salt deposits in the area, but the forms are consistent, so perhaps 'the ford on the salt-route'. See also Saltmoor.

SALTHOUSE (FARM) 1 mile south-west of Werrington (SJ 9446). Salthouse (Lane) 1836 O. S.

SALTMOOR (obsolete, probably what is now Dunstall racecourse, north of Wolverhampton (SJ 9001): see TSSAHS XXI 1979-80 16). saffan mór 985 (12th century, S. 860), Saffemor 1286 SHC 1924 330, Saffmore 1516 WA II 13, Salte More 1569 SHC 1926 105, Saffemore alias Saltmore 1618 SRO D590/178, Saltmore 1649 TSSAHS XXI 1979-80 16, 1709 SRO D1364/2/22, Saltmoor 1801 WALS D/JSR/45/5. Perhaps from an OE personal name *Sæffa (the form evidencing that name in Searle 1897: 406 is from the charter of 985AD (S. 860) which relates to this place), with OE mór 'marshland, moorland', the spelling of which became corrupted by the mistranscription of -ff- as -ft-, which in turn became the more intelligible -lt-. See also Hooke 1983: 63. Saffemore was one of the boundary marks of Cannock Forest in 1286: SHC 1924 330. See also Saltmoor Meadow.

SALTMOOR MEADOW (obsolete) in the Wobaston/Oxley/Coven Heath area (?SJ 9104): TSSAHS XXI 1979-80 16, Saltmore Meadow 1636 SRO D3377/85, Saltmoor Meadow 1801 Coven Heath Indenture WALS; SALTMORE (obsolete) to the west of Wrottesley Lodge, on the Staffordshire-Shropshire border (?SJ 8301), Saltmore 1709 SRO D1364/2/22, 1714 Shaw 1801: II 194, 197. Saltmoor appears to have been an ancient name which attached either to two distinct areas to the north.
and west of Wolverhampton, or to a considerable area roughly in the form of a quadrant extending from the west to the north of Wolverhampton, though no salt springs are recorded in the area. See also Saltford; Saltmoor.

SALTWELL (obsolete) to the north-east of Rickerscote (SJ 9220). the Bryne pittes 1612 SHC 1934 (ii) 36, Salt Spring 1836 O.S., Saltwell 1946 O.S. Self-explanatory.

SALTWELLS 3 miles south-west of Dudley (SO 9387). Saltwell Coppice 1812 map, Salt Well 1834 O.S., Saltwells House 1895 O.S. Plot 1686: 98 states: 'In Pensnet chase, s. from Dudley about a mile and a half, there is a weak brine (spring) belonging to the Right Honorable Edward Lord Ward, of which his lordship once attempted to make salt; but the brine proving too weak he thought fit to desist'. This place, which eventually became known as Pensnett Spa, with brine baths which were in use until at least 1919 ('Dudley Chronicle' 19th July 1919), and demolished by 1930, may be Sallimor, recorded in 1273 (SHC IX (ii) 26, where the index records the name as Saltimor), or Saltley, recorded in 1292 (SHC 1911 212). Saltiswalle ('salt-spring', or 'spring of the man called Salt') is recorded near Sugnall in about the 14th century: SHC 1921 15. See also Guttery 1950: 26.

SANDBOROUGH ¼ mile east of Hamstall Ridware. Sandbarewe 1300 SHC VII 76, Sondbarwe 1327 ibid. 230, Sandbrough 1607 SBT DR18/12/L, Sandbarrow 1641 SRO D641/5/T/29, Sanborough 1695 Morden, 1724 Hamstall Ridware ParReg, Sanburrow 1723 ibid. The second element is OE bearu, dative bearwe ‘grove, wood’, so ‘the wood in the sandy place’.

SANDFORD (unlocated, possibly near Eccleshall.) ? Sanford 1186 SHC 1126, ? le sondiforde 1274 SHC 1921 II 22, ? Sonfort 1333 SHC XIV 33. Self-explanatory. Sondford in Brewood is recorded c.1280 (SHC VI (ii) 147), but has not been located.

SANDFORD BROOK a tributary of the river Dove. Self-explanatory.

SANDHILLS (FARM) on north-west side of Brownhills (SK 0605). Possibly to be associated with Sandalls, recorded in 1801: Shaw 1801: II 53.


SANDON Ancient Parish 5 miles south-east of Stone (SJ 9429). Scandone 1086 DB, Sandona 1166 SHC 1923 297, Sondown c.1231 SHC 1911 425, Sandun 1236 Fees, Sandon 1242 ibid, 1276 SHC VI (i) 79, Sondona c.1285 SHC 1921 11, Sondon, Parva Sondon 1327 SHC VII (i) 201, Sanndon 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 104. From OE sand-dän 'sand-hill'. The c in the DB form is obviously an error. The place Parva Sandon ('Little Sandon') is recorded in 1086 (DB) and as Lettyl Sanndon in 1532 (SHC 4th Series 8 106), L Sandon in 1749 (Bowen). It no longer survives, but probably lay in the western part of Sandon near Aston and Stoke-by-Stone: VCH IV 49 fn. Sandon Hall may mark the site of Sandon proper. Sondilowe 'the sandy tumulus', from OE hlāw, is recorded in Little Sandon in 1295: SHC 1921 37. Sondon in Uttoxeter is recorded in 1414: Shaw 1798: I 43.
SANDWELL in the north-east part of Warley (SP 0289). Sandewell' 1255 Fees, Saundwell, Sandwell 13th century Duig, Sandhall 1600 SHC 1935 260, Sondall 1749 Bowen, 1788 Harrison. From OE sand 'sand', probably here 'sandstone', with Mercian OE welle 'spring', hence 'the spring that flows from the sandstone'. Shaw 1801: II 128 states that the place takes its name from Sancta Fons, or the Holy Well, about a mile south-east of the church; see also Erdeswick 1844: 415, which mentions Sandall...alias Sandywell, or Sandyhill, presumably Sandwell. The spring survives in the ruins of the priory complex. See also Sarnell.

SANDYFORD (obsolete, on the north side of Stafford (SJ 9224). Le Sondeford 1334 SRO (193/7931), Sondiford, Le Sondyford 1419 SRO 376[7930], Sondeford (Croys) 1423 SRO 379[7926], Sandyford 1890 Cherry 1890: 80. Said to be the site, from at least 1546 until 1793, of gallows: VCH VI 228. A broadsheet of the latter date records 'A true and particular account of John Betley, John Biddle and Richard Ellis...Executed at Sandy-ford, near Stafford...for the murder of Thomas Ward, Gent.' It is possible that the Bier or Burial Bridge carrying the road over Sandyford brook (VCH VI 198) took its name from the gallows. Sondeforde, recorded in the late 15th century (Oakden 1984: 79) was in Castle Church (cf. Sonde).

SANDYFORD north-east of Tunstall (SJ 8552), Sandyford 1836 O.S.; SANDYFORD (FARM) ¼ mile north-east of Swynnerton (SJ 8536), Sandy Ford 1798 Yates, Sandyford 1836 O.S. Self-explanatory. Sondiford, recorded in 1223 (Ward 1843: app. ii) may refer to either of these places. Sondyforde in Parva Ridware is recorded temp. Edward I: Shaw 1798: I 162. See also Sandford.

SANDYFORD BROOK a tributary of the river Sow. le Sondyford 1432 St Thomas. From OE sandig-ford 'sandy-ford'. The stream evidently took its name from one of the Sandyfords near Stafford (q.v.). In the West Midlands OE sand was often pronounced sond and sund: cf. Sonde.

SANDYFORD DINGLE 1 mile north-east of Tatenhill (SK 2123). Sandyford 1415 Hardy 1908: 77, Sandyford 1415 ibid. 79.

SAPFORDE (unlocated, near Kingston.) Sapforde 1414 SRO DW1733/A/2/113[1].

SAREDON BROOK a tributary of the river Penk. Seaesbroce, Seaesbrocesforde 996 (for 994) (17th century, S.1380), Sarebrok(e) 1290 Ch, 1317 Vernon, 1338 Ass, Sarebro(u)k 1300 For, the Sarebrok water 1338 Ass, Sarebruck 1596 QSR. See Saredon and Shareshill.

SAREDON, GREAT & LITTLE in Shareshill parish, 3 miles south-west of Cannock (SJ 9508). Saredone (Great Saredon) 1086 DB, Seresdone (Little Saredon) 1086 DB, Sardon 1166 SHC 1923 295, Sardun 1236 Fees, Parva Sar(ed)don 1251 Ass, Boersharden 1280 SHC VI (i) 107, Sardon, Saredune, Beresardon, Beresardun 13th century Duig, Magna Sardon 1316 FA, Saerdon 15th century Duig. Both places are by a brook called Saredon Brook (q.v.). A difficult name. The second element is OE duon 'hill': Great Saredon stands on the north-east and Little Saredon on the south-east of Saredon Hill (Hul 1286: SHC 4th Series XVIII 147), a conical hill of 505'. It has been suggested (see Ekwall 1960: 404; Oakden 1984: 17) that the hill may have had a name incorporating OE sear 'sere, withered, dry, barren' (although there is no parallel elsewhere for such a hill-name: see Gelling & Cole 2000: 172-3), and that the brook took its name from the hill, or that the first element may be a OE personal name *Searu (see
Searle 1897: 412), hence "Searu's hill", although there is some doubt whether such a name existed. In fact it seem likely that this name is to be considered with that of nearby Shareshill (q.v.). The Bere-element is from the le Bere or le Boer family who were, for a time, its lords: see SHC VI (i) 220.

SARNELL, SARDENHILL (unlocated, in Sedgley: SPI 62.) Sarnell 1599 Sedgley ParReg, Sernall 1630 ibid, Sardenhill 1661 ibid, Sernill 1665 ibid, Sarnell 1674 SPI, Sernall 1676 Sedgley ParReg. Possibly the same place as Soundehill, Saundehill (q.v.). Sandwall Field in Sedgley is recorded in 1692 (HRO E12/V1/NC/39).

SATNALL HILLS 1 mile south of Tixall (SJ 9720). Sotnor 1581 SRO DW1734/2/5/15, Satner ?1617 SRO D615/D/6(1-9), Satnall 1671 Baswich ParReg, Satnall Hills 1686 Plot, 1821 D615/M/6/26, 1836 O.S., Satnal 1719 Baswich ParReg, Sattenhill (Plantation), Sattenhall 1783 SHC 1970 156-7. A curious name, for which no derivation can be suggested.

SAUNDEHILL, SOUNDEHILL (unlocated, on the west side of Walsall.) Soundehill, Saundehill 1617 Willmore 1887: 439. See also Sarnell, Sardenhill.

SAVERLEY GREEN 1½ miles south-west of Draycott in the Moors (SJ 9638). Seifirleg 1204 SHC III 117, Severle, Severled 1228 SHC IV 55, Severleg, Severlega 1228 ibid. 64, ? Suyrleye 1278 SHC 1911 32, Severle 1279 SHV VI (i) 138, Severleye 1285 SHC XII NS 94, 1309 SHC 1911 75, Selverle 1291 SHC VI (i) 203, Severleye 1309 SHC 1911 75, Severlee, Severle 1310 SHC IX 15, Zeveleye 1327 SHC VII (j) 220, Severley 1337 SHC XI 71, 1428 ibid. 229, Seu’leye (p) 1374 Pape 1928: 148, Saverley 1405 SRO D593/A/2/27/11, Searley 1571 SHC XIII 282, Sareley Green 1664 SHC VI (ii) 342, Sareley 1676 SHC XII NS 115, Sarely alias Sædalley 1683 WaCRO CR1908/6, Severly Gr, Severley Gr 1686 Plot, Severly green 1749 Bowen, Staverley Green 1798 Yates, Saverley Green 1836 O.S. The forms point to a derivation from the river-name Severn, from British Sabrina, Welsh Hafren, OE Sefern, a name of unknown meaning but possibly cognate with Sanskrit sabar- (in sabardhuk), which may mean 'milk': see Ekwall 1928: 358ff; Jackson 1953: 271; 519. The loss of -n is well-evidenced - see for example Thorley from Thorn-Leah, Arley and Earley from earn-leah. If not a mistranscription, one of the 1228 forms may incorporate OE lēah 'watercourse'. Saverley may have been a different place to Saverley Green, but if so its location has not been traced. The place presumably takes its name from a minor tributary of the Bliithe, of which there are at least two in this area, including one running to the south of Saverley Green through Fulford. It may be noted that Saverley Green lies some three miles from Cocking Farm (q.v.), a name which may be of British origin.

SAXONS LOWE 1 mile north-east of Swynmerton (SJ 8736). Saxons Low 1836 O.S. A natural conical-shaped hill. The name, of uncertain age but probably relatively recent, means 'the low or tumulus of the Saxon or Saxons', though no archaeological features have been traced here: see JNSFC 4 1964 49. The mound is said to have been known as Hangman's Hill in the 19th century (TNSFC 1887 57; TNSFC 1915 115), probably to be seen as evidence of popular folklore rather than its former use.
SCALDERSITCH ¼ mile north-east of Hulme End (SK 1159). *Sitch* 1775 Yates, *Scaldersitch* 1840 O.S. *Sitch* is from OE *ste* 'watercourse'. A curious name. The first element cannot be identified, but the second is OE *ste* 'a watersourse'.

SCHARPLOWE (unlocated, in Gayton.) *Scharpelowe* 1303 SHC XII NS 173. Evidently from OE *sc(e)arp heltw* 'the steep or pointed mound or tumulus'.

SCHIRROLDUS (unlocated, in Bagot's Bromley.) *Schirroldus* 1448 SRO DW1733/A/3/24. See also Shirrall (Hall).

SCHOLLE, SCHOWLE - see WHITTIMERE.

SCHOOL CLOUGH 1 mile south-west of Longnor (SK 0863). *Scoldeclogh* 1331 SHC XI 32, *Scolclose* 1353 SHC XII 122, *Scolecloughe* 1556 Deed, 1775 Yates, *Scholecloughe* 1582 SHC XV 140, *School Clough* 1775 Yates, *School Close* 1840 O.S. Possibly from OWScandinavian *skalth* 'a temporary hut or shed', with OE *clöh* 'deep valley, ravine'. A lost place-name *Scoleclogh, Skoelclogh* is recorded c.1340 in Macclesfield Hundred, Cheshire: PN Ch I 54. *Scolhalgh, recorded in 1348 (SHC XII 162)* has not been identified.

SCORTESTONA unlocated, to the west of Bury Bank (? SJ 871361: Hooke 1983: 87-9). *Scordestona ?13th century SHC VI (i) 10. 'The short stone*. This is *Sceortan stane* recorded as a boundary mark in a charter of 956 of Darlaston (11th century; S. 602; see Hooke 1983: 87-9). See also Cumberstone Wood.

SCOT HAY 2 miles north-west of Keele (SJ 7947). *Skotteshay* 1410 HOK 21, *Scott Heyes* 1566 ibid. 39, *Scott hey* 1689 Wolstanton ParReg, *Scot Heyes* 1689 Audley ParReg, *Scothay* 1698 Keele ParReg, *Scothay* 1733 SHC 1944 24, 25, 31. Probably from the a family named Scot recorded in this area from at least 1327 (SHC VII (i) 199; see also SHC 1944 62-4, 72, 74), but a derivation from ME *scot* 'a tax, a payment' is possible: see SHC XI NS 235 and 245 for references to *couscout, scuth* and *parvum scout* every third year in this area in 1307-8. The second element is from Mercian OE *geheg* 'fence, enclosure', possibly to be associated with the *hege* mentioned in a charter relating to Madeley of 975 AD (11th century, S.801; see Hooke 1983: 106-9). *Scott heys* is recorded in the bounds of Walsall manor in 1617 (Willmore 1887: 439), and *Scot Hays farm* in Kings Bromley is recorded in 1794 (SRO D357/A/20).

SCOTCH HILL a 366' hill 2 miles west of Tatenhill (SK 1622). *Skoteswallehull* 1337 Hardy 1908: 23. Hardy 1907: 137 also gives the undated forms *Scotshills, Scotshills*. The name would appear to have originated as 'the hill at the spring of the man named Scot' (from Mercian OE *wealle* 'a spring'): the surname Scot is well-recorded in the area from at least the 14th century: see Hardy 1908: 23, 29, 38.

SCOTESLEI (unlocated; possibly Colwich (q.v.)) *Scoteslei* 1086 DB.

SCOTLANDS, THE 3 miles north of Wolverhampton (SJ 9301). *Scotland* 1834 O.S., *Scotland* 1856 WALS DX103/6. A name of uncertain age. Duignan's derivation from OE *scetlandes* 'corner lands' (1902: 132) is based on his observation that the place was formerly at the corner of a triangular piece of land, bounded on all sides by roads, but the 1834 1" O.S. sheet shows the name attached to what
appears to be a copse of irregular shape 1 mile south of Bushbury Hill, and in any event OE sc- would normally become sh-. If ancient the name may have some connection with ME scot 'tribute, payment' (cf. the field-name Scotland, recorded in Warwickshire in 1278: PN Wa 329; the field-name ScotLanD recorded in Clent: Tithe Map 1838), or with a field-name denoting remoteness, or with Scot, as a personal name or nationality. See also PNEF 132.

SCOUNSLOW GREEN 2½ miles south of Uttoxeter (SK 0930). Gundesle 1275 SHC 1911 28, Gundesle8e 1280 SHC VI (i) 108, Cundeslegh 1305 SHC VII 134, Cundesley, Coundesleye 1306 SHC 1911 67, ? Condesleigh 1327 SHC XI NS 187, Coundeslegh 1333 SHC X 88, Conndesleye 1342 SRO DW1733/A/2/109, Cundele1359 SHC XI 171. Some of the forms may refer to Counslow (q.v.), or (in the case of the earliest spellings), to another place altogether. The place cundesleage appears in a charter of 951 (14th century, S.557) of land at Marchington, and since at least 1916 (SHC 1916 90; Hooke 1983: 103-5) has been associated with Scounslow Green (Sounslow Green 1798 Yates, Scounsley Green 1836 O.S.). It has been suggested that cund may have been a river-name, perhaps of the stream passing through Marchington, associated with an extensive area (see Hooke 1983: 103-5; Sawyer 1979: 18 and Cund in glossary ibid. 87): Cundy Field (Gundy Fields 1836 O.S.) is shown on the Marchington tithe map 2 miles east of Scounslow Green at SK 121289. Cund would appear to be the same river-name as Kennet, Kennett and Kent, believed to be from a British name of uncertain derivation: see PN Sa I 102 (cf. Count, Shropshire). The place evidently gave its name to a hay or forest clearing (from Mercian OE (ge)heg) at an early date: haya que vocatur Counderslega sub Potterslega is recorded in the 13th century: SHC XI NS 163; see also Pottersley. Also Sawyer 1979a: 18; Hooke 1983: 103-5. A field name Gundesleye is recorded in Brewood in 1278 (Oakden 1984: 47), perhaps with the same derivation.

SCROPTON Ancient Parish on the north side of the river Dove, 1¼ miles north-west of Tutbury (SK 1930). Scroton 1086 DB (entered in Derbyshire), Scropton(e) late 11th century, c.1141 TutCart, Cropton 1260 Ipms, 1298 Cl, Scroperton 1380 PN Db 560-1, Schropton 1538 ibid, Scrapton 1577 Saxton, 1610 Speed. PN Db 560-1 gives the derivation 'Skropi's tan' for this place, but the personal name has not been traced elsewhere. If it existed, it was evidently of Scandinavian origin. Historically in both Staffordshire and Derbyshire, there have been many administrative changes in the status of Scropton parish since 1832, and it ceased to have a civil identity after 1866: see Youngs 1991: 421. The place is now in Derbyshire.

SEABRIDGE 1 mile south-west of Newcastle-under-Lyme (SJ 8343). Sheperuge 1235 SHC VI (i) 5, seeperug c.1250 SHC 1911 146, Sheperingle 1288 Hibbert 1909: 33, Sheperingge 1291 Tax, Sheprigge 1292 SHC VI (i) 220, Scheperug 1297 SHC 1911 244, Shepinge 1297 (1798) Shaw I 40, Sheprig 1305 SHC VII 140, Sheperugge 1332 SHC X 82, Shepbrugge 1381 SHC XIII 165, Shepruge 1422 SHC VIII i 219, Sherbrigge 1560 SHC XIII 208, Sheabridge 1749 Bowen. From OE scep 'sheep', and OE hrycg 'a ridge, a long narrow hill', or hrycg 'bridge'. The terminals conflict, but the earlier was evidently 'ridge' (with the common West Midland -u- for -i-), which in any event seems more satisfactory than 'sheep bridge'. For another example of the name Sheepridge becoming Sheepbridge see PN Bk 189.

SECHEHULLE FOREST - see CHECKHILL.
SECKLEY WOOD in Upper Arley. Soegeslea (dative) 866 (S.212), Secceslea 866 (11th century, S.211), Sechele 1270 Eyton 1854-60: IV 278, Seckley Wood 1801 Shaw II 252. The identification of this place with the early forms is uncertain (see PN Wo 32), but if correct the meaning is probably 'Secg's leah' (cf. Sedgley; Seckloe, Berkshire). The place is on the west side of the river Severn, but may originally have included land on the east side: see PN Wo 32. In Worcestershire since 1895.

SEDGLEY Ancient Parish 3 miles south of Wolverhampton (SO 9193). Secges leage (gemære) 985 (12th century, S.860), Segleslei 1086 DB, Seggeslegh 1221 BM, Seggesley c.1270 SHC 1941 77, Seggesle 1275 SHC V (i) 116, Seigeslei 1498 SHC 1928 69, Sedgley 1525 SHC 1941 79. 'Secg's leah'. Soegeslea, mentioned in a charter of 866 AD (S.212) is now held (see Hooke 1990: 120-1) to be Seckley (Wood) (q.v.), rather than Sedgley as suggested in SHC 1916 77-9, following Birch. Sedgley Beacon is recorded as Beacon Piece in 1736 (BCA D3155/WH94), and mentioned in 1801 (Shaw II 221). Sedgley Hay, recorded in 1255, may be Baggeridge Hay or Wood, recorded in the early 13th century: VCH II 344. Sedgley Parke is recorded in 1442 as Sedgley Park (SHC III NS 167), and in 1596 as Sedgley Parke (BCA MS3145/258/14); see also Shaw 1801: II 136, 221. Another park called the Olde parke at Seggeley is recorded in 1444: SHC III NS 167. For names in the Sedgley district in 1655 see Hackwood 1898: 95-6.

SEDGLEY HAY (unlocated, possibly Baggeridge Hay or Wood: VCH II 344 fn.10.) (Hay of) Sedgley 1255 VCH II 344 fn.10.

SEEDY MILL 1 mile north-west of Elmhurst (SK 1013). Synethimulne, Synethimilne c.1250 SHC 1924 75, VCH XIV 236, Cywythi milne, Siwithmilne, Siwethimulne, Sywethmulne, Sywwehmlne 1268-72 SHC 1910 106, Sindi Milne or seedy Mill House 1734 SRRC 1987/3/3, seedy Mill 1775 Yates. Perhaps from OE sināde, an adjective meaning 'very gentle' with an -ig ending, which might conceivably be used of a slow-grinding mill, or possibly from OE sjūd 'chaff'.

SEGGEHALVEFORDE (unlocated, perhaps near Rosteber.) Seggehalveforde 1359 SHC XII (i) 160.

SEGGERSLEY (FARM) on north-east side of Ellenhall (SJ 8426). ? Seggersley 1445 SHC XI 305, Seggersley 1669 Ellenhall ParReg, Sigersley 1851 White. The derivation is probably as Sedgley (q.v.).

SEIGHFORD Ancient Parish (pronounced Sigh-ford [sairfod]) 3 miles north-west of Stafford (SJ 8824). Cesteforde 1086 DB, Sestesforde c.1200 Rees 1985, Seasteford 1209 SHC III (i) 175, Seteford 1208 Cur, Seteford 1208 SHC III 142, Sevettford 1208 ibid. 143, Seasteford 1209 SHC 1914 86, Seaeford 1248 SHC IV 243, Cestford ?13th century SHC IV 269-70, Cysteford, Cesteford 1327 SHC VII (i) 211-2, Casteorde 1330 SHC 1913 23, Sesteford 1337 SRO DW1781/4/7, Cesteford (frequently), Sesteford 13th century Duig, Sesteford c.1330 SHC IV 275, Seteford 1468 SRO DW1761/A/4/34, Sextiford 1476 SHC VI NS (i) 101, Seghfird 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 64, Seyford 1538 SHC 1910 44, Seythford c.1565 SHC 1926 140, Seekford c.1566 SHC 1938 192, Cyford 1644 SHC 4th Series I 168, Syford 1663 SHC II (ii) 37, Seighford or Sightford 1749 Bowen. The various forms, which are particularly irregular, make any derivation difficult, but Stevenson observed 'from the later forms it is evident that the Domesday st here must have its usual value, i.e. it represents an OE ht, so that Cesteford would seem to represent an OE Seohta, probably Seothre-ford, from seothre.
'brook, ditch' - the ford of the brook or ditch: Duignan 1902: 132. The forms with S- suggest possible Anglo-Norman influence; in OE c before e or i had the sound represented by Modern English ch, but in Norman-French c in such cases was pronounced [ts], later becoming s, although still represented by c in writing. However, it is quite possible that the DB form is aberrant, and the first element may be OE sester, seoxter 'a vessel, a jar; a measure of capacity' (cf. Fr sétier 'two gallons', German sester, sechter '16 quarts', Italian sestere 'a pint-measure'; OE wīn-sester 'a wine-can'), perhaps indicating that the ford here was particularly modest: EPNE i xxvii notes that 'Ford-names are...often combined with words which describe some early recognised feature which marked the site of the ford, but still more often with words describing its capacity or nature...[...]'...combinations which should remove any hesitation about accepting less usual words...as likely themes in place-names', but the precise significance of the expression is unclear. If that derivation is correct, this may be a unique example. Whatever the root, there is no evidence, either philological (given the absence in the various spellings of any trace of -r (Cesterford cited in Ekwall 1960:410 is properly Cestford), archaeological or historical, of any connection with OE cester, denoting a Roman site (contra VEPN 11160), though doubtless some forms have been influenced by the element. The ford is over Gamesley Brook, on the north side of the village. Cf. Cheslyn Hay; Chestall.

SEISDON (pronounced seez-dunn [sizdən]) 6 miles south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 8394). Saisdon, Saisdone, Seisedon 1086 DB, Saiesdona 1130 SHC I 2, Seisdun 1160x1206 SHC III (i) 215, Seyston' 1222 Pleas, Seisdun 1227 SHC IV 52, Seyxdun 1235 Fees, Seydon' 1236 Ci, Seisdon 1242 Fees, Sysdon 1257 SHC 1911 128, Seysdone 1292 Ipm, Seysdon 1309 BCA MS3066/Acc1903-003, Seyedon 1323 Ci, Seyason 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 127, Seysdon 1590 SHC XVI 102. The meaning of Seisdon is probably OE Seax-dún 'the hill of the Saxons or of Seax'. The change to sais- may be due to Norman influence. The name might indicate the presence of Saxons moving in from Hwiccan territory to the south into a mainly Anglian community, rather than the presence of English amongst a Celtic community (Gelling 1988: 210). However, it is not impossible that the first element of the name is from Welsh sais '(place of the) English', with an OE suffix, since the place is in an area with other names of Celtic derivation (e.g. Penn, Triesull), although it would be surprising to find such advanced Welsh phonology so far east. Cf. Pensax, Worcestershire, with older phonology, and see Coates & Breeze 2000: 335.

SELLESLEG (unlocated, possibly near Essington.) Sellesleg 1284 FA.

SENA PARK (unlocated, in Baswich parish) - see SINAI PARK.

SERLEHOUSE, SERLELANE (unlocated, perhaps near Slymansdale.) Serleshous 1462-3 NSIFS 3 1963 42, Serlelane 1468-8 ibid. It is unclear whether these name are associated with the name Slymansdale (q.v.).

SERNILL - see SARNELL; SARDENHILL.
SETESWEY (unlocated, probably near Longdon.) Seyteswey 1313 SHC 1921 7, Seteswey early 14th century ibid. 16. Possibly to be associated with Seytes, recorded in the same area c.1270x1298: SHC 1921 8.

SEVEN ASHES (obsolete) between Fulford and Hilderstone (? SJ 9535). 7 ashes 1577 Saxton, 7 Ashes 1599 Smith, the 7 Ashes 1673 Blome. The place cannot be identified with certainty, but may be what is now High Elms (SJ 9535; High Alms 1920 O.S.) on a hill of over 700'. Self-explanatory. Smith's map of 1599 has thumbnail sketch of four (sic) trees on a hill.

SEVEN SPRINGS on Cannock Chase. There are at least three places of this name on Cannock Chase, one ¼ mile south-west of Colwich on the south side of the river Trent (SK 0020), one 1¼ miles to the south of the first on Wolseley Plain (SK 0018), and one at SK 032147 (StEnc 508). The names are self-explanatory, and although their age is uncertain, it is evident that the number seven had particular importance in OE law and custom: now-forgotten folk-lore probably influenced the choice of seven as the number commonly found in association with Mercian OE welle 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream': see EPNE ii 119; PN Wo 35-6. The number is frequently found in place-names connected with various topographical features including springs, although it is improbable that any place had in reality seven springs (cf. Showell; Seawell, Northumberland; Sewell, Bedfordshire; Sowell, Devon). Seven Oaks is recorded in 1834 (O.S.) to the north of Beaudesert Park (SK 0314). Senokestre 'seven oak trees' (?) near Tittensor) is recorded in about the 13th century: SHC VI (i) 21. See also Seven Ashes; Showells.

SEYNESHAULWE (unlocated, possibly near Squitch House.) (land called) Seyneshaulwe 1402 SHC XI NS 209. Possibly from Sene, Senyie, from French sene, senne, Latin synodus 'a meeting of clergy for deliberations, a synod': seyney-houses were buildings belonging to monastic houses where breaks ('seyneys') were taken by monks in need of rest and recuperation after the regular bleedings they undertook for health reasons, or after illness: see also Coena's Well; Sinai Park; Wallbridge.


SHAFFALONG 1 mile west of Cheddleton (SJ 9652). Shaffurlong 1775 Yates, Shafferlong 1836 O.S. A curious name. The first element may be a corruption of OE scaga 'a copse', perhaps influenced by the word shaft since coal extraction began here in the 18th century. The field name Sufferlong, possibly denoting poor ground, but more likely to be 'south furlong', has also been recorded: see Field 1993: 14. The locations of Asferlung recorded in the 13th century (SHC IX NS 317), Affurlunge (undated) mentioned in Sleigh 1883: 50, S(h)ortforlong 13th century Erdeswick 1844: 15, Furlong 1628, 1636, Forlong 1656 Wolstanton ParReg have not been identified, but Ashfurlong recorded in 1350 (SHC VI (ii) 192) and 1611 (SRO D16/2/20) was in Little Wyrley, and Ashfurlongs was near Handsacre (SRO D260/M/75/134). Cf. Shuffers Wood south of Betley (SJ 7547); Ashfurlong Hall at Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire (PN Wa 49).
SHAKERLOWE (unlocated) perhaps in the Swynnerton/Oulton/Draycott area. Shakerlowe 1360 SHC XII (i) 173. From OE sceacere hlāw 'robber's mound or tumulus'. Shackleley in Shropshire, 1¼ miles south-west of Boscobel (SJ 8106) is recorded as Shakerlow in 1525 (SRRC 1781/2/6), Shackerlow(e) in 1679 (SRRC 1781/2/52-86). Cf. Shackamore.

SHALLOWFORD 5 miles south-west of Stone (SJ 8729). Shawford 1271 PR, SHC 1914 62, Schaldeford 1272 SHC IV 190, Sheldeford 1299 SHC 1911 251, Schaldeford 1278 SHC VI (i) 89, Saldeford 1302 SHC VII 123, Schaldeford 1322 BCA MS3415/152, Shawford 1595 Erdeswicke 1844: 139, 1599 Smith, 1599 SHC 1935 81. Self-explanatory, from the OE adjective *sc(e)ald 'shallow', a word not evidenced before the end of the 14th century except in place-names. See also Saltford.

SHALSTONE (unlocated) possibly Shenstone. Shalstone 1579 BCA MS10998/63.

SHARESHILL Ancient Parish 5.5 miles north-east of Wolverhampton (SJ 9406). Servesed 1086 DB, Sarueshul(l) 1213 FF, Sharesweshull 1225 SHC IV 34, Saresweshull' 1225 Cur, Sarsculf 1227 Ass, Saleshul 1236 Fees, Sarueshul 1242 ibid, Shareweshulf 1252 Cl, Servescelf 1262 For, Schelshulle 1277 SHC VI (i) 80, Sarushyf 1285 FA, Sareweshul 1293 Ass, Sarueshul 1298 Vernon, Sareeschulf 1325 SHC 1911 368, Sarveshulf 1326 Vernon, Scharesschulf 1327 SHC VII 224, Sarnesculf, Sarrenshul, Sharenshulle, Shareshulfe 13th century Duig, Shareshull 14th century Duig, Sarchelf 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 73, Shasell 1608 SHC 1908 1948-9 75, Shareshill 1775 Yates. A difficult name: the philological problems are set out in Oakden 1984: 116-7, where a derivation from an OE personal name *Scearf (corresponding to ON Skarfr), with OE hyll 'a hill', and a variant with OE scelf 'shelf', is confidently asserted. In a discussion on the derivation of Sarebrook, the old name of Saredon Brook (Searesbroc 996 (for 994) (17th century, S.1380), Ekwall 1928: 352 considered early spellings for Saredon, and concluded that the first element of Saredon and Sarebrook was the OE personal name Searu (recorded in Searle 1897: 412; doubted as a genuine name in Redin 1919: 23; accepted as genuine by Ekwall 1928: 352, questioned in Gelling & Cole 2000: 172-3), but noted that the genitive form Searwes would be expected, and suggested that Saredon and Sarebrook incorporated a hypocoristic (pet-name) form of a name beginning Searu-. The spellings for Shareshill show that the earliest forms are Sar-, which continue until the mid fourteenth century, and spellings with Scar-, which would be pronounced Shar-, do not begin to appear until the early 13th century. Furthermore, Duignan 1902: 133 was undoubtedly correct in his view that the n in his cited 13th century spellings resulted from mistranscriptions, and should be read as v, those letters (with u) being indistinguishable in early handwriting. The various spellings for Shareshill show that the root of the name cannot be *Scearf, but is almost certainly Saru-, Sarue- (with the DB form to be read as Servue-), and the forms are markedly similar to the first element of early spellings for Sardon Brook (q.v.) and Great and Little Saredon (q.v.). Saredon Brook runs close to the north side of Great Saredon, which lies a mile or so from Shareshill, with Saredon Hill and Little Saredon between the two. It is clear that the names Great and Little Saredon, Saredon Brook, and Shareshill are to be considered as a group with a common derivation (and it may be noted that until 1866 the ancient parish of Shareshill included the township of Saredon: Youngs 1991: 422; and that Great Saredon, Little Saredon and Shareshill all occupy relatively high ground on a formation of water-bearing Pebble Beds: VCH V 173), perhaps from an OE personal
name *Searu, with early spellings for Shareshill preserving traces of the genitive form, and the other places formed from a pet-name derived from that personal name. Ekwall 1928: 352 believed that the -ea-, supported by DB Seres-, pointed to OE Sear, which looked like a Germanic element, probably a personal name, corresponding to or related to Gothic Sarus, Old High German Saro-. Another possibility, given doubts about the existence of the OE personal name Searu, is that the root of Saredon and Shareshill is a pre-English estate, river- or hill-name: the places lie on the south side of Watling Street, but the northern boundary is Saredon Brook, suggesting that the boundary may be of greater age than the Roman road. Ekwall 1928: 352 felt it unlikely that the first element was an old name of the brook, but compared such a name with MBret Sar, a tributary of the river Blaret. Saredon is recorded in DB, but Shareshill is not, implying that Shareshill may have been a later settlement, though many places known to have existed in 1086 are unrecorded in DB. It may be noted that Salisbury, Sorviodunum to the Romano-Britons, is held to derive from later British *serw, of unknown meaning, and taken into Anglo-Saxon as *Saru and by ‘breaking’, *Searu- and *Searu- (Jackson 1953: 260-1; Rivet & Smith 1979: 461). PN W 18-19 raises the possibility that the early name of Salisbury may have become associated later by folk-etymology with OE searu, genitive searwe, searwes ‘trick’, though the precise meaning there is unclear, and Ekwall 1960: 402 saw some influence from OE searu ‘armour’. The second element in Shareshill is OE scelf ‘shelf, ledge’, and OE hyll ‘hill’. Sa- perhaps developed into Sh- from the influence of the first letters of scelf, an element which could well have been in use long before the earliest recorded spellings. The area behind the church at Shareshill is notably level, and might be considered a shelf. The DB spelling may (as noted in Duignan 1902: 133) point to OE hēd ‘heath’ (ð often appears as d), but DB forms are frequently corrupt, though in this case the first part of the name would appear to be reasonably accurate. Square earthworks recorded on the north and south sides of Shareshill and once believed to be Roman are now thought to have been medieval moated sites: Shaw 1801: II 308-9; VCH I 192, 346, 348; VCH V 173. Windy Arbour Lane in Great Saredon may be from a colloquial expression for an exposed place, but might derive from OE eorpborg ‘earthern fortification’, denoting the existence of earthworks, or OE here-beorg ‘shelter or protection for a number of men; army quarters’ (EPNE ii 244).

SHARPCLIFFE 2 miles south of Bradnop (SK 0052). Sarpcliff (p) 1261 StCart, Charpcclif 1275 SHC V (i) 118, Sharpccliff 1292 SHC 1911 216, Scharpcclif 1310 ibid. 437, Sarpeclif c.1311 ibid. 436, Sarpeclif 1311 ibid. 437, Sharpclif 1409 SHC XVI 72, Sharpe Clefe otherwise Sharpcliff 1595 SHC 1934 14, sharp Cliffe 1598 SHC 1935 147, the Sharpe cliefe 1656 ParReg. From OE sc(e)arp ‘sharp, pointed, steep’, with OE clif ‘a cliff, a bank, a steep slope’: there is a sharp rocky outcrop on high ground here, perhaps the look-out place suggested by the name Ipstones (q.v.).

SHARPLEY HEATH 1 mile north-east of Hilderstone (SJ 9635). Sharpely Heath 1772 SRO D1462/9/1-30, 1798 Yates, Sharpely Heath 1836 O.S. from OE sc(e)arp ‘sharp, pointed, rugged; steep’, with OE leah.

SHARSEMORE (unlocated, in Sedgley.) Sharsemore 1547 TSAS 3rd Series VIII 1908 237.
SHATTERFORD in Upper Arley, 1 mile south-east of Romsley (SO 7981). Sciteresforda 996 (for 994) (17th century, S.1380), Scheteford 1271 SHC V (i) 146, Shakeresford 1286 SHC V (i) 157, Shutterford 1577 Saxton, Shitterford 1673 Blome. Almost certainly from OE *scitere 'a sewer, a channel or stream used as an open sewer', from OE scite 'shit, dung', rather than from OE scytere, sceotere (sc pronounced [ʃ]) 'shooter, archer', hence 'archer's ford': it is difficult to distinguish scitere from sceotere, but the fact that the place is evidently connected with a stream makes the second meaning improbable (cf. Skitterlyn, Northumberland; Skitter Beck, Lincolnshire). In Worcestershire since 1895. Delicacy has led to the inevitable corruption of all names with this root.

SHAW 1 mile south-east of Heaton (SJ 9661), la Schawe 1325 SHC 1911 366, Littleton shawe c.1539 LRMB, Shaw 1775 Yates, White Shaw 1842 O.S, Shaw Farm 1880 Kelly, Shaw 1891 O.S.; SHAW (unlocated, in or near Alton), la Schawe 1327 SHC VII (i) 216, 1331 SHC 1913 36, Schagh 1339 ibid. 77; SHAW HALL 2 miles north of Wolverhampton (SJ 9105), Shaw (furlong) 1313-4 Parke 1860: 84, Shaw (Heath) 1615 Will, Shaw (craft) 1657 SHC 1928 123, Shaw (House) c.1725 SRO DW1813/1/4, Shaw Hall 1834 O.S.; SHAW HALL 2 miles north of Cheadle (SK 0145), la Shaghe 1281 Ipm, Shaw 1350 SHC 1910 19, Shawe 1598 SHC XVI 185, Shawe 1609 SHC III NS 52, the Shaw 1644 SHC 1944 23, Shaw Hall 1832 Teesdale, Shaw 1836 O.S., SHAW HALL ¼ mile south of Kingsley (SK 0046), Shaw 1350 SHC XI NS 30, Shawe 1659 Kingsley ParReg, Shaw 1836 O.S. From OE scaga 'wood, copse', with OE feld 'open country'.

SHAW HOUSE 1 mile north-west of Alton (SK 0543). The Shaw House 1750 SRO D240/D/99. From OE scaga 'small wood, copse'.

SHAWMOOR FARM (obsolete, 1 mile south-west of Sheen, on the west bank of the river Manifold (SK 0960).) Shawmoor Farm 1820 Greenwood. Perhaps to be associated with Schal moor, recorded in 1392 (VCH VII 29), in which case the name may be from ON skál 'a bowl, a hollow' (used in some topographical sense), or ON skáli 'a temporary hut or shed'.

SHAY LANE a lane that runs between Shebdon and Forton. Shee Lane 1798 Shaw 134. Possibly a back-formation from chaise, 'a carriage', which is sometimes found as shay (OED), but OE scaga 'small wood, copse' is sometimes found as shay, generally in West Yorkshire, but also recorded elsewhere: see PNEF 6.

SHEBDON 4 miles north of Newport (SJ 7625). Schebbedon 1267 For, 1293 SHC VI (i) 277, Shebdon Ley 1572 SHC XIII 292, Shebben (poole) 1686 Plot 209, 232. From the OE personal name *Sceobba or *Sceoba (see Shobnall) with OE dán 'hill', so 'Sceobba's or Sceoba's hill'. The pool at Shebdon (illustrated in Plot 1686: plate XIX) was drained and enclosed in the early 19th century.

SHEEN Ancient Parish 3¾ miles south-east of Longnor (SK 1161). et Seeon 1002x1004 (11th century, S.906; 11th century, S.1536), Sceon 1086 DB, Schone 1226 SHC 1937 37, SHC V (i) 54,
Chone c. 1241 SHC VII NS 142, Shene 1265 Ass, Chene 1281 Okeover E5104, Sceone 1301 SHC VII 90, Schene 1344 DRO D2375M/55/3, Sheine 1666 SHC 1925 203. The basis for the name seems to have been OE *scēo, (nom. plural scēeon) an unrecorded word probably related to Norwegian skjaa 'shed, kiln', or ON skjál 'shelter', possibly here meaning 'shelters, sheds'. Cf. Sheen in Surrey, Scēon in OE charters. It may be noted that there is no connection with the word 'shine'. Sheen Hill is a prominent 1247' hill 1 mile to the north. High Sheen (Hie Sheen 1658 Alstonefield ParReg) lies on the southern slopes of Sheen Hill. See also Ekwall 1936: 55-7.

SHEEPHOUSE FARM 1½ miles south of Leek (SJ 9545). Shephouse 1538 Dieulacres Inventory, 1654 Leek ParReg, Shiphouse 1662 ibid, Shephouse 1704 ibid, Sheep House 1836 O.S. Self-explanatory: the place was Crown property, and also called ye Kynges folde: PRO SC6 3353. See also Fould, to which the 1662 spelling may refer: VCH VII 194.

SHEEPWALKS, THE an upland area to the south of Enville (SO 8286). VCH IV 54 fn.3 associates this place with Scipricg recorded in Wulfrun's grant of 994 (17th century, S.1380) of Upper Arley to the monastery of Wolverhampton (see SHC 1916 107; Hooke 1983: 68, 70), but the evidence is slight.

SHEEPWASH FARM 1½ miles north of Caverswall (SJ 9545), Sheepwash 1836 O.S.; SHEEPWASH FARM 1 mile south-west of Rugeley (SK 0215), The Sheep Wash 1834 O.S.; SHEEPWASH (unlocated, on the river Sow near St. Thomas's priory: VCH III 260 fn.4), Scepewasch, Scepewas 12th century SHC VIII (i) 134-5, Scepewas 1261 SHC 1914 120, Scepewas c.1350 SRO D938/10, Sheepwasshe 1414 SHC XVII 50; SHEEPWASH (obsolete) at Hamstall Hall Farm (SK 1019), Sheepwash c.1817 Alexander & Binski 1987: 238; SHEEPWASH near Great Bridge (SO 9792), Sheepwash c.1713 Dilworth 1976: 151. Self-explanatory. All the places lie close to watercourses.

SHELD (unlocated, in Stafford.) Sheld 1446 SHC XII 312. Perhaps from OE sceld 'a shield, a protector', probably used in place-names of a shelter of some kind.

SHELFIELD 3 miles north-east of Walsall (SK 0302). Scelfeld 1086 DB, Schelfhul 1271 For, Schelfhulle 1276 SHC VI (i) 80, Chelfeld 1278 ibid. 87, Shelefel 1280 SHC VI (i) 147, Shelfulle 1288 ibid. 174, Schelfhulle 13th century Duig, Shelhull 1300 For, Shelfel 1320 SHC 1911 95, Alta Selfeld 1327 SHC VII 224, Shelfeld 1590 SHC 1930 86. From OE scelf 'ledge, shelf', with OE hyll, meaning 'hill with a plateau or shelf. The place lies on a moderately elevated plateau, sloping on all sides. The -field element has, as frequently happens, become interchanged with -hyll. Alta 'high' implies that there was a 'lower' Shelfield. Cf. Shelfield, Warwickshire.

SHELMORE 2 miles west of Gnosall (SJ 8021). Shellmore (Park Wood) 1830 SOT D615/M/9/11, Shelmore 1833 O.S. Early spellings have not been traced, and it is very possible that the name is relatively modern.

SHELTON 1 mile south-west of Hanley (SJ 8746), Selton 1263 SHC XII NS 241, Selton, Shelton 1686 Plot, Shelton 1836 O.S.; SHELTON UNDER HARLEY 1 mile south-east of Whitmore (SJ 8139), Scelfitone 1086 DB, Schelton 1189, Shelton 1227 SHC IV 53, Schelton 1253 SIIC 1911 121, Scheston 1280 SHC VI (i) 103, Selfton 13th century, Shelton Harnage 1369 SRO D641/S/T/1/1, Shelton under Harley 1381 SHC XIII 160, Shelton 14th century Duig, Shelton under Horeley 1617
SHC 1934 (ii) 52, Shelton 1559 SRO D641/5/T/1/10, 1747 Bowen. 'Tan at the shelf or ledge', from OE scelf, presumably with reference in the first place to the long slope to the south of Shelton church, and in the second place to the flat fields in the valley to the west of Shelton Harley Farm: see Gelling & Cole 2000: 216. Harley is probably from the high ground to the east, part of which is still known as Harley Thorns (q.v.). Harnage in the 1368 form is evidently an error for Harley.

SHELTWOOD FARM 2½ miles south-east of Bromsgrove (SO 9867). Sylkwode 1256 FF, Siltwood c.1260 AD ii, Schiltewode, Skytwode 1275 Ass, 1388 Ipm, Schiltwode 1275 Ass, Schiltwode, Siltwode 1279 RH, 1374 Pat, Saltwood 1291 Tax. PN Wo 364 suggests that the first element may be OE scelet (dialect shillet, shilt), a sort of rock or shale. The place, in Tardebigge parish, was in Staffordshire from c.1100 to 1266, and in Warwickshire until 1844, when it transferred to Worcestershire.

SHEMERBROKE (not located, perhaps near Stonywell or Burntwood.) Shemerbroke 1561 HLS 582.

SHENSTONE Ancient Parish 3 miles south of Lichfield (SK 1104). Seneste 1086 DB, Scenstan 11th century Duig, Scenestan c.1130 Oxf, Schenestan 1166 SHC 1923 295, 1193 ibid. 270, Shenestan 12th century Duig, Senestan 1270 SHC 1923 266, Scenestone 1282 SHC V (i) 136, Sheneston, Schenestana 13th century Duig, Schenstone 14th century Duig, Shenstonhame 1414 SHC XVII 6, Sheinstein c.1540 Leland. Seemingly from OE sceâne 'bright, shining, beautiful', with OE stân 'stone'. The first element is not uncommon in place-names, and is also recorded in combination with feld 'open ground', dán 'hill', and lēah 'glade'. But a meaning 'beautiful stone, shining rock' or similar is not easy to explain. Other than fragments of two cylindrical Roman milestones of local sandstone in the area, one found 1 mile north of Shenstone (at SK 105062: TSSAHS XIX 1977-8 2, 4), and a note in Shaw 1801: II 19 that 'some mile stones have been found by the brook running West of the city [i.e. Wall]', no record or tradition has been traced of any stone in the area, beautiful or otherwise. Although an outcrop of Lower Keuper sandstone is found on the hill here (and many place-names in the West Midlands containing stân are connected with rock outcrops), it could hardly be described as bright, shining or beautiful. Roman Watling Street and Icknield Street both run close by, a Romano-British farmstead has been discovered here, and the Roman site of Letocetum is nearby. Perhaps therefore from some lost Roman monument or similar, although given the difficulties with this explanation, a derivation from an OE personal name cannot be ignored: Shenstone, Worcestershire (but with slightly different spellings to this name), is held to be from a personal name (PN Wo 256). For completeness, Plot 1686: 118, 242 records 'At Pipe-hill...I found another shining Sort of Earth...made up in great part, with silver colour'd Lamine, guidling the hands if rub'd upon them...'. Pipehill is less than 3 miles to the north-west of Shenstone. Cf. Shengay or Shingay, Cambridgeshire; Shenington, Oxfordshire; Shenfield, Essex. For Shenstone Park see SSAHS 1988-9 XXX 46-8.

SHEPERINGLY (unlocated, near Newcastle under Lyme). Sheperingly 1288 Hibbert 1908: 3.

SHEPHERD'S CROSS 2 miles north of Biddulph (SJ 8960). Shepherd's Cross 1791 SHC 4th Series 13 137. An ancient millstone-grit cross: see NSFC 1908 42 170. The various references to Crosse from 1579 in Biddulph ParReg probably refer to the so-called Plague Cross south of the church rather than this place.
SHEPPY FARM 1 mile north-west of Haughton (SJ 8521). Shepey 1679 SHC 1914 91, Shippy 1775 Yates, Sheepy 1832 Teesdale, The Isle of Shippy 1836 O.S., see also VCH IV 76. The name is probably too early to be transferred from the Isle of Sheppey to denote remoteness, even though the place lies on an isolated hill. An unlocated Schepedon is recorded in 1327 (SHC V (i) 240), and might refer to this place, in which case the name is a corruption of OE sceap-dün 'sheep-hill', or Schepedon may be a corruption of Shebdon. Otherwise, perhaps from sceap with OE 生产总 'island, land between streams', here in the latter sense, since there are streams to the north and south. Or possibly the name was transferred from Great Sheepy in Leicestershire: see SHC IV 268. Shepeye is recorded in 1300 (SHC VII 68), 1323 (SHC IX (i) 90) and 1345 (SHC XII 38), but it is not clear whether it refers to this place.

SHERBROOK a tributary of the river Trent which rises in the southern part of Cannock Chase. Sherbrok' 1290 MRA, Shirebroke 1290 Ch, 1292 SHC VI (i) 296. From OE sceap 'bright, shining', with broc 'brook'.

SHERBROOK BANK on Cannock Chase, 1 mile south-east of Brocton (SJ 9818). From Sherbrook (q.v.).

SHERHOLT 3 miles north of Alrewas (SK 1620). Shirholt, Shyrholt 1256 MinA, Shirholt 1425 SHC XVII 102, Shirall or Sherholt Lodge, Shirall Thorn 1836 O.S. The first element may be OE sceap 'clean, bright', but the place lies on a parish boundary, so probably OE sceap 'shire, jurisdiction, district', with OE holt 'wood'. See also Shirrall Hall. A place called Schyrholt in Kingstone is recorded in 1317 (SHC XI NS 184), perhaps to be associated with Shiraldes recorded in 1425 (SRO DW1733/A/3/27[3]). See also Schirroldus.

SHERIFFHALES Ancient Parish 4 miles south of Newport (SJ 7512). Halam, Halas 1086 (DB), Hales c.1125-38 Rees 1985, Hales Paunton 1259 TSAS 2nd Series VI 1894 14, Schirrenghales, Schirrenchal' (p) 1271-2 For, Hales upon Lousyerd 1282 SHC VI (i) 154, Shirrevehale(s), Shirevehales ibid, Schyrevehale, Sirevehales 1291-2 Ass, Hales Trussell 1294 SIIC 1911 220, Shirevehales 1301 Rees 1975, Shirrevehaly, Shirrevehales 1367 Pat, Sherreyf Hales 1398 Pat, Sherreyf Halis 1532 SIIC 4th Series 8 99, Shirrevehales 1539 SHC NS V 248, Sheryfehales 1577 Saxton, Sherryhallas, Sherryhalse 1598 SHC 1935 168, Sherrif Hales 1686 Plot, Sheriff Hales 1920 O.S. The name is from OE halas, plural of halh, here probably meaning 'nooks', one of a cluster of halh names around Shifnal and Albrighton: see PN Sa I 262-3. Lousyerd is from Lizard Hill (q.v.). The word Sheriff comes from Rainold of Bailgiole (Balliol), Sheriff of Shropshire, who held the place in 1086 when it was then in Staffordshire - it is curious that the present name should incorporate a reference to one of the earlier lords rather than a more recent lord. The 1259 spelling commemorates the Pantulfs, later known as the Pantons or Pauntons, who were lords of the place in the 12th and 13th centuries. The 1294 spelling is from Roesia de Trussell: the Trussells held the place in succession to the Pantulfs (TSAS 2nd Series VI 1894 14; SHC 1911 220). Sheriff Hales (sic) became part of Shropshire in boundary reorganisations in 1895, and by 1971 the name was officially Sherifffhales: Youngs 1991: 393, 422. There are references to Little Hales in the 12th and 13th centuries: SRO D593/D/1/19/2/2/3; note also John Littlehales of Sheriffhales recorded in 1539: SHC V (i) NS 249. The references are doubtless to Little Hales Manor Farm in Shropshire, 1 mile north-east of Lilleshall (SJ 7516), Little
Hales 1833. Morden's map of Shropshire incorrectly shows two places at Sherifffailes, with Sheriffe lying to the north-east of Hales.

SHERIFF'S RIDDING (unlocated.) Shyrreveriding 1252 SHC IV 245, Sheriff's Ridding c.1737 SRO 5081/1/78-83. 'The sheriff's cleared land', from OE scir-(go)refa 'a sheriff, the king's chief executive', with OE *ryding 'a clearing, an assart, land taken into an estate from waste'.

SHERRACOP LANE which runs north-west from Stockwell Heath (SK 0522). Semitam Vicecomitis c.1252 (1897) Parker 1897: 303. Said to be from the Sheriff of Staffordshire who visited the area to determine a dispute c.1250: SHC 1919 8; Parker 1897: 41. Cop is from OE cop(p) 'the top of a hill, a summit, a peak', so 'the lane of the sheriff's hill': the road crosses a hill of 342'.

SHETTESFORD (unlocated, possibly near Wolverhampton.) Shettesford 1271 SHC 4th Series XVIII 80. Perhaps from the OE personal name *Scēot, so *Scēot's ford'.

SHIFFORD'S GRANGE on the Staffordshire-Shropshire border, 1 mile north-east of Market Drayton (SJ 6935). Shipford 1166 SHC I 227, Spipford (sic) 1266 SHC 1945-6 317, Schipford c.1300 SHC 1945-6 30, Shifford Grange 1546 SRO D1553/119, Shepherd's Grange 1714 SRO D861/E/5/21, Shiffords Grange 1833 O.S. 'The sheep ford': Shifford's Bridge, where the road from Market Drayton to Bloreheath crosses the river Tern, was probably the site of the original ford.

SHIPLEY 7 miles west of Wolverhampton, in Claverley parish (SO 8095). (et) Sciplea 1002x1004 (11th century, S.906; 11th century, S.1536), Sciplei 1086 DB, Shiple 1242 Fees, Schipleg' (p) 1255 RH, Schypleg' 1274 RH, Shipleg' 1291 Ass, Sheppele 1291-2 Ass, Schypelefeldes) 1294 SHC VII 29, Shippyle 1334 SR, Shiple 1577 Saxton. From OE sceap-leah 'sheep leah'. In Shropshire since the 12th century.

SHIREFORD (unlocated, possibly on the river Dove at or near Ellastone.) Skyreford 1227 SHC IV 41, Shireford 1260 SHC IV (i) 146, 1307 SHC VII 190, Skyreford 1272 SHC IV (i) 202, Schereford 1274 SHC 1911 161, Sireford, Syreford ?13th century SHC VII NS 139-40, Sireford ?13th century SHC VI (i) 11, Shirford 1303 SHC VII 108, Schireford 1312 SHC 1912 81. 'The shire ford': the Dove is the border between Staffordshire and Derbyshire.

SHIRELAND in Harborne (SO 0387). Shireland 1552 Hackwood 1896: 42-3, Shireland [Hall] 1775 Yates. 'The land or estate at the shire boundary': the place lies on the Staffordshire-Warwickshire border, and is commemorated in Shireland Road.

SHIRE OAK 1 mile south of Brownhills (SK 0504). An ancient tree or group of trees. ...a place called the Shire ooke near unto Walsall Wode... 1534 SHC 1910 35, The Shire okes 1577 Saxton, Shire Oak 1686 Plot, 1747 Bowen (who shows a single tree here), which stood where the boundary between Walsall Wood and Shenstone crossed the Walsall-Lichfield road, ¼ mile south-west of the present Shire Oak crossroads. The last fragments of the tree disappeared c.1895: VCII XVII 277. 'A large oak in the valley...named Shire Oak, from the word Scyre, to divide...': Shaw 1801: II 53. A drawing of the oak is in Palmer & Crowquill 1846: 295. The name became attached to a nearby hill and a farm on its summit: Shaw 1801: II 53. Cf. Shireoaks, Nottinghamshire, on the border between Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire (PN Nr 108-9).

SHIRLEY (FARM, COMMON, HOLLOW, BROOK) 1/2 mile south-east of Foxt (SK 0448). ?Shirleye 1297 SHC 1911 246, ?Scheleye 1327 SHC VII (i) 204, ?Shirleye 1339 SHC XI 82, ?Shirley 1368 SHC VIII NS 217, Shurley, Shurley Hollow, Shurley Cottage 1836 O.S. Possibly from OE scir lēah 'bright clearing'.

SHIRLEYWICH 1 mile south-east of Weston upon Trent (SJ 9825). Brine Pits 1682 Browne, Brine-pits 1686 Plot 93, Shirley wich 1749 Bowen, Shirleywich 1836 O.S. A name that provides an object lesson and warning for place-name scholars. The OE word wic, which originated from Latin vicus, came to have a variety of meanings, but in its general sense ‘building(s) used for specialised purpose’ was applied to a salt-works, and when these were common, it became specialised as such: cf. Droitwich, Nantwich, Middlewich and Northwich. Saline springs existed at Shirleywich, and the earliest recorded name for the place is Brine Pits (1682 Browne), after the first successful attempt to manufacture salt on a large-scale commercial basis in Staffordshire by Robert Shirley, Lord Ferrars (1650-1717) in the 17th century, the springs lying in his Weston upon Trent estate, although Saltwich, recorded in Stowe-by-Chartley ParReg in 1656 has not been identified, and may relate to this place. By 1690 the 'salt-houses' were a local landmark. Some years after the building of the saltworks (but probably not before the late 1680s, for Plot 1686: 93 does not mention it) the place became known as Shirleywich after the Ferrars family name: VCH II 247. The only connection with the OE word wic is the likelihood that in the West Midlands wich as a place-name element retained or regained its association with salt-working. See WMA 1993 36 71-2. For ‘... a Saltpan... built in Wyche [in Burton-upon-Trent]...’ in c.1194 see SHC 1937 20.

SHIRRALL (HALL) 5 miles south-west of Tamworth (SO 1699). ? Sheralf c.1485 TSSAIS XXX 1988-9 45, Sherral, Sherrolde (parke) 1801 Shaw II 9, Shirrall (Gorse), Shirrall (Lodge) 1834 O.S. The place lies near the boundary between Staffordshire-Warwickshire border, so perhaps from OE scir holt ‘shire boundary wood’. For Shirral Park, recorded in the late 15th century, see TSSAIS XXX 1988-9 45-6. See also Sherholt; Schirroldus.

SHOAL HILL a 650' hill 1 mile north-west of Cannock (SJ 9711). le sholle 1286, 1300 For, 1587 Ct, le Shole (copie) 1610 Ct, Sholehill Common 1617 SRO D260/M/T/4/96, Shore Hill 1834 O.S. From OE sceolh 'twisted, awry', meaning 'the twisted hill'. The western side of the hill is a long slope to a plain at its foot and lies on the boundary with Hatherton (cf. Shoulton, Worcestershire). It has been suggested (see e.g. Nicolaisen et. al. 1970: 66; Oakden 1984: 56) that the hill may be the one from which Cannock took its name (but see Cannock). the Shole in Morton near Colwich is recorded in the 17th century (SRO DW1781/9/2/34/1-3), and one or more of the above spellings may relate to that place. See also Whittimere.

SIIOBNALL 2 miles west of Burton-on-Trent (SK 2223). Sobehal 1114 (1798) Shaw I 23, Sobenala 1114x1150 SRO D603/ADD/9, Schobenhale 1188x1197 SRO D603/A/Add/36b, Schobenal, Scobehal 1247 SRO D603/A/Add/9, Schobenh '1262 SHC 1937 67, Schobinhal 1295 ibid, Shopinhal c.1345 (1798) Shaw I 24, Shopenhale 1406 CalPat, Shopunhalle 1441 ibid, Shopenall 1532 ibid,
Shepnall (Graunge) 1584 SHC XI NS 88, Shopnal 1645 (1798) Shaw I 24. From the OE personal name Sceob(b)a (see also Shebdon), hence *Sceoba's or *Sceobba's halh'. The personal name is also found in Shoppenhangers, in Maldon, Essex: Gelling & Cole 2000: 232.

SHOOTERHILL (obsolete) on Lightwood Common, Meir Heath (SJ 9240). Shooters Hill Estate 1807 SRO D593/B/1/20/15/1, Shooterhill 1922 O.S.

SHOOTERSOAKE - see COLWICH.

SHORTELYME (unlocated, in Hanchurch or Acton.) Shortelyme 1280 SRO D593/B/1/23/7/2/4, Schertelune 1284 SHC 1913 256, Schertelyme, Short-lyme 1280 SHC XI 325, Sherteline 1297 (1798) Shaw I 40, Shortelyme 1326 SHC IX (i) 113, Schortelyme 1330 SHC 1913 235, Shortelyne 1590 SOT SD4842/17/6, Shortelyme in Acton 1615 SHC 1934 (ii) 28. 'A considerable tract of waste land lying partly in the manor of Newcastle and partly in that of Swynnerton', which was the subject of many disputes which were finally resolved in 1279: SHC 1913 226. See also SHC XI 325. The first element appears to be the OE adjective *se(c)ort 'short'. For -lyme see Lyme. The precise meaning of the full name is unclear. The name survives in The Lymes (q.v.) and possibly Shutlanehead (q.v.).

SHORTFIELDS (FARM) 1/2 mile east of Balterley (SJ 7750). Shorts fields 1707 Audley ParReg, Short Fields 1795 SRO D3272/1/22/7/1. If the 1707 spelling is correct, from the surname Short.


SHORTWOOD FARM 1 mile south of Maer (SJ 7936), Schertewode 1338 Salt 1888: 67, Short Wood 1742 Standon ParReg, 1833 O.S.; SHORTWOOD FARM, GREAT 2 miles north-west of Redditch (SO 0169), Surthewode 1249 AD ii, Sortewode 13th century AD ii, Schortewode 1535 PN Wo 364. From OE *scert 'short', with OE wudu 'a wood'. The second place was in Tardbigge parish, forming part of Staffordshire from c.1100 until 1266, in Warwickshire until 1844, and since that date in Worcestershire.

SIOTWOOD HILL between Rolleston and Tutbury (SK 2228). Schotwood (Mill of) 1324 SHC 1911 361, Schotewode c.1450 CEC 255, Shot-at-Hill 1798 Shaw I 34, Shotwood Hill 1836 O.S. A derivation from OE *scōt 'a steep slope' (the place is on a projecting headland) cannot be supported on philological grounds, and the name remains unexplained. The wood is evidently not the one mentioned in Shaw 1798: I 34 as '...Newly planted by Sir John Moseley...'.

SHOowell, SHOWELLS 2 miles north of Wolverhampton (SJ 9201), a former moated farm, once a manor, just within the boundary of the ancient Cannock Forest. seofan wylan (brōc) 895 (12th century, S.860; see Hooke 1983: 63), Sewall 1287 SHC 1911 193, Sewale 1286 SHC V (i) 166, Sewelfelde 1293 SHC VI (i) 291, Sewalle 13th century Duig, Seawall, Sewall 14th century Duig, Sewells, Seawall, Sewell 16th century Duig, Shawell 1614 SHC II (ii) 44, Show Hill 1834 O.S., 1872 P.O. Duignan 1902: 135-6; MidA I 168-9 believed the name to be from a feathered device to scare deer, a derivation that has been much repeated since, but it is an abbreviated form of OE seofon-walles 'the seven springs' (q.v.). The same derivation is found in Seawell, Northamptonshire; Sewall, Derbyshire; Sewell,
Bedfordshire; Sewell or Showell, Oxfordshire. It is unlikely that there were actually seven springs here, but the former moat and mill-pond ‘...appear to have been fed chiefly by springs...’ (SHC 1928 70), and there 'used to be a strong spring running through Seawall moat' (filled in in 1935): Mander & Tildesley 1960: 9 fn. The place may have been the un-named virgate in Bushbury recorded in DB as held by Countess Godiva, the legendary Lady: see VCH IV 55. The name Sewall is remembered in Showell Road and Showell Circus, a large road island at Low Hill, 1 mile to the north-east of the site of Seawall. See also SHC 1928 70-1. Sewalmedowe, Sewall Medowe, near Barton under Needwood, is recorded in 1415 and 1494 (Hardy 1908: 136), almost certainly with the same derivation. Showell Grange near Chetwynd lies just within Shropshire (SJ 722249), presumably to be associated with Showel Mill, recorded in 1749 (Edgmond ParReg). See also Seven Springs.

SHOWELL 3 miles south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 8795). 'The name Showell is also found at Springhill on the road from Penn to Lower Penn': Mander & Tildesley 1960: 9 fn. For the derivation see Showell, Showells. A spring rises at Showell Bank here. It is noteworthy that the two Staffordshire Showells should lie so close together.

SHRALEYBROOK, SHRALEY HOUSE 1½ miles east of Balterley (SJ 7849). Shraley 1512 JNSFC LX 1925-6 34, Shraley 1641 Audley ParReg, Shraley, Shraley Brooke 1733 SHC 1944 37, Shraley Farm 1836 O.S. A derivation from OE scar lz ah-Idah 'the leah at the clear height' (see Ekwall 1959: 85) seems improbable.

SHREDICOTE 2 miles south-east of Church Eaton (SJ 8716). Sradekoton c.1195 SHC XI NS 125, Scradycoate, Shredicote(e), Shradecot(e) (p) 1221 Cur, Shradicote 1290 SHC 1911 198, Shradycote 1335 SHC 1913 49. Oakden 1984: 137 suggests a derivation from OE scrēad 'shred', with OE -ig and cot(e), perhaps meaning 'the cottage on the cut-off piece of land' (cf. Sneyd), but the name may incorporate a weak noun giving an early Screadan-cot or similar (cf. Caldicote), though no OE word *screada has been recorded. Perhaps therefore from an unrecorded personal name *Screada or similar.

SHROPSHIRE BROOK a tributary of the river Trent. Perhaps derived from the name of a local family.

SHRUGGS, THE ½ mile north of Sandon (SJ 9430). The Shruggs 1836 O.S. No early forms are available, but the derivation would appear to be from ME shrogge, a common word in Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire denoting 'a bush, brushwood', meaning here 'scrub-land': cf. Clipstone Shruggs, Nottinghamshire. A field-name Shruggs is recorded in Sherifhales: Field 1993: 68. See also PN Ch V (II) xviii.

SHUGBOROUGH 4 miles east of Stafford (SJ 9922). Shakeburew 1285 SHC 1914 32, Schukeburg 1328 SRO D3718/5, Schukkeburgh 1377 SHC X NS (ii) 55, Shokkeburgh, Shukburgh, Shutborrow 14th century, Shitborogh 1483 SHC VI (i) 151, Shutborow 1465 SRO D615/D/(16), Shubborow, Shokesborow, Shukesborow, Shottiboro 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 63, Showtiboro 1539 SHC V (i) NS 309, Shocborow, Shuckesbyry, Shuckesborough, Shukborow, Suchborows, Shokesborow c.1540 Leland ii 169; v 21-2, Shuchborow, Shutborow 16th century Duig, Shutborowe 1610 SHC NS III 29, Shutborough 1686 Plot. The first element is from OE scucca 'demon, evil spirit, devil', and OE burh,
in its nominative form byrig, 'a fortified place, an ancient earthwork or encampment', implying that the fortification was haunted. The existence of the name Tooters Hill (q.v.) within Shugborough Park lends weight to the possibility of an early fortification here: see Gelling 1988: 147. See also Colwich. Cf. Shuckburgh, Warwickshire (from OE berg 'hill': PN Wa 143-4); Shucknall, Herefordshire.

SHUSHIONS in Church Eaton parish, 5 miles west of Penkridge (SJ 8414). Sceotestan 1086 DB, Shiston 1283 SHC 1911 39, Sustone 1291 ibid. 201, Scuston 1293 QW, Shuston 1300 SHC VII 72, Schuston 1302 ibid. 101, Chuston als Schuston 1310 lpm, Shuston 1566 SHC XIII 256, Shoustones 1607 Swynnerton ParReg, Shushton Hall 1798 Yates. Perhaps from OE sc(e)ot 'shooting' (or the OE personal name Sc(a)ot) with OE stän 'stone'. The derivation is thus 'the shooting stone' (whatever that might be), or 'the stone of Sc(e)ot'.

SHUSTOKE 1 mile south-west of Great Barr (SO 0395). Shestock (p) Roper 1980: 9, Shustocke (p) 1621 ibid. 191, Sheastrocke Farm 1649 BCA MS3145/62/2, Shustocke 1653 BCA MS3145/258/26, Shustoke, Shustock 1786 BCA MS3602/275-281, Shustoke (Lodge) 1834 O.S. Only two places of this name have been traced, the other some 12 miles to the east, 2 miles north-east of Coleshill in Warwickshire (SP 2290), recorded in DB. Spellings for the place near Great Barr pre-dating the 17th century have not been traced, and it is very likely that the name has been transferred from the place in Warwickshire, which may incorporate OE sceate, related to sceat 'nook, corner', or an OE personal name such as *Scytta, with OE stocce 'stock, stump of a tree': see PN Wa 92-3. Duignan 1902: 138 describes Shustoke near Great Barr as an ancient moated homestead and farm (TSSAIHS XXIV 1982-3 50 places the site at SP 036962): if the present name is indeed transferred, the earlier name of the place has not been traced.

SHUT END 1 mile south-east of Himley (SO 8989). Shuttend 1686 Plot, Shutt End 1692 Tipton ParReg, Shuttend 1747 Bowen. From OE scyte 'a shute, a steep hill'. The word end meant a place, rather than a terminal point, often in heathland or common land.

SHUT HEATH ½ mile north-west of Haughton (SJ 8621). Shut heath 1836 O.S. From OE scyte 'a shute, a steep hill'.

SHUT HILL Hatherton, Shutt Hill 1814 EnclA, Shut Hill 1834 O.S.; SHUT HILL Acton Trussell, Shut(te)hill 1574 Survey, 1834 O.S.; SHUTHILL COMMON Acton Trussell, Shuthill Common 1814 EnclA. From OE scyte 'a shute, a steep hill', with OE hyll 'hill', meaning 'hill with a steep slope'.

SHIUTLANEHEAD 1½ miles north-east of Whitmore (SJ 8242). Shutelyane 1673 SHC VII 145, Shuiland-head 1686 Plot, 1695 Morden, Shutlaine Head 1696 SHC VII 145, Shutlanehead 1707 Swynnerton ParReg. Perhaps 'the head or top of the steep lane', from OE scyte 'a shute, a steep hill' (the place is on a hill), but possibly a corruption of Shortelyme (q.v.).

SHUTT GREEN 1 mile north-west of Brewood (SJ 8709). le shutegrene 1320 Giffard, Shetgrene 1338 Ct, Shutt Greene 1591 SHC 1930 171, Shuttlegrine 1723 Ct. From OE scyte 'a shute, a steep hill', probably with reference to the hill on which stands Broom Hall. The second element indicates an area of grassland: the place lay within Brewood Forest (q.v.).
SHUTTERSHAW 1¼ miles west of Horton (SJ 9257). Shyttershaw 1574 SRO D(iv)1490/15, Shuttershaw 1675 ParReg, Shittershaw 1815 Enc, c.1820 SRO DW1909/D/4/3. Probably from OE *scitere, possibly meaning 'a sewer, a channel or stream used as an open sewer', a common element formed from OE scite 'dung', with OE scaga 'a small wood, a copse, a strip of undergrowth', often with the particular meaning 'a strip of undergrowth surrounding a field'.

[SIBEFDORD recorded in Staffordshire in DB (folio 250), is now held to be Sibford Gower, Oxfordshire: VCH IV 55; Darby & Terrett 1971: 164.]

SICHESBROC, SICHELESBROC (unlocated) Sichesbroc, Sichelesbroc 1227 SHC IV 52.

SIDNALLS, THE 2 miles west of Alvechurch (SO 9972). Sidenhale c.1245 Bodl, 1265 Wulst, 1275 Ass. From OE (æt þæm) stidan hēale 'broad or spacious corner of land'. In Tardegigge parish, forming part of Staffordshire from c.1100 until 1266, in Warwickshire until 1844, and since that date in Worcestershire. Sidnall Brook in Kymesley is recorded in 1569: SRO D4092/C/1/16. The Sidnall (in Shropshire), 2 miles north-west of Cheswardine, is recorded as Sydhaugh 1699 (SRO D3212/1/1), Sidhaw 1786 (SRO D590/97/1-2).

SIDWAY 2¼ miles north-west of Maer (SJ 7539), Sidewei c.1239 SHC 1911 424, Sideway 1327 SHC VII 198, Sideway 1433 SRO D641/1/2/53, Sydweye 16th century SHC IX NS 198, Sydweye otherwise Sydwayne 1589 SHC XVIII 6, Sideway 1609 SHC III NS 46, Sydweye 16th century SHC IX NS 198; SIDEWAY (pronounced Sidderway [sidawei]) 2 miles west of Longton (SJ 8743), ? Sydewey 1327 Tooth 2000b: 61, Sidney 1836 O.S. The first element is OE weg 'a way, a path, a road'. The second element is perhaps from ME side 'side, slope of a hill, especially one extending for a considerable distance', but some names containing the element may refer to land beside a river or wood: see Gelling & Coles 2000: 219. Or possibly from the OE adjective std 'large, spacious, extensive, roomy'. The first place lies on the side of the Maer Hills, the second between hills. Some of the spellings given for the first place could relate to the second.

SILKMORE in Castle Church parish, 1 mile south of Stafford (SJ 9320). Selchemore 1086 DB, Selkemore c.1198 SHC VI (i) 24, Selkemor 1230 Cl, 1303 SHC 1911 37, Selkemer, Selkmor, Selkmore 13th and 14th century Duig. Ekwall 1960: 422 proposes a derivation from OE sioluc, a derivative of an OE *scöl, *stöl meaning 'a drain, a canal' (citing siolucham(m) found in a charter of 990 (S.874) of land in Hampshire), so 'a small drain, a rill', with OE mōr 'moor, marshland', hence 'drain to the moor'. That derivation would be particularly appropriate: the land here is low-lying and very prone to flooding from the river Penk. Cf. Silkstead, Hampshire; Selkley, Wiltshire. See also Gelling & Cole 2000: 60.

SILVER HILL ½ mile north-west of Barton under Needwood (SK 1819). Silverhill Gate 1812 EnclA.

SILVERDALE 2 miles west of Newcastle under Lyme (SJ 8146). Silverdale 1796 VCH II 130, 1833 O.S., Silverdale Furnace 1832 Teesdale. Possibly not an ancient name, since no early references have been traced in local parish registers (but note Nicholas Sivedale 1568 SHC 1938 86), so perhaps from the Silverdale Iron Company started here by the Sneyd family c.1792 (see JIIMS xi 4, 10; Simons 1978; HOK 65), meaning ‘the valley where riches were found (or to be hoped for)’, though it is said that the mine was formerly called Kent's Lane Colliery: StEnc 709.
SINAI PARK 1 mile west of Burton-upon-Trent (SK 2223). Seyne 1410 SHC 1937 156, le Seignes early 16th century VCH III 203, le Seygnyes' 1518 SHC 4th Series VII 27, Seyny Park 1545 SIIC 1939 116, Sennye Park 1549 (1798) Shaw I 24, Seney Park 1578 SRO D1734, seenye Park 1584 SHC XI NS 88. The park (according to Shaw 1801: II 24 formerly called Shapenhale park, i.e. Shobnall Park) is said to have originated c.1320 as 'a place surrounded by a ditch' in Shobnall Park used as a retreat for monks from Burton Abbey undergoing bloodletting: VCH III 203. The statement in Fuller 1880 that the place was 'at first so named by the abbot of Burton, because [it was] a vast, rough, hilly ground, like the wilderness of Sinai in Arabia...' is fanciful - the name is from Sene, Senyie, from French sene, senne, Latin synodus 'a meeting of clergy for deliberations, a synod': seyney-houses were buildings belonging to monastic houses where breaks ('seyneys') were taken by monks in need of rest and recuperation after the regular bleedings they undertook for health reasons, or after illness: see also Coena's Well; Seyneshaulwe; Wallbridge. VCH I 189 mentions the remains of a Roman camp on the summit of the hill here, but there is no reference to any earthwork in Shaw. Sena Park recorded in Baswich parish in 1735 (SRO D260/M/T/4/106) may have the same derivation as Sinai Park, in which case it is perhaps to be associated with St Thomas's Priory.

SITTLES 2 miles south of Alrewas (SK 1712). Sedhull c.1300 TSSAHS XX 1979-80 loose map, Sydenhall 1512 OSS 1936 55, the Sidnalls 1720 SRO (D201/M/T/10), Sittels 1775 Yates, Sitels Farm c.1830 SRO DW1851/10/4, Sittles 1834 O.S. Perhaps from OE sidan Male 'broad corner of land'. Sitchells House is recorded in Alrewas in 1719 (SRO D165/D/158, and Sitchells Farm in 1742 (ibid.), but the location has not been traced: it seems unlikely that the names are to be associated with this place.

SIWARDESMOR (unlocated, in Burton upon Trent.) Sywardismoor c.1258 SRO D603/A/Add/155, Siwardesmore 1272x1327 SRO D603/A/Add/365, Siwarmore, Siwardmore 1279 (1798) Shaw I 6. 'Sigeweard's moor'. Shaw 1798 I 6 refers to 'Cattestreet [passing through] the middle of Siwarmore to Hicknelstreet [Ryknild Street]'. Sigeweard was an OE personal name.

SKEATH HOUSE FARM 1 mile south-west of Salt (SJ 9327). Skeath House Farm 1610 SRO D240/D/1/25, Skeath House 1738 SRO D240/ER/1/21, Skeath House 1775 Yates, Skeath Farm 1813 SRO D641/5/E(L)/2/3, The Skeath Barn 1836 O.S. A curious name. Although Ekwall 1960: 236 observes that 'Horse racing was a favourite sport of the old Scandinavians', a derivation from ON skeið, normally interpreted as 'a racecourse', seems unlikely, though the place lies within a mile of the river Trent, which was certainly used by the Danes. Cf. Hesketh, Lancashire; Hesketh Grange, Yorkshire North. However, there is some doubt about the interpretation of the word skeið as 'racecourse', and it has been noted that the original meaning was 'boundary', and is more likely to have referred to a stretch of land along a boundary that was used for grazing or left uncultivated: see Ekwall 1928: 361; Mills & Rumble 1997: 88. This place lies very close to a parish boundary. Another possible derivation is from common dialect skeath, skath, scathe (and similar) 'injury, damage, hurt, loss, danger; expense', perhaps here with the latter ironic meaning, but it may be noted that the surname Skeath is also recorded (e.g. in 1591 (SRO DW1851/8/118), and 1669 (SRO DW1851/8/18)).
SKULLS HILL (unlocated, perhaps near Betley.) Skulls hill 1608 Betley ParReg. A name of particular interest, since names beginning Sk- are often found to be of Scandinavian origin. Or possibly 'the hill where skulls were found', with archaeological connotations. It is unclear whether Scholes, recorded in 1371 (SHC VIII NS 271), is to be associated with this place.

SLACK, THE 1 mile south-west of Longnor (SK 0663). Slack 1683 Alstonefield ParReg, Slake Farm 1687 ibid, Slack 1840 O.S. Perhaps from ON slakki 'a small shallow valley, a hollow in the ground', found as northern dialect slack 'a hollow, especially one in a hill-side; a dip in the surface of the ground; a shallow dell; a glade; a pass between hills': EDD. Slack Lane on the west side of Mayfield probably has the same derivation. See also Gunstone.

SLADE HEATH in Brewood parish, ¼ mile east of Coven (SJ 9206), Slade Heath 1834 O.S.; SLADE HOUSE 1 mile west of Ilam (SK 1051), Slade House 1660 Ilam ParReg, 1730 ibid. 1801 Alstonefield ParReg, 1842 O.S. From OE skædæ 'low flat marshy land, a valley'.

SLAIN HOLLOW on the east side of Alton Towers (SK 0713). Slain Hollow 1891 O.S. A name of uncertain age, but unlikely to be ancient. By tradition the site of a battle in 716 A.D. between Ceolred, King of Mercia, and Ine, King of the West Saxons: see Plot 1686: 410; Shaw 1798: I 36-7. Although there is no evidence of any kind to support the legend, the O.S. mark the place as a battle site: see VCH I 212-3. See also Gunstone; Ina's Rock; Yornburi.

SLATE HOUSE (FARM) ¼ mile north-west of Sheen (SK 1061). Slate House 1667 Alstonefield ParReg, 1695 SRO D239/M/T/392-3, 1798 Yates, 1840 ibid. Possibly from ON sletta 'a smooth, level field', which survives as modern sleat (see PN Nt 290), but earlier spellings would be required for any certainty. The name Slate House 1 mile south-west of Onecote (SK0354) would not appear to be ancient: the place is not shown on the 1840 first edition 1" O.S. map.

SLIDERFORD - see DANEBRIDGE.

SLINDON 2 miles north of Eccleshall (SJ 8232). Slindone 1086 DB, Sclindon 1199 SHC III 167, Slindon 1242 Fees, Sclindon 1253 SIC XI 122, Slyndon 1311 ibid. 77, Slynond 1320 SHC X 31, Slyndon 1370 SHC VIII NS 251, Slinge 1566 SHC XIII 258, SHC 1914 12, Biana Slin alias Slindon c.1811 SRO D802/35. Perhaps from OE *slinu 'slope', with OE dán 'hill'. The place lies on a level river terrace which rises on the western side of the village. For Biana see Byanna. Slindon in Wombourne is recorded in 1507: SRRC 5735/2/32/1. There is another Slindon in Sussex.

SLITTING MILL 1 mile south-west of Rugeley (SK 0217), Slitting Mill 1775 Yates, 1832 Teesdale; SLITTING MILL 1 mile south-east of West Bromwich, Slitting Mill 1775 Yates. Places with this not uncommon name developed as hamlets around 17th century iron-slitting mills, which cut iron bar into rods suitable for nail making, a process patented in 1588. There were several other places of the same name in the county at various times, all with the same meaning. The mill near Rugeley was built c.1611: TSAHS 1996-7 XXXVIII 71.

SLYMANSDALE 2 miles north-west of Maer (SJ 7840). Slimesdale 1851 White. Early spellings are not available and the place is not named on the first edition 1" O.S. map. Perhaps connected in some
way with OE slim 'slime, mud'. It may be noted that Margeria Slayomegrene is recorded c.1376 in the Newcastle area: Pape 1928: 149. See also Serleshous; Serlelane.

**SMALLBROOK** a tributary of the river Smestow. Smalbroke 1416 Wodehouse. From OE smæl 'narrow', with brœc.

**SMALLBROOK (FARM)** to the north of Roughcote (SJ 9445). Smallbrook 1679 Caverswall ParReg.

**SMALLRICE, SMALLRISE** 1½ miles south-west of Milwich (SJ 9531). Smallris, Smalerys 13th century Duig, Smalryes c.1276-1300 SHC 1921 25, 1318 SHC 1911 92, 1364 SHC X NS (ii) 117, Smalryes 1423 SHC XVII 11, Smalrich 1481 SHC VI NS (i) 135, Smallrice 1580 SHC XV 148, Smaleryse 1581 SHC XVI 116, Smalrise 1591 SHC 1934 18. From OE smæl 'narrow, thin', and OE hœrs 'shrubs, brushwood', so 'the narrow piece of brushwood'.

**SMALLTHORN** on the north-east side of Burslem (SJ 8850). Smallthorne 1572 SHC XIII 287, 1836 O.S., Smalthorne 1595 Norton-in-the-Moors ParReg. From OE smæl 'narrow, thin', and OE þorn 'a thorn-tree', so 'the narrow belt of thorns'. Smalethornis, recorded in the 13th century (SHC XI 324), appears to have been in Barlaston.

**SMALLWOOD** 2 miles south-east of Uttoxeter (SK 1029). Smaulword 1382 Rental, Smallwood Hall 1652 SRO D1164/3/1, Smallwood-hall 1686 Plot, Smallwood (Manor) 1836 O.S. From OE smæl 'narrow, thin', and OE wudu 'wood', so 'the narrow wood'.

**SMEDLEY SYTCH** 2 miles south-west of Longnor (SK 0662). Snethlesych 1406 VCH VII 27, Smetheley sitch 1566 Deed, Snyth(e)ley sitche 1626 Rental, Smedley siche 1651 ibid, Sitch 1691 Alstonefield ParReg, 1840 O.S. The earliest form suggests that the first element is from OE snæd 'something cut off, a detached piece of land', with OE læah and OE stæc 'boggy stream', so 'the detached piece of land with the boggy stream'.

**SMESTOW** 6 miles south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 8591) - see SMESTOW BROOK.

**SMESTOW BROOK** a tributary of the river Stour. Smesthall 1300, Smesthalle(smor) 1301 SHC 4th Series XVIII 188, Smesthalle(ford) 1360 For, Smestall 1404 (1801) Shaw II 215, Smesthall 1465 SHC 1928 49, Smestall 1577 Saxton, Smestal 1686 Plot, Smestow(e) Brook 1778 Encla, The Smestal 1844 Erdeswick 1844. It is possible that Smesthall is the old name of a pool in the river Triesull (perhaps near Smestow, where the river Triesull receives a tributary stream), from Mercian OE steall 'a place for catching fish' (cf. stall-net, 'a net laid across a river'), or OE steall as in watersteal 'stagnant water', with OE smæðe 'smooth', or OE smade 'a smithy' (this area has long been associated with metal-working, as noted by Duignan 1902: 139; see also VCH II 108), and that the name was applied to one branch of the river Triesull (q.v.) and subsequently attached to the main branch: see Ekwall 1928: 272. The derivation smer ('small') with ster ('Stour') was put forward by McClure 1910: 159 in ignorance of the early spellings, and the first element is in any event unrecorded. Smesthallesmor, recorded in 1296 (SHC 4th Series XVIII 188), is evidently associated with this name. See also Cocretone, Cocortone.
SMETHCOTE (unlocated, in Trentham.) *Trentham Wood or Smethcote Wood* 1584 SRRC 2922/11/1/22, *Smethcote* 1624 SRRC 2992/11/1/71. 'The cottage of the smith'.

SMETHDOWNE WOOD (unlocated, possibly near Norton in the Moors.) *Smethdowne Wood* 1598 SHC XVI 157. Perhaps from OE *smēðe* 'smooth, flat, level', with OE *dūn* 'hill', so 'the hill with the level summit'.

SMETHWICK (pronounced Smethick [smeθik]) in Harborne parish, 3 miles west of Birmingham (SP 0288). *Smedeuuich* 1086 DB, *Smeythewik* Smethewyke 12th century Duig, *Smethewic* 1229 SHC IV 76, *Smethewik* 1278 SHC 1924 82, *Smethwik* 1229 SHC 1924 82, *Smethwik* 1278 SHC VII 234. Probably from OE *smēðe* 'a smith, metalworker', and OE *wic* 'village', hence 'the metal-workers' village'. It is not likely that the first element is from OE *smēðe* 'smooth, flat, level', giving 'the village on the plain', although the place does lie on level ground. The place is now in Birmingham. Cf. Smethwick, Cheshire; Great-, Kirk- and Little Smeaton, Yorkshire; Smethcote and Smethcott, Shropshire.

SMITH'S WOOD between Farley and the river Churnet (SK 0644). *Smithe Wood* c.1581 Rental, *Smiths Wood* 1836 O.S. From the iron-working carried out in the area for many centuries.

SMYTHE'S PLANTATION ½ mile south-west of Okeover Hall (SK 1547). *Smyeth* 1539 LRMB, 1571 Ipm. From the OE adjective *smēðe* 'smooth', used of a smooth level piece of land', perhaps later taken to be a personal name.


SNAILS GREEN (obsolete, in Great Barr (SO 0495).) *Snails Green* 1686 Plot, 1775 Yates, 1834 O.S., *Sneales Greene Howse* 1693 BCA MS3145/93/la & b, *Sneal's Green* 1834 White. 'The grassy area with the snails'.


SNELSDALE ¼ mile north-west of Mayfield (SK 1546). *Snellesdale* 1227 SHC IV 58, 1240 SHC VII NS 145, *Sneeldale*, *Sweeldasle* 1277 SHC VI (i) 83, *Suellesdale* c.1450 TutCart, *Snellesdale*? 15th century SHC VII NS 171. 'Snell's dale'. The name Snell (which was not uncommon in Staffordshire) may be from OE or ON, and this place may contain the English Snell or an Anglicised form of ON Sniallr. Snelston in Derbyshire lies 2 miles to the south, and it is quite possible that both places take their name from the same person. Cf. Snelland, Lincolnshire; Snelshall, Berkshire; Snelson, Cheshire. See also SHC 4th IV 229 fn.

SNEYD 3 miles north-west of Walsall (SJ 9702). *Sned* 1256 Ch, *Snede* 1410 Duig, *the Snead* 1663 Tildesley 1951: 187. From an OE word *snæd* found only in OE charters, meaning perhaps 'something cut or 'sned' off, a fragment, a piece of land, piece of woodland, clearing' (see Ekwall 1960: 428). The
place is a portion of the manor of Essington which projects, wedge-like, into the manors of Walsall and Wednesfield. Snedhet ('Sneyd heath') is recorded c.1250x1280 (WSL A/2/35) 'next to the road which leads from Esintone to Walshall'. The word sneyd was a not uncommon place-name in the Midlands (cf. Sneyd Green).

SNEYD GREEN (pronounced Snade [sneid]) 1/2 miles north-east of Hanley (SJ 8949). (Wood called) Sneyd 1223 SHC XII NS 30, Snede 1296 SHC 1911 242, Snedde 1298 SHC XI NS 253, 1332 SHC X 82, Sneyd 1326 JNSFC LIX 1924-5 37, Snete 1414 SHC XVII 19, Sneade Greym 1572 SHC IX NS 137, Sneydegreene 1591 Norton in the Moors ParReg - see Sneyd. VCH VIII 106 suggests that the place was also known as Hamil by the 18th century; Hamil, Haml are found in the Burslem ParReg in 1639, Hamill 1836 O. S. The word is from dialect hamel 'hamlet': OED.

SNIDDLES 2 miles south-west of Flash (SK 0065). Snidilles Head 1842 O. S. From dialect sniddles 'sedge, rushes or long grass found in wet ground' (EDD), with OE heafod 'a head, the upper end', so 'the boggy headland with the long grass'.

SNOCKESTONES (unlocated) perhaps in the Beech/Swynnerton/Trentham area. Snarkestone 1283 SHC 1939 90, Snockestones 1293 SHC VI (i) 233, SHC VII 18, Snockestones (p) 1423 SHC XVII 89, Snokstone (p) 1444, Srokystone (p) 1447 Salt 1888: 94. The first element is possibly a personal name, perhaps *Snaroc, which is found in Snaestone, Leicestershire, but the place-name Senokestre near Stone is recorded in the 12th or 13th century (SHC VI (i) 21), and the first syllables may be a shortening of Senokes, probably meaning 'seven oaks'. Snockestones and Senokestre may be associated places. See also Hanchurch; Hanford.

SNOWDON (UPPER & LOWER). 1 mile west of Patshull (SJ 7801 & SJ 7800). Snodden 1240 SHC IV 237, 1279 SHC XI NS 133, 1293 SHC VI (i) 259, 1401 (1801) Shaw II 282, Snowdon 1686 Plot 43, Snowden 1798 Yates. The second element is OE dün 'hill' (the place lies on the west side of a large, low hill), the first perhaps from the OE personal name Snodd (cf. Snoddington, Hampshire), or possibly from snod 'smooth, sleek, even', a word not recorded independently until the 15th century (OED), but from which the personal name Snodd is said to be derived: Ekwall 1960: 429. See also PN Sa III 105.

SNOW HILL on the south side of Wolverhampton (SO 9198). Snow Hill 1770 Sketchley. The age of this name is not known, but there is some evidence for the existence of OE *snór, derived from a root meaning 'to twist', and used in place-names for a road which deviates from a straight line to negotiate a slight hill: see Gelling 1997: 93-5. However, it is possible that like Snow Hill in Birmingham, the name is of 18th century date in imitation of a London name (ibid. 93), or derives from a surname: John Snow of Wolverhampton is recorded in 1727: WRO 103/1/12/72.

SODOM (obsolete) 1 mile east-north-east of Sedgley (SO 9274). Sodom 18th century Ct, 1803 WALS DX/241/25, 1834 White. A place of ill-repute, through which ran the notorious Hell Lane (Hell Lane 1775 Yates), with a reputation for crime and violence in the 18th century. The name is also recorded in Wombourne in 1867 (VCH XX 201), and found in Sodom Hall in Upper Ettingshall (StEnc 526). From the notorious biblical city of the same name.
SOHO 2½ miles north-west of Birmingham (SO 0388). Soho 1775 Yates, Soho Hill 1834 O.S. 'Soho is the name of a hill...about two miles from Birmingham; which, a very few years ago, was a barren heath, on the bleak summit of which stood a naked hut, the habitation of a warrener...': Shaw 1801: II 117. The word is held to be from the cry used by sportsmen to call attention to the hunted animal: OED gives 'An A[nglo-]F[rankish] hunting call, probably of exclamatory origin'. Halliwell explains So-How as a cry in hunting, when the hare was found, or in hawking as a call to make a hawk return to the lure, and Skeat (N & Q 8 S vi 1894 365) suggests that so-how was the English adaptation of the original Anglo-French saho, meaning 'come hither'. The place became famous for the Soho factory of Matthew Boulton and John Fothergill which operated here from 1765 (Shaw 1801: II 117), but there is some evidence that the factory was built on the site of a public house with a representation of a hunt on its signboard: MidA III 89.

SOLDIERS HILL - see BATTLEFIELD.

SOLES HILL, SOLES HOLLOW, SOLES COPPICE, OLD SOLES WOOD on Throwley Moor (SK 0952, SK 1053). Early spellings have not been traced, but perhaps from OE sol 'muddy place, wallowing-place for animals': cf. Soles in Nonington, Kent. However, it may be noted that ON söl is occasionally found in place-names in allusion to sunny hills: see EPNE ii 134.

SOLOMON'S HOLLOW where the Leek to Buxton road crosses Tittesworth Brook 2 miles south-west of Upper Hulme (SK 0058). Edge End Hollow 1765 VCH VII 235, Solomon's Hollow 1890 O.S. The older name was in use until at least 1800: VCH VII 235. The derivation of the present name is unclear, but perhaps from Solomon Ash who is said to have held land here in the 19th century (StEnc 528), or from the surname Soloman. Cf. Selimonescroft recorded in Castle Church in 1346: Oakden 1984: 81; Selman's flott in Forton in 1635 (ibid. 152); Selman's Croft in Weston-under-Lizard in 1782 (ibid. 182).

SOMERFORD 1 mile east of Brewood (SJ 9008). Somerford c.1123 SHC III 178, 1135x1138 SHC 1916 259, Sumerford 1130 SHC I 2, c.1130 SHC III 180, 1181 SHC I 104, 1204 OblR, 1285 FA, Sontreford 1333 SR. From OE sumor 'summer', in place-names usually in allusion to things which could only be used in summer, hence 'the ford usable only in summer' (possibly, though not certainly, the site of the present Somerford Bridge over the river Penk, formerly known as Stonebridge: see Shaw 1801: II 305), though there is a very slight possibility that the name is associated with ME somer, summer 'pack-horse': the 1334 form is suggestive of ME sumpter 'pack-horse driver' (cf. Rog' le Somtere, recorded in Rocester in 1327: SHC VII (i) 216). It is of interest that the bounds of nearby Penkridge recorded in 1598 mention Somer lame: Oakden 1984: 101. There are 37 Sumer- or Sumrefords in DB.

SONDE (obsolete) in a loop of the river Worfe, on north side of Worfield (SO 7696). Sonde 1510 Worfield CA, Soond 1525 SR, the Sond 1565 Worfield ParReg, the Sonde 1578 ibid, the Soond 1611 ibid, Sonde 1833 O.S. Probably from OE sand, in the West Midlands often pronounced sond or sund.

SOUTHLOW ¼ mile north-west of Cellarhead (SJ 9548). Southley 1705 Stoke on Trent ParReg, South Low 1836 O.S. Probably from OE sūd-hlāw 'southern low or tumulus'.

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SOUTH STREET (obsolete) a trackway known as South or Sow Street, which runs south-west across Cannock Chase from south of Colwich. Sow Street Lane 1651 SRO DW1781/9/2/23/1-5. SHIC 1914 136 records the 'Roman road leading down to a ford in the Trent, called South Street'. There is no evidence to support a Roman origin. See also Sowsbetch; Sutherowe.

SOW, RIVER Sowa 1118 Flor, Stouue c.1130 Symeon, Sowa c.1175, c.1200 St Thomas, Sowe 1272 Ass, Souhe 1274 SHC VI (i) 62, Sovve 1401 StaffAcc, Sov c.1540 Leland, 1577 Saxton. Ekwall 1928: 375-6 suggests that the name is derived from a British river-name *Souo- linked to Gaulish Savus, Sava and derived from seu- 'to flow, liquid', in OE sæaw, and Welsh sug 'juice'. However, Jackson 1953: 372 believes this etymology to be very doubtful. All that can be said is that the name would appear to be pre-English and of unknown origin and meaning.

SOWDELEY (unlocated, in Rushall. ) Sowdeley c.1539 SRO D260/M/T/1/1a/25-30.

SOWE Sowe 1203 SHC III 95, 1271 SHC V (i) 145, 1592 SHC 4th Series IX 57. SHC 1917-8 349 notes that the manor of St. Thomas was known as Sowe, 'being on that river'. The manor of Sowe upon the ryver of Sowe with a dwelling howse calede Sowe are recorded in 1581: SHC 4th Series IX 8. From the 16th century the manor of Baswich (q.v.) was usually referred to as the manors of Sowe and Brocton: VCH V 5. See also SHC XI NS 131.

SOWFIELD GORSE (obsolete) 1 mile south of Alrewas (SK 1713). Sowfeld c.1300 TSSAHS XX 1978-9 loose map, Sowfield Gorse 1834 O.S. Possibly 'the south field'.

SOWSBETCH (unlocated, probably near Wolseley Bridge. ) Sowsbetch 1593 SRO DW1781/5/5/1. The second element is probably OE bece 'a well-defined stream valley'. The first element is uncertain, but perhaps from sow 'a female pig', or connected with South Street (q.v.).

SPADE GREEN 1½ miles west of Lichfield (SK 0809). Spade Green 1538 VCH XIV 198, 1653 SRO D786/12/2, 1737 SHC 1925 53.

SPARROWLEE BRIDGE (unlocated) Spashbrooke 1718 SRRC 465/335.

SPASHBROOKE (unlocated) Spashbrooke 1718 SRRC 465/335.

SPATII 1 mile north of Uttoxeter (SK 0835). Spath Gate 1763 SHC 1934 70, Spath 1775 Yates, 1801 Smith's map, Sparth 1779 SRRC 665/5939, The Spath, Spath Cottage 1836 O.S. A curious name also found in Derbyshire and Cheshire (see PN Db 582, and PN Ch I 255), sometimes with the definite article, but for which no early forms have been traced. PN Ch I 255 suggests a derivation from OE spard 'sheep droppings', but that does not seem entirely satisfactory, so perhaps from spath, a friable stone like gypsum (OED), first recorded in 1763, a possibility reinforced by the proximity of Spar Flat Farm (spar given as 'any rock substance with a crystalline appearance': EDD) in Beamhurst 1 mile to the north-west (SK 0636), early spellings for which have not been traced: it is not named on the 1" O.S. map of 1836. If so, perhaps associated with the Tutbury Sulphate seam which runs from near Ioundhill to Tutbury, and is up to 4 metres thick, but not uniform, consisting of discontinuous outcropping
masses of gypsum and anhydrite separated by silty mudstones with small amounts of alabaster (a very pure form of gypsum) and rock salt. Or the name might perhaps be an abbreviated 'horse path', with the first word reduced to s: Yates' map of 1775 shows two places near Uttoxeter named Spath, one at SJ 092356, the other nearby at SJ 081355, which would be explained if the track passing between or through both places bore the name. Curiously, a reference of 1780 mentions Spath on the banks of the Dove near Uttoxeter: SRRC 665/5940. The gate in the 1763 form was a toll-gate: SHC 1934 70. It may be significant that both a lane and gate (Spath Lane and Spath Gate) bear the name in Cheshire (PN Ch I 255). The name Spath is also recorded as a field name in Talke in 1733: SHC 1944 59, 65.

SPEARHILL (obsolete, 1 mile east of Lichfield, where Cappers Lane joins Ryknild Street (SK 1309)). Sperehill 1472 TSSAHS XXVIII 1986-7 9, Sperehyl 1535 SHC VI (ii) 166, Speare Hill (Field) 1681 SRO DW1851/8/40, Spear-hill 1798 Shaw I 316. Probably from OE spere 'a spear, a spear-shaft', found in place-names in allusion to woods where such shafts were obtained (VCH XIV 110), or from the surname Spere (ibid. 38). OE spere had the meaning 'sphere', so 'the rounded or dome-shaped hill' cannot be entirely discounted, but is unlikely.

SPELLOWE FIELD obsolete, on the east side of Alrewas (SK 1814). Spellowe field c.1300 TSSAHS XX 1978-9 loose map. An interesting name which appears to incorporate OE spell 'speech, discourse', and OE hild 'mound, tumulus', so giving 'the tumulus where assemblies were held'. Cf. Spellow, Lancashire.

SPELSTOWE (unlocated, in Clent and Broom: SHC X 87.) Spelstowe (p) 1327 SHC VII 253, 1332 SHC X 87. The place has not been identified, but the elements are of interest: as well as stōw 'a place, a holy place', the name appears to incorporate OE spell 'speech, discourse', so giving 'the (³holy) place where assemblies were held', suggesting a possible association with Kelmestowe (q.v.).


SPITCHILL (unlocated, in Tean.) Spithill 1685 SRO D5476/A/2/1, Spitchill 1754 SRO D644/3/2A-F. Possibly denoting a hill from which speeches were made, from OE spec.

SPITTLE BROOK a tributary of the river Smestow. Spittel broc 1300 For, Spitelbrook 1342 SHC 1913 91, Spittell brooke 1609 FF. From OE spitel 'hospital, religious house' which evidently stood nearby and is recorded as Oldspittle 1296x1307 SHC 4th Series XVIII 187, Spytel 1327 SHC VII (i) 252, 1332 SHC X 129, Hospital 1332 SHC 1913 39, La Spyttell 1371 SRRC 2089/2/2/24, Spitele 1375 Ipm, Spytull 1539 SHC VI NS (i) 69.

SPITTLEFORD BROOK a tributary of the Meese Brook. Spittleford brooke 1731 Ct. From OE spitel 'hospital, religious house', with OE brōc 'brook'.

SPON, SPON FARM, SPON LANE 1 mile south-west of Sandwell (SO 0189). Sponne 1244 SIIC IV 103, 1343 SHC XII 31, 1344 SHC XVII 9, 1381 ibid. 174, Spon(howse) 1560 SIIC 1931 167, Spon Brook 1585 VCH XVII 9, Spon Lane 1694 ibid, Spon Coppice 1695 ibid, Span 1686 Plot. From OE spann 'a hand's breadth, a span', perhaps denoting something narrow or something which joins two things together, such as a footbridge. The word is a common place-name element in the West
Midlands. Spon Farm, Spon Drumble and Spon Drumble Farm lie 1 mile east of Milwich (SJ 9932), but the history of the names is not known. Cf. Spond Farm.

SPOND FARM 1/2 mile south-west of Alton (SK 0641). Sponne 1271 StEnc 531, 1327 SHC 1913 17, 1331 ibid. 31, la Sponne 1327 SHC VII (i) 216, Spon 1642 StEnc 531, Span 1695 Morden, Spondhouse 1700 Alton ParReg, Spond 1704 Alton ParReg, 1836 O.S. See Spon.

SPOONLEYGATE 2 miles south-west of Pattingham (SO 3096). Spoonley Gate 1898 SRRC 2161/188. Possibly to be associated with the field-name Spoonley piece, recorded in 1807: SRRC 2161/92. In Shropshire since the 12th century.

SPOT, SPOT GRANGE, SPOT ACRE 1 mile south-east of Fulford (SJ 9436). Spotte 1332 SHC XII 91, c.1452 SHC 1939 233, 1552 SHC XII (i) 209, Spotgrange 1418 ibid. 309, Spott 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 135, 1567 SHC XIII 264, 1577 SHC XVII 224, 1613 Griffiths 1894: 218, 1619 SHC VII NS 205, Spot Farm, Spot Grange, Spot Acres, Spot Gate 1836 O.S. Almost certainly from OE *spot, ON spotti 'a small piece, a bit, used here as in Norwegian spot 'a piece of ground'. This may be the place from which Wulfric Spot, the founder of Burton Abbey, took his name: his Will includes land here - see SHC 1916 6, 35, but see also Sawyer 1979a: xxxi, which concludes that any association with Wulfric is unlikely. It is probable that Wulfric took his appellation from a skin blemish, perhaps a birthmark. See also StEnc 102. A place called Wittspot (1280), Wytspot (1299) is recorded near Hanchurch: SHC XI 325, Ekwall 1928 376.

SPOUT HOUSE 1/2 mile east of Wetley Rocks (SJ 9749), Spout Farm 1791 SRO D1123 Add; SPOUTHOUSE in hamstead (SO 0493), Spout 1682 Browne, 1695 Morden, Spouthouse 1834 O.S. From ME spoute 'a spout, a gutter, the mouth of a water-pipe', presumably from a piped spring. The second name is preserved in Spouthouse Lane.

SPRAGG HOUSE on the south side of Norton-in-the-Moors (SJ 8951). Spragge House 1597 SRO D1463/1, the Spragg house 1613 Norton in the Moors ParReg, Spraghouse 1646 ibid, 1747 BCA MS917/1361, Scrag House 1836 O.S. The meaning of this name is uncertain: sprag had many dialect meanings: see EDD. Perhaps here with the meaning 'bulging' or 'propped', but the surname Spragg is found in Staffordshire: see SRO D786/8/15; BCA MS917/1614. The name survives in Spragg House Lane in Ford Green.

SPRATS SLADE on the south side of Longton (SJ 9042). Spratesslade 1607 Trentham ParReg, Sprates Slade 1616 ibid, ye Spratt Slade 1687 ibid, Spratts (lane) 1709 ibid, Spratslade 1810 SRO D593/L/1/28, Pratts Slade 1836 O.S. Perhaps from the surname Sprat, with OE slæd 'low flat marshy land, a valley'. The name survives in Spratslade Drive.

SPRINKS FARM 1 mile west of Horton (SJ 9257). Perhaps to be associated with The Sprink, recorded in 1566: SRO DW1761/A/4/179. The name is probably from springs which rise here and flow into Horton Brook.

SPRING HILL in Baswich parish, on Milford Common, 1 mile south of Tixall (SJ 9720); SPRING HILL 1 mile north-east of Essington (SJ 9704), Spring Hill 1834 O.S.; SPRING HILL 1/4 miles east of Brownhills (SJ 0705), Springhill 1895 O.S.; SPRING HILL 1 mile south-east of Burntwood (SJ
0508), **Spring Hill** 1895 O.S.; **Spring Hill** 3 miles south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 8795), Sprungewall, Sprungwall 1255 SHC V (i) 111, ? Sprengewell 1286 SHC 4th Series XVIII 153, ? Springwalle, Springwalle 1382 SHC X (ii) 44.). **Spring Hill** 1895 O.S.; **Spring Hill** 1 mile south-east of Walsall (SO 0297), **Spring Hill** 1834 O.S. From OE spring hylle 'the hill with or by the young copse' (for 'spring, fountain' the element wall, well or similar, from Mercian OE w(elle, would normally be expected, rather than OE spryng or spring), but in some names a connection with a water source cannot be ruled out. Spring Hill south-west of Wolverhampton appears to have combined the two elements, giving 'the hill with or by the coppiced trees at the spring of water', but see also Springwall Brook.

**SPRINGSLADE** 2 miles south-east of Bednall, on Cannock Chase (SJ 9716). Spryngslade 1271 to 1300 For, Springslade 1834 O.S. From OE spring-slced 'the valley with the newly-planted trees or with the coppiced trees with new shoots'

**SPRINGWALL BROOK** a tributary of the river Penk. Springewallbrouk 1286 For. Possibly from OE spring-wælla 'the spring in or at the young plantation', with OE bræc 'a brook': Springewall is recorded in 1300 SHC V (i) 177, Springswalls broke 1586 Ct, Springwall 1841 TA. There are several instances of Springwell in Shropshire (see PN Sa 111 248), and it seems likely that there was a particular type of spring so called: that they were all by coppice woods is improbable. See also Spring Hill, Spring Slade.

**SPURLEY BROOK** a tributary of Gamesley Brook. Spurleybrook (Cottage) 1891 O.S.

**SQUITCH HOUSE** in Bagot’s Park, 1 mile north of Abbots Bromley (SK 0826). Quechesterd 1282-3 SHC XI NS 265, le Quecche 1401 ibid. 193, Querche Wodehouses 1402 ibid. 208, Queche 1493 ibid. 197, le Queche 1537 SHC 1916 332, Squitch 1798 Yates, Squitch (Bank) 1836 O.S. From ME queche 'a thicket'. This is a particularly early example of the word: the earliest spelling cited by OED is 1450. The first spelling incorporates OE steort 'promontory, hill spur': the place lies at the end of a prominent narrow headland. Field-names le Quetchen and the Quatch are recorded in 1586: Oakden 1984: 74.

**ST BERTRAM’S WELL** ½ mile north of Ilam (SK 1351). St. Bertram’s well 1686 Plot 207, 403, Sir Bertram’s Well (sic) 1798 Shaw I 33. A tree over the well was known as St Bertram’s Ash in the 17th century: Plot 1686: 207. Possibly a corruption of Bertelin: the saint supposedly moved to Ilam from Stafford: Plot 1686: 409; VCH III137; VCH VI 186; Oswald 1955. A cave at Beeston Tor is known as St Bertram’s Cave.

**ST CHAD’S WELL** from a spring on the west side of Chadwell which feeds the pool of Chadwell Mill (SJ 7814). St Chad’s Well 1833 O.S. ‘Cetta’s spring’, from OE Mercian walle ‘a spring’, and (sometimes) ‘a stream’. The spring, perhaps the fonte (from OE funta ‘spring’) recorded between 1208 and 1236 (SHC 1921 9), was evidently later associated with St Chad, and may be the one which gave its name to Chadwell and Great Chatwell (q.v.).

**ST HELEN’S WELL** in Rushton Spencer (SJ 9462). St. Hellens well 1686 Plot 49. Plot records the well as foretelling disaster. St Hellens Wall is recorded in 1498 in Newcastle: Pape 1928: 185.

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ST STEPHEN'S HILL 1 mile north of Colton (SK 0523). Stenson 1541 SHC 1919 58, Stenson's Croft c.1541 SRO DW1721/3/255, St Stephens Hill 1836 O.S. Perhaps to be associated with Styvington (q.v.). The place, otherwise known as Steenwood (q.v.), was long ago merged into Blithfield: SHC 1914 157. It may be noted that Stephen the Forester is mentioned in 1292 in records relating to this place: SHC 1919 100-1.

ST THOMAS 1½ miles east of Stafford (SJ 9523). Sancti Thome 1174 SHC VIII (i) 132, abbey de Seynt Tomas 1414 SHC XVII 51, St. Thomas 1605 SHC 1940 320, 1663 SHC II (ii) 40. From the priory of St. Thomas, founded c.1174 on the north side of the river Sow: see SHC 1914 116-29; VCH III 260-7. In 1570 the manor is recorded as the Manor upon Sowt': SHC 1926 103. SHC 1917-8 349 suggests that this place was sometimes called Sowe (q.v.), 'being on that river'. See also Sena Park.

ST AMON'S HEATH (unlocated; see StEnc 493) below Beacon Hill, at Hopton Heath, 1½ miles north-east of Stafford (SJ 9425). St. Amon's Heath 19th century Erdeswick 1844: 61.

ST MIGHELLS (unlocated, possibly near Fisherwick.) St. Mighells 1584 SHC XV 154.

STABLEFORD 1½ miles south of Whitmore (SJ 8138). Stapulforda 956 (11th century, S.602), Stapelford 1367 SHC X NS (ii) 199, Stableford 1593 SHC XVI 129, Stapleford(bridge) 1602 SHC 1935 422, Stabilton [sic] 1628 SRO D641/5/T/1/10, Stableford (Bridge) 1656 Eccleshall ParReg, Stableford (bridge) 1662 Trentham ParReg, Stableford Bridge 1720 Bowen; STABLEFORD 2 miles north of Worfield (SO 7598), Stapelford 1272 Eyton 1854-60: III 112, Stapulford 1525 SR, 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 118, Stafford 1583 Worfield ParReg, Stapleford 1752 Rocque. From OE stapol 'stake, pole, pillar', giving 'the ford marked by posts', with the later addition of bridge for the first place. Hart 1975: 177 surmises that Stapulforda comprised the parishes of Chapel and Hill Chorlton (q.v.), and was the original ceorla tun of the ham at Darlaston. Stableford near Worfield has been in Shropshire since the 12th century.

STADMORSLOW 2 miles north-east of Kidsgrove (SJ 8755). Stodmarelowe 1332 SHC X 94, Stodmorelawe 1546 SHC 1938 21, Stomorliee 1466 SHC NS IV 138, Stadmoreslowe 1586 SIIC 1929 147, Stodmerslowe 1619 SHC VII NS 204, Stodmonlow 1641 Wolstanton ParReg, Stodmorelow 1647 ibid, Stadmorelow 1649 ibid, Stadmoor Low 1775 Yates. The earliest forms suggest ME stodmere 'stud-mare', with OE hlaw, giving 'the low or burial mound associated with the stud-mares': see PN Nt 200.

STAFFORD Ancient Parish and county town of Staffordshire, lying on the river Sow more or less at the centre of Staffordshire (SJ 9223). Stcef-forda, Stceford, Staffordaburh 913 ASC, Stallford, Statford 1086 DB, Stephordi 1102 VCH VI 200, Stafford 1115x1120 CEC 13, Stafford 1130 SIC I 1, Stafford 1162 SHC I 35. Possibly 'the ford by a step or landing-place'; the name and place are considered in more detail in the Introduction. See also Staffordshire.

STAFFORDSHIRE first recorded as Stafford(scir) 1016 ASC (D, E), Steffordscire, Steffordscire 1062-6 ASWrits (11th century, S.1140), Staffordshire, Staffordshire 1086 DB, Staffordscire 11th century Sawyer 1979a: xxxv, Staffordscire, Staffordscire 1130 SIIC I 1, 1188 ibid. 140. 'County of
Stafford. The -shire element is from OE sceatr, a word with various meanings but in this context 'an administrative district consisting of a group of Hundreds'. See also Stafford.

STAFFORDSHIRE MOOR (obsolete) on the north-west side of Tamworth. Staffordshire Moor 1834 O.S. Warwickshire Moor (q.v.) lay to the north-east of Tamworth, in Warwickshire. See also Tamworth Moores.

STAGDALE (unlocated, in Bradnop). Stagdale 1656 Okeover T699. Perhaps from OE stagga deal 'valley of the stag'.

STALLBROOK (HALL) 2 miles west of Stafford (SJ 8887). Stalbrooke c.1295 DW1721/1/118-120, Stalbrook c.1345 SRO DW1721/1/294, c.1366 DW1721/1/42, Stalbrooke 1385 SHC XIII 189, 1538 SRO D1810/f105d, Strawbrook (Hall) 1836 O.S. From OE stall, steals 'place; stable, stall; pool in a river', with OE bröc 'stream, brook', so 'the stream with the pool(s)'.

STALLINGTON 1 mile south-west of Blythe Bridge (SK 9439). Stalinton c.1154 SHC III 194, 1177 SHC XII NS 279, c.1230 SHC VI (i) 11, Stalenton 1251 Ch, Stalington 1265 Ass, 1293 QW, Stalinton 1293 SHC VI (i) 242, Stelenton 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 136, Stallington 1590 SHC 1930 116. Ekwall 1935: 436 suggests that that the first element of the name is a folkname, probably Stelingas, possibly derived from OE steall 'place', but the name is an -intan name, not an -ingatan formation, and the personal name Stal is unrecorded, although it may be a pet-form of St(e)allere: see Tengvik 1938: 270. Perhaps 'Stael's tan', or possibly from OE stæn-hlinc 'stony hill', with OE tæn: the place lies on a bank rising from the south side of a tributary of the river Blithe.

STANBERLOWE (unlocated, in Pattingham.) Stamberlowe 1582 SRO DW1807/378, Stamberloo 1723 Brighton 1942: 111. From OE stæn, burna 'stony stream', with OE hlæw 'mound, tumulus', so 'the burial mound at the stony stream'. The place is probably to be associated with Stammerlow (field), recorded in 1711: SHC 1931 81. Cf. Stambermill, Worcestershire.

STANBURNEFORD (obsolete) in Bromley wood on the border of Teddesley Hay: SHC 4th Series XVIII 131. From OE stæn, burna 'stony stream', with OE ford 'a ford', so 'the ford across the stony stream', or 'the ford over the stream called Stanburne'.

STANDEFORD 2 miles east of Brewood (SJ 9107). Staneford 996 (for 994) (17th century, S.1380), Stanuford' (p) 1245-50 MRA, Stoniford 1300 SHC V (i) 177, Stawntiford 1506 SHC 1928 115. From OE stænig 'stony', so 'the stony ford': the place lies where Deepmore Brook is crossed by a lost Roman road (Margary number 190) running south-east from Pennocrucium (Water Eaton). There is a slight possibility that the ford element is from PrWelsh ford meaning 'Roman road' (see Jermy & Breeze 2000: 109-110). Staneford Moor, on the east side of Lower Elkstone (SK 0758) appears on the 1840 1" O.S. map, but is likely to be from Stoneyfold (q.v.).

STANFORD Ancient Parish 4 miles north of Eccleshall (SJ 8134). Stanton 1086 DB, Standon' 1190 Pipe, Staundon 1277 SHC VI (i) 91, 1321 SRO DW1733/A/3/28, 1597 SHC 1935 28, Stawne 1655 Wolverhampton ParReg, Standon (vulg. Stawne) 1679 SHC 1914 7, Stawna 1715 Blymhill ParReg. The DB spelling indicates a derivation from OE stæn-tæn 'tæn on stony ground', or possibly 'tæn at the stone': the exposed sandstone here suggests 'the tæn at the stoney outcrop'. In view of the consistent
later spellings, it seems that the DB form is aberrant, and the second element is OE dūn 'hill': the place lies on a long rounded ridge, though that could not be considered a dūn. The variant local pronunciation is preserved in Staun Wood on the north-west side of Standon.

STANDON BOWERS - see BOWERS.

STANFORD (unlocated, near Tutbury), Stanford c.1170 SHC 4th Series 4 69; STANFORD (unlocated, on the river Sow or Trent near Water Wending), Stanford 1261 (1679) SHC 1914 119. 'The stony ford', or possibly 'the ford crossed by the stony road': see Standeford.

STANFORD BROOK (obsolete) a tributary of the river Penk running from The Wergs to Pendeford. Stanfordsbrok 1411 SHC XV 124. See also VCH XX 34. The brook with the stony ford', from OE stān, ford. There is a slight possibility that the ford element is from PrWelsh ford meaning 'Roman road' (see Jermy & Breeze 2000: 109-110), so 'the brook associated with the stony (? Roman) road'.

STANHALLE (unlocated) probably near Denstone. Stanhalle, Stanhale 1235 Fees.

STANLEY 2½ miles west of Cheddleton (SJ 9352). Stanle 1273 SHC VI (i) 59, Stanlowe c.1280 SHC 1911 431, 1332 SHC X 116, Stanleigh 1285 SHC VI (i) 157, Stonilowe 1327 SHC VII 208, Stanlowe 1351 SHC XII 107, Stanley otherwise Stanlow 1587 SHC 1929 312. The inconsistent spellings make it unclear whether the derivation is from OE stān-hlāw 'stony mound or tumulus', or OE stān-leāh 'the stony leāh': in Staffordshire hlāw often becomes -ley, and vice versa, so a firm derivation is not possible on the available evidence, though hlāw is probably more likely. Stanley Pool was constructed as a reservoir for the Caldon canal in 1786, and enlarged in 1840: VCH VII 230.

STANLEY FIELDS ¼ mile south-west of Bemersley Green (SJ 8853). Stanle 1360 JNSFC LIX 1924-5 53, Stanley Fields 1836 O.S. Probably from OE stān-hlāw 'stony mound or tumulus', but in Staffordshire -ley often becomes hlāw, and vice versa. See also Stanley.

STANLOW 2 miles west of Pattingham (SO 7898) in Shropshire, Stanlowe 1272 Eyton 1854-60: III 112, 1327 SR, 1332 SHC X 131, Stanlowe at Pafrord [Pasford] Bridge 1542 SRO D593/A/2/11/9; STANLOW (HALL) 2½ miles south-west of Leek (SJ 9554), Stanlowe 1210 SIM XI 332, Stanlwe 1275 ibid. 334, Stonilowe 1301 SHC VII 90, Stanlowe 1325 SHC 1911 366, Stanlow 1582 Worfield ParReg, 1836 O.S. From OE stān-hlāw 'stony mound or tumulus', Stanlow near Leek almost certainly from the 'huge hexagonal pile of boulders some 200 yards away' from Stanlow Hall: JNSFC 1916-7 142. One or more of the 1210, 1275 and 1301 spellings may refer to Stony Low (q,v.). See also Kingslow.

STANMORE (HALL) 1 mile south-east of Bridgnorth (SO 7492). a new erected mansion house - Stanmore Grove 1814 SRRC 1987/19/29, Stanmore Grove 1833 O.S. Early spellings have not been traced, and the name may have been coined when the hall was built c.1814. In Shropshire since the 12th century.

STANSHOPE in Alstonfield parish, 6½ miles north-west of Ashbourne (SK 1254). Stanesope 1086 DB, Stanshop(e) 1203 Ass, Stansope 1227 SHC IV (i) 43, Stanos 1329 SHC 1913 21, Stanhapp 1420 Signet Letter C81/1365/26, Stansoppe 1598 SHC 1935, Stanshop 1603 SHC 1935 477, Stanospe
1686 Plot. Possibly *"Stán's valley", from OE hop 'sheltered valley', or from OE stānes 'of stone', hence 'the valley of the stone', perhaps with reference to the limestone outcrop here.

STANSLY (WOOD) 2 miles west of Abbot's Bromley (SK 0525). Leofstanesleg 1252 SHC 1937 47 (see also SRO D603/A/Add/117-8), Stainesleye 1361 SHC XI NS 218. If the first spelling relates to this place (which is quite possible, though not certain: the deed from which the spelling is taken refers to Leofstanesleg between Berleg and Littleleg in the parish of Blithfelfd: SHC 1937 47), the name is Leofstan's leāh 'the wood by Leofstan's glade', with the later loss of the first syllable. Otherwise Stán's leāh 'Stán's wood or clearing'. See also SHC 1919 100.

STANSMORE (HALL) ½ mile north-west of Dillhorne (SJ 9643). Stanton More otherwise Stante More 1609 SHC NS III 22, Stanton More otherwise Stante Mere 1610 ibid. 28, Stansmore (Hall) 1836 O.S. Modern maps show no pool here, so Mere in the 1610 spellings is presumably an error for moor.

STANTON (WOOD) 2 miles north-east of Ellastone (SK 1246), Stantone 1086 DB, Stanton 1197 SHC II 68, 1242-3 Fees, Stant' c.1235 SHC 4th Series IV 200, Stanton near Whevere 1315 SI-IC IX (i) 49, 1328 SHC 1913 16, 1339 ibid. 79. From OE stān-tān, probably 'tān on stony ground', but possibly 'tān at the stone'.

STANWEY (unlocated, possibly near Chesterton near Newcastle). Stanwey n.d. SHC XI NS 266. 'The stony way'. A name of possible archaeological significance: see Chesterton.

STANYLOND (unlocated) perhaps near Holditch. Stanylond 1272 SHC IV 204. 'The stony land or estate'. A name of possible archaeological significance: there are several Roman sites in the Holditch area: see StEnc 294.

STAPENHILL 2 miles north-west of Stourbridge (SO 8885), Stapenhull 1342 SHC 1913 90, Stepnall 1775 Yates, Stapenhill 1834 O.S.; STAPENHILL, Ancient Parish 2 miles south-east of Burton upon Trent (SK 2522), Stapenh' 942 (14th century, S.1606), Stapenhille, Stapenhilla 1086 DB (listed in Derbyshire), Stapehille 1086 Burton, Stapenhill c.1180 SHC VII NS 132, Stapenhill 1188x1197 SRO D603/A/Add/36b, Stapunhill 1316 FA, Stapenhill(e) 1330 Ass, Stapulhill 1404 Burton, Stapenhill 1449 SHC III NS 185, Stapynhill 1452 SHC 1910 321, Stapenell 1577 Saxton, 1610 Speed, Staping hill 1633 DbA vi. Both names are almost certainly from OE (at þære) stēpan hylle 'steep hill', with early shortening of þære, for both places lie on pronounced hills. The suggestion in Duignan 1902: 142 that stapen was a corrupt form of OE stapol 'stake, pole, pillar', often used to mark the boundary of a manor, estate, etc., and meaning here 'hill of the boundary pillar' (cf. Bassett's Pole) is unlikely (notwithstanding the 1404 form Stapul- for Stapenhill near Burton): it is doubtless no more than coincidence that the first Stapenhill adjoins the border between Staffordshire and Worcestershire, and the second adjoins the border between Staffordshire and Derbyshire. Stapenhill Farm in Worcestershire (Stapenhull c.1300 PN Wo 100) is on the boundary of the once independant vills of Paxford and Draycott in Blockley, and is evidently from stapol, confirmed by the spelling Stapulton Hulle 1408 (ibid). A derivation from the OE personal name Steapa cannot be ruled out completely for the Staffordshire names, but it is improbable that both hills are derived from that name. Stapenhill near Burton upon Trent, which was formerly in Derbyshire, became part of Staffordshire in 1894. The field-
name Hondesacre thyng, recorded in Stapenhill near Burton upon Trent in 1477 (SHC 1937 178) is likely to incorporate OE ping in the sense ‘possession’, so here meaning ‘land belonging to Handsacre’.


**STARE BRIDGE** (unlocated, in Yoxall.) Stare Bridge 1732 SRO D4533/2/5/2-3, Stair Bridge 1799 (1801) Shaw II 7, Stair Bridge (and Stairfields) c.1820 WSL M657. Almost certainly from a personal name: John Stare of Joxhale is recorded in 1296: SHC 1911 268.

**STARE WOOD** (obsolete) 1 mile north-east of Leek (SJ 9957). Stareholt c.1539 LRMB, Starwood 1823 SRO E/A/2/198, Stare Wood 1842 O.S. From OE stæger, holt ‘wood with the stair-like ascent’, with holt ‘wood’ later replaced with wood. It is unclear whether Staresfeld, recorded in 1542 (1883) Sleigh 1883: 72, is to be associated with this name.

**STAREHURST** (obsolete) near Knaves Castle (q.v.). Starehurst 1308 (1798) Shaw I 58.

**STARESMOR** (unlocated) near Rowley village, in Rowley Regis. Scaresmor 1327 SHC VII 248, Staresmore 1332 SHC X 87, Staresmor 1405 SHC XVI 44. Shaw (1801: II 239) states that ‘Near Rowley [Regis] is a place called Staresmore’. Possibly the same place as Staremor, recorded in 1494 (SHC 1928 225). The surname Starysmore is recorded in 1448: Hackwood 1898: 114. See also Erdeswick 1844: 345.

**STATFOLD** Ancient Parish 3 miles north-east of Tamworth (SK 2307). Statfeud c.1226 (1798) Shaw I 410, ? Stotford, Stafford 1242 Fees, Stotfield 1284 FA, Stotesfeld 1293 Ass, Statfold 1326 (1798) Shaw I 410, Stofolt 1327 SR, Stotefold 1441 SBT DR37/2/Box89, Stotfold 1514 OSS 1936 56, Stofold 1542 SBT DR37/2/Box91/16. Probably OE stōd-falod 'stud-fold'. It is possible that the first element is from OE stōt ‘a horse’ or OE stot, the exact meaning of which is unclear - possibly 'a horse, an ox' - but which became ME stott 'a young castrated ox, a steer'. The place may have continued to be associated with horses over several centuries: Shaw 1798: I 410 cites a marginal note made by Sir Simon Degge in Degge's copy of Plot 1686 8: 'Statfold, or Stotfold, is a place famous for keeping of horses; which circumstance, it is likely, gave name to this place, for Stat or Stade signifies littus, or the shore of a river, which does not answer this situation'. stōd falūs appears in the boundary clause of a charter relating to Braunston, Northamptonshire of 956 (?11th century, S.623).

**STAWBROKE** (unlocated) possibly near Chapel Chorlton. Stawbroke 1565 SHC 1938 73.

**STEEL HOUSE** in Horton (SJ 9457). Style late 13th century VCH VII 65, Steel House 1561 ibid. 65, Steele House 1565 SRO DW1702/8/10, Stile House 1775 Yates. Perhaps from OE stigel 'a stile, a step over a fence or wall', also used in a topographical sense 'a steep ascent', doubtless the meaning here. Cf. Steel(e) in Northumberland and Shropshire.

**STEENWOOD** ¼ mile south-east of Admaston (SK 0522). Evidently associated with Stivinton 1199 SHC III (i) 41, Styphinton c.1232 SRO (50/7894), Stiventon 1254 SHC 1911 123, Steventon 1306 ibid.

STEEP LOW ½ mile north-west of Alstonefield (SK 1256). Steeplow 1840 O.S.

STEEPLEHOUSE FARM ½ mile north-west of Illam (SK 1351). Steeple House 1838 O.S., Stapleshouse 1851 White. From OE stépel ‘a house with a tower or on a steep declivity’, in this case almost certainly in the latter sense. Perhaps associated with Steple Dale, recorded in 1538 (Survey). However, the surname Steeple and Steple are recorded (see for example SHC VII NS 72; SHC VIII NS 38), and it is not impossible that this place-name is so derived.

STERMORE (unlocated, near Stowe by Chartley). Serremor c.1275 SRO D938/488, Staresmore (Yate) 1605 SHC XI NS 268, Stermore c.1679 SHC 1914 124. Yate is from OE geat `gate': the first-named place was a gate to Chartley Park: SHC XI NS 268. The first element of Stermore is uncertain, possibly an unidentified personal name; the second is OE mör, here probably meaning 'marshaland'.

STEWPONEY, THE an area which takes its name from a public house (rebuilt several times and demolished in 2002) 3 miles west of Stourbridge, on the road from Wolverhampton to Kidderminster (SJ 8684). Stewponey 1744 VCH XX 124, 1765 Stewponey Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal Act, Stewponey 1774 Hadfield 1969: 51, Stew Poney 1775 Yates, ...a good inn, called the Stew-poney... 1801 Shaw II 267, Stew Poney 1808 Baugh, The Stewponey and Foley Arms 1868 Burritt 1868: 155. There are many traditions as to the origin of this strange name, which is almost certainly unique. Scott 1832: 173 believed it came from the common public-house name The Pony, with an explanatory reference to a nearby fishpond or stew, and added ‘A gentleman who made particular enquiries in the neighbourhood, agrees to this derivation of Stewponey, adding...some particulars of the master of the inn and his pony. The master...was a successful competitor at Stourbridge races, hence, and from the piscatory entertainment of the place [presumably in the nearby river Stour], the house acquired its celebrity’. The Rev. Sabine Baring-Gould, a Victorian antiquarian and extraordinarily prolific writer, set his novel 'Bladys [sic] of the Stewponey' in Kinver, and suggested that 'an old soldier in the wars of Queen Anne [the Peninsular War with France 1708-14], a native of the place, settled there when her wars were over, and, as was customary with old soldiers, set up an inn near the bridge, at the cross roads. He had been quartered at Estepona, in the South of Spain, and thence he had brought a Spanish wife. Partly in honour of her, chiefly in reminiscence of his old military days, he entitled his inn 'The Estepona Tavern'. The Spanish name in English mouths became rapidly transformed into Stewponey': Baring-Gould 1897: 14-5. The story may be literary fiction or based on local folk-etymology: it has not been traced before 1897. Other suggested origins for the name are a derivation from the nearby bridge over the Stour, hence 'Stouri pons'; from a nearby stew or fishpond (cf. Stanclowe, possibly 'mound or low at the stank or fishpond', recorded in this area in 1296: SHC 4th Series XVIII 188); or from stepony, a type of ale or a raisin wine: VCH XX 124. (Blount 1656 defines stipone as 'a kind of sweet compound liquor drunk in some places in London in the Summer time'; OED gives stepony, stepponi,
steppony, stipone, stiponie, stipony, steponey, stepany, stepney as of obscure origin, in 1770 said to be made from raisins, lemons and sugar, and there are parallels for an inn named after a drink: see Larwood & Hotten 1985: 231). Professor Richard Coates (personal communication) has suggested that since the first syllable of the name carries the stress, the drink derivation may be the more likely derivation, but an Estepona origin need not be ruled out: the word could have been folk-etymologised into Stewponey with stress on the second element, but then treated as an English compound and subject to stress shift. In 1744 the inn was described as 'the house of Benjamin Hallen, being the sign of the Green Man and called the Stewponey' (VCH XX 124), suggesting that the name Stewponey was a local nickname, with the Green Man perhaps providing some clue to the true derivation. Early in the 19th century sellers of simples (plants or herbs used for medicinal purposes) known as 'green men' travelled the country in search of herbs with portable apparatus for distilling essences and extracts, and it has been suggested (Fernie 1897) that inn signs such as 'The Green Man and Still' in London and elsewhere were named after such travellers. The green man was apparently an artistic corruption of the Red Indian supporters of the arms of the Distillers Company ['a fess wavy in chief, the sun in splendour, in base a still, supporters two Indians with bows and arrows']. The Indians were said to have been transformed by painters into wild men or green men. A stew was a vessel for stewing or boiling, and a stewpony may have been the nickname of the animal carrying the distillation equipment for a 'green man'. Finally, the word stew had various meanings, including 'brothel' (Halliwell), and 'dust; vapour, smoke; an offensive smell; bustle excitement' (EDD), and it may be noted that the spelling of this name is invariably -poney, although the word for a small horse has properly been 'pony' from at least the eighteenth century. For completeness, the surname Pon(e)y is also recorded in the region: see e.g. WRO 1/1/578; 1/1/501/72; 1/1/610; WA II 38; Codsall ParReg 1689.

STEYNESMOOR (unlocated, in Brewood parish.) Steynesmoor 1364 Oakden 1984: 49. From the ON personal name Steinn, so 'Steinn's marshland'.

STILE COP 1½ miles south-west of Rugeley (SK 0315). Style Coppe 16th century SRO DW1734/2/5/68, Stile-Cop 1686 Plot, Stiles Coppice 1698 Fiennes, Style Copp 1776 SHC 4th VI 145, Stile-coppice 1801 Shaw II 315, Stilecop Field 1834 O.S. Notwithstanding the 1798 form, probably from OE cop(p) 'a hilltop, a summit', sometimes 'a mound, a ridge of earth, an embankment', with OE stigel 'a stile (and sometimes a steep ascent)'; it is uncertain in what sense stile is used here. Plot notes that clay from here was used to make tobacco pipes, and Fiennes (Morris 1959: 167), mentioning the 'fine tuft of trees' here, claims that seven counties - Cheshire, Derbyshire, Gloucestershire, Leicestershire, Shropshire, Staffordshire and Warwickshire - can be seen from the summit, without explaining how each is recognised.

STILLEHAULT (unlocated) Stillehault ? early 14th century SRO D798/1/1/23. The context in which the name appears suggests that the place may have been near Coton or Milwich.

STINKENDEMOR (unlocated, perhaps near Longton, possibly associated with Lightwood Forest.) Stinkendemor ?c.1230 SHC 1921 18.

STINKING LAKE (obsolete) where a stream from Wheaton Aston crosses Watling Street (SJ 8410). Stinking-lake 1681 Blymhill ParReg, Stinking Lake 1834 O.S. From a suphurous spring, of which there
were a number in this area: see The Leper Well. Plot 1686: 104 mentions '...that stinking water which crosses Watlingstreet Way, not far from Horsebrook...'. See also Field 1993 49.

STOCKENBRIDGE (unlocated, in the Mere/Morfe/Enville area.) Stockenbridge 1592 SRRC 5735/2/23/1/20, 1601 SRO D5735/2/23/1/23, 1637 SRRC 2089/2/2/81, 1673 SRRC 2089/2/2/90. From OE stoccen 'made of logs', with OE brycg, so 'the log bridge'. Cf. Stockenbridge, Devon.

STOCKFORD GREEN (unlocated, possibly near Willford (q.v.).) Stockford green 1624 (1798) Shaw I 139, Stockford (Lane) 1834 O.S. From OE stoc 'a tree-trunk, a stump, a log of wood', so perhaps 'the ford at the tree-trunk', or 'the ford with the footbridge made from a log'. Stockford Lane lies to the west of the river Tame at Sittles (SK 1711).

STOCKINGS a name commonly found in the vicinity of areas of former woodland (e.g. The Stockings, 2 miles west of Codsall (SJ 8403), Stocking Lane 1308-9 VCH XX 79, The Stockinges 1607 Codsall ParReg; Stockynges (unlocated, in Kinver) 1569 (SHC 1938 51); Stockings Cote, ¼ mile south of Balterley (SJ 7749)). Stocking is from OE *stoecing (from OE stoc 'tree trunks, stumps, logs'), meaning 'the place grubbed-up or cleared of trees' or 'the place of the tree-stumps', and is synonymous with ridding and birch.

STOCKINGS BROOK a tributary of the river Trent. From OE *stoecing 'the cleared land with the tree stumps'.

STOCKLEY PARK 2 miles south of Tutbury (SK 2025). Stockileam 1170 TutCart, Stokel' 1261 ibid. Stokkeleye 1296 SHC 1911 215, Stockeleigh 1324 ibid. 358, Stackeye 1326 HLS 267, Stockley parke 1798 Shaw I 60. For the first element see Stockton. The second element is from OE ëah, which may originally have been ëaum, dative plural of ëah, but it seems more likely that the spelling of the earliest name has the Latin accusative singular form. The place was one of the hays (bailiwicks or clearings, from Mercian OE (ge)heg) of Needwood Forest. There is disagreement whether stoc legan ford mentioned in a charter of Rolleston of 1008 AD (14th century, S. 920) can be associated with this place: see Hart 1975: 218 and Hooke 1983: 96.

STOCKTON on the east side of Weeping Cross, Stafford (SJ 9521). Stokton 1284 St Thomas, Stokken 1314 SHC IX 48, Stocton (p) 1327 SR, 1539 MR to 1586 QSR, Scottone 1377 SHC 4th Series VI 20, Stockton 1836 O.S. From the common place-name element OE stoc 'place', which is unlikely to have become, as once thought, 'monastery, cell, religious place', but may have that particular meaning here, since the place belonged to St Thomas' Priory (VCH V 5), with OE ëan. The place is perhaps to be identified with Stolben (q.v.). See also SHC 1914 124.

STOCKWELL HEATH 1 mile north-east of Colton (SK 0521). Stockewell (Butts) 1261 (1798) Shaw I *154, Stockewell Heath 1775 Yates, Stockwell Heath 1836 O.S.; STOCKWELL END on the north side of Tettenhall (SJ 8800). Probably from OE stoc 'stock, trunk of a tree' (but see also Stockton), with Mercian OE welle 'a spring, a stream, and (rarely) a well', so here perhaps 'the spring at the tree stump'. The surnames Stockewall and Stockall are recorded in Tettenhall ParReg in 1611 and 1617, and Stockwell End itself is recorded in the 1640s (VCH XX 7).
STOKE-BY-STONE, STOKE GRANGE, LITTLE STOKE 1 mile south-east of Stone (SJ 9133).

Stoca 1086 DB, Stocha 1166 SHC I 48, Stoke, Stokes 1200 SHC III (i) 68, c.1230 SHC VI (i) 18, Stook 1360 SHC XII (i) 202, Stook 1549 SHC XII 202, Stoke 1686 Plot, 1836 O.S. From OE stoc 'place', and sometimes 'monastery, cell, religious place': religious houses existed at Stone and Burston (StEnc 102, 557), though the age of each is uncertain.

STOKE ON TRENT Ancient Parish (SJ 8745). Stuche 1086 DB, Stoch 1166 SHC 1923 297, Stokes 1223 SHC IV 223, Stoke 1224 ibid. 31, Stokes subitus Limam 1305 WL 36, Stok' underlym 1305 ibid. 37, Stoke Super Trent 1686 Plot, Stoke upon Trent 1747 Bowen, 1836 O.S. From OE stoc 'place', probably here meaning 'dependant settlement on the river Trent' to distinguish it from the many other Stokes, most of which assumed distinctive additions after the Conquest. Browne's map of Staffordshire, 1682, seems to incorporate the first reference to the appellation Super Trent or Upon Trent to distinguish this place from other Stokes. The 1305 and 1306 forms incorporate the element Lyme (q. v.). DB has 31 entries for Stoche (ch = k), and 32 for Stoches. The six towns of Tunstall, Burslem, Hanley, Stoke, Fenton and Longton were united under the name Stoke on Trent in 1910: VCH VIII 252.

STOKEDOILY (unlocated, possibly near Bagots Bromley.) Stokedoily 1373 BodCh. From OE stoc 'place' with the name d'Oille, d'Oily, recorded in the 12th and 13th century: see Doyle; Oils Heath.

STOLBEN (unlocated) Stolben 1284 SHC VIII (i) 136; 1293 SHC VI (i) 243. It is likely that this place, which is incorporated in both sources in a list of places, is a mistranscription of the name Stockton, which is not included in either list (see SHC VIII (i) 136 fn), but the early spellings of Stubbeley (q.v.) should be noted.

STONE Ancient Parish 7 miles north of Stafford (SJ 9034). Stanis ?1132 RHP 259, Stanes c.1154 SHC III 194, 1187 P, 1201 Cur, Stanes 1280 SHC VI (i) 99, 1293 ibid. 285, Stonne 1532 SIIC 4th Series 8 131, Stone 1610 Speed. From OE stán or stánes 'place at or by the) the stone or stones'. The place is not listed in DB, though certainly in existence in 1086. The terminal -s in the spellings is not an indication that the name was plural: the Normans often added an -s to English place-names, particularly to shorter names, for example Staines, Middlesex, and Barnes, Surrey. Various theories have been suggested for the name, which is found in various parts of the country, but its origin remains unknown. There is no evidence to support the tradition (see e.g. Erdeswick 1844: 45) that the name is from a mound of stones created by pilgrims to a church erected by Queen Eormenhild, their mother, to commemorate the place of slaughter of Wulfhad and Ruffin, supposed twin sons of King Wulfhere (659-675), for their secret conversion to Christianity by St Chad. The roots of the legend appear to lie in a record similar events involving the execution of two royal youths, brothers of Atwald, king of the Isle of Wight, after betrayal by Werbud, a pagan who hoped to inherit the kingdom by marrying their sister, (St) Werburh, described by Bede (iv c.16) as occurring at a place called Ad Lapidem, which formed the basis of a later Mercian version which led to a royal cult centred on Stone in Staffordshire. Bede names neither the martyred brothers nor the guilty king, but from the context the latter may be identified as Cadwalla, or possibly Wulhere. The first known record of the Mercian version associating the legend with the Staffordshire place, possibly recording local oral tradition, is the Passio

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Sanctorum Wifadi et Ruffini, a hagiography (described as 'historically valueless' in Thacker 1985: 6) dating perhaps from the 12th century (written after, and perhaps to enhance, the founding of the Augustinian priory of St Wulfhad and St Michael at Stone), known only from a manuscript, probably of 14th century date, now destroyed: Rumble 1997: 314-5. Ad Lapidem has been identified as Stone Farm at Fawley in Hampshire, which lies on a peninsula of land between the river Otter and Southampton Water, and at the end of a Roman road, suggesting that the place was a crossing point to the Isle of Wight during the Roman period; see Basset 1989: 90, also fn.56. For a full analysis of the Wulfhad and Ruffin tradition see Rumble 1997: 307-19; also SHC VI (ii) 214; VCH III 240; VCH XIV 240; also SHC VI (i) 1-2; SHC XII NS 100-1, 111 fn., 118; also Eyton 1854-60: II 200, but see also StEnc 553. It is of interest that the Roman name for Staines, Middlesex, was Pontibus ‘at the bridges’, and the name Staines may be associated with the remains of a stone bridge. It has been shown that many names containing the element stān in Lincolnshire lie on or close to Roman roads, or can be associated with the site of Roman buildings: see Owen 1997: 365-6. Apart from bridge remains or a Roman connection (which cannot be entirely ruled out here, since the place lies on the river Trent, and Roman sites or artifacts have been recorded at nearby Campfield Wood (q.v.), Swynnerton (see WMA 34 1991 70-1), and Aston by Stone (StEnc 22)), the most likely derivation for most places called Stone is from a prehistoric megalith, Roman milestone, a natural boulder or rock formation, or from ‘a place where stone was obtained’ (see JEPNS 3 1970-1 13), and a Keuper sandstone outcrop on the north side of Stone, long quarried for building materials, may be the topographical feature from which the place was named. It may also be noted that a huge stone or erratic is recorded on Common Plot (JNSFC 1897-8 XXXII 165), and in that respect it is unclear whether Stone Field here, one of the open-fields of Stone (Stone Field 1665 SRO D3272/5/21/1-9, 1798 Act; see also StEnc 556) is ‘the field at Stone’ or ‘the field with the stone’.

STONE CROSS 2 miles north of West Bromwich (SP 0194). Stone Cross 1626 Willett 1882: 182. From a wayside cross which was still standing in the 18th century. The base survived as part of a signpost until c.1897.

STONE CROSS in Penkridge (SJ 9214). Stone crosse yate 1598 Ct. ‘Stone cross gate’, from a former stone cross, apparently set on circular graded steps, in the Wolverhampton-Stafford road, which is mentioned until at least 1747 and appears on a map of 1754: VCH V facing 104. See also StEnc 556.

STONE EDGE (obsolete) 1½ miles south-west of Rushton Spencer (SJ 9262). Stonyegge 1304 SIHC VII 107, Stone Edge 1775 Yates, Stony Edge 1842 O.S. From OE stānig, with OE ecg, ‘stony edge’. Stonithegge (unlocated, possibly in Madeley) is recorded in 1320 (SHC X (i) 31, and Stonyegge (unlocated, possibly in Draycott in the Moors) in 1302 (SHC VII 107) and 1332 (SHC X (i) 93).

STONE HEATH 1 mile north-east of Hilderstone (SJ 9735). Stone Heath 1836 O.S. ‘The heathland with the stone’.


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STONEGETON (unlocated, possibly near Curborough.) *Stonegeton* c.1563 SHC 1938 35.


STONEWALLS FARM 1 mile north of Dilhorne (SJ 9745). *? Stonwalle* 1319 SHC 1911 344, *Stone Walls* c.1761 SRO D1798/520, 1775 Yates, 1834 O.S. Self-explanatory, although it is possible that *Astenwalle* 'the eastern wall or spring', recorded in the late 13th century (SRO 3764/21[27574] refers to this place. It is unclear whether the name refers to some archaeological feature here (from OE weall 'a wall'), or is from 'the spring at the stone', from Mercian OE wealle. It is possible that *Wal*, recorded in 1327 (SHC VII 218) refers to this place.


STONEYFOLD 1 mile north of Butterton (SK 0757). *Stone Fould* 1680 Alstonefield ParReg, *Stonefould* 1691 *ibid*, *Stone fold Moor* 1723 *ibid*, *Stonyford* 1840 O.S. From *fol(o)d* 'a pen or enclosure for domestic animals', hence 'the stone-walled stock enclosure'.


STONY BROOK a tributary of the Rising Brook which runs into the river Trent; STONY BROOK a tributary of the river Blithe which runs between Stowe and Grindley, *Stonybrook* 1332 SR. Self explanatory.

STONYDELPH on the south side of Tamworth (SK 2301). *Stanidelf* 1202 FF, 1229x1260 SIIC 1937 63, *Staindelf in Tamworth* 1284 Ipm, *Stanydelf* (p) 1327 SR, 1405 SHC XVI 47, *Stonydelf* 1359 SRO 3764/109[31759], *Stonidelfe* c.1360 (1798) Shaw I 15, *Stonydelf* 1542 BSE E18/222/4, *Stondell* 1569 ParReg, *Standelf* 1656 Dugdale, *Stony Delph* 1666 FF. From OE stän-(ge)del 'a digging, a quarry', so 'the stone quarry'. In Warwickshire until transferred to Staffordshire in 1965. The name *Stondelf* is recorded in the Penkridge area in 1261 (SHC 1950-1 47), and *Stony Delph* in Audley is recorded in 1612 (SHC 1944 82).

STONYFIELDS (obsolete, in Basford (SJ 8546)). *Stony Fields* 1836 O.S. The age of the name is unknown: it became attached to a large house built c.1780: StEnc 558. The place lay on or close to the
Roman road from Rocester (Margary number 70a), the stone or gravelling from which may have given rise to the name.

**STONYFORD** ½ miles north-east of Yoxall (SK 1520). Stonyford 1836 O.S.; **STONYFORD** 2 miles south-west of Hales (SJ 6932), Stoneyford Yate 1553 SHC 1945-6 18, Stonyford 1635 ibid. 224, Stoney Ford 1747 Poll, Stoney Ford 1832 O.S.; **STONYFORD (HOUSE, LANE & COVERT)** 1 mile south-west of Blithbury (SK 0719); STONYFORDE (unlocated, possibly in or near Uttoxeter.) Staynford 1331 SHC XI 132, Stonyforde 1596 SHC 1932 151. Self-explanatory. Yate means gate: Stoneyford near Hales was one of the gates to Tyrley Park. It is unclear whether Stanford, recorded c. 1170 (SHC 4th Series IV 69) and 1190x1247 (ibid. 81), which appears to have been in Needwood Forest, relates to Stonyford near Yoxall: see SHC 4th Series IV 7.

**STONYFORD BROOK** a tributary of the river Swarbourn, south of Uttoxeter. Associated with Stonyforde (q.v.).

**STONEYLOW** 1 mile south-east of Madeley (SJ 7943). Stonylowe 1332 SHC X 101, Stannelow 1547 SHC XII 191, Stonylowe c.1565 SHC 1938 185, Stonylow c.1566 SHC IX NS 88, Stonnielow 1645 SHC 4th Series I 262, Stannylow 1679 SHC 1919 255, Stoney Low 1833 O.S. 'The stony low or burial mound', from OE hlæw 'hill, mound, tumulus'. The place lies on a 497' hill. No record of any tumulus has been traced here (but see StEnc 558), though a large tumulus lies on the opposite side of the valley of the river Lea at Manor Farm, 1 mile to the south-west. See also Kingslow; Queen's Low; Stanlow.

**STONYSLACK** 1 mile north of Winkhill (SK 0652). Stoney Slacks 1836 O.S. From ON slakki 'a small shallow valley, a hollow in the ground', found as northern dialect slack 'a hollow, especially one in a hill-side; a dip in the surface of the ground; a shallow dell; a glade; a pass between hills': EDD.

**STONYWELL** 3 miles north-west of Lichfield (SK 0812). Stoniwell 1272X1307 Erdeswick 1844: 242, Stoniwell 1297 SRO D1734, Stamwell 1307 SHC 1911 286, Stoniwall 1327 SHC VII (i) 231, Stonywell 1332 SHC X 110, Stoniwall, Stonywall 14th century Duig, Stoniwel 1561 HLS, Stonwell 1597 SHC 1932 318. From OE Mercian wella 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream'. Shaw 1798: I 222 attributes the name to 'a stone in the well, situated about a mile south-east of the church, in the road to Farewell...wherein is at the bottom a large stone, which seems to be no more than a little rock, whence springs the water that supplies that well...the well above mentioned is a small round piece of water by the road side, and the stone is a very large boulder stone in the middle of it. The common people have been superstitious about its being removed, imagining thereby some injury would befall their cattle'. It has been suggested that New Stoneywell Farm may have been built over the well: StEnc 558.

**STOOP** (unlocated, possibly near Butterton, perhaps Beacon Stoop (q.v.),) Stoop 1687 Butterton ParReg. From dialect stulpe, stolpe, from ON stólpi 'a post, a pillar', sometimes applied to beacon posts (see Beacon Stoop), boundary posts and similar.

**STOUR, RIVER** a tributary of the river Severn. Stur 736 (8th century, S.89), (at) Sure 866 (S.212; see SHC 1916 75-6), Stoura, Stoure, Stowra 1280 Hales, Stoure 1300 For, Store 1344 Fine, Stowre c.1540 Leland. There are several rivers with this name in other parts of the country. There is no OE
*stār*, but Ekwall 1928: 380-2 suggests an Indo-European root meaning 'strong, powerful river', citing the Stura in Italy, but the theory is not free from doubt, and a derivation from an unattested OE relative, *stōr*, or ON *stór* 'big', is a possibility, particularly since the name appears to attach to larger rivers, but the derivation poses philological difficulties. It may be that the name is from an OE relative of Low German *stār* 'unfriendly', Norwegian *stār* 'gloomy': see EPNE ii 165, 195; PN Wa 15.

**STOURTON** 3 miles west of Stourbridge (SO 8584). *Sturton* 1227 SHC IV 51, 1255 Duig, *Storton* 1271 SHC V (i) 143, 1416 SHC XVII 57, 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 15, *Stawreton* 1539 SHC NS VI (i) 73, *Sturseley*, or *Stourtown Castle* c.1540 Leland v 20. 'The *tan* on the river Stour'. Stourton Castle originated as a royal hunting lodge built in the 12th century, and has been rebuilt several times since: VCH XX 123; 130-2; 145.

**STOW ELM** (unlocated, in Lichfield, probably at or near Stowe (q.v.).) *Stow Elm* 1361 Deed.

**STOWE** 1\% mile north-east of Lichfield (SK 1210), *that sacred spot called Stowe* 13th century SHC 1924 51, *Stowe* 1257 ibid. 317, 1311 ibid. 319, 1433 SHC XVII 145; *STOWE BY CHARTLEY* Ancient Parish 6 miles north-east of Stafford (SK 0027), *Stowea* 1199 SIIC III (i) 56, *Stowe* 1242 Fees, 1251 Ch, 1278 SHC 1924 156, 1304 *ibid*. 311, *Le Stowe subitus Certeley* 1271 SRO 465/7910, *Stowe subitus Chartele* 1302 SRO D938/471, *Estowe* 1302 *ibid*. D938/470, Staw 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 74, *Stoo* 1567 SHC XIII 263, Stow 1686 Plot. From OE *stōw* 'place, enclosed place, place of periodic assembly', but often with the specialised meaning 'holy place': see Gelling 1982: 187-96. It has been suggested that the name *Stowheath* implies 'the heath of a place called Stow', perhaps incorporating a memory of an earlier minster church than the one founded by Wulfrun at Wolverhampton: see Hooker & Slater 1986: 37. It may also be noted (and may also be significant) that Stow Heath lies at or close to one of the sites at which the Mercians and West Saxons are said to have vanquished a Danish army c.910: see Wednesfield and Tettenhall. See also Stowe.
STRAITS, THE; STREIGHTS, THE on the east side of Himley Park (SO 8992). The Straight 1672 Sedgley ParReg, The Streights 1701-25 Sedgley RentRolls, the Straight 1724 SPI, Strate 1775 Yates, The Streights 1777 SRO D5450/2, Straight 1784 SHC 1947 88, Strait 1808 Baugh, 1818 Himley ParReg, The Streights 1834 O.S. Although early forms are not available, it is certain (notwithstanding the 1784 spelling) that the name has no connection with modern straight. It may be from a word of ME origin, derived from OFr estreit, spelt strait and streight, meaning 'narrow passage' (common in the plural), hence the Straits of Gibraltar, the Straits of Dover, etc. The OED gives the meaning 'a narrow lane, alley or passage' (1622), and it is likely that this is the meaning here: Duignan 1902: 145 describes the place as 'a steep narrow road between Sedgley and Himley'. It may be noted that field names containing the word Straight or Strait have been found to mean 'land adjoining a (Roman) road', from OE stræt (see Field 1972: 221 - Streethay appears in 1563 as Strighthey: SHC 1931 229). No Roman road is known here, and the conjectured line of a lost Roman road from Pennocrucium (Water Eaton) to the Roman sites at Greensforge lies at least four miles to the west, but the straight road from Muckley Corner to Walsall Wood is marked on Yates' map of 1799, and may be Roman, perhaps aligned with Greensforge (although a continuation would run south of Greensforge), and a short length of Roman road running north-north-east from the east side of Greensforge is marked on the 1995 O.S. map, although aligned too far north to meet the Muckley road without a change of direction. See also Bassett 2001: 8, 10.

STRAMSHALL 1½ miles north-west of Uttoxeter (SK 0835). Stagrigesholle 1086 DB, Stranricheshill 1199 SHC III (i) 38, Stranritheshull 1199 ibid. 62, Sterangricheshull 1208 ibid. 173, Strangricheshall 1221 FF, Strangricheshull 1227 Ass, Strangersheshull, Strongersheshull 1257 SHC 1911 128, Strongushull 1274 ibid. 161, Strongeshulf 1269 Ass, Strongeshull, Strongeshul 1327 SIMC 1913 8, 17, Strongkeshill 1339 ibid. 78, Stronggeshull 1391 SRO D786/3/6,1568 SHC XIII 272, Strongeshull 1425 ibid. 111, Strowneshyll 1566 SRO D786/3/6,1568 SHC XIII 272, Stroneshill 1604 SRO D786/3/11, Stramshall 1669 SRO D786/3/15. The forms suggest *Strangr's hill'. The reversion to Stran- since the 17th century is noteworthy.

STRANGLEFORD BIRCH 1½ miles west of Brewood (SJ 8508). Strangelford 1300 SIUC 1911 257, 1307 SHC VII 186, 1330 SHC VIII i 216, Strangilford 1307 SHC VII 181, 1327 SHC VII 181, Strangeford 1308 SHC IX 4, Straungeford 1311 ibid, Strangeford (p) 1327 SR, 1382 SHC XIII 17, Stranglingford c.1407 SHC XVI 60, 1420 SHC XVII 73, Strangleford Byrch 1748 SRO DW1921/2, Strangleford Birch 1749 SRO D547/1/622/. Duignan 1902: 145 notes that strangl is a provincial or dialect word for the orobanche and cuscuta plant, also called choke-fitch, chokeweed, strangle-tare, and other local variants. There is a small stream to the south of this place which may at one time have been strangled or overgrown with weed, though OED does not record strangl meaning 'choke' (from OFr estrangler) before the 14th century. Another slight possibility is a derivation from the OE personal name Strang(w)ulf. The Birch element is evidently a later addition, probably from OE brēce, by metathesis becoming birch, a word used to describe newly-cleared ground. The place is in what was Brewood Forest. Strangle Forde Meadow is recorded in Linely, Shropshire, in 1639: PN Sa III 169.
STRATFORD (obsolete, where the river Tame is crossed by Watling Street (SK 2101)). Stratford 1253 Ch, Stratford juxta Wilmundecote 1313 Pat, Streforth juxta Tamworth 1375 Ipm, Stratford 1656 Dugdale, 1750 K. Dugdale 1817-30: 824 explains that the place 'had its name originally from the situation thereof, upon the great Roman way called Watlingstreet, where it thwarts the River towards Faseley'. From OE strætford 'the ford on the Roman road'. Wilmundecote is Wilnecote.

STRATTONDALE (unlocated, perhaps outside Staffordshire). Strattondale 1273 Fine. A name of particular interest, since it would appear to incorporate OE street 'Roman road', with OE tūn and OE dael, so giving 'the tūn in the valley on the Roman road'.

STRAW HALL a house on Penn Road near The Royal Wolverhampton School on the south side of Wolverhampton: StEnc 561 (SO 9097). Straw Hall 1774 Penn ParReg.

STREETHAY 2 miles north-east of Lichfield (SK 1410). Strethay pre-1176 SHC 1924 165, 1256 SHC 1911 127, Strethay 1216x1272 SRO DW1734/3/1762, Strethai 1247 SHC 1911 118, Stretheye 1262 For, Strethay 1272 SHC 1910 108, Stretehay 1470 SHC 1939 122, Streetye 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 183, Streethaie 1601 SHC 1935 346. From OE stræt 'a paved road, a Roman road, a street', and Mercian OE (ge)hēg 'a fence, an enclosure', so giving 'the hay or enclosure on the Roman road'. Ryknild Street passes through the place.

STREETLY 4 miles east of Walsall (SO 0898). stræt lea 957 AD (12th century, S.574), Stretle 1361 SHC X NS (ii) 72, Streetly Hill 1834 O.S. The place lies on Ryknild Street, on the Staffordshire-Warwickshire boundary.

STREETWAY Watling Street (q.v.) was known in the 18th and 19th centuries both in formal documents and colloquially as The Streetway (Street-way, called by some Watling-street... 1798 Shaw I 20; Streetway 1704 Penkridge ParReg). The Turnpike Act of 1760 for the Wolverhampton-Stafford road refers to Watling Street as 'the road called the Streetway'. Farms on the road are frequently named Streetway Farm, as in Brewood and Cannock.

STRETFORD, STRATFORD (unlocated, near Chesterton in Worfield.) Streiford near Chesterton 1583 Worfield ParReg, Stratford (Field) 1822 WJ October 1908 267. Almost certainly from the Roman road that ran from Greensforge to Chesterton (q.v.), to be associated with stoni-strete recorded in 1300: VCH Sa 1273. In Shropshire since the 12th century.

STRETMESLE (unlocated) Stretmesle, Stremesle 1199 SIMC III (i) 57,167. Possibly near Flashbrook, in which case the Stret- element is likely to be the Roman road (Margary number 19) from Pennocrucium to Chester. The rest of the name is unexplained, but the resemblance of the spellings to Stretwile (q.v.) suggest that it may be the same place.

STRETTON in Penkridge parish, 2 miles north of Brewood (SJ 8811), Extetone 1086 DB, Strattona 1175 SHC III (i) 226, Stretona c.1182 SHC II 256, Streton 1242 Fees, 1286 SHC v (i) 165, Streton-juxta-Horsebrook 1380 SHC NS II 60, Streton be Strete 1433 SHC XVII 146, Downmys Streton 1491 SHC 1931 241; STRETTON 2 miles north-east of Burton uponTrent (SK 2526), Streton 941 (14th century, S.479), Strattun 1002x1004 (11th century, S.906; 11th century, S.1536), Stratone 1086 DB,
Straton, Stratton 1114 (1798) Shaw I 25-6, Halfstretton 1240 (1798) Shaw I xxviii. From OE strēt-tūn 'tūn on a Roman road'. The former lies not on Watling Street, as often stated (see e.g. Erdeswick 1844: 167), but on the Roman road (Margary number 19) from Pennocrucium (Water Eaton) to Chester, the latter on Ryknild (Icknield) Street. Downnych in the 1491 spelling is perhaps from the downs from which Down House Farm (q.v.) took its name, used to distinguish the Stretton near Brewood from other places of the same name. Horsebrook is from the place of this name near Brewood. The first part of the 1240 spelling for Stretton near Burton upon Trent is unexplained. It has been suggested (Gelling & Cole 2000: 65) that places named strēt-tūn denoted not just that they lay by a Roman road, but that they may have offered facilities to those using the road.

STRETWILE, STRETWYLE (unlocated) Probably the point where Watling Street crosses the river Penk (SJ 8910). Stretwile, Stretwyle 1300 SHC V (i) 177 (the bridge itself is recorded as Eton Bridge - from nearby Water Eaton - in 1273: VCH IV 163, and 1344: SHC XIV (ii) 27). The first element is from OE strēt ‘a Roman road, a paved road’, for the Roman road Watling Street. The second element appears to be OE *wīl, literally ‘a wile, a trick’, but probably used in the sense ‘a gin, a trap, a snare’, more specifically here in the sense of the cognate ON vél ‘a device for catching fish’, perhaps connected with the artificial channels in the river Penk between Stretton Mill and Watling Street, but ON vél also has the meaning ‘an engine, a machine’, and OE wīl may have had a similar meaning and been used for some mechanical apparatus associated with a windmill or watermill, perhaps to Stretton Mill itself: see Ekwall 1936: 157. The word is found in the north of England, and has been associated with the Danelaw (see EPNE ii 265), but is also found in Berkshire, Hampshire, and in Wyle Cop in Shrewsbury, Shropshire. See also Stretmesle.

STRINE BROOK a tributary of the Moreton Brook which runs into Blymhill Brook. From ME strīnd ‘a stream’.

STRINES 1 mile north-east of Upper Hulme (SK 0361). Blakemerstrundes 1270x1286 StCart, Strines 1415 VCH VII 33, Streins 1566 Deed, Blackmeer Strynes 1626 Rental, Blackmeer Stroynes 1668 Alstonefield ParReg, Blackmeere Stroynes 1670 ibid, Blackmere Strynes 1670 Rental, the Strines 1677 Alstonefield ParReg, Strines 1775 Yates. Probably from the plural of ME strīnd, with the meaning ‘stream, watercourse’ or similar: the place lies at the headwater of a stream that divides here to flow in different directions. Cf. Strines in High Peak, Derbyshire, PN Db 152.

STRONGFORD on the river Trent, 1 mile south of Trentham (SJ 8739). Strongford (Bridge) 1599 D593/H/3/339, 1658 SRO Q/SR/304, Stronford (Bridge) 1836 O.S. Seemingly from OE strāng ‘firm, compact soil; water with a powerful current’, evidently used here in the sense ‘the ford with the strong current’.

STUBBELEY (unlocated, possibly in the Milwich/Caverswall area - it is unlikely that there is any connection with Stubby Lea (q.v.).) Stubboley c.1230 SHC 1921 18, 1286 SHC VI (i) 174, Stubbiley 1250 SHC XI 319, Stolbelye, Stobbeleye 1306 SHC VII 171, 172. From OE *stubbīg lēah ‘the wood or clearing with the stubs or tree-stumps’. It is possible that Stolben (q.v.) is to be indentified with this place.
STUBBY LANE between Wednesfield and New Invention (SJ 9600). Stobby Lane end 1536 SRO 26/6/8/3. Perhaps ‘the lane to the wood or clearing of the stubs or tree-stumps’, from OE stubb ‘a stub, a tree-trunk’.

STUBBY LEA (FARM) 1 mile north-east of Whittington (SK 1809). Stubby Lee c.1550 SHC 1912 194. See also Stubbeley.

STUBBYLANE 1 mile west of Draycott in the Clay (SK1428). Stubbylane 1479 SHC VI NS (i) 125, 1550 SHC XII 204, Stubbe Lane 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 82, Stubby Lane 1533 SHC XIII 275, 1601 SHC XVI 220, Stubbilane 1587 SRO D786/21/3, Stubby lane 1686 Plot. ‘The lane to the wood or clearing of the stubs or tree-stumps’. A lane here bears the name Stubby Lane.

STUBCROSS (unlocated, in Walsall.) Stucross 1539 SRO D593/A/2/20/12. Presumably ‘the stump of the broken cross’.

STUBWOOD on north side of Rocester (SK 1039). Stubwood 1675 Rocester ParReg, 1686 Plot, Stubwood green 1728 Rocester ParReg. ‘The wood with the tree-stumps’, from OE stubb ‘a stub, a tree-trunk’. Stubwood near Ranton, recorded in the 18th century (JNSFC LXIII 1928-9 165), is likely to be associated with Stubbs' Wood (Stubb's Wood 1891 O.S.), 1 mile north-west of Ranton (SJ 8425).

STURBRIDGE I mile north of Eccleshall (SJ 8330). Stourbridge 1889 O.S. A puzzling name, for the spelling indicates ‘the bridge over the river Stour’, yet there is no bridge, river or stream here, and the nearest river, ¼ mile to the south, is the Sow. If the name is ancient (which seems unlikely: it does not appear on the first edition 1" O.S. map of 1834, or the 1891 6" O.S. map, and Sturbrugge 1414 SHC XVII 16, and Sturbyche, Sturbeche c.1554 SHC 1938 140, although expressly stated to be in Staffordshire, are almost certainly Stourbridge, Worcestershire, which has never formed part of Staffordshire), perhaps associated with a (lost) stream called Stawbrooke recorded in Eccleshall in 1565 (SHC 1938 73), or the unlocated Tunbryge, recorded in this area in 1565 (SHC XIII 254), or, if fairs were anciently held here, perhaps transferred from the renowned Stourbridge Fair in Cambridgeshire.

STYCHBROOK 1½ miles north of Lichfield (SK 1111). Tichbroc 1086 DB, Stichesbroc c.1200 SHC 1939 87, Stichesbroc 1248 SHC IV 241, Sticheslesbroch early 13th century SRO (150/7923), Stichesbroc mid 13th century ibid, Stichesbroke 1291 SHC 1911 45, Stichesbroc, Stichesbroc, Stichesbroc 13th century Duig, Stikesbrok 1302 SHC 1911 59, Schitesbrok 1325 SHC 1939 93, Stychebrok 1363 SHC 1939 98, Stickeybrok 1394 SHC VI (ii) 188, Stychebrok 1410 ibid, Stychebroke (Grange) 1692 SRO D15/8/5/1, Stich Brook 1834 O.S. Perhaps from the OE *sticel(e) 'a steep place, a declivity', with the OE terminal broc 'brook', presumably what is now Circuit Brook: VCII XIV 229. One meaning of stickle given by the OED is ‘a place in a river where the bed slopes and the water is shallow and runs swiftly; a rapid’, although the earliest recorded use is 1616. Plot 1686: 106 noted a small stream which rose at Stychbrook and left a residue of aluminous sulphate at the spring head, a phenomenon that might conceivably be reflected in the stream-name. The DB spelling may reflect the Norman difficulty pronouncing St-: see e.g. Tutbury and Nottingham. Cf. Stittenham, Yorkshire. See also Leyes Grange.
STYCHFIELD (HALL) in Castle Church. Stychfieldes in Castell 1582 SHC XV 143. Almost certainly from OE stycce 'a bit, a piece', with OE feld, with an early meaning 'open land' and a later meaning 'enclosed land'.

STYVINGTON - see STEENWOOD.

SUFFORD (unlocated, near Stonnal: SHC XVII 244.) Sufford ? temp. Edward III SHC XVII 248, the Suffords 1635 SRO D15/11/20/18. See also Sanders 1794: 122.

SUGARLOAF a hill 1 mile south of Ecton (SK 0956), The Sugar-loaf Hill, or Caplow Garner 1844: 73; SUGARLOAF FARM near a 480' hill which lies on the boundary between Staffordshire and Worcestershire at Iverley (SO 8881), Sugarloaf Farm 1776 VCH XX 139, Sugar Loaf Farm 1832 Teesdale; SUGAR LOAF HILL (obsolete) in the Maer Hills 1 mile north-west of Maer (SJ 7839), Sugar loaf Hill 1833 O.S. From sugar-loaf 'a moulded conical mass of hard refined sugar' (OED) in which form sugar was sold well into the 20th century. The name may have been applied to the hill itself or in some cases to tumuli on the hill, of which a number are recorded at the hill near Maer.

SUGNALL 3 miles north-west of Eccleshall (SJ 7930). Sotehelle 1086 DB, Sugenhulle 1222 Ass, Suggenh' c.1233 Rees 1997: 82, Sogenhul, Parva Sogenhul 1242 Fees, Sogenhull 1280 SHC VI (i) 121, Suggenhale ?13th century SHC VI (i) 8, Sugginhille, Sugginhull, Suggenhale 13th century Duig, Magna Suggenhull, parva Suggenhull 1311 SHC 1914 30, Sugge ? 14th century SHC 1921 15, Great Suggenylle 1472 SHC NS IV 173, Sogunhill 1472 BCA MS917/1253, Suknell Mangna 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 102, Shoginhill 1564 SHC 1926 119. The first element may be OE sucga 'a bird (possibly a sparrow)', or the OE personal name Sucga, with hyll. The DB form is clearly an error. There were evidently a 'great' (Magna) and a 'little' (Parva) Sugnall. A place-name Sugge is recorded in this area in about the 14th century: SHC 1921 15.

SUKARS HALL (obsolete) A prebendal manor house which possibly adjoined St Lawrence's church, Gnosall (SJ 831208): see WMA 36 1993 70. Seukesworth 1369 SHC X NS (ii) 127, Suterhall 1395 ChancM, Seturhall 1496 SHC 4th Series VII 170, Sewkeworth alias Sukars Hall c.1503 SRO DW1449/1, ? Sukar 1587 SHC XV 173. From William de Seukesworth (d.1314), a canon of Lichfield and prebendary of Gnosall in 1278 (SHC 1927 110), with OE word 'an enclosure', later replaced with hall. The name Francis Sukar or Shuker is recorded in 1595: Ipm. The hall was no longer standing by 1677: VCH IV 115.

SUKERS LODGE (obsolete) 1 mile north-west of Castle Ring on Cannock Chase (SK 0213). Sugars Lodge 1798 Yates, 1834 O.S. A former lodge to Beaudesert Hall, named perhaps from Richard Suker, recorded in 1580 (ParReg). It was demolished by 1992: StEnc. 564.

SUMMERFORD in Willenhall (SP 9597). The stream here was too modest to be fordable only in summer (see Somerford above), but the name may be explained by a reference in a grant by the Dean of Wolverhampton in 1359 which mentions Stomfords lone, which would appear to be the present road running north from Summerford. The 14th century spelling may be a transcription error for Stoniford, which has become corrupted into the present name: see WA II 91.
SUMMERHILL on the west side of Kingswinford (SO 8788), Summerhill 1749 Bowen, Summer Hill 1808 Baugh, 1834 O.S.; SUMMERHILL ½ mile north-west of Whitgreave (SJ 8828), Summerhill 1890 O.S.; SUMMERHILL 1 mile south-east of Flash (SK 0367), Summer Hill 1775 Yates. A self-explanatory name, the precise meaning of which is uncertain.

SUMMERSTREET LANE an ancient lane between Spot and Cotwaltone. '...a long stretch of broad green lane...sometimes in the middle, sometimes by the side, the line of [a] vallum is clearly traceable for more than a mile': JNSFC XXXVI 1901-2 118.

SUREY (obsolete) on the south side of Abbey Green near Leek (?SJ 9858). Sury 1644 Leek ParReg, Shury 1705 ibid. The place is recorded in the earlier 17th century (VCH VII 198), and in the Quarter Sessions records of 1724 'the village of Surrey in the Parish of Leek' was held responsible for the upkeep of the road from the end of 'Surrey Pavement to Gun Gate' (StEnc 564-5). Surrey Pavement may have been a paved causeway across the Churnet valley between Dieulacres and Leek (the printed Leek ParReg I 3 states that 'The southernmost houses at Abbey Green are often called now by this name [Sury]. Tradition says that it was because they stood on the Sure-way to relief - the way to the Abbey. But rather it was because the raised road was paved', and the Leek ParReg II 11 suggests that Sary was 'a pavement of cobble stones on the raised road which led to [Dieulacres Abbey gatehouse] from Broad's Bridge'), perhaps to be associated with a deep hollow-way known as The Trusseway (q.v.) which is said to have run from Fauld across Gun: StEnc 564-5, 603. The place is recorded as Sury (Meadow) in 1770: SRO D3327/1/4/3/17-20. No derivation can be suggested for Surey or Surrey. Pasture in Eccleshall called Sarrey is recorded in 1519: WCRO GR1291/170/1-2. The Corsee in Leek is recorded in 1596 (Okeover T697), from causee, causey (see VEPN II 51-2), from ME cause 'a mound, an embankment, a raised way across low wet ground'.

SUTHEROWE (unlocated, in or near Cannock Chase, perhaps associated with South Street (q.v.)). Sutherowe 1546 SHC 1912 348. See also Sowsbetch.

SUTTON 2 miles north-east of Newport, in Forton parish (SJ 7622), Sutton 1203 to 1209 Ass, 1227 SHC IV 41, Sauthon 1254 SHC 1911 123, Sutton 1256 SHC 1913 317, 1332, 1346 Ch, Southetonne c.1540 Leland; SUTTON 1 mile south of Market Drayton (SJ 6631), now in Shropshire, Sutton 1583 SHC XVII 228; SUTTON (obsolete) ½ mile north of Claverley (SO 792941), Sutton 1255 Eyton 1854-60: III 93, 1743 Shaw 1801: II 272, 1833 O.S. The southern titl. Whitelock 1930: 157 identifies Sudtune, recorded in the will of Wulfric Spot 1002x1004 as Sutton Maddock, 2½ miles west of Beckbury, Shropshire, but (as suggested by Eyton 1854-60: III 209) it could be Sutton near Claverley: the name Sudtune is immediately preceded in the will by Sciplea (Shipley q.v.), 1¼ miles from Sutton near Claverley; Shipley is 6½ miles from Sutton Maddock. SHC 1916 34 considers both places and prefers to identify the place as Sutton Maddock.

SWAINSMOOR 1 mile north-east of Upper Hulme (SK 0261). Swaynsmor 1286 Court (p), Swaynsmore 1302 SHC 1925 97, Swaynesmorr 1302 SHC 1911 59, Swyenesmor 1348 Banco, Swyensmore 1511 SHC 1935 123, 1522 SHC 1925 121, Swannes Meyre 1538 SHC 1939 84, Swaynesmore 1650 SRO DW1761/A/4/267[10/105], Swennesmoore 1675 Alstonefield ParReg, Swanes Moore 1676 ibid, Swans Moor 1798 Yates, Swainsmoor 1839 EncL, Swansmoor 1842 O.S. From the
ON personal name Sveinn (or the same name borrowed into OE as Swegn: see e.g. SHC V (i) 27), with OE mōr 'a moor, a marsh', here meaning 'high moorland' since the area is not marshy. The name may be evidence of Norse influence in north Staffordshire. See also Swansmoor.

**SWALLOW MOSS** 1½ miles north-west of Warslow (SK 0760). *Swallow Moss* 1775 Yates, 1839 *Enc*, *Swallow Moor* 1840 O.S. The first word may be the bird (OE swalwe), or possibly OE *swalg* 'a pit, a pool', perhaps in some cases referring to a swallow hole, an opening or cavity through which a stream disappears underground. OE mōr and mos both meant 'marshy land', so 'the marshy land frequented by swallows', or 'the marshy land with the pit or pool'.

**SWAN VILLAGE** 1 mile north-west of West Bromwich (SO 9991). From the Swan public house, recorded in 1655, but perhaps existing at least twenty years earlier: Hackwood 1895: 7, 50; VCH XVII 8. There is another Swan Village 2 miles north of Dudley (SO 9393) which presumably has a similar derivation. The Swan was the badge of the Stafford family, and a common name for public houses.


**SWAN HAY** (unlocated, in King's Bromley.) *Swan Hay als Coat Leasows* 1613 SRO D357/A/1/1-26, *Swan Hay* 1720 SRO D15/11/4/111.

**SWANHAYS** (unlocated, in Audley.) *Swanhays* 1566 SHC IX NS 84.

**SWANSMOOR** 2 miles north of Colwich (SK 0124), *Swannesmore* 1461 HAME 483, *Swannes Meyre* 1538 SHC 1939 84, *Swaynesmore* 1625 SHC 1914 131, *Swansmore* 1662 SRO DW1871/9/2/25, *Swans Moor* 1798 Yates, *Swansmoor* 1842 O.S. Probably 'the mere or pool with the swans'. Modern maps show no pool here, but Meyre, in the 1538 spelling, suggests that one existed formerly, or there was particularly wet ground. There is little possibility that the name is from a personal name, although there are references c.1235 to Swan the Smith hereabouts (SIIC 1919 7), c.1270 to Richard Swein of Blithfield (SHC 1937 76), and in 1299 to Swane le Fevre of Blithfield (SHC VII (i) 54). *Swans Moor* in Hatherton is recorded in 1760: SRO D260/M/T/4/65. See also Swainsmoor.

OE swēr 'heavy, oppresive, slow', applicable to a stream with a slow current, is improbable with a minor watercourse considered to be a burna 'stream'. Perhaps therefore from OE swērora 'a neck, a col' (see Ekwall 1928: 386, who gives the name as Swerbourn), found in place-names with the meaning 'a neck of land, a hollow on the top of a ridge or hill', and found in the dialect form swire. Cf. Sourton, Devon; Swerford, Oxfordshire.

SWILCAR LAWN, SWILCAR OAK 1½ miles south of Marchington (SK 1228). Swilcar lawn oak, Swilcar oak 1798 Shaw I 66, Swilker Lawn Oak 1836 O.S. 'Swilcar oak stands singly upon a beautiful lawn surrounded with extensive woods ...' 1798 Shaw I 69. A curious name. Halliwell (with EDD and OED) gives the meaning 'to splash about' for swilker, which may derive from OE *swill 'a sloppy mess', from OE swillan, swilian 'to swill, wash', so giving 'the great oak in the squelchy open grassland in the wood'. The oak, destroyed by a storm or lightning c.1942, was famed for its size: Shaw 1798: I 66 fn.1, 69 states that it had a girth of 21' at a height of five feet; see also StEnc 566.

SWINCHURCH 5 miles north of Eccleshall, in Chapel Chorlton (SJ 8037). Susneshed 1086 DB, Susnesheved c.1230 SHC VI (i) 11, Swyneshead 1256 SHC XII NS 85, Swinesheved 1261 SHC XI 324, Swinesheuid c.1266 SHC 1924 360, Susnesheved 1272-3 SHC XI NS 242, Swynesheved 1283 SHC 1911 180, Susneshefd 1287 SHC 1921 16, Swyneshead 1373 SHC 1914 37, Swyneshead 1425 SHC XVII 111. The first element is from OE swin 'swine', and the second is from OE hēofod 'a head or end (of anything)'. The second element is often combined with the name of an animal. Swineshead, by far the most common of such compounds, is found surprisingly frequently in English place-names, with at least 13 examples known. The hēofod 'head' element is invariably a topographical term, in the sense of 'a low headland', giving 'a low headland suggestive of a swine's head' (see Gelling & Cole 2000: 175-6), but the distinction between a hēofod and a ness is unclear. The place lies near the foot of a pronounced narrow headland, with another headland nearby to the east, the latter (from hatchuring on the first edition 1" O.S. map of 1833) with a rounded and stepped nose (or 'snout'), and is mentioned in the late 16th century as Swinshead, a name still used in 1819, but appears as Swinchurch on Greenwood's map of Staffordshire, 1820 (VCH IV 42), presumably because the older name was then considered indecorate. See also SHC 1945-6 107; PN Wo 161-2. The name is found as early as the 7th century: ASC 'E' records Swineshead in Lincolnshire as Swines hæfod in 675 (ASC 'E'), at Suinesheabde 786x796 (13th century, S.1412); Ekwall 1960: 457. An association with pagan rituals involving animal sacrifice with place-names of this type is now rejected by place-name scholars: see Gelling & Cole 2000: 175-6. See also Boleheved.

SWINDON 5 miles west of Dudley (SO 8690). Swineduna 1167 SIIC 1923 298, Suindun 1236 Fees, Swyndon 1271 SHC V (i) 141, Swyneden 1275 SIIC VI (i) 71, Swyndon 1300 SIIC VII 66, Swyndon 1332 SHC X (i) 130, Sevindon (sic) 1775 Yates, 1787 Cary. From OE swin-dān 'hill of the pig or swine'. The place lay in Kinver Forest, where the pasturage of swine was an important privilege.

SWINESHEAD - see SWINCIHERCH.

SWINFEN 3 miles south-east of Lichfield (SK 1305). Swynefen 1232 Ass, Swynefen 1252 FF, 1294 SHC VI (i) 294, Swynfend 1255 (1801) Shaw II 29, Swinesfeud, Swynefen, Swynefen 13th century
Duig, Wynfyn 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 184, Swinefeld c.1540 Leland. 'The fen of the swine', from OE *swfn* 'swine, pig', and OE *fen* 'marsh, fen', and OE *feld* 'open ground'. The area here is low lying.

**SWINSCOE** - see **SWYNNERTON**.

SWINSCOE 3½ miles north-west of Ashbourne (SK 1348). Swinescho 1203 FF, Swineskou 1203 SHC III 109, Swinestoh 1203 SHC III 117, Swineskoc 1241 Okeover, Swyneskow 1248 FF, Swynsco 1253 Ipm, Swinescough 1295 SHC 1911 55, Swynscho 1299 Ass, Swineskoby, Swynescow, Swenesco, Swynescho, Swanetchough ?13th century SHC VII NS 142-64, Swineschoe 1318 Okeover, Swineskowe, Swyneschoe, Swynsnecow, Swynescho, Swinescow 1320 SHC VII NS 142-64, Swinescough 1325 Ipm, Swinescow 1338 Okeover, Swynsco 1375 MA, Swynescow 1564 Pat, Swisnscow 1606 FF, Swainscow otherwise Swanscoewe, Swynsco 1605 SHC IV NS 5. The first element is from OE *swfn*, or ON *svn* 'pig, swine'. The second element is from ON *skógr* 'wood', the only example traced in Staffordshire, and provides evidence of Scandinavian influence.

**SWYNNERTON** Ancient Parish 3 miles north-west of Stone (SJ 8535). Sylvertone 1086 DB, Swineduna Helye 1166-7 SHC I 49, Swaneforton c.1195 SHC XI NS 125, Sinvertona c.1199 SHC II 95, Suinerton, Silverston 1205 SHC III 134, Sylwerton' 1206 Pleas, Soulverton 1206 SHC 1912 269, Sumerverton 1228 SHC IV 74, Swynnnerton 1230 SHC 1912 270, Silvesterston 1236 Fees, Suinerton 1242 ibid, Surlton 1263 SHC IV 154, Sonnerton 1264 SHC 1912 269, Swynaferton, Swinforton 1272 Ass, Silverston 1275 SHC I 174, Swynemerton 1289 SHC VI (i) 181, Swonnerton 1320 SHC 1912 269, Swinnerton (frequently), Swyneforton 13th century Duig, Silvesterston, Silveston 13th century SHC I 174, Sylverston 1326 SHC IX (i) 113, Swynforton 1355 ibid. 324, Sonnerton 1372 SHC 1912 269, Swynnton 1404 HLS, Swenerton 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 137. Ekwall 1960: 457 gives a derivation from OE *Swynford-tan* 'tan by the pig ford' (supported by Mills 1998: 336), and that is likely to be correct, although the early forms are inconsistent, doubtless indicating that the true derivation had become uncertain at an early date. The *-ver-* element is evidently the commonly-found corruption of *ford*. One explanation for some of the forms is a derivation incorporating an OE adjective *sulig* 'a pigsty, pig's lair' (of interest because it is found only in the neighbouring counties of Gloucestershire, Worcestershire, and Warwickshire, suggesting that it was a term used in and around Hwiccan territory that went out of use at an early date: see Ekwall 1936: 56), from OE *sylu* 'wallowing place for animals, miry place', sometimes found as *sol(h)*, later *sil*, perhaps explained by unrounding and fronting (see PN Wa 68, Gelling & Cole 2000: 62-3, and note Sol-, Sul-, Syl-, and Sil- spellings for Solihull). That would give alternative names with similar meaning 'tan at the ford with the wallowing place', and 'tun by the pig ford', which may have been in use together. Another possibility is that the name incorporates OE *sulh* (generally found as *sylh*) 'plough', which occurs in several place-names, perhaps in the sense 'furrow' and 'gulley, narrow valley': cf. Silvertone, Dorset, and see especially Ekwall 1960: 452. Hatchuring on the first edition 1" O.S. map shows a pronounced narrow valley with a stream running south from the village. It may be noted that *sulforda* is recorded in 718x745 (11th century, S.1254) in the first known English lease: Stenton 1971: 485. A ford may seem improbable at a place on high ground, but the original settlement may have lain on lower ground, perhaps to the south of the present village; see StEnc 567. For the pronunciation of the name as Sonnerton or Sinnerton see SHC 1912

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269. Helye in the 1166-7 spelling is from the name the Domesday tenant, variously given as Aslen (DB), Eelen, Ehelen, Eelen, Eslenem, Esluem, and Aelem: SHC VII (i) 2. See also SHC I 174.

SWYTHAMLEY 6 miles east of Congleton, near the Staffordshire-Cheshire border (SJ 9764). Swithomlee 1180, 1283 Brocklehurst, Swithamley-grange 1234, Swithoml c.1291 Tax, Swithileve 1406, Swithunley 1534, Swithale 1538, Swithumley-grangew 1538 (all NSFC LXVII 51-70), Swithery 1540 Pat, Swithom le Grange 1599 SHC 1935 212, Swithalwy 1607 Kip, Switherngrange, Swithernley 1614, 1645, 1697 and 1762 NSFC LXVII 51-70. The first element appears to be the dative plural of ON sviðum 'at the burnings' or similar (cf. ME swithin 'a clearing', related to ON *sviðinn 'land cleared by burning', found in English dialect as swithin and swidden, from ON svida 'to burn': see Ekwall 1960: 457 s.n. Swithland; JEPNS 137), with ON holmr 'raised ground in marsh-land', with OE lēah, giving 'the lēah cleared by burning in the marsh land'. Parke land, recorded in 1621 (SHC 1934 24), may be Swithamley Park. Cf. Swithenthwaite, Cumbria.

SYDNALL 2 miles south-east of Market Drayton (SJ 6830), now in Shropshire. Sydnall 1583 SHC XVII 228. Probably from OE (at þæm) stān hēale 'broad corner of land'. Cf. The Sidnalls. Sydenhale (lost, north of Whittington) is recorded c.1300: TSSAHS XX 1978-9 loose map.

SYERSCOTE 2½ miles north-east of Tamworth (SK 2207). Fricescote 1086 DB, Siricescotan 11th or 12th century Sawyer 1979a: xxxvii, Sireskote 1236 Fees, Sirescot 1242 Fees, Sidecote 1292 SHC VI (i) 247, Shyrscote 1293 ibid. 288, 1303 WL 36, Cyrescot' 1320 WL 172, Syrescote 1375 BCA MS3669/Acc1938-049/506569, Cuescote 1377 SHC 4th Series VI 11, Sirescote 1380 SHC XVII 192, Sierscote c.1566 SHC 1938 170, Surcote, Surcot 1566 SHC IX 79, Sierrot 1753 BCA MS3878/613. The DB F- is clearly an error for S-. The name means 'the cot or cottages of Sigerfe'.

SYTCH HOUSE GREEN 2 miles south-west of Claverley (SO 7890). From OE stæ 'a watercourse'. It is unclear whether Sycythe, recorded temp. Edward I (Eyton 1854-60: III 76), is to be associated with this place. In Shropshire since the 12th century.

TAD BROOK running south of Kingstone into Blithfield reservoir. ceabbe broc 996 (11th century, S.878), ? Capbroc c.1250 SROD986/41, Tap(pe)broc 13th century Bagot, Taldbro(o)ke 1349 Blithfield, Tabbrock(medue) 1402 SHC XI NS 202, 1508 Bagot, 1546 Ct, Tade Broke 1543 Ct., Taddebroke 1562 SRO DW1734/1/1070. Hart 1975: 207 suggests a derivation from a patronymic *Ceabba, which may have been a pet-form of Ceadda, but it is likely that the earliest spelling confuses c and t, a common occurrence. The name may derive from OE teppa 'a peg, a spigot' (also found in Tappeley (q.v.)), usually applied to a place where wood for these was obtained, so 'the brook of the wood or clearing where pegs or spigots were got', with OE broc 'brook'. See also Hooke 1983: 90.

TADDEROKE - see DAIRY HOUSE near Market Drayton.

TALKE. TALK O' TH' HILL south-west of Kidsgrove (SJ 8253). Talc 1086 DB, 1203 SHC III (i) 116, Talk 1252 CH, 1280 SHC VI (i) 112, Talke 1276 Ipm, 1540 DRO D3155/WI44. Probably from a British hill-name from Welsh talcen 'forehead, brow, gable-end', with loss of n in an unstressed syllable. The place lies on a prominent ridge. Talkhamell is recorded in Audley c.1571 (SHC 1931...
131), from dialect *hamel* 'hamlet' (OED), but the identity of the place is uncertain, unless it is to be read as *Talk-Halmer*. See also Mow Cop.

**TALLASH** 2 miles south-west of Rushton Spencer (SJ 9260). Tallash 1842 O.S. Evidently from *tall ash*. See also Ashmore Heath.

**TAMBER** (unlocated, possibly near Trentham.) Tamber 1584 and 1589 Trentham ParReg.

**TAME, RIVER** a tributary of the river Trent. Tame c.1025 Saints, 1228 Ass, Tama 1232 Ass, Tamme 1285 QW, Tome 1379 Ipm, 1414 SRO D593/B/1/26/6/1/6, Thame 1282 Banco, 1286 For, 1292 Cl, 1315, 1381 Ipm, 1350 BM, 1509 Rental. A British river name identical with Taff and Taf in Wales, and meaning perhaps 'dark river' (Ekwall 1928: 389-90), which forms part of the name of the Anglo-Saxon tribal territory of the *Tomsatun* 841 (12th century, S.197), *Tomsetna* 849 (11th century, S.199; 11th century, S.1272), 'people of the Tame'. See also Tamhorn; Tamworth.

**TAMHORN** 2 miles north-west of Tamworth (SK 1706). Tamahore 1086 DB, Tamehorn 1167 P, Tamenhorn 1179 SHC I 90, Thamenhor c.1255 (1798) Shaw I xvi, Thamenhoren 1266 SHC 1911 136, Thomenhorn 1271 SHC V (i) 145, Tomenhorn 1289 SHC 1924 360, Thamehorne 13th century Duig, Toumehorn, Tommehor 1371 SHC VIII NS 262, 265. The first element is from the river Tame (q.v.). The second element is OE *horn* 'horn, corner, bend', hence 'the horn-shaped land near the river Tame', or possibly '(the estate at) the bend of the river Tame'. The place lies near a slight bend of the river.

**TAMWORTH** Ancient Parish 14 miles north-east of Birmingham (SK 2004). ? Tomtun 675x692 (S.1804; see Gelling 1992 146-7 for this and following early spellings), Tamouuworthie 781 (11th century, S.120), Tamouuworthige 781 (11th century S.121), (et) Tome worðige 799 (13th century, S.155), Tomewordig 808 (9th century, S.163), Tomeuordig 841 (S.198), Tomweorthin 855 (11th century, S.207). Tomeworphig 922 ASC, Tom[wyo]rdin 1002x1004 (11th century, S.1536), Tamwurde 1086 DB, Tamwurda 1179 SHC I 90, Tamewurd, Tamewurde 1190 Ch, Thammoth 1271 SHC V (i) 147, Thamworye, Thamworye, Thamworyie c.1280 SHC 1921 4, Thamworye c.1280 SHC 1921 5, Thameworthie 1292 SHC VI (i) 247, Thamworte 1313 SHC 1911 313, Toneworthe 1396 SHC XV 76. The second element is from OE *worpig*, an element rarely found outside the south-west, which is usually said to mean 'enclosure, homestead', but which perhaps developed at an early stage in the Midlands a particular meaning synonymous with *burh*, and was applied to places of particular importance: cf. *Northworthig*, the earlier name of Derby. (Hart 1992: 37 fn.37 suggests that *Northworthig* may have been the 'capital' of the people called by Bede the North Mercians, with Tamworth the capital of the South Mercians, comparable with Norwich in Norfolk and Ipswich in Suffolk.) It is almost certain that the name was originally *Tomtun* 'the tan on the river Tame' (SIIC 1950-1 146fn; Hooke 1983: 21; Gelling 1992: 146-8). Tamworth was the early capital of Mercia, where Offa established a base and fortified the town 757-96, but was destroyed by the Danes in 874. The change from the generic *tan* which occurred during the 8th (or late 7th) century perhaps reflected a change in the nature of the place; see Gelling 1992: 147. Offa's fortifications, which probably took the form of an enclosing ditch and bank, may explain and date the *worpig* element: see TSSAIIS X 1968-9 32-42. The pre-Conquest spellings, which vary in printed sources, are taken from Hart 1975; see also Zaluckyj 2001: 218-9. Cf. Tame; Tamhorn.
TAMWORTH MOORES  (unlocated, perhaps to be associated with Staffordshire Moor (q.v.).)  
*Tamworth Moores* 1647 BCA MS3878/261.


TAPMORE  (unlocated, in 'Great Loxley': DW1733/A/2/39. )  *Tapmore* 1337 SRO DW1733/A/2/39.  Evidently associated with *Tapporde* recorded in 1430 SRO DW1733/A/2/42. See also Tappeley.

TAPPELEY  (lost, in Bagot's Bromley, perhaps near Squitch House: SHC XI NS 15. )  *Tapelega* 1198 SHC XI NS 146, *Tappelegh* 1199 SHC III (i) 167, *Tappelee* c.1225 SHC XI NS 149, *Tarpele* 1290 *ibid*. 22, *Tappeley* 1369 SHC XIII 64, 1402 SHC XI NS 208, temp. Henry VIII *ibid*. 15. See SHC XI NS 15.  The first element may be OE *tappa* 'tap' in an earlier sense 'peg', with OE *lēah*, so possibly 'the wood from which pegs were obtained', or 'the clearing where pegs were made'. See also Tad Brook; Tapmore.

TAR HILL  on south side of Brocton (SJ 9618).  *Tar Hill* 1834 O.S. The single late spelling precludes a derivation: OE *torr* 'a rock, a rocky outcrop, a rocky peak' seems unlikely. *Tarr Hill* near Hilton (Worfield) is recorded in 1822: WJ October 1908 267.

TARDEBIGGE  3½ miles south-east of Bromsgrove (SO 9969).  *Tärdebicgan* c.1000 (11th century, S.1534), *Tyrdiebigan* (11th century, S.1598), *Terdebiggan* 11th century, *Tyrdiebigan* 11th century, *Terdebigan* 11th century (17th century) PN Wo 362, *Terdeberie* 1086 DB, *Terde(s)bigga* 1173 SHC I 67, 1266 Ch, *Terdebigga* 1138 BM, 1169-92 P, 1275, 1327 SR, *Terdebig* 1230 CI, *Therdebigge* 1258 FF, *Terdebig* 1270 SHC 1923 266, *Tertebigge* 1275 Ass, *Terdebygge* 1293 SHC VI (i) 261, *Terbygge* 1486, 1499 Pat, 1589 CKS U386/T107, *Tarbick* 1675 Ogilby, *Tarbeck* 1680 FF. A puzzling name for which no satisfactory derivation can presently be offered. The -cg- in the suffix might point to an English rather than a Celtic origin, but the derivation remains uncertain: Mawer 1929: 3 suggests 'probably Celtic', and Coates 1988: 57-64 suggests Celtic *tarp* *pêg* 'spring at the hill': the place lies on the north-east side of a hill of over 525'. However, the name is only included with reservations in the corpus of Celtic names which appear in Coates & Breeze 2000: 341, and there are philological difficulties associated with that derivation, including the many early spellings with *Te*- Another possibility is that the first element may be associated with a personal name *Tyrdda*, believed to be found in Tredington, Worcestershire, some 24 mile south-east of Tardebigge: *Tyrdda* is recorded in a charter of 757 (11th century, S.55) as a previous holder of the estate: see PN Wo 172, 362; Gelling 1988: 178. It is possible that the *T-* is a ghost of the preposition *æt*: early documents generally used the preposition with village names which were originally toponymics, but not with names that were originally habitative or which still retained names of natural features, or old British names: EPNE i 6; cf. Cf. *Tawbridge*, Lancashire, from *at Ald-brycg*. A minor unsolved name in Willoughby, Warwickshire, is recorded as *Turdebigge* c.1250, c.1280, 1321 *Magdalen Deeds*, *Turdebie 1375 ibid*, *Tardebigge 1349 ibid*, and has perhaps the same derivation as Tardebigge: see PN Wo xliii. Tardebigge was in Staffordshire from c.1100 to 1266 (see also SHC 1944 88) and in Warwickshire until 1844, when it transferred to Worcestershire.

TATERYNGE (unlocated) *Taterynge* 1553 SHC XII (i) 211.

TATTENHAM (unlocated, possibly fictitious: see SHC IX NS 150.) *Tattenham* c.1565 SHC IX NS 150.

TAYLORS GREEN (obsolete) ¼ mile north-west of Longsdon (SJ 9555). *Taylors Green* 1695 Leek ParReg, 1815 SRO Q/SB. The name is recorded in 1482: VCH VII 203.

TAYLOR'S PARK (unlocated, near Yoxall.) *Taylor's Park* 1723 SBT DR 18/22/7/22. Perhaps from a surname, but Rackham 1990: 107-8 notes that Norman-French *tailz* had the same meaning as *coppice* (also a Norman-French word), found in modern French as *tailiss* 'underwood', and sometimes found in English wood-names as Taylor's.


TEANFORD (pronounced Tenford [tenfəd]) 2 miles south of Cheadle (SK 0040). *Teanford* 1698 SHC 1925 145, *Tenford* 1732 SRO D927/4, 1836 O.S., 1870 P.O. 'The ford across the river Tean'.


TEGUES WELL (obsolete, in High Onn.) *Tegues Well* 1808 Baugh.

TENTERBANKS  on west side of Stafford (SJ 9222). From ME teyntour 'a frame for drying and stretching cloth': le teynter on the walls is recorded in Stafford in 1468 (VCH VI 189), presumably associated with the modern name Tenterbanks.

TENTERHILL 1 mile north-west of Hollinsclough (SK 0467). Tenter Hill 1798 Yates, 1794 Stockdale. Almost certainly from ME teyntour 'a frame for drying and stretching cloth'.


TETTENHALL Ancient Parish 2 miles north-west of Wolverhampton (SJ 8700). (aet) Teotaheale 910 ASC (C,E), (at) Totanheale ibid. (D), Totehala, Totenhale 1086 DB, Tettenhala 1169 P, Tettenhal 1173 SCH I 68, Totenhall 1186 SCH I 130, 1190 SCH II 12, Teteneshal' 1194 Pipe, Tettenhal 1195 SCH II 46, 1201 ibid. 108, Tettenhalle 1196 ibid. 57, Totenhall 1240 (1798) Shaw I xxx, Totenhall 1255 SCH V (i) 113, Tottenhale 1286 ibid. 166, Tettenhale 1540 Leland v 19, Tetenhall 1577 Saxton, 1610 Speed. The forms indicate a derivation from an OE personal name *Teotta, which is not on record; cf. Téoda, representing pet-forms from names beginning Péod-. There was evidently another form with t for d, as here: cf. Teddington, Worcestershire (Teottingtun 780), and Tiddingford, Buckinghamshire (Teotanheale ASC): see PN Bk 81. The commanding views from the abrupt sandstone bluff here encouraged Skeat to suggest that 'if we take the words as they stand (Anglo-Saxon Totanhale, Domesday spelling Totehala), then Anglo-Saxon totan heall means "tout's corner"; i.e. a corner (or convenient spyplace) whence a spy looks out. Totan should be To'tan with long o, and is the genitive case of To'ta, a spy, or lookout man. Mod. Eng. Tout for custom. It means the Hall or Dwelling on a look out hill. We should call it Spy Hall if we had to make up the word nowadays': Jones 1894: 8. Evidently Skeat had been misinformed as to the early spellings, and his derivation is ruled out by the early forms. Tettenhall was held by the clergy of Wolverhampton, which explains references to Tettenhall Clericorum (see for example SHC XVIII 160), and the king held a manor in Tettenhall Regis (q.v.). Tettenhall is the name of the civil parish, Tettenhall Regis the ecclesiastical parish. Tetenhalehome or Totenhalehome, recorded in 1337 (SHC VI NS (ii) 94-5) was evidently near Tettenhall, but not Tettenhall itself. ASC records a great battle at Tettenhall (or at Wednesfield) c.910 AD, at which the Saxons vanquished the Danes: Earle & Plummer 1892-9: i 94-7. The battle is commemorated by Dane's Court (Danescourt 1922 O.S.) an area north-west of Tettenhall (SJ 8800), a name which is not ancient but comes from the name, inspired by local antiquarianism, of a large house built there in 1864 and demolished in 1958: VCH XX 8. See also Perton. Tettenburn is recorded in a charter of 739 AD of land at Crediton, Devon (11th century, S.255): see Whitelock 1955: 256.

TETTENHALL REGIS Ancient Parish 2 miles north-west of Wolverhampton (SJ 8700). Kinges Tetnolde c.1560 SCH 1938 158. See Tettenhall.

TETTENHALL WOOD - see TETTENHALL and KINVER.
TEYERTON (unlocated) Teyerton 1421 SHC XVII 82.

THACHILEYE (unlocated, possibly near Cheadle.) Thachelee 1295 SHC 1911 55, Thachileye 1323 SHC 1911 98.

THACKER’S CROP in the north-west part of Bagot’s Park (SK 0728). Thacker’s Crop 1724 Survey, Thacker’s Crops 1836 O.S. Perhaps to be associated with Thacherfild, recorded in 1402: SHC XI NS 209. The name perhaps refers to the field from which thatchers took their long straw.

THATCHMOOR 3 miles north-east of Lichfield (SK 1510). Thatchmores 1583 SHC XVII 229, Thatchmoore 1649 Barton under Needwood ParReg, Thatch Moor 1775 Yates, 1801 Smith. ‘The moor which produced thatching material’. The material may have been heather, often used for thatching. Thatchmore in Yoxall is recorded c.1710 (SRO D820/1). Thackmore in Rolleston, recorded in 1675 (SRO D1553/107), has not been located.

THERLEYEMOR (unlocated, possibly near Hampstead.) Thelemore, Thorleymore, Thurleymore 1262 SHC 4th Series XVIII 28, 44, 51, Therleyemor 1320 SHC 1911 344. Perhaps from OE ßyrre lJah mar ‘the moorland at the dry l, 5ah’.

THICK WITHINS 1 mile west of Hollinsclough (SK 0466). Thickwithins, Thickwethins, Thycce Witheshead 1600 Alstonefield ParReg, 1651 Rental, Thickwithins Head 1626, 1651 Rental, Thick Withins 1842 O.S. From OE ßicce ‘thick, dense’, and OE *widign ‘a willow, a willow copse’, found as dialect withen ‘a willow holt’, giving ‘(the place with) the abundance of willows’.

THICKBROOM 1 mile south-west of Weeford (SK 1203). Tichebrom 1199 SHC III (i) 35, Tichebrome, Titebrome 1201 SHC II 105, Tykebrom 1227 SHC IV 41, 1286 SHC V (i) 162, Thikebrom 1256 SHC 1911 127, Thyckeborne 1271 ibid. 149, Thickebrom 1327 SHC VII (i) 233, Tikkebrome 1425 SHC XVII 151, Thickebrome 1566 ibid. 215. From the OE adjective ßicce ‘thick, dense’, and OE bröm ‘broom’, hence ‘the broom thicket’. The country around was formerly heathland. Thickbroom Manor which appears on the 1834 O.S. map was replaced in 1836 by what is now Manley Hall: SHC 1942-3 216.

THICKNALL FARM 1 mile west of Clent (SO 9079). Thykennaille (p) 1304 Ct, Thickoll 1592 Wills. Of uncertain origin, but Thikenolre (1327 SR), Thickenalre 1339 (SHC XI 84), which appear to relate to this place, point to a meaning ‘the alder thicket’. In Staffordshire from the 13th century until 1844, when it became part of Worcestershire.

THICKNESSE Erdeswick 1844: 23 notes ‘Thicknesse, a place not observed in maps of Staffordshire’, and considerable uncertainty has surrounded the precise location of this place, which existed in the Balterley/Audley/Podmore/Apedale area from at least the 13th century until at least 1565 (Shaw 1798: 1 *411, 412). The introduction (by Mr Ralph Thicknesse) to the printed volume of Betley ParReg states that Balterley Hall (SJ 764499), which was held by the Thicknesse family until 1790 (SHC XII NS 233-5 fn.), was known as the manor of Thicknesse (manor of Thiknes 1378: SHC VIII NS 135), and was never part of the manor of Balterley, and although no evidence is given for that statement, the Thickness family certainly held lands in Balterley and Betley temp. Henry III: SHC XII NS 236. In 1320 William de Thicknes was married in the oratory of his manor house of Thicknes (SHC VIII NS
135), perhaps an earlier building on the site of Balterley Hall. Spellings for the name include Thwykenesse 1271 SHC VI (i) 51, Thycnes near Audeeleg 1272-3 SHC IV 189, Thycnes 1273 SHC XI NS 243, 1295 SHC VII 26, Thicknesse 1282-3 SHC XI NS 248, 1296 ibid. 35, Thicknesse 1296 SHC VII 35, Tykeneshe 1299 SHC XII 28, Thicknesse 1302 ibid. 102, Tychnes 1307 SHC XI NS 266, Theckness 1309 ibid. 267, Thykenes 1312 SHC IX (i) 122, Thykenes 1313 SHC X 13, Thickenes 1327 SHC XI NS 205, Thicknes 1327 SHC VII 201, Thykenes, Thickenes 1332 SHC X (i) 101, Thycnes 1367 SHC VIII NS 40, Thickenes 1387 SHC XIII 202, Thickenes 1419 SHC XVII 70, Thicknes 1565 SHC XIII 245; SHC 1925 27, Thicknes 1630 SRO D948/1/1/2/2. The etymology of the name is almost certainly from OE þicce 'thick' and Mercian OE nes(s) 'headland', so 'the wide headland': cf. Amounderness and Furness, Lancashire; Holderness, East Yorkshire; Skegness, Lincolnshire. Balterley Hall lies to the north-west of a conspicuous hill marked by hatchuring on the 1833 first edition 1" O.S. map, but it is unclear whether the place gave its name to the family, or the family (which might have originated elsewhere, although no other Thickness has been traced) gave its name to the place. The introduction to the printed Betley ParReg suggests that the name sometimes appears as Thickwithies in the early Plea Rolls, but any such spellings are unlikely to point towards a different derivation.

THIEVES DITCH a ditch behind North Walls, Stafford (SJ 9223). Thevedych c.1401 VCH V 94, pratum de thevesdiche 1401 StaffAcc, 1462 Ct, Thovesdich'. Thovedych 1399 Ipman, le Thevys dych 1500 Egerton, Theves ditch c.1610 plan. Presumably 'the ditch frequented by the thieves'.

THORALDESWOD (unlocated, in Alton: SHC 1913 79. ) Toraldeswade 1328 SHC 1913 16, Thoraldeswod 1339 ibid. 79. horaldr is an ON personal name (cf. Thorlby, Yorkshire; Torrisholme, Lancashire), so 'f oraldr's wood'. Or the second element may be OE (ge)wced 'a ford', perhaps across the river Churnet.

THORNCLIFF 2 miles north-east of Leek (SK 0158). Thorn(e)cley, Thorn(e)clay(e) 1230-2 StCart, Thorntileg' 1250-1259 StCart, Thorenteleye 1279 SHC 1911 35, ? Thorenteleye 1279 SIC 1911 35, ?Thornileg 13th century VCH VII 233, Thornetely, Thorneley 1476 SHC VI NS (i) 102, Thorneley 1479 Banco, Thorneley 1548 PRO SC2/202/65, Thorneclife c.1600 ibid, Thownecliffe 1650 SRO DW1761/C/29, Thorn Cliff 1695 Morden. The original name (mistranscribed as Yombele, Yomberley, Yombelega in SHC NS IX 319: VCH VII 233 fn.28) was evidently from OE porn 'thorny'. Although it is possible that the earliest spellings are mistranscribed, with t read as c, so 'the thorny Itah', the 1548 spelling suggests that there may have been variant spellings, or two nearby places, one incorporating OE clif 'land in the fork of a river': the place lies at the junction of two streams. By the end of the 16th century the present generic had been adopted, cliff meaning here 'a steep bank or slope', from the deep ravine to the north in which runs the Tittesworth brook. See also Coppedlowe Cloughs.
THORNES 2 miles north-east of Aldridge (SK 0703). Aldethornes 1209 SHC 1923 277, Thornes 1348 SHC XVII 289, 1470 (1801) Shaw II 53, 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 169, Thorns 1651 Aldridge church monument. A shortened form of an original 'old thorns'.

THORNEY LANES a lane that runs from Gorsty Hill (SK 1029) to Hoar Cross (SK 1223), the lower part known as Thorney Lane. villam de Thornihul 1190x1247 SHC 4th Series 80, Thornhill 1227 SHC IV 44, Thornihull 1255 SHC 1911 125, Thornyhill 1309 SHC IX (i) 23, Thornyhill 1340 SRO D4038/A/5/1, Thornslyles 1546 SRO D4038/A/5/7-8, Thorny hill 1577 Saxton, Thurnylanes, Thurnylanes 1602 SHC 1935 459, Thorne Hills otherwise Thorne Hill Lanes 1605 SHC XVIII 53, Thorne Hills 1656 SRO D4030/C/6-7, Thornilanes c.1666 SRO D1504/1/1, Thorney Hill 1663 SHC II (ii) 48, Thorney Lane 1671 SRO D786/22/1, Thorney Lanes Mill (1836 O. S.) lay south-west of Newborough (SK 1224). 'The thorny hills', which has developed into the alternative 'thorny lane(s)'.

THORNHILL, HIGHER & LOWER 1 mile north-west of Madeley (SJ 7645). Thornewall 1601 SHC XVI 207, 1608 SHC 1948-9 69, Thorneall 1608 ibid. 89, Thornewall, Thornewall, the Thornalls 1644 SHC 4th Series 1 249, 277. 'The halh at the thornbush' is perhaps more likely than 'the hall at the thornbush'. It is uncertain whether Thornhill, Thornhill, Thornbir (1227 SHC IV 59, 227) relate to these places.

THORYLEIGH 1½ miles east of Heaton (SJ 9762). Thornlei, Thorneley 1538 Dieulacres Inventory, (le) Thorneley c.1539 LRMB, 1539 MinA, Thorneley 1535 StarCh, Thorneley 1613 QSR, Thorneley 1682 Browne, Thounyleigh 1692 Leek ParReg, Thorneley 1842 O. S. From OE hornig 'thorny, growing with thorns', with OE læah, so 'the thorny læah'.

THORPE CONSTANTINE Ancient Parish 5 miles north-east of Tamworth (SK 2608). Torp 1086 DB, Thorp Costentin c.1245 Cl, Thorpe Constantyn 1318 SHC IX (i) 73, Thorp 1395 SHC XV 65. From OE þorþ, ON jorph, meaning in the Danelaw 'secondary settlement, an outlying farmstead or small hamlet dependant on a larger place' hence 'the outlying farm of the Costetin family'. The derivation here is probably from the ON word. Galfrid de Costetin (from Constantine in Normandy) held land in Thorp in 1212 (Fees). See also Garardesthorp.

THOR'S CAVE ½ mile south-west of Wetton (SK 0954). ...Thurse-house or Thursehole, sometimes call'd Hob-hurst Caves. 1686 Plot 172, Thorshouse (Tor) 1775 Yates, Thysis's Cavern (Thor's House Cavern) 1817 Pitt 198, Thysis or Thor's House 1831 Lewis, Thor's Cave 1836 O. S. From OE thyrs 'giant, demon': Thor's House is a common name for caves - see Dickens 1947: 9-23. Cf. Thirst House in Chelmoston, Derbyshire (PN Db 75). Hob is a word used for hobgoblins, sprites and elves. Hurst is from OE hurst 'a wood, a copse, a wooded eminence'. Plot 1686: 172 mentions a hollow in the rock called the Thurse-house near Peakstones, perhaps to be identified with Rock Farm: see StEnc 447, 584.

THORSWOOD (HOUSE) on a 1103' hill 3 miles south-west of Ilam (SK 1147). Thorswood 1639 Ellastone ParReg, 1733 SRO D240/D/308, Thorns Wood 1836 O.S. See Thor's Cave.

THREADWOOD HEAD 2 miles east of Cheadle (SK 0442). ? le Trepwoode 1266 SHC 1913 317. From OE þrepap 'dispute, quarrel', hence 'the disputed wood': cf. Threadwood, Cheshire; Threepwood,
Cumberland and Yorkshire. Another Threapwood is recorded adjoining Wall Grange, Leek (Threpwode 1242 SHC XI 314, 1313 SHC XI 334, le Therepwode' de la Wal 1275 VCH VII 208, see also SHC XII NS 73), but the 1242 spelling appears in a charter of Hulton Abbey printed in Ward 1843: app. ii which is almost certainly a much later forgery: Tomkinson 1994: 73-102. An unidentified Threepwood (n.d.) is recorded in or near Croxton: SRO D240/E(A)2/73. See also Lightwood near Longton.

THREE FARMES (unlocated, in the Mill Meece/Choriton area.) Three Farmes 1666 SHC 1921 119.

THREE MEER STONES (obsolete) ¼ mile north-east of Flash (SK 0367). the Three Sheres 1533 Bateman, the Three merestones 1564 SHC 1938 99, the Three sheres 1564 ibid. 99, The 3 Stone Mere 1577 Saxton, Three Shires' Mear c.1595 Erdeswick 1844: 476, The 3 Shyre Mere 1599 Smith, ye 3 Shire stone 1673 Blome, 3 Shire-heads 1682 Browne, 3 Shire Head or Stones 1749 Bowen, Moor Stones 1775 Yates, Three Meer Stones 1842 O.S. The history of the meeting point of the counties of Staffordshire, Derbyshire and Cheshire is confused, partly because of the inaccuracy of early maps, and partly by confusion caused by the word meer, which can mean 'a pool' (OE mere, in this case probably Panniers Pool) or 'a boundary' (OE (ge)mære). From at least the 16th century, and perhaps much earlier, the junction of the three counties seems to have been marked by three stones, presumably one in each county, but the junction (and the stones) appears not to have been static, and many of the names are now difficult to unravel. Much confusion is due to the identification of the boundary meeting point as (variously) the head of the river Dove, or the Dane, or the Manifold. Erdeswick 1844: 476 states that the spring forming the head of the river Dove (presumably Dove Head Farm, Dove Head Spring 1842 O.S.) formed the meeting point of the boundaries, and the 1599 form appears on Smith's MS map of Staffordshire alongside a thumbnail drawing of three squared stone pillars on a rounded hill, and the same elements appear on Blome's 1673 map of Staffordshire labelled ye 3 Shire stone, and on Morden's 1696 map of Shropshire, labelled The three Shire Stones, but the same place on Morden's map of Staffordshire (without the drawing) is labelled 3 shire heads. According to VCH VII 49 Panniers Pool or Three Shire Heads was held in 1533 to be the meeting point, and Three Shires' Mear mentioned by Erdeswick, the location of the spring forming the head of the river Dove, was presumably the same place, but (according to VCH VII 49) by the early 17th century three stones (still existing in the early 19th century) on the top of Cheeks Hill were thought to mark the spot, although Pococke 1888-9: 42 refers to the three shire stones where the Dove rises in 1750. However, Bowen's map of 1749 appears to place 3 Shire Head or Stones on Cheeks Hill and Three Meer Stones which appear on the first edition 1" O.S. map of 1842 are ¼ mile north-east of Flash, at the head of the river Manifold. It would appear that until the 19th century this high and remote moorland was an area of dispute between the parishes of Alstonefield (in Staffordshire) and Hartington (in Derbyshire). In 1804, when the common waste of Hartington (Derbyshire) was enclosed, Panniers Pool at Three Shire Heads (q.v.) was confirmed as the meeting point of the three counties: VCH VII 49. In 1599 a plan was drawn of this locality: PRO MPC 214. See also SHC 1938 99; StEnc 585.
THREE MILE OAK  West Bromwich (SJ 0289). *Three-mile Oak* 1851 White. An ancient oak which stood near the boundary of West Bromwich and Smethwick, 1 mile south of Sandwell Hall. By the 1830s it had disappeared: VCH XVII 10.

THREE SHIRE HEADS 1¾ miles north-west of Flash (SK 0068). *the Three Sheres* 1533 Bateman, *the Three sheres at the Dane hed* 1564 SHC 1938 99, *three shire heads* 1686 Plot 110. Where the boundaries of Staffordshire, Derbyshire and Cheshire meet - see Three Meer Stones. Three Shires Bridge here was known as *Galleyford bridge* in 1599: map PRO MPC 214. *the Three sheres* recorded c.1565 (SHC 1938 99) now lies in Derbyshire to the north of Cheeks Hill.

THREE SHIRES OAK An ancient tree which stood in what is now Bearwood, Smethwick, at the junction of Three Shires Oak Road, Thatchers Hill (now Abbey Road), and Love Lane (now Wigorn Road) (StEnc 585), where Staffordshire adjoined the detached portions of Shropshire and Worcestershire (SO 0286). *The Oak* 1747 Bowen, *3 Shires Oak* 1834 O.S., *Three Shires Oak* 1895 O.S. The tree was cut down in 1904: VCH XVII 96. For *Three Shires Fields* in Mucklestone, at the junction of Staffordshire, Cheshire and Shropshire, see Foxall 1980: 22.

THRIFT, THE a wood 3 miles south-east of Bromsgrove (SO 9866). *arte Frithe* 1275 SR. From OE *(ge)fyrhd, usually meaning ‘the poor woodland’: see also Frith. In Tardebigge parish, forming part of Staffordshire from c.1100 until 1266, in Warwickshire until 1844, and since that date in Worcestershire.

THROSTLE NEST ½ mile south-east of Bradnop (SJ 0154). *Throske Nest (Wood) (sic)* 1725 Okeover T705, *Throstle Nest* 1770 ibid. E5017. The age of the name is unknown, but thrstle is the dialect word for a thrush, from OE *hryscel*. The 1725 spelling is probably a transcription error. It may be noted that the place adjoins Birdsgrove Farm (*Birds Grove* 1836 O.S.).

THROWLEY 2 miles north-west of Ilam (SK 1152). *Trevulega* 1185 Burton, *Treule 1201 P*, 1208 FF, *Truleg’* 1227 Ass, *Throvelega c.1240 Okeover, Trowilegh 1278 Antrobus, T(h)rowley’* 1306 SaltMSS, *Throuleg 1306 SHC X 53, Throuley(e) 1332 SR, 1336 to 1438 Banco, Throughley 1343 Erdeswick 1844: 482, Throghley 1343 SHC 1921 27, Throweley 1400 SHC XV 92, Throley 1414 SHC XVII 19, Throughley 1473 AddCh, Throughley c.1540 Leland, *Thorley als Throwley* 1565 FF, *Throwley (Park)* 1571 SHC 1931 194, *Throwley* 1614 Stowe. The terminal appears to be *leah*. The specific may be from OE *hrūh* ‘tomb, coffin, grave, conduit, water-pipe’. There are many tumuli in the area (see StEnc 18; 585), and the name may be from a stone cist, or may refer to a box-shaped valley (cf. Throwleigh, Devon, and Througham, Hampshire and Gloucestershire). The conduit meaning in place-names often refers to a deep valley: Throwley lies above the deep valley of the river Manifold. Or possibly associated with the pool to the south of Throwley Hall, an unusual feature in limestone country, explained by the underlying bedrock here, (Dinantian) Hopedale limestone, with an adjacent outcrop of argillaceous Widmerpool formation: SAHS XXXIX 2001 28.

THURSFIELD 2 miles south-west of Biddulph (SJ 8654). *Tvrvoldesfeld* 1086 DB, *Thurfredesfeld* 1212 SHC XII NS 36, *Thurinodesfelde* 1217x1227 CEC 393, *Turnesfeld* 1227 SHC XI NS 243,
Thuresfeld 1227 ibid. 240, Thuresfeld 1227 Ch, Turnedesfeld 1236 SHC 1911 391, Thuresfeld 1240 (1798) Shaw I xxx, Thuresfeld 1253 Ward 1843: app. iv, Torefeld 1273 SHC VI (i) 59, Thuresfeld 1272-3 ibid, Thuresfeld 1279 SHC VI (i) 141, Thuresfeld 1293 ibid. 276, Tormersfeld 1306 SHC 1911 67, Thurfeld 1306 SHC VII 165, ? Thuresfeld 1377-8 JNSFC LIX 1924-5, Thurfeld 1608 SHC 1948-9 113, Newe Chappell 1611 Norton-in-the-Moors ParReg, New Chapel 1843: app. iv, Torefeld 1273 SHC VI (i) 59, Thuresfeld 1282-3 ibid, Thuresfeld 1279 SHC VII 165, Thurfeld als New Chap. 1747 Bowen. Probably from the ON personal name Ærorfkr: the DB form is likely to be aberrate. The terminal is OE feld 'open space'. Thurfeld gave its name to a chapelry, later called Newchapel: VCH IV 56 fn. The name is preserved in Thurfeld Lodge.

TILBURY CAMP - see CASTLECROFT near Wolverhampton.

TILED HOUSE 1 mile east of Kingswinford (SO 9088). the Tile-house 1672 Sedgley ParReg, the Tile-house at Bromley 1686 Plot 374, Tiled House 1763 SRO 4664/A/1/1/1-33, 1808 Baugh, 1834 O.S. Of uncertain derivation. Plot (1686 374) records that in the later 17th century the place was used for turning Spanish or Swedish iron into steel, suggesting that tiles may have formed some type of fireproofing. The name is preserved in Tiled House Lane. See also Wiggen de Tilehouse. It appears that the Tild house (sic) recorded in 1671 (Sedgley ParReg), and tild hous, recorded in 1697 (Underhill 1941: 101) may have been in Lower Gornal.

TILLINGTON 2 miles north-west of Stafford (SJ 9125). Tillinton 1086 DB, Tillington 1242, Talingston 1236 Fees, Tillinton 1242 Fees, the Mount of Tilinton 1277 SHC 1911 170, Tylintone 1304 SHC ibid. 61, Telenton 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 80. From the OE personal name Tilli, so 'the tan associated with Tilli'. Cf. Tillington, Sussex.

TIMMOR (obsolete, north-east of Fisherwick, not located with certainty, but possibly at SK 178082: in about 1550 Stubby Lea (q.v.) is recorded in Timmor (SHC 1912 194; SHC X NS (i) 125-6; VCH XIV 239, 245-6; see also SRO D661)). Shaw 1798: 1 375 records that 'Tymmore... was on the right side of the road between Whittington and Elford, opposite to Fisherwick Park'. Timmor 1086 DB, Tymor 1167x1183 Rees 1997: 83, Timor 1206 SHC III 137, Tymor 1227 SHC 1939 123, Tymmore 1256 SHC 1911 127, Tymor 1263 SHC IV 156, Tymmor 1271 SHC 1924 53, 1284 FA, 1289 SHC 1924 360, Tymmore 1306 SHC VII 161, Tymmore 1367 SHC VIII NS 35, Tymor 1373 BCA MS3878/28, Timmore 1374 (1801) Shaw II 204, Tymore iuxta Ellesford 1387 DRO D5236/9/12, Tymover c.1532 SHC NS X (i) 120, Tymoner 1539 SHC 1912 133, Tymhorne 1539 SHC IV NS 230, Tympehorn, Tymhorne 16th century VCH XIV 239, Tymore 1609 BCA MS3810/196. The 16th century spellings show confusion with Tarnhorn. See also SHC 1924 53. Although the place probably lay within the mile of the river Tame, the spellings do not suggest a derivation from the river name. The intervocalic consonants may show that the preceding vowel was short, pointing to a possible derivation from OE *tēo 'boundary, boundary line', derived from OE teon 'to draw' (cf. Teffont Ewyas & Teffont Magna, Wiltshire; Tyburn, Middlesex), with OE moor 'moor', so perhaps 'the moor at the boundary', though what boundary might explain such derivation is unclear, unless the Tame itself. Or possibly from OE tige 'goat' (cf. Tyneham, Dorset). Or there may have been a first element with a final consonant, as the 1256 and 1306 forms seem to suggest, but no suggestions can be offered if that is the case. Cf.

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Tymburhale, which lay in Timmor, and may share the same root in its name. For Tymmorshey in King's Bromley see Hadley End.

TINKER'S GREEN ½ mile south of Wilnecote (SK 2200). Tinker's Green 1834 O.S. The surname Tinker has not been traced in the parish, so the place-name may be from encampments made on the green by itinerant tinkers.

TINKERBOROUGH (obsolete) ¼ mile south of Salt (SJ 9526). Tinker Borough 1836 O.S, Tinkerburrow 1908 Cherry 31, Tinkerborough 1922 O.S. The site of a former row of cottages built against and into a sandstone outcrop, perhaps dating from the 18th century and created for workers in the nearby quarries, and abandoned in the early 20th century. Some of the occupants were by tradition tinkers; the borough element was perhaps an ironical addition to reflect the small size of the place, or had the appropriate meaning burrow. See also StEnc 586.

TINKER'S CASTLE on the Staffordshire-Shropshire border on the crest of the escarpment of Abbot's Castle Hill (SO 8294). Tinker's Castle 1886 O.S., 1905 Hackwood 1905 150. WJ August 1908 127 cites a local resident recalling that the house from which the name appears to derive was 'built in the early [eighteen]-forties by a Seisdon gentleman, and I think it was occupied by one of his farm men before John the Tinker'. The house was described in 1903 as a single-storey cottage (WJ 1903 218), and in 1905 as 'a rude [rough] cottage' (Hackwood 1905: 150), later castellated, with a cellar incorporating a rock dwelling (SSMR 2690), with the castle element (and castellations) doubtless influenced by the name Abbot's Castle, or merely an ironical name for a humble dwelling.

TINSELL BROOK a tributary of the river Dove. OED has a number of meanings for tinsel, including 'brushwood for fencing and hedging' and 'sparkling, glittering', so perhaps 'the brook flowing through the brushwood' or 'the sparkling brook', but the stream flows through Tinsell Wood, 1 mile south-west of Stanton (SK 1145), and it seems likely that the stream took its name from the wood, 'the wood where brushwood for fencing and hedging was obtained'. For Tinsell (pasture) in Bemersley in 1635, Tinsill Park 1775 Yates, see SHC 1910 251.


TIPTON Ancient Parish 3 miles west of West Bromwich (SO 9592). Tibintone 1086 DB, Tibinton 1242 Fees, Dippidon 1259 SHC 1911 131, Tybeton 13th century Duig, Tybrython 1355 SHC 1913 161, Tybighton 1393 SHC XV 61, Tybington Schalenwebb 1444 (1801) Shaw II 229, Tybton 1456 SHC NS IV 96, Typtone 1461 OSS 1936 41, Typtoune 1461 ibid. 42, Tepton 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 17, Typton 1546 TSAHS 3rd Series VIII (ii) 237, Tipton 1587 Sedgley ParReg, Tynton alias Tibington c.1692 SIS 11 1999 63. From the OE personal name Tibba, so 'Tibba's tin'. The curious form recorded in 1444 is unexplained, unless a corruption of ONFr calenge 'challenge, dispute', with OE wudu 'a wood': cf. Callingwood. VCH IV 43 fn. suggests that the old name Tibbington is recorded as late as 1872, but the name still appears on modern maps as an area to the north-west of Tipton.
TIT BROOK a tributary of the river Dove near Ellastone. Tipp (Bridge) 1655 NSJFS 12 1972 124, Tipp(bridge) 1671 Ellastone ParReg. The spellings (attached to the bridge crossing the stream on the north-east side of Ellastone) suggest that the name might possibly be from OE yppe 'a raised place, a platform', with the T- taken from the OE preposition at: the stream runs between high hills. Or perhaps from some particular type of bridge. Cf. Tipalt Burn, Northumberland.

TITTENSOR 3½ miles north-west of Stone (SJ 8738). Titesovre 1086 DB, Tichesoura 1167 SHC I 174, Tidesove 1200 SHC III 68, Tineshovere c.1200 SHC VI (i) 8, Tineshovere, Tinenshore 1203 SHC III 86, Tiddesore, Tiddesor’ 1203 Pleas, Titinhour c.1248 SHC 1911 420, Tineshovere 1236, Tinesovere 1242 Fees, Tythenesovere 1293 SHC VI (i) 279, Tytteneshouere 1294 SHC 1911 219, Tinesoure 1296 SHC 1911 239, Tyntnesouere 1351 SHC 1913 146, Tittesouere 1366 SHC VIII 33, Tetenshows 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 134, Tentensar 1607 Kip, Tentenhall otherwise Tentenshale otherwise Tytenshall otherwise Tittensor otherwise Titesare 1617 SHC 1934 50. "*Titten's slope", from OE ofer 'hill, slope, ridge': the place lies on a long gradient between Trentham and Stone.

TITTESWORTH 2 miles north-east of Leek (SK 9959). Tetesword' 1203 P, Tatteswarhle 1203 SEC III (i) 93, Therestworthe c.1246 Dieul, Theiswurthe 1250 SHC 1911 428, Thehisurt c.1250 ibid. 426, Tetiswurthe 1250-59 StCart, Ttitsworth, Titesworth 1274-9 SHC 1911 430, Titetsworthe(e) 1302 (p) Ass et freq to 1614 StV, 1635 Leek ParReg, 1686 Plot, 1755 Bowen, Tesworth 1477 SHC VI (i) NS 102, Tyesworth 1538 StarCh, Tetysworth e.1539 LRMB, Tittysworth 1540 CtAugm, Tesworth 1540 AOMB, Tosworth 1565 FF, Tedsworth 1560 Pat, Tetesworth 1686 Plot, Titsworth 1798 Yates. Possibly from the OE personal name *Tetti, with OE worp or worpig 'farm, homestead, enclosure', though doubt must remain about the first element. Upper Tittesworth is found as Upper Theiswurthe 1250-9 StCart, and Lower Tittesworth as nether Tethsworthe 1240 (1883) Deed Sleigh, Nether Tetesworth 1292 (SHC VI (i) 205). Tittesworth reservoir was created in 1858, and greatly enlarged in 1962: VCH VII 235.

TIVIDALE 1¼ miles north-east of Dudley (SO9790). Tividale 1641 Rowley Regis ParReg, Tivy dale 1695 ibid, Tividale 1717 ibid, 1798 Yates, 1834 O.S. The age of this name is not known, and no derivation can be suggested, other than tentatively from OE teofer 'red pigment', from the colour of the earth here: Plot 1686: 121-2, for example, mentions reddish earth at Tipton (see also Shaw 1801: II 85), and Halliwell gives tiver to mean 'red ochre', although Hackwood 1915: 24 observes without further explanation that Tividale is said to be an importation - and a corruption - of Teviotdale. Dividale appears on the 1834 1" O.S. map 1 mile south of Wordsley, on the Staffordshire-Worcestershire boundary, but other spellings for the place have not been traced. There are various references to a place called Tivedale or Tevedale in the parish registers of places to the south of Stafford, e.g. Tivedale 1686 Coppenhall ParReg, Tevedale 1673 Bradley ParReg, 1730, 1776-7 ibid. They may be misreadings of Levedale, but the forms appear over a long period, and a place of this name may have existed in or near Bradley.

TIXALL Ancient Parish 4 miles north-east of Stafford (SJ 9722). Ticheshale 1086 DB, Tikeshala 1166 SHC 1923 297, Thikeshalle c.1240 SHC VIII (i) 193, Tikeshale 1242 Fees, Tyxshall 1284 SHC VI (i) 136, Tykeshale 1286 SHC V (i) 165, Tyxchale 1351 SHC 1913 146, Tyxshall 1532 SHC 4th Series 8
56, *Tixhaul* c.1540 Leland. The first element is OE *ticce*, a shorter form of OE *ticcen* 'kid, a young goat' (EPNE ii 178), with OE *halh*, hence 'kid's halh'. Cf. Ticknall, Derbyshire.


**TOLL END** 1½ mile north-east of Tipton (SO 9693). *Tole ende* 1596 SHC 1932 228, *Tole end* 1598 SHC 1935 161, *Toleend* 1686 Plot 261. The names predate the Turnpike Acts, so possibly from the dialect *toll*, *tolt* 'a clump of trees' (see EDD; PN Ch V (II) xxii), rather than from ME *toll* 'a tax, a toll', perhaps in the sense 'the market boundary', or 'point beyond which market tolls were not levied for the sale of goods'. More likely is a derivation from a personal name: the Tolle/Tole family of Dippidon (i.e. Tipton) are recorded in 1259 (SHC 1911 131), and frequently in the late 16th century: SHC 1935 14, 112; SHC 1930. The word *end* meant not a terminal point, but simply a place, often a squatter settlement in heathland. See also StEnc 594. *Toles Inn* in Tipton is recorded in 1668: BCA MS3810/98.

**TOLLDISH** 1 mile south-east of Hixon (SK 0023). *Tolldish* 1833 SRO D240/E(A)2/98, 1836 O.S., 1845 SRO D679/1. Early spellings have not been traced, but presumably from *toll-dish*, 'a dish or bowl of stated dimensions for measuring the toll of grain at a mill' (OED), perhaps used in some topographical sense, or because grain was measured here. Tolldish Hall in Warwickshire and Toddishall in Essex are both said to have a similar topographical derivation: PN Wa 111; PN Ess 446.

**TOMHAY (WOOD)** 1 mile north of Lichfield (SK 1113). *Tom Hay* 1796 SRO D5510/A/1/17/6, 1801 SRO D357/D/10.

**TOMHILL COPPICE** (obsolete) 1 mile west of Wombourne (SO 8392). *Tomhill Coppice* 1890 O.S. The name is to be associated with Tom Lane, which runs to the south of Upper Whittimore Farm.

**TONGUE LANE FARM** 2 miles north-west of Endon (SJ 8954). *Junglane* (sic) 1614 Norton-in-the-Moors ParReg, *Tonglane* 1672 ibid, *Tong Lane* 1832 Teesdale, *Tongue Lane* 1836 O.S. If the 1614 spelling is a mistranscription, perhaps from OE *tong, tang* 'forceps', possibly with reference to the parallel Judgfield Lane to the north, which curves away to the north-west, whilst Tongue Lane turns south-west, so forming a forceps-like or tong-like feature, and containing a tongue-like area. Cf. Tong, Shropshire (PN Sa I 293).
TOOT HILL in Alton, 4 miles east of Cheadle (SK 0742), Toothill 1704 Alton ParReg, 1737 DRO D240/D/86, Toothill, Toothills 1754 SRO D240/D/98/101-103; TOOT HILL ½ mile south of Hollington (SK 0537), TOOT HILL 1 mile south-east of Uttoxeter (SK 1031), Toot-hill 1798 Shaw I 34, Toot Hill 1836 O.S. From OE töitan 'to look out, spy', OE töte 'look-out place', often applied to isolated and conspicuous hills, hence 'look-out hill' (cf. Tuters Hill; Tutbury). There is a tumulus on Toot Hill, Hollington, recorded in 1750 (SRO D1109/2); Shaw 1798: I 34 mentions '...a remarkable eminance, called Toot-hill, supposed to be a tumulus' at Toot Hill near Uttoxeter; another Toot Hill at The Old Field (1836 O.S.) on the north side of Uttoxeter (SK 0834) is recorded by Redfern 1865: 352; Toothill in Heaton parish is recorded in 1864 SRO D3566/1/28; the field-name Tothills recorded in 1858 (TA) in Onecote, The Toot in Lapley in 1838 (TA), and Totehill in The Wergs, Tettenhall in 1518 (SRO D593/A/2/16/6); a Tooters Hill is recorded at Shugborough (possibly associated with a 'burh' or fortification there) where one of the monuments, the Lantern of Demothenes, was erected c.1764-71: SHC 4th Series VI 103; For references to Totmoore (1654) and Tot more (1655) in Ettingshall (which lies on high ground on the east side of Cinder Hill: 1834 O.S.) see Hackwood 1898: 92, 95; Underhill 1941: 101; SOT D695/1/9/33-41. See also Gelling 1988: 146-7. Cf. Toot Hill, Nottinghamshire; Toothill, Yorkshire; Tothill, Lincolnshire and Middlesex; Tuttle Hill, Warwickshire.

TOR used in north-east Staffordshire and adjoining parts of Derbyshire (and other moorland areas) for 'a pile of rocks, a rocky heap', from OE torr 'hill'. The place-name le Thorres is recorded in 1291 (SHC 4th Series IV 224) in Wetton, but has not been identified. It may refer to the hill 1 mile south of Ecton known as Sugarloaf which appears as The Tor on the first edition 1" O.S. map of 1842. High Tor is shown on the west side of Brown Edge on the 1836 1" O.S. map.

TOTMONSLOW in Draycott in the Moors, 2 miles south-west of Cheadle (SJ 9939), on the Roman road (Margary number 181) from Stoke on Trent to Rocester. Tatemaneslav, Tamenaslau, Tateslau 1086 DB, Tatesmannislaw 1175 P, Tatemannaslaweheundredum 1183, Tatemanenslawa 1187 P, Tatemanslawe 1199 Fees, 1227 Ass, Thatemanslowe 1204 SHC III (i) 92, Tatemanelawe 1253 Misc, Tatemannelawe 1262 Pat, Tatemonnelowe 1272 Ass, Tatemannelowe 1293 Ass, 1316 FA, Tatemandeslaw 1320 SHC VII (ii) 21, Tatemonowe 1327 SR, Tatmanneslawe 1327 Pat, Tammeslowe 1338 Cl, Tatemanslowe 1356 Fine, Tammendeslowe 1402 Fees. 'Tattman's hlów or tumulus', from OE hlów 'burial mound'. A more detailed discussion of the place-name will be found in the Introduction.

TOUK, TOK (unlocated, possibly near Colton.) Touk 1241 SHC VII NS 16, Took 1283 SHC VI NS (ii) 182, Touk 1296 ibid. 247, Touk, Tok 1324 ibid. 357, 361. The name may be associated with the family of Tok, recorded in Anslow before 1300: Hardy 1908: 139.

TOWALL (unlocated, possibly near Tean, perhaps a reference to Fole (q.v.)) Towall 1269 SHC IV 170.

TOWER HILL 2 miles south-east of Great Barr (SO 0592), Tower hill 1590 BCA MS/3887/260.SM50, Towerhill 1602 SHC 1935 427, Towrehill 1604 SHC 1940 179, Tower hill 1682 Browne, 1747 Bowen, Tower Hill 1775 Yates, 1834 O.S.; TOWER HILL (obsolete) 1 mile west of Biddulph, Tower Hill Farm 1729 SRO D997/VIII/1/1, Tower Hill 1842 O.S. 'The hill with the tower',

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or possibly (in the case of Tower Hill near Biddulph), 'tor hill', from OE torr 'high rock, rocky peak', and hyll 'hill'. Tower Hill near Great Barr may have taken its name from a folly erected as an eye catcher on the slope leading to the former Perry Wood by the Wyrleys of Hamstead Hall (StEnc 595), but Tourhill is recorded in 1331 (SHC 1913 25), and may possibly be associated with that place.


TOYS, THE 1 mile north-west of Enville (SO 8087). Toys 1833 O.S. The place was in existence by 1496 according to VCH XX 94. Probably from a surname: Ph'o Toye is recorded in this area in 1327 (SHC VII (ii) 252) and 1332 (SHC X 129), but the derivation of the surname is not known: DES 452.

TRENT VALE ¼ mile south-east of Chesterton, 3 miles north-west of Newcastle under Lyme (SJ 8248). Trent Vale 1836 O.S. Self-explanatory. White 1834: 535 suggests that the place was previously known as Black Lion, but both places are mentioned in 1813 (SRO D593/T/1/34), Black Lion presumably after an inn of that name. The name Black Bank appears on modern maps to the south (SJ 8147).

TRENT, RIVER Trisantona 115-17 Tacitus, Treanta, Treenta c.730 Bede (II 16; III 24; IV 21), Trahonnini fuminus c.730 Bede (II 16; 111 24; IV 21), Trent stream (obl.) c.890 OEBede, 942 ASC, (on) Trentan 956 (11th century, S.602), Trent 1086 DB; Taranhon 12 Taliesin, Trent, Treant c.1540 Leland. A British river name Trisantona, PrWelsh Trisantona, of doubtful meaning but perhaps formed from tri 'through, across', and santön, a word related to Welsh hynt 'road, way', Latin semita 'footpath', and French sentier 'path'. The earliest reference to the name is in the Annals of Tacitus in the second century (XII 31 as emended by Bradley). The Roman name Trisantone had the prefix tri, an intensive prefix. This is the same Roman name as for the river Arun, which was originally the Tarrant. The modern spelling of Trent is an abbreviated form of the original. The name perhaps means 'trespasser, intruder', in the sense of a river prone to flooding. See Ekwall 1928: 415-8; Jackson 1953: 502-3, 524-5; Rivet & Smith 1979: 478.

TRENTHAM Ancient Parish 3 miles south of Stoke on Trent (SJ 8641). Trenham 1086 DB, Trentham c.1145 SHC XI 322, Tengham, Trentham 1153 CEC 132-3, Trentham 1250 SHC XI 319, 1330 ibid. 326, 1380 ibid. 328, 1487 ibid. 329, 1526 ibid. Probably 'ham or village on the river Trent', but possibly from OE ham(m), hom(m) 'meadow, especially a flat low-lying meadow on a stream, a water meadow; an enclosed plot, a close', since the place lies on low ground on the river Trent. The elements ham and ham(m) are difficult to distinguish unless early spellings with -mm- or -o- are available, but it may be noted that all the names incorporating ham(m) listed in Ekwall 1936: 214 are in the south of England. John ('Florence') of Worcester (d.1118) records that St. Werberga died at her monastery at Triccingeham or Tricengham, which was formerly held to be Trentham (Erdeswick 1844: 26; SHC XI 295; SHC 1916 74; 134), but is now identified as Threckingham, Lincolnshire: VCII III 255. No evidence has been traced to support the suggestion (SHC 1909 74) that an earlier name of Trentham was Trytenham.
TRESCO:

TRESCOTT 4 miles west of Wolverhampton (SO 8497). (at) Treselcotum 985 (12th century, S.860), Cote 1086 DB, Trescote c.1195 SHC III (i) 221, 1271 SHC V (i) 143, Trescota 1200 SHC III (i) 68, Tressecot 1259 SHC 1911 132, Tressecote, Tresshecote 1332 SHC X (i) 126. The second element is OE cot 'a cottage, a hut, a shelter', so 'Tresel cottage'. For Tresel see Trysull and Trysull river. The DB name almost certainly refers to this place (SHC 1916 104; VCH IV 45): it does not refer to Coton (q.v.), south of Wolverhampton, even though the latter is closer to Bushbury and Tettenhall, the entries for which precede and follow it in DB. Trescott was granted in 985 to the monastery of Wolverhampton (see Hooke 1983: 63-5), and DB records Cote as held by the church of Wolverhampton. It may be noted, however, that Trescott is not included within the OE boundary clause of the charter to the church, merely mentioned in the Latin introduction (Hooke 1983: 63-4), and Coton lies within the area included in the boundary clause.

TRESCOTT GRANGE 4 miles west of Wolverhampton (SJ 8596). the abbey grange at Trescott 1271 SHC 4th series XVIII 70, Trescott Grange 1563 SRO D260/M/T/7/5, Trescote Grange 1573 WRO 705:349/1296/476894, Trescote Grange 1644 SHC 4th Series I 320, The Grange 1691 Penn ParReg. William Buffery, lord of Lower Penn, granted land here for a grange of Combe Abbey, Warwickshire, c.1195 (Erdeswick 1844: 364; SHC III 221; SHC V (i) 143; SHC VI NS (ii) 336; StEnc 602), and a convent existed here in 1414 (SRO D3835/4).

TRIANGLE, THE 1 mile south of Ellenhall (SJ 8324). It is unclear whether Trygle, recorded in 1365 (SHC 19213 1), is to be associated with this place. Evidently from the shape of the land, bounded by a road, a track and a footpath.

TRICKLEY COPPICE (FARM) 2 miles west of Drayton Basset (SK 1699). The Coppice straddles the Staffordshire-Warwickshire border; the farm lies within Warwickshire. Duignan 1912 suggests that the place was also known as Crickley Coppice.

TRILLEMILL (obsolete, in Orton near Penn: SHC VI NS (ii) 176). Trillemulne 1337 SHC VI NS (ii) 110, Trille 1463 ibid. 208, Trylmill 1501 ibid. 251. Perhaps from ME trill 'to flow in a slender stream', so here 'the mill on the narrow stream'. However, the same word also had the meaning 'to roll, trundle, to revolve, to rotate, to spin', which may have referred to the water-wheel here. Other Trill Mills have been recorded, including one in Shrewsbury. See also PN O lii, 10.

TROMELOWE - see RUMBELOWS (FARM).

TROUGHSTONE FARM 1½ miles north-east of Diddulph (SJ 9059). The place lies on a hill of 1017 which has long been used as a stone quarry, so perhaps 'the place where the stone for troughs was obtained'.

TRUBSHAW 1 mile north-east of Kidsgrove (SJ 8555). Trubbeshawe 1231 SHC XII 5, Trumpeshawe 1298 SHC XI NS 252, 1308 ibid. 261, Trubbeshagh 1340 SHC XI 107, Trubbeshawe 1343 SHC XII (i) 5, Trobeshawe 1353 JNSFC LIX 1924-5 49, Trobeschawe 1372 ibid. 73, Trubschawe (p) 1451 HLS 386, Trubshawe 1465 SHC IV NS 138, Trubshawe (p) 1489 HLS 558, Trubshe 1532 SHC XI 272, Trubshaw 1658 Wolstanton ParReg, Trabshaw 1775 Yates, Trubshaw
1836 O.S. The second element is from OE scaga 'thicket, grove, small wood', but the first remains uncertain. Curiously, DES has no entry for this common surname.

**TRUBSHAW CROSS** in Longport (SJ 8549). Trubshaw's Cross 1763 SHC 1934 (ii) 69. From an ancient cross here, the plinth of which was rediscovered in 1949, and on which a new cross based on the Anglo-Saxon Ruthwell Cross in Dumfrieshire was erected in 1977: StEnc 602-3.

**TRUMWYN** the bailiwick of Hegghe Cank which is called Trumwyn's bailie 1375 SHC NS II 72, Tromwyna bayley 1600 Oakden 1984: 66. One of the two bailiwicks of Cannock Chase, also known as High Cannock (Hyghe Cank c.1357 SHC X NS I 215), from the Trumwyn family, who held Forest office from at least the reign of William the Conqueror: Erdeswick 1844: 200 fn; VCH V 55; SHC X (ii) 215. The other bailiwick was Puys (i.e. Rugeley): VCH V 55, 59.

**TRUSSEWAY** (unlocated, a trackway which is said to have run from Clulow Cross in Cheshire to Fouled, and via Leek to Leekbrook, Cheddleton, and Basford Green, its course marked by a series of crosses: StEnc 603.) Trussewey 1229x1232 CEC 385. Perhaps from ME trusse (from OFr Trouss) 'truss, pack, bundle', with OE weg, so 'way or track along which packs were carried (?by pack-horse), packway'. CEC 385 suggests the trackway lay in the Heaton/Gun End area; see also SHC IX NS 316. See also Surey.

**TRYMPLE** (unlocated) Trymple 1271 SHC V (i) 148.

**TRYSULL** (pronounced Treesul [tresul]) 5 miles south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 8594). Treslet 1086 DB, Tresel 1176 P, Treshill 1204 SHC III (i) 90, Trisel 1236 Fees, Tresell 1251 Ch, Tresale 1283 SHC 1911 185, Tresseleye 1293 SHC VI (i) 239, Tresel 1295 Misc, Tresil 1577 Saxton, Tryste 1613 BCA MS3307/Acc1927-020, Tresel c.1646 SRO D3449/1, Treasle 1686 Plot, Treosle 1775 Yates. The name is a back-formation, the place taking its name from the river Trysull (q.v.). See also Smestow; Tescott.

**TRYSULL (RIVER)** since Smestow Brook is the only stream that flows through Trysull, the river name must have been an earlier name for the brook. (on) Tresel 985 (12th century, S.860), Tresel 996 (for 994) (17th century, S.1380), Tresel 13th century Wodehouse, Tresel water 1300 For, Tressel 1307 Pat, Trysull brook 1617 SRRC 5735/2/27/6, Tresle 1690 HRO E12/V1/KY7. Ekwall 1928: 420 suggests that this unique name is a British river name of similar origins to the river Test, Welsh tres 'toil, labour', with a derivative suffix -el, as in Welsh tawel 'silent', giving a meaning such as 'officious, busy', but that derivation (described by Jackson as 'speculative': Oakden 1984: 22) has been refined and explained as a Celtic river-name meaning 'contentious one, tumultuous one, noisy one', from Early Welsh tres 'uproar, commotion', with a British feminine form *-ella, found not only in such Welsh river-names as Crafnell ('The Scratcher') in Brecknock, Crychell ('The Rusher') in north Powys, and Llynfell ('The Smooth One') in Brecknock and Glamorgan, but also in Gaulish river-names such as Mosella, the Moselle, running from France into Germany: see StSt 10 1998 77-8; Coates & Breeze 2000: 213-4. If that is correct (and considerable doubt must remain, since as Ekwall 1928: 420 observed, 'the map indicates that [Trysull] cannot be a swift stream...A meaning 'the powerful, strong river would hardly be suitable''), the name may provide evidence for Celtic survival in the area after
English occupation in the later 6th century, with the final -a of the name being lost after borrowing into English. See also Cocortone, Little Burbrook; Smestow; Trescott.

TUCK HILL on the Staffordshire-Shropshire border, 2 miles south-west of Bobbington (SO 7887). Tuckenhale 1292 SHC 1911 204, Tuckhill 1541 VCH XX 70, 1670 Claverley ParReg, 1678 VCH XX 70, 1833 O.S., Tuckehill 1623 Alveley ParReg, Tuckhill 1686 Plot, Tuck Hill 1775 Yates. Probably from the family named Tuk or Tukke recorded in the area from the later 14th century: VCH XX 70. Cf. Thomas Tukke recorded in 1365 (SHC 4th Series XVIII 215), John Tukke recorded in 1369 (SRRC 2089/2/2/23); see also SRRC 5735/2/22/1/21; SRO 3764/45. The surname may be from the Anglo-Scandinavian *Tukka, a pet-form of Porketill (DES 456). Tuckash lies 1 mile north of Upper Arley, on the Shropshire-Worcestershire border, but the history of the name is not known.

TUCKLESHOLME (FARM) 1 1/2 miles south-west of Branston (SK 2119). Tokkesholme 1415 Hardy 1908: 80, Tuckulsholme 1523 ibid. 199, Tuckulholme 1531 ibid. 75, Tukulsholme 1537 ibid. 210, Tokilshulme 1588 SRO DW1734/11133, le Tuckelshomeleys 1591 SHC 1930 174, Tucklesholm c.1760 SRO D615/M/7/4, Trucklesome 1836 O.S. The second element is ON holmr 'small island, a piece of dry land in a fen, a piece of land partly surrounded by streams', here probably in the latter sense, with the ON personal name Porkell: the place lies on the west side of the river Trent in an arm formed by streams.

TUENEBROK (unlocated, possibly near Walsall.) Tuenebrok 1283 SHC 1911 187, Twynebrock 1286 SHC 4th Series XVIII 143. The first element would appear to be the OE preposition (be)twom 'between, amongst', frequently found combined with elements for streams or rivers (VEPN II 93-4), here with OE bröc 'brook', so here perhaps '(the place) between the streams'.

TUNSTAL SYTCH on the east side of Caverswall (SJ 9543). Tunstalshyche late 13th century SRO 3764/21[27574]. For the first word see Tunstall. The second is from OE stc 'water-course'.

TUNSTALL 4 miles north-west of Stoke on Trent (SJ 8651), Dunstall' 1162 VCH III 136, Tunstal 1212 Fees, Tonestale c.1225 SHC XI NS 150, Tunstall 1227 Ch, Tonstal 1242 Fees, Dunstall c.1250 SHC XI 303, Tonestall 1278 SHC XI NS 262, Tonstall 1280 SIC 1914 77, Tonshalle 1356 SHC XII 147, Dunstall 1402 SHC XI NS 207; TUNSTALL, near Adbaston, 1 mile north-west of High Offley (SJ 7727), Tunestal 1086 DB, Tonstal 1243 SIC 1935 401, Tunstall 1267 Ch, Tunstalle 1267 For, Townskall 1284-5 SHC 1910 298, Tonstal 1293 SHC VI (i) 262, Tunstall 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 49, Tunstall 1695 Morden. From OE tän-stall 'site of the farmstead', t and d commonly interchanging (cf. Dunstall). The name is a common field-name, often found on the edges of ancient wastes, and was perhaps used in OE with the meaning 'abandoned farmhouse': see Duignan 1902: 53.

TUNSTEAD 1/2 mile north-west of Longnor (SK 0765). ? Tunstedes 1340s SRO D 3272/5/13/5, Tunstidd(e), Tunstyte 1600 Alstonefield ParReg, 1609 FF, Timsteede 1605 Alstonefield ParReg, Tunstid 1609 SHC III NS 29, Tunstef(a)d 1775 Yates. From OE tän-stede 'the farmstead'.

TUPPENHURST 1/2 mile east of Handsacre (SK 0915). Tubney 1682 Browne, 1695 Morden, 1749 Bowen, Tuppenhurst 1691 SRO 513/2/19/2, Tapenhurst c.1705 SRRC 513/2/18/18/2, Tuppenhurst
1771 SRO D3924/1/13, *Tupping Hurst* 1834 O.S., *Tappenhurst* 1834 White. If the earliest spellings can be trusted, possibly from an OE personal name *Tubba*, which might be a short form of *Tūnbeorht*, with OE eɣ 'island, piece of dry land in marshland'. Hurst is from OE *hyst* 'a copse, a wooded hill'.

**TURKEYSHALL** (obsolete, said to be the name of a mill in Rugeley: StEnc 724). *Turkysall flatt, Turkysall meade* 1570 Survey, *Turkysall lane* 1671 Ct, *Turkeysill* 1840 TA. The name appears to have originated as one of the eight common meadows of Rugeley (VCH V 159), and from the possessive -ys is likely to be from a personal name Turk or similar (cf. Henry Turc recorded in Penkridge in the early 13th century: SRO D260/M/T/5/139), or from someone of the Moslem faith, for which Turk was the general term. Or perhaps from the word *turken* or *turkis*, meaning 'to twist or turn about' from Old French *torquir*, a by-form of *torquer* 'to twist' (see N & Q 1882 6 S v 165), which would be appropriate for a stream-name, or perhaps for a mill. Land called *Tyrkeslake* 'Tyrkes stream', from OE *laece* 'a stream', is recorded in Essington in 1521 (Oakden 1984: 55).

**TURKILLE** (unlocated) *Turkille* c.1255 SHC VIII 155.

**TURLS HILL** in Sedgley (SO 9293). ? *Terhull* 1273 SHC IX (ii) 28, 1290 Ipm, 1295 SHC 1911 239, ? *Turkhull* 1333 SHC X 87, *Turleshill* 1580 Sedgley ParReg, *Turles hill* 1585 ibid, *Turles Hill* 16th century ManRolls, ? *Turle hills* Moore 1654 Roper 1980: 97, *Turles Hill* 1668 SRO DW1871, 1834 O.S. Possibly from the ME preposition *atuer*, from OE *at per* 'at the', so giving '(the place) at the hill'. However, a family named Turle or similar (later Tyrley) is recorded in the area from at least the 15th century (e.g. *Tyrull* c.1472 SHC 1928 180, *Turle* 1498 ibid. 179), and the place may take its name from such name: see StEnc 605.

**TURNAMSHILL** (unlocated, in Walsall.) *Turnamshill* 1513 SRO D593/A/2/20/27. The surname Turnham is recorded: DES 458.

**TURNDITCH** (FARM) ¼ mile south-west of Alton (SK 0641). *Turn-Ditch* 1706 Alton ParReg. The absence of early spellings makes any derivation uncertain, but perhaps from OE *hyrne*, *horn* 'thorn-bush', so 'the ditch with the thorn-bushes'.

**TURNER'S HILL** an 876' hill, the highest ground in South Staffordshire, between Rowley Regis and Oldbury (SO 9788). *Turner's Hill* 1798 Shaw I 122; 1801 Shaw II 240, 1834 O.S. Presumably from a personal name.


**TURNER'S KNIFE** in the valley of the river Churnet, ¼ miles north-east of Consall (SJ 9949). ? *Gnytwode* 1271 (1883) Sleigh 80, ? *Le Gwypp* 1292 SHC 1911 216, ? *Le Gypp* 1292 SHC I 296, *Gnype* 1394 SHC 1928 276, *Knife Wood* 1842 O.S., *Turner's Knife* 1995 O.S. The 13th century spellings are recorded in association with nearby Sharpcliff, Whitehough and Padwick, and it may be assumed that both relate to the same place or feature: the first may be a transcription error. *Gnype* is recorded in 1394 as an estate in Ipstones (SHC 1928 276). The derivation is from ON *glypa* 'a steep rock or peak, an overhanging rock in a valley'. *Turner's* is from the family of that name which was associated with the area for many centuries. *Rough Knife* appears on the 2½" O.S. map about ¼ mile...
south-east of this place, perhaps with a similar derivation, or from Norwegian knip 'a narrow place'.

**TURNER'S POOL** 1½ miles north-east of Heaton (SJ 9763). *Turnehurst-pole* c.1540 TNSFC 1932
58-9, *Poole otherwise Turnehurst Poole in Fryth otherwise Leekefryth* 1621 SHC 1934 (ii) 24,
*Turner's Pool(e) 1670 Leek ParReg, Turners Pool 1798 Yates*. From OE *byrne* 'thornbush', and OE
*hyrst* 'hill, wood, wooded hill', giving 'the pool at the copse with the thornbush'.

**TURNHURST (HALL FARM)** 2 miles east of Kidsgrove (SJ 8654). *Turnhurste* 1539 StEnc 605,
*Turnehurst 1604 JNSFC LXIII 56, Turnhurst 1608 SHC 1948-9 100, 1626 Wolstanton ParReg, 1836
name: Stephen *Turne* is recorded in 1298 (SHC XI NS 256). *Hurst* is from OE *hyrst* 'hillock, copse,
wooded eminence'.

**TURTON'S HALL** (obsolete) in Wolverhampton (SO 9198). *Turton's Hall* 1718 Wolverhampton CA.
The later name of the medieval moated site known as Great Hall or Old Hall, from the Turton family
who lived here in the 17th century: see Shaw 1801: II 163. The site is marked by the name Old Hall
Street. See also StEnc 241. Great Suggnal Hall at Suggnal may at one time have been known as Turton
Hall: StEnc 564.

**TUTER'S HILL** ½ mile west of Pattingham (SO 8199). *Tootershill* 1683 Pattingham ParReg,
*Tothershill 1686 Plot, 1695 Morden, Tutor's-Hill 1731 SRRC 330/14, Tutershill 1731 Pattingham
ParReg, tutarshill 1731 ibid, Tutershill 1731 Pattingham ParReg, tutarshill 1731 ibid, Tutershill 1731 Pattingham
ParReg, tutarshill 1731 ibid, Tutershill 1731 Pattingham ParReg, tutarshill 1731 ibid, Tutershill 1731 Pattingham
ParReg, tutarshill 1731 ibid, Tutershill 1731 Pattingham ParReg. Perhaps from OE *tōt-arn hyll* 'the look-out-house hill' (arn often becomes -er- in
modern forms: see Foxall 1980: 31, 54; Gelling 1988: 147), or OE *tōtere* 'look-out', related to OE
totian 'to peer, peep, look out', used in place-names for places with far-reaching views, as here, and
often indicative of an ancient hill-fort: see Gelling 1988: 147. Cf. Toot Hill. There are no traces or
record of any hill-fort here (although the topography is an appropriate location), so the possibility of a
derivation from the tutoring or dressing of hemp cannot be ruled out: Hemp Yard is recorded 'at the
back of [Pattingham] church', and Hemp Field is also recorded: Brighton 1942: 16-7. The hill is named
as *Buchstone Bank* on the 1827 first edition 1" O.S. map of Shropshire. A field-name *Tutors Hill* is

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recorded on the south-east side of Furnace Grange (SO 8496) in 1839 (TA); Tutors Hill is recorded in 1840 south-west of Claverley (TA); and Totters Bank at Chesterton (q.v.) near Worfield. See also Toot Hill; Tutnall.

TUTNALL 2 miles east of Bromsgrove (SO 9970). Totshal 1086 DB, Tottenhull 1262 For, Totenhull 1275 Ass, Totynhyl 1542 LP, Tountell 1675 Ogilby. Probably 'Tot(t)a's hill', but a derivation from OE *töt-aern hyll 'the look-out-house hill' (see Tuter's Hill) cannot be ruled out completely. In Tardebigge parish, forming part of Staffordshire from c.1100 until 1266, in Warwickshire until 1844, and since that date in Worcestershire.

TWAMLOW (unlocated, possibly near Hamstall Ridware.) ? Tuaml(ow) 1214-7 SHC 1913 315, Twamlow 1666 SHC 1921 161, Twamlowe, Twanlowe (p) 1666 SHC 1923 117. From OE twem hlæw 'the two mounds or tumuli'. See also Twillow; Twirlow. The first spelling may relate to Twemlow, Cheshire.

TWELL - see TYWALL GREEN.

TWICHILLS 1 mile south-east of Yoxall (SK 1518). Twychele 1341 SHC 1913 84, Twitchels Rough 1834 O.S. From OE twicen(e) 'the fork of a road, cross-roads', later usually (as dialect twitchel or similar) 'a narrow passage, a narrow footpath between hedges, a blind alley, a short cut' (EDD): the place lies on a track between Upper Blakenhall and Wychnor Park. Cf. Twitchill Farm, Hope, Derbyshire (PN Db 120), Twitchell, Nottinghamshire (PN Nt 21). Twitchills meadow is recorded in Pipe in 1608 (SHC 1934 (ii) 43); an unlocated Twifhel is recorded in 1307 (SHC XI NS 259); Twychele 1341 (SHC 1913 84), evidently Twitchell Brook (1805 Survey) on the boundary of Essington and Bushbury; and Tuechele is recorded in 1333 (SHC X (i) 126), possibly associated with Twychenewey (and Quichenewey) recorded near Baggeridge c.1250 (SHC 1928 13-4).

TWILLOW I mile north of Bradnop (SK 0155). Twillow Bottom 1591,1613 Deeds, ? willow 1645 Leek ParReg, Twillow Heath, Twilloe heath 1662 ibid, Treillow 1694 Okeover T704, Twillow Heath 1766 SHC 1931 91, 1837 O. S. Perhaps from OE mft 'double, two', with OE hlæw 'mound, tumulus', so giving '(the heath with) the two lows or tumuli'. See also Twillow; Twamlow.

TWIRLOW FARM 1 mile west of Milwich (SJ 9532). ? Thirle, Tunlawe ? c.13th century SHC VI (i) 17, Turnlyes 1480 SHC VI (i) NS 129, (Asschedales Lytell) Turlowe 1591 SHC 1934 (ii) 18, ? Tuerley (Wood) 1675 SHC V NS 190, Turley 1775 Yates, Twirlow 1836 O.S., Twirlow 1920 O.S. The spellings are inconsistent, but the first element may be OE *turr 'circular', with OE hlæw 'mound, tumulus', so 'the circular burial mound'. See also Twillow; Twamlow.

TWIST, THE; TWISTGREEN ½ mile south-west of Butterton (SK 0656). Twys (p) 1394 Tooth 134, Twysse 1424 ibid, Twisgreene 1434 (17th century) Survey, Twysse 1506 Ip., Twist 1775 Yates, 1838 O.S., Twiss 1851 White. From OE twist 'something twisted', denoting in ME 'something (e.g. a hinge) working in two parts; a twig, a branch', and perhaps used topographically for 'fork', perhaps in this case with reference to the Hog Brook which divides into three branches here. Cf. Twisgates, Devon; Twisy, Sussex; Twist, Devon; Twist, Sussex.
TWO GATES 1½ miles south-east of Tamworth (SK 2101). Self-explanatory. The place is so-named in 1770 (Encl A).

TWYFORDS (unlocated, in Yoxall), Twyford c.1331 SRO DW1733/A/2/19, Twyfords c.1615 SRO DB777/91/1-17; TYFORD (unlocated, in Wolverhampton), Tyford 1359 SHC XII (i) 156. 'The two fords', from OE twr 'two, double'.

TYKINGTON (unlocated) Tykington 1455 SHC 1912 234.

TYMBURHALE (unlocated, in Timmor.) Tymburhale 1305 (1798) Shaw I 375. Seemingly from OE timber 'building, timbered house', with OE halh, so 'the halh with the building', although the name may be a supposed rationalisation of the name Timmor (q.v.). See also Timmor.

TYKBURGHALL (unlocated, in Tardebigge parish.) Tuneslega 1086 DB, ? Campis de Tunesnosham 1199 SHC III 39, Tuneshal(l) 1230 Ch, Tuneshole 1230 Cl, 1244 FF, T(he)neshal 1266 Ch, Tunsale 1327 SR (p), Tynsall Filde 1535 PN Wo 363. The second element is evidently OE halh. The first element is an OE personal name *Tynni: PN Wo 363-4. The place was demesne land of Bordesley Abbey, and was listed under Bromsgrove in DB (PN Wo 363). In Staffordshire from c.1100 until 1266, in Warwickshire until 1844, and since that date in Worcestershire.

TURLEY adjoining Market Drayton (SJ 6833). Tirelire 1086 DB (listed in Shropshire), Tyre (Wood) 1247 Ass, Thyrelgh 1248 SHC IV 243, Tyrelgh 1256 Eyton 1854-60 IX: 192, Tireleye 1267 ibid. 193, Tyrelgh 1284 Eyton 1854-60 IX 193, Tyrel, Tyrelgh, Tireleye Duig. The place lies on the river Tern, and is generally held to have conserved the river name without the n (see for example Ekwall 1960: 484; see also Saverley Green), so 'the leah on the river Tern'. However, spellings for the name have not been found with -n-, which is generally present in spellings for the river-name (Ekwall 1928: 400-1; Oakden 1984: 21), and the derivation may be from OE pyrre leah 'the dry leah'. The place was formerly in Shropshire. It is possible that the place was transferred into Staffordshire during the reign of Henry I: VCH IV 59 fn.

TYWALL GREEN (unlocated, near Hardwick, Pattingham: VCH XX 178.) Tywall Green 1405 VCH XX 178. Possibly 'the two springs or streams', from Mercian OE waelle 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream', with OE twr 'two, double'. It seems likely that Twell, recorded in 1409 (Brighton 1942: 160) is to be associated with this place.

UBBERLEY 2 miles north-east of Fenton (SJ 9146). Ubberley c.1300 SHC 1911 441, Abbiley temp. Edward III SHC XII NS 33, Ubeley 1586 SHC 1927 128, Ubley 1586 ibid. 172, Ubbeley 1601 SHC 1934 (ii) 5, ?Bud-Heleigh 1679 SHC XII NS 212, Ubberley 1836 O.S. A curious name. The second element is evidently OE lēah. The first element is uncertain, but perhaps from an unrecorded personal name. See also SHC XII NS 33.

ULMSMORE (unlocated, in Leekfrith: Sleigh 1883: 71.) Ulmsmore 1542 (1883) Sleigh 71. Possibly from the OE personal names Ulmar or Ulfmar, with OE mōr 'moorland, marsh'.
UNDERHILL 3 miles north of Wolverhampton (SJ 9302). Underhulle 1308 SHC 1928 75, Thomas-under-the-hull, Underhull (p) 1327 SHC VII (i) 250, Hunderhulle 1342 SHC XII 9. Self-explanatory. The place lies to the east and at the foot of Bushbury Hill.

UPFIELDS (FARM) on the north-west side of Rugeley (SK 0318). Upfeld 1353 Ct, 1548 Survey, the Upp felde 1570 ibid, la Upfeld 1584 Comm. 'The higher fields'. One of the old open fields of Rugeley.

UPPER HULME - see HULME, UPPER.

UTTOXETER Ancient Parish 13 miles north-east of Stafford (SK 0933), said to be pronounced 'U-toxeter, Ukseter by middle class, Utchiter by working class': StEnc 616, Wotochesede 1086 DB, Huttokeshal 1135-9 SHC 4th Series IV 71, Huttokehal c.1155 ibid. 65, Uttokishedere 1175 P, Utochashadra c.1180 SHC 4th Series IV 13, Wittokeshather 1242 Fees, Huttokeshalh 1242 SHC IV 94, Uittokesather, Huttokesathar 1251 Ch, Huttokeshall 1261 SHC VIII (i) 178, Uuttozechere c.1275 SHC 1921 6, Ottokhather 1275 SHC VI (i) 56, Huttokeasacre 1292 ibid. 250, Uttokshather 1306 WL 39, Hookeshare 1306 SHC VII 160, Ottokeshare, Huttokeshare 1310 WL 90, Otoxshate 1413 SHC XVII 6, Huttockeshare 1420 ibid. 73, Uttokshare, Uttokshather, Uttokkesether, Uttokcester, Utchenther 15th century Duig, Uceter, Useter, Uteceter 16th century Duig, Utok Cestre, Vttxoester c.1540 Leland v 19, Utctuer 1561 SHC XVII 211, Tokseter 1562 SHC 1938 111, Vttxoster 1577 Saxton, Xttoxater 1686 Browne. The first element is from an OE personal name *Wittuc, a derivative of Witta, or (more likely) a side-form Wuttuc (Ekwall 1960: 488), found perhaps in Quixhill (q.v.), less than five miles from Uttoxeter, suggesting that the same individual may be associated with both places. The place-name Wartches acres, which may incorporate a similar name, is recorded in a charter of Rolleston of 1008 (14th century, S.920). See also Redin 1919: 152. The second element of the modern name might suggest Mercian OE cester, referring to a Roman camp or fort, but despite various reports to the contrary, there appears to be no evidence that there was ever a Roman settlement at Uttoxeter, though the modern spelling has doubtless been influenced by genuine well-known cester (-chester) names. The early forms point to a derivation from OE *hēdðre 'heather', a word not recorded before the 14th century but found in place-names from at least Domesday, in some cases perhaps from a derivative of hēð such as *hēðra or *hēdor, literally 'a heath, a tract of uncultivated ground' (cf. mora de Huttokeshal recorded c.1137: SHC 4th Series IV 71): it has been observed that the presence of the element in place-names will refer primarily to the quality of the ground, rather than the presence of the plant: see Gelling & Cole 2000: 279. Ekwall 1960: 488 suggests that the second element may have been OE hēpērn 'house on the heath', citing Seasalter (Kent) for the loss of the final n. The -c- of the terminal acre in the 1292 form is probably to be read as -t-, c and t being often indistinguishable. Cf. Whiteoxmead, Somerset (Witochesmede DB).


VALENTIA WOOD in Upper Arley. From Viscount Valerian, who held Arley in the 18th century: VCH Wo II 6. In Worcestershire since 1895.

VALLEY FARM 1 mile north-west of Dunston (SJ 9118). Valleys 1332 SHC X 122. From ME valete 'a valley', an element surprisingly rare in Staffordshire place-names.
VERDON (unlocated) in Ellaston. *Verdon manor in Ellaston* 1391 SHC SHC XI 198; VCH III 228.

‘Ellaston was a double manor, one part being held by the Verdon family, of Alton, and the other part by the Longfords, of Longford, co, Derby’: SHC XI 198. It is unclear whether *Verdium* 1130 (SHC I 4), *Verdon* 1199 (SHC III 38), 1392 (VCH III 228), *Verdun* 1203 (SHC V (i) 117), *Werdoun* 1288 (SHC VI (i) 174), *Verduyn* 1300 (SHC XI 307), *Werdoun* 1288 (SHC VI (i) 174) refer to this place. For the de Verdon family see SHC 1933 (ii) 126-130, 133.

VERDON'S MANOR a lost manor in Handacre, so-named by Shaw 1798: 1*208, who notes that it is un-named in a grant he mentions. White 1851 states that the manor was granted in 1318 to Sir Robert de Verdon, son of Sir Henry Mavesyn.

VIATOR'S BRIDGE 1 mile south-east of Alstonefield (SK 1354). A 16th century narrow stone packhorse bridge which takes its name from one of the characters in a section contributed by Charles Cotton to Isaac Walton's *Compleat Angler*: VCH VII 10. It is likely to be *Alstonefield bridge* recorded in the late 1420s: *ibid*.

VIGO (obsolete) on the south-east side of Walsall Wood (SK 0502). *Vigo* 1805 VCH XVII 278. The derivation of the name is unknown: there were brickworks here known as Vigo Brickworks, but it is unclear whether they took their name from this place, or vice versa. The battle of Vigo was fought in 1702 when a combined British and Dutch fleet destroyed a Franco-Spanish fleet, and may be commemorated in this place-name.

VOLATIE (unlocated, possibly in Swynnerton.) *Volatie* 1281 SRO D4842/17/1.

VOLVANECHAE (unlocated, in Chartley.) *Volvanechae* 1276 SHC 1911 165.

VYKERES, THE (unlocated) *Vikers* 1372 SRO D1734, *the Vykeres* 1414 SHC XVII 52. There is no evidence that this place is Vicar's Hill, 1 mile south-east of Newborough (SK 1524), but the first spelling is associated with Farewell, so may refer to Vicar's Coppice, 3 miles north of Lichfield (SK 1113), perhaps associated with the Vickers family, recorded in Longdon in 1549: O S 1936 41; see also SHC XV 115. *Vikers*, possibly in Loxley, is recorded in 1327 (SHC VII 221), and 1378 (SHC XIII 154), and *Vykeres* in 1332 (SHC X 113), but their location is uncertain.

WADDELEY (unlocated, possibly near Hollington.) *Waddeley* 1509 SHC XII 188. See also Waddene.

WADDEN (FARM & LANE) ½ mile south of Gayton (SJ 9827). *Wadden Farm* 1887 O.S. An interesting name, for which early spellings have not been traced, since if ancient - the farmhouse has the appearance of 18th/19th century date, and may be the building marked on Yates' map of 1775 (though there is no building on Yates' map of 1798) - possibly associated with Waddum (q.v.).

WADDENSBRUK a tributary of the river Tame, on the east and south-east of Wednesfield. Early spellings have not been traced (unless to be associated with Wademorebroke, recorded in 1524: SRO D593/B/1/26/6/38/14; cf. *Wadmore* 1380 SRO D593/B/1/26/6/36/3), but see Waddume. StEnc 622 suggests that the name is also found as *Waddamsbrook*: cf. the surname Wadams, recorded in 1574 (Sedgley ParReg), 1655 (Roper 1980: 101).
WADDUNE (unlocated) (xt) Waddune, Wadedun 1002x1004 (11th century, S.906; 11th century, S.1536). The place is mentioned in the Will of Wulfric Spot and from its context may have lain somewhere between Sheen and Eccleshall (Sawyer 1979a: xxxiv), but has also been tentatively identified as Whaddon, Gloucestershire (ibid.; Whitelock 1930: 159; Whitelock 1955: 543 fn.11; see also TSAS 4th Series I XXXIV 1911 16 fn.42). See also Waddley; Wadden.

WADE LANE (HOUSE) in Hill Ridware (SK 0717). Wadelone 1393 (1798) Shaw I 200, Wade-lane-house 1798 Shaw I 200. Wade Lane runs south from Hill Ridware towards Armitage, and would have crossed the river Trent, suggesting that the lane is named from OE (ge)wced 'ford'. Shaw 1798 I 200, having mentioned 'Wade-lane-house, an ancient stone building', observes that Wade Lane is so-named 'probably from its being occasionally so watery as hardly to be passed dry-shod, the whole village being annoyed by the well-springs near the surface'. That derivation is improbable. Shaw (ibid.) also notes that Henry Wade is recorded in Ridware temp. Edward II, but the surname is likely to be from a ford across the Trent.

WAGGERSLEY 1 mile north-east of Swynnerton (SJ 8637). Waggersley c.1646 SRO D593/B/1/20/22/24, 1836 O.S., 1922 O.S. No suggestions can be offered for this name, unless from dialect wagger 'quaking-grass' (EDD), with OE leah, but the dialect word appears to be recorded only in Yorkshire.

WAGGS BROOK a brook running south from Knighton Reservoir which forms the boundary between Staffordshire and Shropshire. Early spellings have not been traced, but perhaps from a surname. See also Weags Bridge.

WALES END a farmhouse c.1450 (see TSSAIS XXXVIII 1996-7 46) in Wales Lane, Barton-under-Needwood (SK 1818). Walessend 1509 StEnc 622. The age of this name is uncertain, but if ancient it would appear to be from OE walus 'the Welsh', so giving 'the end of the place where the Welsh lived': cf. Walseswood and Wales, West Yorkshire. It is unclear whether Walesh, recorded in 1255 in association with places near Hoarcross (SHC 1911 125), and Waleshe, recorded c.1275 (SHC 1928 73), are to be linked to this place. Walesend in the parish of Bedworth, Warwickshire, is recorded from the late 17th century: CA PA 87/34.

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WALFORD ½ mile south-east of Standon (SJ 8133). Waleford 1199 SHC III 166, c.1200 SIIC VI (i) 8, 1288 ibid. 183, 1292 SHC 1911 212, 1307 SHC VII 173, 1314 SHC IX (i) 44, 1326 ibid. 111, 1332 SHC X (i) 95, Walford 1327 SHC VII 197, Waleford 1361 Salt 1888: 77, Walford 1801 Shaw II 5. The earliest spellings from the Stone Cartulary (SHC VI (i)) consistently have a medial -e-, indicating that the meaning here is probably 'the ford of the Britons or of the (British) serfs', from OE walh 'Welshman', to be preferred to later spellings which suggest that the first element may be from Mercian OE walle 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream', which would in any event give an improbable 'ford at the spring or stream'. OE wal is a form of weall 'wall, rampart', but would not be found with the medial -e- of these spellings. The place (which does not appear in the corpus of OE place names with walh in JEPNS 12 or JEPNS 14) is on the Chatcull Brook. A reference in 1342 (c.1600, D(W)1721/1/1/15) to Great and Little Walford suggests that there were two places of the name at that date. See also Walton. Cf. Walford, Herefordshire.

WALK MILL (BRIDGE) 1½ miles south of Cannock, south-west of Bridgtown (SJ 9708). Walk Mill 1775 Yates. A common name (e.g. le Walkmulne recorded near Styvington in 1349: SHC 1919 13; walk mill recorded in Rugeley in 1564: SHC 1938 146; the Walk Myll at Kingslow near Pattingham recorded in 1565: Worfield ParReg; Walk Mill 1 mile east of Bishop's Offley (SJ 7929), Walkemill 1655 Eccleshall ParReg; Walkmill at or near Almington recorded in 1693 SRO D861/E/5/21; Walke Mylne in Leek, recorded in 1548 PRO SC2/202/65); Walk Mill 2 miles north-west of Stone (SJ 8836), Walk Mill 1736 Swynnerton ParReg, 1836 O.S., especially in the north, from the ME verb walke 'to full', with ME mille 'mill', so giving 'fulling mill'. All Walk Mills were at some period cloth or fulling mills. Cf. Walkley Bank; Walkern, Hertfordshire; VCH II 216-8.

WALK, THE on the Weaver Hills (SK 0947, but see StEnc 622). The Walk 1836 O.S. Early spellings have not been traced, but possibly from walk 'a tree-lined avenue', or if ancient perhaps from OE (ge)weorc 'a work, a building, a structure', but in place-names sometimes with the meaning 'a fortification', perhaps referring to some ancient earthwork: see also Raddlepits. Cf. Walkwood, Worcestershire.

WALKERES STOKE (unlocated, in Tillington.) Walkeres Stoke late 13th century SRO 3764/114[36347]. Perhaps from OE wealcere 'fuller', with OE stoc 'a place, a religious place, a secondary settlement'. Presumably associated with Walkeriston, recorded in Tillington temp. Edward I: Okeover T746.

WALKLEY BANK (unlocated) in Forton parish. Walkley Bank 1689 Ct. Possibly from from OE walle-leah 'place where fulling or dressing of cloth took place' (cf. Walk Mill), or perhaps from OE (ge)weorc 'a work, a building, a structure', but in place-names often with the meaning 'a fortification', so perhaps referring to some ancient earthwork (Buryhill, recorded in 1487 (Oakden 1984: 151) provides evidence for a fortification at Forton), but it would be unsafe to rely on a single spelling as late as 1689.

WALL 2 miles south-west of Lichfield (SK 0906). Walla 1167 SHC I 47, SHC 1923 295, Wal 1201 SHC II 105, Wal, Walle 1228 SHC IV 70, La Wal 1242 Fees, le-Wal-extra-Lichfeld 1272 SIIC IV

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188, Wall 1273 SHC VI (i) 61, *Le Val* 1243 SHC 1913 402, *Le Wal*, *le Walle* 13th century Duig, *Walle* 1307 WL 101, *The Wall* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 184. From OE *weall* 'wall, rampart', frequently with reference to Roman forts and walls. The place is on the site of the Romano-British settlement *Letocetum* (see under Lichfield), where from the 4th century a 9' thick wall backed by a turf rampart and fronted by three ditches enclosed an area of c.5 acres astride Watling Street. Part of the wall was still standing in the 18th century, and early antiquaries (e.g. Camden, Plot, Shaw) record substantial masonry remains: Horsey 1732: 40 noted that 'Wall had its name from certain walls which encompass about two acres of ground called Castle Croft', and Stukeley 1799: II 21 noted parallel walls 12' apart, 3' thick and 12' high forming square rooms in the process of demolition. Some of the masonry was still standing in 1817, but had disappeared by 1872, when excavations revealed remains of a wall 150' long and 11' thick: TSSAHS V 1963-4 1. Bede III ch. 21 records the baptism of Peada, the first Christian king of the Mercians, *ad Murum* ('at the wall') c.654, but the context suggests a Northumbria connection, and there is no evidence that the name refers to this place, although *Letocetum* may have been the site of the original episcopal seat which transferred to Lichfield in 669, a dozen or so years after its foundation. In that respect it may be noted that bishop Rabel Durdent held land at Wall in 1164: SHC I 50. See also Brough Hall. *le Walles*, recorded in 1342 (SHC 1913 91) perhaps refers to the Roman site at Greensforge (see Greensforge; Wall Heath). A personal name *del Walle* of Aston (near Stone) recorded in 1345 (SHC XII 42) may refer to a Roman marching camp recorded at Aston (SJ 915311; SSMR 04606).

**WALL ACRE** 1 mile south-east of Butterton (SJ 0856). *Wall* 1798 Yates. Without earlier spelling it is unclear whether this is from OE *weall* 'wall, rampart, or Mercian OE *welle* 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream'.

**WALLBRIDGE** 1 mile south-west of Leek (SJ 9755). *Le Wall* 1244 Dieul, 1311 SHC 1911 310, *le Wal* 1252 SHC XI 304, *the great bridge at Wall* 1257 Dieul, *Wal juxta Leek* 1293 StSt I 1996 18, *Walbrugge* 1298 SHC XI NS 250, *Wal juxta Lek* 1293 QW, *Walle* 1415 SHC XVII 56, *Walebridge* 1603 SHC 1940 45. Almost certainly from Mercian OE *welle* 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream': there is a spring (or springs) here recorded in the 1870s as *Coena's well* (q.v.): VCH VII 203. One spring runs into a pool south-west of Wall Grange Farm. The springs were evidently prolific, in 1908 described as 'The Springs at Wall Grange pouring out over 2 million gallons daily, supplied to the Potteries': VCH I 22. It should be noted however that a Roman road is believed to run south from here (although it does not appear on the 1994 O.S. map of Roman Britain), and the name is possibly from OE *weall* 'a rampart of earth or stone', with reference to some wall-like archaeological feature. In 1244 an agreement resolved a dispute between the convents of Dieulacres and Trentham and allowed the former to build a bridge here over the river Churnet (SHC XI 333; VCH VII 99, correcting the date in SHC; VCH III 232). The bridge was reportedly only a wooden horse bridge until the early 18th century: SHC 1913 28. It is unlikely that any of the spellings above relate to *Wall Farm* (1836 O.S.), 2 miles east of Leek (SK 0056), which does not appear on modern maps, and which may have a relatively recent history: the area was the subject of the local 1811 EnclA, and the name was almost certainly adopted after that date. See also Coena's Well.
WALL FARM - see WALLBRIDGE.

WALL GRANGE 1 mile south-west of Leek (SJ 9755). Valgrange 1539 MA, Woolgrange 1604 SHC 1940 284, Wall grange 1686 Browne. The place was a Grange belonging to Trentham Priory: VCH VII 203; 205-6. The name is recorded in 1510, and may have been in use by 1439: SHC VII 205. See Wallbridge.

WALL HEATH 1 mile south of Himley (SO 8889). Kingswallhuth 1330 SHC 1913 24. From OE weall 'wall, rampart', with reference to the Roman earthworks (possibly le Walles recorded in 1342: SHC 1913 91, and in 1362: SHC 4th Series XVIII 214) at Greensforge on Ashwood Heath 1¼ miles to the south-west (SHC 1927 185-206; see also Shaw 1801: II 233): Wall Heath, which lies within the former Kinver Forest, was extensive, and covered this area. The first part of the 1330 spelling indicates that together with adjoining Kingswinford it was held by the king. Cf. Ashwood; Greensforge; Knowl Wall.

WALL HILL 1 mile north-west of Claverley (SO. 7893). Wallhill 1628 Claverley ParReg, Wall 1695 Morden, 1752 Rocque, Wall Hill 1833 O. S. Seemingly from OE weall 'wall, rampart': field-names Oldbury are recorded here in 1840 (TA), probably from OE ald-burh 'old fortification', and perhaps associated with early earthworks or Roman remains: a Roman road from Greensforge to central Wales is said to have run to the south of Wall Hill: see TSAHS LVI 1957-60 237.

WALLHILL a steep hill 1 mile north-west of Rushton Spencer (SJ 9363). Wall(h)ill 1597 QSR, Walhill 1616 SHC VI NS (i) 19, Wallhill 1641 Leek ParReg, Wall hill 1644 SIIC 4th Series 180, Warhill 1842 O. S. Probably from OE weall 'wall, rampart', giving 'the hill with the fortification'.

WALLINGE (unlocated) Wallinge 1583 SHC III (ii) 9.

WALLINGTON HEATH (obsolete) on the west side of Pelsall (SJ 0002). Wallington Heath 1791 Bloxwich ParReg, 1818 ibid., 1834 O. S. Probably not ancient, but see StEnc 624.

WALLMIRES FARM 1 mile south of Werrington (SJ 9446). Wallmires 1836 O.S. See also Wal. Perhaps from Mercian OE welle 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream', with ME mire 'a piece of wet boggy ground; muddy ground', so 'the areas of boggy ground at the spring'.

WALLS, THE an area south of Enville (SO 8286) which took its name from a house surrounded by a high brick wall forming a square with sides of 400 yards created by the Earl of Stamford in 1728 on part of Enville Common: VCH XX 93.

WALLS, THE a 22-acre Iron Age quadrangular earthwork on the south side of Chesterton, 7 miles west of Wolverhampton (SO 7896): see VCH Sa I 277; 377-8. Walls 1695 Morden, The Walls 1719 Reliq Galeanae 123, the Walls of Chesterton 1798 Shaw I 30. From OE weall 'wall, rampart' (cf. Chesterton; Wall). The Walstone or The Walston, recorded several times in Worfield CA (eg. the walston 1513) has not been located, but may be 'the stone (or possibly the tün) at The Walls'. In Shropshire since the 12th century.


The word walk is sometimes found (in the genitive plural) in place-names, with the meaning 'Welshmen', but here the element occurs in the genitive singular, suggesting a derivation from 'W(e)alh's halh', the personal name probably denoting a Briton, or at least a Celtic strain in the population at the date at which the name was coined: see JEPNS 12 1979-80 46 (cf. Walton). Foreign is an expression (probably from Latin forinseca 'lying outside the bounds') denoting 'that part of a town which lies outside the borough or parish proper': OED, which cites Walsall as one of the places to illustrate the meaning, referring to Plot 1686: 314, who mentions '...the Town or Burg of Walsall; and in all the Villages and Hamlets belonging thereunto;...which they call the forraigne...'. Shaw (1801: II 73) mentions '...the town part, which is called the Borough, and the country part, called the Foreign....'. (Both parts were incorporated as the borough and foreign in 1627: VCII XVII 143). The word foreign is also found occasionally with reference to Brewood, Burton upon Trent, Eccleshall, Kinver and outlying parts of Wolverhampton (see SHC 1931 117; SRO DW1823/6), and the Bailiff of the foreign of Newcastle ('Ballivus forinsecus') is recorded in 1306 (SHC VII 169; see also SIIC 1912 223). Although Walsall is not mentioned by name in DB (see VCH XVII 169), it is possible that it was an appendage to Wednesbury, and that the original settlement was in the Townend area to the north-west of Walsall church (TSSAHS XXIV 1982-3 1-7), technically within Cannock Forest (q.v.). That would better explain the element halh ('nook, corner') in the name, which would be unlikely to attach to the hilltop settlement, of which there is no evidence pre-dating 1159: ibid. 5. (et) Waleshó, mentioned in Wulfric Spot's Will in the early 11th century (11th century, S.906; 11th century, S.1536), is now believed not to refer to Walsall, but to Wales (Wales, Walis, Walse 1086 DB), a parish and village in South Yorkshire: see Whitelock 1930: 155; Sawyer 1979a: xxvi. For further early spellings of Walsall see Willmore 1887: 32.

WALSALL WOOD 2 miles north-west of Aldridge (SK 0403). bosci de Waleshale 1199-1200 SIIC II (i) 94, (wood called) Waleshale 1271 SIIC V (i) 153, Walsall Wode 1535 SIIC 1910 35. The name was in use by 1200 when the wood of Walsall was a distinct part of Cannock Forest (VCII XVII 277-8), with Walsall itself just outside the Forest boundary (JNSFC 8 1968 45). In the 17th century the place seems to have had an alternative name: Walsall Wood also known as Ediall Spring is recorded in 1612 (SRO DW1851/8/51), and Edidle Springe is recorded in 1665 (SRO D260/M/T7/6) - see Ediall.
WALSTON(E) - see THE WALLS.

WALTER'S RIDVARE - see NETHERTOWN near King's Bromley.

WALTON 2 miles south-east of Eccleshall (SJ 8627), Waletone 1086 DB, Walton 1242 Fees, 1285 FA, Waletone 1302 SHC VII 101; WALTON 1 mile south of Stone (SJ 8933), Waletone 1086 DB, Waletona c.1130 BM, Walton 1279 SHC VI (i) 91, 1282-3 SHC XI NS 246, 1276 SHC VI (i) 84, Walton juxta Stanes 1285 F, ? Wheleton 1406 SHC XVI 49, Walshale (sic) 1534 SRO D1810/f.279; WALTON-ON-THE-HILL 3 miles south-east of Stafford (SJ 9520), Waletone 1086 DB, Waletona c.1166 StCart, Walton 1199 Ass, Walton super Canoke 1326 St Thomas, Walton on the Hill 1812 RegDiss. Probably 'the tan of the Britons or of the (British) serfs', from OE walh 'Welshman'. The OE personal name Walh and the adjective welisc are found in witness lists in Anglo-Saxon charters. It is possible that such names were given by Welsh parents to reflect their origins, or were nicknames of those with Welsh connections (cf. modern 'Taffy'). It has been observed that names incorporating walh are often compounded with OE tan, cot and worh, suggesting that most arose after 700 AD (Gelling 1992: 55), and that they are often near Roman or important Anglo-Saxon settlements, supporting the theory that the English occupied the better land and allowed Britons to occupy areas on the margins of that land: see JEPNS 12 1-53. Waltunmenemedwe in Wednesbury is recorded in 1315 (SHC 1911 323), and Walton ford in Barton under Needwood in 1279 (ibid. 248, presumably to be associated with Walton Leas n/d SRO D877/2/1-18). It may also be noted that to wala crofte appears in 951x955 (15th/16th century, S. 579) in the bounds of Oldswinford: JEPNS 12 1 -53 41. See also Watford Gap.

WALTON GRANGE 2 '/2 miles south-west of Gnosall (SJ 8017). Waletone 1086 DB, Walton 1291 Tax, 1292 Ch, Walton Graunge 1485 SHC VI NS (i) 161, the Grange 1666 SHC 1927 70. Since OE wal was a form of weall 'wall, rampart' (and in Mercian OE welle 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream'), different Waltons may have different derivations. It is likely that the spellings Waltone without a medial e (as here) are not derived from walh, but denote 'the tan with ramparts or by the wall'; the significance of the meaning in this case is unclear, but the place lies ¼ mile south of the Roman road from Pennocrucium (Water Eaton) to Chester (Margary number 19), and the name may refer to some archaeological feature. The place was given to Buildwas Abbey in Shropshire temp. Henry II, and became a grange of the abbey: VCH IV 122. See also Walton Hill, Walton House & Pool, and Walton-on-the-Hill.

WALTON HILL 1 mile east of Clent (SO 9479); WALTON HOUSE & POOL ¼ mile south-east of Clent (SO 9378), Walton (p) 1275 SR, 1545 Wills. PN Wo 280 suggests a derivation from Walh- (on which see Walton-on-the-Hill), but in the absence of early spellings with Wale- the names must be considered to have the same derivation as Walton Grange (q.v.). Both Walton Hill and Walton House were in Staffordshire from the early 13th century until 1844, when they became part of Worcestershire.

WALTONFIELDS ¼ miles south of Walton Grange (SJ 8116). Waltonfield 1632 SHC NS V 163. 'The field at Walton (Grange) (q.v.).
WANDON on Cannock Chase, 1 mile south of Rugeley (SK 0314). *Wondon 1796 SIC 1925 23, Wandon 1834 O.S. Perhaps to be associated with *Wandlengrene, recorded in the 16th century (SRO D(W)1734/2/5/68. Wandon Lodge is one of the lodges to Beaudesert Hall.

WANFIELD 1 mile south-west of Kingstone (SK 0429). *Wonfield 1667 SRO D7861/14/1, *Windy Hall 1798 Yates. Perhaps from OE *wagen 'wagon', so 'the field with the wagon'. The place appears on the first edition 1" O.S. map of 1836, but the name is illegible. See also Redfern 1886: 432.

WAR HILL ½ mile north-west of Maer (SJ 7839). *War Hill 1833 O.S. Early spellings have not been traced, but perhaps from OE *weard, *hyll 'watch or look-out hill', or 'beacon hill' from OE *wearde: the place lies on a pronounced hill.

WARD HILL FARM 1 mile north-west of Dillhorne (SJ 9544). *Ward Hill 1836 O.S. Early spellings have not been traced, but perhaps from OE weard, hyll 'watch or look-out hill', or from OE *wearde-hyll or *wearda-hyll 'beacon hill': the place lies on the north side of an 810' hill.

WARDLE BARN FARM on the north-east side of Leek, on the east side of the Churnet valley (SJ 9957). Perhaps from the Wardle family, noted Methodists in the area in the late 19th century. A derivation from OE weard, hyll 'watch or look-out hill', or from OE *wearde-hyll or *wearda-hyll 'beacon hill' seems unlikely. The place is shown but un-named on the 1890 6" O.S. map.

WARDLOW on the north side of a 1211' hill 1½ miles south-east of Cauldon (SK 0947). *Wardlow 1775 Yates, 1836 O.S. Early spellings have not been traced, but if the name is ancient, perhaps 'look-out hill or tumulus', from OE weard 'watch, look-out', often found in association with words for 'hill', or OE *wearde, *wearda 'beacon', similarly associated with hills, with OE hlåw 'mound, tumulus', presumably the tumulus on the summit of the hill.

WARE (obsolete) on the river Churnet, 1½ miles south-west of Ellastone (SK 0942). *Ware 1836 O.S. From OE *wer, *wear 'weir'. *Le Ware recorded in 1295 (Ipm) appears to have been on the river Mease near Croxall Mill.

WARLEY a name adopted in 1966 for a new Worcestershire county borough which included Oldbury, Smethwick (except for a part of the Albion area on either side of Halford's Lane) and Rowley Regis, and which in 1974 became part of the metropolitan borough of Sandwell: VCII XVII 10, 120. Warley Wigorn was formed from the manors of Cradley, Warley Wigorn and Witley which remained in Worcestershire when the remainder of the manor of Halesowen was transferred to Shropshire c.1109, and consisted of about 16 isolated areas, many under 5 acres, most of them detached islands of land within Shropshire before 1832: PN Wo 302-3. Early spellings for Warley Wigorn include *Werwelie 1086 (DB), *Weruslea 1185, *Weresley 1212, *Worveleg, *Waveleye 1235-6, *Wernelege, *Werneleoge 1255, *Worneleigh, *Wornelegh 1291, *Worley 1500, *Wareley 1763 (all PN Wo 302). PN Wo 302 suggests that the meaning of the name is 'the leah associated with a stream name Worf or similar', but Dodgson 1987: 129 prefers a derivation from OE *weofeslege or *weorfalege 'cattle clearing', suggesting that the DB form may be explained if the -f- in the original form, written in miniscules, was mistaken for the OE letter 'wynn'. Wigorn is the Latin for Worcester.
WARREN HILL (obsolete). Ogilby 1675 shows Warren hill on the road between Sandyford and Stableford Bridge (SJ 8236), evidently from a rabbit warren here.

WARRILOW BROOK a tributary of the river Dove. From OE wearg-hlæw 'felon-mound or tumulus' or 'wolf-mound or tumulus', with brœc, hence 'stream of the felon's tumulus' (presumably where they were hanged), or 'stream of the mound of the wolf'. Cf. Warrillowhead, Cheshire (PN Ch I 129). Fields named Near Warrillow and Far Warrillow (Warelowe 1574 Survey) are recorded in Acton Trussell and Bednall (Oakden 1984: 29), Lytle Warelowe is recorded in Combridge in 1528 (Croxden Chronicle) and as Little Warlyowe in 1539 (MA), and the field-name Warlowe is recorded in Penkridge: SRO D260/M/75/3. Redfern 1865: 351 mentions tumuli in the vicinity of Checkley called Werlows. See also Morrilow.

WARSLOW 7 miles east of Leek (SK 0858). Wereslei 1086 DB, Werselaw' 1198 Fees, Werselone, Werselowe(e) c.1220 SHC 4th Series IV 164, Verselowe 1275 SHC V (i) 117, Werslegh 1290 SIIC VI (i) 197, Werselowe 1300 SHC VII 23, Worselowe 1302 SHC 1925 97, Welseyowe 1332 SHC X 116, Warcelowe 1477 SHC VI NS (i) 107, Warslowe 1566 Deed, Worselowe 1592 Survey, Worseloe 1604 Leek ParReg, Warlow 1658 PCC, Worslowe 1666 SHT, Warnslow 1839 Enc1A, Warslow(e) 1566 Deed, Warslow(e) 1592 Survey, Worseloe 1604 Leek ParReg, Warlow 1658 PCC, Worslowe 1666 SHT, Warnslow 1839 Enc1A, Warslow or Warnslow 1851 White. Ekwall 1960: 499 suggests a derivation from OE weardsetl-hlæw 'hill or tumulus with a watch-tower' (perhaps connected with a beacon: see PN Wo 253). The place has far-reaching views down the Manifold valley, and the phonological contraction of weardsetl and hlæw with the double l coming together is quite natural, though taking place at an early period. Or from OE hlæw with the OE personal name Wær or Ware. Cf. Warshill Top Farm, Wassell Wood, Wassel Grove, and West Hills, all in Worcestershire. See also Oakden 1967-8: 32.

WARSTONE 3 miles south of Cannock (SJ 9605), Hârstân 994 (17th century, S.1380), Horeston 1300 For, Werseton 1428 FA, Horestones 1775 Yates; WAR STONE in Bobbington parish, at the southern end of Abbot's Castle Hill (q.v.) (SO 8392), horston' 1327 SHC VII 252, Horstone 1332 SHC X (i) 129, the Whorestone 1695 Gibson, The Whore Stone 1695 Morden, the Hoar Stone 1801 Shaw II 278; WARSTONES 3 miles south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 8895), Whorestone fielde 1598 SHC 1934 (ii) 11. A common name, from OE hâr-stân 'the grey or boundary stone'. The word hâr meant 'grey, hoary, old, lichen covered', and is believed to have come to mean 'boundary marker': place-names Warstones, Hoarstones and Whorestones often attach to places on ancient boundaries. One of several huge boulders at Warstone is on the boundary between Hilton and Essington, and the War Stone ('...a triangular great stone, standing erect...': Shaw 1801: II 210; see also StEnc 635) lies on the boundary between Tresull, Bobbington and Swindon, and the former boundary of Staffordshire and Shropshire. It is not mentioned in a perambulation of 1298 (TSAS LXXI 1996 27), suggesting it post-dates the 13th century, but Bertram Atteharstone is recorded in 1327 (SHC VII 252). Warstones lies on the Wolverhampton boundary, and is remembered in the names Warstone Road, Drive, Crescent and Gardens. For a boundary-stone north-east of Pattingham giving its name to Whorestone field and Warstone Hill Road, see VCH XX 172; SHC 1934 (ii) 11. Horestonescnol is recorded in Sandon
c.1300 (SHC 1921 39), Horeston is recorded in Little Wyrley in 1395 (SHC VI (ii) 193), and Hore Stone is marked north-east of Ipstones on Yates' map of Staffordshire 1798.

WARTON (GRANGE) 3 miles north-east of Newport (SJ 7623). Waverton 1242 Ch, 1273 SIIC VI (i) 54, Wavertune 1272 FF, Warton 1405 SHC XVI 45, Warton 1675 Weston-under-Lizard ParReg, Warton 1686 Plot 212, Worton 1749 Bowen, Warton 1833 O.S. The root of this name is said to be a conjectural OE word *wafere, wafre 'restless, wandering, flickering', in the sense of a waving or swaying tree - Duignan 1902: 160 suggests the aspen poplar (populus tremula) - hence 'tan at the swaying tree', but the explanation does not seem entirely convincing. Ekwall 1960: 502 suggests that OE waver, well-evidenced in Continental names and seemingly associated with woodland, probably had the meaning 'brushwood' or similar (see also PN Ch V (I:1) xl), and it is possible that meaning may apply to this place. Warton, near Polesworth in Warwickshire (close to the Staffordshire boundary), and Woore in Shropshire (close to the Staffordshire boundary), are both Wavre in DB, suggesting the possibility that the names imply ancient debates or disputes as to the jurisdiction in which they lay: Woore, for example, lies on the watershed (PN Sa I 325) which elsewhere defines the Staffordshire boundary: see TSAS 4th Series VI 1916-7 123-6.

WARWICKSFORD, WARWICK FORD (obsolete, where the road between Moseley and Brinsford crosses a minor tributary of the river Penk at SJ 923050: see Mander & Tildesley 1960: 8.) Warewyke Fordesmedue 1305 SHC 1928 110, Warrewickford 1506 ibid. 115, Warwicke Forde 1608 ibid. 120. The ford lay on what was the road from Stafford to Warwick: see SHC 1928 96, 108, 115, 120-1.

WARWICKSHIRE MOOR (obsolete, 1 mile north-east of Tamworth (SK 2305).) Port More or Warwickshire Moor 1584 Dep, Portmoor alias Warwickshire Moor 1780 SRO 5269/6/1. Port (from OE port ‘town, harbour’) refers to the town of Tamworth. The place lay in Warwickshire until transferred to Staffordshire in 1965. Staffordshire Moor (q.v.) lay to the north-west of Tamworth: 1834 O.S. See also StEnc 635.

WASH BROOK (unlocated) A tributary of the river Churnet. Washeye Brook 1676 Leek ParReg, Washey Brook 1693 ibid. Presumably from OE wesce ‘a place for washing’, with OE eā ‘river’, the latter element having been lost.

WASH DALE 1 mile north of Stone (SJ 9036). Wash Dale 1922 O.S.

WASHERWALL 1 mile west of Cellarhead (SJ 9347). Washywall 1705 Stoke on Trent ParReg, Washer-Wall 1843 Ward 1843: 529, Waserwall 1836 O.S. Perhaps from OE *wesce welle ‘the spring used for washing’, or ‘Waessa’s spring or stream’. Ward 1843: 529 mentions a very copious spring here sufficient to supply the requirements of Hanley and Shelton.

WASSAGE COVERT 1 mile south-east of Seighford (SJ 8823). Washage Covert 1890 O.S.

WASSEBROC (unlocated, near Hanchurch.) Wassebrog 14th century SHC XI 326. Evidently from OE wesce ‘land which floods and drains rapidly’: see Alrewas.
WASTE FARM 1 mile west of Ellastone (SK 0943), Wast 1610 SHC III NS 28, The Waste 1643 Ellastone ParReg, 1836 O.S., Waste 1798 Yates; WASTE, THE obsolete, on the south side of Barlaston (SJ 9038). The Waste 1711 Barlaston ParReg, Waste 1798 Yates. A name applied to rough uncultivated ground, but if ancient (and both places lie on high ground, though not the highest in the area) perhaps from OE weardsetl 'the hill with the guard-house or watch-house': see Gelling 1988: 146. Cf. Waste Farm near Alsager Bank; Wast Hills, Worcestershire.


WASTEGATE 1 mile south-west of Draycott in the Moors (SJ 9738). Waste Gate 1836 O.S. Early spellings have not been traced, but if ancient perhaps from OE weardsetl-geat 'the gap or pass in the hill with the guard-house or watch-house': the place lies in a notch or short valley on the north-west side of a 544' hill and has far-reaching views (see Gelling 1988 146). Cf. Wast Hills, Worcestershire.

WASTE WOOD 1 mile south-west of Kingsley (SK 0046). Early spellings have not been traced, but if ancient possibly from OE weardsetl 'guard-house or watch-house': see Gelling 1988: 146. Perhaps to be associated with Robert de la Warde, recorded in Kingsley in 1274 (SHC 1911 160). Cf. Wast Hills, Worcestershire.

WAT HILL - see OAT HILL.

WATELEG (unlocated, in Penkhull.) Wateleg 1297 SHC 1911 242. Shaw 1798: I 93 mentions Wateley in Bentley near Hamstall Ridware.

WATER EATON - see EATON, WATER.

WATERFALL Ancient Parish 8 miles south-east of Leek (SK 0851). Waterfala c.1116x1127 SHC 1916 225, 248, Waterfale, Waterfall 1191x1194 CEC 261, Wateraval c.1200 DRO D258/27/1/6, Waterfale 1201 SHC II 104, Waterfal, Waterfale 1201 SHC III 70, Waterfathe 1228 SHC IV 55, Faterfal 1259 SHC VI NS (ii) 44, Waterfall 1272 Ass, Waterfale 13th and 14th century Duig, Waterfalle 1374 SHC XIII 118. From OE wceter-(ge)feall'waterfall'. There is no waterfall here (though a stream falls east to the river Hamps 1 mile to the east), and the name is almost certainly from the place where the river Hamps flows underground to reappear at Ilam, so perhaps with OE fealle in the sense 'trap' (cf. OE *wulf-fealle 'wolf-pit, wolf-trap'; mūs-fealle 'mouse-trap'), giving here 'the water trap'. The c.1200 spelling suggests the second element may have alternated with Norman French aval 'below', which would be appropriate for this distinctive phenomenon. The name Wadenesfale, recorded in 1337 (SHC VI NS (ii) 158), is likely to be mistranscription of the name of this place, but poses the intriguing possibility that the place may also have been known as 'Woden's pit'.

WATER GAPS (obsolete) between Warslow and Upper Elkstone (SK 0719). Water Gap 1774 Alstonefield ParReg, Water Gaps 1840 O.S.

WATERHEAD BROOK a tributary of the river Penk. 'The source or head of a small stream', from OE water-hēafod'stream head', with brōc.
WATERHOUSES 5 miles south-east of Leek (SK 0850). Over water house, Overwaterhousc c.1571
SHC 1931 127, le Upper or Over Waterhouses 1580 DRO D2375M/3/1, Waterhouses Hay 1586 DRO
D2375M/3/5, Over Waterhouses 1591 DRO D2375M/54/3/13, the Over Water Houscs 1612 DRO
D2375M/57/1, Over and Nether Waterhouse(s) 1621 ElizChancP, the water Houses 1686 Plot 88,
Water Houses 1798 Yates. The place is on the river Hamps, but a meaning 'house near the water'
seems improbably simplistic, for countless places lie on stream and rivers, yet the name is rare. Since
the river Hamps famously disappears underground here, it would be surprising if the place-name did
not reflect that phenomenon, so perhaps house here meaning 'to receive, to accomodate, to give shelter
to; to harbour or lodge' (e.g. cow-house, dove-house, green-house, hen-house, etc.), so 'the place
where the river becomes accomodated or received' (cf. Waterfall). OE hús, from which modern house
is derived, is associated with the verbal root hud-, from hydan 'to hide', so possibly 'the place where
the water is housed, i.e. disappears': it may be noted that the earliest spelling refers to house in the
singular.

WATERHOUSE 1 mile north-west of Onecote (SK 0355). Waterhouse 1638 Leek ParReg, 1775
Yates, 1840 O.S. 'The house by the water': the place lies between two stream junctions.

WATERINGS 1 mile south-west of Ilam (SK 1249), Waterings meadow & pasture 1631 Senior,
Waterings 1838 O.S.; WATERINGS (obsolete) to the west of Harlow (SK 1445), Waterings 1836 O.S.
From watering 'a ditch for draining a marsh; a piece of land drained by such a ditch': OED.

WATERLOO (obsolete) on south-east side of Normacot (SJ 9242). Waterloo, Waterloo Plantation
1836 O.S. Most places of this name commemorate the battle of 1815, but in this case the name may be
associated with Wardreslowe, Waldreslowe, Walreslowe (q.v.).

WATERSLACKS ½ mile south-east of Butterton (SK 0856). Water Slack 1775 Yates, Waterslacks
1836 O.S. From ON slakkì 'a small shallow valley, a hollow in the ground', found as northern dialect
slack 'a hollow, especially one in a hill-side; a dip in the surface of the ground; a shallow dell; a glade;
a pass between hills': EDD. The water is probably the nearby river Manifold.

WATER WINDING (obsolete, at the junction of the rivers Penk and Sow to the north of Baswich (SJ
fn.40, 1335 SRO D 1734, Water Winding 1836 O.S. From ME wending 'a turning, a bend in the road',
here referring to the river Sow.

WATFORD GAP 1½ miles south of Shenstone (SK 1101). Walford Gap 1775 Yates, Watford Gap
1826 BCA MS20/315, 1834 O.S. The name is difficult to explain: it predates the construction of the
nearby railway, and so cannot be a transferred name from the more famous place in Hertfordshire.
Early spellings are not available (unless Watford 1268 SHC VIII (i) 118, 1341 SHC XI 114, 1390 SHC
XV 18, refer to this place), and the 1775 form is likely to be an error, so perhaps (as Watford,
Hertfordshire) from OE wad 'hunting', giving 'the ford used when hunting'. The word gap is ME for
'breach, opening', for example in a wall, fence or road, perhaps in this case with reference to a gap in a
perimeter boundary of that part of Sutton Chase known as Colesfield or Coldfield, in which case
increasing the likelihood that the first element is wad. The place, which is on the Staffordshire-
Warwickshire border, lies on an ancient road called Blake Street which crosses the Birmingham to Lichfield road at right angles, and may be associated with the forp, forda mentioned in a charter of 957 (12th century, S.574: see Hooke 1983 102-3): OE (ge)wæd means 'a ford' (see e.g. Wade Lane; Wade Street, Lichfield, VCH XIV 42), and the name may be a tautological 'ford-ford', with the second element added when the meaning of the first had been forgotten. However, evidence of a water crossing here is lacking, although there is one ½ mile south-east, so the ford element may perhaps here be translated as 'causeway', and if the 1775 spelling is correct (and the place is shown to the south of the county boundary), a derivation from OE w(e)alh ford 'Welsh ford, ford of the Welsh' (the word Wealh being used here in the uninflected form) cannot be ruled out completely. Cf. Watford; Walton.

WATHERFELD (unlocated) Watherfeld 1227 SHC IV 54.


WATLING STREET Wastlingestreet 880 Ekwall 1960: 501, Wailing strete 1070 SHC 1916 302, Weatlinga-Streate c.1015 (14th century, S.912), Watheling-strete 12th century Duig, Watlinggestrete 1260-70 SHC 1939 29, Wattelingestrete 1300 SHC V (i) 176, Watlinstrete 1315 SHC IV (ii) 106, Watteling strete 1621 Penkridge ParReg. The Roman name for the road (Margary number lh, 19) is not known, but a late ninth century text (S.912) refers to Watlingstrat, which is likely to have been the section of the Roman road from London to St. Albans, at that date known as Watlingceaster, meaning the Roman fort of the *Wæclingas, a group name (mentioned by Bede as the Væclingas) formed from a compound of an OE personal name *Wacol or Wæcel with the collective suffix -ingas. In a similar way to Ermine Street and Icknield Way, the name Watling Street is also applied to other ancient roads, for example the Roman road between York and Corbridge, and parts of Roman roads between Manchester and Ribchester and between Ribchester and Poulton le Fylde in Lancashire. Watling Street in Staffordshire was known in the 18th and 19th century both colloquially and formally as The Streetway (q.v.). See also PN Wa 7-8.

WEAGS BRIDGE 1 mile south-west of Wetton (SK 1054). waigh Brig (pasture) 1631 SRO D593/3/92, Weags Bridge, Weags Barn 1836 O.S, Weags Bridge and Wood 1901 SRO D3359/58/7/12. A curious name, for which early spellings are not available, and for which no derivation can be suggested, given the breaking of the vowels. See also Waggs Brook.

WEATHERWORTH 1 mile east of Bradnop (SK 0254). Witherwode 1223, 1227 Harl, the wode of Wytherward 1256 Ch, Witherswood c.1270 Loxdale, 1297 SHC 1911 442, Witherwork, Witherworth 1696 Leek ParReg. A number of possibilities may explain this name, including OE *wiper 'a ram, a wether', with wudu 'wood' or weard 'watch, protection', so giving 'the wood where wether-sheep were kept', or 'the place where a watch was kept on the wether-sheep', or from ON vithr 'a wood', with the later addition of the tautological 'wood'. OE wiper was also an adjective meaning 'against, opposite', and the name may be '(the place) against the wood'. Walter Wyther is recorded in 1319 (SHIC X 12), Walter Whyther is recorded in Okeover in 1332 (ibid. 114), and Lord William Wyther in 1300 (Okeover T276), which suggests that a family name may have been attached to the wood. It may also
be noted that Wither derives from the ON personal name Viöarr, and a derivation from the ON name is possible here.

**WEAVER HILLS** a collective name for a range of hills south of Cauldon, including The Walk (1,217'), Wredon and Cauldon Hills (q.v.) (SK 0946) mentioned in Plot 1686: 404. Suth *Wevere* 1315 SHC IX (ii) 52, *Wereve* 1315 SHC IX (i) 49, *Wereve in Stanton* 1315 Banco, *?Wavre* 1316 SHC 1191 88. Ekwall 1928: 443-4; 1960: 503 suggested that the river Weaver in Cheshire derived its name from OE *wefer(e)* 'winding or weaving stream' (or from a British river-name, probably identical with Wipper in Germany, derived from the same root as Latin *vibrare*), a derivation first proposed by E. C. Quiggin in TPS 1911-14 99ff. More recent research (see Coates & Breeze 2000: 81-2) suggests that the name may be Celtic, from *gwefr* 'yellowish-brown or amber-coloured', although that meaning, put forward in Johnston 1914: 498, was considered unsatisfactory in Ekwall 1928: 443. There are no major rivers at or near the Weaver Hills (though it may be noted that Shaw 1798: I xii mentions Vale of Weaver), but the name may perhaps be from amber-coloured minor streams, or from standing amber-coloured water here: the 1836 1" O.S. map shows Weaver Pools at approximately SK 099471, although no pools appear on the modern map. The denotation of colour may be linked with Raddlepits (q.v.), and Red House (q.v.). *Wevre*, recorded in 1279 (SHC 1913 226) and as *Weaver* in 1640 (Trentham ParReg), was evidently waste between Swynnerton and Newcastle: SHC 1913 226.

**WEAVER'S HILL** a circular eminence of fine sand 1 mile east of Aqualate Mere (SJ 7920). *Big Wiver's Hill* 1855 Robinson 1988: 47.

**WEAVERSLAKE** 1/4 mile north-west of Yoxall (SK 1319). *Weaver Lake* 1828 SRO Q/SB 1829 Easter, *Weavers Lake* 1836 O.S.

**WEBB STONE** in Bradley near Stafford (SJ 8717). One of three glacial boulders to which various legends have been attached (see VCH IV 76; StEnc 637), but probably named after the Webb family, local farmers whose land it once marked: StEnc 637.

**WEBBLEY** (unlocated) (the manor of) *Webbley* 1356 SHC 1913 166.

**WEDGES MILL** 1 1/2 miles south of Cannock (SJ 9609). *Wedges Mill* 1711 SHC 1934 (ii) 81, 1754 VCH V 61, *Wedges Mills* 1775 Yates. From the river Wedge.


Wodnesb'ia 1182 ibid. 106, Wotnesbiri 1226 SHC IV 38, Wednesbiri 1227 ibid. 62, Wonesbury 1255 (1798) Shaw I xxvii, Wednesbiri 1271 SHC V (i) 154, Wednesbury 1280 SHC VI (i) 102, Wodnesburi 1280 ibid. 116, Wodenesburi 1286 SHC V (ii) 165, Wednesbury 1288 ibid. 177, Wodnesbury c.1325 SHC I 168, Wednesbury 1327 SHC VII 229, Wynnesbury 1397 SHC XVI 31, Wenesbury 1405 ibid. 47, Wodesbury 1406 BCA MS3279/351312, Weddysbere 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 83, Weddisburie 1564 ESRO GLY/1403, Weddisborough 1566 SHC 1931 200, Weddsborrow 1695 Morden. From OE Woden, a heathen German god, corresponding to Oðinn and nicknamed Grimm, with OE burn 'fortification', so 'Wöden's fortification', implying that the fortification was associated with or protected by the pagan god or dedicated to him. The early spellings are not unequivocal, but the later spellings make it most unlikely that the first element is OE beorg, a word which has been shown to have the particularly precise definition 'rounded hill, tumulus': see Gelling & Cole 2000: 145. Cf. Wednesfield; Tettenhall; Weeford. A more detailed discussion of the name and place will be found in the Introduction.

WEDNESBURY OLD PARK (obsolete.) A park is recorded in 1484, but not after the 17th century: Ede 1962: 109.

WEDNESFIELD 2 miles north-east of Wolverhampton (SJ 9400). Wodnesfeld, Wodnesfeldde 985 (12th century, S.860), Wodnesfeld 996 (for 994) (17th century, S.1380), 1227 Ass, Wodnesfelde 1086 DB, Wodnesfeld 1227 SHC IV 69, Wedingfeld 1248 ibid. 111, Wudesfeud 1250 ibid. 120, Wodnesfeld 1251 Ch, Wonesfeud 1255 (1798) Shaw I xxvii, Wodnesfeud 1300 SIHC V (i) 178, Wedfeld 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 159, Wedesfeld 1538 SHC 1912 107. 'Wöden's feld or open land'. A more detailed discussion of the name and place will be found in the Introduction.

WEFFORD on Watling Street, 4 miles south-east of Lichfield (SK 1403). Weforde 1086 DB, Weford 1200 P, 1242 Fees, 1293 SHC VI (i) 290, Wyford 1227 SHC IV 66, 1354 SIHC XII (i) 128, Weford 1291 Tax, Weyford c.1360 SHC 1913 321, Wiford c.1540 Leland ii 103, Weforde 1578 BCA MS3375/430071. The first element is generally held to be from OE wēoh, wēoh 'an idol', and perhaps 'holy place, shrine'. The name (also probably found in Wyfordby, Leicestershire) is likely to be 'ford by the heathen temple'. For a more detailed discussion of this name see the Introduction. For Weeford Park see TSSAHS XXX 1988-9 49-50. See also Freeford.

WEEPING CROSS 2 miles south-east of Stafford (SJ 9421). Weeping Cross 1668 ParReg, 1686 Plot, 1695 Morden, 1719 Baswich ParReg, 1775 Yates. A wooden cross (perhaps a boundary marker) stood here in the reign of Edward VI where penitents offered their devotions: VCH V 2. The place may have been connected with the leper house of Radford: see SIIC VIII (ii) 32, 114; VCII 111 289-90. Pennant 1782: 78 says: 'After leaving the town [Stafford] I crossed the Wolverhampton Navigation at Radford Bridge...A little further is Weeping Cross; so stiled from its vicinity to the antient place of execution'. Pennant’s derivation is doubtless apocryphal, but folk-memory tells of criminals bound to hurdles and dragged to Weeping Cross before execution near the top of Radford Bank (see OSS 1932 44). No evidence has been found to support the tradition, but Geat Silkmore or Gallows Field, recorded in 1617 (SRO Drakeford papers 63) and the 19th century field-names Gallows Flat and Gallows Leasow north of the Lichfield Road at Queensville (VCH VI 228) indicates the site of gallows. Crosses of this name
are also recorded in Banbury, Bury St. Edmunds, Ludlow and Shrewsbury, and it seems likely that all share the same derivation. A proverbial phrase 'To come home by Weeping Cross' (first recorded in 1579) meant to suffer grievous disappointment or failure (OED). Similar sayings were 'to make our prayers at whining crosse' (1602), and 'to come home by broken cross' (1662): OED. See also Hackwood 1924: 87; JNSFC LXII 1937-8 48. A list of other places named Weeping Cross can be found in PN Sa III xiv-xv, 262-3.

WELDE (unlocated, perhaps near Tutbury: SHC 1912 222.) Welde (undated) SHIC 1912 222.

WELDFORDBRIGGE (unlocated, in or near Penkhull.) Wolfordbridge 1387 Pape 1928: 119, Welfordbrigg 1422 SHC 1912 219, Weldfordbrigge 1428 Pape 1928: 191. Perhaps from the OE personal name Ulf or Wulf, with OE ford 'a ford', to which was later added brycg 'bridge'.


WELLINGTON FARM 2 miles east of Leek (SK 0256). Wellington 1834 White. Perhaps named after the Duke of Wellington.

WELSH HARP (obsolete, a former coaching inn on the Old Chester Road at Stonall (SK 0603).) Welch-harp 1732 Penkridge ParReg.

WELSH HOUSE ½ mile west of Harborne (SO 0184). Said to have been named after an owner called Welch: VCH Wa VII 23.

WEMBLETON BROOK one name of the tributary of Bloredale Brook on which the battle of Blore Heath is said to have been fought. Wambrim(e)brok 13th century SHC 1945-6 7; 26; 30, Wemberton Brook late 15th century ibid, Wembleton Brook 1713 ibid. The stream appears to have been known by various names, including Hemphill Brook, Stow Brook, Sow Brook, and Tern Brook: StEnc 280, 646. Wembleton seems to incorporate OE wamb 'womb', used in a topographical sense 'womb, belly', referring to a hollow or pool, possibly Daisy Lake, or a bulge-like topographical feature.


WENTLOW on the north side of Upper Tean (SK 0040). Wentlow 1685 SRO D5476/A/2/1. The name is remembered in Wentlows Road and Wentlows Avenue. Halliwell 1850: 923 gives various meanings for went, including 'a passage; a furlong of land; the teasel'. The second element is OE hlāw 'a mound, a tumulus'.

WERBURGH'S WOOD 2 miles east of Madeley (SJ 8044). Warbow Wood 1833 O.S. Although earlier forms have not been traced, the place is possibly associated with wilburge wege 'Wilburh's way' mentioned in a charter of the bounds of Madeley of 975 AD (17th century, S.801; SHIC XII NS 202). It may be noted that in 1232 Henry III granted rent to the church of St Werburgh in Chester from the town of Newcastle-under-Lyme: SHC 1939 114. The name Werburge is also recorded in 1352 in association with Overton and Gillow: SHC XII NS 16, and in 1514 Werburgha Whitall of Chesterton is recorded (Ct., JNSFC LX 1925-6 41), suggesting continuity of tradition in this area from an early date.
Werburgh was the daughter of king Wulthere: see Bury Bank. This place lies on the south-west side of a hill rising to 585'. If the 1833 spelling can be relied upon, the first element may be from OE weard ‘watch, guard’, or OE *wearde, *wearda ‘beacon’. See also Wenwes; Wenwe.

WERETON on the south-west side of Audley (SJ 7950). Weretong 1890 O.S. A name of uncertain age, but perhaps relatively recent: it is not mentioned in Parrott’s account of Audley of 1733 (SHC 1944), and does not appear on the first edition 1” O.S. map.


WERRINGTON 4 miles east of Hanley (SJ 9447). Werinton 1259 SHC 1911 133, Woningtone 1267 SHC XII (ii) 101, Wonyton (p) 1272 Deed, Werington 1297 FF, Wenintone 1307 SHC XII (ii) 102, Wonytone 1309 ibid. 102, Werynton 1330 Pat, Wonyton 1321 SHC XII (ii) 103, Wonynton 1363 SHC XIII 33, 1375 ibid. 125 et freq. Weryngton 1438 SHC III NS 138, Werrington 1775 Yates, Wherrington 1841 Census. The forms are inconsistent, but suggest *tun associated with a man called *Wer’ or some similar personal name (cf. Essington). See also PN Wo 246. See also Wereton.

WEST BROMWICH - see BROMWICH, WEST.

WEST BROOK a tributary of the river Hamps. The western arm of the river.

WESTBEECH ¼ mile north of Pattingham (SJ 8200). Westbache 1312 Brighton 1942: 60, West Batch (Common) 1634 map SRO D3548/1, West-bach 1686 Plot 394, Westbitch 1762 SRO D3221, Westbitch Common 1780 Ct, Westbeach 1833 O.S. From OE bece ‘a stream in the well-defined valley’: the place lies at the head of a valley with a stream running west into Patshull Pool.

WESTCROFT 1 mile north-east of Bushbury (SJ 9302). Werslascroft 1286 SHC V (i) 171, 1312 SHC 1911 307, Warlawestcroft 1302 SHC VII 95, Werslascroft 1315 SHC 1928 112, Worlascroft 1426 ibid. 83, 1460 ibid. 88, Worlescroft 1462 ibid. 92, Westcroft 1594 SHC 1932 4, 1834 O.S.; Westcroft Hall c.1629 SRO D1790/A/2/170. It is not certain that the earliest spellings refer to this place (they appear to been in or near Essington), but if so the derivation may be from OE wþloga (in later forms warlagh or warlaw: see Ekwall 1959: 95) ‘traitor’, used as a nickname: cf. Warlaby, North Yorkshire. The second element is OE croft ‘a small enclosure of arable or pasture land, an enclosure near a house’.

WESTLOWE (unlocated) Westlowe 1523 SHC 1925 122. From OE west hlåw ‘the western mound or tumulus’.

623
WESTON 1 mile south-east of Maer (SJ 8036). Westone 1086 DB, ? Weston 1212 SHC III 158, Merweston 1252 SHC IV 239, ? Weston 1586 SHC 1927 172, Weston-juxta-Standon 1679 SHC 1914 12. From OE west-tan 'tan west of another'. The first element in the 1252 spelling is from nearby Maer, to distinguish this Weston from other places of the same name. The place has been associated with a lost medieval village of Weston Hawes (see TSSAHS XII 1970-1 36), but which is likely to be Weston Hues or Hughes: see Weston under Lizard. StEnc gives the name of this place as Weston-in-the-Hedge, but this form has not been traced elsewhere, and the source is unclear. See also Weston Meres (Farm).

WESTON COYNEY in Caverswall parish, 2 miles north-west of Caverswall (SJ 9343). Westone 1086 DB, Westona 1166 SHC 1923 296, Weston under Kevermont 1236 SHC 1911 403, Weston Subt' Kavernoc 1240 (1798) Shaw I xxvi, Weston sub Kevermont 1242 Fees, Western Houme 1285 SHC 1911 403, Weston under Courremont 1287 SHC VI (i) 167, Weston Cun(e)y(e) 1448 Banco, Weston subtus Caversmounte 1595 Erdeswick 1844: 246, Weston Coyney 1775 Yates. From OE west-tan 'western tan, tan west of another' (perhaps Caverswall). The place was held by Thomas Coyney (Tome Cuinnea) in 1164-5: SHC 1911 417; 1923 296. Coyney is from a French family name Coignet: StSt I 1987 232. For the element Keveremont, etc., see Carmounthead. Houme is from Hulme, 1 mile north of Weston Coyney.

WESTON HARALD, HARALDESWESTON - see WESTON UNDER LIZARD.

WESTON JONES in Standon parish, 3 miles north-east of Newport (SJ 7624). Weston 1242 Fees, Weston Johannis 1236 Fees, Weston' Jhones 1327 SR, Westona 1380 SHC 1914 183. From OE west-tan 'western tan, tan west of another place', presumably Norbury. The Jones element is from Johannis (John), the name of an early owner. Weston Jones may be an un-named 2 hides held by Robert de Stafford in DB: VCH IV 52 fn.51. See also SHC 1914 182-3.

WESTON MERES (FARM) 1 mile south-west of Chapel Chorlton (SJ 7937). Weston Maer 1748 SRO D3272/5/15/5-31, Weston Meir 1792 SRO D3272/5/15/32. 'Weston near Maer'.

WESTON MOOR (unlocated, in or near Weston Coyney: SHC 1912 38.) Weston Moor 1529 SHC 1912 37. The moor evidently lay to the south of Wetley Moor: SHC 1912 37.

WESTON ON TRENT Ancient Parish 6 miles north-east of Stafford (SJ 9727). Westone 1086 DB, Weston-upon-Trent 1293 SHC 1911 49, Weston-on-Trentham (sic) 1544 SHC XI 288. From OE west-tan 'western tan, tan west of another'. The place (west of Amerton) is on the river Trent. Sometimes called Weston by Stafford.

Weston subus Lyzyard 1672 ParReg, Weston under Lizard 1833 O.S. From OE west-tūn 'western tūn, tūn west of another', perhaps with reference to Brockhurst (which lies between this place and Wheaton Aston), or with reference to Brewood, of which parish it was formerly a part: at least as early as 1254, nearly a century before it was first recorded as Weston-under-Lizard, it was known as Weston-under-Brewood (SHC 1916 196). The additions to the name served to distinguish it from other places called Weston. The place is north-east of Lizard (q.v.), Shropshire, and since there is no evidence that it formed part of the Lizard estate in the 14th century - or at any other time - the reference to Lizard must be to Lizard Hill. Blumenhull(e) is Blymhill (q.v.). Hewes is from Sir Hugh de Weston who held the place in or about 1240-2 and died in 1305 (see also Weston near Maer): SHC I 214; SHC NS II 37 fn.2. Oakden 1984: 180 identifies Haraldeswestone 1410 Cur, Haraldesweston 1414 SHC XVII, and Weston Harald 1424 SHC XVII 106 as this place, but the evidence is unclear. The identity of Harald has not been established.

WESTSIDE (MILL) on the east bank of the river Manifold, 1 mile east of Warslow (SK 1058). Wessyd 1656 et freq. Alstonefield ParReg, Wessyd Milne 1668 ibid, Westsyde 1675 ibid, Westside 1689 ibid, Weside, Wesside Mill 1694 ibid. Perhaps so-named because it lies on the west side of Archford Moor. There was a mill here by 1584: see VCH VII 11.

WESTWOOD 1½ miles west of Leek (SJ 9656). Westwode 1291 (1798) Shaw I xxii, 1292 SHC VI (i) 220, 1298 SHC VII 44, Graunge de Westwood(e) 1539 MinA, Westwood 1539 MA, Westwod 1543 (1883) Sleigh 73. 'The wood to the west' (of Dieulacres Abbey, which had a grange here: VCH III 223; VCH VII 85; 101). Westwode in or near Loxley is recorded in 1439: SRO DW1733/A/2/30.

WETHAL, WETHALES (unlocated, in Mytton.) Wethal 1209 SHC XI 311, Wethale 1284 SHC VI (i) 140, Whethales 1289 ibid. 191, Whetales 1290 SHC XI NS 23, Wethale 1297 SRO DW1734/I2268, Whethales 1302 SHC XI 311, 1320 SHC 1911 346, Whethales 1349 SHC XII 80. From the plural of OE halh, with OE wēt 'wet', and unlikely to be the same place as Wetenale, recorded c.1299 (SHC XI 325), Whethenhall 1537 SRO D590/133, seemingly 'the halh where wheat is grown'.

WETLEY MOOR 2 miles south of Bagnall (SJ 9248). Wetley Moor 1529 SHC VIII 8, Wetley More c.1529 SHC NS X (i) 183, Watleymore c.1529 ibid. 149, Watley More c.1531 ibid. 149, Whatley More c.1540 ibid. 175, Whitle moore c.1540 Leland, Wetleye moor 1586 AD 6, Wetley More otherwise Homersley More at Chedleton 1599 SHC 1935 131, Wetley Moore 1604 SHC 1940 196, Whitley Moore 1735 Stoke on Trent ParReg, Wetley Moor 1810 EnclA. Probably from OE wēt-lēah 'wet leah'. The name seems originally to have been applied to an extensive area to the south and south-west of Leek, and in 1529 covered about 1000 acres: JNSFC XCII 1957-8 68. Wythemor, recorded in 1226 (JNSFC XCII 1957-8 68), is said to refer to Wetley Moor, but if accurate would give 'the moor with the withies', and is unlikely to be an early spelling for Wetley Moor. A survey of the boundary of the Moor was made in 1605: SRO D5590/1/10/3. See also Browne's map of 1682 and Yates' map of 1775, also StEnc 654. It is unclear whether Wetelea, recorded in 1182 (SHC I 103) refers to this place. See also Ford Wetley; Hammersley; Weston Moor.
WETLEY ROCKS  5 miles south-east of Leek (SJ 9649). ye Rocks 1734 ParReg, Wetley Rocks 1784 SHC 1947 79, 1792 Andrews 1936: 124, 1836 O.S. From OE wé·lēah 'wet lēah': the place lay in Wetley Moor (q.v.). The rocks are a gritstone outcrop.

WETMOOR  (unlocated) in Stretton parish, 3 miles south-west of Penkridge, Wetmore 1453 Banco, Wetmore 1455 SHC III NS 217; WETMOOR FARM ¼ mile north of Gayton (SJ 9829), Wetmoor 1836 O.S. From OE wé·mōr 'the wet marshland'. Cf. Hungry Hill.

WETMORE  2 miles north-east of Burton-upon-Trent (SK 2524). Wihtmere 1012 (14th century, S.930), Witmere 1086 DB, Witmere 11th century Sawyer 1979a: xxxv, Wismera 1113, Wihtmere 1114 Burton, Wictm 1197x1213 SRO D603/A/Add/45, Wichmère c.1235 BM, Wihtmere 13th and 14th centuries (regularly) Duig, Wyghtmer' 1394 SRO DW1734/2/1/103(vi)m.46, Weightmer 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 156, Wightmer 1538 SRO DW1734/1/4/24, Whitmere 1606 SHC 1939 125, Weightmore 1663-4 SHC 1910 35, Weetmoor 1686 Plot, Withmere, Wightmere, Whitmore 1798 Shaw I 19. The first element is from OE wiht 'bend, curve', a word found only in place-names, with OE mere 'a pool', hence 'pool by the river bend'. The place is on an island formed by two branches of the river Trent. Confusingly, Wetmore (sic) Hall Farm lies to the north (in Derbyshire).

WETTON Ancient Parish  7 miles north-west of Ashbourne (SK 1055). Wetindona 1188-94 SHC 4th Series IV 31, Wettindun 1252 Ch, Wettindon' 1253 SHC 4th Series IV 36, Wetindon' 1255 ibid. 37, Weton 1327 SR. From OE wēt 'wet, damp', hence 'wet dan or hill', probably explained by springs which rise on the hill. There is a tumulus on Wetton Low (OE hlǣw 'mound, tumulus') ¼ mile to the south. A Grange of Tutbury Abbey existed at Weton: SHC VII 180.


WEYMOUTH  to the west of Willoughbridge (SJ 7440). Wormsworth 1293 JNSFC 4 1964 62, Wommerthin (wood of) 1363 SHC XW 110, ibid. XII NS 255, Weymouth Cottage 1833 O.S. Perhaps from OE wamh 'womb, belly', used in a topographical sense 'a hollow, a bulge', with OE worhign 'an enclosure', so giving 'the enclosure at the hollow or bulge', which has evidently been influenced by the name Weymouth, Dorset.

WHEATLOW BROOKS  1 mile north of Milwich (SJ 9734). Wheatley Brooks 1787 Deed, Wheatley Brooks 1813 SRO D1798/616/40/ii, 1836 O.S., 1838 T.A., Wheatlow Brooks 1891 O.S. The forms are inconsistent, but perhaps lēah where wheat was grown'. The place lies between two stream-junctions.

WHEATON ASTON - see ASTON, WHEATON.

WHISTAMERE  on the north side of Farmcote Hall (SO 7892). Wystanmere 1255x1265 Eyton 1854-60: III 94, Wystanesmere 1298 Peramb, Wystannesmer' 1327 SR, Whistamere 1891 O.S. 'Wigsta:n's or
Winestān’s mere or pool'. In Shropshire since the 12th century. See also Eyton 1854-60: 100, who records fields called Whistimore near Farmcote.

WHISTON 2 miles west of Penkridge (SJ 8914), Wiestūn 1002x1004 (11th century, S.906; 11th century, S.1536), Witestone 1086 DB, Wistestona 1116-33 Burton, Wistona c.1176-84 SIC III (i) 205, Wistun' c.1255 RH, W(h)ystone 1291 Ipm, Wyston 1240 (p) FF, Whyston 1251 Ass, Whiston 1333 Banco; WHISTON 2½ miles north of Cheadle (SK 0347), Witestone 1086 DB, Whystan 1277 SIC VII NS 20, Wyston early 13th century Okeover T319, Whyston 1306 GDR, Wytston 1328 SIC 1913 17, Wistun 1357 Pat. In the first case ‘Hwīt’s tūn or *Witi’s tūn’, but OE hwīt-stān ‘white stone’ is the derivation for Whiston near Cheadle: the place is noted for the exposed rocks which produced white sand used in the manufacture of cosmetics.

WHISTON EAVES 2 miles south-east of Kingsley (SK 0346). Whyston Eves, Whiston Eves 1456 Banco, ? Ebys 1565 SIC XIII 246, Eves 1585 SIC 1927 128, Whiston Eves 1613 SRO Q/SR/127, Eaves 1686 Plot. For the first word see Whiston. The second word is from OE efes ‘eaves; an edge or border, especially of a wood’, and in place-names ‘the brow of a hill, the edge of a precipice or bank’, or as here, ‘the place on the edge of the township’. It is possible that some or all of the later spellings relate to The Eaves (q.v.), 1 mile south of Cheadle.

WHISTON’S MOORE (unlocated, in Bishop’s Wood near Brewood.) Whiston’s Moore 1801 Shaw II 303. WHISTONWICK (unlocated) Whistonwick 1736 SRO D641/5/T(S)/T/18a&b. The context in which this name appears suggests that it lay near Standon or Chebsey, and there is a reference in 1674 to ‘Aston, Walton, Burston, Stoke, Fulford, Chebsey and Wicke’ (SRO D909): the last name (which is otherwise unidentified) may refer to this place. However, Wistanwick in Shropshire lies 3½ miles south of Market Drayton, and it is possible that the spellings refer to that place.

WHITACRE FARM 1 mile east of Brownhills (SK 0705). Whitacres 1300 SHC V (i) 178. From OE hwīt ‘white’, with OE acer ‘field, ploughed land’.

WHITBY WOOD - see OAKEDGE HALL.


WHITE LEE FARM 2 miles north-west of Onecote (SK 0256). Whytley Leke 1519 Dieulacres Inventory, Whitelee c.1538 VCH VII 213, White Lee 1615 SHC NS IV 69, 1836 O.S. Evidently ‘the white leāh’. See also The Whitelowe.

WHITLOWE, THE (unlocated) the Whitelowe 1646 SHC 4th Series I 308. Possibly to be identified with White Lee Farm (q.v.). Otherwise from OE hwīt hlāw ‘the white mound or tumulus’.

WHITE WOOD FARM 1 mile north-east of Yoxall (SK 1520). le Whyte Wode 1337 Hardy 1908: 23, Whitewood 1812 EncI.A. Self-explanatory, although the precise meaning is unclear.
WHITEHOUGH 1 mile north-west of Ipstones (SK 0151). Whythalk c.1253 SHC 1911 428, Whytehalg 1281 ibid. 178, Le Whytehalgh 1292 ibid. 216, Le Whitehalg 1292 SHC I 296, Whythalk 1293 ibid. 428, Whitehalgh 1380 StEnc 657. 'The white halh', with later confusion with the ending -hough from OE höh `a heel, a steep ridge, a spur of land'.


WHITEMOOR, THE 1¼ miles west of Brewood (SJ 8508), Wytemore 1276 SIIC 1936 200, Wytemore 1286 SHC V (i) 163, Alba Mora 1292 SHC VI (i) 221, Hwtemore 1295 SHC 1911 237, Whitemere 1327 (p) SR, 1373 Ct, Wyt(e)mor 1327 (p) SR, le Whitemor 1334 SHC XVI 6, Whitemor 1348 SHC XII 83, long whitemore 1390 Ct, Whytemore 1538 ParReg; WHITE MOOR (obsolete) near the south-east corner of Bagot’s Park (SK 1026), Wytemor c.1345 SRO D986/81, White Moor 1724 Survey. From OE hwrt-mór ‘white moor’.

WHITES BRIDGE - see BRIDGE END.

WHITESICH BROOK a tributary of the river Penk. Probably from OE hwrt-src ‘light-coloured stream’.


WHITLEYGREAVES 2 miles south-west of Eccleshall (SJ 8126). Cash 1775 Yates, 1833 O.S., Cash 1851 White, Whitleygreaves 1963 O.S. See also Cash Farm.

WHITLEY HEATH 2 miles south-west of Eccleshall (SJ 8126). Evidently to be associated with Whitwell 1531 SHC 1912 46, Whitle Well 1530 ibid. 43, Whitley Welle 1526 ibid. 25. From OE hwlt welle ‘the white spring’, which was probably a reduction from hwlt leah ‘the white clearing’, with OE welle. See also Cash Farm.

WHITLEYFORD 1¼ miles south of Knighton, on the Staffordshire-Shropshire border (SJ 7423). Whytle ford, Whitley ford, Whitley forth 1487 to 1523 Rental, Whitley Ford 1833 O.S. ‘The ford at the
white 1eah'. (Fontem de) Witewell, recorded in an early undated deed (SHC IV 274), may be associated with this place. Fontem is from Latin 'spring'.

WHITLEYGREAVES - see CASH FARM.

WHITMORE 4½ miles south-west of Newcastle-under-Lyme (SJ 8140). Witemore 1086 DB, Whytemore 1227 Ass, Wytemore-under-Lyme 1242 Duig, Wytemore 1299 SHC XI 311, Whitemor 1333 SHC 1913 228, Weitemere, Wettmore 1425 HLS, Whitemore 1450 ibid, Whyttemore 1511 ibid. Although the DB form suggests the possibility of a derivation from the OE personal name Wita, the later spellings and the records of limeworking here (see Limepits) indicate that the name is from OE hwit-mőr 'white moor'.

WHITMORE REANS 1 mile north-west of Wolverhampton (SO 9099). An area developed for housing in the later 19th century. Whitmore-ends 1801 Shaw II 165, Whitmore End House 1842 TA, c.1850 Brigden map, Whitmore Reans 1895 O.S. Whitmore is from OE hwit-mőr 'white moor'. The second part may be from the dialect word rean, from ON reinn, an element commonly found in Shropshire with the meaning 'drainage channel': Shaw 1801: II 65 says of the land here: 'As a striking instance of the effects of improved cultivation, the fine and highly-productive tract of meadows, now called...Whitmore-ends, was, in the 16th century, nearly a morass, and, on account of its poverty [poor quality], distinguished by the name of the Hungry Leas'. In the 19th century the area was also known as New Hampton to reflect the rehousing of residents from the slum areas of Wolverhampton, a name preserved in Newhampton Road.

WHITTIMERE 2 miles north-east of Bobbington (SO 8292). Wytemere 1296 SHC 1911 266, Wytemere 1298 TSAS LXXI 1996 27, Whitemere 1375 Ipm, Whittymer 1643 Claverley ParReg, Whitmore 1834 O.S., Whittimere 1895 O.S. 'The white moor'. The names le Scholle (1286 SHC 4th Series XVIII 119; 1443 VCH XX 71), Schowle (1544 VCH XX 71), and Scolle or Whitimmere Hall (late 16th century VCH XX 71) are associated with this place, from the OE adjective sceoth 'twisted, awry', seemingly used for 'the twisted hill': see Shoal Hill.

WHITTINGTON Ancient Parish 3 miles east of Lichfield (SK 1608), Whitinton 1182 P, Wytinton 1242 SHC 1924 70, Whithington 1242-3 Fees, Whitinton 1309 WL 103, Whytinton 14th century Duig, Whityngton 1482 SHC VI NS (i) 141, Whittington 1686 Plot, 1798 Yates; WHITTINGTON 4 miles south-west of Stourbridge (SO 8582), Quitenton 1203 Selden Soc. lxxxiii 66, Whittington c.1255 SIIC V (i) 110, Wytyndon ibid. 159, Wyntinton 1286 ibid. 157, Whytinton, Whitenon 13th century Duig, Withynden 1414 SHC 1921 27, Wyttenton 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 15, Whittington 1686 Plot, 1798 Yates; WHITTINGTON 4 miles north-west of Eccleshall (SJ 7933), Wyntinton 1348 SRO DW1082/A/2/3, Whittington 1524 SHC XI 264, Whittington, Whittington 1676 SIIC 1914 29, Whittington 1833 O.S. 'The tän associated with a man called of Hwita', or possibly 'lHwita's tän' or 'white tän'. (et) Hwitantune, recorded in 925 (14th century, S.395), is probably to be identified with Whittington near Chesterfield, in Derbyshire: see Sawyer 1979: 5.


WHYTACRE (unlocated, possibly on the Staffordshire-Warwickshire border.) *Whitacre, Whytacre* 1262 SHC IV 150, 152.

WHYTLEY (unlocated, possibly near Onecote in Leek.) *Whytley* 1318 VCH III 228, *Whyteley* 1539 MA. Perhaps to be associated with *Whitlegh*, recorded in 1339 (SHC 1913 79). OE *hwēt leah* 'the white clearing'.

WIBBILDE MOOR or WIBBELLE MOOR (obsolete, near Knowle on the southern boundary of Lichfield: VCH XIV 111.) *Wibbilde Moor, Wibbelle Moor* c.1200 VCH XIV 111.

WICHINHAM (unlocated) *Wichinham* 1190 Pipe.

WICKEN LOW 1 mile south-east of Flash (SK 0366). *Wickenlow* 1842 O.S. Perhaps from OE *cwicen hlāw* 'burial mound with or at the rowan or mountain ash'.

WICKEN WALLS ½ mile west of Flash (SK 0167). *Wicken Wall* 1842 O.S, *Wicken Walls* 1870 Rental, 1880 Kelly. *Wicken* may be from OE *cwicen* 'rowan or mountain ash'. Plot 1686: 223 records the belief that the *Quicken-tree* warded-off evil spirits, with some countryfolk keeping boughs by their beds or carrying sticks made from the wood. The variants *Quicken* and *Wiggin* are sometimes found, e.g. *Quitens greene* 1615 Alstonefield ParReg. *Walls* is from Mercian OE *wealle* 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream', hence 'the spring(s) by the mountain ash'. See also Wickenstone Farm.

WICKENSTONE FARM on the east side of Biddulph (SJ 8956). *Wickenstone* 1836 O.S. From the Wicken Stones (*Wicking Rocks* 1888 TNSFC 1888 68), a long narrow gritstone ridge here. The age of the name is uncertain. *Wicken* is from OE *cwicen* 'rowan or mountain ash', so 'the stone at or near the mountain ash'.

WICKEYTREE ½ mile west of Loggerheads (SJ 7235). *the Wickey tree* 1681 SIIC 1945-6 180, *Whicky tree* 1689 Ward 1843: lxi. From OE *cwicen* 'mountain ash', so 'rowan or mountain ash tree'.

WIDNESS on the south side of the river Churnet, 1 mile north-west of Alton (SK 0543). *Withness* 1702 Alton ParReg, 1706 SRO D240/D/79, *Widness* 1768 SRO D707/T/1, *Widneys* 1836 O.S. From Mercian OE *wīd, nes(s)* 'wide headland or projecting ridge'. The ridge is evidently that between the Churnet and the stream that flows through Dimmings Dale.


WIGFORD on the east side of the river Tame, on the north-west side of Dosthill (SK 2000). *Wycford* 1326 (1798) Shaw 1411, *Wyc-ford* 1526 ibid. 412, *Wigford* 1327 SHC VII 232. From the ford over the river here, which is marked on Yates' map of 1798 and the first edition 1" O.S. map. Probably from OE *wīc*, so 'ford by the hamlet or dairy-farm'. The latter element sometimes had the specialised meaning 'associated with salt-working' or 'dependant place with a specialised commercial function' (see
Nomina 22 1999 88), and it is possible that the name here has the meaning 'ford associated with the saltings' or similar: see Fisherwick. It may also be noted that the element wic is associated with Roman sites (see Gelling 1988: 247-8; Nomina 22 1999 110-11), and this place lies ½ mile south of Watling Street. The possibility that the first element is from a people known as the *Iwicce, whose name is believed to be associated with Wychnor (q.v.), cannot be ruled out completely. The name Wigmoor survives in Wigford Cottages.

WIGGEN DE TILEHOUSE (unlocated, probably near Haughton.) Wiggen de Tilehouse 1616 SIIC VI NS 21. No suggestions can be offered for this odd name, which is recorded as a place-name but appears to be a personal name. Villehouse (p) is recorded in Penkridge ParReg in 1597, and may be this place. See also Tiled House.

WIGGENSTALL ¹/₄ miles south-west of Sheen (SK 0960). Wigginstall 1396 VCH VII 28, 1695 Morden, Wyginstalle 1566 Deed, Wigganstaff 1775 Yates, Wiggenshall 1840 O.S. The second element is evidently from OE stall 'a place', particularly 'a stall for cattle' and 'a place for catching fish', in this case probably 'Wicga's cattle stall'.


WIGHTWICK (pronounced Wit-tick [witrık]) in Tettenhall parish, 3 miles west of Wolverhampton (SO 8698). Wisteuuic 1086 DB, Wyttewik 1290 SHC 4th Series 13 8, Wysteywic, Wytewyk 13th century Duig, Whistwyke, Whistwykford 1300 SHC V (i) 180, Whitywyke 1307 SHC VII 178, Wightwyk 1539 SHC VI NS (i) 64, Wyghtwyke temp. Elizabeth I SHC IX NS 31. Possibly from the OE personal name *Wihta, with OE wic 'village', hence '*Wihta's village'. There is a small stream here, known as Wightwick Brook, but no marked bend that would justify a meaning from OE wiht 'bend, curve'. The s in early spellings is a typical Norman attempt to reproduce ME -gh-, and when the sound became lost before consonants the letter disappeared.

WIGMORE 2 miles south-east of Wednesbury (SO 0193). Wigmore (Field) 1608 SRO D564/3/1/3, Wigmoor 1834 O.S., Wigmore 1887 Willmore 1887: 29, Wigmore (Schools) 1895 O.S. Willmore 1887: 29 states that this is 'the ancient name of the valley lying to the east of Wednesbury'. The first element is OE wicga, recorded as a term for an insect, found in modern earwig, perhaps meaning 'something which wiggles, a quaking object'. The second is OE mör 'marsh'. It has been suggested (Gelling 1984: 56; Gelling & Cole 2000: 59) that OE *wicga-mör was a term for an unstable marsh in which wet mounds erupt and disappear: cf. Wigmore, Herefordshire; Wigmore, Shropshire. See also PN Sa 1314-5.

WIKENESLOWE (unlocated, possibly near Almington.) Wikeneslowe 1332 SIIC X (i) 100. Perhaps 'the low or tumulus with the Rowan tree', from OE *ewicen hlāw.
WILBERSTONES (unlocated, in Burslem: SRO D4842/14/1/35. ) Wilboures Stoones 1607 JNSFC LXIII 1928-9 78, Wilberstones 1707 SRO D4842/14/1/35. Cf wilburge weye ‘Wilburg’s Way’ recorded in 975AD near Madeley (11th century, S.801).


WILBOARSEGREAVE (unlocated, possibly north-west of Leek: CEC 385 suggests in the Heaton/Gun End area.) Wildboarsegreave 1229x 1232 CEC 385. From OE grdf ‘grove, thicket, copse’, and in some case ‘trench, pit’, so ‘the thicket (or pit) of the wild boar’.


WILDGOOSE (FARM) ½ mile north-west of Bradnop (SK 0055). Wildegos c.1275 SHC 1911 429, 1327 (p) SR, Wylgose 1480 SHC VI NS (i) 128, Wylgouse-house 1540.40MB, Wylgoose House 1546 SHC 1912 350, Wildgoose House 1635 Leek ParReg. From the surname Wildgoose.

WILDHAY BROOK a tributary of the river Dove. Probably from a field name ‘the desolate enclosure’, from OE wilde-(ge)heg, with bróc ‘stream’.

WILDMORE - see HOLLIES near Heath Hayes.

WILKINSPLECK ¼ mile north of Whitmore (SJ 8242). Wilkins Pleck 1737 Swynnerton ParReg., Wilkinspleck 1920 O.S. Evidently from ME plecke ‘a small enclosure or plot of land’, with the personal name Wilkin(s).

WILLENHALL 3 miles west of Walsall (SO 9698). Willenhale 996 (for 994) (17th century, S.1380), Winnenhale, Winehala 1086 DB, Wilinhale 11th or 12th century Sawyer 1979a: xxxvii, Willenhall 1166 SHC 1923 295, Willenhale 12th century Duig, Wulenhale c.1227 SHC II 275, Wylenhale, Waleenhall 1286 SHC V (i) 169-70, Walwenhale 1293 SHC VI (i) 235, Wylenhale 1304 SHC 1911 277, Wylyenale c.1310 SHC 1928 129, Wulnhall c.1564 SHC 1931 155, Wylanhall alias Willenhall 1596 WALS DX-240/34. ‘Willa’s halh’. Hale is the dative form of halh. Shaw 1801: II 8 mentions Willenhall Spaw in 1801, so-named from several springs here. It may be noted that Willenhall, Warwickshire, has a single l in early spellings, and is probably from OE *wlige ‘willow’.

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WILLIFORD 2 miles north of Whittington (SK 1610). Williford, Williford 1159-81 VCH III 340, Wyldford 1288 SHC VI (i) 178, Weliford c.1290 SHC VI (ii) 151, ? Withford 1379 SIC XIII 161, Wylyford (Hey) 1456 SRO D1798/685/177, Willeford (meadow) 1508 BCA MS3878/55, Williford, Willeford (Hays in Fisherwick Wood) 1514 SRO D1798/685/180, Wylyfourde 1600 SHC 1935 230, Wiliford 1614 SHC IV NS 64, Willeford 1686 Plot 241, 1695 Morden; WILLIFORDE (unlocated, between Bitham and Moor Hall in Penkridge), Wylyford 1317 SHC 1931 246, Williforde 1598 Ct. From OE wilig 'willow', hence 'willow ford': the first place lies near the river Tame.

WILLINGSWORTH 1 mile south-west of Wednesbury (SO 9794). Willingsworth 1555 SIC IX (ii) 105, 1663 SHC II (ii) 50, SHC IX 120, 1666 SHC 1923 96, 1669 Erdeswick 1844: Iviii, 1670 SHC 1923 96, 1686 Plot, 1749 Bowen, 1775 Yates, 1834 O.S.; Wellingworth 1686 Plot, 1801 Shaw II 85. From the OE personal name *Willing, with OE word 'an enclosure', so 'the enclosure of Willing'.

WILLOUGHBRIDGE 8 miles south-east of Newcastle under Lyme, on the Staffordshire-Shropshire border (SJ 7440). Willibrydge Parke 1547 SHC 1912 180, Wyllynbrydge 1564 SIC XV 213, Willibridge 1570 SHC 1931 133, Wyllotbridge otherwise Wyllotesbridge otherwise Wylloughbridge 1585 SHC XV 166, Willoughbridge Park 1590 SHC 1930 95, Willughbridge 1611 SHC III NS 60, Willowbrig 1686 Plot, Willowbridge wells 1747 Bowen. From OE wilig 'willows', with OE brycg 'bridge', meaning 'the bridge at the willows': the place lies on the river Tern. In the late 17th century unsuccessful attempts were made to develop mineral springs here into a spa: Plot 1686: 103. This accounts for the wells element in the 1749 spelling.

WILLSLOCK 2½ miles south-west of Uttoxeter (SK 0730). Willeslocke 1590 SHC 1930 69, Willeslock 1611 SHC III NS 69, Wills Lock 1798 Yates, 1834 White 764, Willstock 1836 O.S. The spellings suggest a derivation from the ME personal name Wille or similar, a short-form of William (DES 493), with OE loc(a) 'enclosure', so 'Wille(e)'s enclosure'. The name may be recorded in 1356: see SRTD D543/B/2/1-15.

WILNECOTE (pronounced Wincut [wɪŋkət]) on the south-east side of Tamworth (SK 2201). Wilmundecote 1086 DB, Wilmundecota 1166 P, Wilmundicote 1221 Ass, Wilmondecote 1272 Ipm, Wilmenkot al Wilmecote 1326 Ipm, Wymencote 1326 Pat, Wylyncote 1336 ibid, Wilhondencot 1274 Ipm., Wilmendecote 1290 FF, Wilmcota, Wilmecote 1217 Bracton, Wilmencote 1298 Ipm, Wilmendecote 1315 Ipm, Wilnecote 1316 FA, Wilmecote al Wilncote 1607 FF, Wincote 1656 Dugdale, Wilmundecote al Wilmeccote al Wilncote 1663 FF. From the OE personal name Wilmund, with OE cot 'cottage, shelter, hovel', so 'Wilmund's cottage'. The absence of the genitival s, and the appearance of the -i- in the 1221 and 1313 forms show that the original name may have been Wilmundingcot(e), with a medial -ing- representing an alternative to the genitive inflection. Formerly in Warwickshire, the place became part of Staffordshire in 1965.

WILSIAW 1 mile west of Hollinsclough (SK 0566). ? Wylchar 1313 SHC 1911 314, Wilshew 1566 Deed, Wyshawe 1583 DRO D2375M/190/4, 1602 Alstonefield ParReg, Wil[t]shaw(e) 1626, 1651 Rental, Wilshaw Bottom 1840 O.S. From OE wilig. scaga 'willow copse'.
WILSTANSWUDE unlocated, probably near Northwood, 2 miles south of Newcastle-under-Lyme. Wilstan(e)swude 1227 SHC IV 48, ibid. 239, SHC VII (ii) 6, Wilstaneswude 1247 SHC IV 239. 'Wulfstan's wood'. See also Wolstanton.

WIMBLEBURY 1 mile south-east of Hednesford (SK 0111). Wimblebury 1834 O.S. Early spellings have not been traced (StEnc 665 suggests that this may be the same place as Wildmore Hollies, recorded on Browne's map of 1682), so possibly a relatively recent name from dialect whimberry, a version of winberry, another name for the bilberry or whortleberry: the Cannock Chase Berry (Vaccinium x intermedium Ruthe) is a hybrid of common bilberry (V. myrtillus L.) and cowberry (V. vitis-idaea L).

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Survey, Windswell Pool 1833 O.S. Perhaps from the OE personal name Wine, meaning 'Wine's spring', from Mercian OE walle 'spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream'.

**WINDY ARBOUR** ½ mile north-west of Madeley (SJ 7645), Windey harbor 1733 SHC 1944 59, Windy Harbour 1775 Yates; WINDY ARBOUR (obsolete) on the north-west side of Cocknage (SJ 9041), Windy Arbour 1836 O.S.; WINDY ARBOUR (obsolete; between Talke Pits and Chatterley: Yates 1798), Windy Harbor 1703 Audley ParReg, Arbour 1798, Windy Arbour 1819 SOT DS4842/42/31; WINDY HARBOUR in Cheadle (SK 0143). Windyarbor 1890 O.S., WINDYHARBOUR ½ mile west of Denstone (SK 0841), Windyharbour 1891 O.S. A common name for high or exposed places: arbour means 'shelter or retreat'. Such names are usually of late origin, but sometimes derive from OE eorpborg 'earthen fortification', denoting the existence of earthworks, or OE here-beorg 'shelter or protection for a number of men; army quarters' (EPNE ii 244). The field-name Windy Harbour is recorded in Claverley, Shropshire (Foxall 1980: 55), and there is a Windy Arbour Lane in Great Saredon.

**WINKHILL** 1 mile north-west of Waterhouses (SK 0651). Wycleshull 1278 SIMC VI (i) 86, Wykmghull 1307 SHC VII 174, Wynkeshull 1329 SHC XI 14, Wynkyl 1358 SHC 1912 121, Wyncle, Wynkhill, Wyekhill, Wyneckhill c. 1585 SHC 1929, Winklehill 1686 Plot. Perhaps from OE wincel 'nook, corner', well-established as a topographical term, often with the meaning of 'a sharp bend in a river': this place lies in a bend of the river Hamps: cf. PN Buckinghamshire 203-4. Some of the spellings may refer to Wincle in Cheshire, just across the Staffordshire border 3 miles north of Heaton. See also PN Ch 1164-5.

**WINNINGTON** in Mucklestone parish, 4 miles north-east of Market Drayton (SJ 7238). Wennintone 1086 DB, Woninton 1273 Ipam, 1306 SHC VII 153, Wymnton 1293 SHC 1911 47, Wenenton 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 42. Ekwall 1960: 524 suggests a derivation from the OE personal name Wynna, so 'the tan of Wynna's people', but the early spellings for this place have inconsistent vowels, and there must be some uncertainty about the personal name.


**WINSCOTE** 2 miles north-west of Worfield (SO 7396). Wincescote hylse 1541 SRRC 5586/1/428, Wynescoate 1564 Worfield ParReg, Winscot 1602 SRRC 2028/1/5/8, 1674 SRRC 5586/1/472, 1731 SRRC 5586/1/509, 1752 Rocque, Wincrose Hopes 1833 O.S., Winscote 1891 O.S. Perhaps 'the cottage of Wine': see Winshill. Hylse is presumably 'hills', but Hopes in the 1833 spelling is unexplained.

'Wine's hill'. 'The name Wine, earlier Wini, somewhat rare before the tenth century, was common from thence to the conquest': PN Bk 75. The name, a short form of an uncompounded name like Winefrip (see Stenton 1970: 88) is widely distributed: cf. Winslow (Buckinghamshire); Winsley (Shropshire); Winston (Suffolk). The place was transferred from Derbyshire to Staffordshire in 1894.

WINTER SIDE (obsolete) on north-west side of Hollinsclough (SK 0567). ? Wytursyde, in Bassetfryth 1401 SHC XVI 82, Wintersyd, Winterside 1566 Deed, Winter Side, near Hoarse Clough 1683 Alstonefield ParReg, Winter Side 1840 O. S. Perhaps associated with a statement in Plot 1686: 344: ‘...two crops from one plowing, which has often been done at Ipston...’, or possibly with a similar meaning to OE winterdun ‘a tract of upland on which sheep could be pastured in winter to keep them free from soggy land lower down’, or ‘the tract of upland for sowing winter corn’: see Rumble & Mills 1997: 301-6. Ekwall 1959: 83 notes that winter may be an unrecorded OE loanword from Latin vintrium ‘vineyard’, observing that a corresponding word is found in place-names, but it is hardly likely that this place could be associated with the growing of grapes. Cf. Averill Side.

WISTY unlocated, in West Bromwich or Wednesbury. Wisti, Wistibrigge 1286 SHC V (ii) 165, Wysti(brigge) 1287 SHC VI (i) 170. Ede 1969 (108] states that ground near the stream in Ilydes Road is frequently recorded as Wisty until recent times, with Wystibrigge the bridge carrying Ilydes Road over the Tame, an identification accepted by Dilworth 1976: 103-4.


WITHNALL FOREST (obsolete) in Moddershall (SJ 9236). Whitnall Forest 1636 SRO DW1742/28, Withnall Forest (alias Moddershall Heath) 1696 SRO DW1742/14-17, Wicknall Forest 1732 Okeover T770, Mothersall Heath (alias Withnall Forest in Kibblestone) 1808 SRO D593/B1/1/20/9-10. The name would appear to be from OE hwītan-hálh ‘(at the) white hāl’ or ‘Hwita’s hāl’. It is unclear whether Whitnall mylle, recorded in 1531 (SIIC 1910 21), and as Whytnall Mill in 1602 (SIIC 1935 457) is to be associated with this place. See also Moddershall.

WITHYMOOR MILL (obsolete) in Rowley Regis (SO 9587). Wythiemore Mill 1627 Roper 1980: 25, Withermore 1674 ibid. 132, Wythmere Mill 1834 O.S. From OE witēg mōr ‘the moorland with the withies or willows’, but since the place lay on the boundary Staffordshire/Worcestershire boundary, possibly from OE (ge)mēre ‘boundary’.

WITHYSITCH 1 mile north-east of Milwich (SJ 9833). Wythy Sitch 1775 Yates. From OE sīc ‘watercourse’, so ‘the stream with the withies or willows’.

WITNELL'S END in Upper Arley, 1 mile south-east of Romsley (SJ 7981). Whytenhull, Wytenhull, Whythchal (p) 1295 PN Wo 33, 1325 (p) Ipm, 1332 (p) SR, ? Whitenhulle 1403 SIIC XV 112. From OE hwītan-hylle ‘(at the) white-hill’. In Worcestershire since 1895.

WIVERSALL (HOUSE) on the west side of Abbots Bromley (SK 0724). Wilversall c.1795 SRO D832/10/1, Wilversallfield 1851 White. See also Wyversale. Possibly associated with Wyvelesle (undated), recorded in Shaw 1798: I 155, 156, 171.

WOBASTON 3 miles north of Wolverhampton (SJ 9003). Wibaldestun 1227 SHC IV 51, Wymbaston 1275 SHC VI (i) 56, 1327 SHC VII (i) 251, Wybaldeston 1276 ibid. 91, Wylaston 1286 SHC V (i) 172, Wobaston 1377 SHC 4th Series VI 16, 1608 SHC 1948-9 41. 'Wigbald's tán'.

WOBURNSHAWE (unlocated, in Chartley.) Woburnshawe early 14th century SRO 3718/3. From OE wōh 'crooked', with OE burna 'stream' and OE scaga 'shaw, copse', so 'the copse at the winding stream'. Cf. Woburn, Bedfordshire.

WODEHOUSE (pronounced Woodhouse [wudhaus]) an ancient house ½ mile north-east of Wombourne (SO 8893), in existence from at least 1242. Wodehous 1332 SHC X 130, 1347 SHC XII 67, The Wodhows 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 185. From the 17th century the spelling was Woodhouse or Woodhouses, which reverted to the earlier form Wodehouse c.1875: VCH XX 205. The name meant not 'wooden-house', since almost every house was so-constructed, but 'house near the wood' (cf. Woodhouse), and may refer to buildings which housed those who performed functions associated with the management of woodland: see Gelling & Cole 2000: 258.

WODEHURES (unlocated, possibly near Checkley.) Wodehures 1272 SHC IV (i) 187; SHC IV (ii) 107. Possibly from ME hewer 'one who cuts, falls or brings down', so '(the place of) the woodcutters'. VCH Wo II 5 mentions Wudres in a 15th century deed relating to Upper Arley.

WODEWARDINGTON (unlocated, probably Wolverton in Warwickshire (see PN Wa 228), but if in Staffordshire possibly near Eccleshall or Chapel Chorlton.) Wolverdinton 1268 SIUC 1914 36, c.1270 SHC 1921 36, Wulfardiston 1272 SHC 1914 35, Wolverderton 1291 SHC 1913 245, Wodewardington 1293 SHC VI (i) 296. The place was also known as Wulfatto (SHC 1914 37). If in Staffordshire probably from the OE personal name Wulfheard, or possibly from the OE personal name Wulfhere: see Bury Bank. See also Welvedale, Woledale under the entry for Wolfdale. See also SHC I 164.

WODINGES (unlocated, in or near Longdon.) Wodinges 1216 SHC 1921 31, Wodengis c.1305 (1798) Shaw I 223, Wodynges 1327 SHC VII (i) 231, 1334 BCA MS3415/163, Wodynge, Wodynges (undated) 1801 Shaw I 223. The names Wodingfeld, Wodynye (Shaw 1798: I 223) are probably to be associated with this place.


ruled out completely: Nicholas Wolfe is recorded in 1489: SRO DW1761/A/4/39. *Parvum* 'little' implies the existence of a larger and a smaller place of this name. It would appear that that Oldall Grange in Consall was known as *Wolvedale* in 1313 (SHC XII NS 278; see also Sleigh 1883: 137). Erdeswick 1844: 496 states 'Oldall Grange, or Wolvedale, is, in the Lichfield tax-book, called Wlvedale'. That place was a grange of Ranton priory (VCH III 253), and is recorded as *Oldall* in 1539 (MA). Chetwynd mentions *Wolvedale, Woledale* in Weston, near Chapel Chorlton, in 1679: SHC 1914 92; see also Wodewardington. *Wolvedalebruche* in Barlaston is recorded in the 13th century: SHC XI 324.


**WOLFELEGA** (unlocated) *Wolfelega* c.1200 (SHC VI (i) 8). The place appears to have been in the Stone area, perhaps near Bury Bank (q.v.), and may (from the medial -e-) incorporate the personal name Wulfhere, but is more likely to be from OE *wulf-leah* 'the clearing with the wolf', or possibly from the OE personal name Ulf or Wulf, with OE *lēah*. See also Wolfery.

**WOLFERLEY** (unlocated, between Lane End and Chesterton: Shaw 1798: I 72.) *Wolferley* c.1758 (1798) Shaw 1798: I 34. A name perhaps incorporating the personal name Wulfhere (see Bury Bank), but more likely to be from OE *wulf-leah* 'the clearing with the wolf', or possibly from the OE personal name Ulf or Wulf, with OE *lēah*. See also Wolfelega; Wolfesbrigg.


**WOLFHAY** (unlocated, in Leekfrith.) *le Ulfe haye* c.1539 LRMB, *Ufehey* 1681 ParReg, *le Wo fe haye* c.1540 AOMB, *Wolfhay* 1695 Leek ParReg, ? *WooUf's Hay* 1811 EnclA. From ON *ulfr* 'a wolf, with OE (ge)heg, so 'the forest enclosure where wolves were hunted'.

**WOLFOTEBRIDGE** (unlocated, possibly in Penkhull.) *Wolfothebrugge* 1332 SHC II (ii) 103, *Wylfothebrugge* 1332 SHC 1913 38, *Wylfothebrige* 1336 SHC XII (ii) 25, *Wolfothesbrigge* 1365 (1843) Ward 1843: app. lxvi. Possibly from Wolfothe, a ME form of the personal name Wulfhad (a local saint associated with Stone (q.v.); see Rumble & Mills 1997: 312), so 'Wulfote's bridge', though considerable doubt must remain. See SHC 1924 64 for the personal name Wlfet, after 1254.

D260/M/T/5/74) was probably in or near Pillaton): it is possible that these names refer to the same person. Wulfgār was a common Anglo-Saxon name (held by at least one bishop of Lichfield: see Hart 1975: 365), and a Wulfgār was a Mercian thegn who served Edgar during the latter’s brief rule as king of Mercia 957-959 after the kingdom had been divided between Edgar and his brother Eadwig, with Edgar ruling the area north of the Thames and his brother the south. It was Edgar who visited Penkridge as king of Mercia in 958 where he signed a charter (14th century, S.667) which describes in loco famoso qui dicitur Pencric ‘that famous place which is called Pencrić’. On the death of Eadwig, Edgar became king of the re-united English from 959 to 975. Those who had supported him in Mercia appear to have retained their position in court at the expense of some of Eadwig’s thegns, with Wulfgār attesting many charters between 958 and 969, though not the one signed at Penkridge: see Hart 1975: 366.


WOLLESBRUGGE (unlocated, possibly near Hanbury). Wollesbrugge (manor of) 1487 D1798/II. M. Aston/10/27.

WOLLFORDES MARSH (unlocated, in Pershall: SHC 1934 52, possibly Elford Heath (q.v.).) Wollfordes Marsh 1603 SHC 1934 52.

WOLMORE (FARM) on the Staffordshire-Shropshire border, 1 mile west of Seisdon (SO 8194). Wolemere 1292 SHC XII 64, ? Waldemor 1314 SHC 1911 319, Wollemere 1343 SHC VI NS (ii) 159, Wollemere 1401 SHC XV 115, Willmoor 1775 Yates, Wildmoore 1801 Tresull ParReg, Wildmoor 1827 O.S. The forms are inconsistent, but perhaps from OE w(e)ald ‘high forest land; open upland ground’ (cf. la Wolde 1314 (1801) Shaw II 212), which often develops into wilde, with OE mōr ‘moor’, so ‘the moor on the high upland ground’, although wald is a very rare element in Staffordshire: see also Wymundeswolde. The place lies on the Staffordshire-Shropshire boundary on the edge of the high escarpment of Abbot’s Castle Hill.


WOLSELEY BRIDGE 2 miles north-west of Rugeley, on the river Trent (SK 0220). Worseley Bridge c.1540 Leland, Wolseye Bridge 1593 SRO DW1781/5/5/1, Osley Bridge 1675 Ogilby. See Wolseley. A bridge has existed here from at least 1281, when Bridgend is recorded (SHC 1914 144), (Atte)briggende 1279 (SHC VI (i) 106). The bridge, which replaced a ford mentioned in the 12th
century as Vadum de Wolseley, from Latin vadere, OE wadan (SHC 1914 144), 'a wade, a ford', evidently had a chapel at the northern end: SHC VI (i) 106.


WOLSTANTON MARSH (obsolete) in Wolstanton (SJ 8547). Gosegreen 1297 SHC 1911 243, Wolstanton Marsh 1836 O.S. Evidently Goose Green was the alternative name for this wet ground.

**WOLVERHAMPTON** Ancient Parish 12 miles north-west of Birmingham (SO 9198). at Heantune 985 (12th century, S.860), Hamtun, Hantone 996 (for 994) (17th century, S.1380), Hampton’ 10th century (14th century, S.1155; see Harmer 1989: 403-7), Heantune c.1000 (11th century, S.1534), Hamptun 1053x1062 SHC 1916 125, Hantone, Handone 1086 DB, Wolvrenehamptonia 1070x1085 VCH III 322, Wurunehamton c.1078 Mander & Tildesley 1960: 12, Wulfrenehamton 11th or 12th century Sawyer 1979a: xxxvii, Wolveveshampton c.1139 Reg 170, Wlfrenhamton 1145-53 Letter to pope Eugenius, Wulfrenehamton 1169 P, Wulverne-Hampton c.1175 SHC VIII 133, Wulfrenhamtune c.1175 SHC 1941 73, Wulfronhamton 1181 SHC I 96, Wulfrunehant' 1190 Ch, Wolvehampton 1199 SHC III (i) 36, Wulfunehamtun, Wolverenhampton, Wolverhampton 12th century Duig, Wulverhambon 1203 SHC III (i) 95, Wulunhantun 1204 ibid. 99, Wulfunehamtun c.1275 Seal, Wulfrenhampton 1262 SHC V (i) 139, Wolvehampton 1288 SHC VI (i) 181, Wollerhampton 1424 SHC XVII 95, Wolvehampton c.1540 Leland, Wolvehampton otherwise Wemerhampton 1619 SHC VII NS 209. From OE hēan-tān '(at the) high tān': hēan frequently becomes ham- or han- in the West Midlands. The place, which stands on elevated tableland, was given in 985 to Wulfrun who later granted it to the monastery at Wolverhampton. Wulfrun was a wealthy noblewoman of Mercia, whose estates seem to have lain chiefly in Staffordshire. She is perhaps to be identified with Wulfren, the only hostage who is known to have been taken when Olafr Gothfrithson captured Tamworth c.940. Her husband was Leofwine, but the fact that her son, Wulfric Spot, is also recorded as Wulfric son of Wulfrun suggests that she was of higher rank than her spouse: see Hart 1975: 373-4; Williams, Smyth & Kirby 1991: 241. Her name was not added to the place-name until it became necessary to distinguish this Hampton from many others. It may be noted however that hēan also had the meaning 'chief, important', and there is some slight evidence that Wulfrun may have held land to the east of Wolverhampton, possibly associated with Stow Heath (q.v.), making a meaning 'chief tān' not inconceivable. Indeed, Stenton: 1970: 317 and Harmer 1989: 404 translate hēah tān (dative into Heantune) as 'chief manor'; see also Whitelock 1930: 152; 164. For details of Wulfrun (sometimes confused with her daughter-in-law of the same name) see Searle 1897: 418-9; WA I 289-91; SHC 1916 55-7; Sawyer 1979a: xl.

**WOM BROOK** a tributary of Smestow Brook. The older name would appear to have been Wombourne (q.v.), for which no early forms are recorded. *Wom Brook* is evidently a back-formation from Wombourn(e). see also Wembleton Brook.
WOMBEWELL (obsolete) perhaps near Abbot's Bromley. Wombewell 1385 SIIC 1937 146. Perhaps from OE wamb 'womb, belly', probably with reference to a pool or a bulge-like topographical feature, with Mercian OE weelle 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream', so 'the spring at the pool'.

WOMBOURNE Ancient Parish 5 miles south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 8793). Wambvrne 1086 DB, 1271 SHC V (i) 154, Wamburna 1166 SHC 1923 298, 1167 SHC I 48, Wamburn 1175 P, 1224 SHC IV 223, Womburne 1236 Fees, Womborne 1242 ibid, Wombeburne, Wamburn 13th century Duig, Wombourne 1319 SHC 1924 192, Womburne 1445 SHC XI 305, Womerone 1457 SIIC 1928 49, Womborne 1577 Saxton. Ekwall 1960: 531 considers that the name is from OE (aet) wōn-burnan 'the winding stream', from the OE adjective wōh 'twisted, crooked', found mainly in place-names, with OE burna 'stream' (for which element see Bourne Vale), and identical with the origin of Woburn, Bedfordshire. But the topography, the absence of forms with -n-, and the fact that the stream here, with the (tautologous) name Wombornebroc in 1322 (SHC 1928 33), is not noticeably winding, show that the suggestion in Duignan 1902: 175 that the first element is OE wamb 'womb, belly', probably with reference to a hollow or former pool (cf. Wombridge, Shropshire; Wombwell, Yorkshire) or a bulge-like topographical feature, is more likely: see also Wom Brook. The element womb is relatively uncommon, and it is unclear whether it would have been applied to a concave or convex topographical feature: the word means usually 'belly': see PN Sa 111 44. Wombourne is found with and without a final e. The O.S. adopted an inconsistent policy on its maps until c.1980, when it adopted Wombourne as the correct form. Cf. Oborne, Dorset, (aet) Womburnam c.974 (12th century, S.813), Wonburna 998 (12th century, S.895). See also Wombridgeford.

WOMERE an upland bog on Cannock Chase, 1 mile south-east of Brocton (SJ 9817). Womeer 1834 O.S. The age of the name is unknown, but it may have the same root as Wombourne (q.v.), in which case OE wamb-mere 'the mere or pool in the womb-like hollow'.

WOOD EATON - see EATON, WOOD.

WOODCROFT on south-west side of Leek (SJ 9755). Wo(o)dcroft(e) 1539 MinA, Wodcroffe 1539 MA, Woodcrofte Grange 1552 Pat, Woodcroft 1560 SHC XIII 207, c.1569 SHC IX NS 73, Mood Croft 1836 O.S. From OE wudu 'wood', with OE crotf 'a small enclosure of arable or pasture land, an enclosure near a house', so 'the small enclosed field at the wood'.

WOODCROSS on the north-east side of Sedgley (SO 9294). Woodcrosse 1614 Inq, Woodcross 1895 O.S. Presumably 'the cross at the wood' or 'the wooden cross'.

WOODEND 1 mile south of Hanbury (SK 1726), The Wodend 1532 SIIC 4th Series 8 81, Fauld Woodend 1620 SRRC 513/2/18/16/1, Wood End 1776 SRO D240/ER/1; WOOD END 2 miles north-east of Wolverhampton (SJ 9401), le Wodehende 1348 SIIC XVI 8, le Wodende 1428 SIIC XVII 121, Wodend 1470 SHC IV NS 171. 'The remote part of the village near the wood'. The first place is to be distinguished from Hanbury Woodend (q.v.).

WOODFIELD on the north side of Claverley (SO 7993). Woodfield 1833 O.S. In Shropshire since the 12th century.
WOODFORD 2 miles south-east of Uttoxeter (SK 1131), Wodford 1440 (1798) Shaw I 86, Wodeforde 1560 SHC 1938 159, Woodford 1603 SHC XVIII 32, 1798 Shaw I 86; WOODFORD GRANGE 1 mile north-west of Wombourne (SO 8593), Woodford c.1160 SHC I 200, c.1180 ibid. 198, Wodeford, Wodeforda 1160-1206 SHC III (i) 215, Woodford 1271 SHC V (i) 142, Wodeford 1286 ibid. 158, Wodefeud 1306 SHC VII 157, Woodford Graunge 1559 SHC 1938 152. From OE wudford 'The ford at the wood'. Wodefeud, Wodefeud is recorded in 1306 (SHC VII 157), and may relate to either of the above places. Woodford Grange, extra-parochial until 1900, was a grange of Dudley Priory: VCH XX 225.

WOODGATE 1 mile south-east of Uttoxeter (SK 1032). the Wood gate 1626 SRO D786/20/15, The gate to the wood'.

WOOD GREEN on the north-east side of Wednesbury (SO 9995). Woodgreen 1724 SRRC 2089/4/2/13-14. 'The grassy area at the wood'.

WOOD HALL Codsall Wood (SJ 8404). the Hall in the Wood 1601 VCH XX 82, The Wood Hall 1625 Codsall ParReg, 'The hall at the wood'. The site is moated (cf. Bilbrook; Moat Brook), and may have been the location of the Forest Court of Brewood Forest (q.v.): Forest Courts elsewhere are known to have borne this name: see Ekwall 1960: 212, 531. The hall was demolished by 1835: VCH XX 82.

WOODHAM GREEN (unlocated, possibly in the Kingstone area.) Woodham Green c.1810 SRO D240/E/C/1/15/1-74.

WOODHEAD 1 mile north-east of Cheadle (SK 0144), Woodheade 1586 SHC 1927 135, Woodhead 1598 SHC XVI 185, 1600 SHC 1935 203, 1609 SHC III NS 52, Woodhead (Close) 1779 SRO D240/A/2/14, Wood Head (Colliery) 1836 O.S.; WOODHEAD 1 mile north-east of Waterfall (SK 0951), Woodhead 1712 Ilam ParReg, Wood Head 1798 Yates. 'The head or end of the wood'.

1359 SRO DW1761/A/4/15, Woodhouse Gre(e)ne 1448 Antrobus, Wodehouse 1539 MinA, Wo(o)dhowse 1559 Pat, Woodhouse Green 1616 SHC VI NS (l) 19, Woodhouses 1793 Cary; WOODHOUSES (unlocated, in Marchington), Woodhousesen 1586 SHC 1927 158; WOOD HOUSE 1½ miles north-east of Stone (SJ 9235), Woodhouses c.1680 SHC 1919 262; WOODHOUSES 2 miles west of Lichfield (SK 0809), Woodhousleye 1374 VCH XIV 202, Woodhousegreen 1433 ibid, Wood Houses 1834 O.S.; WOODHOUSES ½ mile north-west of Pattingham (SO 8199), Wodehouse 1315 Brighton 1942: 159, Woodhouses 1920 O.S.; WOODHOUSE (unlocated, at Morfe), Wodehouses 1326 SRO 1485/7/3/2, Wodehouse otherwise Rumpney landes 1442 SRO 1485/7/4/1; WOODHOUSE FARM 1 mile east of Croxden (SK 0839), Wodehouses 1176 VCH III 226; WOODHOUSES (unlocated, near Harley), Wodehouses 1324 SRO D603/A/Add/439, Wodehouses 1327 SRO D603/A/Add/451; WOODHOUSE FARM 2 miles south-east of Upper Arley (SO 7678), Woddes, le Wodehouse 1387, 1460 PN Wo 33, Woodseaves 1686 Plot, Woodsease 1695 Morden, Woods Ease 1752 Rocque, Woods Eaves 1775 Yates (in Worcestershire since 1895). From OE wudu-haús 'house by or in the wood', a very common name sometimes added to the name of a village, for minor places created by the assarting of woodland at some distance from the village. The name may in some cases denote buildings which housed those who performed functions associated with the management of woodland: see Gelling & Cole 2002: 58. Cf. The Wodehouse. Norton Woodhouses in Norton-in-the-Moors is recorded as Norton Woodhouses in le Mores in 1592 (SHC 1930 226), and in 1625 (BCA MS917/1670).

WOODLAND 1 mile south-east of Uttoxeter (SK 1031). ? Woodland 1586 SHC 1927 131, Woodland 1666 SHC 1923 214, Woodlands (Hall) 1836 O.S., Woodlands 1872 P.O. An extensive area of former common land apportioned under the Enclosure Acts. From OE wudu-land 'the newly cultivated land near a wood', rather than 'an area of trees' in the modern sense. It is unclear whether Wydenhall, recorded in 1324 (SHC 1911 357), is to be associated with this place.

WOODLANDS in Weston-under-Lizard parish (SJ 7910). Wodelands 1380 Blymhill, the Wadlandes 1666 SHC II NS 344, Wadland (Meadow) 1782 Weston, Wadland 1840 TA. From OE ðød-land 'ground where woad was grown'. Before 1600 woad was the only source of blue dye in Europe, and in the 15th century was the second most important import. The name Wadeleye (perhaps 'forest clearing where woad could be found', or 'clearing with the ford' from OE (ge)wawd) is recorded in Coppenhall in 1217-37: Oakden 1984: 84. See also PN Wo 221; PN Sa III 214-5.

WOODROFFE'S a close-studded lobby entrance house built c.1622 3 miles south-east of Uttoxeter (SK 1129). Woodruffe (p) 1558 SRO D786, Woodrofe (p) 1666 SHC 1923 215, Woodroffes (Cliff) 1836 O.S. From the Woodroff family, recorded in the area from at least 1588: SRO D786/2/5. Evidently from a family name, from OE wudu-rofe, 'woodruff', the herb Hasta regia, hastula, legiscus; asperula odorata. The name is recorded as a personal name from at least the 12th century: see for example SHC 1929 76; DES 500-501. At one time ladies carried sweet-smelling woodruff with their prayer-books when attending church. The plant name may have been given as a nickname to those who used perfumes - or perhaps in an ironical sense to those who did not.
WOODSEAVES 2 miles north-west of Norbury (SJ 7925), Woodase, Wooddease 1594 SHC 1934 14-5, Woodesaves 1612 ibid. 38, Woodes Eves 1613 ibid. 35, The WoodsEase 1679 SHC 1919 235, Woodseaves 1747 Bowen; WODSEAVES (obsolete) on the west side of the river Severn, 1 mile south-west of Upper Arley (SO 7578), Woodseaves 1686 Plot, Woods Eaves 1798 Yates. From OE efes 'eaves; an edge or border, especially of a wood', and in place-names 'the brow of a hill, the edge of a precipice or bank', with OE wudu 'a wood'. Wodeseves in Wolverhampton is recorded in 1460: SHC 1928 88.

WOODSETTON 1 mile south-east of Sedgley (SO 9393). Wodsetton 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 115, Woodsetton 1537 Inq., 1581 Sedgley ParReg, Woodsetten 1620 SHC VII NS 224, Woodsatton 1686 Yates, Woodsutton 1695 Morden. Possibly from OE wudu, seten 'a plantation', so 'the woodland plantation'.

WOODSHUTS (obsolete) on the north-east side of Talke (SJ 8254). Woodseats 1733 SHC 1944 66, 1799 Yates, Woodshuts 1833 O.S. Possibly from OE wudu, with OE (ge)set 'dwelling, place of residence; place where animals were kept, fold', so giving 'the house or fold in the wood'.

WOODWALL GREEN 3½ miles north-west of Eccleshall (SJ 7831). Wood Wall Green 1691 Eccleshall ParReg, 1833 O.S. Evidently to be associated with a field called Wodewallefult, recorded in an undated (? 14th century) deed: SHC 1921 15. The name is from OE wudu-wcelle 'spring at the wood'.

WOOLISCROFT 2 miles east of Stone (SJ 9334). Willanes-croft 1136 SHC XII NS 154, Willanes croftum 1136 SHC VI (i) 22, Willianescroft, Willanesrecroft 1311 SHC IX (i) 24, Wylanescroft 1310 SHC X 7, Willanesrecroft 1310 SHC 1911 75, 1321 SHC XII NS 113, Williamsrecroft 1314 SHC IX (i) 45, Willianescroft 1314 SHC 1911 80-1, Wyllarddycroft 1377 SHC 4th Series VI 13, Wyllardcroft 1377 ibid. 12, Wyllascroft 1442 SHC XI 233, Wollascroft 1488 SHC 1921 3, Weylescrofte 1377 ibid. 12, Wylascroft 1442 SHC XI 233, Wollascroft otherwise Willowescroftes otherwise Wyllerscroftes 1605 SHC IV NS 6, Wollowescrofts alias Willcocrofte 1621 SHC XII NS 68, Wallecroste 1836 O.S. It seems likely that the earliest spellings have transcription errors which (not unusually) confuse -n- and -v-, and that the name is from Willavescroft - 'WTglaf's croft', from OE croft 'a small enclosure of arable or pasture land, an enclosure near a house'. The medial -es- and -ys- represent the possessive 'his'. See also Gruets Wood. The existence of one of the open fields of Keele named Wolanuscroft, on the south-west side of the village, recorded in 1385 and 1398 (HOK 16, 21) may be noted.

WOOLLASTON in Bradley parish, 7 miles south-west of Stafford (SJ 8615). Vllauestone 1086 Ass, Wolaveston 1199 SHC XI NS 16, Wullaveston 1200 SHC II 95, Wollaveston 1203 SHC III 86, Welaston 1280 SHC 1911 37, Wolaston 1368 SHC 1921 28, 1380 SHC XIII 153, Wollaston 1616 SHC VI NS (i) 21. 'Wulfläfs farmstead'. (Cf. Wollaston and Wollahill, Worcestershire (PN Wo 196,311)).

WOOLLEY ½ mile south-west of Brewood (SJ 8707). Wolveley 1199 Ass, Wivelega c.1200x1210 SHC 1939 9, Wolveneleg 1280 SHC VI (i) 105, Wulveley 1289 SHC ibid. 190, Wolveleye (p) 1313 Giffard, Wulveley tuxta Hyde 1273 FF, Wolfley c.1680 SP. From OE wulf, genitive plural wulfa 'wolf',
with OE íða. The Hyde adjoins this place, which lay within Brewood Forest. A field-name the Wholley in Penkridge (Wolley (p) 1582 (Penkridge ParReg)), may have the same derivation as Woolley: Oakden 1984: 124-5. Wolleye, recorded in 1291 (SHC 1911 203), is Weoley, Worcestershire: SHC IX (ii) 26. See also Wolf Low.

WOOTTON (UNDER WEAVER) 5 miles west of Ashbourne, in Ellastone parish (SK 1045), Wodetone 1086 DB, Wotton, Watton 1191x1194 CEC 261, Vutton 1275 SHC V (i) 119, Wotton 1274 SHC 1911 160, Wutton 1316 ibid. 334, Woton under Wever 1424 SHC XVII 96; WOOTTON ½ miles south of Eccleshall (SJ 8227), Wodetone 1086 DB, Wotton 1253 Ch, Woderton 1305 SHC VII 165, Wodeton 1341 HRO 44M69/C/93, Wotton 1380 SHC XVII 203, Wotton Palment 1599 et freq Eccleshall ParReg, Wotton Palmente 1609 ibid, Wootton Pavement 1623 ibid, Wotton, Wotton Pavement c.1680 SHC 1919 229, Wotton 1686 Plot; WOOTTONS 1 mile south-east of Croxden (SK 0738), the Woottons 1656 SRO D3272/5/18/1-19, Whottons 1836 O.S.; WOOTON (or WOOTTON) 1 mile north-east of Quatt (SO 7688), Wadetone in Foresta de Morf 1255 Rotali Hundredorum (RC), 1812-8, Le Wodetone 1296 SHC 1911 267, Wodeton 1298 TSAS LXXI 1996 27, Wootton Green 1833 O.S. From OE wudu-tán 'tan in or by a wood'. The element tán is characteristic of non-forested areas, which suggests that a wudu-tán was near a wood, rather than in it. PN Sa I 325-5 and Gelling & Cole 2000: 258 tentatively propose 'settlement which performs some function in relation to a wood' for places of this name. The first place lies under the Weaver Hills. For the second place, the early registers suggest that two distinct places existed, Wootton and Wootton Palment. Palment is presumably to be read as Pavement, almost certainly with reference to 'the high paved way...a part of one of these [supposed Roman roads], which seems to have been made by reason of any wet or dirty way, it being raised between two other deep ways, which lye dry enough...' recorded in Wootton by Plot (1686 402; see also VCH I 192), evidently on the line of Wincote Lane, on the north side of which lay 'the Pavement Crofts': Burne 1913: XVII. Considerable doubt remains about the antiquity of this feature: the 'paved way' is said to have run east-west, but Shaw 1798: I 34 suggests that it had the appearance of continuing to Forton and Darlaston, which would put it on the line of the main road south from Eccleshall), but supposedly Roman material has been recorded from Wootton Lodge here: JNSFC LIX 1924-5; see also StEnc 622. If Wotenhill, Wottenhulle recorded in 1232 (SHC XII 15), Wotenhill in 1360 (SHC VIII 8), Wootenhull in 1342 (SHC XII 15) is a Staffordshire place-name, it may be associated with the 496' hill to the west of Wootton near Eccleshall, or the 382' hill to the east of Woottons. An early reference to Wootton, either the place near Ellastone, or Woottons near Croxden, can be found in VCH III 247 fn.4. Wootton in Quatt has been in Shropshire since the 12th century.


WORFE, RIVER Wrhe c.1211, Wurgh 1227, Wrgh 1247, Wornh 1248, Worth 13th century Ekwall 1928: 470, Worgh 1298 TSAS LXXI 1996 27. Early spellings indicate a derivative of OE wyrgan 'to strangle', modern 'worry' (see PN Sa I 327): the river takes a particularly convoluted course. Finberg 1972: 148 suggests that an earlier name of the river may have been Kenn.

WORMHILL 1 mile north-west of Heaton (SJ 9363). *Wormhill* 1333 SHC XIV 32, *Wormhulle* 1403 SHC XV 108, *Wormhale* 1655 Leek ParReg, *Worm Hill als Wormhough* c.1702 SRO D1260/1/1-4, *Worm Hill* 1775 Yates. From OE *wyrm* 'a reptile, a snake, a dragon' (a derivation from OE *wurma*, a purple dye and the plant from which it was extracted, is improbable, but see PN Ch I 54), with OE *hyll*, so 'the dragon's hill'. See also Woundon; Wormslow; Wormhough.

WORMHOUGH (obsolete, on the west side of Wormhill (SJ 9363)). *Wurmildehaleh* 1248 (1883) Sleigh 50, *Wurnulde halh* c.1248 SHC NS IX 318, *Wormehalgh* c.1539 LRMB, *Wormealgh* 1605 SCA MD 5649, *Wormhaugh* 1615 QSREnr, *Wormhough* 1891 O. S. The two earliest forms suggest a derivation from an OE pseronal name *Wurmild or similar, but no such name is recorded. The later spellings point towards OE *wyrm, halh* 'the dragon's halh'. See also Wormhill; Wormslow.

WORMLOW FARM 1½ miles north-east of Bradnop (SK 0256). *Wormlow* 1768 VCII VII 211, *Warmlow* 1842 O.S. Early spellings have not been traced, but almost certainly from OE *wyrm-hlaw* 'dragon's tumulus'. See Wormhill; Wormhough. Wormelow Tump in Herefordshire has a name derived from Worm Brook, which is from a Celtic river-name meaning 'dusky, dun': Gelling 1978: 142, 211.

WORSTEAD GREEN 2 miles south of Walsall (SO 0196). *Walsterwode* 1271 SIIC V (i) 150, *Walfeswod* 1271 SHC 4th Series XVIII 89, *Walstwude* 1300 SHC V (i) 178, *Wastewede* 1403 SHC XV 106, *Walstwode* 1419 SHC XVII 73, *Walstode* 1463 SHC IV NS 125, *Walstede* 15th century Duig, *Walstede Delves* 1542 SHC XI 285, *Walstede Delvise* 1546 TSAS 3rd Series VIII (ii) 238, *Walsted* c.1560 SHC 1926 108, *Worstead (Hall)* Duig 176. Duignan 1902: 49 suggests that the first part of this name is from a family called Walsted, originally the OE personal name Wealhstod (ibid. 176), but the spellings point a derivation from an OE personal name towards a derivation from Walglist, with OE *wudu* 'a wood', with later corruption. *Delves* and *-deluyshe* are from OE *(ge)delf* 'a digging, a trench, a pit, a quarry': the place lies in an area of early mineral and coal mining. The place appears to have been called *Delves Green* in the 19th century (1834 O.S.), and Walstead Hall lay on the north side of the common there. See also Delves.

WORSTON 5 miles north-west of Stafford (SJ 8727). *Wiveredeston* c.1193 SIIC 1924 80, *1205 SIIC III 136, Wyfrideston* 712th century SHC VI (i) 22, *Wodiston* 1271 SIIC V (i) 149, *SiIC XII (ii) 11, ? Wymereston* 1279 SHC VI (i) 115, *Wyverston* 1286 SIIC V (i) 173, *Wiverstone* 1292 SIIC VI (i) 221,
Worfestone, Wythtrestone 13th century ibid. 2A, Wivelestone, Wyverstone, Wyfridestone, Worfestone 13th and 14th century Duig, Worton otherwise Weaverston 1582 SHC XVII 229, Worton otherwise Weaverstone c.1737 SRO D1499. The early spellings are inconsistent, but perhaps from the OE personal name Wilfrid or similar, with OE tän.


WOUNDALE 1% miles west of Claverley (SO 7793). Wundenwall, Wundewell 1531 Eyton 1854-60: III 97, Wundenewell 1235 ibid. 98, Wondenwalld 1525 SR, Wondwall 1625 Claverley ParReg, Woundwall 1627 ibid., 1808 Baugh, Woundwell 1820 Greenwood, Wondell 1833 O.S. From the OE past participle wundan 'twisted; winding', in this case meaning perhaps 'windlass', with OE Mercian welle 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream', but (since there is no stream here) perhaps with its less-usual meaning 'well', giving 'windlass well'; or 'the twisted spring', though what the latter might mean is unclear. In Shropshire since the 12th century. Cf. Woundale, Shropshire.

WOUNDON, WERMDON, OUNDON (obsolete, an early name of Dunstall Hill, north of Wolverhampton (SJ 9100).) Woundon 1258 SHC IV 136, 1327 SHC VII (i) 249, Wermdon 1283 SHC 1911 186, ? Wondon 1286 SHC V (i) 171, Wormdon 1300 ibid. 178, Ouen 1802 ibid. See also SHC 1919 167, SHC 1911 167. Some of the earliest spellings suggest OE wyrm 'a reptile, a snake', but also 'a dragon'. In combination with OE dän 'a hill', it is likely that the name was 'the hill of the dragon': see Wormhill. See also SHC 1919 167. WA II 79 suggests that c.1938 the place was remembered as Woon-hills.

WRENSE NEST a prominent heavily-quarried hill of alternate layers of lime-rich Wenlock shale and Upper and Lower Silurian Limestone 1 mile north-west of Dudley (SO 9391). Wrosne 1248 SICH IV 243, 1278 FF, Wrosene 1291 Tax, at Wrosne 1293 Ipm, atte Wrosome 1395 Ipm, Wrennesnest 1554 StEnc 157, Wren's Nest (House) 1642 SHC IX (ii) 120, Wrens nest 1674 WHS NS 9 (ii) 35, Wrens Nest 1798 Yates. PN Wo 290 and Stenton 1970: 296 fn.1 endorse Skeat's suggestion of a derivation from OE wræs(e)n 'a band, a tie, a chain, a fetter', found as a gloss for Latin nodus, and probably used in some topographical sense as bent or twisted', with reference to what might be described as a 'hill-knot'. Places containing the element are often associated with either ancient roads or earthworks, and the meaning here is probably 'an irregular hill with the appearance of a pile of chain', possibly with reference to the scars left by ancient quarrying. The name seems to have become modified to a more intelligible 'Wren's nest' at some time before or during the 16th century. Cf. Grimsworth Hundred, Herefordshire. In Worcestershire since 1844. See also Bowland Knotts, Yorkshire; Blawith Knott, Lancashire.
WRESTLERS FARM, WRESTLERS WOOD 1 mile north-east of Blymhill (SJ 8213). The Restlers 1798 Shaw I 110, The Restlers 1832 Blymhill ParReg, Wrestlers Barn 1833 O.S., Restler’s Meadow 1841 TA. Presumably where wrestling took place. It is of interest that a ‘great wrestling’ is recorded at Burlaughton near Blymhill in 1289 (SHC 1921 185), and that a crowd of 20,000 gathered at Boscobel for a prize fight in 1828 (WC 29 April 1828). This area close to the Staffordshire-Shropshire boundary may by long tradition have been favoured for gatherings to allow participants to escape the jurisdiction of the county authorities.

WRINEHILL 5 miles west of Newcastle-under-Lyme (SJ 7547). Wrinehill 1225 Cl, Wryneford 1273 SHC VI (i) 58, Wrime 1278 SHC XI NS 260, Wryme 1298 ibid. 249, 1307 ibid. 265, 1332 AD, Le Wryme 1430 AD, le Wrimehull 1486 AD, Wrymhull c.1540 SHC X NS (i) 174, Wrynehill otherwise Wryneford 1593 SHC XVI 133. The first element is found in wriman forda 975 (11th century, S.801), Wryneford 1273 SHC VI (i) 58, le Wrineford 1322 lpm, Wrymford 1377-90 SRO Chetwynd bundle 9, Wryngeford 1396 SHC XV 73; see also Hooke 1983: 106. Wryme was the early name of the area around Wrinehill on the Staffordshire-Cheshire border. Duignan 1902: 176 suggests that the first element of Wriman ford was a personal name Wrim(a). Ekwall 1960 539 considers that Wryme might be the old name of Checkley Brook. Hart 1975: 96 suggests the possibility of a Celtic derivation. Dodgson (PN Ch III 56-8), in a detailed analysis of the name, concludes that Wrinehill is named from its position on a modest ridge between Cracow Moss and Checkley Brook. Wrinehill Bridge, which is probably on the site of the ford, crosses Checkley Brook on the county boundary. Le Wryme Syche (‘the Wryme stream’, from OE stec) is identified as a watercourse draining into Cracow Moss. Wryme seems to have been the name applied to a tract of land around the junction of Checkley Brook and the river Lea. The high ground at Randilow deflects these streams from their westwards course, and it is likely that this deflection explains the name, from a stem wrig-, from the OE verb wrigan ‘to tend, to go forward, to bend’ (cf. Modern wry), with the Primitive Germanic noun-forming suffix -ma(n), which could produce an OE *wirma ‘a bend’, giving *Wríma, (*æt) Wríman ‘(at) The Bend’, with the genitive singular represented in Wríman ford, which would develop into ME Wryme, Wrime, with Wrine, Wryne perhaps due to scribal confusion or otherwise explicable philologically. NB: footnote 50 in PN Ch V (ii) 275 is from an article first published in 1967, and is superseded by the above derivation.

WROTTESLEY (pronounced Rotters-lee [rʊtəzli]) in Tettenhall parish, 4 miles north-west of Wolverhampton (SJ 8501). (æt) Wrotteslea c.1000 (11th century, S.1534), Wrotteslea 1080 SHC I 182, Wrotele 1086 DB, Wrotteslega c.1162 SHC I 183, 1167 SHC 1923 296, Wrotteslea 1199 SHC III 36, Wrotele 1221 SHC I 183, Wurtlega 1222 SHC IV 20, Wrokesley 1256 SHC VI NS (ii) 41, Wurtstlowe c.1250 ibid. 47, Wrotesley 1271 SHC V (i) 148, Wrotesley, Wrottele 1284 ibid. 134, Wrotesley 1285 SHC I 183, Wrotesmere 1286 SHC V (i) 157, Wrotesleye 1310 SHC 1911 74, Roddesley 1414 SHC XVII 25, Rocheley 1567 SHC IX NS 226, SHC 1925 90, Wrotesley 1686 Plot. Probably *Wrett’s Ìdh’. To the west of this place, on the Staffordshire-Shropshire border, is the ‘ancient city’ some 3 or 4 miles in circumference recorded by Plot 1686: 394, 415 and many subsequent historians, and marked

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as 'Site of Supposed British Town' on the 1886 6" O.S. map. Subsequent investigations have produced no evidence of any such remains, or that they ever existed: VCH I 331.

WROTTESLEY LODGE (FARM) 1 mile north-east of Pattingham (SJ 8301). Le Logge Park 1382 Jones 1894: 195, Logge c.1540 Leland ii 170, The Lodg 1634 SRO D3548/1. The lodge (formerly moated) to one of the three parks at Wrottesley. The 16th century spelling may refer to Patshull.

WULFCESTRE, WULFCESTRE, WELFERCESTER, WULFERCESTER - see BURY BANK.

WULFHAMPTON (unlocated, in Whittimere, 2 miles north-east of Bobbington (SO 8292): VCH XX 65, 71. Wulphamton late 13th century VCH XX 65, 71, Wulphampton n/d Eyton 1854-60: III 166, Shaw 1801: II 208. 'The village of the wolf', from OE wulf 'wolf', with hāmtūn, a relatively rare element meaning 'the village proper', to distinguish it from the outlying parts, or even 'the chief manor of a large estate'.

WULFURSYDE (unlocated, in or near Audley or Bignall.) Wulfursyde, Southwolfursyde, Northwolfursyde 1492 SHC 1912 256-7. Perhaps incorporating the name of the Mercian King Wulfhere (658-75; see Bury Bank), with OE side 'side', ME side 'slope of a hill, especially one extending for a considerable distance' (Ekwall 1960).

WULEDESTON (unlocated) Wulredeston 1214 SHC 111163. Perhaps from the OE personal name Wulfrud with OE tuón, so 'Wulfrud's tuón'.

WULSIESHOLM (unlocated) Wulsiesholm 1227 Ch. Perhaps from the OE personal name Wulfsige. Holm is generally held to be from ON hulm 'a small island, a piece of land on a stream, dry ground in a marsh'.

WYCHDON LODGE 1 mile north-east of Ingestre (SJ 9825). Wichdon Lodge 1836 O.S. Built in 1818 for William Moore, owner of Shirleywich salt works. The name is evidently coined from the name Shirleywich (q.v.).

WYCHNOR in Tatenhill parish, 1 mile north-east of Alrewas (SK 1716). Wicenore 1086 DB, Hwiccenofre 11th or 12th century Sawyer 1979a: xxxvii, Wychenofere 1216x1272 (1798) Shaw I 125, Wichenovere 1236 Fees, Wicenor 1251 SHC 1934 (i) 25, Wychenore 1261 SHC X NS I 293, Wycchenovre 1280 SHC 1911 172, Wiethenouere 1282 BCA MS3878/16, Whichenovre 1291 (1798) Shaw I 119, Wichenovere, Wychenore 13th century Duig, Wycchenovere 1300 SHC V (i) 177, Whichenoure 1325 SRO DW1733/A/3/26, Whychenore 1329 BCA 3669/Acc1938-049/506339, Whytchenore, Whitchnere, Whichenore 1366 SHC VIII 26, Phwichenor temp. Edward I (1798) Shaw I 152, Whichenore 1476 SHC VI NS (i) 103, Wychenover 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 107. From OE ofer 'flat-topped ridge with a convex shoulder' (see Gelling & Cole 2000: 200): the place lies on the south side of a particularly prominent flat-topped headland with a convex shoulder. The first element is almost certainly to be associated with a people known as the *Hwicc, based in Gloucestershire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire, recorded by Bede as prouincia Huicctorum c.730, the name Wychnor possibly suggesting a detached sub-group of the main people, or from a weak personal name Hwicca, formed from that folk-name: see PN Wo xv; Stenton 1970: 270. Cf. Whichford, Warwickshire; Whiston, Northampton. But OE hwichce also meant 'box, chest, coffer', and the term may
have been applied to pagan Anglian inhumation burials found here (see StEnc 691; Losco-Bradley & Kinsley 2002), where the word may be interpreted as 'cist', or it may have been applied in a topographical sense to the headland here, in the sense 'coffer'. Cf. Wychwood, Oxfordshire; Wickewood, Norfolk; Wichenford and Whichbold, Worcestershire; Whichford, Warwickshire; and Witchford, Cambridgeshire. See also Wigford.

WYKE (unlocated, in Worfield parish.) Wyke 13th century SRRC 5735/2/1/1/2, Ewyke 1327 SR, Wyke 1525 Sub. From the ME plural form of OE wic 'dairy farm'. In Shropshire since the 12th century. It is clear that Wyke and Wyken (q.v.) were two separate places: see SRS 3 101-2.

WYKEN ½ mile south-east of Worfield (SO 7694). Wykyn 1512 Worfield CA, 1525 SR, Wyken 1752 Rocque. From OE wicum, dative plural of wic 'dairy farm'. In Shropshire since the 12th century. See also Wyke.

WYMERSTRETE, WRIMESTRETE (unlocated) Wymerstrete, Wrimestrete 1281 SHC VI (i) 113. William and Henry Wymer de Stafford may be associated with this place: SHC VI (i) 23 fn., 114.

WYMONSALLE (unlocated, perhaps in or near Madeley.) Wymaneshale 1346 SRO DW1082/A/4/4, Wymodeshale 1359 SRO DW1082/A/4/6-7, Wymonsalle 1365 SRO DW1082/A/4/7. 'Wigmund's or Widmund's halh'.

WYMUNDEWOLDE (unlocated, possibly in Bramshall, or associated with Wimundsway, said to be the road from Anslow through Rough Hays (StEnc 665), although that road appears on modern maps as Hopley Road. Or perhaps Wymeswold, Leicestershire). Wymundewolde 1280 SHC VI (i) 110. 'Wigmund's wald or wood'. If from OE wald ('high forest land; open upland ground'), perhaps the only place in Staffordshire incorporating the element, but see also Wolmore.

WYNBROOK, WYNBANK FARM 1 mile south of Audley (SJ 7949). Wane Brook, Waine Brook 1733 SHC 1944 15, Win Brook 1833 O.S. The brook of the wagons', from OE wagen (wagons were driven through water to ensure that parts of the wooden wheels remained tight and retained the iron tyres), and 'the bank or steep slope at wagon brook'. Or possibly from OE wagen 'quagmire' (see EPNE i 151), giving 'the boggy brook'. Wynbrook lies on Dean Brook, which would seem to be a more recent name.

WYNDFORD MILL in Blymhill parish (SJ 8014). Molendinum de Waynford c.1290 Giffard, Waynford 1272 FF, Windford Mill 1833 O.S. Perhaps from OE wagen 'cart, waggon', with OE ford and (later) 'mill', meaning 'the mill at the ford used by wagons or carts': Wooden-wheeled vehicles were driven into water in dry weather to ensure that the wheels did not shrink, allowing the iron rims to loosen. Or possibly from OE wagen 'quagmire' (see EPNE i 151), giving 'the boggy ford'. This place (and Wyndford Pool) lie on Wyndford Brook (1816 VCH IV 70).

WYNFORD BROOK a tributary of Dean Brook. See Wynbrook. Windeford Brook is recorded in 1817 (BM), probably from OE wagen-ford 'wagon ford', notwithstanding the spelling with -d-.

WYNRESTON (unlocated) Wynreston 1251 Ipms.
WYNSTANSLEY (unlocated, in Eccleshall.) Wynstansley 1329 SRO D(W)1082/A/2/1. Perhaps 'Wynn(n)s tan's leah'.

WYPPERSLEY (unlocated) Wyppersley 1269 SHC 1910 111.

WYRE HALL in Penkridge. Wyr(r)all end croft 1598 Ct. From OE wîr, wîr 'bog myrtle (Myrica gale)', with OE halh. (Cf. Wyrley; Gailey.)

WYRLEY BANK - see CHESLYN HAY.

WYRLEY, GREAT & LITTLE in Norton Canes parish, 6 and 5 miles north of Walsall (SJ 9907 and SK 0105). Wireleia (Little Wyrley) 1086 DB, Wirlega 1170, 1176 P, Werlaye, Werley 1279 SHC VI (i) 93, Great Wyrleye 1300 For, Little Wyrle 1293 Ass. From OE wîr, wîr 'bog-myrtle (Myrica Gale)', with OE leah. Another OE word for the same plant was gagel (cf. Gailey).

WYSO (unlocated, possibly in Bramshall.) Wyso 1280 SHC VI (i) 110.

WYTENACRE (unlocated, in the Sandon/Smallrise area.) Wytenacre 1285 SHC VI (i) 146. The place has been identified as Wheatenacre (SHC VI (i) 146), which has not been traced.

WYVERESHALE (unlocated, in Leek.) Wyvereshale 1324 SHC X 53. See also Wiversall.

VARLET 4½ miles north of Stafford (SJ 9128). Erlid 1086 DB, Erlida 1166 SHC 1923 297, Erlide 12th century, Erloide 1280 SHC VI (i) 111, Erlide, Erlyde, Herlde 13th century, Erlede, Erlide 14th century, Erlid 15th century Duig, Yerlett otherwise Yerleclaye 1566 SHC XIII 259, Yerlett otherwise Yerletclay 1574 SHC XVI 103, Yarlett 1591 SHC 1930 164, Erlid, Yerlett 16th century Duig. The first element is probably OE ear 'gravel', or earn 'eagle'. The second element is more difficult. Ekwall 1960: 542 suggests OE hlid 'slope', a side-form of OE hlid 'hill-slope', an element only rarely found in place-names, which would be most appropriate for this place, which lies on a particularly long slope, but PN Sa I 189 suggests that such a meaning is unlikely, and points out that the only recorded OE word lid is the ancestor of modern lid, and sometimes had the further meaning 'door, window-shutter', but a topographical meaning is unclear. Clay appears to be from OE cîleg 'clayey'.

YARNFIELD 2 miles west of Norton Bridge (SJ 8632). Ernefeld 1266 Duig, Hernef 1272-3 SHC XI NS 242, Ernfen 1300 SHC VII 75, Yernfyn 1558 SHC XII 233, Yarnfield 1646 SHC 4th Series I 281, Earnefield otherwise Ernef 1610 SHC NS 119, Yarnfield 1646 SHC 4th Series I 281, Earnefield(e) 1663 et freq Swynnerton ParReg. Probably from OE earn 'an eagle', with OE feld 'open land', and OE fen 'fen, marsh', giving 'open land with the eagles' and 'marshy land with the eagles'. The eagle to which the name refers is likely to have been the white-tailed eagle (Haiulus abicilla): see Gelling 1987: 173-181. It has been noted that OE gearn 'yarn' may have had some transferred meaning 'guts', perhaps in place-names 'something extended in length', or 'something long and narrow', and that element might be incorporated in Yarnfield, Wiltshire: Kristensson 2000: 4-5.

YATTON (unlocated, possibly near Rushton Spencer.) Yatton 1479 SHC XI 241. Probably 'the tun at the gate or pass', from OE gēat.
YEATE (unlocated, in Cheddleton.) Yat c.1540 SHC X NS I 174, Yeate 1666 SHC 1925 222. Yat is from OE geat, 'gate, pass': it is not possible to say in what sense the word was used here.

YEATSALL 1 mile west of Abbots Bromley (SK 0624). Achesale 1307 SHC NS XI 183, Aythesal c.1313 SRO D986/52, Hatthesale 1336 ibid. 187, Attesale 1350 SHC XI NS 30, Attesale 1381 ibid. 32, Atesale 1402 ibid. 44, ATesale 1402 ibid.206, Atteshale c.1435 ibid. 42, Atsale 1493 ibid. 197, Adesall 1616 SHC VI NS (i) 35, Adsall 1747 Bowen, Yeatsall or Adsall 1836 O.S. Possibly from 'Ætti's halh'. The farmhouse known as Adsall is said to have burnt down before 1831, and when rebuilt was named Yeatsall: StEnc 6, 695.

YELD HOUSE (obsolete) on the west side of Tunstall (SJ 8451). la Helde 1327 SHC VII (i) 206, Yeld Hill 1628 VCH VIII 92, Yeld House 1836 O.S. From OE helde 'a slope'.

YELLS FARM 1 mile south-east of Shareshill (SJ 9505), le held 1562 Ct, The Yell 1834 O.S.; YELL BANK 2½ miles north-west of Gnosall (SJ 2380), le helde 1583 Ct, Yell Bank 1833 O.S. A common name in Staffordshire, from OE helde 'a slope'. See also SHC 1921 30 fn.

YELPERSLEY TOR on the west bank of the Manifold Valley at Wetton (SK0955) '...where River Manifold enters it...': Plot 1686: 174; 'In and about the second Inlet of Manifold, under Yelpersley Tor...': Plot 1686: 175. Yelpersley Torr 1686 Plot 172, 174, Yelpersley Ptar 1750 Pococke 1888-9. A curious name for the place where the river Manifold starts its subterranean journey to Ilam. Halliwell gives yelper to mean 'a young dog, a whelp', and EDD 'avocet' and 'redshank', but the name may be from a personal name. The 1750 spelling of Tor is evidently a Pococke eccentricity: he mentions '...Ptar or cliff...': Pococke 1888-9: 214.

YLESWAY or YARLSWAY LANE (local, officially Earlsway). On north-east side of Caldon (SK 0849). Early spellings have not been traced, but there is little doubt that the name is from OE eorl (ON jarl), with OE weg 'way', giving 'the earl's way', the via comitis of the Earls of Chester (or from the pre-Conquest Earls of Mercia: SHC 4th Series 19 11), also found in Earlsway House, Rushton Spencer (q.v.), and Yerley Farm and Yerley Hill, Okeover (q.v.). See also VCH II 279.

YENBROOK FARM ¼ mile south-west of Abbot's Bromley (SK 0723). Byendebrok 1324 SIIC 1937 123, Byendeyebrok c.1335 ibid. 121, Byendebrok 1330 ibid. 127, Byndbrok 1333 ibid. 129. From OE begeondan '(place) beyond, on the other side of', with OE bröc 'brook'. The place lies on the west side of Mires Brook: Abbot's Bromley lies to the east of the stream.

YEOLBRIDGE FORD (unlocated, in or near Walsall.) Yeolbridge Ford 1599 DRO D260/M/T/1/32.

YERLEY FARM ¼ miles north-west of Okeover (SK 1548). Urlesweye temp. Edward II SIIC VII NS 7, Yell(e)ye 1538 Ipm, 1547 Okeover, Early 1775 Yates, Yerley 1799 Okeover T31. From OE eorl (ON jarl), with OE weg 'way', giving 'the earl's way', the via comitis of the Earls of Chester, also found in Earlsway House, Rushton Spencer; Yelsway or Yarlsway Lane (q.v.) in Caldon; and Urlesweye temp. Edward II (Bodleian) in Okeover. See also VCH II 279.
YEWTREE FARM 2½ miles south-east of Madeley (SJ 8043). Hewtree 1601 JNSFC LXIII 1928-9 41, Ewe Tree c.1630 SHC II (ii) 14, Ewtree 1644 SHC 4th Series I 204, Yew Tree 1718 Keele ParReg. Self-explanatory.

YIELDFIELDS HALL 1 mile north of Bloxwich (SJ 9903). Yeld feldes 1549 VCH XVII 179, Yieldfields 1596 ibid. 179. From OE helde 'a slope'.

YOMBERLEY (unlocated, perhaps near Tittesworth.) Yombele, Yombelega, Yomberley (medieval, undated) SHC IX NS 319.

YORNBURI (unlocated, in or near Alton.) Yornburi 1275 SHC V (i) 119. A curious name. If not a mistranscription of Bunbury (q.v.), the first element is uncertain, but may be from OE eorne 'a duel, combat', or from OE earn 'an eagle', with OE burh 'a fortification', often applied to earthworks, here perhaps the name of the iron-age hillfort largely obliterated by the construction of Alton Towers: see VCH I 334. See also Ina's Rock; Slain Hollow.

YOXALL, Ancient Parish 7 miles north-east of Lichfield (SK 1419). Iocheshale 1086 DB, Yoxhal 1222 Ass, Jokeshale 1236 SHC 1911 404, Jokeshal 1242 Fees, Joxhale 1252 Rolls, Yoxhale 1284 SHC 1911 40, Jokesal 13th century, Yokeshale, Joxhale 14th century Duig, Oxall c.1570 SHC 1931 216, Yoxshall 1589-90 SHC 1930 5. A puzzling name. The first element is perhaps from OE geoc, with several meanings including 'yoke, yoke of oxen', 'a measure of land' (i.e. the area a pair of oxen could plough in a day, notionally a quarter of an acre or sulung, or, according to Ekwall 1960: 261 s.n. Ickham, 50 to 60 acres, or 'a small estate or manor', or (more likely given the medial -es-) from the ON personal name Jókell, with an early reduction to Jóke (cf. Yokefleet, Yorkshire). The generic is OE halh. The place lay within Needwood Forest. Yoxley lies 1 mile south-east of Hixon (SK 0124), but early spellings have not been traced. Cf. Yockleton, Shropshire.

YOXALL LODGE 2 miles north-east of Yoxall (SK 1522). Yoxall Lodge 1658 DCL 380, 1771 DRO D3155/C5227, 1786 Barton under Needwood ParReg. 'Reputed an extra-parochial place in the Forest of Needwood': ibid. See also Erdeswick 1844: 279.

YOXLEY 1 mile south-east of Hixon (SK 0124). See Yoxall.