

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

by David Horovitz, LL.B.

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Volume 2

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Gnos(se)hal(le) 1242 Pat to 1521 LP, *Gnousal* c.1255 RH, *Gnoweshale* 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, *Knashall* 1607 Kip, *Nosall* 1643 StComm. Ekwall 1959: 199 tentatively suggests a derivation from an OE personal name formed from OE *gnēap* '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 (Inkberrow), and Gannow Farm & Gannow Green (Bromsgrove), Worcestershire; Gannah, Herefordshire; Gannow, Lancashire; Gannaway, Warwickshire; and perhaps field-names such as *Gannoweslonde* and *Gannowestockyng* (see PN Wo 342). Staffordshire dialect *gennel*, *jornal* 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 KNIPE**.

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 'Gōda's *lēah*' 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 Butterson (SK 0556), see Lousey 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 *ēg* '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 *sīc*, '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/1/17/1/4/4, *le Goldhord* 1302 SRO D593/B/1/17/1/4/4, *Golthord* 1318 SRO D593/B/1/17/1/4/13, *Golterne* 1589 SHC 1929 339, *Gouldthorne* 1612 SHC III NS 68, *Gouldthorne hill* 1634 Wolverhampton ParReg, *gouthorne hill* 1636 *ibid*, *Gouterne 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/1/17/1/3/10), 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 *Golthordeshull*, 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 Gaulter 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)). *Golldeayate*, *Geldleayate* 1634 Leek ParReg, *Goldhaygate* 1635 *ibid*, *Goldhay-yate* 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 COW (obsolete) 2 miles east of Biddulph (SJ 9157). *Goodcow* 1815 *EnclA*, 1842 O.S., *Good Cow* 1815 *EnclA*. Self-explanatory.

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 1½ 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 *mōr* 'marshland'.

GOOSEMOOR GREEN 4 miles south-east of Rugeley (SK 0611). *Gorseforthe 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 *fȳrs* 'furze') which has

become 'moor, marshland', with ME *grēne*, probably here meaning 'the grassy place'. See also Gogesmorre.

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, *Gwornolde* 1565 SHC 1926 143, *Over Gwarnall* 1590 SHC 1930 57, *Nether Gwarnall* 1590 *ibid.* 58, *Gornalwood* 1659 HRO E12/V1/NB/14, *Guarnall* 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: II 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 *gōs* 'a goose', hence 'goose brook'.

GORSE, THE ½ miles east of Yarnfield (SJ 8532). *The Gorst* 1737 Swynnerton ParReg, *Gorse* 1737 *ibid.* Self-explanatory.

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.

GORSEHOLM (unlocated, in Timmor). *Goseholm* 1241 (1798) Shaw I 375, *Gorseholme* 1550 SHC 1912 191. 'Goose *holm*'.

GORSEY HILL FARM on south-west side of Barton under Needwood (SK 1818). ? *Gorsthull* 1284 SHC VI (i) 143, *Gorsthull* 1415 Hardy 1908: 72, *Gorstill* 1525 *ibid.* 203. 'The hill with the gorse'.

GORSTHULL(E) (unlocated, possibly near Burntwood.) ? *Gorsthulle* 1234 SHC XII 35, ? *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.*, *Gorsty 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, *Gorsty 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, *Ghorsty Hill* 1833 O.S. From the OE adjective **gorstig* 'overgrown with gorse', with OE *hyll* 'hill', so 'the hill overgrown with gorse'.

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, *Gospellend* 1602 SHC XVIII 20, *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, *Gospell 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.) ½ 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 E12/V1/KY/7, *Cothersley* 1825 SRRC 2161/137, *Gothersley* 1834 O.S. The later spellings indicate a derivation from the OE personal name Godrīc, hence 'Godrīc's *lēah*'. *Gothersley* 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, *Gratebach* 1414 SHC XVII 13, *Gratbache* 1564 Ch. From OE *grēat* '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 1½ miles south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 9097). ? *Glaseleye* 1259 SHC 1911 132, *Graseley* 1282 Duig, 1327 SHC VII (i) 249, *Greseley* 1332 SHC X (i) 127, *Graseley* 1577 Wolverhampton ParReg, *Gresley Farm* 1820 Greenwood, *Graseley Hall* 1834 O.S. Perhaps from OE **græg* 'wolf' (EPNE i 207 and Ekwall 1960: 203 *sub nom* Grazeley gives 'badger', but see NM 96 1995 361-65), so 'the *lēah* 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.

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, *Grytton* 1273 SHC VI (i) 59, *Gretone* 1306 Banco, *Gratton* 1343 *ibid*, *Gretton 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 *grēot*, *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, *Gretewyz* 1236, 1242 Fees, *Gretewiz* 1276 SHC 1911 177, *Gretewyk* 1286 SHC 4th Series XVIII 126, *Gretewyc*, *Gretewych* 13th century Duig, *Gratwyttthe* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 60, *Gratwiche*, *Gratwyche* 1562 SHC 1938 111. The first element is derived from OE *grēot* 'gravel', with the second element *wīc*, hence 'the *wīc* which lies on gravel'. See also JEPNS 31 23. For field-names in Gratwich in 1562 see SHC 1938 111-2.

GREASLEY SIDE (obsolete) 1 mile north of Bucknall (SJ 9047). ? *Greyley* 1707 Stoke on Trent ParReg, *Greasley Side* 1836 O.S. Perhaps from OE *grēosn-lēah* 'gravelly *lēah*'. Cf. Greasley, Nottinghamshire. OE *sīde* meant 'side, slope of a hill, especially one extending for a considerable distance'.

GREAT BARR - see BARR, GREAT.

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, *Gretbridge* 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 *grēot* '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 BRIDGEFORD - see BRIDGEFORD, GREAT.

GREATGATE ½ mile north-west of Croxden (SK 0540). *Greth* c.1176 StEnc 241, *Gretyatt* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 111, *Greate Yate*, *Greteyate* 1539 MA, *Greetyate* 1595 StEnc 241, *Grityat* 1608 SHC 1948-9 58, *Greeteyate* 1666 SHC 1925 232, *Grityate* 1686 StEnc 241, *Great Yate* 1775 Yates, *Great Yate or Great Gate* 1836 O.S. It is said that the settlement of Croxden had moved to Great Gate by the time Croxden abbey was founded c.1179, perhaps indeed to make way for the abbey (TSSAHS XXXVI 1994-5 47), and since Great Gate lay on the abbey demesne, there may have been a 'great gate' here. However, Croxden Brook runs through a narrow pass in the hills here, and a derivation from OE *geat* 'a gate, a gap between hills', may be topographically appropriate, with the first element from OE *grēot* 'grit, gravel, so 'the gravelly gap between hills'.

GREAT HAYWOOD - see HAYWOOD, GREAT.

GREAT MOOR 1 mile south-east of Pattingham (SO 8398). *More* 1332 SHC X 131, *le More* 1327 SHC VII (i) 249, *Great Moor* 1514 VCH XX 173, *Great Moore* 1590 SHC 1930 68. Self-explanatory. *Le Petyte More* is recorded in this area in 1338 (Brighton 1942: 160), *little more* in 1627 (Pattingham ParReg).

GREAT OAK (FARM) 1 mile north-east of Audley (SJ 8051). *Great Oake* 1668 Audley ParReg, 1733 SHC 1944 48. Self-explanatory.

GREATWOOD (FARM) ½ 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, *Gratewood (Heath)* 1655 SRO DW1082/L/2/1-20, *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 Fair oak: StEnc 242. It was enclosed under the first of 113 Staffordshire Enclosure Awards in 1719: SHC 1941 16. It is likely that *Gracewood*, (?*Gratewood*) 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 *dæl* '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.

GREENHILL in Lichfield (SK 1209). *Grenhull* 1299 SHC VII 66, *Green-hill* 1322 (1798) Shaw I 305, *The Grenehyll* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 182, *Grenehyll* c.1535 SHC VI (ii) 166, *Green Hill* c.1567 SHC IX NS 158, *The Grene Hylle* 1659 (1798) Shaw I 313. Self-explanatory. The name is first recorded c.1190: VCH XIV 4, 135.

GREENHILLS 1½ 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). *Greenelowe* 1636 *Deed*, *Greenlow Head* 1689 Butterton ParReg. 'The head or summit with the green *hlāw* or tumulus'.

GREENSFORGE 3½ 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], *Grenewey* 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*, *Greenway hall* 1594 Norton-in-the Moors ParReg. Self-explanatory. It is uncertain whether *Greneveye*, 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. *Gresebrok* 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.

GRIFF WOOD 1 mile west of Mayfield (SK 1245). Probably to be associated with *Greof*, recorded *temp.* Edward I (Okeover T309). Possibly from ON *gryffa* 'a small deep valley' (found as North Country dialect *griff*), or ON *gróf* '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) Sleight 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 Grīm, 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, *Grymescroft* 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 *EnclA*, *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 *grēne dæl* '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 *sīc* 'a small stream, especially one in flat marshland' (the 1836 O.S. map shows a small tributary of the river Blithe 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, *Grenlee* 1338 SHC 1913 71, *Grenleygh*, *Greneleygh* 1341 SHC 1921 18-9, *Grenley* 1473 SHC NS IV 183, *Grynley* 1619 SHC VII NS 195, *Grimley* 1679 SHC 1914 124, *Grindley* 1836 O.S. From OE *grēne* 'green', hence 'the green *lēah*'.

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 *grēne dūn* '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 *Gravenovere*, recorded in 1293 (SHC VI (i) 239), are to be associated with this place.

GROUNDLOW 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 *hlāw* '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 Wolstanton 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 ½ 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 *worþ* '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. Grinshill in Shropshire is recorded as *Grymsell* in 1587, but belonged to Haughmond 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 *hlāw* '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, *Gillecruice* 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 *dūn* '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 not inconceivable (though improbable) that the name is of Celtic origin, from OWelsh *guoun* (Welsh *grawn*, Breton *gueun*, *geun*, Cornish *gūn*, *gōn*, found especially in Cornwall as *goon*: Coates & Breeze 2000: 356), meaning 'moor, downland, plain, unenclosed land', e.g. Cornish *gūnran* 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, *Guneston(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 *tūn* 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 *tūn* 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 Gūphere, 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 *dæl* or ON *dalr* 'valley'.

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

HADDON ½ 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 *hæp-dūn* 'heathy-hill'. The place near Maer (said in TSSAHS XII 1970-1 35 to have been at SJ 801385) is remembered in *Haddon Lane*.

HADEMORE 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 *hæð 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.

HADEN HILL, HADEN CROSS, HIGH HADEN on the Staffordshire-Worcestershire border, 1 mile north of Halesowen (SO 9685). ? *Hadenhull*, *Hodenhull* 1199 SHC III (i) 44, ? *Hodenhull* 1273 SHC 1911 152, *Haudene* 1299 Wilson-Jones 79, *Haueden*, *Haueden*, *Hadene* 1388 StEnc 251, *Heydon Cross* 1686 Plot, *Haden Cross* 1721 Rowley Regis ParReg, *High Haden*, *Haden Hill*, *Haden*

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 DW3222/245/1-23, 1836 O.S., *Hadley Plain* 1830 Act. Probably from a shortening of OE *hæð* '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: I 224 mentions a place anciently called *Hadley*, then *Tymmorshey*, 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 *hæð* '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*, *Haggleges* 1166 RBE, *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, *Hageley* 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 **hacga*, 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 buried 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 strewed in multiform 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.

HALDESALESMOR (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, *Hafcoate* 1656 Sedgley ParReg, *Hafcott* 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 1 mile north-east of Chebsey (SJ 8729). *Halfhyde Helie* 1164 SHC 1914 63, *Halvahida Helye* 1167 SHC I 49, *Halvehyda Helyæ* 1172 *ibid.* 65, *Halvehyda Helye* 1179 *ibid.* 88, *Halfhide* 1227 SHC IV 53, *Halfehyde*, *Halvehyde* 1227 SHC XI NS 240, *Halfhida* 1228 *ibid.* 219, *Halfhyde* 1288 SHC 1911 194, *Halfhide* 1328 SHC XIV 4, *Halfhyde* 1332 SHC X 91, 1549 SHC IV NS 114, *Halfhedde* 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 [heɪpni]) 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 Butts*, 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.

HALL GREEN on the east side of Coseley (SO 9494). *Hall Greene* 1655 Assessment, *Hallgreen-in-Briarly* 1661 Sedgley ParReg, *Hall Green* 1887 O.S. Perhaps (with Hall Fields) named after Bradley Hall: see StEnc 255.

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*'.

HALL O' TH' WOOD in Balterley (SJ 7650). *a house called the hall of woodd* 1611 BCA MS3810/125, *Hall of the Wood* 1629 SRO D641/5/T/1/22, *Hall a Wood* 1686 Plot, 1799 Faden, *Hall of Wood* 1733 SHC 1944 42. A heavily-timbered house built in 1557 by George Wood, a Chester judge and a member of the Wood family recorded in the area from at least 1344: SHC V 325-6; SHC XII NS 235fn.

HALLON on the west side of Worfield (SO 7595). *Halene* 1238x1250 Eyton 1854-60: III 112, *Alen* 1256 *ibid.* 112, *hallon* 1499 Worfield CA, *halon* 1515 *ibid.*, *Halyn* 1525 SR, *Hallon* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 117, *Halling* 1638 D593/3/2/2/3. In Shropshire since the 12th century. *Hallons Heath* in Alton parish is recorded in 1722: SRO D240/D/302.

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

HALL WATER (unlocated; in Endon: SCH 13 1973 29.) *Hall Water* 1706 SCH 13 1973 29.

HALMER END 1½ miles south of Audley (SJ 7949). ? *Harmershale* 1328 SRO DW1082/A/4/2, *Halmore* 1493 SHC 1912 256, *Halmoreende* 1514 JNSFC LX 1925-6 41, *Halmend* 1547 SRO D3155/WH46, *Halmore Ende* 1577 SHC XIV 194, 1617 SHC VI NS (i) 42, *Halmer End* 1579 SHC XIV 188, *Honmerend* 1600 SHC XVI 200, *Homerende* 1602 *ibid.* 212, *Halmerend* 1733 SHC 1944 1. The conflicting forms preclude any certain derivation, but the earliest spellings suggest 'the moor at the *halh*'. 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.

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 *Halseylone* recorded in 1318 (BCA MS3415/150).) *Halesey* 1286 BCA MS 3415/140, *Halesseye* 13th century BCA MS3415/135, *Halsey(e)* 1306 SHC 1911 287, *Halfseye* 1327 SHC VII (i) 231, *Halsey*, *Halseye*, *Alsey* 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 *ēg* 'island', land by a stream, land between streams'. *Halsey* becomes or is replaced by *Hawkersuchende* in the Paget papers (SRO D1734): see *Hawkewallsych*.

HALSTEADS, 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 Halgh* 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.).

HAMILL - see SNEYD GREEN.

HAMLEYHEATH 1 mile north of Colton (SK 0421). *Hamley Heath* 1775 Yates, *Hambley Heath* 1836 O.S., *Hanby Heath* c.1850 StEnc 256. See *Hamley* (House).

HAMLEY (HOUSE) ½ mile north of Colton (SK 0521). *Hom[m]ineley* ?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 *hām* '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, *Homeslesgh* 1324 SHC X 53, *Homersley* 1333 *ibid.* 116, *Homeslesye* 1344 SHC XII 36, 1370 SHC XIII 75, *Homesles* 1370 *ibid.* 76, *Homresley* 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 *Hamersley* 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 doubtless of Hombersley in Worcestershire (i.e. *Ombersley* above), which may be 'Ambr's *lēah*' as suggested by Ekwall 1960: 349, but could be from OE *amer* '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, *Homerwiz* 1203 SHC III 110, *Hamerwic* 1220 SHC IV 10, *Hamerwick* 1248 SHC IV 241, *Homerwyk* 1281 SHC VI (i) 114, *Homerwys* 1301 SHC VII 74, *Homerwich* 13th century Duig, *Homerwych* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 184, ? *Homerridge* 1601 SHC 1935 388, *Homeriche* 1602 *ibid.* 475, *Hammerwich* 1686 Plot. The second element is OE *wīc* '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 *hamor* '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 *Cōtwīc* and the lost *Lootwīc*, both in Worcestershire (Parsons 2002: 182). *Frankalingorum* in the 1166 spelling is from ME *frankelein* '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 *Duae Humeruich*) 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 *duae* 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 *Hamerwiche* 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 (?14th century) Burton, *Honsp* 1223, 1227 Harl, *Hans* 1577 Saxton, *Hans*, *Hansley* 1577 Harrison, *the Honsleie 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 **Hamspe*, from which derives the present name. The name may have its origin in British **Samosispā* (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 SHC 1937, *Hamtone* 1280 SHC 1911 177, *Hampton* 1271 SRO D603/A/Add/202, 1284 SHC VI (i) 132, 1322 SHC 1937 121, 1332 SHC X 89. The first is perhaps from OE *hām-tūn* 'home farm', and the second may be from OE (*æt þæm*) *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 (*æt þæm*) *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, *Hamstud* 1284 FA, *Hampstude* 13th century SHC XVII 261, *Hampstede*, *Hamstid* 14th century Duig, *Hampstead* 1564 SHC 1938 185, *Hamstead* 1657 SHC 1910 294, *Hampsted* 1686 Plot 105. From OE *hām-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, *Hambur* 1251 Ch, *Hanberyate* 1284 SHC VI (i) 131, *Hamburi*, *Hambyri*, *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 wīc', associated with royal visits in 823 and 840, has not been identified (see also Gelling 1992: 155-6). ASC 'E' records *Heanbyrig* 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

Cheshire) Astbury, Bromborough, Bunbury, Prestbury and Wybunbury, and (in Shropshire) Alberbury, Chirbury, Maesbury and Lydbury: see VCH Ch I 246.

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 OFr *hanche*, 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). *Hancese* 1086 DB, *Henchurche* 1203 SHC III 94, *Hanchurche* 1212 Fees, *Hannecherche* 1272 SHC IV 204, *Hanchirch* 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 Churchhill, 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 *cycr*, *cyrlic* '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 *Cycr* or *Cyrlic*. 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 *(æt 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, *Handesacra* 1166 SHC 1923 295, *Hendesacra* 1195 SHC II 45, *Handesacr'* 1242 Fees, *Hondesakre* 1271 SHC V (i) 148, 1360 SHC VIII NS 7, *Hondesacre* 1395 SHC XV 66, *Honnesacre*, *Hunnesacre* 1386 SHC XVI 25, *hondesacre* 1420 Signet Letter C81/1365/23, *Honsakur* 1483 SHC NS VI (i) 133,

Honnesacre, Hanneshacrye, 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 *æcer* 'field or newly cultivated ground'. *Æcer*, 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 promontary in the marshes of the Trent valley. (Cf. Gatacre; and - all in Lancashire - Barnacre, Stirzaker, Tarnacre, Woodacre). *Pypehansaker* (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 III 175, *Huneswurth* 1212 SHC XI NS 17, 1222 Ass, *Hunneswrht* 1236 Fees, *Unesworth* 1251 SHC XVII 123, *Honesworthe* 1242 Fees, c.1270 SHC 1924 352, *Hounesworth* 1276 SHC VI (i) 74, *Honesworth* 1333 *et freq* SHC 1913 41, *Hunddisworth* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 73. 'Hūn's *worþ*'. The late form *Hands-* is probably the result of influence from Handsacre. OE *worþ* 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 XI 319, *Heneford* 1307 SHC VII 175, *Handford* 1327 SR, *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, *Hondford* 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 *hēan ford* 'high ford' (in place-names OE *hēan* generally becomes *han*), is improbable, since the two elements do not easily fit together, although *hēan* 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 ½ mile north of Wigginton (SK 2007). Perhaps to be associated with *Hongyhille* 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*, *stān* '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.

HANNELL (obsolete, 1 mile north-west of Heaton (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 **hægen* '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, *Horborne* 1600 SHC 1935 234, *Harborne* 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, *Hawrden* 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 *hēah-worþign* '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 *bōð* '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, *Herdewik*, *Herdewyk* c.1290 SHC 1921 25, 33, *Herwick* 1549 SRO D641/1/2/288, *Hardeck* 1564 SHC 1938 88, *Hardywicke* 1601-2 SHC 1934 4, *Hardwick* 1686 Plot 288; **HARDIWICK** 1 mile north-west of Dilhorne (SJ 9544), *Herdewyke(gorstes)* late 13th century SRO 3764/2[27574], *Herdewicke* 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), *herduic* c.1155 SHC 1939 182, *Herdewyk'*, *Herdewycke* 1301 *ibid.* 1939 187, *Herdewych* 1311 Brighton 1942 159, *Herdwyke* 1412 SHC 1939 191, *Herdewyke* 1448 *ibid.* 193, *Hardwick* 1798 Yates; **HARDWICK** 2 miles south-west of Aldridge (SO 0698), *Hardwyke* 1570 SHC XVII 217, *Hardwick* 1834 O.S. From OE *heord(e)-wīc* '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)-wīc* 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 *hār* 'grey, hoary', or from OE *hara* '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 ½ mile west of Upper Longdon (SK 0514). *Harehull* 1340 SHC 1921 24. 'Hare hill'.

HAREGATE 1 mile north-east of Leek (SJ 9957). *Hareyate* 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 *hara* 'hare', but OE *hār* '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), *Harewude* 1258 SHC IV 138; **HAREWOOD** 1 mile north-west of Cheadle (SK 0044), *Harwode* 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 *hara 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 **hara*, genitive plural of a supposed **hær* '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 *hār* 'grey') found in several counties: see Coates 1997: 453-8; PN Ch IV 227-8; VCH XX 29. See also Lordsley.

HARLASTON 4½ miles north-east of Tamworth (SK 2110). *Héorlfestun, Heorelfestun* 1004 (11th century, S.906; 11th century, S.1536), *Horuluestone* 1086 DB, *Heorlauestun* 11th or 12th century Sawyer 1979a: xxxvii, *Herlaueston* 1165 SHC I 39, *Herlaveston* 1242 Fees, *Herlaweston* 1288 SHC VI (i) 175, *Herliston* 1324 SHC 1911 363, *Herlaston* 1393 SHC XV 50, *Hauston* 1510 SHC 1912 6, *Horlaston* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 71. 'Heoruwulf's or Heorulāf's tūn'.

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, Harlee', Harleg'* late 13th century *ibid.* 581-2[7912], *Harleye* 1324 *ibid.* D603/A/Add/439, 1349 *ibid.* 567[7922]. Perhaps from OE *hār* 'hoary, grey; stone, stony ground', or OE *hara* 'hare', with

OE *lēah*. 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). ? *Harleghe* 1301 SHC VII 97, *Harleye* 1334 SHC XI 50, (*Shelton*) *Harnage* 1368 SRO D641/5/T/1/1, (*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*, *lēah* '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. *Harelyhead* and *Harely 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 *hār* 'hoary, grey; stone, stony ground', with OE *hlāw* '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 *grāfe* '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, *Harpurs 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.

HARFLOW 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, *Harecelis* 1470 (1883) *Deed* Sleigh, *Harracles* 1559 SRO DW1702/2/6, 1605 Sleigh 1883 20, *Harrackles* 1568 SHC 1938 153, *Harekells* 1583 SHC III (ii) 7, *Haracles* 1635 Leek ParReg, *Herracles* 17th century Duig, *Harracles* 1798 Yates. The first element would seem to be from OE *hār* 'grey, hoar', which may have come to mean 'boundary' (the place is near a parish boundary),

with OE **ēcels* '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). *Harrishey head* 1662 Wolstanton ParReg, *Harrishey-head* 1671 *ibid*, *Harrowsey Head* 1798 Yates, *Harrisea*, *Harriseahead* 1811 SRO D997/viii/6, *Harrisea Head* 1836 O.S. Seemingly 'the head or top of the hay or enclosure of Harris'.

HARSTON ROCK, HARSTON WOOD ½ 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, *Hart(e)smere* 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.

HARTLEY GREEN 1 mile north-west of Gayton (SJ 9729). *Hartley Grene* 1565 SHC 1926 79, *Harteley Greene* 1608 SHC 1948-9 112, *Hartley green* 1686 Plot 105, *Hartley-Greene* 1706 SHC 1938 231. Possibly from OE *heorot-lēah* 'stag wood or clearing'.

HART'S FARM 1 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(er)tishille*, *hertishil* 1420 Signet Letter C81/1365/26, *Hartshill* 1550 SRO D593/B/1/14/4/7, *Harteshill* 1584 SRO D593/B/1/14/4/13, *Harts Hill* 1732 Stoke on Trent ParReg. From OE *heor(o)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, *Hertwell* 1337 SHC XI NS 26, *Hertwall*, *Hertevale* 1347 *ibid*. 189, *Hertewall* 1366 SHC VIII NS 33, *Hertwalle* 1396 SHC 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 *wælle* 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream'.

HARVILLS HAWTHORN 2 miles north-west of West Bromwich (SO 9893). *Humvill* 1255 Fees, *Heranvyl* 1294 SHC 1911 219, *Herunwyll* 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). ? *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 Harrington Hall, 1 mile west of Beckbury in Shropshire (see TSAS 3rd 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* 'wooded 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 Berkswyche* 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 *lēah*.

HASELOUR 4 miles north of Tamworth (SK 2010). *Hazeloure* 13th century SHC XVIII 61, ? *Halsemor* 1309 WL 103, *Haselwor* 1369 SHC VIII NS 232, *Hawlore* 1373 BCA MS3878/28, *Haselovere* 14th century Duig, *Haslore* 1417 SHC XVII 61, *Haslhow* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 71, *Hasulhowre* 1539 SHC NS IV 217, *Haislor* 1577 BCA MS3878/120, *Hassleore* 1644 SHC 4th Series I 213, *Haselover 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 Halfcot (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 MS3810/196, 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 1½ 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 9510). *Hageþorndune* 996 (for 994) (17th century, S.1380), *Hargedone* 1086 DB, *Hatherdon* 1203 Ass, *Hatherdene*, *Hetherdon* 1292 SHC VI (i) 233, *Hatherdone* 13th century Duig, *Hathurdon* 1365 Banco, *Haderton* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 88. 'The hill where hawthorn grows', from OE *haguborn* 'hawthorn, whitethorn', with OE *dūn* '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 2001 51. From OE *hæð-tūn* 'The *tūn* 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-lēge* 'the fallow land of the hawk'. See also Hawksyard.

HAUGHTON Ancient Parish 4 miles south-west of Stafford (SJ 8620), *Haltone*, *Halstone* 1086 DB, *Halgetona* 1161-82 SRO (1/7972), *Haluchton* 1189 SHC I 173, *Haleton* 1201 Ass, *Haldeton* 1227 SHC IV 53, *Halixton* 1236 Fees, *Haleweton* 1284 SHC VI (i) 154, *Halweton* 1284 FA, *Halington*, *Halechtone*, *Halctone*, *Halegtone*, *Haluchtone* 13th century Duig, *Haleughton* 1327 SHC VII 214, *Haleughton* 14th century Duig, *Haghtton* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 67, *Hawghton* 1603 SHC 1940 38; HAUGHTON (obsolete) 2½ miles north-west of Ramshorn (SK 064483), *Haughton* 1798 Yates. 'The *tūn* 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.) *Haukesclyf* 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 *mōr* 'Hawks' moor'.

HAUNTON 5 miles north-east of Tamworth (SK 2310). *Hagnatun* 941 (14th century, S.479), *Honegeton* 1231 SHC VI (i) 34, *Hagheneton* 1249 FF, *Auneton* 1259 SHC IV 139, ? *Hainton* c.1260

SHC 1937 62, *Hauneton* 1271 Ass, *Hanneton*, *Anneton*, *Hagan*, *Hagana*, *Haguna*, *Hagene* 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 *tūn*', but a more likely derivation is from OE *hagena*, genitive plural of OE *haga* 'hedge, enclosure', with OE *tūn*, so 'the *tūn* 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, *Haukebach*, *Hawkebach* 1360-98 PN Wo 31, 1547 Pat, *Howkebaiche* 1551 BM, *Haukebach* 1577 Saxton, *Hawkebach* 1603 SHC XVIII 34, *Haukbach* 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 *Hawkbach 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 *wælle* 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream', with OE *clōh* '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 *heafocscerde*, probably from OE *heafoc* 'hawk', with OE **scerde* '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 *heafocscerde* 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.

HAWKEWALLSYCH a manor called '...Hawkeswelsich is the West and North-west part of [Longdon] parish...': Shaw 1798: I 223; SHC 1925 6. *Hakewallsiche* 1311 SRO 3764/90[27574], *Hackewell* 1321 (1801) Shaw II 321, *Hawkewallsych* 1442 (1798) Shaw I 224, *Harkwellsuchende* 1469 OSS 1936 44, *Hakewall suche* 1487 *ibid.* 46, *Hackwell* 1549 SRO DW1734/2/3/112b(18), *Hackewell* 1550 (1801) Shaw II unpublished plates 321, *Hawkeswelsich* c.1598 Erdeswick 1844: 243, *Hawkwell Sych End* 1613 SRO D603/E/2/110-132, *Haukeswel* 1798 Shaw I *211, *212, 223fn. From Mercian OE *heafoc* 'a hawk', and Mercian OE *wælle* 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream', with OE *stc* 'boggy stream'. See also Halsey.

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, *Hodgehead* (p) 1601 Brewood PerReg, *Hawkshed* 1640 SRO 590/464, *Hawkesyard Farm* 1674 SRO D590/154, *the Hawkesyard* 1683 Oakden 1984: 47, *Haukshead 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.

HAWKSLEY FARM ½ mile east of Heaton (SJ 9662). *Haukeslyh* 1227 Ch, *Hawkeleye* (undated) (1883) *Deed Sleigh*, *Hawks Ley* 1842 O.S., *Hawksley* 1891 O.S. From OE *heafoc*, *lēah* 'the wood or clearing with the hawk'.

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 *wælle* '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), *Haukeserd* 1281 SHC 1911 178, *Hauckheserd* 1284 SHC 1911 186, *Haukeserd* 1322 *ibid*. 98, *Hawkesyerd* 1407 DRO D2375M/1/1, *Hawkesyearde*, *Hawkesyerth* 1568 DRO D2375M/55/2, *Hawkesyerd otherwise Hawkesearthe* 1616 SHC VI NS (i) 6, *Haukesyard* 1681 Alstonefield ParReg, *Hakesyard* 1687 *ibid*; **HAWKESYARD** (unlocated, in Dilhorne), *Hawkesyard* 1393-1503 SRO D260/M/T/7/5/134 - see Hawkesyard Priory.

HAYES WOOD 2 miles east of Cheadle (SK 0444). *Hasewall above Parke* 1597 SHC 1934 11. Perhaps from OE *hæsel-wælle* 'hazel spring': cf. Haswell, Durham and Somerset.

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 Hayhowse* 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 *sƿc* '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, *Heywod* 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.

HAZEL BARROW 1½ miles north of Upper Hulme (SK 0163). *Haselbarrow* 1626 Rental, *Haslebarrow* 1651 *ibid*, *Haselburrough* 1656 ParReg, *Haselburrow* 1712 Alstonefield ParReg, *Hazelbarrow* 1851 White. Probably 'the grove with the hazel trees', from OE *hesel*, *bearu*, dative *bearwe* 'grove, wood', rather than OE *beorg* 'hill, mound'. A burial-mound or barrow is generally found as *low* (or sometimes *ley*) in Staffordshire place-names, from OE *hlāw*.

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

HAZEL MILL 1 mile north-east of Penkridge (SJ 9414). *Le Haselnemulne* 1342 VCH V 128, *Hasyll' Mill* 1598 *ibid*, *Haye Mill greene* 1627 Penkridge ParReg, *Hazel Mill Greene* 1627 *ibid*. The mill is recorded c.1280, but had disappeared by 1754: VCH V 128. From OE *hæsel*, *myl(e)n* 'hazel mill'.

HAZEL SLADE 3 miles south-west of Rugeley (SK 0212). *Hazell slade* 1682 *Dep*, 1834 O.S. From OE *hæsel*, *slæd* '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 *hæsel* '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*, *Hazelees* 1356 SHC 1913 165, ? *Haseles* 1369 SHC VIII NS 227, *Hazles* 1836 O.S. From OE *hæsel* 'hazel', so 'the hazel trees'.

HAZELWOOD (HOUSE) ½ mile north-west of Turner's Pool (SJ 9863). *Haselwo(o)d(e)* 1240 (1883) Deed Sleigh, *Haselwode* 1343 SHC XIV 60, *le hasilwod* c.1539 LRMB, *Hassell-woode* 1587 (1883) Sleigh 108, *Haselwood* 1600 SHC XVI 204, *Hasselwood* 1611 SHC III NS 60, *Hasslewood* 1621 SHC 1934 (ii) 24, *Hazlewood* 1698 Leek ParReg, *Hazelwood House* 1842 O.S. From OE *hæsel-wudu* 'hazel wood'.

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 Tardebigge 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, *Heycley* c.1560 SHC 1938 24, *Heycle*, *Heycley* 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, *Haickeley* 1595 *ibid.*, *Overheackley*, *Netherheackley* 1601 SHC XVI 208, *Over Hecele*, *Nether Hecele* 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 Trysull.) *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, ? *Haymese* 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 *mēos* '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.

HEATH HAYES 1½ miles north of Norton Canes (SK 0110). *Hethhey* 1570 Mills 1998: 173, *Heathy Hays* 1834 O.S. From OE *hæð*, (*ge*)*heg* 'the enclosure at the heath'. The place lay in an area called Wildmore - see Hollies near Heath Hayes.

HEATH HILL 1 mile north of Sheriffhales (SJ 7614). *Heathull* 1250 Eyton 1854-60: XI 146, *Hethe Hyll* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 99, *Hethehyll* 1547 SHC XI 292, *Heath Hill* 1655 SRO D4092/C/1/13, *Heathill* 1657 Sheriffhales ParReg, 1666 SHC 1927 70, *Heathill* 1713 SHC 1938 238. Self-explanatory. Transferred to Shropshire in 1895. *Heath hill cross*, recorded in 1782 (Sheriffhales ParReg), is an ancient sandstone column which lies to the south of Heath Hill.

HEATH HOUSE 1 mile north of Horton (SJ 9458). *Hethes House* 1562 SRO DW1702/3/8/9, *Heath House* 1842 O.S. In this case perhaps from the family named Heath.

HEATH HOUSE (GRANGE) 1 mile south of Cheddleton (SJ 9651). *le Hethe Graunge* 1328, 1362 Su, *Hethhowse grange* 1524 Rees 1997, *Heathhouse Grange* 1539 MinA, 1558 BM, *le Hethehouse* 1549 Ct, *Hethe Howse graunge* 1553 Pat, *Heathouse Graunge* 1679 SHC 1919 226, *Heath House* 1728 ParReg, 1775 Yates. 'The house on the heath', with ME *grange* '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'.

HEATH TOWN 1 mile north-west of Wolverhampton (SO 9399). *The Heath* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 159, *Heathe* 1557 SHC 1928 132, *Heythe* 1555 SHC XII 217, *Heth* 1561 SHC 1938 131, *Heath houses* 1747 Bowen, 1798 Yates. Self explanatory.

HEATHTON 2 miles south-east of Claverley (SO 8192). *la Hethe* 1255 Eyton 1854-60: III 97, *Hethton* 1256 *ibid.* 97, *Etthon*, *Hethton* 1262, *Hetton* 1274 Eyton 1854-60: III 76, *Hetthon'* 309 SRRC 2089/2/2/3. From OE *hæð tūn* 'heath *tūn*'. In Shropshire since the 12th century.

HEATHYLEE 3 miles north-east of Upper Hulme (SK 0464). ? *Hethileg* 1242 SHC XI 315, *Hethelogh* 1399 DRO D2375M/1/6, *Hethelegh* 1444 DRO D2375M/1/1, *Over & Nether Heathelie* 1599 ParReg, *Heathie Lee als Lea* 1601 QSR, *Heathelee* 1602 Leek ParReg, *Heathie Lee* 1605 SHC 1940 196. From OE *hæð lēah*, probably here meaning 'the clearing in the heath'. The place lay in the former Malbanc Forest. It should be noted that 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.

HEATLEY 1 mile north of Bagot's Bromley (SK 0627). *Haytelega* c.1200 SHC NS XI 148, *Haitele* c.1225 SHC XI NS 150, *Hetleg'* 1236 Fees, ? *Hotteley* 1286 SHC 4th Series XVIII 132, *Hayteleye* 1293 SRO D986/50, *Haddeleye* 1345 SHC X (i) 62, *Hayteley* 1392 SHC XV 49, 1408 *ibid.* 121, c.1435 SHC XI NS 42, 1473 SHC IV NS 187, *Haytle* 1403 SHC XV 104, *Hateley*, *Hayteley* 1474 SHC NS IV 191, *Hayteley* 1478 SHC VI (i) NS 120. Probably from the OE adjective *hæðiht*, 'heathy', with OE *lēah*, so 'the heathy clearing': see PN Ch V (I:1) xxiv.

HEATON 4 miles north-west of Leek (SJ 9562). *Heton* (p) 1230-2 StCart, 1266 FineR, *Hethon* 13th century Dieul, *Heyton* 1534 ValEccl, 1560 Pat, 1616 SHC VI NS (i) 19. 'The high farmstead', from OE *hēah, tūn*.

HEATONLOW ½ mile north of Heaton (SJ 9563). *The Low* 1842 O.S. From OE *hlāw* 'mound, tumulus': see Lowe.

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

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

HEDNESFORD (pronounced Hensford [henzfəd]) 2 miles north-east of Cannock (SK 0012). *Hedenedford* c.1153 Dugd v 447, ? *Ernesford* 1307 SHC VII 185, *Ed(e)nesford* 1323 CoramR, *Hedenusford* 1339 SHC 1931 241, *Hedenesford* 1343 SHC XI 154, *Hednesford(e)* 1362 Fine, *Hendusford* 1381 SHC XVII 185, *Adnesford* 1545 SHC XI 288, *Haddenford* 1599 Smith, *Hedgford* or *Hedsford* 1653 PCC, *Hedg(e)ford* 1666 SHT, *Hedgford* 1695 Morden, *Hednesford* 1834 O.S. Possibly '*Heddīn's ford', *Heddīn representing a diminutive of the OE personal name Headda, or from the personal name (possibly ON) Heoden: cf. Hensall, West Yorkshire.

HEIBRIDGE (obsolete) in Lower Tean (SJ 0138). *Heibridge* c.1569 SRO Chetwynd bundle 9.

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, *Heyley* 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, *Hemheath* 1836 O.S. From OE *hemm* 'hem, border', with OE *hæð*, 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 D1203/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 ½ mile north-west of Upper Hulme (SK 0161). *Hen-Cloud* 1686 Plot 171. Probably from OE *hēah* (oblique *hēan*), *clūd* '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, *Henhurst* 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 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 Herbacth* (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 Herbacth* is High or Upper Herbage, implying the existence of a Lower Herbage.

HERBERDESMULNE (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 ½ 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: III 19; also TSAS I 1878 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) kynge Ethelstane's brother ledde in a rokke for a tyme an heremite's lyfe. The place is yet sene and is caullyd the Heremitage': 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**.

HERTESHORN (unlocated, possibly near Crakemarth/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'.

HERTINDONE (unlocated, in Croxden.) *Hertindone* n.d. Shaw 1798: I 155.

HETELSDALE (unlocated, possibly Huddale.) *Hetelsdale* 1199 SHC III 169. Perhaps from an unidentified personal name with OE *dæl* '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*, *wælle* '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, *Hegestall* 1272 Ass, *Hekstule* 1273 SHC VI (i) 58, *Heckstal* 1295 SHC VII 28, *Heghsale* 1347 SHC VIII 90, *Extolls* 1851 White. Possibly from OE *hege-steall* '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, *Hexston* 1312 SHC IX 43, *Hecstal* 1327 SHC VII (i) 247, *Hekston* 1520 FF, *Heck-stones* 1686 Plot 168, *Heckstones* 1801 Shaw II 254. A difficult name, but possibly from OE *hæc* 'hatch', or from OE *hēah* 'high', with with OE *stān* 'stone'. *Hæcce* 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 *tūn* 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 *hēg* 'hay', with OE *hūs* '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 1½ 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 Dilhorne (SJ 9645). *Hyghwalgrange* 1464 SHC IV NS 135, *Hynealgraunge* 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 *wælle* (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 ASH 1 mile south-west of Hollinsclough (SK 0465). *Hie Ashe* 1671 Alstonefield ParReg, *Hye Ashe* 1678 *ibid*, *Hie Ash* 1668 *ibid*, 1851 White. Presumably from a conspicuous ash-tree here.

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, *Heacar* 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 *hæg* 'hay', with ON *kjarr* 'marsh, wet moor, boggy copse', so giving 'the wet moorland land on which hay was cut', rather than OE *hēah* 'high' (the place lies on high ground) or Mercian OE *(ge)heg* '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 *dūn* 'a hill'.

HIGH ELMS - see SEVEN ASHES.

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 D1810/f226), *Hide Fields* or *High Fields* c.1548 (SHC VIII (ii) 143-4), *Hydefeldes* 1559 (SHC IX NS 7), *the Hyde feildes* 1564 (*ibid.* 11), *Hydefieldes* 1608 (SHC 1948-9 26), in which case 'the fields near Hyde (Lea)', rather than 'the high fields'.

HIGH FOREST 2½ miles north-east of Heaton (SJ 9865). *High Forest* 1535 Dieulacres Inventory, 1539 SHC IX NS 301, *High-fforest* 1542 (1883) Sleigh 71, *High Forest* 1592 SHC 1930 220, *le High Forrest* 1595 SHC 1932 127-8, *High forrest* 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.

HIGHGATE 2 miles north of Enville (SO 8390). *Highgate (Warren)* 1762 SRRC 5586/4/2-3, *Highgate*, *Highgate Forest*, *Highgate Heath* 1833 O.S. Self-explanatory. Highgate Farm lies at a height of 324'. Highgate Heath is a large area of heathland to the east.

HIGHGROVE FARM 1 mile south-east of Kinver (SO 8582). *Heygrave* c.1200 VCH XX 136, *Heygreve* 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, ? *Haiwalles* 1340 *ibid.* 26, *Gyhewalhyll* 1543 SHC 1910 51, *Hyghwall Hill* 1563 SHC XIII 226, *High-hall hill* 1679 SHC 1919 267. Perhaps from Mercian OE *wælle* '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.

HIGH HAUGH (obsolete) 1 mile west of Cheadle (SJ 9942). *Huythehalg* c.1311 SHC 1911 436, *Huuehalgh* 1313 Ch, *The Heyghe Halghe* 1380 SHC 1910 265, *the Heyge Halghe* 1538 *ibid.* 266, *Hyghehawghe* 1556 SRO D1229/1/4/1, *Highhaugh al. Dephe House* 1615 SRO D1229/1/4/2. Probably 'the high *halh*', perhaps to be associated with Hewell Grange (q.v.), though the two earliest spellings pose difficulties for such derivation. See also Delph House.

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

HIGHLANDS PARK ½ mile west of Tatenhill (SK 1921). *Heylynds Lodge* 1262 Hardy 1907: 132, *Le Haylindes* 1297 SHC 1911 251, *Heghlindes*, *Heylindes* 1314 *ibid.* 7, *Hayelyndes*, *Parcarius del Heyelindes* 1336 *ibid.* 22, *Heighlyndes* 1422 *ibid.* 110, *Highelynnes* 1524 *ibid.* 201, *Highlinges Parke* 1628 *ibid.* 219, *Heighlyns Park* c.1659 DCL 393, *High Lins Park* 1704 (1798) Shaw I 129, *Highlins Park* 1836 O.S. From ME *linde* 'a lime-tree', with ME *hēah* 'high', so 'the lime-trees on the height': the place lies on high ground.

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 *hlāw*): at least one tumulus is recorded here: StEnc 284. See also Queen's Low.

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

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

HIGHRIDGES 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 TOWN on the north side of Cannock (SJ 9912). *Highton* 1644 SHC 4th Series I 100. Self-explanatory.

HIGHRIDGE ½ 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 Hilcote - 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 Hilcote 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 Hildebald: a meadow in Ridware is recorded as *Hildebaldesholme* (*ibid.*), of which Hildersholme may well be a contraction.

HILDERSTONE 3 miles east of Stone (SJ 9434). *Heldvlvestone*, *Hildvlvestune* 1086 DB, *Hyldillveston* 1136 SHC VI (i) 22, *Hildulueston* 1227 Ass, *Idolveston* 1227 SHC IV 53, *Hildeleston*,

Hildeliston c.1250 SHC 1911 426, *Hyndolveston* 1277 *ibid.* 167, *Hyldelweston* ?13th century SHC VI (i) 21, *Hildelveston*, *Hyldeleston*, *Hyldreston* 13th century Duig, *Hilderston* 1577 Saxton. From the OE personal name Hildewulf, hence 'Hildewulf's *tūn*'. 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**.

HILLEND at the northern end of the ridge of Abbot's Castle Hill (SO 8195). *Hill End* 1709 Claverley ParReg. Self-explanatory.

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

HILL FARM, THE HILL 1 mile north-west of Butterson (SK 0657). *The Hill* 1749 Butterson ParReg.

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.

HILLIARDS CROSS 2 miles north-east of Lichfield (SK 1511). *Hillards Cross* 1810 SRO D615/D/185, *Hilliards Cross Farm* 1896 SRO D615/ES/1/11. From the personal name Hilliard, Hillyard, from OGerman Hildigard, Hillyard (DES 321).

HILL RIDWARE - see **RIDWARE, HILL**.

HILLSDALE 1 mile south-east of Butterson (SK 0855). *Hildesdale* 1203 SHC III 108, *Hildelesdale* 1327 SHC VII (i) 221, *Hydleysdale* 1415 SHC XVII 59, *Hyddysdale* 1417 Banco, *Hillesdale* 1457 SHC XI 237, *Hilsdale* 1583 SHC III 15. 'Hyd(d)el's dale or valley'.

HILLS FARM 2 miles south-east of Cheddleton (SJ 9950). *the Hills* 1586 AD, *Hills Farm* 1699 ParReg, 1810 *EnclA*, 1836 O.S. Self-explanatory.

HILLSWOOD, NORTH & SOUTH 1 and 2 miles north of Leek (SJ 9858). *Hellis wood* 1340 VCH VII 197, *Helleswode* 1345 SHC IX NS 297, 1346 SHC XIV 66, *Hilliswode* 1534 (1883) Sleight 122, *Hilleswod(d)e*, *Hilliswod(d)e* c.1539 LRMB, *Hilliswood*, *Hyllyswode* 1542 (1883) Sleight 71, *Helleswood* c.1596 SRO 3764/47[27574], *Helswood* 1610 Speed, *Helleswood* 1613 SRO DW1702/1/20, *Hellswood* 1619 (1883) Sleight 93, 1709 *ibid.* 93, *Helswood* 1634 Leek ParReg, *Hilswood* 1645 *ibid*, *Helswood* 1673 Blome, *Jollyfes Hillswood* c.1728 SRO DW1702/1/20, *Helswood End*, *Elsewood End* 1775 Yates, *Hills Wood*, *North Hills Wood*, *Hills Wood End* 1842 O.S. The name originally applied to an extensive area to the north of Leek, and a number of derivations can be suggested. Perhaps from OE personal name *Hille, a pet-name from Hilger or Hillary, or from Hille, a

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; Sleight 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) Sleight 71, *Hilley leys* 1662 Leek ParReg, *Hilly Lees* 1698 *ibid*, 1842 O.S. 'The hilly meadow', from OE *læs*.

HILTON near Featherstone, 5 miles north-east of Wolverhampton (SJ 9505), *Hylton* 996 (for 994) (17th century, S.1380), *Haltone* 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), *Ilton* 1086 DB, *Hulton* 1332 Duig, *Hilton*, *Hilltown* 1794 Sanders 254; **HILTON FARM** 1 mile north of Sherifffhales (SJ 7613), *Hulton* 1327 SHC VII (i) 245, *Hylton* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 99, 1546 SHC XI 292, *Hilton* 1651 Sherifffhales ParReg, *Hilkton* (*sic*) 1666 SHC 1927 70, *Hilton Farm* 1833 O.S.; **HILTON** 1 mile south-east of Worfield (SO 7795), *Hulton* 1256 Eyton 1854-60: III 112, *Hulton* 1298 TSAS LXXI 1996 27, *Hillton* 1752 Rocque, *Hilton* 1833 O.S. A very common name, from OE *hyll-tūn* 'tūn on or by a hill'. Early maps (e.g. Smith 1599, Kip 1607, Speed 1610, Blaeu 1648) show *Hilton* near Kiddemore Green to the north-west of Chillington (SJ 8508), presumably *Hiltons 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 Sherifffhales 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, *Humeleye*, *Hemeleye* 1323 SHC 1911 355, *Humeley* 1361 SHC VIII NS 15. From OE *hymele*, *lēah* 'lēah where *hymele* grows'. *Hymele* may have been the hop or a similar plant (EPNE i 276). Cf. Himbleton, Worcestershire, *Hymeltun* 884 (S.219), *Hymeltune* c.977 (1373), *Himeltun* 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 (?SK 1329), but the similarity of the name to Houndhill is noteworthy. Hine Hylle would appear to be from OE *htwan*, *htgan*, Mercian OE *htne* (plural) 'a household, the members of a family; a religious community (monks or nuns)'. When the element occurs in place-names 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, *Hyntys*, *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 Stretton. 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 dūn* '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 I 2, *Heisteduna* 1179 *ibid.* 93, *Huntesdun* 1228 SHC IV 50, *Huhtesdon* 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, *Hughcesdon*, *Hoghcesdon* 1303 SHC VII 112, *Hughtesdon* 1306 SHC 1911 61, 1310 *ibid.* 73, 1349 SRO D938/91, *Hughcesdon* 1327 SHC VII 71, 1345 SHC XII 43, *Hughtelsdon* 1327 SHC 1913 119, *Hughleston* 1363 SRO DW1781/1/48, *Huxton* 1428 SHC XVII 121, *Hykstone* 1477 SHC VI NS (i) 106, *Hycston* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 75, *Hyxton* 1586 SHC 1927 153, *Hickston* otherwise *Hixeton* 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 *dūn* '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, *Horecross* 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, *Horecross* 1577 Saxton, *Hore-cross* 1686 Plot. 'Grey or boundary cross', from OE *hār* '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 Clough* 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 *clōh*, 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). *Hazeburzeate*, *Hacheburggate*, *Hobbergate* 1192 SHC 1911 417, *Habberyate* 1288 SHC VI (i) 174, *Hacheburgata* c. 13th century SHC *ibid.* 17, *Hobber 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 1½ miles south-east of Great Wyrley (SK 0005). *Obbeleye* c.1300 SRO D1790/A/10/2, *the ob(b)leye(s)*, *the ob(b)lies* 1302 Vernon, 1548 to 1617 Survey, *the Obleyes* 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.

HOBXCROFT (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 1½ 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 Knightly may have an earthwork on its summit (StEnc 292): hobs, 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'.

HOB RIDING (obsolete), 1 mile south-west of Anslow (SK 2023)). *Hobberudding* 1546 SRO DW1734/2/3/9f25, *Hobberobins* 1550 SRO DW1734/2/3/112b, *Hobridin* 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 Hale* 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.

HOBSTONE HILL 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 1½ miles south-west of Worfield (SO 7493). *Hoccumb* 1272 Eyton 1854-60: III 112, *Hoccumbe* 1292 *ibid*. 113, *Ocumbe* 1292 *ibid*. 216, *Hoccom* 1292 Jury List, *hocumbe* 1301 Rees 1975: 249, *Hoccombe* 1327 SR, 1525 SR, *hokkum* 1502 TSAS 3rd Series III 120, *hawcum* 1555 TSAS 3rd Series IX 1909 124, *Hoccom*, *Hoccum* 1562 Worfield ParReg, *Hoecom* 1602 SRRC 2028/1/5/8, *Hocham* 1752 Rocque. Perhaps from OE *hocc-cumb* '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 ½ mile west of Brewood (SJ 8708). *The Hockerill*, *The Hockerhill* 1799 SRO QS B, *Hockerill Farm* 1834 OS. A not uncommon name of uncertain origin. *Hocker* may represent an old word for 'a hill' or 'a hump', from OE **hocer*, 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 *hocc-lēah* 'the *lēah* 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 dūn* 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., *Offtman'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 Caldun 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. Hoggston, 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, *Holebacke* 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, S.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). *Holdedich* 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 *dīc* '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 1½ miles north-west of Butterson (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 Bolestile': 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 *hūs* (or ON *hús*) 'house', hence 'the boggy place with brushwood in the hollow'.

HOLEDAL (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 seigniorship 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, *Holehouse* 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* 'holly 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, *Holys* 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, *Wildmoore 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) ½ 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.

HOLLINGTON 4 miles south-east of Cheadle (SK 0538). *Holyngton* 13th century Duig, 1408 SHC XVI 65, *Hollington* 1580 SHC XV 129. From OE *holegn* 'holly tree', with OE *tūn*.

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, *Hillins* 1694 SRO D681/E/5/21, *Le Hollins* 1707 SRO D681/E/5/21; **HOLLINS (FARM)** 2 miles south of Audley (SJ 7949), *the Hollens* 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), *Holyenis* (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, *Howesclogh* 1472 Banco, *Howelles Cloughe* 1565 FF, *Howellas Cloughe* 1565 SHC XIII 240, *Howelscloughe* 1570 FF, *Howelsclough* 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, *Holesclough*, *Holes Clough* 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 *Howelisclought* 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, *hollywall (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.

HOLLYCOTE BATCH (unlocated, probably in or near Trentham.) *Holycotes Bache* 1585 SRRC 2922/11/1/23, *Holicotes Bache* 1615 SRRC 2922/11/1/56, *Holycotte bache*, *Hollycote batch* 1624 SRRC 2922/11/1/72. Probably 'the stream valley with the cottages by the hollies', from OE *holegn*, *cot*, *bece*.

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, *Halliwall* 1657 *ibid*, *Holly Wall* 1836 O.S. From OE *hālig-wælle* '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.

HOLLYWOOD 1½ miles south-east of Stone (SJ 9333). *Hollywood Gate* 1775 Yates, *Holly Wood* 1798 Yates. Self-explanatory.

HOLM (FARM, COTTAGE) ½ mile north-west of Alton, on the south side of the river Churnet (SK 0642), *Hulmes* 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 pōl*, with *pōl* later replaced by *ēg* '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-āc* '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.) *Halwelpark* 1439 Oakden 1984: 80, *Halywell parke* 1460 *ibid*, *Holywell parke* 1462 *ibid*. 'The park of the holy spring or well', from OE *hālig* 'holy', and Mercian OE *wælle* '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, *Wombrookford* 1597 SRO D260/M/F/1/2/f43d, *Wombridge Ford* 1591 VCH XVII 174, *Wombrooke fforde* 1617 Willmore 1887: 440, *Homridge 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 *wælle* '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.

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 *hōh* '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/B/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 *hōh* '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 ½ 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, *Hoope* 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.) *Hopyngs* 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, *Hoptuna* 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-tūn* 'tūn 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 Owtwood* c.1560 (SHC 1910 77).

HOPWAS 2 miles west of Tamworth (SK 1704). *Opewas* 1086 DB, *Hopewæes* 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, *Hopwaies* 1577 Saxton, *Hopwais* 1607 Kip, *Hoppas* 1686 Plot. From OE *hop*, here probably with the meaning 'an enclosure in fenland' (see Gelling 1981: 10), with OE *wæsse* '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, *Horninglowe* 1327 SR, *Hurnynglowe* 1332 SHC X (i) 106, *Hornyngslowe* 1450 HLS, *Hornyng Lown* 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 *horning*, derived from *horn* and meaning 'horn-like hill or peak', with OE *hlāw* '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 hlaw* 'Dot's or *Dottr's' *hlāw*', 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), *Doddeslowe* in 1290 (NSJFS 12 1972 56), *Dodduslo* in the late 13th century (SRO DW1734/J1615), and is found as the field-name *Dodslow* (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, *Hossebroke* 1478 Ipm, *Horshbrooke* 1608 SHC 1948-9 128. 'The brook frequented by horses'. See also Bell Field Farm.

HORSECROFT FARM (obsolete, ½ 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 1½ miles south-west of Eccleshall (SJ 8128). *Horseley* c.1299 SHC XI 325, *Horseleg* c.1270 SHC 1921 36, *Horselegh* 1289 SHC VI (i) 185, *Horseleye* 1302 SHC VII (i) 97, *Horselega* 1303 *ibid.* 109, *Horsle* 1348 SHC 1913 126, *Horseley* c.1540 Leland. From OE *hors* 'horse', with OE *lēah*.

HORSELEY FIELDS 1 mile east of Wolverhampton (SO 9398). ? *Horselawe* 1204 SHC III (i) 143, *Horseley Fyld* c.1538 SHC 1912 114, *Horseley Fylde* 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*, *Horselowe-field*, *Horsehull-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.

HORSELEY MORE (obsolete) in Prestwood (SJ 9401). *Horsley More*, *Horseley More* 1661 TSSAHS XXI 1979-80 18. Perhaps associated with Horseley Fields (q.v.).

HORTSELEWELLE (unlocated, possibly in the West Bromwich area.) *Hortselewelle* 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; **HORTONE** (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 Hey* 1507 Ipm, 1528 StarCh, 1658 ParReg, 1686 Plot, 1775 Yates, *Horton heyes*, *Horton hayes temp.* Elizabeth I Chanc, 1616 FF, *Horton Hay (House)* 1842 O.S. From Mercian OE (ge)heg '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 *horh-wudu* 'the dirty (i.e. muddy) wood'.

HOSE WOOD 1 mile south-east of Fulford (SJ 9737). *Hose Wood* 1798 Yates, 1836 O.S. Seemingly from OE *hōhas*, plural of *hōh* 'a spur of a hill'. Cf. Hose, Leicestershire.

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 *hōh* '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 *hōh* '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 *hōh* '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, *Hoetil*, *Hoetil* c.1260 (1798) Shaw I 85, *Hounhull* 1262 *ibid.*, *Unenhull* 1290 SHC VI (i) 204, *Honhull* 1292 (1798) Shaw I 85, *Howenille* 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.*, *Houenhull* 1386 (1798) *ibid.*, *Howenhull*, *Hounhull*, *Hounhul* 14th century Duig, *Houndhyll*, *Houndhill* 1460 (1798) Shaw I 86, *Hownehyl* 1539 SHC XI 279, *Howndhill* c.1569 SHC IX NS 101, *Hugenhull* 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, *Howen(e)* 1275, *Houn(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 951A.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 with *Hone-*, *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). *Huddedale* c.1220 SHC V (i) 51, *Huddesdale* 1227 SHC IV 61, *Hud(e)lesdale* 1227 CoramR, *Hudeldale* 1229 Ass, *Hyd(d)(e)lesdale* c.1240 Okeover, *Hutlesdale* 1254 Okeover, *Hudlesdale* 1299 SHC VII 63, *Hudlesdal* 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, *Huddesdale* 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 *dæl* 'valley'. Cf. John Hudde, 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, *Hugebrugge* 1275 SHC V (i) 120, *Huggebrugge* 1332 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*, **Hycga*, 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 44.

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, *Hulkocuspel*, *Ullokuspel* 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 Hulcok 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*, *Holm'* 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) juxta Weston* 1309 FF, *Hulm-by-Weston* 1309 SHC 1911 75, *Holm* 1331 SHC 1913 27, *Hulme-next-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, *Hulme* 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 Carmounthead. *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 *Hulme* 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 Pybitch Manor on the Stafford-Eccleshall road (SJ 8428)). *Heuntenbach* c.1220 SHC 1914 68, *Huntenbach* c.1266 SHC III

214, 1270 SHC V NS 217, *Huntinbach* 1272 SHC IV 194, *Huntebache* 1282 SHC VI (i) 152, *Huntenbach* 1293 *ibid.* 263, *Huntenebache* 1306 SHC 1911 67, *Hontenbach* 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* 'hunter', with OE *bece* 'stream in a steep-sided valley', so giving 'the hunters' 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 *æcer* '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), *Hungeryheath* 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.

HUNTECROFT (unlocated) *Huntecroft* 1338 SRO D593/B/1/23/3/2/13.

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 *dūn* 'a hill', so 'the hunters' 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 dūn* '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.

HUNTLEY 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, *Hunttley* 1426 SHC III NS 168. Probably 'the *lēah* 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). *Hurden Hall Farm* 1913 SRO D997/XI/2A&B, *Hurden Hall* 1930 O.S. Early spellings have not been traced.

HURDLOW ½ mile east of Upper Hulme (SK 0260). *Hordelowe* 1539 AOMB, *Hurdelowe* 1542 (1883) Sleigh 71, *Hordelowe*, *Hordlowe* 1546 SHC 1912 350-1, *Hurdelow(e)* 1599 Dep, *Hurdlow(e)* 1607 QSR, 1639 Leek ParReg, *Hurdlow* 1842 O.S. From OE *hord*, *hlāw* 'tumulus with the treasure-hord'. Cf. Hurdlow, 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-sīc* '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 *hyrst* 'hillock, copse, wooded eminence', originally with OE *mōr* 'a moor', here probably 'high waste-land'.

HURST WOOD 1 mile east of Colton (SK 0620). From OE *hyrst* '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*, *Urspins* 1744 *ibid*, *the Ursfins* 1778 *et freq ibid*, *Ursins* 1804 *ibid*, *Husphins Farm* 1788 SRO D802/33, *Husphins* 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 *hīd* '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).

HYDE LEA 2 miles south of Stafford (SJ 9120). *Hida* c.1187 SHC II 261, 1224 Stone CH, *le, la Hyde, Hide* c.1225 RH, 1267, 1327 Pat, *Le Hydelea otherwise Hydeley* 1601 SHC 1935 348. From OE *hīd* 'hide of land'. The addition of *lēah* occurs comparatively late, and is from the manor of *la Leye* 1261 (SHC 1950-1 52), *Lega* 1321 (*ibid.*), which appears to have adjoined and become joined with Hyde. (Cf. The Hyde).

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 ½ 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.

ILAM Ancient Parish 4 miles north-west of Ashbourne (SK 1350). *Hilum* 1004 11th century (11th century, S.906; 11th century, S.1536); 1227 Ass, *Hylum* 1150x1159 SRO D603/A/Add/19, 1183-4 SHC 1937 19, *Ylum* 1197x1213 SRO D603/A/Add/45, *Ylam*, *Ylum* ?12th century SHC V (i) 21, 27, *Inliem*, *Hilun*, *Ylun* 1203 SHC III (i) 103, 109, *Hilim* 1203 *ibid.* 108, *Ylum* Hy I Burton, 1208 SHC III (i) 172, 1286 SHC V (i) 117, *Illum*, *Illum* 1227 CoramR, *Hylum* 1256 SRO D603/A/Add/131, *Illum*, *Hylum* c.1260 SHC VII NS 146, *Ylam* 1280 AngleseyCh, *Ilam* 1293 AngleseyCh, 1547 Pat, *Ylume* 1293 SHC 1911 215, *Ile* 1294 SHC VII (i) 20, *Ylom* 1312 WL 70, *Ilom* 1327 SHC VII (i) 220, *Illum* 1331 SHC XI 30, *Ylom* 1333 SHC X 114, *Ylom(e)* 1339 Pat, *Ilom* 1460 SHC XI 237, *Ylum* 1523

Rental, *Ilom* 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 *silim*, '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 **samosispā*), 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 *il* '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 *lg* 'piece of land in a marsh' (cf. Iden, Sussex); or OE *lg* 'a yew tree'. Finally, the suggestion in Duignan 1902: 83-4 of a derivation from OE *hillum*, the dative plural of OE *hyll* '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.

ILAM MOOR (obsolete) moorland to the north of Ilam (SK 1351). *Ilome More* 1443 Okeover E414, (*Grendon on*) *le Morys* 1444 SHC 1939 85, *Ilam More* 1543 SHC XI 285, 1586 SHC XV 169. The name is commemorated in Moor Plantation.

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.

INGESTRE Ancient Parish 4 miles north-east of Stafford (SJ 9824). In *Gestreon* (for *Ingestreon*) 1086 DB, *Iggestrud* 1161x1182 SRO 1/7972, *Ingestrent* pre-1184 SHC XII (i) 271, *Ingkestrent* 1184x1228 *ibid.* 271, *Higgestrend* c.1200 *ibid.* 273, *Ingestreon* 1236 SHC 1911 397, *Ingestre* 1236 Fees, *Ingerstrent* 1242 Cl, *Ingestreon* 1243 SHC 1911 394, *Ingestret*, *Higestront* 1242 Fees, *Ingestraund* 1250 Ass, *Ingestrond* c.1250 SHC VIII 135, *Ingustre*, *Inggustre* 1305 SHC XII (i) 285, *Ingestre* 1371 SHC X NS (ii) 47, *Inglystre* 1373 SHC XIII 101, *Yngstre* 1529 SHC 1910 16, *Engulstre* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 57, *Inglestre*, *Ingestre* c.1540 Leland, *Ingestrye* 1605 SHC 1940 320, *Ingtastrey* 1616 BCA 3369/Acc1961-9/80, *Inkestre* 1577 Saxton. A difficult name. The place lies on gently rising ground to the north-west of the confluence of the rivers Trent and Sow. Ekwall 1960: 264 proposed a

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 Angoisie (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)strēon(d)* '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: I 406, 409), and the name may be 'Inge hill'.

IPSTONES 4 miles north-west of Cheadle (SK 0249). *Ypestans* (p) c.1175 Okeover, *Ypestan* 1175 SHC I 73, *Ipestane* 1205 Ass, *Ipestanis* 1201 Cur, *Ipestains* (p) 1201 Cur, *Hipestan*, *Hipestan*, *Hipstanes* 1204 SHC III (i) 105-6, *Ipestanis* 1206 Cur, *Ipstone* 1220 Ass, *Ibestane* 1227 *ibid*, *Iwestan* 1244 SHC IV 102, *Ypestanis* c.1240 SHC 4th Series IV 117, *Ipestanis* 1244 FF, *Iweston*, *Ipestane*, *Ipestanis* 1244 SHC IV 102, *Hipestanis*, *Upestan* 1261 SHC 1911 426-7, *Ippiston* 1284 SHC I 206, *Hipestans* 1291 Blymhill, *Ipstones* 1310 Banco *et freq*, *Ypstonus* 1395 SHC 1939 14, *Ippistones* 1347 SHC XII 54, *Ypstones* 1532 SHC 1912 87, *Ibston* 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 *stān* '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; Sharpcliffe.

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

from OE *yfer* 'ledge, steep slope', with OE *lēah*. One of the Hays of Kinver Forest. Cf. Iver, Buckinghamshire.

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, *Ovyhetteshay*, *Ovioteshay* 14th century Duig, *Evettes Hayes* 1563 SHC XIII 225, *Ivittsay*, *Ivettsay* 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 *Ufegēat*, 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*, *Jacksfields* 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, *Gammots* 1720 Bowen, *Jamitch* 1733 SHC 1944 57, *Gamitch* 1733 *ibid.* 72, *Jammage* 1777 SRO D4842/15/2/10, *Gem Edge* 1799 Faden, *Jamage* 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.

JARCUMVILE (unlocated) *Jarcumvile* 1276 SHC VI (i) 77, 1289 *ibid.* 185.

JEFFREYMEADOW 1 mile south of Alton (SK 0740). *Jeffry 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*, *Jeffronsheyas* 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 ½ mile south-west of Eccleshall (SJ 8228). *Johanneston* c.1233 Rees 1997: 82, *Jonestan* 1228 SHC 1924 167, *Jonestone* 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) *tūn*', with the later addition of *hall*. See also SHC II (ii) 92 fn.

JOHNSON'S WOOD (FARM) 1½ miles south-west of Alington (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 ½ 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*, *iuwele*, *iuell*, from OFr *joel* 'treasure, jewel, gem', perhaps 'the jewel-like stream', or possibly in a literal sense: eight Roman coins were 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, *Kekle* (sic) 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 52, *Keel* 1833 O.S. Possibly from ME *kye*, the Northern plural of OE *cū* 'cow' (Southern ME plural *kyn(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 Kettle Moor (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 *cél* 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).) *Kylford* 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 IV 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; Prest 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) 1½ 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

(SHC 4th Series VI 15). Or possibly associated with Kemsey (q.v.). The second element may be OE *āc* 'an oak-tree'.

KEMSEY (MANOR) 2 miles south-west of High Offley (SJ 7624). *Kemeseye* 1278 SHC IV 283, 1316 SHC XII (ii) 57, 1324 SHC X 55, *Kemesey* 1314 SHC VI NS (ii) 79 fn.1, *Kemeseie*, *Chemesey* 1326 SHC X 62, *Kemesheye* 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 *ēg* '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 *dæl* 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, ? *Kyryaule* 1310 SHC IX (i) 21, ? *Kyry* 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, *Kyrrehill* 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 Cury, 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 *tūn*. The meaning is probably 'the *tūn* of Ketilbiørn', or 'the *tūn* of the Kettle Brook or Burn' (Ketelbearn, 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* (*Colliery*) 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 *brōc* 'brook') perhaps meaning 'bubbling', so 'the bubbling brook'. The place was on the Staffordshire-Warwickshire border until transferred into Staffordshire in 1965.

KETTLE HILL (unlocated, in Knutton). *Kettle Hill* 1862 SRO D3272/3/6/21. Perhaps associated with Kettle Moor (q.v.).

KETTLEMOOR (obsolete) 1 mile north-west of Keele (SJ 8046). *Kettle Moor* 1833 O.S.; *Kettles Moor* 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 Butterson (SK 0458). *Kewall Green* 1677 Leek ParReg, *Keywell Green* 1842 O.S. The first element is uncertain: a derivation from OE *cȳ* 'cows' is possible, but see discussion of this element under the entry for Keele. The second element is Mercian OE *wælle* '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, *Cubblesd'* c.1224 Rees 1997: 65, *Cublestone* 1288 SHC XIII 174, *Cubblesdon*, *Cubeleston* 1329 SHC XI 4, *Cubbeleston'* 1333 SHC X 92, *Kybleston* 1383 SHC XIII 203, *Kebiston* 1476 SHC VI NS (i) 104, *Kebylstone* 1478 *ibid.* 115, *Kybbulston* 1567 SHC XIII 264, *Kebullston* 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 *dūn*' or *Cybbel's *tūn*': the second element varies in the earliest spellings. Cf. Kibblesworth, Durham. See also Cuttesdon.

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, *Kiddimoore 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, *Kiddlestich* c.1752 SRO D4156/1-35, 1834 O.S., *Kiln Sich* 1775 Yates, *Kidlestick* 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 *stycc* 'a piece of land', or OE *sƿc* '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 *sƿc* 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, *Kidcrow*, *Kidcrowe* 1656 Wolstanton ParReg, *Kiderew* 1680 SHC 1919 264, *Kidcrow* 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, *Kidshouse* 1647 Wolstanton ParReg. Possibly the same meaning as Kidsgrove (q.v.).

KILBY (obsolete, at Blithbury Bank, ½ mile north of Blithbury (SK 0820).) *Kylby* 1379 SHC XVI 173, *Kilbynshall* 1307 (1798) Shaw I 201, *Kilby-hall* 1332, 1407 *ibid*, *Kileby hall* 1395 *ibid*, *Kilbelondes* 1411 *ibid*, *Kylbye* 1459 Parker 1897: 366, *Kibbihall* c.1598 Erdeswick 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.) *Kimet* late 14th/early 15th century (1801) Shaw II 208.

KINCHALE (unlocated, possibly near Pipe Grange Farm, 1½ 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).

KINGESMERE (unlocated, between Broughton, Bobbington and Gatacre: Eyton 1854-60: III 101). *Kingesmere* 1292 Eyton 1854-60: III 101. 'The king's mere or pool'.

KING'S BROMLEY - see **BROMLEY, KING'S**.

KING'S CLUMP a smoothly rounded tumulus some 80 yards in diameter on the south-west side of Swynnerton (SJ 846352); see WMANS 1976 11. The age of the name has not been ascertained.

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*, *Kyngeshull[forlong]* 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 *lēah* 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.

KINGSLEY Ancient Parish 2 miles north of Cheadle (SK 0146). *Chingeslei*, *Chingesleia* 1086 DB, *Kingeslegh* 1227 Ass, *Kingeslee* 1232 Eyton 1854-60: X 71, *Kingesle* 1248 SHC IV 110, *Kynchesley* 1385 SHC XIII 191. 'The King's *lēah* or clearing'. Kingsley Moor, 1½ miles west of Kingsley (SJ 9946) is recorded as *Kingley 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 Hoult* 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, *Kynggeslowe* 1327 SR, *Kyngeslowe* 1376 SHC XIV 141, *Kyngelowe* 1542 SRO D593/A/2/11/9, *Kingslowe* 1562 Worfield ParReg, *Kingslow* 1602 SRRC 2028/1/5/8, *Kingslow* 1833 O.S. From OE *hlāw* 'hill, burial mound'. Presumably from a tumulus on the hill. It is of interest that Rog'o le Kyng or Kynge 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 *hlāw* '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.

KINGSNORDLEY 2½ miles south-west of Bobbington (SO 7787). *Nordlege* 1086 DB, *Norley* c.1086 Eyton 1854-60: I 109, *Nordley* c.1295 SRRC 2028/1/2/2, *Northleye* 1305 Eyton 1854-60: 153, *Nordeley Regs* 1525 SRS 3 109, *Nordley Regis* 1695 Morden. 'The north *lēah*' (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, *Kynge 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 *mēd* '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, *Kingstanding* 1681 Edwards 1949: 159, *King's-Standing* 1798 Shaw I 66, *Kingstanding* 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, *Kyngstonne* 1602 SHC 1935 475, *Kingston* 1663 SHC II (ii) 41, *Kingstone* 1953 O.S. From OE *cyninges-tūn* '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 tūn*, 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 villis: Faith 1997: 150-1. Youngs 1990: 415 gives Kingston as

the usual civil 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 *dūn* 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 (*Cynespole* 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 CUTTLESTONE.

KINGSWINFORD Ancient Parish ½ mile west of Dudley (SO 8888). *Swinford* 951x955 (15th/16th century, S.579), *Suinesford* 1086 DB, *Sueneforda* 1130 SHC I 2, *New Swyneford Regis* c.1322 1911 353, *New Swyneford* 1325 Inq, *Kyngeswynford* 1394 SHC XV 62, *Kyngessynford* 1433-50 Plmmt Pet C1/2/18(21), *Kynges Swenford* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8, *Swyndford 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.

KINGSWOOD 1 mile west of Oaken, in Codsall parish (SJ 8402), *Kingswood* 1403 VCH XX 84, 1686 Plot, *Kyngeswode* 1468 SHC IV NS 155, *Kyngeswoodde* 1599 Codsall ParReg; **KING'S WOOD** (obsolete) 3 miles south-east of Cannock (SJ 9908). *Kyngeswode* 1355 Ct, *Kynges Wood* c.1543 SHC NS X (i) 133, *the Kyngeswood* 1543 StarCh, *Kynges-*, *Kingeswodde* 1570 Rental, *Kings Wood* 1834 O.S.; **KING'S WOOD** in Trentham Park (SJ 8639), *Kings Wood* 1663 Trentham ParReg, *Kingswood* 1666 *ibid*, *Kingswood Bank* 1836 O.S.; **KINGS WOOD** (obsolete) in Hatherton, 2 miles south-east of Cannock (SJ 9908), *Kyngeswode(yate)* 1354 Ct, *Kyngeswode(heth')* 1369 Ct, *King's wood* 1518 SHC I 343, *Kynges Wood* c.1542 SHC X NS (i) 133, *Kingeswoode(gate crofte)* 1570 Survey, *the Kingswood* 1643 VCH V 56, *Kingswood (Heath)* 1690 SRO D260/M/T/5/99, *Kings Wood* 1775 Yates, 1834 O.S.; **KING'S WOOD, KINGSWOOD BANK** 1 mile south-west of Trentham (SJ 8639), *Kingswood Bank* 1836 O.S. Self-explanatory. Kingswood near Oaken is an area of heathland, formerly an area of waste in Brewood Forest, disafforested in 1204: VCH V 18 fn.2.

KINVASTON 1 mile south-west of Penkridge (SJ 9012). *Kinwaldestun*, *Kineuoldeston* 996 (for 994) (17th century, S.1380), *Chenwardestone* 1086 DB, *Kinaldeston*, *Kineldeston* 1203 SHC III 118, 126, *Kyneswaldestan* 1227 Ass, *Keneston* 1403 SHC XV 108, *Kenaston* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 90. 'Cynewald's *tūn*'. 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 '[] 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, *Kenefara* 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 borne 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-stræt* '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 *Keniggefurd* in 1262 (SHC V (i) 139), *Kynyngford* 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 *Kinefolka*, '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, Trysull, 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, Chasepool 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 *-ask*, and so producing *-ax*: Ekwall 1960: 279.

KIRKSTEADS 1½ miles north of Grindon (SK 0856). *Kirksteds* 1700 SRO D1132/1/17, *Great and Little Kirksteads* 1727 D1132/1/14, *Kirksteads* 1917 JNSFC 1916-7 81. Perhaps from a partly Scandinavianised form of OE *ciric-stede* 'site of a church', with OE *cirice* 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 II 58, *Knave's-castle* 1752 (1798) Shaw I 11, *Knaves Castle* 1686 Plot. From OE *cnafa*, ME *cnave*, *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, *Kneuell* 1577 SHC 1926 49, *Knevall* 1577 SHC XVII 224, *Kneuell* 1577 SHC 1924 49, *Kenanelle* 1604 SHC XVIII 40, *Kuerhall* 1620 SHC VII NS 211, ? *Nemwall* 1644 SHC 4th Series I 38, *Knenhall* 1644 *ibid.* 178, *Knenhall* 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 *cnēo(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 *hyll* '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.

KNIGHTLEY in Gnosall parish, 3 miles south-west of Eccleshall (SJ 8124), *Chenistelei* 1086 DB, *Cnitteley*, *Cnitteleg* 1203 Ass, 1238 Lib, *Cnettle* 1212 SHC III 158, *Knyttele* c.1260 SHC 1924 105, *Knicteleg* 1275 SHC XI NS 243, *Knycteleye* 1294 SHC 1911 219, ? *Knythesleye* 1324 SHC X 50, *Kneyteley* 1402 SHC XI NS 213; **KNIGHTLEY PARK** 1 mile north-west of Tatenhill (SK 1923), *Knytheley* 1325 Hardy 1908: 19, *Knightley Park* 1836 O.S. From OE *cnihta lēah* 'the woodland glade of the retainers, young men or knights'. Places containing this name in Gnosall are spread over a wide area and include Knightley Gorse, Knightley Grange, Knightley Dale and Lower Knightley. Cf. Knighton.

KNIGHTON 1 mile south-west of Adbaston (SJ 7427). *Chnittestone* 1086 DB, *Knichton* 1222 Ass, *Knython* 1273 SHC VI (i) 64, *Knyhton* 1305 SHC VII 141, *Knyghton next Adbaston* 1582 SHC XVII 227, *Knighton (Grange)* 1641 SRO D3067, *Knighton* 1833 O.S.; **KNIGHTON** on the Staffordshire-Shropshire border, 1 mile west of Willowbridge (SJ 7240), *Chenistetone* 1086 DB, *Knihtetun* c.1205 Rees 1997: 84, *Knyhton* 1306 SHC VII 153, *Kneghton in le Hales* 1341 SHC XII 4. From OE *cnihta-*

tūn 'the *tūn* of the retainers or knights'. In place-names *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'. Knightsfields (*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, *Knipe 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, *Knyveton* 1262 TutCart, ? *Kneveton* 1284 SHC 1910 299, ? *Naveton* 1422 SHC XVII 40, *Knyveton* 1450 *ibid*, *Knyveden* 1535 SHC 1912 78, *Knyffeden* c.1539 LRMB, *Knivedon*, *Gnivedon* 1635 ParReg, *Knifden* 1656 PCC, *Knivdan* 1798 Yates. Perhaps from the OE feminine personal name Cēngifu (with the stress shifted at an early date), with an uncertain second element, probably OE *tūn*, 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 ½ 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, ? *Knowlles* 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** 1½ miles east of Audley (SJ 7751), *Le Knoile* 1298 SHC XI NS 248, *Knol* 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 XII NS 213, *Knowle* 1592 Betley ParReg, *Knowle end* 1695 *ibid*; **KNOWLE FARM** 1

mile 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, *Knowl* 1775 Yates; **KNOWLESWOOD** 1 mile west of Broughton (SJ 7333). *Knowles Wood*, *Knowle Wood* 1687 SRO D681/E/5/21, *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, *Knowll 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 *wælle* '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) *Knutts hall 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 SHC 1911 124, *Knotton* 1256 Ch, *Knottoun* 1333 SHC 1913 229, *Knootton* 1594 Eccleshall ParReg. Possibly 'Cnūt's tūn', 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 tūn at the hillock': see Fellows-Jensen 1990: 13-21.

KNYPERSLEY on the south of Biddulph (SJ 8856), *Kniperslee* c.1247 SHC 1911 419, *Knypersleye*, *Kniprislega* 1272-3 SHC XI NS 245, *Kniprislega* 1278 *ibid.* 245, *Knybereleye* 1298 *ibid.* 247, *Knypersleye* 13th century Duig, *Knypersley* 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*) *Knypersley* 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 *lēah*. *Knepresleye*, recorded in 1327 (SHC VII (i) 217) may refer to either place. Cf. Turner's *Knipe*.

KNYPYNGESTYLE (unlocated, in Tipton.) *Knypyngestyle* 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) *Kormodestun temp.* Henry III SHC 1939 85. Possibly associated with Carmounthead (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, *Kynnyshley temp.* Henry VIII SHC X NS I 146, *Kynesley* 1564 SHC XVII 212, *Kynsley* 1566 SHC 1938 168, *Kynnesley* 1567 *ibid.* 33. If ancient perhaps 'the *lĕah* 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 Kinnersleys 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.) *Kyngesleye Heth temp.* Elizabeth I SHC 1939 123. See Kyngesoke Heth. 'The heath at the *lĕah* of the king'.

KYNGESKE 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. *Kyrkesleye* 1327 SHC 1913 16. From ON *kirkja* 'a church' (which may have replaced OE *cirice*), with OE *lĕah*, so 'the *lĕah* 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, *Laderhedge* 1538 Ct, *Ladderedge (Court)* 1556 SRO D593/B/1/24/2, *Latherich (Court)* 1610 SRO D593/B/1/24/2, *Ladderidge* 1632 SRO D593/E/6/15, *Ladderich*, *Ladderitch* 1648 Leek ParReg, *Lathridge* 1653 *ibid.*, *Ladderedge* 1698 *ibid.*, *Latheredge* 1813 Bourne, *Ladderedge* 1836 O.S. Perhaps from ON *hlaða* (found as dialect *lathe*) 'barn', with OE *hrycg* 'ridge'.

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, *Ladderrmedale* 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, *Ladyhurst* 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 Gulletts 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 ½ mile north-east of Waterhouses (SK 0850). From OE *lambra*, genitive plural of *lamb* 'lamb', with OE *hlāw* 'mound, tumulus', so 'the lambs' tumulus'

LAMMASCOTE on the east side of Stafford (SJ 9323). *Le Lombercote* 1273 SHC 1911 151, *Lanpucotes*, *La Lamputtes* after 1352 (16th century) SRO 96[7904], *Lambercote* 1433-4 SRO D641/1/2/53 rot. 2, *Lambircote* 1439 MinA, *Lomburcote* c.1445 Ipm, *Lambcotts* 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 *lambra* 'lamb', hence 'the cottages where lambs were reared'.

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

LANDER'S WOOD 1 mile south-west of Milwich (SJ 9630). *Launder'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 *Londehall*, 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)mære* '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-lēah* '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). *Longeley(medewe)* 1349 SRO D593/A/2/5/7, *Longeley Cawende* (? *Lawende*) 1507 SHC V NS 231, *longeley land* 1569 Ct, *Launlyland* 1668 Codsall ParReg. From OE *lang-lēah* '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 Horseley) 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*

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), *Langett* 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, *Lappeleia* 1200 P, *Lappale* 1286 SHC VI (i) 170. Possibly 'Læppa's *lēah*', derived from the OE personal name *Hlæppa 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/N/2, *Lax Edge* 1811 Bourne, *Lask Edge* 1815 *EnclA*, 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, *Lothorford* 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, *Laghtonhowse* (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** ½ mile east of Tatenhill (SK 2122), *The Lawnes* c.1760 SRO D615/M/7/4. 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 spellinmgs 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*, *Gybbattes Ley* 1572 SHC XIII 292, *Gybbottes Ley* 1590 SHC XVI 100, *Ley* 1608 SHC 1948-9 99, *Gebertsley otherwise Jeberdsley* 1610 SHC III NS 39, *Gilberts Lea or Joubberts Lea* c.1680 SHC 1919 248, *Gibbatts Gibbett Ley* 1709 SRO D1788/42/7, *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 *lēah* '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 1919 167.

LEACROFT 1½ miles south-east of Cannock (SJ 9909). *Lecroft* (p) 1327 Mis, 1346 (p) Banco, *Leecroft*, *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 *hlēo* or shelter in the valley' (cf. Lydden, Kent), 'Lēoda's dale or valley' (cf. Leadenham, Lincolnshire), or a derivative of OE *lēod* 'reed meadow grass'. OE *lēaden 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 Le* 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 *lāge* '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 ½ 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, *Leomanslay* 1714 SRO D15/10/1/36, *Lemonsley* 1780 SHC 4th Series VI 152, *Leomansley* 1781 SRP 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) *Leomenan*, (of) *Leomanan* 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 *lāge* '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*, *La 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, *Leych* 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, *Lyek* 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 *llech* '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 *læk* '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 *Kyrkebroke* (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 *hlecc* '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 Leck, 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.

LEESE 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 III 265.

LEES HILL 1 mile north-west of Kingstone (SK 0530). ? *Lega* c.1286 NA DD/FJ/1/180/1, *Leyes* 1293 SHC VI (i) 239, *Kyngeston' Leges* late 13th century SRO (146/7931), *Kyngestoneleyes* 1340 SRO D938/147, *Lyghes* 1359 SRO DW1721/3/1/26, *Leyshill* 1493 SRO DW1733/A/2/33, *The Lees* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 76, *Lees Hill* c.1550 Erdeswick 1844: 261, 1660 SHC 1935 475, *Lees hill* 1680 SHC 1919 272, *Lees Hill Farm* 1706 SRO D3259/1/1. Sometime known as *Loxley Leyes* and *Kingston Leyes*: Erdeswick 1844: 261; SHC 1935 475. From OE *lās* '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.

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 *lās*, the plural of OE *lēge* 'pasture, meadow-land'.

LEESE HOUSE FARM 1 mile south-west of Draycott-in-the Moors (SJ 9738). *Leyam* c.1160 SHC III 224, *Leyesheuese*, *Leyeheuese* 1331 SHC 1913 32, *Draycotelyes* 1334 SHC XVI 6, *Leys* ?14th century SRO DW1733/A/2/71, 1522 SHC 1925 121, *Lees Howses* 1611 SHC IV NS 13. From OE *lēagum*, dative plural of OE *lēah* 'a wood, a clearing in a wood', so 'the house at the clearings'.

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

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)læt* '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* 1002x1004 (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, *Leyam* 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.) 1½ 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 Meirheath area, enclosed in the 18th century: Shaw 1798: I 44. From OE *lēac-tūn*, 'tūn 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.

LEIGHTON HAY (unlocated, in *Overs Longsdon* (Upper Longsdon): SRO DW1761/A/4/257.) *Leghton Heye* 1494 SRO DW1761/A/4/261, *Leightonhey* 1609 SRO DW1761/A/4/256, *Leighton Hey* 1618 SRO DW1761/A/4/257.

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 *lāl* '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, Devon; Lem Brook, Worcestershire; the river name Leam, found in Northamptonshire and Warwickshire; and the river Lymm in Lincolnshire. Probably from a British word **Lemanā* 'elm', found in OIrish *lem*, Irish *leamh*, and (with an irregular long vowel) Welsh *llwyf* (see Ekwall 1928: 244-5). A derivation from ME *lēomen* '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 *sīc* 'a watercourse'.

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*, *stræt* '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, *Levedehal* 1198 SHC III (i) 51, 1208 FF, 1242 Fees, *Levedhale* 1199 SHC III (i) 170, *Levedenhal*', *Levedeshale* 1242 Fees, *Levedhal*, *Levedhale* 12th century Duig, ? *Lovedale* 1397 SHC XV 76, *Leydall* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 89, 1562 SHC XVII 211, *Leavedall* 1603 Penkridge ParReg. 'Lēofede's *halh*', possibly influenced by ME *levedi* 'lady', i.e. the Virgin Mary, from OE *hlāfdige*. 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 Lēofnōþ, with Mercian OE *(ge)heg* 'enclosure', so 'Lēofnōþ'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, *(æt) Leofecanoran* 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.

LEYCETT (pronounced lee-set [li:ʃet]) 2 miles north-east of Madeley (SJ 7946). *Leveringsete* 1275 SHC VI (i) 66, *Loversete* 1278 Ct, *Loveresete* 1307 SHC XI NS 256, *Leveresheved* 1327 SR, *Lerversete* 1334 SHC 1913 44, 1335 SHC XI 57, *Lesate* c.1376 Pape 1928: 150, *Levereshed* 1397 SHC XV 79,

Levershede 1474 NSJFS 3 1963 49, ? *Lysot* 1475 SHC VI NS (i) 92, ? *Lysatt* 1528 SHC 1928 179, ? *lysott* 1528 *ibid.* 260, ? *lyssatt*, *lissatt* 1528 *ibid.* 265, *Leycytt* 1548 SHC 1912 169, *Lycett* c.1560 SHC 1938 176, 1562 SHC XIII 219, 1600 SHC 1935 208, *Lycette* 1573 SHC 1931 178, *Lysett* 1582 SHC XV 143, 1602 SHC XVI 219, 1616 SHC VI NS (i) 23, *Lycet* 1605 SHC 1940 249, *Licett* 1611 SHC III NS 55, *Leycett* 1679 SHC XII NS 205, 1747 Bowen, 1833 O.S., *Leasitt*, *Leasit* 1733 SHC 1944 5, 26. 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 Lēofhere, 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 Lēofhere'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 *lās* '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 *et freq.*, *Leghes* 1335 (p) Banco, *Whiston Lees* 1608 FF. From OE *lāswe* (the dative singular of *lās*) '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)licitfelda*, *(An)licciftelda*, *Lyccitfelda* c.715 (11th century) Life St. Wilfred, *Lyccidfelth*, *Liccidfeld* c.737 Bede, *Liccedfeld*, *Liccetfeld* c.890 OE Bede, *Lecefelle*, *Licefelle* 1086 DB, *Lichesfeld* 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 *līc* (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 **Lētocaiton* meaning 'grey or brown wood' (cf. Welsh *llwyd* 'grey, brown', from British **lēto-*, 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 **Lētgēd*, 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 **Lētocaiton* 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 Llwtcoed*. 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 Lwytgoed* 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.

LICKS WOOD 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 south-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), *Lyhtwude* c.1230 SHC 1921 18, ? *Litlewode* 1277 SHC XI 308, *Lichwode* c.1280 SRO D593/B/1/23/7/1/1/, *Lyghtwode* 1306 SHC 1911 65, *Lyghtwode* 1325 SRO D714/1, *Lyghtwoode* c.1374 Pape 1928: 147, ? *Littilwode* 1391 SHC XI 198,

...*Lightewood heathe alias Meare heathe*... 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, *Lyghtwod* 1539 SHC XI 280, *Lightwoode (Croft)* c.1560 SHC 1938 172; **LIGHTWOODDE HEATHE** (unlocated, at Keele), ? *Lichwodehet* ?13th century SHC XI 321, *Lightwoodde Heathe* 1592 SHC 1930 (ii) 285; **LIGHTWOODFIELDS** 2½ 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 *lēoht*, *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, Blurton 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* 1301 SHC VII 82, c.1325 Shaw 1798: I xxvi, ? *Lilleburne* 1347 SHC XVIII 269. Perhaps from OE *lȳtel*, *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).) *Lincrofteys* 1274 SHC 1911 160, *Lime Croft* 1836 O.S. Probably from OE *līn* '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). *Lympettes* 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 Butterson.

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, *Lintbro(o)ke* 1650, 1658 Parl Survey, ? *Limbroke* 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.

LINDORE FARM, LINDORE WOOD 3 miles south-west of Gnosall (SJ 7919). *Lyndover(e)* 1323 Coram R, 1575 FF, *Lyndover* 1582 SHC XVII 227, *Lindooer* 1597 SHC XVIII 11, *Lindar* 1677 Gnosall ParReg, *Lindor* 1680 *ibid.* From OE *lind* 'lime-tree', and OE *ofer* 'hill-slope', meaning 'the slope with lime-trees'. *ibid.*

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 ½ 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 *bēce* 'beech tree', or OE *bece* 'steep-sided stream valley'. However, a derivation from OE *bēce* 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*), *Bechefyld temp.* Edward II (SHC VI (i) 185), *Bechefield temp.* Edward III and Richard II (SHC VI (ii) 185), *Bechefeld* 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 *lēah*'. *Litteleg* in Blithfield is recorded in 1252 (SHC 1937), and as *Luttelye* in 1325 (*ibid.* 124), but has not been located.

LITTLE ASTON - see ASTON, LITTLE.

LITTLE HAY 1½ miles south-east of Shenstone (SK 1202), ? *Littleshai* 1203 SHC III 90, *Luttelhay* frequently 13th century Duig, *Lutlehay* 1269 SHC IV 170, *Littlehay* 1327 SHC VII 198, ? *Luttylhay* 1379 SHC XVI 174; **LITTLEHAY** (unlocated, near Cheadle), *Luthlehaie* 1203 SHC III 92, *Lutlehay* 1276 SHC 1911 168, *Lytlehay*, *Litlehay*, *Littlehaye* 1297 SHC VII 42-3, ? *Littemay* (sic) 1327 SHC VII (i) 215, *Liutlehay* 1337 SHC 1913 65, *Littilhay* 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, *Letylhay* 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 *lȳtel* '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 Alington (SJ 6934), *Little Heath* 1684 SRO D861/E/5/21. Self-explanatory.

LITTLE ONN - see **ONN, LITTLE**.

LITTLEPARK on the Staffordshire-Derbyshire border, ½ 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 Balterley.) *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), *Littlewode* 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, *Litewude* 1206 Cur, *Littlewude* 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, *Luttewode* 1315 *ibid.* 1911 85, *Lutelwode* 1390 FF, *Luttelwode* 1406 SHC XVI 49, *Lytlewod* 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 *lītel*, *lȳtel* 'little' with the second element lost, does not seem entirely satisfactory, despite the spellings with a medial *l*, so possibly connected in some way with OE *lūtian* '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 *hlyð* (plural *hliðu*, *hleoðu*) '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*, *luttill* '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, *Lusghart*, *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 *llys-garth* 'hall by a hill' (Johnston 1914: 348, 502; Ekwall 1960: 301), the OE spellings *Lus-* show that *llys* 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 *llus* '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...*llus* '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) *lūs gearð*, from OE *lūs* 'louse' and OE *gearð* '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 *lūs* 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 *lūs* may have been a nickname for such hills or tumuli, cf. *lusedune* 'louse-hill' mentioned in a charter relating to Oldswinford, Worcestershire, of 946x955 (15th/16th century, S.579; see Hooke 1990: 165). Cf. Loosebarrow, Dorset; Lousehill, Somerset; Luscott, Devon (see EPNE i 198). See also Luzlow. *Drayton subtus 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 leper(s)'.

LLOYD, THE 1 mile south-east of Alington (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 Lloyde* 1750 SRO 828/28, *The Lloyde* 1833 O.S. The place lies on a stream, so almost certainly from OE *hlȳde*, a derivative of *hlūd* '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). *hlyðe brōc* 985 (12th century, S.860), *Ludebroc* 1206 SHC III (i) 219, *Lude* c.1220, 1242 SHC 1928 12-14, *Lydebroke* 1294-5 *ibid.* 23, *Luithulle* 1317-8 *ibid.* 30, *the Lude* 1353 (1801) Shaw II 222, *la Luyde* 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 *hlið* '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 *hlȳde*, a derivative of *hlūd* '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 *Smalbroke* in 1416 (SHC 1928 65). A derivation from OE *hlēda*, *hlȳda* '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 *Hlūd. 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 *eorþburg* '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 *loche*, '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*, *Laisses*, *Loshes* (1598), later *Loches*, *Lowches*, *Lowchers*, *Lawshes*, *Losshes*, in Earls Colne, Lincolnshire.

LOCKWOOD (HALL) 1 mile south-east of Kingsley (SK 0245). *Locwode* 1274 SHC 1911 159, 1311 *ibid.* 436, 1327 Okeover T19, *Lokwode* 1331 SHC 1931 31, *Locwood* 1399 SHC 1921 14, *Lockwood* 1599 SHC 1935 98. From OE *loc-wudu* 'enclosed woodland'. Cf. Lockwood, Yorkshire.

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 *lād* '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 *tūn* 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, *Logerheads* 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 & Hotton 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, *Lonkehall medowe* 1487, *Lyncoll feilde* 1493, *Lyncoll medowe* 1527, *Lonco platt* 1599, *Loncolne hill, moor, pits* 1618, *Loncoll field buttes* 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 halh* 'long halh', 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.

LONDONDERRY to the west of Smethwick (SO 0187). *Londonderry* 1834 O.S. Transferred from Londonderry in Ireland, a name that dates from the early 17th century: in 1610 the London Companies were involved in the plantation of the old county of Coleraine and parts of adjoining counties, and the exercise was commemorated by adding the name London to the older name of Derry. The reason for its adoption near Smethwick may be due to the influx of Irish immigrants.

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 burch* 1686 Plot. From OE *brēce* '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**.

LONGCHURCH (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 *Longedale*, 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). (*æt*) *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'ggedon* 1350 BCA MS3415/184, *Lankedon* 14th century BCA MS3415/144. 'Long hill', from OE *langan-dūn*, 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-dūn* '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 *Burwaye 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/T/5/125). 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 *Longgofordeshet* (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; Jermy & 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'.

LONGINDON (unlocated, in Amington: SHC 4th Series XVIII 97.) *Longindon* 1271 SHC 4th Series XVIII 97.

LONG LOW near Wetton. From OE *lang-hlāw* '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 10 miles north-east of Leek (SK 0864). *Longenovre* 1277 SHC 1911 169, *Longnour* c.1549 SHC 1910 73. From OE *lang* (weak dative singular *langan*) 'long', with OE *ofer* 'bank, ridge'. Cf. Longnor, Shropshire.

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 manufacturies 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*, *Lungridge* 1253 SHC IV 125, *Longrigge* 1276 SHC VI (i) 74, *Longerygg* 1307 SHC VII 174, *Langrigge* 1399 Pat, *Longrigge*, *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, *Longsdon als Longston* 1612 FF. The possessive *s* suggests a derivation from the OE personal name *Lang*, with OE *dūn* 'hill', hence 'Lang's hill', but the place is on a long ridge, which may have been called *Long*, to which was added an explanatory *dūn*. Cf. Longstone, Derbyshire. Syde is from ME *side* 'a slope of a hill, especially one extending for a considerable distance'.

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 *tūn*'. 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, *Lordys 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 Caldon is recorded in 1452: SHC VII NS 56.

LOSKEFORD (unlocated, possibly near Almington.) *Loskesford* 1327 SHC VII (i) 203.

LOUDON (unlocated, possibly near Hamstall Ridware.) *Loudon* 1686 SBT DR18/22/7/6.

LOUECOKESHULL (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), *The Lunt* 1863 Lawley 1893: 220-21. From ON *lundr* 'a grove, a copse' (in some cases 'sacred grove'): cf. Lound, Lincolnshire; Lund and Lunt, Lancashire. *le lunde* is recorded in Field near Leigh in the 14th century: Tooth 2000b: 176.

LOUSEY BANK (obsolete) 1 mile west of Butterson (SK 0556). *Lousey Bank* 1840 O.S., *Lousy Bank* 1891 O.S. Perhaps from OE *hlōse* '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 Loe* 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 *hlāw* '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, *le Lowe Hyll* 1545 SHC XI 289, *Le Lohill* 1612 SHC IV NS 38, *Low* 1686 Plot; **LOWE HILL** a 770' hill 1 mile south-east of Leek (SJ 9955), *Lowe* 1240 (1883) Deed Sleigh, 1332 SHC X 115, 1538 (1883) Sleigh 17, 1608 SHC 1948-9 106, *Leeke Low* 1614 FF, *Lowe at Leek* c.1619 SHC VII NS 205, *Leeke Hyll* 1622 FF, *Lowe* 1583 SHC XV 145, *Low Hill* 1798 Yates. From OE *hlāw* 'hill, mound, and (the usual meaning in Staffordshire) burial mound', with OE *hyll* 'hill'. A large tumulus (now destroyed) is recorded on the hill at Bushbury: Plot 1686: 403; NSJFS 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, *Lochesl'* 1177 SHC XII NS 278, *Lockesley* 1227 SHC XI NS 18, 1236 Fees, *Lockesleye* 1292 SHC VI (i) 239, *Churchlockesleye* 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 *Loxa, with OE *lēah* '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). *Levuntona* 1080 SHC I 183, *Levintone* 1086 DB, *Levuntona*, *Livintuna* 1162 SHC I 183, *Laenton* 1191 Pipe, *Livinton* 1199 SHC III 169, *Lavenden* 1242-3 Fees, *Levynton* 1281 Ass, *Levynton* 1309 SHC X (i) 4, *Lemynton* 1317 SHC IX 62, *Leyntone* 1380 SHC XVII 193, *Loyton* 1576 SHC 1926 39, *Levington* 1598 SHC XVI 184, *Laynton* 1686 Plot 209, *Loynton* 1719 WSL 78/43. 'Lēofa's tūn'. 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 *hlūd*, 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 *hlūd-brōc* 'the loud brook': perhaps to be identified with Luddebeche. See also Luddebeche; Ludchurch.

LUDBURN 1½ miles north-west of Sheen (SK 0962). *Ludbourne* 1566 Deed, 1582 SHC XV 140, *Ludburne* 1599 DRO D2375M/106/27, *Luddburne* 1600 Alstonefield ParReg, *Ludburn* 1671 *ibid*. Perhaps from OE *hlūd-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 II 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 þe ende and on ayper syde, and ouergrowen with gresse in glodes aywhere, And al watz hol3 inwith, nobot an olde cave, or a creuisse of an olde cragge...Þhis oritore 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 decribed 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 unevidenced 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 *luydawc 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 *hlūd* '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 *lītel*, *lȳtel* 'little, small', given in Ekwall 1960: 300 is most improbable, notwithstanding a handful of spellings such as *Littlecherche*, recorded in

1197). 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: I 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, *Luddesdon* 1250 Cl, *Loddesdona*, *Loddesdon* 1271 SHC 4th Series XVIII 71, *Luddesdon* 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 *hlūde* 'loud, noisy', with Mercian OE *wælle*, 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, *Luffulewode* 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 *fūl 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 *Leeshull* 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 1½ 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*, *Liutelega* 1262 For, *Lotteleye* 1271 SHC V (i) 140, *Lutley*, *Lutteleye* 12th and 13th centuries Duig, *Lutteley* 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, *Ledeleye*, *Lod(e)leye* 1275, *Lotteleye*, *Lutteleye* 1291, *Lutleye* 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 *lūs*, *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*, *looze* (EPNE i 253), so 'the burial-mound at the shelter'.

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

LYCHEWODE (unlocated) a wood in Almington. *Lychemode* 1247 SHC 1945-6 23, ? *Lychemode* 1298 SHC XI NS 251, *Lychwod* c.1300 SHC 1945-6 31. See SHC 1945-6 23.

LYDE BROOK a tributary of the river Smestow. *Hlyðe broc* 985 (12th century, S.860), *Ludebroc* 12th century Wodehouse, *Lydbroc*, *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 **hlyde* '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 *hlid-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, Butterson, 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 (*Lim*, *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 I 5-6), 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.)'.

LYME HOUSE 1 mile south-east of Horton (SJ 9556). *Lyme* 1414 VCH VII 203, *Limehouse* 1639 Leek ParReg, *Lyme House* 1659 Horton ParReg, *Lymehouse juxta Horton* 1663 SHC II (ii) 63, ? *Lommaz* 1696 Leek ParReg, ? *Lymmat* 1696 *ibid.*, *Lime House* 1775 Yates, 1842 O.S., *Lym House* 1815 Horton *EnclA*. 'A building used for burning lime; a lime-kiln'.

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

LYME WEY (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). ? *Lymme* 1298 SHC XI NS 256, *Lymford* 1332 SHC X (i) 115, 1539 SHC VI NS (i) 84, *Lymforde* c.1565 SHC 1938 76, *Lymeford* 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 Lyme* (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.

LYMM 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 *līn* 'flax', with OE *æcer* 'field, ploughed land', so 'the field where flax was grown'.

LYNCROFT 1 mile north-west of Lichfield (SJ 1010). *Lyncroft* 1356 Duig, *Lincroft* 1812 *EnclA*, 1834 O.S. From OE *līn* '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 2089/2/2/24, *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 *līn* 'flax', with OE *dūn*.

LYNE HILL 1 mile south of Penkridge (SJ 9212). *Lin-*, *Lynhull'* 1237 Cl, 1251 FF, 1308 Ass, *Loynhill* 1271 For, *Lynhul* 1327 SHC VII 242, *Lynhull'* 1332 SHC X (i) 119, *Lynehill (marche)* 1596 SHC 1932 203, ? *Lynell* 1661 Wolverhampton ParReg, *Linehill* 1686 Plot. 'The hill where the flax was grown', from OE *līn* 'flax'.

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 Lynne* 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). *Lynton'*, *Lenton* 1327 SHC VII (i) 234, *Lynton'* 1332 SHC X 84, *Lenton* 1332 *ibid.* 105, *Lyntus* 1834 O.S. Perhaps from OE *lind-tūn* 'lime-tree *tūn*', later *lind-hūs* '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 Lyoyne (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.) *Lyon Lodge* 1661 Biddulph ParReg, *Lyons Lodge* 1666 *ibid.*

LYSWAYS 4 miles north-west of Lichfield (SJ 0913). *Lisuis* 1167 Duig, *Lisewis* 1199 SHC III (i) 41, 1243 SHC 1911 402, *Liswis* 1242-3 Fees, *Lysewys* c.1250 SHC 1924 76, *Lesewys*, *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...'

LYTLEBIRI (unlocated, possibly in the Sandon area.) *Lutilbeire* 1206 SHC III (i) 36, *Lytlebury* 1279 SHC VI (i) 142, *Lytlebyri*, *Litelbyri* 1284 *ibid.* 133-4, *Lytlebiri* 1286 *ibid.* 161. The name would appear to mean 'the small fortification', from OE *lytel byrig*.

LYVERSEGGE (unlocated, in Walsall.) *Leverich* 1327 SHC VII 224, SHC 1928 179, *Levereshed* 1355 (1801) Shaw II 304, *Lyversegge* 1425 SHC XVII 101, *Lyveriche Field* 1554 SOT D260/M/T/1/1/22, *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 *Lēofrīc* or *Lēofhere*, with the second element variously OE *hrycg* 'a ridge, a long narrow hill', OE *hēafod* '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, *Maddeleye-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, *Maddeley 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, *Madeley Alfogh* 1377 SHC 4th Series VI 7, *Madleyholme 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 *holmr* '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, ½ 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)mære* 'boundary', perhaps with OE *dūn* 'hill', so 'the stream of the hill at the boundary', but OE *mægden* '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 mægidna 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 *wælle* '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, *Manyfold(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*)*māne* 'common', and *stīg* '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*)*māne* '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 *lēah*' (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). *æt Mærcham* 951

(14th century, S.557), *Mærchamtun* 1002x1004 (11th century, S.906; 11th century, S.1536), *Merchametone* 1086 DB, *Merkintona* 1179 SHC I 93, *Mercinton* Hy II Derby, *Mercington* 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 *tūn* of the Mærcham 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 *tūn* element was added later (but see Ashburton in Devon, which has OE *tūn* 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 Wodelands* 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, *mæran broc* 1008 AD (13th century, S.920), *Marbrouk* 1286 For, *Merebroke* 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 *gemære* 'boundary', with *brōc*, 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 *gemære* '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.*

271, *Le Mershe* 1316 SHC VIII (ii) 45, (*Castrum cum*) *Marisco* 1327 SHC VII 244, *Mersh* 1331 SHC 1913 27, *le Marshe* 1349 *ibid.* 46, *the Mershe* 1403 *ibid.* 46, *le Marshe juxta Stafford* 1462 Ct. From OE *mer(i)sc* 'marsh'. VCH V 88 describes the place as a vill which paid rent or custom to the manor of Stafford. A place called Marsh (*Mersche* 1332 SHC X 90) where brine comes out of the ground is recorded by Plot 1686: 97 at Ingestre, presumably the place shown as *Brin* to the north of Ingestre on Bowen's map of 1749, and another Marsh is recorded south-west of Pattingham, perhaps to be identified with Rushy Marsh. *Mershh* on the east side of Penkridge (where the famed Penkridge horse fairs were held by 1754: VCH V 129) is recorded in 1344 (SHC 4th Series XVIII 211), and as *the Marshe* in 1614 (Penkridge ParReg).

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, *Marshbarne* 1608 SHC 1948-9 41, *March Barnes* 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), *Mersetone* 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-tūn* 'tūn by a marsh'. *Mersetone* 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 Mærtin or Martin, so 'Martin's or Martin's *hlāw* or burial mound', or from ME *marten* 'a weasel, a marten', or possibly from OE *(ge)mārtūn* 'boundary tūn': 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 *lēah* or clearing'.

MAYFIELD Ancient Parish 2 miles south-west of Ashbourne (SK 1545). *Medevelde* 1086 DB, *Machelfeld*, *Malefeld* c.1150 SHC VII NS 128, *Matlefeld* 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, *Mathelefeld*, *Mathelefeld* 1275 SHC V (i) 118, *Mathelfeld* 1292 VI (i) 265, *Over Matherfeud* 1293 SHC 1911 47, *Maafelt*, *Maynfelt* ?13th century SHC VII NS 139-40, *Madderfeld* 1304 WL 37, *Malefield* 1307 SHC VII 181, *Mathelfeld* 1309 SHC 1911 73, *ovemastmathelfeld* 1324 *ibid.* 103, *Overmast Matherfeld* 1327 SHC 1912 253, *Matherfeld* 1327 SHC VII 201, *Quema Mathelfeld* 1329 SHC I 298, *Kirkematherfeld* 1386 SHC 4th IV 220, *Mathefeld*, *Mathfeild*, *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, *Maifield* 1656 Leek ParReg, *Mathfield* 1686 Plot 404, *V[pper] Mathfield*, *N[ether] Mathfield*, *Mathfield* 1695 Morden, *Upper Mayfield*, *Mayfield Cottage*, *Mayfield Hill*, *Middle Mayfield* 1836 O.S. It has been suggested that the name incorporates OE *mæddre* '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 *mæthel* '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 Mathelfield (i.e. Uppermost Mathelfield, 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 *hlāw* 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. *Maufeld Smeethe* (from OE *māþ* '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 ½ mile south-west of Tutbury (SK 2027), but the history of the name has not been traced.

MEADLEYS, THE in Patshull Park, 1 mile north-west of Pattingham (SJ 8100). *Meduleye* 1327 SHC VII 251, 1332 SHC X 130, *Medoley* 1401 (1801) Shaw II 282, *Medley* 1494 SHC XI 253, *Medleys* 1539 *ibid.* 280, *Medlies* 1740 Pattingham ParReg. Probably from OE *mād* 'meadow', with OE *lēah*. See also Shaw 1801: II 282.

MEAFORD (pronounced Meff-ford [mefəd]) 1½ miles north-west of Stone (SJ 8835). *Meford*, *Metford* 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)mȳþe* 'stream junction' - the Trent is joined by a tributary at this place - or from OE *mād* 'meadow', giving 'meadow-

ford'. 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.

MEASE, RIVER a tributary of the river Trent. *Meys* 1247, 1272 Ass, 1347 Pat, *Water of Mays* 1279 SHC VI (i) 99, *Mese* 1578 BCA MS3878/122, 1586 Harrison, *Messe* c.1600 Erdeswick. From OE *mēos* 'moss, bog, marsh'. See also Aqualate Mere.

MEDENALE, MEDALL GREEN (unlocated, in Compton near Kinver.) *Medenale, Medall Green* 1453 and 1562 VCH XX 139. Possibly from OE *mægden 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.

MEERBROOK 3 miles north of Leek (SJ 9860). *Merebroc* 1229x1232 CEC 385, 1294 Banco, 1330 Ch, *Merebroc(e)* 1327 SR (p), *Merebroke* 1338 Misc, *Marbrok(e)* 1577 Saxton, *Marbrouke* 1599 SHC 1935 99, *Marbrook(e)* 1604 ParSurv, *Merchbrook* 1755 Bowen, *Meerbrook* 1775 Yates. 'Boundary brook', from OE *(ge)māre* 'boundary'. The place is near a stream (*Meer Brook* c.1220: VCH VII 193) of the same name, which served as an ancient boundary.

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)māre* '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'.

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

MEESE, 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 ½ mile north-east of Ipstones (SK 0250). *Meg Croft* 1837 O.S., *Meg crofts* 1872 P.O., *Meggcrofts 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 *Meggscrofte*, 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)mære* '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 III 244.

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 III 223, *Maileshou* 1304 Ch, see also Shaw 1801: II 313. The name is said to incorporate the uncommon OE personal name Mula (or ON Muli), found in the field-names *le mowelesbruche* 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 *hōh* 'a heel, a spur of land'. This is likely to be the same place as *Midlestehoo*, recorded in 1313 (1801 Shaw II 58).

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

MERE FARM, MERE HALL 1½ miles north of Enville (SO 8289). *the Meyre* 1534 SHC 1912 73. From OE *(ge)mære* '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)mære* '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.) *Merhvale* 1326 SHC 1911 371. If the spelling is reliable, perhaps from OE *meargealla, mergelle*

'gentian' (cf. Malborough, Devon; Marlborough, Wiltshire), with French *vale* 'valley' (an element rare in Staffordshire), so 'the valley with the abundance of gentian'.

MERRIDALE 1 mile south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 9098). *Muriden* medieval Duig, *Merrydale* 1516 SRO D593/B/1/26/6/29/11, *Merridale* 1557 WA I 223, Wolverhampton ParReg, *Merydall* 1597 SHC 1935 8, *Merrydale* 1614 SHC IV NS 77, 1634 SRO D260/M/T/7/5, *Merredell* 1670 SHC 1923 56. Probably from OE *myrge* 'pleasant, sweet, delightful, agreeable', with OE *denu* 'valley', which has developed into *dale*. Cf. Meriden in Warwickshire. See also SHC VII 112; SHC 1916 167; SHC 1938 58-9.

MERRIL GROVE 3 miles west of Longnor (SK 0464). *Merilgre(a)ve* 1556 *Deed*, 1651 *Rental*, *Merril Grove* c.1870 *Rental*. From OE *(ge)mære*, *hyll* 'boundary hill', with OE *græfe* '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), *Murihul* 1327 SHC VII (i) 246, *Muryhull* 1332 SHC X 86, *Murihull* 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), *Murihull* 1340-1 SHC 1928 35, *Muryhulls* 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)mære*, *lone*, *hlāw*: 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). *Micklins* 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). *Mickelowes* 1539 MA, *the Micklows alias Michael House...alias Mickcloses* 1677 SRO D593/B/1/19/2/21/1, *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 *hlāw* 'hill, mound, tumulus', from some lost burial-mounds which stood here. There are a number of burial mounds recorded in this area.

MIDDLE CLIFF ½ 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 Cliff(e)* 1676 Leek ParReg. From OE *midlest* 'middlemost', with OE *clif* 'cliff, rock, steep descent, promotory', 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.

MIDDLESTON (obsolete, in Biddulph.) *Middleston* 1453 SHC XII 16, 1679 SHC XII 7. Chetwynd states in 1679 that Middleston 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 *tūn*': 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, *Midelton* 1375 SHC XIII 121, *Middleton Greene* 1607-8 SHC 1948-9 54. 'Middle *tūn*'.

MILES GREEN 1 mile south-east of Audley (SJ 8049). *Miles Grene* 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 3½ miles south-east of Stafford (SJ 9621). *Myfforde (fflate)*, *Milforde wichale* 1570 Survey, *Milford* 1759 SRO D1798/587, 1770 SRO D1368/3, *Millford* 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 *wīc halh*: one specialist meaning of *wīc* 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'.

MILLDALE 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 *dæl* 'valley'.

MILL DALE FARM ½ 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 **flēama* '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, *Milhous* 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 hūs* '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*.

MILLMEECE 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 Cl, *Mulnems (sic)* 1390 SHC XV 19, *Mylmes* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 104, *Mill Meece* 1833 O.S. From OE *mēos* '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, *Millton* 1749 Bowen. From OE *myl(e)n-tūn* 'mill tūn'.

MILWICH Ancient Parish (pronounced Mill-ich [mɪlɪtʃ]) 5 miles south-east of Stone (SJ 9732). *Melewich*, *Mvlewiche* 1086 DB, *Mulewich* 1166 SHC 1923 296, 1177 SHC XII NS 278, *Mulewyz*

c.1192 SHC VI (i) 12, *Millewyz* 1236 Fees, *Mulewis* 1242 Fees, *Moleswyke* 1286 SHC VI (i) 161, *Melewys* 1288 *ibid.* 174, *Meolewych* 1337 SHC 1913 63, *Mylwyche* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 59. From OE *myl(e)n* 'mill', with OE *wīc*. 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 *wīc* '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 *mynydd* '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 *Minno*), 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 Lyme. *the Mitham where the two river meet* 1689 Ward 1843: app. lxii, *the Mytham* 1739 SRO D593/B/1/14/10. From OE *(ge)mȳþe* (a derivative of *mūþa*) '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)mȳþe-tūn* 'the *tūn* 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, *Mixsne* 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 Motbrook* 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), *Mott (Meadow)* 1689 SRO DW1826/26, *Mott* 1733 SHC 1944 1, 1799 Faden, *Moathouse* 1890 O.S.; **MOAT HALL, MOAT HILL, MOAT LANE**

½ 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'.

MOBBERLEY 1 mile south of Cheadle (SK 0041). *Mobberley (brook)* 1668 SRO D1275/7/15, *Moberly* 1798 Yates, *Moberley* 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 *gemōt-beorg*, *lēah* '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 gothick 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. 'Mōdrēd'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/1/20/9-10: see also Withnall.

MODEN HILL at Cotwall End (SO 9193). *Mouldenhill* 1587 Sedgley ParReg, *Modenhill* 1658 *ibid*, *Modernhill* 1662 *ibid*, *Moden 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.

MODIESMOR (unlocated, possibly near Hanbury.) *Modiesmor* 1297 SHC 1911 254.

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 (S0 9199). *Mr. Molineux'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. *Monetville* 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 Monetville 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 *Monneville* 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 monete*') on the town, or in the case of some towns a tax *de moneta*, 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. *Monetville* 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 *mōnith*, 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 Burtone' may be Burton in Castle Church (see VCH IV 49 fn.13), which may have adjoined Monetvile. 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, *Moneton* 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 *Monetvile*, 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 *Monetvile* 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, *Mouncford* 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 *Mungesfordeseye* is recorded here in the 13th century (Dieulacres), the final element from OE *ēg* '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), *Monnemerre* c.1240 WA II 95, *Monnemere* 1291 Tax, *Monnemere* 1327 SHC VII (i) 249, *Monmerfeld* 1355, *Mounemere* 1385 SHC 1928 131, *Monmore* 16th century Duig, *Monmore Greene* 1707 SHC 1938 229; **MONMORE LANE** ½ mile north-east of Willenhall (SO 9798), *Monnemedewe* 14th century, *Monmerfeld* 1550 Duig, *Mumber Lane* 1834 O.S.; **MONWAY FIELDS** ½ 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, *Moore 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, *Morehall* 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*, *Moorehall* 1598 Ct, *the Morehall* 1616 Penkridge ParReg. From OE *mōr* 'the marshland', with *hall* added later. The moor may have been *ofer ðæne 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 *Mora*, recorded in 1261: SHC 1950-1 46.

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 *mōr*, 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. *Moorehall* 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 *mōr* 'a high tract of barren uncultivated land', and OE *land* 'a tract of land of large area'.

MOOR LEYS (FARM) on the south-east side of Gayton (SJ 9828). *Morlease* 1705 SCH 13 1973 22.

MOORS 1 mile north-east of Abbot's Bromley (SK 0925). *The Moors* 1665 SRO DW1778/V/1305. Self-explanatory.

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 DB, *Morton* 1284 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** 1½ miles south-east of Marchington (SK 1529), *Mortvne* 1086 DB, *Morton* 1244 SHC IV 102, 1610 SHC III NS 51. From OE *mōr-tūn* 'tūn 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. *Mortonbrok* 1395, 1467 Ct. 'The stream by Moreton (q.v.)'.

MORFE 1 mile north of Enville (SO 8288). *Moerheb*, *Moreb* 736 (8th century, S.89), *Morve* 1086 DB, *Morf* 1166 SHC 1923 298, *Morve* 1165 SHC I 42, *Morue* 1166 P, *Morf* 1166 SHC I 49, *Morf* 1235 SHC 1924 387, 1268 *ibid.* 140, 1271 SHC VI (i) 52, *Overmorffe*, *Nedermorff* 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 **mōr*, 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 **mārosamjo* or **mārosamjon* 'greatsummer-place'; which would give **mōrhev* 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/H/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:

453-4). 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 *Moref* (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.

MORFEVALLEY 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, *Morghale* c.1208 *ibid.* 89, *Mornhale* post-1268 *ibid.* 347, *Mogenhull* 1278 SHC 1911 35, *Morewhale* 1302 SHC 1939 91, *Morwale* 1303 *ibid.*, *Morghale* 1319 *ibid.* 93, *Morghale* 1344 SHC XII 35, *Mogghale* 1347 SHC 1939 120, *Morughale* 1348 SHC XII 15, *Morghwhale* 1309 SHC 1939 120, *Morghwhale* 1513 SHC XII 181, *Morfall otherwise Murfall otherwise Morghall* 1571 SHC XVII 218, *Moford* 1571 SHC IV NS 192, *Marfowle* 1588 SHC XVII 235, *Morehaughe otherwise Morghall* 1601 SHC XVI 208, *Morghall otherwise Morehall otherwise Morfall* 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 *mōr*, *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'.

MORREY 1 mile west of Yoxall (SK 1218). *Morrey* 1499 (1798) Shaw I 98, 1553 SHC XII 212, 1587 SHC 1929 195, *Murray* 1597 SHC 1935 11, *Morry* 1661 Barton under Needwood ParReg, *Murry* 1686 Plot, *Murrey* 1695 Morden, 1747 Bowen, *Morhay* 1798 Yates, *Morry Hills* 1801 Shaw II 7, *Morrey* 1834 O.S. An interesting name, almost certainly from OE *morgen-gifu* (cf. Modern *morrow*:

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)age* 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 *mōr* ‘moorland’ and OE *hrycg* ‘ridge’ or OE *ecg* ‘edge, the crest of a sharp ridge’. The varied spellings also reflect differing local pronunciations: 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.).

MORRILOW 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, *Warrilowe* c.1285 SHC 1911 436, *Warilowe* 1293 SHC VI (i) 239, 1305 SHC VIII (i) 153, 1341 SHC 1921 19, *Werrelow* 1302 SHC 1925 97, *Werrelowe* 1349 SHC XII 81, *Warelowe* 1475 SHC VI NS (i) 94, *Warrlowe* 1522 SHC 1925 121, *Wariloe* 1559 SHC 1926 138, *Warralowe* 1559 *ibid.* 139, *Warriloe* 1583 *ibid.* 53, *Warrylowe* 1611 SHC IV NS 13, *Morryley*, *Morrelowe* 1645 SRO D1367, *Morrilow* 1742 SRO D1380/1/9, *Moralow Heath* 1798 Yates, *Marrillow Heath* 1836 O.S., *Mariley Heath* 1837 TA. If the early spellings are to be identified with this place (*Worylowefeld* 1332 SRO D1229/1/4/12, *Warrylowefelde* 1413 SRO D1229/1/4/15, *Warrowlo Field* 1655 NA DD/4P/24/2, *Warrilow* 1672 SRO D615/D/149 was in Cheadle: SHC 1934 7), the derivation may be from OE *wearg-hlāw*, 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 *mēos*) ‘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, *Molesleye* 1255 SHC V (i) 113, *Moleston*, *Molesle* 1271 SHC V (i) 149, *Mollesley* 1286 *ibid.* 169, 1332 SHC X 126, *Molesleye*, *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*,

Mollesley 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, ½ 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** 1½ 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 *mēos* 'a bog, a swamp'. The first place, granted to the abbots of Oseney 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*, *Mosture* 1474-5 *ibid*, *Moscure* 1566 *Deed*, *Mosker* 1599 Alstonefield ParReg, *Mescorbroke* 1603 *ibid.*, *Moscarrbrooke* DRO D2375M/106/27, *Moscarr* 1614 DRO D2375M/57/1, *Moss Carr* 1775 Yates. Perhaps from ON *mosi* '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 *mēos* 'a bog, a swamp', so 'the boggy fields'.

MOSSHOUSE 2 miles north of Audley (SJ 8053). ? *Mos* 1327 SHC VII (i) 205, ? *Mosse* 1332 SHC 1332 SHC X (i) 101, *Mosshouse* 1605 SRO DW3222/4/4, *Moss House* 1833 O.S. From OE *mos* 'a bog, a swamp'.

MOSSLEE HALL 1½ miles north-west of Ipstones (SK 0050). *Moseliye* 1298 SHC XI NS 257, *Moysileg* 13th century Dieul, *Moseleg* (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, *mosse flatt* 1570 Survey, *the mosse* 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 *Motelowe*, 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 lynchets 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 *hlāw*), 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 I 309, (*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 *mottow* (evidently from *moiety*, 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 1½ 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, *Moushul* (p) c.1378 *ibid.* 39, *Moushall* 1663 SHC II (ii) 32, *Mousall* 1691 Guttery 1950: 47, *Mousehall Farm* 1834 O.S. From OE *mūs-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 *mūs, hyll* 'the mouse infested hill'. Cf. Humphrey Mowshill, 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, *Moxlowe* c.1364 SHC VIII NS 196, *Mockeslowe*, *Moxlowe*, *Mokkeslowe*, *Moxelowe* 14th century Duig, *Moxlowe* 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 *lēah*. It appears that a place called *Moxlowes* existed at Showell 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, *Mushalle*, *Mosehull* 1300 *ibid*, *Mugehale* c.1300 Mander & Tildesley 1960: 8, *Mucheale* 1332, *Muchale* 1409 SHC XI 110, *Michehale* 1430 SHC XVII 138, *Mucheale* (p) 1484 SHC 1928 51, *Mucheoll* 1486 *ibid*. 51, *Muchall* 1547 SHC 1950-1 41, *Mochall* 1553 *ibid*. 42, *Michole* 1587 Penn ParReg, *Mychole* 1619 *ibid*, *Mycholl* 1624 *ibid*, *Muchall* 1686 Plot, *Muckhall* 1775 Yates, *Muchall* 1798 Yates, *Mitchell* 1834 O.S. In ME *much* in its forms of *muchē*, *muchel*, *micel*, *mochel*, *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 *mūs halh* 'the *halh* infested with mice' (or possibly 'the hall infested with mice': *hall* 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, *Mokeliston* 1280 SHC VI (i) 104, *Mockeliston* 1306 SHC 1921 17, *Mukleston* 1332 SHC 112, *Mickleston*, *Mocleston* 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 *tūn*'. *le Stones*, recorded in 1332 (SHC X 101), may refer to this feature. Muckleston is shown as *Muxton* on the 1833 O.S. map. The parish of Muckleston 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, *Muckeley Heath*, *Muckley Heath* 1565 SHC 1926 91, *Muckley 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 *hlāw* 'tumulus': see Gelling 1988: 134. There is a slight possibility that the derivation may be 'Mucel's *hlāw*'. OE *hlāw* '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 Muckley Corner'. If the name does not in fact incorporate *hlāw* (and the evidence is far from certain) there is the intriguing possibility that the name contains OE *lēah* 'a clearing', but 'the great clearing' is improbable, so perhaps *lēah* 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, *Mukulholmm* 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'.

MUDGELEYE, MUGELEY (unlocated, in Alstonefield parish: SHC XI NS 257.) *Mudgeleye*, *Mugeley* 1308 SHC XI NS 257-8.

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 (*Mardevall* c.1215), and Mardol Road and Mardol Lane in Much Wenlock (*Mardeuole* 1321): see PN Sa III 260. In Shropshire since the 12th century.

MUSDEN GRANGE ½ mile north-west of Ilam (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 *mūs-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 *hlāw* 'burial mound', lies on the summit of the 1179' hill here.

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. NSJFS 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'.

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)mȳðe* '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 D786/25/2), 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.

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 Leek ParReg, *Nab End* 1842 O.S.; **NABBS 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 Nabb, 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 *Nah 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* (unlocated) 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 Nabbs 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). *Knawloe* 1669 Biddulph ParReg, *Knaloe* 1673 *ibid.*, *Nailor* 1842 O.S., *Knawlow* 1930 O.S. Perhaps from OE **cnearr*, ME *knar* 'a rugged rock', with OE *hlāw* '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.*, *Mapele Heath* 1808 Baugh, *Napeley Heath* 1811 *EnclA*. Perhaps 'heath at the *lēah* with the maples', but in Staffordshire OE *hlāw*, 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 1½ miles north of Alstonefield (SK 1257). *Narendale* c.1275 SHC V (i) 120, *Norwedale* 1277 SHC 1911 168, *Narewedale* 1293 FF, 1319 Ass, *Nar(u)dale* 1299 Banco, *Narwedale* 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 noone': 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 ½ mile north of Upper Hulme (SK 0161). *Knachurche* ?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 *cnēo* '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 *crŭc* 'mound, hill,

tumulus' - at an early period *ū* became *j̄*, 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.

NAYSE (unlocated, appurtenant to Beobridge according to Eyton 1854-60: III 85.) *Nesse, Nasse* 1274 Eyton 1854-60: III 85, *Nayse* 1316 *ibid.* 85, (*atte*) *Nays* 1327 SHC VII (i) 253, *Nayse* 1327 TSAS 3rd Series V 1905 244, *Nassh* 1333 Eyton 1854-60: III 85, *Naysshe* 1392 SHC XV 48, *Nayss* 1525 Sub. From OE *ness* 'a nose, a projecting ridge'. Cf. The Naze, Essex.

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, *Nechels, Echells otherwise Nechells, Nechells* 16th century Duig, *Nechilles* 1608 SHC III NS 23, *Neachalls* 1633 Wolverhampton ParReg, *Nechells* 1801 Shaw II 150 From OE **ēcels* 'an addition, land added to an estate', from OE *ēaca* '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 *nīed* '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.

NETHER GRANGE or NETHER HULME 2½ miles north-east of Leek (SJ 9960). *Nether Hulm(e)* 1240 Deed (1883) Sleight, 1284 Inq aqd, *Nether(e)holm(e)* 1284 Ipm, 1284 Ipm. For *Hulme* see Hulme. The first word is from OE *neodera* (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 *neðri*) 'lower', with ON *holmr* '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 NSJFS 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 NSJFS 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 *tūn*'. 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). *Nethertoun*, *Netherton* 1100x1135 (1798) Shaw I 153, *Neptertoun*, *Neperetoun* ? 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 *tūn*'. It has been suggested that *Ridvare* (DB) refers to this place: VCH IV 47. Shaw 1798: I 151 suggests that *Walter's Ridvare* (n.d.) may be Nethertown, the name taken from the holder at the time of DB.

NETLOWS, THE (unlocated, in Mayfield or Swinscoe). *Netlow* 1801 Okeover E391, *The Netlows* 1838 Okeover T123. Possibly associated with *Nettlehale*, recorded *temp.* Edward I (Okeover T49), *Netlehale temp.* late Henry III (*ibid.* T41), *Nettilhale* 1490 (*ibid.* T278).

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 *þrop*, ON *þorp*, meaning in the Danelaw 'secondary settlement, an outlying farmstead or small hamlet dependant on a larger place', with ME *nēwe* '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), *Neubotlea* 1175 SHC I 71, *Newbolt* c.1220 SHC 1914 68, *Neubaude* 1236 Fees, *Neubold* 1288 SHC VI (i) 176, *Newbolt juxta Chebbeseye* 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

nīwe '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 *nīwe* 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 Newbold*, *Newboldesbruche*, *le Neubolt*, *Newboldes alias Bayliestyles* 14th century Duig, *Neubold* 1355 SHC 1913 158, *Newbolt* 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 *nīwe* 'new', with OE *bold* 'house, dwelling-place'. See also Newbold.

NEWBOROUGH 7 miles south-east of Uttoxeter (SK 1325). *Edgareslege* 1086 DB, later *Agardsley*. *Neuboreg* 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 *nīwe* '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)newebrugge* 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 ½ mile west of Newton (SK 0326). *Neubyggyng* 1417 SHC XVII 61, *Le Newbygginge* 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 Newbyggyng* is recorded in Burton upon Trent in 1465 (SHC 1939 128), and as *Newbyggyng 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). *Nouū Oppidū 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 subtus 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 II 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 Clyf juxta novum castrum subtus Limam* 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, *(le) 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.

NEWHALL FARM 1 mile south-west of Newborough (SK 1224). ? *Novahall* c.1155 SHC 1937 13, ? *Nova Aula* 1280 *ibid.* 80, ? *Neuhall* 1337 SHC 1913 59. Self-explanatory.

NEWHAY 2 miles north-east of Cheadle (SK 0444), *the Neweheye* 1316 VCH III 227, *Hay Wood* 1836 O.S.; **NEW HAY** (unlocated, near Gentleshaw) Cannock, *(le) New(e)hey, Neuhey, Neuhay(e)* 1348 Anglesey Ch, 1348 SHC 1939 77, 1360 (p) Ipm, 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 *nīwe*, *(ge)heg* '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, *Newlande* 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.

NEW LIBERTY (unlocated, perhaps near Tutbury: SHC 1912 222.) *New Liberty* n.d. SHC 1912 222.

NEWPLACE (unlocated) *Newplace* 1419 SHC XVII 67.

NEW POOL on west side of Biddulph (SJ 8756). *Newpoole*, *New Poole* 1655 Biddulph ParReg, *New Pool* 1749 Bowen. Presumably to distinguish it from *Pool* (unlocated), mentioned in the Buddulph ParReg from 1598. Bowen's map of 1749 shows New Pool as 'The head of the river Trent'.

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, ½ 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, *Neuton* 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, *Nowton* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 118, *Newton* 1752 Rocque. 'The new *tūn*'. Newton near Worfield has been in Shropshire since the 12th century.

NEWTOWN 2 miles south of Great Wyrley (SJ 9904), *Newtown* 1834 O.S.; NEWTOWN 2 miles south-west of Longnor (SK 0663), *Newtown* 1775 Yates, 1840 O.S. Self-explanatory. Newtown near Longnor dates from c.1754: VCH VII 28.

NEW YORK ½ 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 II 267. 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 ½ mile east of Flash (SK 0366). *le Neelde* 1455 DRO D2375M/1/1, *Michael Nyelde's croft* 1566 *Deed*, *Neeldeie* 1582 SHC XV 140, *Neild* 1599 Alstonefield ParReg, *the Neilde Eie* 1599 *ibid*, *Neilde Eye* 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 *ēg* '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.

NOBUT 1 mile east of Church Leigh (SK 0435). ? *Nabbalt* 1332 SHC X (i) 100, ? *Noby* 1327 SHC VII 200, *Nobett* 1590 SHC XVI 99, ? *Nobert* 1593 SHC 1930 371, *Nobott* 1596 SHC XVI 38, *Nobolt* 1605 SHC 1940 280, *Nobould* 1608 SHC 1948-9 54, *Nobot* 1608 *ibid.* 74, *Nobald* c.1619 SHC VII NS 208, *Nobbot* 1680 SHC 1919 269, *Nobut* 1711 Kingsley ParReg. Perhaps OE *nīwe* 'new', with OE *bold* 'a dwelling, a house', often found paired together. Cf. The Newbolds.

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 δde* (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 Park* 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 II 171) mentions a tumulus or butt in Noddy Park, Aldridge, and a Noddy Park near Daw End in Rushall.

NOONSUN COMMON ½ 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.

NOOSE (LANE) in Willenhall (SK 9498). *le Nous* c.1272 (1801) Shaw II 150, late 13th century WA II 89, *the Nose* 1514 SRO D593/B/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). *Nortberie* 1086 DB, *Nordbiri* 1198 P, *Northbyri* 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, *Norehill* 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). *Normanescote* 1086 DB, *Normantona*, *Normacot* 1177 SHC XII NS 279, *Northmannescot* 1227 Ch, *Normancote* 1242 Duig, 1414 SHC XVII 13, *Normaunte*, *Normauncote* 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, *Noremonnis welle* mid-13th century SRO D948/3/2. 'Norman's (or the Northman's) spring', from Mercian OE *wælle*.

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 Crakemarth/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** ½ mile north-east of Ellastone (SK 1243), *Norwude* 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, *Northincote* 1255, *Norkote* 1286 SHC V (i) 169, *Northcote* 1293 SHC 1911 231, *Nordicote* 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 *Norðtune*, 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). ? *æt Nortōtune* 951 (14th century, S.554), *Nortone* 1086 DB, *Norton* 1166 SHC 1923 195, *Norton-super-le-Canok* 1289 SHC VI (i) 183, *Norton Juxta Canke* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 175, *Norton Kains*, *Norton Kaynes* 1566 SHC 1931 230, *Norton Caynes otherwise Norton Coynes otherwise Norton-on-Canuch* 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 Gaynes meadow* is recorded in 1693 (SRO D1317/1/10/1/2-3); *Gains 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 Nortune is a party c.1300: SRO D1790/A/10/2. Arnold de Kanes is recorded elsewhere c.1207 (SHC 1937 27), and John de Kane c.1260 (SHC 1924 153), and the surname Caaines, Cahaignes, Cahaingn', Cahainn' 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 ½ mile south of Cold Norton (SJ 8830). *Norton Farme* 1661 Swinnerton ParReg. The name is from Cold Norton (q.v.).

NORTON IN THE MOORS 2 miles north-east of Burslem (SJ 8951), *Nortone* 1086 DB, *Norton subtus Keversmunt* 1218 SHC XII NS 219, *Norton under Kevremunt* 1227 SHC XI NS 240, 1239 SHC IV 90, *Norton-en-le-Hiles* c.1230 SHC 1911 445, *Northon* 1261 SHC 1924 138, *Northmores* 1279

SHC VI (i) 95, *Norton Super le Mores* 1285 FA, *Norton under Kevermunt* 1288 SHC VI (i) 175, *Norton super moras subtus Kervermund* 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 *tūn* north of another', in the first case with OE *mōr* '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*, *Coldenorthton*, *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 *tūn*'. See also Chebsey.

NOTHILL (FARM) 2½ miles north-west of Uttoxeter (SK 0737). *Knotel* 1764 Croxden ParReg, *the Notel* 1770 *ibid*, *the knotale* 1772 *ibid*, *Nothill* 1836 O.S. Perhaps from ON *knotttr*, OE *cnotta* 'a hard mass', used topographically 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.

NUN FIELDS (obsolete) on the north side of Rudge Heath (SO 7997). *the Nuan feild* 1716 SRRC 2161/107, *Nun Fields* 1751 SRO D564/3/4/6, *Nunfields* 1765 SRRC 2161/109, *Nuns Fields* 1840 TA, *Nun Fields* 1857 SRRC 1190/86/84. Land in this area was held by the nuns of Blackladies priory near Brewood: SHC 1939 182-94. *Nun Brook* flows south from Patshull Great Pool: WJ October 1908 267. Cf. *Nonne Bridge* on Rudge Heath recorded in 1662: SRRC 2028/1/5/17.

NURTON 1 mile east of Pattingham (SO 8399). *Uverton* 1280 SHC VI (i) 106, *Noverton* 1312 VCH XX 173, 1391 SHC XV 36, *Norton* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 186, c.1560 SHC 1938 115, *Nurton* 1586 SHC 1927 160, 1686 Plot 384, *Nerton* 1695 Morden. Possibly from OE *ofertūn* 'ridge-town', with *atten ofertūn* 'at the ridge-town', developing via the not unusual mis-division *atte nofertūn* to become Nurton.

NUTBOROUGH (unlocated, in Chesterton near Newcastle.) *Noteburgh* c.1391 SRO D641/1/2/35, *Noteburgh* 1427 Cl 1422-9 318, *Nutburh* 1433 SRO D641/1/2/53, *Noteburgh* c.1445 Ipm, *Nutborough* 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 *Nutiwude*, recorded in 1206 (SHC III 136). Self-explanatory.

OAK, THE (obsolete) on the east side of Sandwell (? SO 0289). *ye Oke in ye pish of West Bromwich* 1654 Roper 1980: 97, *The Oak* 1768 Ellis map, 1749 Bowen.

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, *Oackamore* 1680 *ibid.*, *Oakeymoore* 1686 Plot, *Oakway Moor* 1693 SHC 1947 56, *Oakemoor* 1798 Yates. The early forms show that the original meaning was 'the moor with the spring at the oak', incorporating Mercian OE *wælle* 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream', which has survived only as an intermediate *-a-*. Another Oakmoor (*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, *Oce*, *Ake*, *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 *ācen*, a derivative adjective of OE *āc* 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 *ā-*, and the name would seem to be from OE *ācum*, dative plural of *āc*, 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). *Oconclough* 1419-21 DRO D2375M/1/1, *Oconcloughe* 1556 Rental, *Okenclough* 1568 DRO D2375M/55/2, *Okenclough(e)* 1599 ParReg, *Okenclough* 1655 DRO D2375M/58/3, *Oakenclough* 1794 Stockdale. From OE *ācen*, *clōh* 'oaks ravine'. A stream here runs through a deep oak-lined ravine. Cf Oaken Clough in Hayfield, Derbyshire. See also Clough.

OAKENCLOUGH BROOK a tributary of the river Manifold. *Oakenclough Brook* 1794 Stockdale. From OE *ācen*, *clōh* 'oaken ravine': the stream runs through a deep tree-lined ravine.

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 *wælle* '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 1 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 *hocc-hām* 'hām 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), (*æt*) *Acclea* 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, *Okeley* 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, *Ocleye* 1327 SHC VII (i) 215, 1334 SHC XI 184, *Oakelyne* 1666 SHC 1921 131. From OE *āc*, *lēah* '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 *ōde* '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). *Hocherhill* 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., *Oddo 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 Oðinn, 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 Onn. *Odyn's Fee* in Penmark, Dinas Powys, 'would appear to be the personal name Odin, Odyn, from a diminutive form Odinel, of an original Odo, Otho (Otto), OGer. Audio...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). *Offeleia* 1086 DB, *Offley Cyprian* 1203 SHC 1914 81, *Offileia* c.1233 Rees 1997: 82, *Offileg' Ciprian* 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). *Offelie* 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.

OFFLEYGROVE FARM ½ mile south of Adbaston (SJ 7627). *Hill otherwise Hyllhowse* 1582 SHC XVII 227, *The Hill* 1679 SHC 1919 235, *Hill House* 1749 Bowen, *Hill Hall* 1833 O.S. Formerly 'the house on the hill': the place lies on a 311' hill.

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. *Offelau*, *Offelaw* 1086 DB, *Offelawehundredum* 1182, 1185 P, *Offelaw'* 1189 Fees, *Offelaue* 1203, *Offelawe* 1227 Ass, *Offloue* 1255 RH, *Offelowe* 1272 Ass, 1327 SR, 1330 Cl, 1402 FA, *Uffelowe* 1307 Ass. 'Offa's mound or tumulus', from OE *hlaw* '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 Nethertown 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), *Hocintvne* 1086 DB, *Hogeley* 12th century Duig, *Hoggel'* 1256 SHC 1911 127, *Oggele* 1271 SHC V (i) 154, *Oggeleye* 1300, *Oggeley* 1431 Duig, *Hogley (Lodge)* 1775 Yates. Probably from an OE personal name Hocca, Occa, Ocga or Ogga, with the later terminal *lēah* replacing the earlier *tūn*. Formerly one of the Hays or Bailiwicks of Cannock Forest.

OILS HEATH 1 mile north of Butterson (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 *āc-mere* '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, *Hachoure* 1150x1159 SRO D603/A/Add/21, *Akoura* 1188x97 SHC 1937 20, *Acovera* 1197x1213 *ibid.* 28, *Hocovre* 1241 SHC VII NS 16, *Acovre* 1257 SHC XII NS 274, *Acorve* 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 *āc* '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 *māþ* '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.

OLDBURY (obsolete) 1 mile north-west of Claverley (SO 7893). *Woldebery*, *Oldbure*, *Woldbere* (p) 1524 SRS 3 32,39,99, *Oldbury* 1697 Claverley ParReg, 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 (Hackwood 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 JNSFC LIX 1924-5 49, *Oulekot* c.1360 *ibid.* 55, *Oldcoote* 1567 SHC 1938 131, *Olcott* c.1575 SHC 1912 204, *Olcot* 1637 Wolstanton ParReg, *Oldcott* 1650 SRO D1229/1/3/26, *Ouldcott* 1679 SHC XII NS 34, *Oldcott* 1679 *ibid.* 36, *Oldcote* 1836 O.S. Perhaps 'owl cottage', from OE *ūle cote*, but that would leave the later -d- unexplained, unless from a supposed 'old cot'.

OLDEFORDE - see HALFCOT.

OLDENHILL FARM (unlocated) in Clent. *Hodenhull* 1237 Ipm. 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.

OLDERSHAWS 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, *Stichesleia* 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 FALLINGS 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, *Oldefallyngh* 1342 SHC 1913 93, *Oldefallynges* 1350 SHC 1928 78. Probably from Mercian OE *fælling* 'a felling of trees, a clearing', or from Mercian OE *fælgung* '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 Hagg* 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 pallisaded 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.

OLDRIDGE 1½ 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 1½ miles south of Alington (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 ½ 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 Alstonefield/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.

OLRENSCHAW (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 Aldershaw (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 *tūn* 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, Otynggh* 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 [ʌnkat]) 5 miles east of Leek (SK 0455), *Anecote* 1199 FF, *Anecot* 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, *Onecoat* 1298 SHC XI NS 257, *Onyecot* 1306 SHC VII 171, *Ounecote* 1325 SHC 1911 366, *Uncote* 1413 SHC XVII 7, *Oncte* 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), *Onecote* 1381 SHC XIII 166, *Uncote* 1596 SHC XVI 159, *Oncott Hall* c.1727 D615/M/4/15, *Oncote* 1836 O.S., *Oncote (Coppice)* 1995 O.S. From OE *ān* '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 Whitle (Upper and Under) (q.v.). See also Coudry.

ONECOTE GRANGE on north-west side of Onecote (SK 0455). *Anecote grange* 1227 Harl, *Onecote Grange* 1539 CtAugm, 1837 O.S., *Oncott Grange* 1657 PCC. 'The grange at Onecote'. The grange belonged to Croxden abbey: VCH VII 213.

ONNELEY 1½ miles north-east of Woore (SJ 7543). *Anelege* 1086 DB (Shropshire), *Oneleia* 1185 TpR, *Onilegh* 1211 Cur, *Onileg* 1212 SHC III 153, *Onyleye* 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 *lēah*', or (since the spellings have only one *n*) from OE *āna lēah* 'the single or lonely *lēah*'. Cf. Onecote; Olney, Northamptonshire.

ONN, HIGH & LITTLE in Church Eaton parish, 6 and 7 miles south-east of Newport (SJ 8216 & 8416). *Othnam* 1081 SHC 1914 104, *Otne* (High Onn), *Anne* (Little Onn) 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, *Hyonne* 1430 SHC XVII 127, *Great Own* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 96, *Hyghon* 1577 Plot, *Alta Onne otherwise Highe Onne* 1592 SHC XVI 131. From the plural MWelsh *odyneu*, 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 *oden* 'lime-kiln'. The second element of the 1343 form is from OE *edisc* '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, *Erburtun*, *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 *Ordbriht* or similar, with OE *tūn*.

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). *Ordgrave* 1195 f. P, *Orgrave* 1203 SHC III 104, *Oregrave* 1260 SHC X NS (i) 276, *Oregraue* 1269 SHC 1910 129, *Ordgrave*, *Ordegrave* 13th century Duig. The second element is held by Ekwall 1960: 350 to be OE *grāfe* 'grove', with an uncertain first element. *Grāfe* 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 *ōra 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, *Orsolooue* 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 *hlāw* '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, *Ouerton* 1388 SRRC 2089/2/2/8, *Monte de Huverton* 1391 SHC XV 36, *Overton otherwise Orton* 1597 SHC XVI 163. Probably from OE *uferra-tūn* 'ridge settlement' (Orton Hill reaches a height of 535'), though it is not possible to distinguish OE *ofer tūn* 'ridge settlement' and OE *uferra tūn* '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). *Ossomshill* 1836 O.S. Early forms have not been traced, but if ancient possibly from the OE personal name Ōsmund, 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.

OTHIERTON 1 mile south of Penkridge (SJ 9212). *Orretone* 1086 DB, *Oderton* 1166 SHC 1923 295, *Otherton* 1242 Fees, ? *Oderstone* 1421 SHC XVII 77. The forms suggest a derivation from OE *ōðer* 'other', giving 'the other, or second, *tūn*' (cf. Othery, Somerset).

OTTIWELL (unlocated, said to be between Audley and Heighley Castle: introduction to printed Betley ParReg). *Ottiwell* 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), *Oldyngton* 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 Oldyngton*, *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 *tūn* of the family or followers of a man called Alda', rather than *ald tūn* 'the old *tūn*'. 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 *tūn*', 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 **otn*. *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; Onn.

OUNSDALE on north side of Wombourne (SO 8693). The name would appear to derive from one of the open fields of Wombourn, *Holendenesfelde* c.1314 SHC 1928 22, *Holundenesfeld* 1316 *ibid.* 26, *Holendenefeld* 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 *wāse* 'a muddy place, a marsh, a mire'.

OUSLEY BROOK a tributary of the Rangemoor Brook which runs into the river Dove. Possibly from OE *wāse* 'a muddy place, a marsh', with OE *lēah*. 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). *Oseley 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 *wāse* 'a muddy place, a marsh', with OE *lēah*, 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 *ūt*, *ūte* 'outside, on the outskirts', used to describe '(a place) lying on the outskirts or futher away from something', but usually as an affix with an adjectival function meaning 'outer, more distant', with OE **clōh*, ME *clough* 'asteepest 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 2½ miles east of Newport (SJ 7818), *Outwoods* 1666 SRO DW1736/iv/1, *the Outwood(s)* 1674 Gnosall ParReg, *Outwoods Common* 1797 *EnclA*, *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 *ūt*, *ūte* 'outside, on the outskirts', used to describe '(a place) lying on the outskirts or futher 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 tūn* 'ridge settlement' or OE *uferra tūn* 'higher settlement' - it is not possible to distinguish the two.

OXBURY on south side of Lichfield (SK 1208), *Oxenbury* 1391, 1444 SHC VI (ii) 187. See Borrowcop Hill.

OXENFORD (obsolete, said to be the old name of Chapel Ash Farm, Wolverhampton (SO 9098): WA I 128.) *Oxenevord* c.1270 WA I 278, *Oxford* 1286 *ibid.* 279, *Oxneford* 1321 *ibid.* 1327 SHC VII (i) 249, *Oxneford* 1337 *ibid.* *Oxenefordesbruche* 1338 *ibid.* *Oxenford Burch* 1342 *ibid.* *Newbridge* [sic] 1701 *ibid.* 281. 'The ford of the oxen'. *Burch*, *-bruche*, and *-bridge* are from OE *brēce* 'cleared or newly cultivated ground'. By metathesis, or shifting of the *r*, the words become *burche* and later *birch*. See also WA I 278-281; Mander & Tildesley 1960: 31; 42.

OXFORD 1½ 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 *Oxunford*, 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'.

OXLEY in Bushbury parish, 1½ miles north of Wolverhampton (SJ 9002). *Oxlie* 1086 DB, *Oxlea* 1228 SHC IV 62, *Oxeleg* 1236 Fees, *Oxele* 1242 Fees, 1271 SHC V (i) 154, 1279 SHC 1911 175, *Oxleg* 1262 SHC V (i) 137, *Oxeley* 13th century Duig, *Ox Ley* 1775 Yates. From OE *oxa* 'ox', and OE *lēah*.

PACKINGTON in Weeford parish, 3 miles north-west of Tamworth (SK 1606). *Padintone*, *Pagintone* 1086 DB, *Pakinton*, *Pachinton* 1166 SHC 1923 295, *Pakintona* 1177 SHC XII NS 278, *Pakinton* 1242 Fees, *Packington* 1296 (1801) Shaw II 26, *Packyn-ton* 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 *tūn*' or 'the *tūn* 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 *wælle* 'spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream', so 'toad spring'. Perhaps to be associated with Padbury (q.v.).

PADWICK ½ 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 *wīc* notable 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 SHC X (i) 111, *Paynolow* 1341 SHC 1921 19, *Painley* 1562 SHC IX NS 213, *Painley Hill* 1596 SHC XVI 152, *Paynley-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 *hlāw* '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 *Pægnalæch*): cf. Paignton, Dorset, or from Pain, a French personal name, identical with OFr *paien* 'heathen' (from Latin *paganus*), originally 'villager, rustic', later 'heathen'. If from a personal name, that same name may be found in Paynsley (q.v.).

PALFREY GREEN 1 mile south-east of Walsall (SO 0197). *Palfrey Green* 1386 VCH XVII 157, *Palfry-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, *Palfraye Green* 16th century, *Palfrey Green* 17th century Duig. From ME (from OFr) *palfrey* '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 DW1702/1/25), and in Audley (*the Paradize* 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 ½ 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.

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 *pæp ford* '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.).

PATSHULL Ancient Parish 9 miles north-west of Wolverhampton (SJ 8800). *Pecleshella* 1086 DB, *Pecdeshull* 1166 SHC I 166, *Patleshull*, *Patneshull* 1201 SHC III 70, *Pateshell* 1201 *ibid.* 75, *Panteshull* 1227 SHC IV 49, *Patleshul* 1242 Fees, *Patushul*, *Pattushul* c.1250 SHC VI NS (ii) 49, *Petleshull* 1256 SHC I 167, *Patleshull* 1255 *ibid.*, *Patelshulle* 1276 SHC 1911 31, *Patteleshull* 1306 SHC VII 177, *Patleshull* 1373 SHC XIV 373, *Patteshille* 1427 SHC XVII 118, *Patsyll* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 186, *Petesey* c.1540 Leland ii 170, *Patsell* c.1565 SHC 1938 165, *Patsyll* 1589 SHC 1929 313, *Pattes hill* 1607 Kip, *Patteshill* 1610 Speed. '*Pættel's hill': the earliest two spellings probably show typical scribal confusion or misreading of the original *-t-* (but note undisclosed reservations about this attribution in Gelling & Cole 2000: 193). The person named Pættel was perhaps related to the individual named P(e)atta from whom nearby Pattingham takes its name, since parents very frequently chose alliterative names for their children, and *Pættel is an *l-* derivative of P(e)atta: PN W 158. The name *Pættel is probably found in Petteridge, Kent; Paddlesworth near Dover, and Paddlesworth near Snodland (both Kent): Ekwall 1960: 356.

PATTINGHAM Ancient Parish 6 miles west of Wolverhampton (SO 8299). *Patinghā* 1086 DB, *Pattingeham* 1157 SHC I 25, *Patingeham* 1169 P, *Pattingcham* 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, *Patteingeham* 1574 SRO 2089/2/2/57, *Pattengem* 1762 Trysull ParReg. 'The *hām* 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 '-indge-' 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 1½ miles south of Draycott in the Moors (SJ 9838). *Lyfamesleg* 1086 (DB, formerly identified as Checkley: VCH IV 41), *Payneslegh* 1348 SHC 1925 107, *Paynesley* 1413 SHC XVII 9,

Peynesley 1529 SHC 1912 31, *Painsle* 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*.

PEACOCK'S WOOD 1 mile south-east of Kingstone (SK 0728). ? *Pecokesholme* 1402 SHC XI NS 215, *Peacocus Wood* 1724 Survey. Perhaps from Jn. Pekoc (*Jno. of Cannock, called Peacock* in 1360: SRO DW1721/3/19/21), vicar of Abbot's Bromley in 1351 (SRO DW1731/3/2/11/12).

PEAK DISTRICT the rugged high ground of north-west Derbyshire and northern Staffordshire. *Pecsætna 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 *dæl* '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, *Peykestonys* 1541 StEnc 447, *Peakstones* 1604 SHC 1940 194, *Pixton otherwise Peakestones* 1612 SHC IV NS 23, *Peackstones* 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). ? *Percehaie* 1207 SHC III 140, ? *Percehay* 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 *wælle* 'a spring,' and (sometimes) 'a stream'.

PEASLEY BANK a 541' hill 2 miles south of Stone (SJ 9029). *Pessehul* c.1210 SHC VIII (i) 200, ? *Peasall* 1542 SHC 1939 114, *Peasley Bank* 1836 O.S. Perhaps from OE *pise*, *piosu*, *peosu* 'pea', with OE *hyll*, later changing to *lēah*. Cf. Peasemore, Berkshire. See also Pershall; Pirehill. *Hundred-acres* which lies on the west side of Peasley Bank is to be associated with the site of Pirehill Hundred meeting place, and may be evidence that the assemblies took place on Peasley Bank.

PEATMOORS, THE (obsolete) a marsh of some 600 acres in Shenstone: Shaw 1801: II 1801 40-1. *The Peatmoors*, *The Peat-more*, *The Peatmore* 1801 Shaw II 40-1, 50.

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 **pēac* '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 *lēah*', 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 *pēl(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 *wælle*, meaning 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream'. A spring of water in a deep cavity is recorded here: SHC 1945-6 258. *Pill 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 *pill* 'a willow', with the second word meaning the same, indicating that *pill* 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, *Peoleshale* 1339 SHC 1913 74, *Pellsall* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 144. 'Pēol'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 Pendraed, Pendweald, and Pendwulf - include Penley (Flintshire), Pinbury (Gloucestershire), Peddimore (Warwickshire), and Pinvin and a lost *Pendiford* in

King's Norton (Worcesterhire). 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 *Penfordelie* (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*, *Pendelstanys mulnne* 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.

PENECFORD (unlocated, in Timmor.) *Penecford* (n.d.) Shaw I 375. A curious name, possibly from OE *pennuc*, ME *penok*, *pinnok* 'a small pen', found chiefly in field-names in the west of England from the 13th century: EPNE ii 62.

PEN FARM on a 1227' hill 1 mile south of Butterson (SK 0755), *The Pen* 1836 O.S., *Pen* 1851 White; **PEN FIELDS** 1 mile south-east of Keele (SJ 8043), *Pennfield* 1378 HOK 17, *Pennefild* 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: xlvi; 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 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, *Penchul* c.1249 SHC 1911 145, *Penkel* 1292 *ibid.* 242, *Penkhill* 1300 SHC 1911 57, *Pencle* 1607 Kip, *Penkhull* 1686 Plot. The earliest form is from British *Pencēt* '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 *Pencēt* 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, *Pencrich* 1156, *Peinc(h)riz* 1158 P, *Penkerich(e)* 1360 to 1545 FF, *Penkerage* 1449 Banco, *Pankryd* 1564 Mercator, *Penkrige 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 *crūco* (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. *Penkrich 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* 1176 P, *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 ½ mile east of Stafford (SJ 9323), *Crossapenyces croft* 1546 VCH VI 185, *Pennycrofts* 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. *Pennycroft Well* (from OE *wælle* '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 *pennuc* 'a small pen', with Mercian OE *wælle* 'a spring', so 'the leys or meadows at the small pens by the spring'.

PENSNETT 2 miles south-west of Dudley (SO 9188). *Pennak* 1272 Guttery 1950: 8, *Pensnet* 1244 Cl, *Peninak* 1247 FF, *Pennak*, *Pennaly* 1273 SHC 1911 157, *Penniak* 1273 SHC IX (ii) 26, *Pennyoke* 1292 Guttery 1950: 9, *Penynak* 1292 SHC 1911 209, *Peniuak* 1292 *ibid.* 211, *Pennyoke* 1292 SHC IX 39, *Penyuak*, *Peniuak* 1292 SHC 1911 210-1, *Pensned* 1322 *ibid.* 351, *Pensnede* 1322 *ibid.* 353,

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 *snæd* '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)': Penn 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: *Pensnæd* 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 *āc* '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 Chase* 1633 *ibid.* 20, *Pensnet chase* 1686 Plot 1686: 98, *Pinsnett Chase* 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 Thorneycroft 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 *pipere* 'a piper', which seems unlikely here. It is not likely that the name incorporates the OE personal name Pypba or Pyppa, (Pypba 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, *Peri*, *Perii* 1199 SHC III (i) 55, *Pirihe* 1236 Fees, *Pirie* 1242 Fees, *Pyrie* frequently 13th century Duig, *Pyrryber*, *Pyrrybar* 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 2004). *Pyrycroft* 1233 SHC XII 23, *Perrycroft* 1548 SRO D641/1/2/288, *Perriecrofts or the Large-perri-crofts*, *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, *Persbutt* 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, *Pershhouse hall* 1601 *ibid*, *Persehall-hall* 1801 Shaw II 222, *Pershhouse* 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 Helyæ* 1167 SHC I 48, 158, ? *Pereshulla* 1188 *ibid*. 137, ? *Pessehal* 1203 SHC III 86, *Pesehale* 1205 *ibid*. 135, *Peshale* c.1233 Rees 1997: 82, ? *Pesale*, *Pesenhale* 1269 SHC IV 173, *Pyshale* 1272 SHC III 18, *Pesehall* 1280 SHC VI (i) 121, *Pessahull* 1284 SHC I 158, *Pessall* 1297 SRO DW1734/J2268, *Peshale* 1342 SHC XI 153, *Peeshale* 1374 SHC XIII 111, *Pershale* 1414 SHC XVII 20, *Peysall* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 102, 1560 SHC IX 114, *Pershall* 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). *Pesecroft*, 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* 1242 Fees, *Porton* 1250 Fees, *Pirton* 1606 CKS U269/T144, *Purton* 1686 Plot 168. From OE *peru* 'a pear', so *peru tūn*, 'pear-tree tūn', perhaps meaning here 'pear-orchard' (cf. OE *æppel-tūn* '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: II 199. 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): TSSAHS 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.

PESSALL 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 VE, *Pethills* 1251 VCH VII 212, *Puthullis* c.1251 VCH III 226, ? *Pitlesle* 1272 SHC IV (i) 193, *Puttelles* 1540 VCH III 226, *Pytylls* 1540 AOMB, *Pettell* 1560 Pat, *Pethilles* 1570 SHC XIII 279, *Petchulls*, *Petchuls*, *Petehulles alias Petehuls milne holme*, *Pittefeild* 1571 SHC 1931 126-7, *Pethilles* 1608 SHC 1948-9 26, *Pethills* 1636 Leek ParReg, *Petthills* 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(i)-* 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 *pytt* 'pit, hollow', hence 'the hills with the hollows': *Ironpits* (*Iron Pits* 1836 O.S., perhaps to be identified with *Petchuls mylne hoomes* '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 where peat was dug', is improbable, since the usual spelling for peat was *peat(e)* or *pete* (cf. the field-names *Peatefeild* 1626, *Peatefeelde* 1651, Hollinsclough; *le Petehiles* 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 *þær fulan broc scyt on Trentan* 956 (11th century, S.602: see Hooke 1983: 85-9). The derivation is from OE *fūl* '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 *pīc-mere* '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 *pīc*, *cnoll* 'the knoll with the peak or point'.

PICKSTOCK (unlocated, in Levedale.) *Pikestoke* c.1238 (1798) Shaw I xxv, *Pickstoke* 1281 SHC XII NS 127, *Picstoke*, *Picstok* 1284 FA, *Pickestok* 1314 SHC IX 45, *Pykestoke*, *Pikstoke*, *Pikestoke* 1315 SHC X 15, *Pixstoke* 1323 SHC IX 89, *Pixstok* 1324 *ibid.* 101, *Pikestoke* 1324 *ibid.* 106, *Pikestok* 1325 *ibid.* 108, *Pykstoke* 1325 *ibid.* 110, 1414 SHC XVII 49, *Pikstoke* 1380 SHC XVII 193, *Pycke Stocke hay* 1565 SHC 1938 9, *Pickstock Leyes* 17th century SRO D260/M/T/5/4. Perhaps from OE *pīc* '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 *lās* '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, *Piging hole* 1778 *ibid*, *Piggin Hole* 1789 *ibid*, *Piggenhole* 1870 Rental. 'The hollow frequented by wood pigeons'.

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 *pīc* '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, *Pilethale* 1185 (1798) Shaw I 3, *Pilatonhall* 1271 For, *Pylatenhale*, *Pilleteenhale*, *Pilatehale*, *Pilitenhale*, *Piletehale* 13th century Duig, *Pilotenhale* 1300 For, *Pelitnall* 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 (*Pylllyttes crofte* 1562, *Pyllerscroft* 1576: Oakden 1984: 45; Field 1993: 96)) which by confusion of the second element *hale* 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-ātan 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 *Pylltunes 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* (1360), for example, is recorded in Malpas, Cheshire: PN Ch IV 43.

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, *Pyvelesdon* 1272 SHC IV 204, *Pyvelesdone* 1275, 1277 *ibid.* 284, *Peulesdon* 1275 SHC VI (i) 66, *Pivelesdon* 1275 *ibid.* 72, *Pynlesdon* 1276 *ibid.* 55, *Pyurlesdon* 1277 SHC IV 81, *Pylesdon* 1277 *ibid.* 85, *Pulesdon* 1300 SHC 1924 129, *Peulesdon* 1303 SHC VII 112, *Pynlesdon* 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 *pīl* '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, *Pyncheney* 1508 SHC VII NS 73, *Pyncheney (meydow)* 1538 Ipm, *the two Pinchlees* 1640 Ipm, *Pinchley* 1838 O.S. From OE *ēg* 'island, land partly surrounded by water, well-watered land', with the French surname Pinchon (see DES 352) so 'Pinchon's well-watered land', with *lēah* later substituted for *ēg*. 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 **pennuc* or **pennoc*, formed from British *pen* 'hill', either in British or English, but EPNE ii 62 gives OE **pennuc*, 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 *pīpe* '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, *Herdewykepipe* 1349 SHC III 280, *Herdewyk*, *Pypeherdewyk* 1374 SHC XIII 118, *Pype* 1527 *ibid.* 82, *Pypehill* 1562 SHC XIII 221, *Pipe-Hardycke 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 Leamonsley or Pipe Brook which

risers 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)-wīc* 'a livestock farm'. Pipe Grange, held by the prior of St John's Hospital in Lichfield, existed by 1298 and was known as 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**.

PIPERS HILL on the north side of Himley (SO 8891). *Pipers 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* 1201 SP, *Pirhulle* 1203 Ass, *Pirhull'* 1212 Fees, 1230 P, *Pyrhull* 1227 Ass, 1275 Fine, 1283 Ipm, *Pirhul* 1228 Pat, 1252 Fees, *Pirul* 1254 Ipm, *Pyrehull* 1269 Ass, *Pyrhulle* 1281 SHC VI (i) 117, *Pirihull* 1285 Fees, *Pire-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 *-wæsse*, 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 *sīc* '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 ½ mile north-east of Waterhouses (SK 0950). *Pitchins* 1836 O.S. See also Piging 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*, *Plerdewyk*, *Plerdewyck* 1199 FF, 1268 PIR, *Plerdewirke* 1199 SHC III 167, *Plardswicke* 1585 Ct, *Plaidwicke* 1602 SHC 1935 476, *Plordewicke* 1607 FF, *Plordwecke* 1632 SHC V NS 169, *Plardewick* 1833 O.S. The second element is OE *wīc*, but the first is uncertain. Coates 2000: 21-2 suggests a derivation from a compound of OE *plega* 'play', and the OE element *-rādenn* 'condition; rule, government', producing **Pleg-rādenn*, with a meaning such as 'place where the right to conduct games exists', so 'wīc at or of the place called **Pleg-rādenn*', or perhaps from the OE personal name Plegheard. Another possibility is a derivation from OE *plega* with OE *heord(e)wīc* '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), *Pleckis 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'.

PODMORE 2 miles south-east of Ashley (SJ 7835). *Podemore* 1086 DB, *Podemor* c.1235 SHC 1911 424, 1288 Ass, *Poddemere* 13th century, *Podemor*, *Podmore* 14th century Duig, *Pademor* 1300 SHC VII 67, ? *Potemour* 1332 SHC X 92, *Podemor* 1332 *ibid.* 97, *Poddemor* 1362-3 JNSFC LIX 1924-5 61, *Podmore* 1559 SHC 1926 116, *Podmer Gerards* 1695 Mordern. From OE *podde* 'frog, toad', hence 'frog moor (or mere)'. The place adjoins Gerrard's Bromley, which explains the 1695 form. Cf. Podmore, Somerset.

POINTHORNE 1 mile south-east of Croxden (SK 0739). ? *Pointon temp.* Henry III Shaw 1798: I 172, *Poynthorn* 1694 StEnc 461, *Pinethorn* 1762 Croxden ParReg, *Pinethorn* 1763 *ibid*, *the Pinthorn* 1779 *ibid*, *Pointon* 1775 Yates, *Pointhorn* 1836 O.S. Possibly from OE *Pohhing-porn* '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 *pōl* '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 DW1734/2/3/9f24*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'.

PORTOBELLO 2 miles east of Wolverhampton (SO 9498). *Porto Bello* 1775 Yates, 1834 O.S.; *Portobello* 1850 Trysull 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 11/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.

POTTERSLEGA (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 *lēah* 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 *pūca* (Welsh *pwca*, ON *puki*), ME *pouke* 'demon, sprite, hobgoblin', a common element in place-names, particularly with reference to hills and pits: cf. Puckeridge, 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 *Poukelofstons* 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 Wulfrenehamtun* 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*, *Prestford* 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, *Prestford 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 *tūn* 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), *Prestewuda* 1166 SHC 1923 298, *Prestwode* 1276 SHC VI (i) 82, *Prestewode*, *Prestwode* 13th and 14th century Duig, *Preestwoodes ferme* 1537 SHC 1912 88; **PRESTWOOD** 1½ miles south-west of Ellastone (SK 1042), *Prestewude* 1197 SHC II 68, *Prestwolde* 1307 SHC XI NS 1307, *Prestuolt* 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, *Prestfylde* 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, æfter pire broc* 996 (11th century, S.878), *Pirebroc* c.1205 HMC Var Coll 11, 290, *Pilesbroc* 1192x1247 SHC 4th Series IV 79, *Pirbroke* 1548 Ct, *per brooke* 1559 Survey, *Perbrooke* 1711 SBT DR18/22/7/21, *Pirebrook* 1844 Erdeswick 1844: 275. Possibly from a word connected with Norwegian *pira* 'to trickle, to peer', although the history of the word (cf. Pirehill) 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, *Putly(feld)* 1378 SHC 1928 39, *Puttlease* 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 *hūs* 'house', perhaps meaning 'the house at the pit or excavation'.

PYAT'S BARN 1 mile south-west of Rushton Spencer (SJ 9261). *Piaes Barn* (sic) 1842 O.S. From the family named Piatte, recorded in 1580 (SHC XIV (i) 213), Pyott, 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 *pīpe* 'conduit, water-pipe, water-course', with OE *brēc* '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*, *Pyecclough(e)* 1591 DRO D2375M/106/27, *Pyecclough* 1635 *Leek ParReg*. From OE *pīe-clōh* '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 *pīe-grēne* '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.

PYNLUCDON (unlocated, possibly near *Stone* or *Walton*.) *Pynlucdon* 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* III 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 ½ 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 *hæð* '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, *Quateford* 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 *cwater*n (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 *cwene dæl* 'the woman's valley'. OE *cwēn* meant 'queen, wife'; OE *cwene* 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 *hlāw* '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 *Stanylowe*, 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). *Quieslade*, *Queeslade* 16th century Duig, *Queislet* 1686 Plot 403, *Queeslet* 1766 ABG, *Queeslet* 1834 O.S. From ME *queest* 'wood-pigeon', with OE *slæd* '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/5/134, *Quinton's orchard* *ibid*, *Quintin'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 Piccardy, 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: SHC 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 Rocester (SK 1041). *Quikesulle*, *Quicksall* 1191x1194 CEC 261, *Quhicol*, *Kuhicel* pre-1236 SHC 1921 37-8, *Witekeshull* 1236 SHC 1911 405, *Wikeshull* 1240 SHC IV 237, *Wytekeshull* 1242 Fees, *Whydekeshull* 1272 SHC IV 211, *Quikeshull* 1272 FF, 1279 Ass, *Quykhull* 1277 SHC 1911 31, *Wexhull* 1277 SHC V (i) 91, *Wykehull* 1309 SHC X 4, *Quicsul* 1327 SHC VII 217, *Quyxsale* 1387 SRO 3764/98[40001], *Cwykhill* 1529 SHC 1912 35, *Quiksell* 1666 SHC

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 *rēad brōc* 'the red brook': see Rudyard.

RADBROOK FIELD (obsolete) on south-west side of Rugeley (SK 0316). *Redebroke* 1262 (1798) Shaw I 107, *reddebroke* 1570 Survey, *redbrokefield* 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 *hrēod* '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 *rudu* '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 Sitch* 1775 Yates, *Raddlestick* 1791 SOT SD4842/20/64, *Raddle Stich* 1841 O.S. From *raddle*, a variant of *ruddle* 'red ochre', with OE *stc* 'watercourse', so giving 'the stream coloured by raddle'.

RADECLIFF (unlocated) *Radecliff* 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 *rādeford* or *rjdeford* '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 ½ 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** ½ 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: 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 (obsolete) 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 (obsolete) ½ 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, *Rake Gate* 1702 Bushbury ParReg, *Rake Yeates* 1712 *ibid*, *Rake Yate* 1778 WALS DX13/17, *Rake Gate Farm* 1895 O.S., *Rake 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, *Rakehill 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'.

RAKEMOR, LE (unlocated, near Fisherwick). *Le Rakemor* 1309 WL 103.

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 *hræce* 'throat', used topographically in the sense of 'a pass', with OE *dæl* '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, Frobisher 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.).

RAMMESHED (unlocated) *Rammeshed* 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.

RAMSHORN or RAMSOR (pronounced Ramser [ræmzə]) 5 miles east of Cheadle (SK 0845). *Rumesoura* 1197 P, *Romesovere* 1275 SHC V (i) 120, *Ramnesoure* 1307 SHC XI NS 263,

Roumesovere 1327 SHC XI NS 186, *Rommeseude* 1327 SHC 1913 14, *Romesovere* 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 *hræfn* '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 '*Hræfn's or Hrafn's moor' (*Hræfn is an OE personal name, *Hrafn is an ON personal name), or 'the moor of the raven, from OE *hræfn*. 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 1 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 *hlāw* 'tumulus, burial mound', poses philological difficulties with the first element, but the name evidently incorporates OE *hlāw*. 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, *Ronton* 1236 Fees, *Raunton* 13th century Duig, *Routon* 1350 Erdeswick 1844: 136, *Rannton* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 67, *Ramton* c.1540 Leland, *Runton* 1471 SHC IV NS 175, *Ramton* c.1540 Leland. Probably from OE *rand* 'edge, border, bank', hence '*tūn* on the border' (the place is in Pirehill Hundred one mile from the boundary with Cuttlestone Hundred), or (perhaps more likely) '*tūn* 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 *hriðer*, *hrjðer* 'an ox, cattle', or the ON personal name Hraði, or ON *rauðr* 'red', usually in allusion to the colour of soil (though each of those suggestions poses philological difficulties), with ON *sætr* '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 *hræfn hyll* 'raven hill'.

RAVEN HILL ½ mile south-east of Rugeley (SK 0517). *Ryvynghul* 1428 Deed (VCH V 159), *Revynghill* 16th century Survey, *Reavinghill (Leasowe)* 1653 WCRO CR1908/17/1, *Revering Hill* 1659 Erdeswick 1844: 69, *Reeving Hill* 1747 SRO D615/E/6/4, *Ravenhill* 1771 SRO D1161/1/1/7, *Reveing Hill* 1775 Yates, *Ravenghill* 1794 SRO D1161/1/1/9, *Raven Hill* 1834 O.S. Perhaps from OE *hrēof* 'rough, rugged', with *-ing* and OE *hyll* 'hill' (cf. Rivington Pike, Lancashire).

RAVENSCLIFFE 2 miles north-west of Tunstall (SJ 8352). *Romersclyf* 1307 SHC XI NS 262, *Romesclyf* 1326 JNSFC LIX 1924-5 38, *Romusclyff* 1348 *ibid.* 48, *Ramusclyf* c.1360 *ibid.* 55, *Raunscliffe* 1567 SHC 1938 131, *Ranescliffe*, *Ranescliff* c.1575 SHC 1912 205, *Ravenscliffe* 1579 SRO D1229/1/3/62, *Ramsclyffe* 1589 SHC XV 190, 1590 SHC 1930 197, *Ravensclyffe* 1601 JNSFC LXIII 1928-9 41, *Ravensclyff* 1601 *ibid.* 43, *Ranescliffe* 1608 SHC 1948-9 76, *Ramscliff(e)* 17th century SHC XII NS 36-7, *Ranscliff* 1836 O.S. Perhaps from OE *hramsa* 'ransom, wild garlic, *Allium ursinum*', with OE *clif* 'cliff', or from an unidentified personal name. Some of the spellings might relate to Ravenscliff west of Kniveton in Derbyshire.

RAVEN'S CLOUGH 1½ miles north-west of Rushton Spencer (SJ 9163). *Raven's Clough* 1596 VCH VII 224, *Ravenscloughe* 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.

RAVENS CLOUGH BROOK a tributary of the river Dane. From Raven's Clough (q.v.).

RAVENS DALE (unlocated, possibly near Waterfall). *Ravensdale* 1292 SHC VI (i) 226, 1327 SHC VII (i) 217, 1344 SHC 1913 108, 1374 SHC XIV 118, 1392 SHC XV 43, *Revensdale* 1292 SHC 1911 215, *Rawennsdale* 1370 SRO D1229/1/4/44, *Ravennsdale* 1376 Okeover T55, *Ravenesdale* 1377 SHC 4th Series VI 7. 'The dale with the ravens'.

RAVENSHALL ½ mile south of Betley (SJ 7547). *Ravenshale* 1323 AD, *Raveneshalow* 1327 SHC VII 207, *Ramishall* 1590 Betley ParReg, *Raunshall otherwise Raunsor* 1596 SHC XVI 157, *Ravenhall* 1600 Betley ParReg, *Rannsall* 1611 BCA MS3810/125, *Ransall* 1628 Audley ParReg, *Ranshall* c.1647

SRO DW1082/C/3/1-5, *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 *hræfn halh* 'the *halh* of the ravens', or possibly 'Hrafn's or *Hræfn's *halh*': Hrafn is an ON personal name, and *Hræfn an OE personal name.

RAVENSHAW WOOD 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.

RAVENS NEST (obsolete) 1 mile west of Codsall, just within Shropshire (SJ 8304), *Raven Nest* 1741 Codsall ParReg, *Ravens Nest* 1775 Yates; **RAVENS NEST** (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.

RAWNESHAW (unlocated, in King's Bromley.) *Rawneshawe* 1599 SHC 1931 156. Possibly associated with *Reyneseshawnes* (undated), recorded in Shaw 1798: I 132.

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 *hræfn*, *hrafn* 'raven', with OE *lēah*, hence 'the *lēah* 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 LJRO 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 *ēa* 'a stream': the river Tame runs here. In OE charters *æt þære ēa* '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). *Rayclyffe*, *Rayclyff*, *Raycliffe* 1538 SHC NS X (i) 139, *Pey Cliff (sic)* 1566 SRO DW1761/A/4/79, *Reacliff* 1675 ParReg, *Raecliff Farm* 1842 O.S. From OE *æt þære ēa* '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*, *Repesmoore End* 1682 *ibid*, *Repemoor 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 *rēad* 'red' or OE *hrēod* 'reed'.

RED BULL ½ mile north of Alington (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 *rēad* 'red', or OE *hrēod* 'reeds', or OE **rēod* 'clearing', with OE *halh*, with the later addition of hill.

REDDITCH 6 miles south-east of Bromsgrove (SO 0467). *de Rubeo Fossato* c.1200, *la Rededich*, *le Rededych* 1247 PN Wo 364, 1300 Pat, *Reddich*, *Reddyche* 1394 Pat, *The Rediche*, *le Redyche* 1446 AD ii, 1464 Pat, *The Redde Dych* 1536 PN Wo 364. From OE *rēad*, *dīc* 'red ditch', from the colour of the soil here. In Tardebigge parish, forming part of Staffordshire from c.1100 until 1266, in Warwickshire until 1844, and since that date in Worcestershire.

RED EARTH 2 miles north-west of Leek (SJ 9759). *Ruudeuorth* 1298 SHC XI NS 248, *Reede-yerth* 1504 (1883) Sleight 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., *Readde-erthe* 1569 (1883) Sleight 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 Smestow 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 *grēot* '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 *hrēod-wælle* 'the reedy spring': a derivation from OE *rēad-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, *Redstreete* 1608 SHC 1948-9 53, *Red-street* 1641 Wolstanton ParReg, *the Red street* 1644 SHC 4th Series I 205, *the Red Street Lane* 1654 SHC 1934 (i) 36, *Red Street* 1686 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, *Reve 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 *þing* '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 Reve 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** 1½ 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 *rā-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 *rūh*, with Mercian OE *wælle* '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 *ruelle* (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, *Refeggmars* c.1278 *ibid.* 430, *Refegge* 1304 *ibid.* 433, *Retheg* c.1302 *ibid.* 443, *Revegg* 1317 *ibid.* 433, *Ryflugge* 1331 SRO D1337/1, *Reveegge* 1332 SHC X 115, *Rauache* 1414 ProcJP, *Revedge* 1644 Leek ParReg, *Revi(t)ch* 1649 *ibid.*, *Reavidge* 1837 O.S. From OE *hrēof*, *ecg* 'the rough edge': the place stands on a ridge of high ground. Some of the spellings may relate to Revidge (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 I 98. Possibly associated with Reeve End (q.v.).

REWLACH 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, *Rowlaytch* 1769 *Rental*, *Reulach* 1774 ParReg, *Rowlatch* 1840 O.S. A name recorded in the 1420s: VCH VII 27. Possibly from OE *rūh* '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, *Reynoulds Hall* 1595 HaRO 44M69/G3/39, *Renols Hawle* 1590x1603 Hackwood 1895: 52, *Reynoulds Hall* 1595 HantsRO 44M69/G3/39, *Reynalds Hall* 1610 SHC 1934 40, *Raynolds Hall* c.1630 SHC II (i) 14, *Reynald's Hall* 1663 SHC II (ii) 50, *Renalds hall* 1679 VCH XVII 146, *Reynolds Hall* 1798 Yates. The old hall, named after the Reynalds 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, *Wrybbedon* 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 unlauted side-form of Wrobbā, with OE *dūn* 'hill'. Cf. Wribbenhall, Worcestershire (Ekwall 1960: 539).

RICKERSCOTE in Castle Church parish, 2 miles south of Stafford (SJ 9220). *Ricardescote* 1086 DB, *Richardescote*, *Richardscote* 1275 SHC VI (i) 72, *Rikardescote* 13th century Duig, *Rycescot* 1564 SHC 1928 156, *Richardscote* 1603 Penkridge ParReg, *Ricarscot* 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, *Rikethorne*, *Rykethorne* 1332 SHC X (i) 129, *Rickethorn* 1338 SHC 4th Series XVIII 205, *Pykthorn* 1531 SRRC 5735/2/22/1, *Rycthorn* (p) 1539 SHC VI (i) 68, *Rickthorne* 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, *Rudynges* 1303 SHC 1911 59, *Ruydingis* 1326 HLS 267, *le Ruddyng* 1415 Hardy 1908: 95, *le Ruddyng* 1494 *ibid.* 138, *Ryddyng* 1516 *ibid.* 177, *Rydding* 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.

RIDGACRE 1 mile south-west of Harborne (SO 0083). *Ruggiacre* 1327 SHC VII (i) 229, *Ridgacre* 1749 Bowen. From OE *hrycg* 'a ridge' and OE *æcer* '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, *Ridghill* 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'.

RIDGEWAY 1 mile north of Norton-in-the-Moors (SJ 8953), ? *Roggeweye* 1298 SHC XI NS 253, *Roggewey* 1308 *ibid.* 261, *Ruggeweye* 1326 JNSFC 1924-5 38, *Ruggewey* 1333 SHC X 94, 1512 JNSFC LX 1925-6 32, *Rygdwaye* 1459 (1843) Ward 1843: app. v, *Ridgway* 1615 Norton-in-the-Moors ParReg, 1619 BCA MS917/1585, c.1630 SHC II (ii) 20, *Ridgeway*, *Ridgeway Hill* 1836 O.S.; **RUDGEWAY** the old Chester road between Castle Bromwich and Stonnal, *Rugeway* 1324 (1798)

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 Stanwey* ('stone-way'): Duig 126; Shaw 1798: I 34-5.

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 will 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 *hām-stall* 'homestead, residence', meaning in this case 'demesne farm' or similar (*Hamstalmedwe* 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 [mervisən]) Ancient Parish 4 miles east of Rugeley (SK 0816). *Ridvare* 1086 DB, *Ridewale Mauvaisin* 1236 Fees, *Mavessen 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 '...vulgarly 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). *Rideuware* 1086 DB, *Piep Ridewar* 1371 SHC VIII NS 266, *Pipe Ridware* 14th century Duig, *Pyp 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: I 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 *rȳge* 'rye', with OE *lēah*, 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, *Ryndulford* 1536 SRRC 5586/1/423, *Ringlefford* 1577 Saxton, *Rindelford* 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, THE ½ mile south-east of Great Haywood (SK 0022). *The Ring* 1836 O.S. From a group of 16 houses, demolished c.1965, built as an octagon to rehouse villagers from Shugborough c.1772: SHC 4th Series VI 88; 109.

RING HEY 1½ miles north-east of Cheddleton (SJ 9953). *Ryngheye* 1327 SHC VII 217, *Ryngeye* 1345 SHC XII 37, 69, *Ryngesleye* 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 Cheddleton...[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 *pytt*), 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, *Rysombro(o)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)* 1584 Comm, c.1680 GKNB, *Rising Brook or Sneyde Brook* 1742/3 SRO D603/E/204. The first element is possibly OE *hrīsen* '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 Swythamley MSS, *Rochegraynge* 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 *þe 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)mære*, *bece* '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 *hlāw* 'mound, tumulus'.

ROCESTER Ancient Parish (pronounced Roe-ster [rəʊstə]) 4 miles north of Uttoxeter (SK 1139). *Rowcestre* 1086 DB, *Roucestre* 1191x1194 CEC 261, *Roffecestre* 12th century Duig, *Rouecestre* 1208 FF, *Rovecestre* 1225 *ibid*, *Rocestre* 1246 Ch, *Roffa* 1281 SHC VI (i) 151, *Rowecestre* 13th century Duig, *Raucestr'* 1360 SHC VIII 172, *Rowcetr* 1405 SRO D786/3/4, *Ruggestre* 1414 SHC XVII 16, *Roucett* 1454 Okeover T56, *Racetur* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 109, *Rowcettre* c.1588 SHC 1927 177, *Rowcester* 1610 Speed. Ekwall 1960: 389 suggests 'Hrōpwulf'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 *rūh* '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. 'Rēdbeald's *tūn*'. 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 Edward the Confessor 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 SHC 4th Series 13 6, *Rodesford* 1300 SHC V (i) 180, *Redesford* 1327 SHC VII (i) 255, *Reddysford* 1539 SHC VI NS (i) 67. The name was attached to a mill which stood near the present Wergs Hall. Perhaps from OE *rōd* '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, *Rowloun* 1487 SHC XI 329, *Row-lane* 1689 (1843) Ward 1843: app. lxii, ? *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 *rā* 'roe deer', with OE *mōr* 'moorland, marsh'.

ROLLESTON ON DOVE Ancient Parish (pronounced Roll-ston [rəʊlstən]) 4 miles north of Burton-on-Trent (SK 2327). *Rodulfeston* 941 (14th century, S.479), *Rólfestun* 1002x1004 (11th century, S.906, 11th century, S.1536), *Roulestune*, *Rolueston* 1008 (12th century, S.920), *Rolvestvne* 1086 DB, *Rolveston* 1252 Ch, *Rolinstone* 1309 SHC 1911 71, *Rolluston*, *Rollustone*, *Rolleston* 1373 HLS, *Rolstone* 1468 SHC IV NS 158, *Rellyston* 1563 HLS. From OE 'Hrōðwulf's *tūn*', or from the Scandinavian name *Hrōðulfr, giving '*Hrōðulfr's *tūn*'. 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 *tūn* 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 Hrōþlāf, with OE *hlāw* '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 (*æt þæm*) *rūman halh* 'the spacious *halh*'.

ROMER FARM 1½ miles south-east of Stone (SJ 9330). *Romere* 1258 SHC 1911 129, *Romer* 1775 Yates, 1836 O.S. Perhaps from OE *rūh* 'rough', with OE *mōr*, usually in the Midlands meaning 'marshland'.

ROMESCUMBE (unlocated, in Arley.) *Romescumbe* 1255 SHC V (i) 114. Possibly from the OE personal name *Rum, a short form of names beginning Rūm- (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 Rūm- (see Ekwall 1960: 392 s.n. Romsey), with OE *helde* 'a slope, a declivity'.

ROMSLEY 3 miles south of Halesowen (SO 9679). *Rameslege* 1086 DB (listed in Warwickshire), *Rameslea* 1166 SHC 1923 298, *Ramesleg* 1203 Bowcock, *Rammesle* 1207 *ibid.*, *Romesle(ye)* 1270 Ct, 1291 Tax, 1293 Ct, *Rummesleye* 1355 Pat, *Romisley* 1500 Nash, *Ramsley* 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 1931 91, 1837 O.S. '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 ½ 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, THE ½ mile north of Huntington (SJ 9713). *Rough Hills and Kyngesoke Heth adjoining Teddesley Hay temp.* Elizabeth I SHC 1939 123.

ROUGHCOTE 2 miles north-west of Caverswall (SJ 9444). *Rofcote* 1635 Caverswall ParReg, *Roughcoat* 1642 *ibid.*, *Roughcot*, *Roughcote* 1644 SHC 4th Series I 117, 151, *Roughcote* 1682 Browne, 1836 O.S. 'The rough cottage'.

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 *rūh* 'rough, uncultivated', with OE *halh*, replaced by Mercian OE *(ge)heg* 'enclosure'.

ROUGH HAY PARK (unlocated, in Agardsley: SHC 1991 251.) *Rif-hay* c.1295 (1798) Shaw I 83, *Haye called Le Refhay* 1296 SHC 1911 251, *Ryfhay* 1306 SHC VII 149, *Ryffhay* 14th century SHC 1912 222, *Riffay house* 1670 SHC 1923 219, *Ruffhey park* 1704 (1798) Shaw I 129, *Ruffay Park* 1774 SRO DL31/231, *Rough Hay Park* 1814 SRO DL31/233. From Mercian OE *(ge)heg* 'enclosure', with an unidentified forst element. The place has been associated with Pipehay Farm (q.v.): see Shaw 1798: I 83, 129.

ROUGH KNIPE - see **TURNER'S KNIPE**.

ROUGH PARK (obsolete) 1 mile east of Hampstall Ridware church: Shaw 1798: I 157. *Rough Park* 1730 (1798) Shaw I 160, *Roughpark* 1798 *ibid.* 157. See also Shaw 1798: I app. 24.

ROUGHSTONE HOLE (obsolete). 1½ 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 *rūh stān* 'rough stone', with OE *hol(h)* 'a hole, a hollow'.

ROUGHTON 1 mile south-west of Worfield (SO 7594). *Riwyton* 1238x1250 Eyton 1854-60: III 112, *Rucheton* 1300 *ibid.* 114, *Roghtone* 1301 Rees 1975: 249, *Rowhton* 1525 SR, *Roghtton* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 117. Possibly from Welsh *rhiw* 'hill, ascent', with OE *tūn*, so 'the *tūn* at the hill called Rhiw'. In Shropshire since the 12th century.

ROUSEND (unlocated, in Longdon). *Rous ende* 1301 BCA MS3415/146, *le Rousende* 1323 BCA MS3415/154, *Le Roussende* 1350 BCA MS3415/184.

ROUSTER 2 miles north-east of Heaton (SJ 9764). *Roaster* 1826 SRO 4974/B/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 WO97/45/152), probably refers to Rocester.

ROUTHALE (unlocated, in Shenstone parish.) *Routhale* 1343 SHC XVII 278, *Rothale* 1345 *ibid.* 285.

ROUTHEBLEIGH (unlocated, possibly in the Newcastle area.) *Routhesleye* 1289 SHC VI (i) 192, *Routhesleigh* 1349 SHC XII 77, *Routheleigh* 1349 *ibid.* 79.

ROWDON LANES in Essington parish (SJ 9303). *Rowdon* 1306, *Roudo(u)n* 1314, 1340 Ct, *le Rowdons* 1549, *Rowden Flatt* 1653 Vernon, *Reudon lanes* 1682 Browne, *Rouden Lanes* 1695 Morden, 1775 Yates, *Rowdon Lanes* 1702 Bushbury ParReg, 1834 O.S. From OE *rūh-dūn* 'rough hill'.

ROWE, THE 1½ 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) aranged in s straight line, or possibly 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. 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 *rūh 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, *Rouleye* 1296 SHC 1911 250, *Rowleg* 1324 *ibid.* 358, *Roweley* 1424 SHC XVII 105, *Rowley* 1686 Plot 205; **ROWLEIGH** (unlocated, in Gratwich), *Rowleigh* 1562 SHC 1938 111. From OE *rūh lēah* 'rough *lēah*'.

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, *Rovlowe* 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 *rūh-hlāw* '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 *þrūh* 'water-pipe, conduit', originally 'a hollowed-out tree trunk', but here perhaps from ON *þrú* '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 *lēah*, 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). *Rolaue* 1203 SHC III 91, *Rowleyfeld* 1284 to 1358 Deeds, *Rowley Hill (Field)* 1606 VCH IV 167, *Rowley Hill* 1798 Shaw I 31, 1834 O.S. From OE *rūh-hlāw* '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, *Reulega* 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, *Roweleye* 1291 SHC IX (ii) 31, *Rouleye* 1294 SHC VII 9, *Rughel* 1242 SHC IV 96, *Reuleg*, *Roule* 13th century Duig, *Rouleye Somery* 1322 SHC 1911 351, *Kinges Rowley* c.1564 SHC 1931 173, *Rowley Regis otherwise Kinges Rowley* 1604 SHC XVIII 20. From OE *rūh* 'rough, uncultivated', hence 'rough *lēah*'. Although Erdeswick 1844: 345 states that Rowley Regis 'at the conquest, remained in the king's demesne, 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, *Ruanhall*, *Ruhenhal'* 1221 Ass, *Magna et parva Roughenhale* 1272 *ibid*, *Roughenhale* 1273 SHC VI (i) 54, *Ronnal* 1274 SHC 1911 160, *Rowenhale* 1274-90 Loxdale, *Rounal(l)*, *Ron(e)hale* 1274 Ipm, *Ronnal* 1274 SHC 1911 160, *Rowenhall(e)* 1279 Ass, *Great Rowenhale*, *Little Rowenhale* 1284 SHC VI (i) 136, *Rounhale* (p) 1294 Orig, *Rewenhale* 1306 GDR, *Rouwenhale* 1327 Ipm, *Rounhal'* 1328 Ipm, *Rounales* (p) 1380 AD, *Rownall* 1479 AD 1, *Great & Little Rownall* 1558 BM, *Rownall* 1566 SHC IX NS 82, *Rawnall* 1589 SHC 1929 40, *Rawnall in the Moors* 1733 SHC 1944 50, *Rounhall* 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 *Reynoldes*, 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). *Royle* 1648 Leek ParReg, *Rilidge* 1694 Alstonefield ParReg, 1842 O.S, *Ryeledge* 1775 Yates, *Rylage* 1850 TA. Names with *Roy-* can derive from *Ruy-* (cf. Royton, Lancashire), so possibly OE *rȳe*, *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 SHC 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 SHC 1914 14-5.

RUDGE BANKE (unlocated, in Ferny Hough). *Rudge Banke* 1600 SHC 1935 214.

RUDGE STRETE (unlocated, possibly in the Burslem area, or perhaps Red Street (q.v.)) *Rudge Strete* 1554 SHC 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, *Rodhord* 1278 SHC XI NS 245, *Rodeyert* 1275 SHC V (i) 117, c.1280 SHC 1911 431, *Rodeyord* 1286 *ibid.* 432, *Rodehyerd* c.1290 *ibid.* 432, ? *Rudeuorth* 1299 SHC XI NS 248, *Rodezard* 1307 SHC XI NS 255, *Rudeyard* 1330 Ch, *Rydrorte* 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 *rūde* 'rue', hence 'enclosure where rue 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 *Ruudeuorth* (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 *hrēow*,

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 *rūh-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, 1190 P, *Reggele* 1199 SHC III 60, *Regeley* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 13, *Puys Baylywicke* otherwise *Rugeley Baylywicke* 1583 SHC XV 147, *Ridgeley* 1570 SHC 1939 157, *Ridgley* 1586 SHC 1927 129. '*Lēah* 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 *Puys*: *Puiz* is recorded in 1195 (Fees), 1198 (SHC IV (i) 99) and 1199 (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 X NS 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 *rhiw* 'a slope or hill-side', and the second may be OE *worþign* '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, 1½ miles north-east of Wolverhampton (SJ 9200). *Tromelow* c.1272 (1801) Shaw II 150, *le Thromelowe* 1339 PN Wa 31, *Thromelowe* 1360 *ibid*, *Romylow* 1420, 1428 *ibid*, *Tromylow* 1392 SRO D593/B/1/26/6/6/14, *le Rombelose* 1576-7 SHC 1910 164, *le Thromylowes* 16th century Duig, *Trombelowes* 1614 SRO D593/B/1/26/11/12, *Thrombelowe*, *Tromelow* 1801 Shaw II 150, *Rumballows* 1834 O.S., *Tromelowe Farm* 1895 O.S., *Rumbelows Farm* 1907 O.S. The first element is from *þrēom*, the dative of OE *þrēo* 'three', and the second is OE *hlāw* 'low, tumulus', giving 'the three tumuli'. When the name was prefixed by *æt* '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 Threelows 2½

miles north-west of Wootton (SK 0746), but early spellings have not been traced. On the surname Rumbelow, see DES 386.

RUMER HILL ½ mile south-east of Cannock (SJ 9809). *Rugemor* 1245-50 MRA, ?*Rumere* 1258 SHC 1911 129, *Rouwemer* 1335 Ct, ? *le Roomere* 1471 OSS 1936 45, *Romehill* 1570 Survey, *Rowe more hills* 1610 *ibid*, *Fletcher's alias Rumer Hill Farm* 1662x1777 SRO D260/M/T/6/130, *Rumore Hill Farm* 1630 Okeover, *Romer Hills* 1666 SRO D260/M/T/4/85, *Romers Hill* 1775 Yates, *Reaumorehill well* 1817 Pitt, *Rumour Hill* 1834 O.S. From OE *rūh* 'rough', with OE *mōr*, usually in the Midlands meaning 'marshland'. *le Ruemor* is recorded in Longton in 1250: SHC XI 318.

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**.

RUSHALL Ancient Parish 2 miles north-east of Walsall (SK 0201). *Rischale* 1086 DB, *Rushale* 1195 P, 1242 Fees, *Ruishale*, *Rushale* 1199 SHC III 49, *Russehall* 1242 SHC IV 96, *Roshale* 1300 SHC VII 76, *Ruysshale* 1335 SHC 1928 79, *Ruyshale* 1438 SHC 1921 29, *Russeshall* 1577 SHC 1939 138. 'The *halh* overgrown with rushes', from OE *rysc* 'rush'. Much of the area here is low lying.

RUSHLEY ½ mile north-west of Ilam (SK 1251). *Rush(e)ley* 1605 QSR, 1777 Blore ParReg, 1838 O.S. From OE *rysc*, *lēah* 'the rushy *lēah*'. 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, *Rixton* 1227 SHC IV 225, *Russton* 1282-3 SHC XI NS 247, *Ruston* 13th century Duig, *Russheton 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 grainge* 1653 Burslem ParReg, *Rushton Grange* 1836 O.S. From OE *rysc* 'rush', and OE *tūn*, hence 'the rushy *tūn*'. 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.

RUSSELLS 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 SHC 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, *Riecroft* 1686 *ibid*; **RYE CROFT** ½ mile west of Rushall (SO 0199), *Rucroft* 1317 WSL A/3/37, *Ruycroft* 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 *rȳge, 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 Ricnelde strete* 12th century, *Rikeling strete* 13th century, *Rykenyldestrete* 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 stret* 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 Streete* 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, VCH 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 ME *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 Worksop, was anciently *Rikenildthorp* (Duig), but is not known to have any connection with any ancient road. It seems likely that *Ickniel* and variants thereof was a name adopted by the Anglo-Saxons for ancient roads and trackways, after the ancient Ickniel 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 Icenī 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 *stræt* '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, *Rypley (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 *lēah* 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 Ripa recorded in 1186-7 (SHC I 131); 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). *Sadlesall* 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) 2½ 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/WH13, *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 sallows', 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 VIII NS 8. Possibly to be associated with Sallyfield Lane (*Sally Lane* 1836 O.S.) in Stanton (SK 1447): see SHC VIII 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, 3½ miles north-east of Stafford (SJ 9527). *Selte* 1086 DB, *Salt* 1166 SHC 1923 297, *Saute* 1236 Fees, *Saut'* 1242 Fees, *Salte by Trente* 1293 SHC 1911 53, *Sallt* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 57. From OE **selte*, Mercian OE **sǣlte* '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 *healh*. *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 65. The ridgeway from Alton towards the ford is recorded as *Salterfortherigg*, i.e. Salter's-ford-ridge, in 1339 (SHC 1913 77), and is now known as Saltersford Lane (*Salters Ford Lane* 1836 O.S.). See also NSJFS 12 1972 122. *Salterisford* (unlocated, in or near Branston) is recorded in the late 15th century (SHC 1937 180), and may be the *Salterforde* recorded in 1344 (Hardy 1908: 38). See also Saltmoor.

SALTER'S BRIDGE over the river Tame, 1 mile south-east of Alrewas (SK 1813). *Salteresbrige* 1293 TSSAHS 1991-2 XXXIII 13, *Salitbrugge* 1388 SHC XV 5, *Saltesbrugge* 1389 *ibid.* 10, *Salterbrugge* 1390 *ibid.* 17, *la Sattersbridge, pontis voc'* *Salters* c.1535 SHC VI (ii) 166, *Salter'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 brydges* 1644 (1798) Shaw I 71, *Salters bridg* 1686 Plot 244. From OE *saltere* '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 *Saltersholme*,

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 (*Shaw Lane* 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.) *Saltford* 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, *Saltford* 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). *sæffan mōr* 985 (12th century, S.860), *Saffemor* 1286 SHC 1924 330, *Saftmore* 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 *mōr* 'marshland, moorland', the spelling of which became corrupted by the mistranscription of -ff- as -fi-, 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 Wolvehampton, 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 ½ mile east of Hamstall Ridware. *Sandbarewe* 1300 SHC VII 76, *Sondbarwe* 1327 *ibid.* 230, *Sandbrough* 1607 SBT DR18/12/5, *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 I 126, ? *le sondiforde* 1274 SHC 1921 II 22, ? *Sontfort* 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.

SANDFORD (HILL) 1 mile north-east of Longton (SJ 9244). *Sandford* 1466 SHC IV NS 138. Self-explanatory. The foundation charter of Hulton Abbey of 1223 naming *Sondiford*, printed in Ward 1843: app. ii is almost certainly a much later forgery: Tomkinson 1994: 73-102.

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-dūn* '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 *wælle* '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)** ½ 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, *Sondyford* 1415 *ibid.* 79.

SAPFORDE (unlocated, near Kingstone.) *Sapforde* 1414 SRO DW1733/A/2/113[1].

SAREDON BROOK a tributary of the river Penk. *Searesbroc*, *Searesbrocesforde* 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(e)don* 1251 Ass, *Boershardon* 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 *dūn* '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 *sēar* '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*, *Sardenhil* 1661 *ibid*, *Sernill* 1665 *ibid*, *Sernell* 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 (i) 220, *Severley* 1337 SHC XI 71, 1428 *ibid*. 229, *Seu'ley* (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 Seidley* 1683 WaCRO CR1908/6, *Severly Gr*, *Severley Gren* 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 *Sæfern*, 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 *þorn-lēah*, Arley and Earley from *earn-lēah*. If not a mistranscription, one of the 1228 forms may incorporate OE *lād* '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 Blithe, 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 Swynnerton (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 ½ mile north-east of Hulme End (SK 1159). *Sitch* 1775 Yates, *Scaldersitch* 1840 O.S. *Sitch* is from OE *sīc* 'watercourse'. A curious name. The first element cannot be identified, but the second is OE *sīc* 'a watersource'.

SCHARPLOWE (unlocated, in Gayton.) *Scharpelowe* 1303 SHC XII NS 173. Evidently from OE *sc(e)arp hlāw* '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 OWS Scandinavian *skáli* 'a temporary hut or shed', with OE **clōh* 'deep valley, ravine'. A lost place-name *Scoleclogh*, *Skoleclogh* is recorded c.1340 in Macclesfield Hundred, Cheshire: PN Ch I 54. *Scolhalgh*, recorded in 1348 (SHC XI 162) has not been identified.

SCORTESTONA unlocated, to the west of Bury Bank (? SJ 871361: Hooke 1983: 87-9). *Scortestona* ?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 *(ge)heg* '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 *Scotchhills*, *Scotshills*. The name would appear to have originated as 'the hill at the spring of the man named Scot' (from Mercian OE *wælle* '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., *Scotlands* 1856 WALS DX103/6. A name of uncertain age. Duignan's derivation from OE *scēatlandes* '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, *Gundesleye* 1280 SHC VI (i) 108, *Cundeslegh* 1305 SHC VII 134, *Cundesley*, *Coundesleye* 1306 SHC 1911 67, ? *Condeslegh* 1327 SHC XI NS 187, *Coundesleyh* 1333 SHC X 88, *Conndesleye* 1342 SRO DW1733/A/2/109, *Cundele* 1359 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 (*Sounlow 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. *Cound*, 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, 1½ miles north-west of Tutbury (SK 1930). *Scroton* 1086 DB (entered in Derbyshire), *Scropton(e)* late 11th century, c.1141 TutCart, *Cropton* 1260 Ipm, 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 *tūn*' 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, *Sheperingley* 1288 Hibbert 1909: 33, *Sheperingg* 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 *scēp* 'sheep', and OE *hrycg* 'a ridge, a long narrow hill', or *brycg* '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 *lēah*' (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, *Sedgeley* 1525 SHC 1941 79. 'Secg's *lēah*'. *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 *Sedgeley 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*, *Sewesimuln*, *Sywwehmlne* 1268-72 SHC 1910 106, *Sindi Milne or seedy Mill House* 1734 SRRC 1987/3/3, *seedy Mill* 1775 Yates. Perhaps from OE *sinēðe*, an adjective meaning 'very gentle' with an -ig ending, which might conceivably be used of a slow-grinding mill, or possibly from OE *sifēða* 'chaff'.

SEGGEHALVEFORDE (unlocated, perhaps near Rocester.) *Seggehalveforde* 1359 SHC XII (i) 160.

SEGGERSLEY (FARM) on north-east side of Ellenhall (SJ 8426). ? *Seggesley* 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 [saifəd]) 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, *Sevetford* 1208 *ibid.* 143, *Seasteford* 1209 SHC 1914 86, *Seaford* 1248 SHC IV 243, *Cestford* ?13th century SHC IV 269-70, *Ceysteford*, *Cesteford* 1327 SHC VII (i) 211-2, *Casteforde* 1330 SHC 1913 23, *Sesteford* 1337 SRO DW1781/4/7, *Cesteford* (frequently), *Sesteford* 13th century Duig, *Sesteford* c.1330 SHC IV 275, *Sefteford* 1468 SRO DW1761/A/4/34, *Sextiford* 1476 SHC VI NS (i) 101, *Seghford* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 64, *Seytford* 1538 SHC 1910 44, *Seythford* c.1565 SHC 1926 140, *Seckford* 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 D[omesday] *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 *Seohtre-ford*, from *seohtre*

'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 II 160), 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 [si:zdən]) 6 miles south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 8394). *Saisdon*, *Saisdone*, *Seiesdon* 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 Cl, *Seisdon* 1242 Fees, *Sysdon* 1257 SHC 1911 128, *Seysdone* 1292 Ipm, *Seysdon* 1309 BCA MS3066/Acc1903-003, *Seyseden* 1323 Cl, *Seyason* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 127, *Seasdon* 1590 SHC XVI 102. The meaning of Seisdon is probably OE *Seax-dūn* '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, Trysull), 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 NSJFS 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 *Seytces*, recorded in the same area c.1270x1298: SHC 1921 8.

SEVEN ASHES (obsolete) between Fulford and Hilderstone (? SJ 9535). *7 asshes* 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 ½ mile south-west of Colwich on the south side of the river Trent (SK 0020), one 1½ 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 *wælle* '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.

SHACKAMORE (obsolete). ½ mile south-east of Shugborough (SJ 9921). *Shackamore* 1624 SHC 1970 86, *Shackamore Field*, *Shackamore Pasture* c.1800 *ibid.* map 110. Possibly from OE *scēacere mōr* 'moorland of the robber'. *Shackerley* near Seabridge or Clayton is recorded in 1658: SRO D593/B/1/14/4/25. Cf. Shakerlowe.

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/T/5/134). 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 *scēacere hlāw* 'robber's mound or tumulus'. Shackeley in Shropshire, 1½ 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 Erdeswick 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, *Saruesculf* 1262 For, *Schelfhulle* 1277 SHC VI (i) 80, *Sarushylf* 1285 FA, *Sharesweshulf* 1293 Ass, *Sarushulf* 1298 Vernon, *Scharesschulf* 1325 SHC 1911 368, *Sarveshulf* 1326 Vernon, *Schareshulfe* 1327 SHC VII 224, *Sarnesculf*, *Sarneshull*, *Sharnshull*, *Shareshulle*, *Sareshull* 13th century Duig, *Shareshulle* 14th century Duig, *Sharchelf* 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 *Serue-*), 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 **Seru*, and by 'breaking', **Seoru-* 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 *hæð* '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 *eorþburg* 'earthen 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). *Scarpcliffe* (p) 1261 StCart, *Charpeclif* 1275 SHC V (i) 118, *Sharpecliff* 1292 SHC 1911 216, *Scharpclif* 1310 *ibid.* 437, *Sarpeclif* c.1311 *ibid.* 436, *Sarpeklif* 1311 *ibid.* 437, *Sharpclyf* 1409 SHC XVI 72, *Sharpe Clyffe otherwise Sharpcliffe* 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). *Sharpley Heath* 1772 SRO D1462/9/1-30, 1798 Yates, *Sharply Heath* 1836 O.S. from OE *sc(e)arp* 'sharp, pointed, rugged; steep', with OE *lēah*.

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), *Schete ford* 1271 SHC V (i) 146, *Sheteresford* 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 *scyttere*, *scēotere* (*sc* pronounced [ʃ]) 'shooter, archer', hence 'archer's ford': it is difficult to distinguish *scitere* from *scyttere*, 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(croft)* 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, ? *the Shawe* 1530 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** ½ mile south of Kingsley (SK 0046), ? *Schawe* 1350 SHC XI NS 30, *Shawe* 1659 Kingsley ParReg, *Shaw* 1836 O.S. From OE *scaga* 'wood, copse', with OE *halh*. The name of Shaw near Cheadle survives in Shaw Park Road.

SHAWFIELD 2½ miles south-west of Longnor (SK 0661). *Shawfield* 1566 *Deed*, 1775 Yates, 1840 O.S. From OE *scaga* 'a small wood, a copse, a strip of undergrowth or wood', 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 I 34. 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). *Schebbendon* 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 *dūn* '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 3½ miles south-east of Longnor (SK 1161). *æt Sceon* 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 *scēon*) 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 9854). *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), *Scepeswach*, *Scepewas* 12th century SHC VIII (i) 134-5, *Scepewas* 1261 SHC 1914 120, *Scepeswas* c.1350 SRO D938/10, *Shepwasshe* 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.

SHIELFIELD 3 miles north-east of Walsall (SK 0302). *Scelfeld* 1086 DB, *Schelfhul* 1271 For, *Schelfhulle* 1276 SHC VI (i) 80, *Chelfeld* 1278 *ibid*. 87, *Sheleftel* 1280 SHC VI (i) 147, *Shelfhulle* 1288 *ibid*. 174, *Schelfhulle* 13th century Duig, *Shelfhull* 1300 For, *Shelfel* 1320 SHC 1911 95, *Alta Selfeld* 1327 SHC VII 224, *Sheldfyeld* 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' Shelffield. Cf. Shelffield, 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, *Sheltun* 1227 SHC IV 53, *Schelfstun* 1253 SHC 1911 121, *Scheston* 1280 SHC VI (i) 103, *Selfton* 13th century, *Shelton Harnage* 1369 SRO D641/5/T/1/1, *Shelton under Harley* 1381 SHC XIII 160, *Schelton* 14th century Duig, *Shelton under Horeley* 1617

SHC 1934 (ii) 52, *Shelton* 1559 SRO D641/5/T/1/10, 1747 Bowen. '*Tūn* 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*, *Shyltewode* 1275 Ass, 1388 Ipm, *Schildwode* 1275 Ass, *Schiltwode*, *Shiltwode* 1279 RH, 1374 Pat, *Saltwood* 1291 Tax. PN Wo 364 suggests that the first element may be OE *scielet* (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*, *Schenestane* 13th century Duig, *Schenestone* 14th century Duig, *Shenstonhame* 1414 SHC XVII 6, *Sheinston* c.1540 Leland. Seemingly from OE *scēne* 'bright, shining, beautiful', with OE *stān* 'stone'. The first element is not uncommon in place-names, and is also recorded in combination with *fēld* 'open ground', *dūn* '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 *stān* 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 Laminæ,...gilding 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). *Shepherds'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 *scēap-dūn* 'sheep-hill', or *Schepedon* may be a corruption of Shebdon. Otherwise, perhaps from *scēap* with OE *ēg* '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 *scīr* 'bright, shining', with *brōc* '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 *scīr* 'clean, bright', but the place lies on a parish boundary, so probably OE *scīr* '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, *Shirreuehale(s)*, *Shirreueshales* *ibid*, *Schyreueshale*, *Sireuehales* 1291-2 Ass, *Hales Trussell* 1294 SHC 1911 220, *Shiruehales* 1301 Rees 1975, *Shirevehalys*, *Shirrevehales* 1367 Pat, *Sherreyf Hales* 1398 Pat, *Shereff Halis* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 99, *Shrevehales* 1539 SHC NS V 248, *Sheryfehales* 1577 Saxton, *Sherifehallse*, *Sherifehalse* 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 Bailgiote (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 Sheriffhales: Youngs 1991: 393, 422. There are references to *Little Hales* in the 12th and 13th centuries: SRO D593/B/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 Sheriffhales, with *Sheriffe* lying to the north-east of *Hales*.

SHERIFF'S RIDDING (unlocated.) *Shyrreveriding* 1252 SHC IV 245, *Sheriffs Ridding* c.1737 SRO 5081/1/78-83. 'The sheriff's cleared land', from OE *scīr-(ge)rēfa* '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). (*æt*) *Sciplea* 1002x1004 (11th century, S.906; 11th century, S.1536), *Sciplei* 1086 DB, *Shiple* 1242 Fees, *Schipleg'* (p) 1255 RH, *Schypleg'* 1274 RH, *Shiplegh'* 1291 Ass, *Sheppele* 1291-2 Ass, *Schypele(feldes)*, *Schupele(feldes)* 1294 SHC VII 29, *Shippleye* 1334 SR, *Shypley* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 124, *Shipley* 1577 Saxton. From OE *scēap-lēah* 'sheep lēah'. 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, *Shyreford* 1272 SHC IV (i) 202, *Schereford* 1274 SHC 1911 161, *Sireford*, *Syrefort* ?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, ½ mile south-west of the present Shire Oak crossroads. The last fragments of the tree disappeared c.1895: VCH 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 Nt 108-9).

SHIRKLEY HALL 1½ miles north-west of Horton (SJ 9258). *Shearley Hall* 1672 SRO DW1761/A/4/193, *Sherkley Hall* 1798 Yates, *Shirkley Hall* 1816 SRO DW1909/E/91.

SHIRLEY (FARM, COMMON, HOLLOW, BROOK) ½ 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 *scīr 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 *wīc*, 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 *wīc* 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 TSSAHS 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 *scīr holt* 'shire boundary wood'. For Shirral Park, recorded in the late 15th century, see TSSAHS XXX 1988-9 45-6. See also Sherholt; Schirroidus.

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.

SHIOBNALL 2 miles west of Burton-on-Trent (SK 2223). *Sobehal* 1114 (1798) Shaw I 23, *Sobenala* 1114x1150 SRO D603/A/Add/9, *Schobenhale* 1188x1197 SRO D603/A/Add/36b, *Schobenhale*, *Scobehal* 1247 SRO D603/A/Add/9, *Schobenh'* 1262 SHC 1937 67, *Schobinhale* 1295 *ibid*, *Shopinhale* c.1345 (1798) Shaw I 24, *Shopenhale* 1406 CalPat, *Shopunhalle* 1441 *ibid*, *Shobenall* 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 Maldemead, Berkshire: Gelling & Cole 2000: 232.

SHOOTERHILL (obsolete) on Lightwood Common, Meirheath (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*, *Schort-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 **sc(e)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) ½ 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.

SHORT HEATH 2 miles north-east of Wednesfield (SJ 9801). ? *Smalhetgrene* 1360 SRO D593/B//1/26/6/18/5, *Short Heath* 1834 O.S. Self-explanatory. *Sherthethesend* is recorded in 1368 in the Swynnerton area: SRO D641/5/T/1/1.

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, *Schortewodde* 1535 PN Wo 364. From OE **sceort* 'short', with OE *wudu* 'a wood'. The second place was in Tardebigge parish, forming part of Staffordshire from c.1100 until 1266, in Warwickshire until 1844, and since that date in Worcestershire.

SHOTWOOD HILL between Rolleston and Tutbury (SK 2228). *Schotwod (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 **scēot* '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...'.

SHOWELL, 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 wyllan (brðc)* 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, *Shewells*, *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, widow of Earl Aelfgar, 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 *scīr hēah-lēah* 'the *lēah* 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, *Scradycote*, *Shredicot(e)*, *Shradecote* (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 Sheriffhales: Field 1993: 68. See also PN Ch V (II) xviii.

SHUGBOROUGH 4 miles east of Stafford (SJ 9922). *Shokeburew* 1285 SHC 1914 32, *Schukeburg* 1328 SRO D3718/5, *Schukkeburgh* 1377 SHC X NS (ii) 55, *Shokkeburgh*, *Shukburgh*, *Shutborrow* 14th century, *Shitborough* 1483 SHC VI (i) 151, *Shutborow* 1465 SRO D615/D/(16), *Shutborrow*, *Shokesborow*, *Shukesborow*, *Shottboro* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 63, *Showtboro* 1539 SHC V (i) NS 309, *Shocborow*, *Shuckesbyry*, *Shuckesborough*, *Shukborow*, *Suchborows*, *Shokesborow* c.1540 Leland ii 169; v 21-2, *Shuchborow*, *Shulborow* 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 Ipm, *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(ē)ot*) with OE *stān* 'stone'. The derivation is thus 'the shooting stone' (whatever that might be), or 'the stone of *Sc(ē)ot*'.

SHUSTOKE 1 mile south-west of Great Barr (SO 0395). *Shestock* (p) Roper 1980: 9, *Shustocke* (p) 1621 *ibid.* 191, *Shewstocke 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 *scēte*, related to *sceat* 'nook, corner', or an OE personal name such as **Scytta*, with OE *stocc* '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 (TSSAHS 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'.

SHUTLANEHEAD 1½ miles north-east of Whitmore (SJ 8242). *Shutlane* 1673 SHC VII 145, *Shutland-head* 1686 Plot, 1695 Morden, *Shutlane Head* 1696 SHC VII 145, *Shuttlanehead* 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, *Shuttgreen* 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 1½ miles west of Horton (SJ 9257). *Shyittershaw* 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'.

[**SIBEFORD** 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) *sīdan hēale* 'broad or spacious corner of land'. In Tardebigge parish, forming part of Staffordshire from c.1100 until 1266, in Warwickshire until 1844, and since that date in Worcestershire. *Sidnall Brook* in Kynesley 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 2½ 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, *Sydwey otherwise Sydwaye* 1589 SHC XVIII 6, *Sidway* 1609 SHC III NS 46, *Sydweye* 16th century SHC IX NS 198;

SIDEWAY (pronounced Sیدderway [sیدəwei]) 2 miles west of Longton (SJ 8743), ? *Sydwey* 1327 *Tooth* 2000b: 61, *Sideway* 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 *sīd* '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, *Selkemo* 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 **sēol*, **stol* 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 JHMS 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 SHC 1939 116, *Senny 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 *sīdan hēale* '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 Hickenelstreet [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/B/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, *Slacke 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, ½ 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 *slæd* '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 Bunbury Hill; Ina's Rock; Yornburi.

SLATE HOUSE (FARM) ½ 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 *slétta* '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 SHC 1911 122, *Slyndon* 1311 *ibid*. 77, *Slyndone* 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 *dān* '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 *slīm* '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 *brōc*.

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, *Smalrys* c.1276-1300 SHC 1921 25, 1318 SHC 1911 92, 1364 SHC X NS (ii) 117, *Smalrys* 1423 SHC XVII 11, *Smalrich* 1481 SHC VI NS (i) 135, *Smallrice* 1580 SHC XV 148, *Smaleryse* 1581 SHC XVI 116, *Smalerise* 1591 SHC 1934 18. From OE *smæl* 'narrow, thin', and OE *hrfs* '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'. *Smaethornis*, recorded in the 13th century (SHC XI 324), appears to have been in Barlaston.

SMALLWOOD 2 miles south-east of Uttoxeter (SK 1029). *Smalwode* 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 siche* 1626 Rental, *Snedley 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 *lēah* and OE *sƿc* '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. *Smethestall* 1300, *Smethestalle(smor)* 1301 SHC 4th Series XVIII 188, *Smethestalle(-ford)* 1360 For, *Smestall* 1404 (1801) Shaw II 215, *Smethestall* 1465 SHC 1928 49, *Smestall* 1577 Saxton, *Smestal* 1686 Plot, *Smestow(e) Brook* 1778 *EnclA*, *The Smestal* 1844 Erdeswick 1844. It is possible that *Smethestall* is the old name of a pool in the river Trysull (perhaps near Smestow, where the river Trysull receives a tributary stream), from Mercian OE *stæll* 'a place for catching fish' (cf. stall-net, 'a net laid across a river'), or OE *steall* as in *watersteal* 'stagnant water', with OE *smēðe* 'smooth', or OE *smeðe* '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 Trysull (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. *Smethestallesmor*, 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 [smeðɪk]) 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* 1327 SHC VII 234. Probably from OE *smede* 'a smith, metalworker', and OE *wīc* '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 END (obsolete) on the north side of Yoxall (SK 1419). *Snelles-end* 1499 (1798) Shaw I 98, *Snellis End* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 172, *Snayles End* 1631 NA DD/P/6/3/40, *Snails End* 1724 SRO 5166/1/144-9, *Snail's End* 1836 O.S. Possibly from the OE personal name Snell or an Anglicised form of ON Sniallr

SNAILS GREEN (obsolete, in Great Barr (SO 0495).) *Snails Green* 1686 Plot, 1775 Yates, 1834 O.S., *Sneales Greene Howse* 1693 BCA MS3145/93/1a & b, *Sneal's Green* 1834 White. 'The grassy area with the snails'.

SNAPE MARSH (unlocated, near Shelton, Hanley.) *Snapemarshe* 1597 SHC 1935 10, *Snape Marsh (House)* 1615 SRO D3272/1/17/4/6-8, Ward 1834: App. xlii, *Snape Marsh* 1657 SRO D3272/1/10/4/1. 'The marsh with the snape'.

SNELSDALE ½ mile north-west of Mayfield (SK 1546). *Snellesdale* 1227 SHC IV 58, 1240 SHC VII NS 145, *Snelesdale*, *Swelesdale* 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* [sneɪd]) 1½ 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, *Sned* 1326 JNSFC LIX 1924-5 37, *Snete* 1414 SHC XVII 19, *Sneade Greyne* c.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; *Hamile*, *Hamil* 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 *hēafod* '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, *Smokestones* (p) 1423 SHC XVII 89, *Snokstone* (p) 1444, *Snokystone* (p) 1447 Salt 1888: 94. The first element is possibly a personal name, perhaps **Snaroc*, which is found in *Snarestone*, 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 *dūn* '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 **snōr*, 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[rench] 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 *sól* 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 flatt* 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 ObIR, 1285 FA, *Sonterford* 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 laine*: 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 ½ mile north-west of Cellarhead (SJ 9548). *Southley* 1705 Stoke on Trent ParReg, *South Low* 1836 O.S. Probably from OE *sūð-hlāw* 'southern low or tumulus'.

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. SHC 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, *Sow* 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 *sēaw*, 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 uppon the ryver of Sowe with a dwelling howse caled 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). *Sowfield* 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.), formerly known as Sow Street.

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, a bridge over the river Hamps: SHC 1913 (i) 28.) The bridge is recorded *temp.* Henry III: *ibid.*

SPASHBROOKE (unlocated) *Spashbrooke* 1718 SRRC 465/335.

SPATH 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 *sparð* '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 Houndhill 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)). *Sperehull* 1472 TSSAHS XXVIII 1986-7 9, *Sperehyll* c.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.

SPELOWE 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 *hlāw* '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 (?holy) place where assemblies were held', suggesting a possible association with Kelmestowe (q.v.).

SPICERS STONE on Cheddleton Heath, 1 mile north of Cheddleton (SJ 9853). *Spicer's Stone* 1771 SHC 1934 136, *Spices Stone* 1836 O.S. Evidently named from someone called Spicer.

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 *spēc*.

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 Spytell* 1371 SRRC 2089/2/2/24, *Spitele* 1375 Ipm, *Spyttull* 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 SHC IV 103, 1343 SHC XII 31, 1344 SHC XVII 9, 1381 *ibid.* 174, *Spon(howse)* 1560 SHC 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 ½ 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, *Spond-house* 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 X 91, c.1452 SHC 1939 233, 1552 SHC XII (i) 209, *Spotgraunge* 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 *spott* '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 ½ mile east of Wetley Rocks (SJ9749), *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, *Spraghous* 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 probaly 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** 1½ 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*, *Spryngwall* 1255 SHC V (i) 111, ? *Sprengewell* 1286 SHC 4th Series XVIII 153, ? *Springwalle*, *Spryngwall* 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 *wælle*, 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-slæd* '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 *brōc* 'a brook': *Springewall* is recorded in 1300 SHC V (i) 177, *Springwalls broke* 1586 Ct, *Springwall* 1841 TA. There are several instances of Springwell in Shropshire (see PN Sa III 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 Brewood in 1598 and 1650: 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 III 137; 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 Chadds Well* 1833 O.S. 'Ceatta's spring', from OE Mercian *wælle* '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.

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, *Stablton [sic]* 1628 SRO D641/5/T/1/10, *Stableford (Bridge)* 1656 Eccleshall ParReg, *Stablefoard (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, *Stalfort* 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, *Stodmorlee* 1466 SHC NS IV 138, *Stadmoreslowe* 1586 SHC 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 *hlāw*, 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). *Stæf-forda*, *Stæfford*, *Staffordaburh* 913 ASC, *Stadford*, *Statford* 1086 DB, *Stephordi* 1102 VCH VI 200, *Stadfort* 1115x1120 CEC 13, *Statford* 1130 SHC I 1, *Stafford* 1162 SHC I 35. Possibly 'the ford by a *stæþ* or landing-place'; the name and place are considered in more detail in the Introduction. See also Staffordshire.

STAFFORDSHIRE first recorded as *Stæfford(scir)* 1016 ASC (D, E), *Steffordscire*, *Stæffordscire* 1062-6 ASWrits (11th century, S.1140), *Stadfordshire*, *Statfordshire* 1086 DB, *Stadfordscire* 11th century Sawyer 1979a: xxxv, *Statfordsiræ*, *Statfordscira* 1130 SHC I 1, 1188 *ibid*. 140. 'County of

Stafford'. The *-shire* element is from OE *scīr*, 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 dæl* '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, *Stalbroke* 1385 SHC XIII 189, 1538 SRO D1810/f105d, *Strawbrook (Hall)* 1836 O.S. From OE *stall*, *steall* 'place; stable, stall; pool in a river', with OE *brōc* '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 the first element of the name is a folktname, probably Stælingas, possibly derived from OE *stæl* 'place', so giving 'the people or followers at Stæl', but the name is an *-intūn* name, not an *-ingatūn* formation, and the personal name Stal is unrecorded, although it may be a pet-form of St(e)allere: see Tengvik 1938: 270. Perhaps 'Stæl's tūn', or possibly from OE *stān-hlinc* 'stony hill', with OE *tūn*: the place lies on a bank rising from the south side of a tributary of the river Blithe.

STAMBERLOWE (unlocated, in Pattingham.) *Stamberlowe* 1582 SRO DW1807/378, *Stamberloo* 1723 Brighton 1942: 111. From OE *stān*, *burna* 'stony stream', with OE *hlāw* '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 *stān*, *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). *Stanieford* 996 (for 994) (17th century, S.1380), *Staunford*' (p) 1245-50 MRA, *Stoniford* 1300 SHC V (i) 177, *Stawntiford* 1506 SHC 1928 115. From OE *stānig* '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). *Standford 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.).

STANDON Ancient Parish 4 miles north of Eccleshall (SJ 8134). *Stantone* 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 *stān-tūn* 'tūn on stony ground', or possibly 'tūn at the stone': the exposed sandstone here suggests 'the tūn 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 . *Stanfordbrok* 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, *Stanlegh* 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-lēah* 'the stony *lēah*': 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 ½ mile south-west of Bemersley Green (SJ 8853). *Stanlowe* 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 Paffard [Pasford] Bridge* 1542 SRO D593/A/2/11/9; **STANLOW (HALL)** 2½ miles south-west of Leek (SJ 9554), *Stanlow* 1210 SHC XI 332, *Stanlewe* 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, *Staneshop(e)* 1203 Ass, *Stansope* 1227 SHC IV (i) 43, *Stansop* 1329 SHC 1913 21, *Stanhapp* 1420 Signet Letter C81/1365/26, *Stansoppe* 1598 SHC 1935, *Stanshop* 1603 SHC 1935 477, *Stansop*

1686 Plot. Possibly '*Stān'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.

STANSLEY (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 Blithefeld*: SHC 1937 47), the name is *Lēofstān's lēah* 'the wood by Leofstan's glade', with the later loss of the first syllable. Otherwise *Stān's lēah* 'Stān's wood or clearing'. See also SHC 1919 100.

STANSMORE (HALL) ½ mile north-west of Dilhorne (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 SHC IX (i) 49, 1328 SHC 1913 16, 1339 *ibid.* 79. From OE *stān-tūn*, probably 'tūn on stony ground', but possibly 'tūn 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, *Stapenhull* c.1180 SHC VII NS 132, *Stapenhul* 1188x1197 SRO D603/A/Add/36b, *Stapunhill* 1316 FA, *Stapenhull(e)* 1330 Ass, *Stapulhull* 1404 Burton, *Stapenhyll* 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 (*æt þære*) *stēapan hylle* 'steep hill', with early shortening of *ēa*, 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. Bassetts 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 *þing* in the sense 'possession', so here meaning 'land belonging to Handsacre'.

STAR WOOD on the north side of Oakamoor (SK 0545). *Starwood* 1823 SOT D240/E(A)2/198(1)-(2). Perhaps associated with *the Star*, recorded in 1771: SRO D240/D/119, *The Star*, *Old Star* 1836 O.S.

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 *stāger*, *holt* 'wood with the stair-like ascent', with *holt* 'wood' later replaced with *wood*. It is unclear whether *Starefeld*, recorded in 1542 (1883) Sleight 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, ? *Stodford*, *Stofford* 1242 Fees, *Stotfield* 1291 Tax, *Stotfeld*, *Stocfeld* 1284 FA, *Stotesfeld* 1293 Ass, *Stotfold* 1326 (1798) Shaw I 410, *Stotfolt* 1327 SR, *Stodefolt* 1441 SBT DR37/2/Box89, *Stotfolde* 1514 OSS 1936 56, *Stodefolt* 1542 SBT DR37/2/Box91/16. Probably OE *stōd-falod* 'stud-fold'. It is possible that the first element is from late OE *stott* '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'. *stod faldes* 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, *Stele 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 ½ 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.*

286, *Styvyngton* 1318 *ibid.* 85, *Styvynton* 1332 SHC X 89, *Styvington* 1349 SHC 1919 13, *Stineton* c.13th century SHC VIII 169, 1382 SHC XIII 172, *Steventon* 1414 SHC XVII 52, *Stenson* 1541 SHC 1919 58, *Steven Wood* 1575 Parker 1897: 371, *Steen Wood* 1706 *ibid.* 121. Perhaps from OE *styfic* 'clearing' (EPNE ii 166): cf. *Steventon*, Hampshire (Coates 1989: 155). See also SHC 1914 157; SHC 1919 12-3. Cf. St. Stephen's Hill.

STEEP LOW ½ mile north-west of Alstonefield (SK 1256). *Steeplow* 1840 O.S.

STEEPLEHOUSE FARM ½ mile north-west of Ilam (SK 1351). *Steeple House* 1838 O.S., *Stapleshouse* 1851 White. From OE *stēpel* '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 *mōr*, here probably meaning 'marshland'.

STEW PONEY, 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. *Stanclewe*, 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 Stewpony 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 Stewpony' (VCH XX 124), suggesting that the name Stewpony 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 (Ferne 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 *-pony*, 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 tufft 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 sulphurous 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 *stocc* '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, ½ mile south of Balterley (SJ 7749)). Stocking is from OE **stoccing* (from OE *stocc* '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 **stoccing* 'the cleared land with the tree stumps'.

STOCKLEY PARK 2 miles south of Tutbury (SK 2025). *Stochileam* 1170 TutCart, *Stokel'* 1261 *ibid*, *Stokkeleye* 1296 SHC 1911 251, *Stockelegh* 1324 *ibid*. 358, *Stackeleye* 1326 HLS 267, *Stockley parke* 1798 Shaw I 60. For the first element see Stockton. The second element is from OE *lēah*, which may originally have been *lēum*, dative plural of *lēah*, 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 *tūn*. 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, *Stockwell Heath* 1775 Yates, *Stockwell Heath* 1836 O.S.; **STOCKWELL END** on the north side of Tettenhall (SJ 8800). Probably from OE *stocc* 'stock, trunk of a tree' (but see also Stockton), with Mercian OE *wælle* '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). *Stoche* 1086 DB, *Stoch* 1166 SHC 1923 297, *Stokes* 1223 SHC IV 223, *Stoke* 1224 *ibid.* 31, *Stokes subtus 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 SHC 4th Series 8 131, *Stone* 1610 Speed. From OE *stān* or *stānas* '(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 Werbod, 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 Wulfhere. The first known record of the Mercian version associating the legend with the Staffordshire place, possibly recording local oral tradition, is the *Passio*

Sanctorum Wlfadi 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 SHC VII 107, *Stone Edge* 1775 Yates, *Stony Edge* 1842 O.S. From OE *stānig*, with OE *ecg*, 'stony edge'. *Stonihegge* (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'.

STONE PARK 1 mile east of Stone (SJ 9134). *Stone Park* 1658 SRO D4913/B/1/2, *Stone Parke* 1663 SHC II (ii) 35, SHC V (ii) 103, *Stone Park* 1679 SHC 1919 262. 'The park at Stone'.

STONE TROUGH 1 mile south-west of Biddulph (SJ 8656). *Stantrough* 1644 SHC 4th Series I 59, *Stone Trow* 1644 Wolstanton ParReg, *Stonetrough* 1658 *ibid*, *Stone Trough* 1836 O.S. Self-explanatory.

STONEGETON (unlocated, possibly near Curborough.) *Stonegeton* c.1563 SHC 1938 35.

STONEHOUSE (LOWER) on north side of Brown Edge (SJ 8954). *Stonhouse* 1333 SHC X 94, *Stone House* 1836 O.S. Self-explanatory.

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 *Asternwalle* '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 *wælle*. It is possible that *Wal*, recorded in 1327 (SHC VII 218) refers to this place.

STONEY CLIFFE ½ miles south-east of Upper Hulme (SK 0160). ? *Staniclif* 13th century SHC IX NS 313, ? *Staniclyf* 1326 JNSFC LIX 1925-5 42, *Stonycliff* 1438 BodCh, *Stoney Cliffe* 1586 VCH VII 33, *Stonie Cliff* 1645 SHC 4th Series I 266, *Stoniecliffe* 1645 *ibid*. 308, *Stonycliffe* 1667 Leek ParReg. Self-explanatory.

STONEYFOLD 1 mile north of Butterson (SK 0757). *Stone Fould* 1680 Alstonefield ParReg, *Stonefould* 1691 *ibid*, *Stone fold Moor* 1723 *ibid*, *Stonyford* 1840 O.S. From *fal(o)d* 'a pen or enclosure for domestic animals', hence 'the stone-walled stock enclosure'.

STONNAL, UPPER & LOWER 2 miles south-east and 1 mile east of Brownhills (SK 0603 & SK 0803). *Stonehala* 1140 (1801) Shaw II 53, *Stanahala* 1143 Oxf, *Stanhala* 1166 SHC 1923 295, *Parva Stanhale* 1209 SHC 1923 277, *Stonhale* 1271 For, *Stanhale* 1273 SHC VI (i) 61, *Stonhal* Hy III BM, *Stonhale* 1443 SHC XI 255, *Netherstonewall* 1578 SHC XIV 196, *Stonwall* 1590 SHC 1930 87, *Upper Stonnal*, *Lower Stonnall*, *Stonnall Chapel*, *Stonall Gorse* 1834 O.S. 'Stony *halh*'. The 1209 form incorporates *parva* 'little', and the 1578 spelling *nether* 'lower'.

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, *Stonybrok* 1332 SR. Self explanatory.

STONYDELPH on the south side of Tamworth (SK 2301). *Stanidelf* 1202 FF, 1229x1260 SHC 1937 63, *Staindelf in Tamworth* 1284 Ipm, *Stanydelf* (p) 1327 SR, 1405 SHC XVI 47, *Stonydelph* 1359 SRO 3764/109[31759], *Stonidelfe* c.1360 (1798) Shaw I 15, *Stanydelff* 1542 BSE E18/222/4, *Stonydell* 1569 ParReg, *Stanidelfe* 1656 Dugdale, *Stony Delph* 1666 FF. From OE *stān-(ge)delf* '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 1½ miles north-east of Yoxall (SK 1520). *Stony-ford* 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.).

STONELOW 1 mile south-east of Madeley (SJ 7943). *Stonylowe* 1332 SHC X 101, *Stannelowe* 1547 SHC XII 191, *Stonylowe* c.1565 SHC 1938 185, *Stonylow* c.1566 SHC IX NS 88, *Stonnielowe* 1645 SHC 4th Series I 262, *Stannylow* 1679 SHC 1919 255, *Stoney Low* 1833 O.S. 'The stony low or burial mound', from OE *hlāw* '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). *Stony 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). *Stoniwelle* 1272X1307 Erdeswick 1844: 242, *Stoniewell* 1297 SRO D1734, *Stamwell* 1307 SHC 1911 286, *Stoniwalle* 1327 SHC VII (i) 231, *Stonywall* 1332 SHC X 110, *Stoniwalle*, *Stonywalle* 14th century Duig, *Stoniwel* 1561 HLS, *Stonwell* 1597 SHC 1932 318. From OE Mercian *wælle* '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), (*æt*) *Sture* 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

stūr, 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, **stor*, or ON *storr* '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 *stūr* 'unfriendly', Norwegian *stūr* '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 Stourton Castle* c.1540 Leland v 20. 'The *tūn* 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*.

STOW HEATH 1½ miles east of Wolverhampton (SO 9498). *Stowheth* c.1272 (1801) Shaw II 150, *le Stowheth* c.1295 Mander & Tildesley 1960: 31, *Stoweheth* 1327 SHC 1913 8, 1467 SHC NS IV 145, 1537 SHC 1912 93, *Stowheath* c.1565 SHC 1938 187, 1592 SHC 1930 355, *Stowhethe* 1571 SRO D440/18[SF35], *Stoweheathe* 1608 SHC 1948-9 102. The name of the largest of three Wolverhampton manors, probably formed early in the early 13th century, which included the east part of Wolverhampton, Bilston and part of Willenhall: see Shaw 1801: II 166; WA II 103; SHC 1911 143-4. OE *stōw* had several meanings, including '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 Hooke & 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.

STOWE ½ 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 SHC III (i) 56, *Stowe* 1242 Fees, 1251 Ch, 1278 SHC 1924 156, 1304 *ibid.* 311, *Le Stowe subtus Certeley* 1271 SRO 465/7910, *Stowe subtus 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 assembly', but often with the specialised meaning 'holy place'. In place-names dating from before the Danish wars the word was used for sites associated with the physical presence of saints, either during their lifetime or as the place of their burial: Gelling 1992: 97. This is certainly the case for the Lichfield Stowe, which is the reputed site of St Chad's 7th century hermitage and where he died (and is recorded as Stowe in the 12th or 13th century: VCH XIV 7), but it is not inconceivable that the place was so-named because it was already a Christian site when the place was chosen for the first Mercian cathedral (cf. Eccleshall and its Celtic Christian history), but no evidence has been traced to support such a meaning in the case of Stowe by Chartley. *Stowelond* in Lichfield 'which extended to the king's way leading from Burton to Lichfield', is recorded in 1333: SHC 1939 94. See also Stow Elm; Stowheath.

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 *Streighthey*: 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). *Stagrighesholle* 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 SHC 1913 8, 17, *Strongkeshill* 1339 *ibid.* 78, *Stronggeshull* 1391 SRO D786/3/1, *Stronsheff* 1415 SHC XVII 56, *Strangsil* 1419 *ibid.* 68, *Strongeshill* 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 '*Strangrīc's hill'. The reversion to *Stran-* since the 17th century is noteworthy.

STRANGLEFORD BIRCH 1½ miles west of Brewood (SJ 8508). *Strangelford* 1300 SHC 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.*, *Strangleford* (p) 1327 SR, 1382 SHC XIII 17, *Strangulford* 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 *strangle* is a provincial or dialect word for the orobanche and cuscuta plant, also called choke-fitch, chokeweed, strangletare, 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 *strangle* 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, *Stretford juxta Wilmundecote* 1313 Pat, *Streforth juxta Tamworth* 1375 Ipm, *Stretford* 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 *stræt ford* '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 *stræt* 'Roman road', with OE *tūn* and OE *dæl*, 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, *Strithay* 1216x1272 SRO DW1734/J/1762, *Strethai* 1247 SHC 1911 118, *Stretheye* 1262 For, *Strethay* 1272 SHC 1910 108, *Stretehay* 1470 SHC 1939 122, *Strettey* 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)heg* '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. From OE *stræt*, *lēah* 'The *lēah* on the Roman road'. 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.) *Stretford near Chesterton* 1583 Worfield ParReg, *Stretford (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 I 273. In Shropshire since the 12th century.

STRETMESLE (unlocated) *Stretmesle, Stremesle* 1199 SHC 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), *Estretone* 1086 DB, *Strattona* 1175 SHC III (i) 226, *Strettona* c.1182 SHC II 256, *Stretton* 1242 Fees, 1286 SHC V (i) 165, *Stretton-juxta-Horsebrook* 1380 SHC NS II 60, *Stretton be Strete* 1433 SHC XVII 146, *Downnys Stretton* 1491 SHC 1931 241; **STRETTON** 2 miles north-east of Burton upon Trent (SK 2526), *Stretton* 941 (14th century, S.479), *Strættun* 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 *stræt-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. *Downnys* 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 *stræt-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 *stræt* '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 *strind* 'a stream'.

STRINES 1 mile north-east of Upper Hulme (SK 0361). *Blakemerstrundes* 1270x1286 StCart, *Strines* 1415 VCH VII 33, *Streins* 1566 *Deed*, *Blacmeer Stroynes* 1626 Rental, *Blackmeer Stroynes* 1668 Alstonefield ParReg, *Blackmeere Strynes* 1670 *ibid*, *Blackmere Strynes* 1670 Rental, *the Strines* 1677 Alstonefield ParReg, *Strines* 1775 Yates. Probably from the plural of ME *strind*, 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 *strang* '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.)) *Stubbeley* c.1230 SHC 1921 18, 1286 SHC VI (i) 174, *Stubbleley* 1250 SHC XI 319, *Stolbeleye, 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 identified 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.) *Stubcross* 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 (*Stubbs Wood* 1891 O.S.), 1 mile north-west of Ranton (SJ 8425).

STURBRIDGE 1 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, ½ 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). *Tichebroc* 1086 DB, *Stichelesbroc* c.1200 SHC 1939 87, *Stichelesbrok* 1248 SHC IV 241, *Sticheslesbroch* early 13th century SRO (150/7923), *Stichesbroc* mid 13th century *ibid*, *Stichesbroke* 1291 SHC 1911 45, *Sichelesbroc*, *Sichesbroc*, *Sticklesbrok* 13th century Duig, *Stikesbrok* 1302 SHC 1911 59, *Schitesbrok* 1325 SHC 1939 93, *Stychebrok* 1363 SHC 1939 98, *Stichebrook* 1394 SHC VI (ii) 188, *Stychebroke* 1410 *ibid*, *Stichbrooke (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 *brȝc* 'brook', presumably what is now Circuit Brook: VCH 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 which 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 Coplow 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, *Sukerhall* 1395 ChancM, *Seturhall* 1496 SHC 4th Series VII 170, *Sewkeworth alias Sucars 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 Cotwalton. '...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 *Sturry (Meadow)* in 1770: SRO D3272/1/4/3/17-20. 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 *cauce* '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, *Suthon* 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 *tūn*'. Whitelock 1930: 157 identifies *Suðtune*, 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 *Suðtune* is immediately preceded in the will by *Sciplea* (Shipley q.v.), 1½ 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, *Swaynesmor* 1302 SHC 1911 59, *Sweynesmor* 1348 Banco, *Sweynsmore* 1511 SHC 1935 123, 1522 SHC 1925 121, *Swannes Meyre* 1538 SHC 1939 84, *Swaynesmore* 1650 SRO DW1761/A/4/267[10/105], *Swenesmoore* 1675 Alstonefield ParReg, *Sweanes Moore* 1676 *ibid*, *Swans Moor* 1798 Yates, *Swainsmoor* 1839 *EnclA*, *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.

SWANCOTE 2 miles south-west of Worfield (SO 7494). *Swanecot* 1208-9 For, *Swankote* 1512 Worfield CA, *Swancote* 1525 SR, *Swancott* 1571 Worfield ParReg, *Swancot* 1752 Rocque. Either OE *swān* 'herd, swineherd', originally 'young man, servant', with OE *cot* 'cottage', or 'the cottage with the swans'. In Shropshire since the 12th century.

SWANFORD (unlocated) in Dunston, 4 miles south of Stafford. *Suanford*, *Swanfurd* 13th century SHC VIII (i) 165, *Swanford* 1532 Deed, *Swainford* 1598 Ct. Self-explanatory. *Swanne Medowe otherwise Earles meadow in Dunston* is recorded in 1587: SHC 1927 173. Yates' map of 1798 shows *Swan Lane* at what is now Drayton Manor, 1 mile north of Penkridge: cf. *Swan-Lane-End* 1686 Penkridge ParReg. The 1598 bounds of Penkridge indicate that Swanford lay between Teddesley Hay and the river Penk: Oakden 1984: 102. The name is likely to be from the bird.

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 Swane the Smith hereabouts (SHC 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.

SWARBOURN, RIVER a tributary of the river Trent. *Suereburn* early 13th century BM, *Swereburne* 1252 RydewareCh, *Sweb(o)urn* 1337, 1341, 1443 Ct, *Swerborn'* 1192-1247 SHC 4th Series IV 79, *Suereburn'* 13th century BM, *Swarborn(e)*, *-burn(e)* 1414 Rental, 1509, 1512, 1516, 1568 1586 Ct, 1686 Plot, *Swerborne brook* 1571 NA DD/4P/24/55, *Swarbourn Brook* 1834 O.S. A derivation from

OE *swær* 'heavy, oppressive, 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 *swēora* '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). *Suesneshed* 1086 DB, *Suinesheved* c.1230 SHC VI (i) 11, *Swyneshd* 1256 SHC XII NS 85, *Swinesheved* 1261 SHC XI 324, *Swinesheuid* c.1266 SHC 1924 360, *Suenisheved* 1272-3 SHC XI NS 242, *Swyneshed* 1283 SHC 1911 180, *Sueneshefd* 1287 SHC 1921 16, *Sweneshead* 1373 SHC 1914 37, *Swyneshede* 1425 SHC XVII 111. The first element is from OE *swīn* 'swine, pig', and the second is from OE *hēafod* '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 *hēafod* '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 *hēafod* 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 hatching 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 indelicate. 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 hæfed* in 675 (ASC 'E'), *æt 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 SHC 1923 298, *Suindun* 1236 Fees, *Swyndon* 1271 SHC V (i) 141, *Swyneden* 1275 SHC VI (i) 71, *Suyndon* 1300 SHC VII 66, *Swyndon* 1332 SHC X (i) 130, *Sevindon* (sic) 1775 Yates, 1787 Cary. From OE *swīn-dūn* 'hill of the pig or swine'. The place lay in Kinver Forest, where the pasturage of swine was an important privilege.

SWINESHEAD - see **SWINCHURCH**.

SWINFEN 3 miles south-east of Lichfield (SK 1305). *Swyneffen* 1232 Ass, *Swynefen* 1252 FF, 1294 SHC VI (i) 294, *Swynfend* 1255 (1801) Shaw II 29, *Swinesfeud*, *Swynefen*, *Swynesfen* 13th century

Duig, *Wynfyn* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 184, *Swinefeld* c.1540 Leland. 'The fen of the swine', from OE *swīn* 'swine, pig', and OE *fen* 'marsh, fen', and OE *feld* 'open ground'. The area here is low lying.

SWINNERTON - 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, *Swinescow* 1254 Okeover, *Swineschoch* (p) 1275 FF, *Swinescohe* 1280 Banco, *Swynescou* 1281 Ass, *Swynescogh* 1295 SHC 1911 55, *Swynescho* 1299 Ass, *Svineskoch*, *Swyneschouh*, *Swenesco*, *Swenescho*, *Swynescough*, *Swenestoch* ?13th century SHC VII NS 142-64, *Swinesc(h)o(h)* 1318 Okeover, *Swyneskow(e)* 1414 *ibid*, *Swynstoo* 1539 MA, *Swynskoo* 1564 Pat, *Swynscoe* 1606 FF, *Swainscow otherwise Swainscoewe*, *Swynscow* 1605 SHC IV NS 5. The first element is from OE *swīn*, or ON *svīn* '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). *Svlvertone* 1086 DB, *Swineduna Helye* 1166-7 SHC I 49, *Swaneforton* c.1195 SHC XI NS 125, *Sinvertona* c.1199 SHC II 95, *Suinerton*, *Silverton* 1205 SHC III 134, *Swiluerton* 1206 Pleas, *Soulverton* 1206 SHC 1912 269, *Sumerverton* 1228 SHC IV 74, *Swynnertona* 1230 SHC 1912 270, *Swilverston* 1236 Fees, *Suinnerton* 1242 *ibid*, *Surlton* 1263 SHC IV 154, *Sonnerton* 1264 SHC 1912 269, *Swynaferton*, *Swynforton* 1272 Ass, *Silvereston* 1275 SHC I 174, *Swynemerton* 1289 SHC VI (i) 181, *Swonnerton* 1320 SHC 1912 269, *Swinnerton* (frequently), *Swynefarton* 13th century Duig, *Swilveston*, *Silveston* 13th century SHC I 174, *Swyndverton* 1326 SHC IX (i) 113, *Swineforton* 1355 *ibid*. 324, *Sonnertone* 1372 SHC 1912 269, *Swynarton* 1404 HLS, *Swenerton* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 137. Ekwall 1960: 457 gives a derivation from OE *Swīnford-tūn* 'tūn 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 'tūn at the ford with the wallowing place', and 'tūn 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. *Silverton*, 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 *sulhforda* 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

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). *Swythomlee* 1180, 1283 *Brocklehurst*, *Swythamley-grange* 1234, *Switholm* c.1291 Tax, *Swythuley* 1406, *Swythunley* 1534, *Swythaley* 1538, *Swythumley-graunge* 1538 (all NSFC LXVII 51-70), *Swytherley* 1540 Pat, *Swithorn le Graunge* 1599 SHC 1935 212, *Swithanly* 1607 Kip, *Swythern-grange*, *Swythernley* 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 *sviða* 'to burn': see Ekwall 1960: 457 s.n. Swithland; JEPNS I 37), 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 Swythamley 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 (*æt þæm*) *sīdan 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). *Fricscote* 1086 DB, *Siricescotan* 11th or 12th century Sawyer 1979a: xxxvii, *Sireskote* 1236 Fees, *Sirescot* 1242 Fees, *Sidecote* 1292 SHC VI (i) 247, *Shyrescote* 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, *Sierscotte* c.1566 SHC 1938 170, *Surcote*, *Surcot* 1566 SHC IX 79, *Sierrot* 1753 BCA MS3878/613. The DB *F-* is clearly an error for *Si-*. The name means 'the cot or cottages of Sigeric'.

SYTCH HOUSE GREEN 2 miles south-west of Claverley (SO 7890). From OE *sīc* 'a watercourse'. It is unclear whether *Scythe*, 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/J/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 *tæppa* '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 *brōc* 'brook'. See also Hooke 1983: 90.

TAGG MOOR - 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/WII44. 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 *Tomsætan* 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*, *Tomnehor* 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), *Tamouuorthie* 781 (11th century, S.120), *Tamouuorthige* 781 (11th century S.121), (*æt*) *Tome wordige* 799 (13th century, S.155), *Tomeworðig* 808 (9th century, S.163), *Tomeuuorðig* 841 (S.198), *Tomweorthin* 855 (11th century, S.207), *Tameworþig* 922 ASC, *Tom[wy]rðin* 1002x1004 (11th century, S.1536), *Tamuuorde* 1086 DB, *Tamwurda* 1179 SHC I 90, *Tamewurd*, *Tamewurde* 1190 Ch, *Thammoth* 1271 SHC V (i) 147, *Thomworye*, *Thamworye*, *Thamworyie* c.1280 SHC 1921 4, *Thamworyie* c.1280 SHC 1921 5, *Thamewourthe* 1292 SHC VI (i) 247, *Thamworthe* 1313 SHC 1911 313, *Toneworthe* 1396 SHC XV 76. The second element is from OE *worþig*, 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 *tūn* on the river Tame' (SHC 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 *tūn* 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 *worþig* element: see TSSAHS 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.

TANSLEY HILL 1 mile south-east of Dudley (SO 9589). *Tansley Hill* 1834 O.S. Presumably to be associated with *Tensly*, recorded in 1656: Roper 1980: 109.

TAPMORE (unlocated, in 'Great Loxley': DW1733/A/2/39.) *Tapmore* 1337 SRO DW1733/A/2/39. Evidently associated with *Tapforde* 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 *tæppa* '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). *Tærdebicgan* c.1000 (11th century, S.1534), *Tyrdebicgan* (11th century, S.1598), *Terdebiggan* 11th century, *Tyrdebicgan* 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 Cl, *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 *tarb* *pŕg* '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. Tawdbridge, Lancashire, from *at Ald-brycg*. A minor unsolved name in Willoughby, Warwickshire, is recorded as *Turdebigge* c.1250, c.1280, 1321 *Magdalen Deeds*, *Turdebice* 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.

TATENHILL Ancient Parish 2½ miles south-west of Burton (SK 2022). *Tatenhyll* 941 (14th century, S.479), *Tatenhala* 1093 CEC 4, *Tattenhull* c.1180 SHC VII NS 132, *Tatenhell* 1188x1197 SRO D603/A/Add/36b, *Tatenhala* 1188 SHC I 140, *Tatenhulle* 1227 SHC IV 43, *Tattenhull* 1251 Ch, *Tatenyll* 1421 SHC XVII 94, *Tattnell* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 141, *Tatenhall* 1589 SHC XV 190. From the OE personal name Tāta, hence 'Tāta's hill'.

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) ½ 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.

TEAN, RIVER a tributary of the river Dove. *Tene* 1389 Ct, 1686 Plot, *Teine* 1577, 1586 Harrison, *Tayne* 1577 Saxton, *Tayne*, *Teane*, *Tene* c.1595 Erdeswick, *Tain(e)* 1613 Drayton, 1617 Keer, 1611 Survey, *Tean(e)* 1610 Speed, 1775 Yates. A British river name, identical with Teign in Devon, held by Ekwall 1928: 397-8 to mean simply 'stream', but now held to be related to the Modern Welsh verb *taenu* 'to spread, to scatter', a sense well-attested in early Welsh: Ekwall 1928: 395. The name here can be translated as 'sweeper, scatterer', that is, a river liable to flood: see Coates & Breeze 2000: 136-7.

TEAN, UPPER & LOWER in Checkley parish, 3 miles south of Cheadle (SK 0139 & SK 0238). *Tene* 1086 DB, *Tena* 1240-1 Cur, *Tene* 1242 Fees, *Thene* 1295 SHC 1911 240, *Tene*, *Teyne* 13th and 14th century Duig, *Tayne* 1592 SHC 1930 304. The place takes its name from the river Tean (q.v.) on which it stands.

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'.

TEDDESLEY 2 miles north-east of Penkridge (SJ 9415). *Teddesl'* 1236 Fees, *Tedesle* 1242 Fees, *Tudeslegh* 1246 Cl, *Teddesleg (hay)* 1252 *ibid*, *Tedeslegh*, *Tidesleye* 1275 *ibid*, *Teddesleye* 1327 SHC VII 228. Probably from the OE personal name Tydi, with OE *lēah*, so 'Tydi's *lēah*', as suggested in Ekwall 1960: 462.

TEGUES WELL (obsolete, in High Onn.) *Tegues Well* 1808 Baugh.

TENSEPARK in Needwood Forest: VCH II 349. *Tensetepark* (undated) VCH II 349 fn.13, *Tensepark* (undated) SHC 1912 222. Perhaps to be associated with *Tensetwode*, recorded *temp.* Edward I/Edward II: SRO DW1733/A/2/43.

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'.

TERN, RIVER a tributary of the river Severn. *Tren* 12th century Taliesin, *Terne* 1232 Ch, 1255 MRA, c.1291 Tax, 1379 Banco, c.1540 Leland, 1577 Saxton, 1686 Plot, *Tirne* 1316, 1360 AD 6, 1319 Pat, *Tirn'* 1228 Ass, *Tyren* 1477 AD 6, *Tyrne* 1322 Pat, *Teryn* 1439 AD 4, *Tyerne* Eliz Chanc P, *Tearne* 1613 QSR, 1617 Keer, *Tirne* c.1200 Gervase, 1256 Ass, *Terne* c.1200 Sa. Deeds. A British river-name derived from Welsh *tren* 'strong, powerful': see Ekwall 1928: 400-1.

TETTENHALL Ancient Parish 2 miles north-west of Wolverhampton (SJ 8700). (*æt*) *Teotaheale* 910 ASC (C,E), (*æt*) *Totanheale* *ibid.* (D), *Totehala*, *Totenhale* 1086 DB, *Tettenhala* 1169 P, *Tettenhal* 1173 SHC I 68, *Totenhala* 1186 SHC I 130, 1190 SHC II 12, *Teteneshal'* 1194 Pipe, *Tettenhale* 1195 SHC II 46, 1201 *ibid.* 108, *Tetenhalle* 1196 *ibid.* 57, *Totenhall* 1240 (1798) Shaw I xxx, *Totenhale* 1255 SHC V (i) 113, *Tottenhale* 1286 *ibid.* 166, *Tetenhaul* c.1540 Leland v 19, *Tetnall* 1577 Saxton, 1610 Speed. The forms indicate a derivation from an OE personal name *Tēotta, which is not on record; cf. Tēoda, representing pet-forms from names beginning þēod-. There was evidently another form with *t* for *d*, as here: cf. Teddington, Worcestershire (*Teottingtun* 780), and Tiddington, 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 Tetmolde* c.1560 SHC 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). *Thackers 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, *Thachmoor* 1695 Morden, *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 *þyrre lēah mōr* 'the moorland at the dry lēah '.

THICK WITHINS 1 mile west of Hollinsclough (SK 0466). *Thickwithins*, *Thickwethins*, *Thycke Witheshead* 1600 Alstonefield ParReg, 1651 *Rental*, *Thickwithins Head* 1626, 1651 *Rental*, *Thick Withins* 1842 O.S. From OE *þicce* 'thick, dense', and OE **wiðign* '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, *Thyckbrome* 1566 *ibid.* 215. From the OE adjective *þicce* 'thick, dense', and OE *brōm* '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). *Thyckennaile* (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: I *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 Thiknes was married in the oratory of his manor house of Thiknes (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, *Thycknes near Auddeleg* 1272-3 SHC IV 189, *Thycknes* 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, *Thycnes* 1312 SHC IX (i) 122, *Thycknes* 1313 SHC X 13, *Thickenes* 1327 SHC XI NS 205, *Thicknes* 1327 SHC VII 201, *Thyckenes*, *Thickenes* 1332 SHC X (i) 101, *Thyknas* 1367 SHC VIII NS 40, *Thikkenes* 1387 SHC XIII 202, *Thykkenes* 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). *Thevesdych* c.1401 VCH V 94, *pratum de thevesdiche* 1401 StaffAcc, 1462 Ct, *Thevesdich*, *Thevesdych* 1399 Ipm, *le Thevys dych* 1500 Egerton, *Theeves 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. Þoraldr is an ON personal name (cf. Thorlby, Yorkshire; Torrisholme, Lancashire), so 'Þoraldr's wood'. Or the second element may be OE *(ge)wæd* 'a ford', perhaps across the river Churnet.

THORNBURY HALL 2 miles north-east of Cheadle (SK 0245). *Thornbire* 1203 SHC III (i) 92, *Thornbury* 1250 SHC 1911 123, 1298 SHC VII 48, 1325 SHC X 59, 1482 SHC VI NS (i) 144, *Thornebiri*, *Thorneburg* 1278 SHC VI (i) 98-9, *Thornbury* 1381 SHC XVII 201, *Thornebury (Hall)* 1609 SHC III NS 52. 'The manor-house or fortification at the thorns'.

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 SHC 1911 35, *Thorntileg* ?13th century VCH VII 233, *Thorneteley*, *Thornteley* 1476 SHC VI NS (i) 102, *Thorneteley* 1479 Banco, *Thornecley* 1548 PRO SC2/202/65, *Thorncliffe* c.1600 *ibid*, *Thownecliffe* 1650 SRO DW1761/C/29, *Thorn Cliff* 1695 Morden. The original name (mistranscribed as *Yombeleg*, *Yomberley*, *Yombelega* in SHC NS IX 319: VCH VII 233 fn.28) was evidently from OE *þorn* 'thorny'. Although it is possible that the earliest spellings are mistranscribed, with *t* read as *c*, so 'the thorny *lēah*', the 1548 spelling suggests that there may have been variant spellings, or two nearby places, one incorporating OE *clā* '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, *Thornyhull* 1309 SHC IX (i) 23, *Thornyhul* 1340 SRO D4038/A/5/1, *Thornyhylls* 1546 SRO D4038/A/5/7-8, *Thorny hill* 1577 Saxton, *Thornylanes*, *Thurnylanes* 1602 SHC 1935 459, *Thorney Hills otherwise Thorne Hill Lanes* 1605 SHC XVIII 53, *Thornie 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, *Thorny-lanes* 1686 Plot. *Thorny 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). *Thornall* 1601 SHC XVI 207, 1608 SHC 1948-9 69, *Thorneall* 1608 *ibid.* 89, *Thornhall*, *Thornall*, *the Thornalls* 1644 SHC 4th Series I 249, 277. 'The *halh* at the thornbush' is perhaps more likely than 'the hall at the thornbush'. It is uncertain whether *Thornhill*, *Thornhull*, *Thornbiri* (1227 SHC IV 59, 227) relate to these places.

THORNYLEIGH 1½ miles east of Heaton (SJ 9762). *Thorniliegh*, *Thornylee* 1538 Dieulacres Inventory, (*le*) *Thornylegh* c.1539 LRMB, 1539 MinA, *Thorneley* 1535 StarCh, *Thornelie*, *Thornilee* 1613 QSR, *Thorneley* 1682 Browne, *Thounyleigh* 1692 Leek ParReg, *Thornyleigh* 1842 O.S. From OE *þornig* 'thorny, growing with thorns', with OE *lēah*, so 'the thorny *lēah*'.

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 *þrop*, ON *þorp*, 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 Cave* .. 1686 Plot 172, *Thorshouse (Tor)* 1775 Yates, *Thyrsis's Cavern (Thor's House Cavern)* 1817 Pitt 198, *Thyrsis 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 Dickins 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 *hyrst* '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.

THREAPWOOD HEAD 2 miles east of Cheadle (SK 0442). ? *le Trepwode* 1266 SHC 1913 317. From OE *þrēap* 'dispute, quarrel', hence 'the disputed wood': cf. Threapwood, 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 75), 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/Chorlton area.) *Three Farmes* 1666 SHC 1921 119.

THREE MEER STONES (obsolete) ½ 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 innacuracy 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 ½ 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 1½ 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). *atte Frithe* 1275 SR. From OE *(ge)fyrhð*, 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 throstle is the dialect word for a thrush, from OE **þryscele*. 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). *Treulega* 1185 Burton, *Treule* 1201 P, 1208 FF, *Truleg'* 1227 Ass, *Throelega* c.1240 Okeover, *Trowilegh* 1278 *Antrobus*, *T(h)rouleg'* 1306 SaltMSS, *Throuleg* 1306 SHC 1921 17, *Throw(e)ley(e)* 1306 GDR, 1367 to 1383 Banco, *Trouleye* 1324 SHC X 53, *Throuley(e)* 1332 SR, 1336 to 1438 Banco, *Throughey* 1343 Erdeswick 1844: 482, *Throughey* 1343 SHC 1921 27, *Throweley* 1400 SHC XV 92, *Throley* 1414 SHC XVII 19, *Throwesley* 1473 AddCh, *Throughey* c.1540 Leland, *Thorley als Throwley* 1565 FF, *Throwley (Park)* 1571 SHC 1931 194, *Trowley* 1614 Stowe. The terminal appears to be *lēah*. The specific may be from OE *þrūh* '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 Thorougham, 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, *Thurfredsfield* 1212 SHC XII NS 36, *Thurinodesfelde* 1217x1227 CEC 393, *Turnesfeld* 1227 SHC XI NS 243,

Thuredesfeld 1227 *ibid.* 240, *Thurmedesfeld* 1227 Ch, *Turnedesfeld* 1236 SHC 1911 391, *Thurfedesfeld* 1240 (1798) Shaw I xxx, *Thuresfield* 1253 Ward 1843: app. iv, *Torefeld* 1273 SHC VI (i) 59, *Thurnesfeld* 1272-3 *ibid.*, *Thurnesfeld* 1279 SHC VI (i) 141, *Thuresfeld* 1293 *ibid.* 276, *Tornorsfeld* 1306 SHC 1911 67, *Thurfeld* 1306 SHC VII 165, ? *Thoresfeld* 1377-8 JNSFC LIX 1924-5, *Thursfeilde* 1608 SHC 1948-9 113, *Newe Chappell* 1611 Norton-in-the-Moors ParReg, *New Chapel* 1646 Wolstanton ParReg, *Thrusfeild* (sic) 1666 SHC 1921 161, *Thursfield als New Chap.* 1747 Bowen. Probably from the ON personal name Þorfreðr: the DB form is likely to be aberrant. The terminal is OE *feld* 'open space'. Thursfield gave its name to a chapelry, later called Newchapel: VCH IV 56 fn. The name is preserved in Thursfield 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). *Tillintone* 1086 DB, *Tillinton* 1242, *Tillingeston* 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 *tūn* 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: I 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, *Tynmor* 1256 SHC 1911 127, *Temor* 1263 SHC IV 156, *Tymmor* 1271 SHC 1924 53, 1284 FA, 1289 SHC 1924 360, *Tympmore* 1306 SHC VII 161, *Tymmore* 1367 SHC VIII NS 35, *Tymor* 1373 BCA MS3878/28, *Tinmore* 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 Tamhorn. 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 *tēon* 'to draw' (cf. Teffont Ewyas & Teffont Magna, Wiltshire; Tyburn, Middlesex), with OE *mōr* '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.

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) ½ 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.

TIPPETY GREEN on the north side of Rowley Regis (SO 9687). *Iberty* 1682 Browne, 1695 Morden, *Iberty* 1788 Harrison, *Tivity Green* 1775 Yates, *Tipety Green* 1834 White, *Tippity Green* 1834 O.S., *Tipety Green* 1851 White.

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, *Tybynton* 1393 SHC XV 61, *Tybington Schalenwebb* 1444 (1801) Shaw II 229, *Tyhton* 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 StSt 11 1999 63. From the OE personal name Tibba, so 'Tibba's *tūn*'. 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 *æt*: 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, *Tidesovre* 1200 SHC III 68, *Titneshovere* c.1200 SHC VI (i) 8, *Tineshovere*, *Tinneshore* 1203 SHC III 86, *Tiddesore*, *Tiddesor'* 1203 Pleas, *Titnihouir* c.1248 SHC 1911 420, *Titneshovere* 1236, *Titnesovere* 1242 Fees, *Tythenesovere* 1293 SHC VI (i) 279, *Tytteneshouere* 1294 SHC 1911 219, *Titnesoure* 1296 SHC 1911 239, *Tyntnesoure* 1351 SHC 1913 146, *Titensouere* 1366 SHC VIII 33, *Tetenshows* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 134, *Tutensar* 1607 Kip, *Tentenhall* otherwise *Tentenshale* otherwise *Tytenshall* otherwise *Tittensor* otherwise *Titensore* 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 SHC III (i) 93, *Thetesworthe* c.1246 Dieul, *Thetiswurthe* 1250 SHC 1911 428, *Thethisurt* c.1250 *ibid.* 426, *Tetiswurthe* 1250-59 StCart, *Tetisworth*, *Tetesworthe* 1274-9 SHC 1911 430, *Tetesworth(e)* 1302 (p) Ass *et freq* to 1614 StV, 1635 Leek ParReg, 1686 Plot, 1755 Bowen, *Teseworth* 1477 SHC VI (i) NS 102, *Teysorthe* 1538 StarCh, *Tetysworthe* c.1539 LRMB, *Tettysworthe* 1539 CtAugm, *Teesworth* 1540 AOMB, *Tosworth* 1565 FF, *Tedsworth* 1560 Pat, *Tetesworth* 1686 Plot, *Titseworth* 1798 Yates. Possibly from the OE personal name *Tetti, with OE *worþ* or *worþig* 'farm, homestead, enclosure', though doubt must remain about the first element. Upper Tittesworth is found as *Upper Thetiswurthe* 1250-9 StCart, and Lower Tittesworth as *nether Thetesworth* 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 1½ 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 *tēafor* '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, *Tycsall* 1284 SHC VI (i) 136, *Tykeschale* 1286 SHC V (i) 165, *Tyschale* 1351 SHC 1913 146, *Tyxsall* 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.

TOFT, THE in Dunston, 4 miles south of Stafford (SJ 9018), *le Tofte* 1460 StaffAcc, *le Toft* 1595 QSR, *Tofte* 1596 SHC 1932 170, *the Toafe* 1598 Ct, *Toft* 1775 Yates, *The Toft* 1834 O.S.; **TOFT FARM** 1 mile south-west of Trentham (SJ 8539), *Toftes* ? 14th century SHC XI 326, *Toftus* 1526 *ibid.* 314, *Tofte* 1575 Trentham ParReg, *Toftes* 1579 *ibid*, *Toft* 1663 *ibid*, *Toft Green* 1757 SHC 1931 91, *The Toft* 1836 O.S.; **TOFTGREEN (FARM)** near the Cheshire Border, 3½ miles north-east of Biddulph (SJ 9064), *Toft Green* 1798 Yates, 1801 Smith; **TOFTHALL** ½ mile east of Heaton (SJ 9562), ? *Toft* 1548 PRO SC2/202/65, *Toft Hall* 1775 Yates, *Toft Ho.* 1842 O.S. From ON *toft*, originally 'site of a house', later 'land adjoining a house, deserted site'. *Toftes* 'in Eccleshall manor' is recorded in 1275 (SHC 1913 229, 266), *Toft House* in Leek parish in 1768 (BCA MS917/1263), *the Toft* in Bishton in 1295 (SRO DW1781/1/19), in 1316 (p) (WL 106), and in the 13th or 14th century (SRO DW1781/1/23), presumably the same as *the Toftthouse* in Bishton recorded in 1675 (SRO DW1781/9/33/1-7).

TOLL END 1½ mile north-east of Tipton (SO 9693). *Tole ende* 1596 SHC 1932 228, *Tole end* 1598 SHC 1935 161, 1602 SHC 1935 161, *Tole-end* 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 milesouth-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/i, 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 Whittimere 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 *tōtian* 'to look out, spy', OE *tōte* 'look-out place', often applied to isolated and conspicuous hills, hence 'look-out hill' (cf. Tutters Hill; Tutbury). There is a tumulus on Toot Hill, Hollington, recorded in 1750 (SRO D1109/2); Shaw 1798: I 34 mentions '...a remarkable eminence, 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 Demosthenes, 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, *Tatesmannislawa* 1175 P, *Tatemanneslawehundredum* 1185, *Tatemanneslawa* 1187 P, *Tatemaneslawe* 1199 Fees, 1227 Ass, *Thatemanneslowe* 1204 SHC III (i) 92, *Tatemanelawe* 1253 Misc, *Tatemanneslowe* 1262 Pat, *Tatemonnelowe* 1272 Ass, *Tatemoneslowe* 1293 Ass, 1316 FA, *Tatemandeslaw* 1320 SHC VII (ii) 21, *Tatemonlowe* 1327 SR, *Tatmanneslawe* 1327 Pat, *Tammeslowe* 1338 Cl, *Tattemanneslowe* 1356 Fine, *Tatmondeslowe* 1402 Fees. 'Tātmann's *hlāw* or tumulus', from OE *hlāw* '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',

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.

TOWNHOUSE ½ mile north of Audley (SJ 7951). *Townhouse* 1704 Audley ParReg, *Town House* 1733 SHC 1944 2.

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 (i) 252) and 1332 (SHC X 129), but the derivation of the surname is not known: DES 452.

TRENT VALE ½ 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 *Trisantonā* 115-17 Tacitus, *Treanta*, *Treenta* c.730 Bede (II 16; III 24; IV 21), *Trahonnini fluminis* c.800 HB, *Treontan stream* (obl.) c.890 OEBede, 942 ASC, (on) *Trentan* 956 (11th century, S.602), *Trente* 1086 DB; *Taranhon* 12 Taliesin, *Trent*, *Treant* c.1540 Leland. A British river name *Trisantōna*, PrWelsh *Trisantonā*, of doubtful meaning but perhaps formed from *tri* 'through, across', and *santōn*, 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 'hām 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 *hām* 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: VCH III 255. No evidence has been traced to support the suggestion (SHC 1909 74) that an earlier name of Trentham was *Trytenham*.

TRESCOTT 4 miles west of Wolverhampton (SO 8497). (*æt*) *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, *Trescottgrannge* 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 1921 31), 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 Bassett (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, *Trylmyll* 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 Biddulph (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). *Trubeshawe* 1231 SHC XII 5, *Trumpeshawe* 1298 SHC XI NS 252, 1308 *ibid.* 261, *Trubbesagh* 1340 SHC XI 107, *Trubbeshawe* 1343 SHC XII (i) 5, *Trobeshawe* 1353 JNSFC LIX 1924-5 49, *Trobeshawe* 1372 *ibid.* 73, *Trubschawe* (p) 1451 HLS 386, *Trubshawe* 1465 SHC IV NS 138, *Trubshawe* (p) 1489 HLS 558, *Trubsha* 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 Dumfriesshire was erected in 1977: StEnc 602-3.

TRUMWYN *the bailiwick of Hegghe Cank which is called Trumwyn's baillie* 1375 SHC NS II 72, *Tromwyns 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 Fould, 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 *trouse*) '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 [tri:səl]) 5 miles south-west of Wolverhampton (SO 8594). *Treslei* 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, *Treesle* 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; Trescott.

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, *Tressul* 1307 Pat, *Trysull brook* 1617 SRRC 5735/2/27/6, *Treesle* 1690 HRO E12/V1/KY/7. 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, *Tackhill* 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 Þorketill (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) 1½ miles south-west of Branston (SK 2119). *Tokkesholme* 1415 Hardy 1908: 80, *Tukkulsholme* 1523 *ibid.* 199, *Tukulholme Close* 1531 *ibid.* 75, *Tukulsholme* 1537 *ibid.* 210, *Tokilshulme* 1588 SRO DW1734/J1133, *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 Þorkell: the place lies on the west side of the river Trent in an angle 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)twēon* 'between, amongst', frequently found combined with elements for streams or rivers (VEPN II 93-4), here with OE *brōc* '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 *sƿc* '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 SHC 1911 172, *Tunstall* 1282 SHC 1914 77, *Tonsthalle* 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 SHC 1935 401, *Tunstall* 1267 Ch, *Tunstalle* 1267 For, *Tounskall* 1284-5 SHC 1910 298, *Tonstal* 1293 SHC VI (i) 262, *Tounstall* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 49, *Tunstall* 1695 Morden. From OE *tūn-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 ½ mile north-west of Longnor (SK 0765). ? *Tunstedes* 1340s SRO D 3272/5/13/5, *Tunstidd(e)*, *Tunstyde* 1600 Alstonefield ParReg, 1609 FF, *Timsteede* 1605 Alstonefield ParReg, *Tunstidd* 1609 SHC III NS 29, *Tunste(a)d* 1775 Yates. From OE *tūn-stede* 'the farmstead'.

TUPPENHURST ½ 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 *ēg* 'island, piece of dry land in marshland'. Hurst is from OE *hyrst* 'a copse, a wooded hill'.

TURKEYSHALL (obsolete, said to be the name of a mill in Rugeley: StEnc 724). *Turkysall flatt*, *Turkyshall 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 *læcc* '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, ? *Turhull* 1333 SHC X 87, *Turleshill* 1580 Sedgley ParReg, *Turles hill* 1585 *ibid*, *Turls Hill* 16th century ManRolls, ? *Turle hills Moore* 1654 Roper 1980: 97, *Turles Hill* 1668 SRO DW1871, 1834 O.S. Possibly from the ME preposition *atter*, from OE *at þer* '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) ½ 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 *þyrne*, *þorn* '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 HILL 1 mile south-west of Sedgley (SO 9092). ? *Tours Hill* 1636 Sedgley ParReg, ? *Turshill* 1661 *ibid*.

TURNER'S KNIPE in the valley of the river Churnet, 1½ miles north-east of Consall (SJ 9949). ? *Gnytwode* 1271 (1883) Sleigh 80, ? *Le Gwypp* 1292 SHC 1911 216, ? *Le Gnypp* 1292 SHC I 296, *Gnype* 1394 SHC 1928 276, *Knipe Wood* 1842 O.S., *Turner's Knipe* 1995 O.S. The 13th century spellings are recorded in association with nearby Sharpcliffe, 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 *gnípa* '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 Knipe* appears on the 2½" O.S. map about ½ mile

south-east of this place, perhaps with a similar derivation, or from Norwegian *knip* 'a narrow place'. Cf. Knipe Wood; Knypersley. Cf. Knipe Close and Knipe Scar in West Yorkshire.

TURNER'S POOL 1½ miles north-east of Heaton (SJ 9763). *Thurnehurst-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 *þyrne* 'thornbush', and OE *hyrst* 'hill, wood, wooded hill', giving 'the pool at the copse with the thornbush'.

TURNHURST (HALL FARM) 2 miles east of Kids Grove (SJ 8654). *Turnhurste* 1539 StEnc 605, *Turnehurst* 1604 JNSFC LXIII 56, *Turnhurst* 1608 SHC 1948-9 100, 1626 Wolstanton ParReg, 1836 O.S., *Tarne Hurst* 1609 Norton-in-the-Moors ParReg, *Turn Hurst* 1798 Yates. Possibly from a personal 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 Sugnall Hall at Sugnall may at one time have been known as Turton Hall: StEnc 564.

TUTBURY Ancient Parish 4 miles north-west of Burton upon Trent (SK 2128). *Toteberie* 1086 DB, *Tuttesbir'*, *Tutteburie*, *Tuttesbur'* 1087x1100 SHC 4th Series IV 63, *Tuttesburie* c.1150 SHC VII NS 128, *Totesbery* 1140-50 FrD, *Totesberie*, *Stutesburiae* 1141 FrD, *Tottebury* 1308 WL 64, *Stutesberia* 1139-60 FrD, *Stuteberia* 1176 SHC I 78, *Tutesbery* c.1180 *ibid.* 13, *Tuttebury* 1200 FF, 1293 SHC VI (i) 241, *Tutbury* 1255 SRO D258/27/1/26, *Tuttebyr* 1255 (1798) Shaw I 39, *Tuteburi* 1287 SHC VI (i) 168, *Tuttebur'* 1305 DRO D5236/8/2, *Tutt'* 1318 DRO DD/FJ/8/4/2, *Tutburg* 1384 ILS, *Teutbery* 1564 Mercator. From the OE personal name Tutta or *Stūt, so 'Tutta's burg' or '*Stūt's burg'. The inconsistent spellings make any derivation uncertain. It seems from the forms beginning with *St-* that the name may have been originally *Stoteberie* or similar, with the loss of the *s* due to Norman influence, but the absence of early spellings with *St-* is curious: cf. Stychbrook; also Nottingham. See also Newborough.

TUTERS HILL ½ mile west of Pattingham (SO 8199). *Tootershill* 1683 Pattingham ParReg, *Tattershill* 1686 Plot, 1695 Morden, *Tutor's-Hill* 1731 SRRC 330/14, *Tutershill* 1731 Pattingham ParReg, *tutarshill* 1731 *ibid.*, *Tatters Hill* 1747 Bowen, *Tutores Hill (Meadow)* 1762 SRO D32221, *Tutasall* 1773 Boningale ParReg, *Totterhill* 1775 Yates, *Tuters Hill Bank* 1834 O.S., *Tutor's Hill Bank* 1832 Teesdale. Perhaps from OE **tōt-ærn hyll* 'the look-out-house hill' (*ærn* often becomes *-er-* in modern forms: see Foxall 1980: 31, 54; Gelling 1988: 147), or OE **tōtere* 'look-out', related to OE *tōtian* '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

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). *Tothehal* 1086 DB, *Tottenhull* 1262 For, *Totenhull* 1275 Ass, *Totynhyll* 1542 LP, *Toutnell* 1675 Ogilby. Probably 'Tot(t)a's hill', but a derivation from OE **tōt-ærn 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 *twām hlāw* '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, *Twichels 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). *Twichills* 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 *Twichell 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 1 mile north of Bradnop (SK 0155). *Twillow Bottom* 1591, 1613 Deeds, *Twillow* 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 *twī* 'double, two', with OE *hlāw* 'mound, tumulus', so giving '(the heath with) the two lows or tumuli'. See also Twirlow; 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, (*Asshedales Lytell*) *Turlowe* 1591 SHC 1934 (ii) 18, ? *Tuerley (Wood)* 1675 SHC V NS 190, *Turley* 1775 Yates, *Twirlow* 1836 O.S., *Twerlow* 1920 O.S. The spellings are inconsistent, but the first element may be OE **turn* 'circular', with OE *hlāw* 'mound, tumulus', so 'the circular burial mound'. See also Twillow; Twamlow.

TWIST, THE; TWISTGREEN ½ mile south-west of Butterson (SK 0656). *Twys* (p) 1394 Tooth 134, *Twysse* 1424 *ibid*, *Twisgreene* 1434 (17th century) Survey, *Twysse* 1506 Ipm, *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; Twishy, Sussex; Twist, Devon; Twist, Sussex.

TWO GATES 1½ miles south-east of Tamworth (SK 2101). Self-explanatory. The place is so-named in 1770 (*EnclA*).

TWYFORDS (unlocated, in Yoxall), ? *Twyford* c.1331 SRO DW1733/A/2/19, *Twyfords* c.1615 SRO D877/91/1-17; **TYFORD** (unlocated, in Wolverhampton), *Tyford* 1359 SHC XII (i) 156. 'The two fords', from OE *twī* 'two, double'.

TYKYNGTON (unlocated) *Tykyngton* 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.

TYNSALL (unlocated, in Tardebigge parish.) *Tuneslega* 1086 DB, ? *Campis de Tunesnosham* 1199 SHC III 39, *Tinneshal(l)* 1230 Ch, *Tuneshale* 1230 Cl, 1244 FF, *T(h)eneshale* 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.

TYRLEY adjoining Market Drayton (SJ 6833). *Tirelire* 1086 DB (listed in Shropshire), *Tyrle (Wood)* 1247 Ass, *Thyrlegh* 1248 SHC IV 243, *Tyrlegh* 1256 Eyton 1854-60 IX: 192, *Tireleye* 1267 *ibid.* 193, *Tyrelegh* 1283 Cl, *Trileg* 1284 Eyton 1854-60 IX 193, *Tyrle*, *Tyrlegh*, *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 *lēah* 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 *þyrre lēah* 'the dry *lēah*'. 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 *wælle* 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream', with OE *twī* '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, *Ubbeley* 1586 SHC 1927 128, *Ubley* 1586 *ibid.* 172, *Vbbeley* 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 Ulfmær, with OE *mōr* 'moorland, marsh'.

UNDERHILL 3 miles north of Wolverhampton (SJ 9302). *Vnderhulle* 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 Upfeild* 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. *Wotocheshede* 1086 DB, *Huttokeshal* 1135-9 SHC 4th Series IV 71, *Huttoshal* c.1155 *ibid*. 65, *Uttokishedere* 1175 P, *Utochashadra* c.1180 SHC 4th Series IV 13, *Wittokeshather* 1242 Fees, *Huttokeshagh* 1242 SHC IV 96, *Uittokesather*, *Huttokesather* 1251 Ch, *Hutokeshall* 1261 SHC VIII (i) 178, *Uttoczachere* c.1275 SHC 1921 6, *Ottokhathere* 1275 SHC VI (i) 56, *Hottokesacre* 1292 *ibid*. 250, *Uttoxhather* 1306 WL 39, *Hockeshatre* 1306 SHC VII 160, *Ottokeshare*, *Huttokeshare* 1310 WL 90, *Otttoxhatre* 1413 SHC XVII 6, *Huttokkeshatre* 1420 *ibid*. 73, *Uttoxatre*, *Uttoxhather*, *Uttoxeshather*, *Uttockcester*, *Utcheter* 15th century Duig, *Utcester*, *Utseter*, *Uttecester* 16th century Duig, *Uttok Cestre*, *Vttoxcester* c.1540 Leland v 19, *Utcyter* 1561 SHC XVII 211, *Toksetor* 1562 SHC 1938 111, *Vttoxeter* 1577 Saxton, *Uttoxater* 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 *Wattiches æces*, 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 **hæddre* '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 *hæð* such as **hæðra* or **hæðor*, 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 *hæþærn* '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).

VALEMERSHE (unlocated, possibly in Trescott). *Valemershe* 1464 SRO D3835/4.

VALENTIA WOOD in Upper Arley. From Viscount Valentia, who held Arley in the 18th century: VCH Wo III 6. In Worcestershire since 1895.

VALLEY FARM 1 mile north-west of Dunston (SJ 9118). *Valleys* 1332 SHC X 122. From ME *valele* 'a valley', an element surprisingly rare in Staffordshire place-names.

VERDON (unlocated) in Ellaston. *Verdon maner in Ellaston* 1391 SHC SHC XI 198; VCH III 228. 'Ellaston was a double manor, one part being held by the Verdon, 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 III 106), 1275 (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.

VERDOUN'S MANOR a lost manor in Handacre, so-named by Shaw 1798: I *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 Vicars family, recorded in Longdon in 1549: OSS 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 Waddune.

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 Waddune (q.v.).

WADDENSBROOK 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 *Wadmorebroke*, recorded in 1524: SRO D593/B/1/26/6/38/14; cf. *Wadmore* 1380 SRO D593/B/1/26/6/36/3), but see Waddune. 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) (*æt*) *Waddune*, *Wædedun* 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 Waddeley; 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*)*wæd* '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 *lēah*, 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.

WAL (unlocated, possibly near Dilhorne.) *Wal* 1327 SHC VII 218, *Wall* 1331 SHC 1913 27, ? *Wall* 1586 SHC 1927 135. John atte Walle of Cheadle is recorded in 1430 (SHC XVII 129), and may have been associated with this place. Perhaps from some archaeological feature (see e.g. Chesterhurst), or possibly to be associated with Stone Walls Farm (q.v.), or Wallmires Farm (q.v.).

WALDRESLOWE, WARDRESLOWE, WALRESLOWE (unlocated, probably near Normacot, near the river Blithe.) *Waldreslowe*, *Wardreslowe* 1242 SHC XI 314, SRO D593/B/1/23/2/7, *Waldreslowe* 'in Blitheforde' (? Blythe Bridge) c.1250 *ibid.* 306, *Walreslowe* 1255 *ibid.* 315. Perhaps from the OE personal name Waldhere, so 'Waldhere's *hlāw* or tumulus'. It should be noted that the earliest spellings appear in a charter of Hulton Abbey printed in Ward 1843: app. ii which is almost certainly a much later forgery: see Tomkinson 1994: 73-102.

WALES END a farmhouse c.1450 (see TSSAHS XXXVIII 1996-7 46) in Wales Lane, Barton-under-Needwood (SK 1818). *Walesend* 1509 StEnc 622. The age of this name is uncertain, but if ancient it would appear to be from OE *walas* 'the Welsh', so giving 'the end of the place where the Welsh lived': cf. Waleswood 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.

WALFORD ½ mile south-east of Standon (SJ 8133). *Waleford* 1199 SHC III 166, c.1200 SHC 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, *Walleford* 1361 Salt 1888: 77, *Waford* 1566 SHC XIII 258, *Walford* 1579 SHC XIV 208, 1614 SHC IV NS 65, *Wallfort* 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 *wælle* '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 *walc-lēah* '(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-Lichefeld* 1272 SHC IV

188, *Wall* 1273 SHC VI (i) 61, *la 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: Horsley 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 Butterson (SJ 0856). *Wall* 1798 Yates. Without earlier spelling it is unclear whether this is from OE *weall* 'wall, rampart, or Mercian OE *wælle* '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 *wælle* '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, *Woolgraung* 1604 SHC 1940 284, *Wall graunge* 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 1½ 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). *Wal(l)hill* 1597 QSR, *Walhill* 1616 SHC VI NS (i) 19, *Wallhill* 1641 Leek ParReg, *Wall hill* 1644 SHC 4th Series I 80, *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 *wælle* '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 *tūn*) at The Walls'. In Shropshire since the 12th century.

WALLS, THE ½ mile west of Audley (SJ 7950). *Well* 1598 Audley ParReg, *Wall* 1695 Morden, *The Wall Estate* 1733 SHC 1944 5, *The Walls* 1833 O.S. From Mercian OE *wælle* 'a spring', and (sometimes) 'a stream', possibly here from a spring forming the headwater of Dean Brook.

WALSALL Ancient Parish (pronounced Wawl-sull [wɔ:lsəl]) 8 miles north-west of Wolverhampton (SP 0198). *Waleshale* 11th or 12th century Sawyer 1979a: xxxvii, 1163, 1276 SHC VI (i) 80, 1291 SHC 1911 47, *Walveshull* 1125 (1887) Willmore 1887: 32, *Walesala* 1159 (1887) *ibid.* 32, *Waleshala* 1169 P, *Waleshal'*, *Waleshala* 1190 Ch, ? *Wullsile* 1199 SHC III (i) 36, *Waleshal* 1201 Cur, 1212 SHC 1911 385, *Wellyall*, *Wellchall* 1231-2 (1887) Willmore 1887: 32, *Walessall*, *Walessal* 1226x1247 SSAHS XVII 1975-6 67, *Walesale* 1283 SHC 1911 187, *Walsall*, *Wallsall*, *Waleshale* 1309 SSAHS XVII 1975-6 71, *Walshale* 1313 *ibid.* 317, *Walsale* 1324 *ibid.* 101, *Walsall Foreyne* 1583 SHC III (ii) 20, *Wallsall fforren* 1637 SHC 1931 118, *Walshall Burrough*, *Walshall Forreine* 1664 SHC II (ii) 64. The word *walh* 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: VCH 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 SHC 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. (*æt*) *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*, *Walise* 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 SHC II (i) 94, (*wood called*) *Waleshale* 1271 SHC V (i) 153, *Walsall Wode* 1535 SHC 1910 35. The name was in use by 1200 when the wood of Walsall was a distinct part of Cannock Forest (VCH 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/T/7/6) - 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, *Waleton* 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, *Waleton* 1199 Ass, *Walton super Canoke* 1326 St Thomas, *Walton on the Hill* 1812 RegDiss. Probably 'the *tūn* 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 *tūn*, *cot* and *worþ*, 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 2½ miles south-west of Gnosall (SJ 8017). *Waltone* 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 *wælle* '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 *tūn* with ramparts or by the wall': the significance of the meaning in this case is unclear, but the place lies ½ 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** ½ 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 ½ 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 SHC 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). *Wanfield* 1667 SRO D7861/14/1, *Windy Hall* 1798 Yates. Perhaps from OE *wægen* '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 Dilhorne (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 *hlāw* '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*, *wær* '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: VCH 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), *Werueslea* 1185, *Weruesley* 1212, *Worveleg*, *Waveleye* 1235-6, *Whernelege*, *Weruele(y)e* 1255, *Worneleigh*, *Wernelegh* 1291, *Worley* 1500, *Wareley* 1763 (all PN Wo 302). PN Wo 302 suggests that the meaning of the name is 'the *lēah* 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-hlāw* 'felon-mound or tumulus' or 'wolf-mound or tumulus', with *brōc*, hence 'stream of the felon's tumulus' (presumably where they were hanged), or 'stream of the mound of the wolf'. Cf. Warrilowhead, Cheshire (PN Ch I 129). Fields named *Near Warrilow* and *Far Warrilow* (*Warelowe* 1574 Survey) are recorded in Acton Trussell and Bednall (Oakden 1984: 29), *Lytle Warrelowe* is recorded in Combridge in 1528 (Croxdon Chronicle) and as *Little Warylowe* in 1539 (MA), and the field-name *Warrelow* is recorded in Penkridge: SRO D260/M/T/5/3. 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*, *Werselow(e)* c.1220 SHC 4th Series IV 164, *Verselowe* 1275 SHC V (i) 117, *Werslegh* 1290 SHC VI (i) 197, *Werselowe* 1300 SHC VII 23, *Worselowe* 1302 SHC 1925 97, *Weselowe* 1332 SHC X 116, *Warcelowe* 1477 SHC VI NS (i) 107, *Wars(e)lowe* 1566 Deed, *Warslow(e)* 1592 Survey, *Worseloe* 1604 Leek ParReg, *Warlow* 1658 PCC, *Waslowe* 1666 SHT, *Warnslow* 1839 EnclA, *Warslow or Warnslow* 1851 White. Ekwall 1960: 499 suggests a derivation from OE *weardsetl-hlāw* '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 *hlāw* with the double *l* coming together is quite natural, though taking place at an early period. Or from OE *hlāw* 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.

WARSLOW BROOK a tributary of the river Manifold. From the place of the same name.

WARSTONE 3 miles south of Cannock (SJ 9605), *Hārstān* 994 (17th century, S.1380), *Horeston* 1300 For, *Wereston* 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 *hār-stān* 'the grey or boundary stone'. The word *hār* 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 Trysull, 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 Warstones 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 SHC VI (i) 54, *Wavertune* 1272 FF, *Warton* 1405 SHC XVI 45, *Wartton* 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 **wæfer*, *wæfre* 'restless, wandering, flickering', in the sense of a waving or swaying tree - Duignan 1902: 160 suggests the aspen poplar (*populus tremula*) - hence '*tūn* 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 Brooke* 1693 *ibid.* Presumably from OE *wæsce* 'a place for washing', with OE *ēa* '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, *Washerwall* 1836 O.S. Perhaps from OE **wæsce walle* '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.) *Wassebroc* ? 14th century SHC XI 326. Evidently from OE *wæsse* '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.

WASTE FARM on the south side of Alsager Bank (SJ 8048). ? *Waste* 1628 Audley ParReg. See Waste Farm near Ellastone.

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, *Waterfalle*, *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 *wæter-(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 *wæter-hēafod* 'stream head', with *brōc*.

WATERHOUSES 5 miles south-east of Leek (SK 0850). *Over water house, Overwaterhowse* c.1571 SHC 1931 127, *le Upper or Over Waterhowses* 1580 DRO D2375M/3/1, *Waterhouses Hay* 1586 DRO D2375M/3/5, *Over Waterhouses* 1591 DRO D2375M/54/3/13, *the Over Water Howses* 1612 DRO D2375M/57/1, *Over and Nether Waterhous(es)* 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 *hūs*, 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 Butterson (SK 0856). *Water Slack* 1775 Yates, *Waterslacks* 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. 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 9422): SHC VIII 134). *Watur Wending* ?c.1200 SHC VIII 134, *Water Wending* 1310, 1355 VCH IV 54 fn.40, 1335 SRO D1734, *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 *wað* '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 Colefield or Coldfield, in which case increasing the likelihood that the first element is *wað*. 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 *forþ, 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.

WATLANDS (obsolete) on north-east side of Dimsdale (SJ 8448). ? *Watteslond* c.1535 SRO D641/1/2/108, *Watlands* 1615 Ward 1843: xlvii, 1836 O.S.

WATLING STREET *Wætlingestræt* 880 Ekwall 1960: 501, *Watling strete* 1070 SHC 1916 302, *Weatlinga-Streate* c.1015 (14th century, S.912), *Watheling-strete* 12th century Duig, *Waltlynggestrete* 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 1h, 19) is not known, but a late ninth century text (S.912) refers to *Wætlingstræt*, which is likely to have been the section of the Roman road from London to St. Albans, at that date known as *Wætlingceaster*, 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, *Weegs 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 Ilam in 1319 (SHC X 12), Walt'o 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 Viðarr, 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, *Wherever* 1315 SHC IX (i) 49, *Wevere in Stanton* 1315 Banco, ? *Wavre* 1316 SHC 1911 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 ½ 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 1½ 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.

WEDGWOOD 1 mile north of Tunstall (SJ 8753). *Wegewode* 1278 SHC XI NS 253, *Wegeswod* 1307 *ibid.* 255, *Weggewode* 1307 *ibid.* 262, 1370 Ward 1843: 198, *Wegwode* 1327 SHC VII 206, *Weggewode* 1456 SHC IV NS 96, 1515 SHC XVI 49, *Wygewode* c.1537 SHC X NS I 139, *Wedgewoode* 1595 Norton in the Moors ParReg, *Wedgwood* 1836 O.S. Seemingly from OE *wecg-wudu* 'the wedge-shaped wood', and the place from which the name of the famous pottery manufacturer originated. *Weggeslowe*, recorded in 1332 (SHC X (i) 95) in this area, suggests a personal name (Wege is recorded in DB), with OE *hlāw* 'mound, tumulus', but there is no genitive -s in the spellings for Wedgwood.

WEDNESBURY Ancient Parish 5½ miles south-east of Wolverhampton (SO 9894). *Wadnesberie* 1086 DB, *Wodnesbyri* 11th or 12th century Sawyer 1979a: xxxvii, *Wodnesberi* 1164-9 SHC II 39, 46, 55, *Wadesburi* 1166 SHC I 48, *Wadesb'i* 1166 SHC 1923 295, *Wodnesbi* 1167 SHC II 52, *Wodnesberia* 1169-1209 SHC I, *Wodnesbia* 1177 SHC I 88, *Wodnesburia* 1184-6 SHC II (i) 119,

Wodnesb'ia 1182 *ibid.* 106, *Wotnesbiri* 1226 SHC IV 38, *Wednesbiri* 1227 *ibid.* 62, *Wonnesbury* 1255 (1798) Shaw I xxvii, *Wodnesbyri* 1271 SHC V (i) 154, *Wodnesbery* 1280 SHC VI (i) 102, *Wodnesburi* 1280 *ibid.* 116, *Wodenesburi* 1286 SHC V (ii) 165, *Wadnesbury* 1288 *ibid.* 177, *Wodnesburi* 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, *Weddisboroughe* 1566 SHC 1931 200, *Weddsborrow* 1695 Morden. From OE *Wōden*, a heathen German god, corresponding to Óðinn and nicknamed Grimm, with OE *burh* 'fortification', so 'Wōden'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*, *Wodnesfelde* 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, *Wednesfeld* 1251 Ch, *Wonnesfeud* 1255 (1798) Shaw I xxvii, *Wodenesfeud* 1300 SHC V (i) 178, *Wedffeld* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 159, *Weddesfeld* 1538 SHC 1912 107. 'Wōden's *feld* or open land'. A more detailed discussion of the name and place will be found in the Introduction.

WEEFORD 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 SHC XII (i) 128, *Weoford* 1291 Tax, *Weyford* c.1360 SHC 1913 321, *Wifford* c.1540 Leland ii 103, *Wefurde* 1578 BCA MS3375/430071. The first element is generally held to be from OE *wīg*, *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 SHC VIII (ii) 32, 114; VCH III 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 LXXII 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) SHC 1912 222.

WELDFORDBRIGGE (unlocated, in or near Penkull.) *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 in Hanley. An ecclesiastical parish created in 1845, now known as Hanley St. Luke: Youngs 1991: 428.

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 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.

WENWES, WENWE (unlocated, in Keele). *Wewes* ? 1281 SOT SD4842/17/1, *Wenwes*, *Wenwe* 1307 SHC VII (i) 181. Cf. *Wayes field*, *Waysfeild* recorded in Keele in 1565: SHC 1938 38-9.

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; SHC 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 Werburga Whitall of Chesterton is recorded (Ct., JNSFC LX 1925-6 41), suggesting continuity of tradition in this area from an early date.

Werburch was the daughter of king Wulfhere: 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). *Werrington* 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.

WERGS, THE 3 miles north-west of Wolverhampton (SJ 8600). *Withegas* 1202 FF, *Withoges* 1260 SHC 4th Series 13 6, *Wygges* 1306 SHC VII 157, *Wytheges* 1306 Ass, *Withegis* 1327 SR, *Wyrge*s 14th century Duig, *Wythegys* 1403 SHC XV 102, *Wythegus* 1418 SHC XVII 64, *Wygheges* 1420 *ibid.* 76, *Wrgys* 1472 SHC IV NS 186, *Wythegyffe* 1484 SHC VI NS (i) 152, *Wrigges* 1586 SHC 1929 112, *le Wirgges* 1608 SHC 1948-9 128. Usually from *werg*, a dialect form from OE *wīþigas* 'willows, withies'. Part of the area remains low-lying and wet. The element invariably carries the definite article: cf. *The Wirge* (1628), East Hendred, Berkshire; *The Wergs* (1652), Longford, Shropshire; *The Wirg* 17th century, The Wergs, Stratfieldsaye, Hampshire. *Wythergs* is recorded in Ipstones c.1311 (SHC 1911 436), and as *Wythegas* in 1332 (SHC X (i) 117). *Wytheges* in Blurton is recorded in the 14th century (SHC XI 312). See also Field 1993: 66.

WERRINGTON 4 miles east of Hanley (SJ 9447). *Werinton* 1259 SHC 1911 133, *Woningtone* 1267 SHC XII (ii) 101, *Werynton* (p) 1272 *Deed*, *Werington* 1297 FF, *Wenintone* 1307 SHC XII (ii) 102, *Wonytone* 1309 *ibid.* 102, *Weryngton* 1330 Pat, *Wonyton* 1321 SHC XII (ii) 103, *Wonyngton* 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 'tūn 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 ½ 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). *Werlascroft* 1286 SHC V (i) 171, 1312 SHC 1911 307, *Warlawestcroft* 1302 SHC VII 95, *Werlascroft* 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 be in or near Essington), but if so the derivation may be from OE *wārloga* (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 hlāw* 'the western mound or tumulus'.

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-tūn* 'tūn 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 Keveremont* 1242 Fees, *Western Houme* 1285 SHC 1911 403, *Weston under Couremunt* 1287 SHC VI (i) 167, *Weston Cun(e)y(e)* 1448 Banco, *Weston subtus Caversmoute* 1595 Erdeswick 1844: 246, *Weston Coyney* 1775 Yates. From OE *west-tūn* 'western tūn, tūn west of another' (perhaps Caverswall). The place was held by Thomas Coyney (*Tome Cuinniea*) 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-tūn* 'western tūn, tūn 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-tūn* 'western tūn, tūn west of another'. The place (west of Amerton) is on the river Trent. Sometimes called Weston by Stafford.

WESTON UNDER LIZARD Ancient Parish 7 miles south-east of Newport (SJ 8010). *Guestona* 1081 Ord, *Westone* 1086 DB, *Weston* c.1150 St Thomas, c.1247 Rees 1997: 94, *Westona* 1166 SHC 1923 296, *Weston subtus Brewod(e)* c.1255 RH, *Weston-under-Brewode*, *Weston Hewes* 1327 SHC II NS 37, *Weston under Lusezard* 1340 SHC II NS 40, *Weston subtus Lus(e)yord* 1349 FF, *Weston subtus Luz(e)yerd*, *Weston subtus Luzyert*, *Weston subtus Luzyard*, *Weston subtus Luzhord* 1352 Ass, *Weston juxta Blumenhull(e)* 1359 Banco, *Weston Howes* 1377 SHC 4th Series VI 16, *Weston Hues* 1379 PollTax, 1381 SHC II NS 48, *Weston huos* 1512 SHC I 364, *Weston Hughwes* 1534 Deed, *Weston Huys* 1547 TSAS 3rd Series VIII 1908 138, *Westonhewes*, *Weston Hewes* 1586 SHC 1927 169-70,

Weston subtus 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-Lizeard*, 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, *Westewood* 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/J2268, *Wethales* 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), *Whetenhall* 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, *Wettelye moor* 1586 AD 6, *Wotley More otherwise Homersley More at Chedleton* 1599 SHC 1935 131, *Wetley Moore* 1604 SHC 1940 196, *Whitely Moore* 1735 Stoke on Trent ParReg, *Wetley Moor* 1810 *EnclA*. Probably from OE *wēt-lēah* 'wet lēah'. 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 *wēt-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** ½ mile north of Gayton (SJ 9829), *Wetmoor* 1836 O.S. From OE *wēt-mōr* 'the wet marshland'. Cf. Hungry Hill.

WETMORE 2 miles north-east of Burton-upon-Trent (SK 2524). *Withmere* 1012 (14th century, S.930), *Witmere* 1086 DB, *Witmere* 11th century Sawyer 1979a: xxxv, *Wismera* 1113, *Withmere* 1114 Burton, *Wictm* 1197x1213 SRO D603/A/Add/45, *Wichtmere* c.1235 BM, *Withmere* 13th and 14th centuries (regularly) Duig, *Wyghtmer* 1394 SRO DW1734/2/1/103(vi)m.46, *Weghtmer* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 156, *Wightmere* 1538 SRO DW1734/1/4/24, *Whitmere* 1606 SHC 1939 125, *Weightmore* 1663-4 SHC 1910 35, *Weetmoore* 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, Wetmoor (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, *Wetton* 1327 SR. From OE *wēt* 'wet, damp', hence 'wet dūn or hill', probably explained by springs which rise on the hill. There is a tumulus on Wetton Low (OE *hlāw* 'mound, tumulus') ½ mile to the south. A Grange of Tutbury Abbey existed at Wetton: SHC VII 180.

WETWOOD 4 miles north-west of Eccleshall (SJ 7733), *Wetewode* 1291 Tax, *Wetwode* 1312 SHC IX (i) 32, *Wettwod* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 103, *Wetwood* 1563 SHC 1938 66, 1833 O.S.; **WETWOOD** 1 mile north-west of Merbrook (SJ 9861), *Wethwode* 1229x1232 CEC 385, *Wethwood* c.1231 SHC 1911 425, *Wetwath* 1248 (1883) Sleigh 48, *Wetewode* c.1291 Tax, *Wethwod* 13th century Dieul, *Wetwo(o)d* 1537 Deed, 1775 Yates, *Whetwoode*, *Wettwood* 1607 QSR, *Wettwood* 1634 Leek ParReg, *Wetwood*, *Wet Wood Farm* 1842 O.S. From OE *wēt-wudu* 'wet or boggy wood'. Cf. Weetwood, Northumberland.

WEYMOUTH to the west of Willoughbridge (SJ 7440). *Womworthyn* 1293 JNSFC 4 1964 62, *Wommerthin* (wood of) 1363 SHC XIV 110, *ibid.* XII NS 255, *Weymouth Cottage* 1833 O.S. Perhaps from OE *wamb* 'womb, belly', used in a topographical sense 'a hollow, a bulge', with OE *worþign* '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, *Wetley 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* 1981 O.S. 'Wigstān'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), *Witestūn* 1002x1004 (11th century, S.906; 11th century, S.1536), *Witestone* 1086 DB, *Witestona* 1116-33 Burton, *Wistona* c.1176-84 SHC 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 SHC VII NS 20, *Wyston* early 13th century Okeover T319, *Whytston* 1306 GDR, *Wytston* 1328 SHC 1913 17, *Whishton* 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 SHC XIII 246, *Eves* 1585 SHC 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* 'caves; 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, Wistanswick 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 *æcer* 'field, ploughed land'.

WHITBY WOOD - see **OAKEDGE HALL**.

WHITE CHIMNIES 3 miles east of Biddulph (SJ 9156). *Whit Chimnies* 1666 SRO D.4069/1/1, *White Chimney* 1775 Yates. Self-explanatory.

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 lēah'. See also The Whitelowe.

WHITELOWE, 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 *EnclA*. 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 *hōh* 'a heel, a steep ridge, a spur of land'.

WHITEHURST 1½ miles north of Dilhorne (SJ 9745). *Whytehurst* 1281 SHC 1911 178, *Wythehurst* 1294 *ibid.* 225, *Whytehurste* 1295 *ibid.* 54, *Whitehurst* 1329 SHC XI 7, *Whitchurst* (sic) 1695 Morden, *Whitehurst* 1726 BCA MS917/1286, *White Hurst* 1837 O.S. From OE *hwīt* 'white', with OE *hyrst* 'hillock, knoll, copse, wood, wooded eminence', so 'the white copse or wooded hill'.

WHITEMOOR, THE 1½ miles west of Brewood (SJ 8508), *Wytemore* 1276 SHC 1936 200, *Wytemore* 1286 SHC V (i) 163, *Alba Mora* 1292 SHC VI (i) 221, *Hwytemore* 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 *hwīt-mōr* 'white moor'.

WHITES BRIDGE - see **BRIDGE END**.

WHITESICH BROOK a tributary of the river Penk. Probably from OE *hwīt-sīc* 'light-coloured stream'.

WHITFIELD 2 miles north-east of Tunstall (SJ 8852). ? *Quitefeld* 1212 SHC III 158, *Whytefeld* 1273 SHC VI (i) 59, *Whitfield* 1307 SHC XI NS 262, *Wytfeld* 1327 SHC VII 207, *Wytefeld* 1332 SHC X 94, *Whitefeyld* 1614 SHC 1934 32. From OE *hwīt feld* 'white open ground'.

WHITGREAVE 4 miles north-west of Stafford (SJ 8928). *Witegrave* 1193 P, *Witegrave* 1203 Cur, *Whytegrave* 1227 Ass, *Witegreve* 1251 Misc, *Wytegrave* 1251 Fees, *Witegreffe* c.1271 SHC VIII (i) 193, *Wytegreve* 1292 SHC VI (i) 239, *Qwytegreve* 1447 SHC III NS 178, *Wythegyffe* 1483 SHC VI (i) NS 152, *Wytgreff* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 66. From OE *hwīt* 'white', with OE *grāf* 'grove, thicket', a common element in the West Midlands.

WHITLE, UPPER & UNDER 1 mile south-east of Longnor (SK 1064 & SK 1063). *Whittle* 1599 SHC XVIII 16, *Under Whitle* 1711 VCH VII 241, *Whittle* 1840 O.S. 'White hill', from the rounded limestone headland here. The place is mentioned in the early 15th century: VCH VII 241 fn.29.

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 *hwīt wælle* 'the white spring', which was probably a reduction from *hwīt lēah* 'the white clearing', with OE *wælle*. See also Cash Farm.

WHITLEYFORD 1½ miles south of Knighton, on the Staffordshire-Shropshire border (SJ 7423). *Whytley ford*, *Whitley ford*, *Whitley forth* 1487 to 1523 Rental, *Whitley Ford* 1833 O.S. 'The ford at the

white *lēah*'. (*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, *Wetemere*, *Wetemore* 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 *hwīt-mōr* '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 *hwīt-mōr* '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, *Wythemere* 1298 TSAS LXXI 1996 27, *Whitemere* 1375 Ipm, *Whittymer* 1643 Claverley ParReg, *Whitimere* 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 *Whittimere Hall* (late 16th century VCH XX 71) are associated with this place, from the OE adjective *sceolh* 'twisted, awry', seemingly used for 'the twisted hill': see Shoal Hill.

WHITTINGTON Ancient Parish 3 miles east of Lichfield (SK 1608), *Witinton* 1182 P, *Wytinton* 1242 SHC 1924 70, *Withinton* 1242-3 Fees, *Whitinton* 1309 WL 103, *Whytynton* 14th century Duig, *Whetyngton* 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, *Whitinton* c.1255 SHC V (i) 110, *Wytyndon* *ibid*. 159, *Wytinton* 1286 *ibid*. 157, *Whytynton*, *Whitenton* 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), *Wytinton* 1348 SRO DW1082/A/2/3, *Whittyngton* 1524 SHC XI 264, *Whittenton*, *Whittington* 1676 SHC 1914 29, *Whittington* 1833 O.S. 'The *tūn* associated with a man called of Hwīta', or possibly 'Hwīta's *tūn*' or 'white *tūn*'. (*æt*) *Hwitantune*, recorded in 925 (14th century, S.395), is probably to be identified with Whittington near Chesterfield, in Derbyshire: see Sawyer 1979: 5.

WHITTON (COMMON) (unlocated, in Cotton, 'near the road to Cheadle': D240/D/294.) *Whitton* 1766 D240/D/294.

WHORROCKS BANK on the south-west side of Rudyard Lake (SJ 9458). *Horhoc* later 13th century VCH VII 67, *Horchok* 1308 SHC XI NS 255, *Whorrocks* 1607 VCH VII 67, *Horrocks Bank* 1664 ParReg, *whorrocks bank* 1815 *EnclA*. From OE *hār-āc* 'grey or hoary oak'. The place is now known as Horton Bank, but the name is preserved in Whorrocks Bank Road: StEnc 661.

WHYTACRE (unlocated, possibly on the Staffordshire-Warwickshire border.) *Whitacre*, *Whytacre* 1262 SHC IV 150, 152.

WHYTLEY (unlocated, possibly near Onecote in Leek.) *Whytley* 1539 VCH III 228, *Whyteley* 1539 MA. Perhaps to be associated with *Whitlegh*, recorded in 1339 (SHC 1913 79). OE *hwīt lēah* '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 *wælle* '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 gritsone 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 D707/2/1, *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.

WIGENHALL (unlocated, possibly south-east of Copmere.) *Wigenhall* 1298 Spufford 2000: 295.

WIGFORD on the east side of the river Tame, on the north-west side of Dosthill (SK 2000). *Wycford* 1326 (1798) Shaw I 411, *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 *wīc* 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 *Hwicce, 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 SHC 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 1½ miles south-west of Sheen (SK 0960). *Wigginstall* 1396 VCH VII 28, 1695 Morden, *Wyginstalle* 1566 *Deed*, *Wigganstaff* 1775 Yates, *Wiggenstall* 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'.

WIGGINTON 2½ miles north of Tamworth (SK 2006). *Wigetone* 1086 DB, *Wicgintun* 11th century Duig, *Wichenton* 1173 SHC I 71, *Wikenton* 1174 *ibid.* 73, *Wigenton* 1188 *ibid.* 136, *Wigenton'* 1190 Pipe, *Wigginton* 1242 SHC 1911 11, *Wyginton* 1260 SHC X NS I 284, *Wyginton* 1472 SBT DR3/575 at 570, *Wegenton* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 24. Probably from the common OE personal name Wicga, hence 'Wicga's *tūn*'.

WIGHTWICK (pronounced Wit-tick [wɪtk]) in Tettenhall parish, 3 miles west of Wolverhampton (SO 8698). *Wisteuic* 1086 DB, *Wyttewik* 1290 SHC 4th Series 13 8, *Wystewyk*, *Wytewyk* 13th century Duig, *Whistwyke*, *Whistewykeford* 1300 SHC V (i) 180, *Whitewyke* 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 *wīc* '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 *mōr* 'marsh'. It has been suggested (Gelling 1984: 56; Gelling & Cole 2000: 59) that OE **wicga-mōr* was a term for an unstable marsh in which wet mounds erupt and disappear: cf. Wigmore, Herefordshire; Wigmore, Shropshire. See also PN Sa I 314-5.

WIKENESLOWE (unlocated, possibly near Alington.) *Wikeneslowe* 1332 SHC X (i) 100. Perhaps 'the low or tumulus with the Rowan tree', from OE **cwicen hlāw*.

WILBERSTONES (unlocated, in Burslem: SRO D4842/14/1/35.) *Wilboures Stooones* 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).

WILBRIGHTON in Gnosall (SJ 7918). *Wilbrestone* 1086 DB, *Wilbritone* 1166 RBE, *Wibertona* 1198 SHC III (i) 29, *Wilewich* 1200 SHC III 69, *Wylbriton* c.1225 SHC 1921 9, *Wylbrhiton* before 1236 SHC 1921 38, *Wilbrixton* 1236 Fees, *Wilbricton* 1242 Fees, *Wilbruyghton* c.1290x1313 Bod. 33, *Wyllbryton* 1341 SHC 1913 85, *Willbrighton* 1686 Plot 395, *Wilbrington (Heath)* 1672 Blymhill ParReg. 'Wilbriht's tūn'.

WILDBOARSEGREAVE (unlocated, possibly north-west of Leek: CEC 385 suggests in the Heaton/Gun End area.) *Wildboarsegreave* 1229x1232 CEC 385. From OE *græfe* 'grove, thicket, copse', and in some case 'trench, pit', so 'the thicket (or pit) of the wild boar'.

WILDECOTE on the north side of Patshull Park, just inside Shropshire (SJ 8001). *Weldecote* 1311 TSAS XI 1899 100, *Wyllderdecot* 1327 SR, *Wildicote*, *Wyldicote* 1598 Albrighton ParReg, *Wildecote* c.1875 SRO D1517. Possibly from OE *wilde* 'wild, waste, uncultivated', so 'the cottage on the waste land'.

WILDERLY (BARN) 1½ miles north-west of Colton (SK 0422). *Wyllderdeleg* 1277 SHC 1911 169, ? *Wylldesdele* 1283 *ibid.* 182, *Wyrdeshay* early 14th century SRO 3764/1[27574], *Wilderley(hull)* c.1348 SHC 1919 43, *Wilderdelaye temp.* Edward I SHC 1919 43, *Wilderly Barn* 1836 O.S. 'Wilprȳp's lēah': see PN Sa I 316; III 198.

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 AOMB, *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 *brōc* 'stream'.

WILDMORE - see **HOLLIES** near Heath Hayes.

WILKINSPLECK ½ 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), *Winenhale*, *Winehala* 1086 DB, *Wilinhale* 11th or 12th century Sawyer 1979a: xxxvii, *Willenhal* 1166 SHC 1923 295, *Willenhale* 12th century Duig, *Wulenhale* c.1227 SHC II 275, *Wylenhale*, *Walenhull* 1286 SHC V (i) 169-70, *Walwenhalle* 1293 SHC VI (i) 235, *Wylenhale* 1304 SHC 1911 277, *Wyllenhale* c.1310 SHC 1928 129, *Wilnoll* c.1564 SHC 1931 155, *Willnall 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 **wilegn* 'willow'.

WILLIFORD 2 miles north of Whittington (SK 1610). *Wilnifort, Wilifort* 1159-81 VCH III 340, *Wyliford* 1288 SHC VI (i) 178, *Weliford* c.1290 SHC VI (ii) 151, ? *Withyford* 1379 SHC XIII 161, *Wyllyford (Hey)* 1456 SRO D1798/685/177, *Willeford (meadow)* 1508 BCA MS3878/55, *Willoford, Willoford (Hays in Fisherwick Wood)* 1514 SRO D1798/685/180, *Wyllyfourde* 1600 SHC 1935 230, *Williford* 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 SHC IX (ii) 105, 1663 SHC II (ii) 50, SHC IX 120, 1666 SHC 1923 96, 1669 Erdeswick 1844: lviii, 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 SHC XVII 213, *Willobridge* 1570 SHC 1931 133, *Wylotbridge otherwise Wyllottesbridge otherwise Wylloughbrydge* 1585 SHC XV 166, *Willoughbridge Park* 1590 SHC 1930 95, *Willughbridge* 1611 SHC III NS 60, *Willowbridg* 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 'Will(e)'s enclosure'. The name may be recorded in 1356: see SRT0 D543/B/1/2/1-15.

WILNECOTE (pronounced Wincut [winkat]) 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*, *Willemondcot* 1274 Ipm., *Wilmindecote* 1290 FF, *Wilmcota, Wilmecote* 1217 Bracton, *Wilmencote* 1298 Ipm, *Wilmendecote* 1315 Ipm, *Wilnecote* 1316 FA, *Wilmecote al. Wilnecote* 1607 FF, *Wincote* 1656 Dugdale, *Wilmundecote al. Wilmecote al. Wilnecote* 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.

WILSHAW 1 mile west of Hollinsclough (SK 0566). ? *Wylchar* 1313 SHC 1911 314, *Wilshewe* 1566 Deed, *Wylshawe* 1583 DRO D2375M/190/4, 1602 Alstonefield ParReg, *Wil(l)shaw(e)* 1626, 1651 Rental, *Wiltshaw 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, *Wulstaneswude* 1247 SHC IV 239. 'Wulfstān'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 (*Vaccinum x intermedium Ruthe*) is a hybrid of common bilberry (*V. mytilus* L.) and cowberry (*V. vitis-idaea* L.).

WIMERSLEY (obsolete) 1 mile north-east of Butterton (SK 0857). *Wimersley* 1840 O.S. Seemingly (if ancient) from an unidentified personal name, with OE *lēah*.

WIMUNDESLIE (unlocated, possibly in the Sandon area.) *Wimundeslie* ?c.1220 SHC 1921 19. Perhaps from the OE personal name Wigmund or similar, with OE *lēah*.

WINCHESTER FARM ½ mile south-east of Claverley (SO 7992). *Winchester* 1840 TA. Without early spellings the first element is uncertain, but if the name is ancient (and since early spellings have not been traced it is more likely to be a recent transfer) the second is from OE *ceaster* 'Roman fortification', presumably from some ancient earthworks here (see Webster 1981: 79; Webster 1991: 63-4). The place lies on what is said to be a lost Roman road (Margary number 193) from Greensforge to Central Wales, a section of which has been excavated here: TSAS LVI 1957-60 237; 241. In Shropshire since the 12th century.

WINDGATES between The Roaches and Hen Cloud (SK 0061). *le Wyndgates* c.1539 LRMB, *Wyndyate* 1542 (1883) Sleight 71, *Wynyattes* 1604 SHC 1946 265, *Wynyates* 1608 SHC 1948-9 89, *Wynigates*, *Winnigates* 1635 Leek ParReg, *Windegates* 1655 PCC, ? *The Wyneyards* 1659 Leek ParReg, *Winneatte* 1678 Alstonefield ParReg, *Winyates* 1686 Plot, *Win Yard* 1775 Yates. From OE **wind-geat*, literally 'gate for the wind', meaning 'a windswept pass or gap'. Cf. Wingate, Durham; Wingates, Northumberland; Compton Wynyates, Warwickshire. Sleight 1883: 118 states 'Up to about 100 years ago Windgates was called Bourke-grange', quoting 'Late John Millward', and records (p.210) *Windyhay-cross* on Ipstones Edge.

WINDLESDALE (HOLLOW) between Wetton and Alstonefield (SK 1155). *Windle dale* 1776 Alstonefield ParReg, 1840 O.S. Perhaps from OE *windel* 'a basket', so 'the basket-shaped dale or valley' (which would explain *Hollow*), or from the OE personal name Windel. Cf. Windsor, Berkshire.

WINDMILL, THE (obsolete) a district 1 mile south of Walsall. *Windmill Field* 1554 SOT D260/M/T/1/1/22, *Wynmylne fylde* 1559 Willett 1882: 32, *Windemylle Field* 1610 SOT D260/M/T/7/8, *1 windmill in Walsall* 1628 SRO D260/M/T/1/117a, *W Mill* 1798 Yates, *the Windmill* 1798 Shaw I 73. Self-explanatory. Yates' map of 1775 does not show the name, but gives a representation of a windmill.

WINDSWELL POOL (obsolete) 1 mile north of Forton, on the east side of the road to Shebdon. *Wyne(e)Wall*, *Wyns(e)well pool* 1242 Ch, 1487, 1573 Rental, 1493, 1520 Survey, *Windswall pool* 1618

Survey, *Windswell Pool* 1833 O.S. Perhaps from the OE personal name Wine, meaning 'Wine's spring', from Mercian OE *wælle* '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 *eorþburg* '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 SHC VI (i) 86, *Wykyng hull* 1307 SHC VII 174, ? *Wynkeshull* 1329 SHC XI 14, *Wynkyll* c.1538 SHC 1912 121, *Wyncl*, *Wynkill*, *Wyckill*, *Wynckill* c.1585 SHC 1929, *Winkle-hill* 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 I 164-5.

WINNINGTON in Mucklestone parish, 4 miles north-east of Market Drayton (SJ 7238). *Wennintone* 1086 DB, *Woninton* 1273 Ipm, 1306 SHC VII 153, *Wynynton* 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 *tūn* of Wynna's people', but the early spellings for this place have inconsistent vowels, and there must be some uncertainty about the personal name.

WINNOTHDALE 2½ miles south-east of Cheadle (SK 0340)). *Vinath Dale* 1769 Croxden ParReg, *Windworth Dale* 1775 Yates, *Vinadale* 1791 Croxden ParReg, *Winworth Dale* 1836 O.S., *Winnott Dale* 1883 SRO D637/13/1. An interesting name, but the inconsistency in the available spellings and the absence of early forms precludes any suggested derivation.

WINSCOTE 2 miles north-west of Worfield (SO 7396). *Wynscote hylse* 1541 SRRC 5586/1/428, *Wynescote* 1564 Worfield ParReg, *Winscott* 1602 SRRC 2028/1/5/8, 1674 SRRC 5586/1/472, 1731 SRRC 5586/1/509, 1752 Rocque, *Winscote 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.

WINSHILL 2 miles east of Burton upon Trent (SK 2623). (on) *Wineshyll* 1002x1004 (11th century, S.906; 11th century, S.1536), *Wynesh* 'early 11th century (13th century) *Peniarth*, *Wineshalle* 1086 DB (listed in Derbyshire), *Wineshulla* 1113 Burton, *Winishil* (p) c.1150 Okeover, *Wineshill* (p) 1150-9 Burton, *Wineshella* 1159-75 Burton, *Wineshulle*, *Wisnehulle* 1188x1197 SRO D603/A/Add/36b, *Wyncehulle* 1316 Pat, *Wynsul* 1322 SHC 1924 306, *Wynsell* 1521 Burton, 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 154.

'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 *winterdūn* '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 *vinitrium* '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 Hydes Road is frequently recorded as *Wisty* until recent times, with *Wystibrigge* the bridge carrying Hydes Road over the Tame, an identification accepted by Dilworth 1976: 103-4.

WITHINGTON 4 miles north-west of Uttoxeter (SK 0335). *Wythinton* 1272 SHC IV 187, *Withyngeton* 1590 SHC XVI 99, *Withington* c.1602 SHC 1935 436, 1607-8 SHC 1948-9 54, 1836 O.S., *Whittington* (sic) 1789 SRO D543/C/7/10. From OE *wīpign* 'willows, wet land where willows grow', and OE *tūn*.

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/B/1/20/9-10. The name would appear to be from OE *hwītan-halh* '(at the) white *halh*' or 'Hwīta's *halh*'. It is unclear whether *Whitnall mylle*, recorded in 1531 (SHC 1910 21), and as *Whytnall Mill* in 1602 (SHC 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, *Withymere Mill* 1834 O.S. From OE *wīpīg mōr* 'the moorland with the withies or willows', but since the place lay on the boundary Staffordshire/Worcestershire boundary, possibly from OE *(ge)mære* 'boundary'.

WITHYSITCH 1 mile north-east of Milwich (SJ 9833). *Withy Sitch* 1775 Yates. From OE *sīc* 'watercourse', so 'the stream with the withies or willows'.

WITNELLS END in Upper Arley, 1 mile south-east of Romsley (SJ 7981). *Whytenhull*, *Wytenhull*, *Whytehull* (p) 1295 PN Wo 33, 1325 (p) Ipm, 1332 (p) SR, ? *Whitenhulle* 1403 SHC XV 112. From OE *hwītan-hylle* '(at the) white-hill'. In Worcestershire since 1895.

WITTON in Handsworth, an ecclesiastical parish created in 1926: Youngs 1991: 429.

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, *Wybaston* 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. 'Wīgbald's tūn'.

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, fells 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 SHC 1914 36, c.1270 SHC 1921 36, *Wulvurdiston* 1272 SHC 1914 35, *Wolverderton* 1291 SHC 1913 245, *Wodewardington* 1293 SHC VI (i) 296. The place was also known as *Wulfatton* (SHC 1914 37). If in Staffordshire probably from the OE personal name Wulfheard, or possibly from the OE personal name Wulthere: see Bury Bank. See also *Welvedale*, *Woledale* under the entry for Woldale. See also SHC I 164.

WODINGES (unlocated, in or near Longdon.) *Wodingges* 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.

WOLF LOW 1 mile south of The Cloud (SJ 9161). *Wlvelagh* 1241 SHC 1911 438, ? *Wolvel* c.1275 *ibid.* 429, ? *Wolfelowe* early 14th century VCH VII 219, *Wolveleye* 1377 SHC 4th Series VI 14, *Woolfe Low* 1649 Leek ParReg, *Woof-Lowe* 1766 Rowlands 1766: 319. From OE *wulf*, *hlāw* 'wolf tumulus'.

WOLFDALE 1 mile south-west of Heaton (SJ 9461). *Parvum Wulvedale* 13th century Dieulacres, ? *Wolvedale* 1291 (1798) Shaw I xxii, *Wlwedale* 1322 SRO D1229/1/4/57, *Wulvedale* 1322-3 SHC 1911 437, *Wulfdale* (p) 1327 SR, *Wolfdale* 1327 SHC VII 215, 1331 SHC 1913 27, 1383 SRO D1229/1/4/59, 1451 SRO DW1761/A/4/29, *Wolfdale(hey)* 1485 *Antrobus*, 1489 SRO DW1761?A/4/39, *Wolf Dale* 1798 Yates. 'Valley of the wolves', though a personal name cannot be

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 *Welvedale*, *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.

WOLFEDALEHEY (unlocated, in Rushton James: SRO DW1761/A/4/39.) *Wolfedalehey* 1489 SRO DW1761/A/4/39. Seemingly 'the hay or clearing at Wolfedale', from Mercian OE *(ge)heg*. Wolfedale may in this case be from a surname: Nicholas Wolfe is recorded here in 1489: SRO DW1761/A/4/39.

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-lēah* 'the clearing with the wolf', or possibly from the OE personal name Ulf or Wulf, with OE *lēah*. See also Wolferley.

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-lēah* 'the clearing with the wolf', or possibly from the OE personal name Ulf or Wulf, with OE *lēah*. See also Wolfelega; Wolfesbrigg.

WOLFESBRIGG (unlocated, in Uttoxeter, possibly near Knightsland.) *Wolvesbrugge* 1306 SHC 1911 65, *Wulfvesbrugge* 1317 SHC XI 68, *Wolvesbrugge* 1319 *ibid.* 45, *Wulfresbrugge* 1336 *ibid.* 68, *Wolfesbrigg* 1426 SHC XVII 111. 'The bridge of the wolves', or possibly (from the 136 spelling) 'Wulfhere's bridge': see Bury Bank; Wolferley.

WOLFHAY (unlocated, in Leekfrith.) *le Ulfe haye* c.1539 LRMB, *Ufehey* 1681 ParReg, *le Wolffe haye* c.1540 AOMB, *Wolfhay* 1695 Leek ParReg, ? *Woolf'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.) *Wolfotebrugge* 1332 SHC II (ii) 103, *Wylfotebrugge* 1332 SHC 1913 38, *Wilfotebrige* 1336 SHC XII (ii) 25, *Wolfotesbrige* 1365 (1843) Ward 1843: app. lxvi. Possibly from Wolfote, a ME form of the personal name Wulfhād (a local saint associated with Stone (q.v.); see Rumble & Mills 1997: 312), so 'Wolfote's bridge', though considerable doubt must remain. See SHC 1924 64 for the personal name Wlfet, after 1254.

WOLGARSTON 1 mile south-east of Penkridge (SJ 9313). *Tvrgarestone* 1086 DB, *W(u)lgareston'* (p) 1167 SHC 1923 296, 1261 Penkridge Inq, *Wolgar(e)ston* 1215 MRA, *Wolgareston* 1442 SHC 1928 147, *Owgaston* 1608 SHC 1948-9 132, *Woolgaston alias Woogaston* 1609 SHC 1928 165, *Wollgaston* 1686 Plot, *Woolgarstone (Farm & Mill)* 1834 O.S. 'Wūlfgar's tūn'. The DB spelling with *T-* is clearly an error. *Wulfgares more* 'Wulfgār's marsh', near Pillaton, is recorded in a charter of 994 (S.860; Hooke 1983: 92) and *Woolgars Hill* is said to be recorded as a field-name in Whiston in 1775 (Oakden 1984: 104; though *Huggas or Wulgas Hill*, formerly *Woolgas Hill*, recorded in the 18th century (SRO

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 Pencric'. 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.

WOLLASTON'S COPPICE on the north side of Heatley (SK 0627). ? *Wolaveston* 1199 SHC XI NS 16, *Wolaxton* ?14th century *ibid.* 175, *Wolastons Coppice* 1724 *Survey*. Perhaps associated with Thomas de Wolaston who held land in Dunstall in 1402: SHC XI NS 207. The spellings suggest a derivation from the OE personal name Wulflāc, so 'Wulflāc's tūn'.

WOLLESBRUGGE (unlocated, possibly near Hanbury). *Wollesbrugge (manor of)* 1487 D1798/H. M. Aston/10/27.

WOLLFORDS MARSHE (unlocated, in Pershall: SHC 1934 52, possibly Elford Heath (q.v.)) *Wollfordes Marshe* 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 Trysull 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 in Colwich parish, 2 miles north-west of Rugeley (SK 0220). *Wlselei* 1086 DB, *Wasselega* 1166 SHC 1923 295, *Wulfsieslega* 1175 ff.P, *Wulffieslege* 1178 SHC I 92, *Wolsileye*, *Wolseleye* 1195 SHC 1914 138, *Wulsislea*, *Wolseslea* 1199 SHC III (i) 32, *Wolselee* 1199 *ibid.* 57, *Wullsile* 1199 *ibid.* 36, *Wulfsiesley*, *Wulfsiesleg* (frequently) 12th century Duig, *Wulseleg* 1200 SHC III 66, *Wulsileya* 1227 SHC IV 58, *Wulseleye* 13th century Duig, *Wolseleg* 1301 SHC VII 91, *Wukseleye* 1305 SHC VII 136. 'Wulfsige's lēah'.

WOLSELEY BRIDGE 2 miles north-west of Rugeley, on the river Trent (SK 0220). *Worseley Bridge* c.1540 Leland, *Wolseley Bridge* 1593 SRO DW1781/5/5/1, *Ousley Bridge* 1675 Ogilby. See Wolseley. A bridge has existed here from at least 1281, when *Bridggend* 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 Ancient Parish 2 miles north of Newcastle under Lyme (SJ 8548). *Wlstanetone* 1086 DB, *Wulstanestona* 1199 SHC II 79, *Wlstaneston* 1200 Ward 1843: app. i, *Wolstanneston* 1233 SHC XII 25, *Wlstanton* c.1249 SHC 1911 145, *Wurstynton* 1456 SHC IV NS 96, *Ulsynton* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 42, *hulstenton* 1535 SHC 1910 246, *Wolsington* 1586 SHC 1927 131, *Wolstanton* 1598-9 SHC 1930 6, *Woolstington* 1609 SHC III NS 34. 'Wulfstān's tūn'. See also Wilstanswude.

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). *æt 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), *Hamtun* 1053x1062 SHC 1916 125, *Hantone*, *Handone* 1086 DB, *Wolvrenehamptonia* 1070x1085 VCH III 322, *Wlrunehamton* c.1078 Mander & Tildesley 1960: 12, *Wulfronehamtun* 11th or 12th century Sawyer 1979a: xxxvii, *Wolveroveshampton* c.1139 Reg 170, *Wlfrunton* 1145-53 Letter to pope Eugenius, *Wulfronehanton* 1169 P, *Wulverne-Hampton* c.1175 SHC VIII 133, *Wulfrenhamptune* c.1175 SHC 1941 73, *Wulfronhamton* 1181 SHC I 96, *Wulfronehant* 1190 Ch, *Wolfrehampton* 1199 SHC III (i) 36, *Wulfronehamtun*, *Wolverenhampton*, *Wolvernhampton* 12th century Duig, *Wulvernhamton* 1203 SHC III (i) 95, *Wulvunhamton* 1204 *ibid.* 99, *Wlfronehamtune* c.1275 Seal, *Wulfrenhampton* 1262 SHC V (i) 139, *Wolvrenhampton* 1288 SHC VI (i) 181, *Wollerhampton* 1424 SHC XVII 95, *Wolvorhampton* c.1540 Leland, *Wolverhampton otherwise Wemerhampton* 1619 SHC VII NS 209. From OE *hēan-tūn* '(at the) high tūn': *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 tūn' not inconceivable. Indeed, Stenton: 1970: 317 and Harmer 1989: 404 translate *hēah tūn* (dative *into Heantūne*) 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 SHC 1937 146. Perhaps from OE *wamb* 'womb, belly', probably with reference to a pool or a bulge-like topographical feature, with Mercian OE *wælle* '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, *Wonburne* 1319 SHC 1924 192, *Womburne* 1445 SHC XI 305, *Womberone* 1457 SHC 1928 49, *Wamborn* 1577 Saxton. Ekwall 1960: 531 considers that the name is from OE (*æt*) *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 *wamb* 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 III 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. Osborne, Dorset, (*æt*) *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, *Wodcrofte* 1539 MA, *Woodcrofte Grange* 1552 Pat, *Woodcroft* 1560 SHC XIII 207, c.1569 SHC IX NS 73, *Wood Croft* 1836 O.S. From OE *wudu* 'wood', with OE *croft* '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 SHC 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 SHC XVI 8, *le Wodende* 1428 SHC 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, *Woodeforde* 1560 SHC 1938 159, *Woodford* 1603 SHC XVIII 32, 1798 Shaw I 86; **WOODFORD GRANGE** 1 mile north-west of Wombourne (SO 8593), *Wudeford* c.1160 SHC I 200, c.1180 *ibid.* 198, *Wdeford*, *Wdeforda* 1160-1206 SHC III (i) 215, *Woddeford* 1271 SHC V (i) 142, *Wodeford* 1286 *ibid.* 158, *Woudefeud* 1306 SHC VII 157, *Woodford Graunge* 1559 SHC 1938 152. From OE *wudu-ford* 'The ford at the wood'. *Wodefeud*, *Woudefeud* 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'.

WOODHOUSE (unlocated) in Castern, *Wodhows* c.1450 SHC 4th Series IV 253; **WOODHOUSE** (unlocated) in Penkridge, *Woodhowse* 1646 Penkridge ParReg, *Wudhowse yate* 1650 *ibid.*; **WOODHOUSE** (unlocated) in Paynsley, *Woodhouse* 1522 SHC 1925 121; **WOODHOUSE** 1 mile east of Tamworth (SK 2304), *Wodehouses* 1540 BM, *Wood House* 1834 O.S. (in Warwickshire until transferred to Staffordshire in 1965); **WOODHOUSES** ½ mile north-east of Swinscoe (SK 1348), *Wodehowsis temp.* Edward I Okeover T274, *Blore Wodhowse* 1439 SHC VII NS 50, *Wodhuse* 1507 *ibid.* 60, *Bloore Wodhouses* 1600 SHC 1935 296; **WOODHOUSE FARM** 1 mile north-west of Haughton (SJ 8521), *Wodford* 1546 SHC XI 291, *Wodehous* (p) 1327, 1332 SR, *Wood Ho* 1775 Yates, *The Wood House* 1836 O.S.; **WOODHOUSE FARM** 1 mile south-west of Tutbury (SK 2028), *Tuteburi Wodehouses* 1287 SHC VI (i) 168; *The Woodhouse*, *Tutbury Woodhouses* 1601 (1798) Shaw I 56, 58, *Woodhouse* 1836 O.S.; **WOODHOUSE** (unlocated) near Okeover, *la Wodehuse* 1306 SHC VII 182; **WOODHOUSES** (unlocated) near Mayfield, *le Wudehuses* ?13th century SHC VII NS 153, *Woodhouses by Mathelfeld* 1309 SHC 1911 73, *Woodhowses* 1600 SHC 1935 263; **WOODHOUSES** 1 mile east of Yoxall (SK 1519), *Woodhouse* 1499 (1798) Shaw I 98, *The Wodhowse* 1532 SHC 4th Series 8 173; **WOODHOUSE GREEN** 1½ miles west of Rushton Spencer (SJ 9162), *Wodehous(feld)*

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 (i) 19, *Woodhouses* 1793 Cary; **WOODHOUSES** (unlocated, in Marchington), *Woodhowsen* 1586 SHC 1927 158; **WOODHOUSE** 1½ miles north-east of Stone (SJ 9235), *Woodhouses* c.1680 SHC 1919 262; **WOODHOUSES** 2 miles west of Lichfield (SK 0809), *Woodhousley* 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), *Wodehous* 1326 SRO 1485/7/3/2, *Wodehous otherwise Rumpney landes* 1442 SRO 1485/7/4/1; **WOODHOUSE FARM** 1 mile east of Croxden (SK 0839), *Wodehuses* 1176 VCH III 226; **WOODHOUSES** (unlocated, near Harley), *Wodehouses* 1324 SRO D603/A/Add/439, *Wodehuses* 1327 SRO D603/A/Add/451; **WOODHOUSE FARM** 2 miles south-east of Upper Arley (SO 7678), *Woddus, 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-hūs* '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 *wād-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)wæd*) 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, *Woodroofe* (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), *Woodease*, *Wooddease* 1594 SHC 1934 14-5, *Woodeseves* 1612 *ibid.* 38, *Woodes Eves* 1613 *ibid.* 35, *The Woods Ease* 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 *Wodewallefilt*, recorded in an undated (? 14th century) deed: SHC 1921 15. The name is from OE *wudu-wælle* '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*, *Willanescroft* 1311 SHC IX (i) 24, *Wyllanescroft* 1310 SHC X 7, *Willanescroft* 1310 SHC 1911 75, 1321 SHC XII NS 113, *Williamescroft* 1314 SHC IX (i) 45, *Willianscroft* 1314 SHC 1911 80-1, *Wyllarddyscrofte* 1377 SHC 4th Series VI 13, *Wyllardcrofte* 1377 *ibid.* 12, *Wylascroft* 1442 SHC XI 233, *Wollascroft* 1488 SHC 1921 3, *Weylescrofte* 1549 (1801) Shaw II app. 12, *Weylescrofte* 1557 SHC XII 202, *Willescrosse* 1564 SHC XIII 231, *Wollascroft* otherwise *Willowescroftes* otherwise *Wyllerscroftes* 1605 SHC IV NS 6, *Wollowescrofts* alias *Willlocrofte* 1621 SRRC 11/68, *Wallescroft* 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* - 'Wiglāf'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 DB, *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. 'Wulflāf's farmstead'. (Cf. *Wollaston* and *Wollashill*, Worcestershire (PN Wo 196, 311)).

WOOLLEY ½ mile south-west of Brewood (SJ 8707). *Wolveley* 1199 Ass, *Wlvelega* c.1200x1210 SHC 1939 9, *Wolvnelegh* 1280 SHC VI (i) 105, *Wulveley* 1289 SHC *ibid.* 186, *Wolveleye* (p) 1313 Giffard, *Wulveley iuxta Hyde* 1273 FF, *Wolfley* c.1680 SP. From OE *wulf*, genitive plural *wulfa* 'wolf',

with OE *lēah*. 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, *Wotton under Wever* 1424 SHC XVII 96; **WOOTTON** 1½ miles south of Eccleshall (SJ 8227), *Wodetone* 1086 DB, *Wotton* 1253 Ch, *Woderton* 1305 SHC VII 165, *Wodeton* 1341 HRO 44M69/C/93, *Wottone* 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), *Wodeton in Foresta de Morf* 1255 Rotali Hundredorum (RC), 1812-8, *Le Wodeton* 1296 SHC 1911 267, *Wodeton* 1298 TSAS LXXI 1996 27, *Wootton Green* 1833 O.S. From OE *wudu-tūn* 'tūn in or by a wood'. The element *tūn* is characteristic of non-forested areas, which suggests that a *wudu-tūn* 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 *Wotenhull*, *Wootenhulle* recorded in 1232 (SHC XII 15), *Wotenhull* 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.

WORDSLEY 2 miles north of Stourbridge (SO 8886). *Wulwardeslea* 12th century, *Wolwardele* 13th century Duig, *Wolleye* 1299 SHC 1911 203, *Wordeslei* 1509 SRRC 2089/2/2/39-40, *Wordsley* 1578 SRRC 2089/2/3/1. 'Wulfweard's *lēah*'.

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.

WORFIELD Ancient Parish 3 miles north-east of Bridgnorth (SO 7595). *Wrfeld*, *Guruelde* 1086 DB, 1265 Pat, *Woresfeld* 1167 P, *Wurefeld'* 1177 P, *Wurrefeld'* 1230 P, *Wurefeud* 1242 SHC 1911 11, *Wrofeld* 1271 For, *Worfield alias Worvel Holme* 1703 Shifnal ParReg, *Worfield Holm* 1747 Poll. 'Open land on the river Worfe (q.v.): there is an expanse of relatively level land surrounding the village: PN Sa I 327. A royal charter of 1477 records *Wolueresford alias dicto Worfield* 'Wolueresford otherwise called Worfield' (SAS 2nd Series XI 1899 1-4), but no other reference to Wolueresford has been traced. In Shropshire since the 12th century. The significance of the *holm* element, meaning 'a small island, a piece of dry land in a marsh; a piece of land partly surrounded by streams or by a stream', is unclear.

WORMHILL 1 mile north-west of Heaton (SJ 9363). *Wormhill* 1333 SHC XIV 32, *Wormhulle* 1413 SHC XVII 42, *Wormehulle* 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 *wurm* '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)). *Wurmildehalch* 1248 (1883) Sleigh 50, *Wurnulde halh* c.1248 SHC NS IX 318, *Wormehalgh* c.1539 LRMB, *Wormehalgh* 1605 SCA MD 5649, *Wormehaughe* 1615 QSREnr, *Wormhough* 1891 O.S. The two earliest forms suggest a derivation from an OE personal name *Wurmild or similar, but no such name is recorded. The later spellings point towards OE *wurm*, *halh* 'the dragon's halh'. See also Wormhill; Wormslow.

WORMLOW FARM 1½ miles north-east of Bradnop (SK 0256). *Wormlow* 1768 VCH VII 211, *Warmlow* 1842 O.S. Early spellings have not been traced, but almost certainly from OE *wurm-hlāw* '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 SHC V (i) 150, *Walfieswod* 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, *Walstode*, *Walstead*, *Walstede* 15th century Duig, *Walstede Delves* 1542 SHC XI 285, *Wallestede Delvishe*, *Walsteddeluyshe* 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 Walstead, originally the OE personal name *Wealhstod* (*ibid.* 176), but the spellings point towards a derivation from an OE personal name such as *Wælgist*, 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 SHC 1924 80, 1205 SHC III 136, *Wyfrideston* ?12th century SHC VI (i) 22, *Wodiston* 1271 SHC V (i) 149, SHC XII (ii) 11, ? *Wymereston* 1279 SHC VI (i) 115, *Wyverston* 1286 SHC V (i) 173, *Wiverstone* 1292 SHC VI (i) 221,

Worflestone, Wythtrestone ?13th century *ibid.* 24, *Wiveleston, Wyverstone, Wyfridestone, Worflestone* 13th and 14th century Duig, *Worston otherwise Wevereston* 1582 SHC XVII 229, *Worston otherwise Weaverstone* c.1737 SRO D1499. The early spellings are inconsistent, but perhaps from the OE personal name Wilfriþ or similar, with OE *tūn*.

WOTTONS-LAND (unlocated) *Wottons-land* 1531 SHC XI NS 9.

WOUNDALE 1½ miles west of Claverley (SO 7793). *Wundenwall, Wundewell* 1221 Eyton 1854-60: III 97, *Wundenewell* 1235 *ibid.* 98, *Wondewall* 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 *wælle* '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, *Ounehil* 1353 (1801) Shaw II 175, ? *Wyndon* 1545 SHC XII 189, *Wounden Hill* 1707 BCA MS3145/63/1a&b, *Wernden* 1745 WA II 79, *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 *dūn* '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*.

WREDON a hill 1 mile north of Ramshorn (SK 0846), which forms part of the Weaver Hills. *Reedon* 1686 Plot, *Raydon Hill* 1838 O. S. Perhaps from OE *rēad-dūn* 'the red hill': see Raddlepits. The W is a recent affectation, perhaps influenced by names such as The Wrekin and Wrockwardine. It is unclear whether *Reydon*, recorded in 1281 (NA DD/FJ/1/298/4), is to be associated with this name.

WRENS 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 SHC IV 243, 1278 FF, *Wrosene* 1291 Tax, *ate 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 *wrās(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 Restlars* 1798 Shaw I 110, *The Rostlers* 1832 Blymhill ParReg, *Wrestlers Barn* 1833 O.S., *Ristler'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). *Wrinehull* 1225 Cl, *Wryneford* 1273 SHC VI (i) 58, *Wryme* 1278 SHC XI NS 260, *Wryme* 1298 *ibid.* 249, 1307 *ibid.* 265, 1332 AD, *Le Wryme* 1430 AD, *le Wryme* 1486 AD, *Wrymhyll* 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 Wryneford* 1322 Ipm, *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 *sīc*) 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 *wrīg-*, from the OE verb *wrīgian* 'to tend, to go forward, to bend' (cf. Modern *wry*), with the Primitive Germanic noun-forming suffix *-ma(n)*, which could produce an OE **wrīma* 'a bend', giving **Wrīma*, (**æt*) *Wrīman* '(at) The Bend', with the genitive singular represented in *Wriman ford*, which would develop into ME *Wryme*, *Wryme*, 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.

WROTTESELEY (pronounced Rotters-lee [rɒtəzli:]) in Tettenhall parish, 4 miles north-west of Wolverhampton (SJ 8501). (*æt*) *Wrotteslea* c.1000 (11th century, S.1534), *Wrotteslea* 1080 SHC I 182, *Wrotolei* 1086 DB, *Wrotteslega* c.1162 SHC I 183, 1167 SHC 1923 296, *Wrotteslee* 1199 SHC III 36, *Wrotele* 1221 SHC I 183, *Wurtlega* 1222 SHC IV 20, *Wrokesley* 1256 SHC VI NS (ii) 41, *Wortteslewe* c.1250 *ibid.* 47, *Wrottesley* 1271 SHC V (i) 148, *Wroctesley*, *Wrottele* 1284 *ibid.* 134, *Wrotkesley* 1285 SHC I 183, *Wrottesmere* 1286 SHC V (i) 157, *Wrottesleye* 1310 SHC 1911 74, *Roddesley* 1414 SHC XVII 25, *Rocheley* 1567 SHC IX NS 226, SHC 1925 90, *Wrottesley* 1686 Plot. Probably '*Wrott's lēah'. 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

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.

WROTTESEY 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, WULFECESTRE, WELFERCESTER, WULFERCESTER - see BURY BANK.

WULFHAMPTON (unlocated, in Whittimere, 2 miles north-east of Bobbington (SO 8292): VCH XX 65, 71. *Wulfhamton* late 13th century VCH XX 65, 71, *Wulfhampton* 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, Southwulfursyde, Northwulfursyde* 1492 SHC 1912 256-7. Perhaps incorporating the name of the Mercian King Wulphere (658-75; see Bury Bank), with OE *sīde* 'side', ME *side* 'slope of a hill, especially one extending for a considerable distance' (Ekwall 1960).

WULREDESTON (unlocated) *Wulredeston* 1214 SHC III 163. Perhaps from the OE personal name Wulfræd with OE *tūn*, so 'Wulfræd's tūn'.

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, *Wiccenor* 1251 SHC 1934 (i) 25, *Wychnore* 1261 SHC X NS I 293, *Wycchenovre* 1280 SHC 1911 172, *Wiethenouere* 1282 BCA MS3878/16, *Whichenovre* 1291 (1798) Shaw I 119, *Wichenovere*, *Wycchenore* 13th century Duig, *Wycchenovere* 1300 SHC V (i) 177, *Wochenoure* 1325 SRO DW1733/A/3/26, *Whychonore* 1329 BCA 3669/Acc1938-049/506539, *Whytchenore*, *Whitchnore* 1366 SHC VIII 26, *Phwychenor* temp. Edward I (1798) Shaw I 152, *Whichenore* 1476 SHC VI NS (i) 103, *Wychenowr* 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 *Hwicce, based in Gloucestershire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire, recorded by Bede as *prouincia Huicciorum* 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 *hwicce* 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; Wicklewood, 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 *wīc* '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 *wīc* '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.) *Wymonneshale* 1346 SRO DW1082/A/4/4, *Wymodesshale* 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 *wægen* (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 *wægen* 'cart, waggon', with OE *ford* and (later) 'mill', meaning 'the mill at the ford used by waggons 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), probablyt from OE *wægen-ford* 'wagon ford', notwithstanding the spelling with -d-.

WYNRESTON (unlocated) *Wynreston* 1251 Ipm.

WYNSTANSLEY (unlocated, in Eccleshall.) *Wynstansley* 1329 SRO D(W)1082/A/2/1. Perhaps 'Wyn(n)stān's *lēah*'.

WYPPERSLEY (unlocated) *Wyppersley* 1269 SHC 1910 111.

WYRE HALL in Penkridge. *Wyr(r)all end croft* 1598 Ct. From OE *wīr*, *wȳr* '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 *wīr*, *wȳr* 'bog-myrtle (*Myrica Gale*)', with OE *lēah*. 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.

WYVERESHALL (unlocated, in Leek.) *Wyvereshale* 1324 SHC X 53. See also Wiversall.

YARLET 4½ miles north of Stafford (SJ 9128). *Erlid* 1086 DB, *Erlida* 1166 SHC 1923 297, *Erlide* 12th century, *Erlode* 1280 SHC VI (i) 111, *Erlide*, *Erlyde*, *Herlide* 13th century, *Erlede*, *Erlide* 14th century, *Erlid* 15th century Duig, *Yarlett otherwise Yerlydclaye* 1566 SHC XIII 259, *Yerlett otherwise Yerletclay* 1590 SHC XVI 103, *Yarlett* 1591 SHC 1930 164, *Erlid*, *Yerlett* 16th century Duig. The first element is probably OE *ēar* 'gravel', or *earn* 'eagle'. The second element is more difficult. Ekwall 1960: 542 suggests OE *hlid* 'slope', a side-form of OE *hlið* '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 *hlid* 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 *clæg* 'clayey'.

YARNFIELD 2 miles west of Norton Bridge (SJ 8632). *Ernefeld* 1266 Duig, *Hernef* 1272-3 SHC XI NS 242, *Ernefen* 1300 SHC VII 75, *Yernefyn* 1558 SHC XII 233, *Yernfyn*, *Yarnefylde* 16th century Duig, *Ernefeild otherwise Ernfen* 1610 SHC NS III 24, *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 (*Halitus 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 *tūn* 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, *Hathesale* 1336 *ibid.* 187, *Attesale* 1350 SHC XI NS 30, *Attesole* 1381 *ibid.* 32, *Adesale* 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 Sharesill (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, *Yelpursley 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.

YELSWAY 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 ½ mile south-west of Abbot's Bromley (SK 0723). *Byondebrok* 1324 SHC 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 *brōc* '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 ½ miles north-west of Okeover (SK 1548). *Urlesweye temp.* Edward II SHC VII NS 7, *Yell(e)y* 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.

YEW TREE 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.

YELDFIELDS HALL 1 mile north of Bloxwich (SJ 9903). *Yeld feldes* 1549 VCH XVII 179, *Yeldfields* 1596 *ibid.* 179. From OE *helde* 'a slope'.

YOMBERLEY (unlocated, perhaps near Tittesworth.) *Yombeles*, *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, *Jokeshale* 1242 Fees, *Joxhale* 1252 Rolls, *Yoxhale* 1284 SHC 1911 40, *Jokesal* 13th century, *Yokeshale*, *Joxhale* 14th century Duig, *Oxall* c.1570 SHC 1931 216, *Yoxsall* 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.

