Some Aspects of the Pronunciation of English Place-Names (II)

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The first part of this paper (Researches No.17, 1981) introduced the subject of irregularly-pronounced English place-names and presented the first half of List A, covering final elements and simplex names which sometimes appear as final elements. Part 2 will conclude List A and begin List B, covering initial elements and remaining simplex names, including those which sometimes appear as initial elements.

I will repeat here some of my criteria for these lists. In the first place, names which are in no way unusual in pronunciation and do not present a problem for the educated native speaker or foreign student will not normally appear except to provide comparisons. In the second place, the lists are not exhaustive although most sizeable or famous localities will be included, along with a number of smaller ones whose pronunciations are of especial interest. There is a certain amount of duplication since many names are irregular in respect of more than one element, but the reader who suspects that a place-name has an unusual pronunciation would be advised to look it up in more than one list. Thus Happisburgh (Norf.) will be found under HAPPIS- (List B) but not under -BURGH (List A), since the principal irregularity is contained in the initial element.

List A (continued)
- MAN  *Akeman Street* [ˈɛkmanˈstrɪt], the Roman road to *Bath* (Avon).
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-MEL Cartmel (Cumb.) ['kærɪməl] in BBC.
I have heard [-mel] from a local resident.

-MER Keymer (W. Sus.) ['kiːmə] or ['kæmə].
Eckwall gives only the second of these.

-MERGH Skelsmergh (Cumb.) ['skelzəmə] or ['skelzmə].

-MET Nymet Rowland (Dev.) ['nɪmɪt ˈroʊlənd] and nearby Nymet Tracey ['nɪmɪt ˈtreɪsi].

-MINSTER Normally [-mɪnstə] as in Westminster (Lon.), but BBC gives Leominster (Here.) as ['lemstə]. Mr Edward Light, in a private communication, gives me Beaminster (Dor.) ['bɛmɪstə].

-MOIGNE Owermoigne (Dor.) ['əʊəmɔɪn] in BBC and ['ɔːmɔɪn] in Eckwall.

-MOND Richmond (Sur., W. Yorks.) ['rɪtʃmənd].

-MONT Beaumont (Cumb.) ['biːmənt]; (Ess., Lancs.) ['bəʊmənt], these last two in Eckwall but not BBC. Belmont (Sur., not in BBC) ['bɛlmənt].

-MORE Usually [-mɔː] as in Littlemore (Oxon.), but note Breamore (Hants.) ['bremə] and Quernmore (Lancs.) ['kwɔːmə] or ['kwɔːmə].

-MOUTH There is much hesitation between [-məθ] and [-mɔːθ].
Alnmouth (N'hum.) is ['ælnmɔːθ] or ['eɪlmɔːθ], Arvonmouth (Avon), Charmouth (Dor.) are both [-məθ], but Dartmouth (Dev.) and Portsmouth (Hants.) are both [-məθ].

-MOW Dunmow (Ess.) ['dʌnməʊ].

-NANCE Kynance (Corn.) ['kɪnəns].

-NE Balne (S. Yorks.) ['bɔːn], Calne (Wilts.) ['kæn], Colne (Ess., Lancs.) ['kəʊn]. Some speakers undoubtedly insert [1] into Colne these days, perhaps by analogy with ['kəʊlnbrʊk]. One realisation of Colnbrook (Bucks.). Hoxne (Suff.) is ['hɔksən] and Lympne (Kent) ['lɪm].

-NES Totnes (Dev.) ['tʌtnəz].
- NOR [-nɔ] in both Cumnor (Oxon.) [ˈkʌnɔr] and Upnor (Kent), the latter not in BBC.

- NUN Altarnun (Corn.) [æltəˈnʌn].

- OCK Normally [-ək] as in Challock (Kent). So also Crummock Water (Cum., not in BBC). BBC gives Chideock (Dor.) as [ˈtʃɪdək], but Eckwall has [ˈtʃɪdək]. The two authorities divide similarly on Dunchideock (Dev.). BBC gives Quethiock (Corn.) as [ˈkwɪðiək, ′kwɪðiək] or [ˈkwɪðiək] and Sheviock (Corn.) as [ˈʃəviək]. Eckwall is silent on how these places are pronounced.

- OP [-ɔp] in Wallop (Hants.), Salop, the alternative name for the county of Shropshire, and Ashop Clough (Derby.).

- OT Ayot St. Lawrence (Herts.) [ˈeɪt sntˈlaʊəns].

- OUGH Ellough (Suff.) [ˈeləu]. See also -BROUGH, CLOUGH etc.

- OVER Normally [-əʊvə] as in Candovery (Hants.), Wendover (Bucks.), but note Peover (Ches.) [ˈpiːvə].

- OW Scottow (Norf.) [ˈskʌtəʊ].

- PAS The name Malpas is pronounced [ˈmælpəs, ′mæpəs] or [ˈmɔːpəs] in Ches., and [ˈməʊpəs] in Corn., according to BBC. Eckwall gives only [ˈmɔːl-] for Ches. and says nothing about Corn.

- PETH [-pəθ] in Brancepeth (Dur.) [ˈbранθiːθ] and Morpeth (N’hum.) [ˈmɔːpəθ].

- PORTH Stressed in Perranporth (Corn.) [ˌpɜːrənˈpɔːθ].

- QUET Coquet Island, River Coquet, Coquetdale (N’hum.), all [ˈkʊkət].

- REDY Cropredy (Oxon.) [ˈkrɒprədi].

- RE Boldre (Hants.) [ˈbouldə]. Older spellings of this place include Boulder, and Eckwall suggests a connection with a dialect word boulder ‘bulrush’.

- RES Hardres (Kent) [ˈhɑːdəz].

- RETH BBC gives [-rɪθ] for Shepreth (Cambs.) but [-ɾθ] for Raw-
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reth (Ess.). Both derive from OE *rith* 'stream'. I would imagine that [-riθ] and [-rəθ] are in free variation for both names.

-RISE Acrise (Kent) ['eəkrɪs, eɪkrɪs].

-ROCK As a simplex this is ['rɒk] as in Black Rock (E. Sus.), but note Lanhydrock (Corn). ['læn'hɑdrək], where the derivation is from the old Cornish saint's name Hydrock.

-RUTH Redruth (Corn) is ['rɛd'rʌθ], with typical Cornish stress-pattern.

-RUTHAN Bedruthan (Corn.) ['bɛdrʌθən].

-SAND Usually [-sænd] as in the two places in Corn. called White-sand Bay (not in BBC). In the same county, however, note Cawsand and Cawsand Bay ['kɔsænd] according to BBC; this pronunciation may also apply to Cawsand Beacon (Dev.).

-SCALL Brinscall (Lancs.) ['brɪnskəl].

-SCEUGH Haresceugh (Cumb.) is ['hɛsκjuːf] in BBC but ['hɛsκəf] in EPNS (XX). EPNS gives Huddlesceugh as ['hʌdλskəf]; BBC and Eckwall are silent. Rogersceugh (Cumb.) is ['rɔdʒesκəf] in EPNS (XX).

-SEA ['siː] in Brightlingsea (Ess.), Hornsea and Withernsea (both Lincs.) and Southsea (Hants.). Battersea (Lond.) and Brinsea (Avon) are given by BBC as ['beɪtəsi] and ['brɪznəi]. Eckwall gives Brightlingsea as ['brɪklzəi].

-SELL Horsell (Sur.) ['hɔrsəl].

-SHAW The expected form is [-ʃə] as in Ottershaw (Sur., not in BBC), but note Strumpshaw (Norf.) ['strʌmpʃə].

-SHED See above under -HED. There I postulated a pronunciation ['ʃepʃəd] or ['ʃepshed] for Shepshed (Lancs., Leics.) based on their derivation from 'sheep's head'. I have learned from a person working in the Leicestershire village of this name that

* EPNS (IX) curiously gives Cawsand (Dev.) as ['kɔsænd] or ['kɔzən].
the common local version is now [ˈʃepʃəd], evidently a spelling pronunciation. [ˈʃepsəd] is occasionally met with among older residents.

- SHIRE The English shires are commonly pronounced [-ʃə] or [-ʃɔ], as in Hampshire, Wiltshire, Derbyshire. This contrasts with the Scottish [-ʃaɪə] in Perthshire, Aberdeenshire, Inverness-shire, all now obsolete as a result of the recent reorganisation of the counties of Britain. Note also the village of Wilpshire (Lancs.) ['wilpʃə].

- SOKEN Found only in Thorpe-le-Soken (Ess.) ['θɔplə'sækən].

- SOM Epsom (Sur.) ['ɛpsəm].

- SOR [-zə] in Windsor (Berk.,) For Edensor (Derby.), BBC gives the alternatives ['enzə,'ensə].

- STABLE Whitstable (Kent, not in BBC) ['wɪtstæbl].

- STAPLE Barnstaple (Dev., not in BBC) ['bɑːnstæpl].

- STALL There are localities named Tunstall in at least eight English counties. BBC gives [ˈtʌnstəl] for those in Dur., Staffs. and Suff., and ['tʌnstɔl] for Norf. There is no evidence for Kent, Lancs. or N. Yorks. EPNS (XIV) has ['tʌnstəl] for Hum.

- STEAD BBC has [-sted] for Halstead (Ess., Kent) and [-strɪd] for Tunstead (Norf.). It is not hard to imagine free variation between [-sted] and [-strɪd] for places ending in -STEAD.

- STEVEN Kesteven ['kɛstɪvən], the name of one of the now-obsolete administrative divisions of Lincs.

- STON Usually [-stən] as in Helston (Corn) ['helstən] and Royston (Herts.). But Cholmondeston (Ches.) is ['tʃəmsən] in BBC and ['tʃəmsən] in Eckwall. For the pronunciation of the first element, see under CHOL- in List B.

- STONE There is hesitation between [-stən] and [-stənən]: [-stən]: Bearstone (Staffs.,) ['bɛəstən], Biddestone (Wilts.) ['bɪdɪstən], Brightstone (Iow) ['braitstən], Folkestone (Kent) ['fɔːkstən], Langstone (Hants.)
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[ˈlæŋstən].
[-stən]: Addlestone (Sur.), Maidstone (Kent).

- STY Corpusty (Norf.) ['kɔːpəstɪ].
- SULL Trysull (Staffs.) ['triːzl] or ['triːːzl].
- TER See -ETER above.
- TETH Toxteth (Mer.) ['tɒktəθ].
- THORP Althorp (N'hants.), the home of the Spenser family, is pronounced ['ɔːtrɔp], as everyone in Britain knows since the Royal Wedding, 1981. For some other cases where an historic house is pronounced, at least by its occupants, in a manner different from that expected, and sometimes distinct from the local or even national pronunciation of the nearby village of the same name, see above -HAY(E)S and below COMP-, HARE-, HOL-, WO-. Jilly Cooper, in Class (Eyre Methuen, London, 1979), suggests that 'one of the ways the upper classes exclude the classes below is by pronouncing the names of their houses differently from the way they are spelt.'

- THROP Heythrop (Oxon.) ['heɪθrəp].
- THWAITE Bassenthwaite (Cumb.) ['bæsɛnθweɪt] shows the typical pronunciation of this element. EPNS (XXI) gives Great and Little Crosthwaite (Cumb.) as ['kroʊθweɪt]. BBC gives the alternatives ['slæθweɪt] and ['sləʊɪt] for Slaithwaite (W.Yorks.).

- TIGH Olantigh Towers (Kent), a house near Wye, is given by BBC as ['ɒləntə].

- TOFT Lowestoft (Suf.) ['loʊstəfθ, 'lʌʊstəθ] or ['loʊstəθ].

- TON Usually [-tən] as in Aldermaston (Berks.) ['ɔːldəmɔːstən], Aylburton (Glos.) ['eɪlbətən], Allington (Kent, Lincs., Wilts.) ['ɔːlɪŋtən] and many others. Occasionally, however, the [t] is dropped. Guston (Kent) is locally pronounced ['gʌstən] (not given in BBC). Launceston (Corn.) is ['laːns(t)ən] or ['lʌnsən] in BBC. Eckwall has only ['ɛkɔːn] or ['lɛŋstən]. Croxton (Norf.) is ['krɔːstən]; Croxton (Hum.) is ['krɔːstən] or ['krəʊsən];
Croxtone Kerrial (Lincs.) is ['krɔːsən'kɛriəl]. South Croxtone (Leics.) is ['krɔːsən,'krɔːstən] or ['krɔːzən].

TOR Both as a simplex and a final element, this is [tɔː] in Devon: Burrrator ['bɔːrə'tɔː], Haytor ['heər'tɔː], Hessary Tor ['hesərɪ'tɔː]. Bolventor (Corn.), however, is [bɔl'ventə] and Cleator (Cum.) ['kliːtə]. The last of these, at least, is derived from ON erg 'a hill pasture' rather than OE torr 'a high rock'.

VANT Havant (Hants.) ['hevnənt].

VAULX Jervaulx (N. Yorks.) is ['dɜːvɔu], but BBC notes an older local form ['dɜːvɔs] which may still be used by a few speakers. Rievaulx (N.Yorks.) ['riːvɔu] or ['rɪvɔz].

VOIR Belvoir (Leics.), and its Hunt, are both ['biːvə].

WALL The county of Cornwall is ['kɒnɔwl] in BBC, but I have also heard ['kɒnɔwəl]. Mr E. Costigan, whose home is there, thinks Cornish people might prefer [-wɔl]. Blackwall (Lond., not in BBC) is ['blækwɔl].

WARDINE A common element in the Marches. There is some diversity in its pronunciation; Bredwardine (Here.) [,bredwɔ'dain], Cheswardine (Shrops.) [,tʃɛzwɔdain], Leintwardine (Here.) ['lɛнтwɔdain] or ['lɛntwɔdən] and also ['lɛntədɪn]. Lugwardine (Here.) is ['lʌgwɔdaiən]. Burton Pedwardine ['pedwɔdain], unexpectedly in Lincs., takes its name from a Herefordshire family who acquired it by marriage in c. 1280 (Eckwall).

WARK Aldwark (Derby.) ['ɔldwɔk]; Newark (Cambs., Glos., Notts.) ['njuək]; Southwark (Lond.) ['sʌðək].

WARP Fairwarp (E. Sus.) ['feəwɔp].

WAS Alrewas (Staffs.) ['ɔlˈreɪs,'ɔlˈreɪwəs]. Only the first of these is given by Eckwall. BBC and Eckwall are both silent on the pronunciation of Buildwass (Shrops.), but the early form Byldewasu in Eckwall suggests a modern pronunciation ['bɪldəwəs].
Burwash (E. Sus.) is ['bɒwəʃ] in BBC, which adds the quaint information that the inhabitants are called ‘Burwashers’, pronounced ['bɔːrəʃəz]. Borrowash (Derby.) is ['bɔːrəʊʊʃ, bɔːrəʊʃ] or ['bɔːrəʊʊʃ] in BBC; the first only is in Eckwall.

Wash [-wɪθ] in Kingswear and Monkwearmouth, both in Dev., and in River Wear (Tyne).

Wear [-wɛə] in Kingswear and Monkwearmouth, both in Dev., and in River Wear (Tyne).

Well Ewell (Sur.) ['juːwel]. Eriswell (Suf.) ['erɪswɛl]. Abbotskerswell (Dev.) ['æbɔts'kɛzwɛl] and similarly the nearby Kingskerswell. The River Cherwell ( Oxon.) is ['tʃɛrwɛl] but the River Irwell (G. Man.) is ['ɪrwɛl]. Rothwell (Lincs., N'hants., W. Yorks.) is ['rɔwɛl]; BBC offers ['rəʊwɛl] as an alternative for the second of these. A well-known irregular is Southwell (Notts.) ['sʌðwɛl].

Wich There seem to be four realisations of this final element:

[-ɪdʒ] or [-ɪtʃ]: Baswich (Staffs.) ['beəsidʒ, 'beəsitʃ]; Norwich (Norf.) ['nɔridʒ, 'nɔritʃ]; Dulwich (Lond.) ['dʌlɪdʒ, 'dʌlɪtʃ], Greenwich (Lond.) ['grɪnidʒ, 'grɪnitʃ]; Harwich (Ess.) ['hærɪdʒ, 'hærɪtʃ].

[-ɪtʃ] or [-ɪdʒ]: Sandwich (Kent); ['sændɪtʃ, 'sændɪdʒ]; the second is not in BBC but is heard, though more commonly applied to the snack named after Lord Sandwich; the [d] may be omitted in both pronunciations.

[-ɪtʃ] only: Bloxwich (W. Mid.) ['bloksɪtʃ], Ipswich (Suf.) and the ‘salt towns’ Droitwich, Middlewich, Nantwich, Northwich, all in Ches.

[-ɪtʃ] or [-ɪtʃ]: Fordwich (Kent).

Wick The three realisations seem to be [-wɪk], [-ɪk] or either, as in these examples:
[-wik]: Avonwick (Dev.) ['eiənwik]; Aldwick (W. Sus.), Elwick (Dur.). Exwick (Dev.), Painswick (Glos.).

[-ik]: Adwick-le-Street (S.Yorks.), Barwick (Herts., Norf., Som.) ['bærɪk], Barwick-in-Elmet (W.Yorks.), Elwick (N’hum.) Prestwick (N’hum.), Warwick (War.) ['wɔrɪk], Berwick (N’hum.) Smethwick (W.Mid.) ['smeðɪk].

[-wik] or [-ik]: Austwick (N.Yorks.)['ɔst(ɪ)k], Butterwick (Hum., Lincs., N.Yorks.)['bætəwik,'bæτərik], Crostwick (Norf.) ['krɒst(ɪ)k], Eckwall also gives ['kɜːðɪk]. Note Barnoldswick (N. Yorks.) ['bɔːnɔldzɪwɪk] or ['bɔːlɪk], Childwick (Herts.) ['tʃɪlɪk].

-WITH In Cornwall, an accented final in Penwith ['pɛnˈwɪθ], but not in Cadgwith ['kædʒwɪð,ˈkædʒwɪθ]. Elsewhere, usually [-θ]: Flawith (N.Yorks.) ['flɔːθ,ˈflɔːθ]; Skelwith (Cum.) ['skelθ].

-WOON Chywoon (Corn., not in BBC) ['tʃuːn]. Trewoon (Corn.) ['trwən].

-WORTH BBC usually gives [-wʌθ] as in Blidworth (Notts.)['blɪdəθ], but sometimes [-wəθ] as in Bosworth (Leics.) ['bozəθ]. The two forms are probably in free variation. Tamworth (Staffs.) is ['tæməθ] or ['tæməθ].

-WORTHAL Perranaworthal (Corn.) ['pɛranəˈwɔðəl].

-WORTHY As a simplex, always [-ði]: King’s Worthy (Hants., not in BBC) ['kɪŋzˈwɔði]. Otherwise may be [-wɔði] as in Holsworthy (Dev.) and many other West Country localities. Badgworthy or Bagworthy Water, a stream in Dev. and Som., is ['bædʒɔri]; Clapworthy (Dev.) is ['klæpɔri]. Woolfardisworthy (S.Dev.) is [wʊl 'fɔːdɨswɔði], but the N.Dev. village is ['wʊlɔzɔri] and BBC says that it is now spelt Woolsery.
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However, Johnston and the 1980 Geographia Road Atlas still show the traditional spelling.

-WRA  Crows-an-Wra (Corn.) ['kraʊzənreɪ].
-WYCH  Aldwych (Lond.) ['ɔldwɪtʃ] shows the usual pronunciation.
Note, however, High Wych (Herts.) ['hæiˈwaɪtʃ].
-WYCK  Alswyck Hall, near Buntingford, (Herts.) is ['æsɪk].
-WYN  Great and Little Bedwyn (Wilts., not in BBC) are ['bedwɪn], but Welwyn Garden City (Herts.) is ['welɪn].
-YARD  See above -ARD for Rudyard Lake (Staffs.).
-ZION  Marazion (Corn.) [,mærə'zaɪən]. (Neither this name nor its alternative Market Jew have any connection with Jews; they are both derived from an Old Cornish name meaning ‘small market’.)

List B

Initial Elements and Simplex Names, Including Those which May Appear as Initial Elements

Initial elements are far more numerous than final ones. This is obvious from the nature of English place-names, in which general features of the landscape or of social organisation (-COMBE, -WICH, -HAM, BOROUGH) normally come at the end of the name*, being preceded by a more or less open series of elements showing location, size, ownership and the like (WINCH-, NOR-, HARG-, LITTLE-) to give complete names like Winchcombe, Norwich, Hargham, Littleborough. Irregularity in the pronunciation of these initial elements being very common, List B will be longer than List A. In setting it out I have tried to balance the requirements of alphabetical order against those of the convenient grouping of recognisable elements; thus Aby, being clearly made up of an initial A- plus the common final

* The great exception, of course, is names of Celtic origin. In e.g. Lannivet (Corn) ‘Nivet’s church’, Bodmin (Corn) ‘house of the monks’, Llanwarne (Here.) ‘church by the alder-grove’, the more general element comes first.
-BY, will be found before ABRAM.

**A-**

[eɪ] in *Abridge* (Ess.), *Aby* (Lincs.), *Acle* (Norf.), *Acomb* (N’hum., N. Yorks.), *Acombe* (Som., not in BBC).

[æ] in *Adel* (W. Yorks.).

**AB-**

Usually [æb-] as in *Abingdon* (Berks.); note *Abram* (G. Man.) ['æbrəm].

**AC-**

Usually [æk-] as in *Acton* (Lond.), but note *Acrise* (Kent), ['ekrɪs] or ['eɪkrɪs].

**AD-**

[æd-] in *Adversane* (W. Sus.), *Adwick-le-Street* (S. Yorks.) ['ædɪk lɪ'strɪt], but [eɪd-] in *Adeyfield* (Herts.) ['eɪdfɪld] and *River Adur* ['eɪdə] (W. Sus.).

**AIS-**

*Aislaby* (Cleve., N. Yorks., W. Yorks.) ['eizlɪb]. See also ASLACK-.

**AL(C)-**

[ɑːls-] in *Alcester* (War.) ['ɑːlstə], *Alciston* (E. Sus.) ['ɔːlstən] (Eckwall gives ['ɔːstən]), *Alconbury* (Cambs.) ['ɔːlkənˈbəri], BBC also gives ['ɔːkənˈbəri].

**ALD-**

[ɔːld] in *Aldbury* (Herts.) also ['ɔːlbəri], *Aldwick* (W. Sus.) ['ɔːldwɪk]. *Aldeburgh* (Suff.) is ['ɔːlbərə].

[eɪld-] in *Alderwasley* (Derby.) ['ældəwəzˈliː] or ['æləzˈliː].

**AL(F)-**

Usually [ɔlf-] as in *Alford* (Lincs.), *Alfriston* (E. Sus.) ['ɔlfriˈstən] and *Alfreton* (Derby) ['ɔlfriˈtən], (also ['ɔlfriˈtən]). BBC gives *Alfold* (Sur.) as ['ɔlfəuld, 'ɔlfəuld] or ['afəuld].

**ALGER-**

*Algarkirk* (Lincs.) ['ɔːlgəkrɪk] or ['ɔːldɡəkrɪk].

**ALK-**

['ɔːlkəntən] *Alkington* (Glos.) and (Shrops.), the latter more often ['ɔːktən] according to BBC. *Alkham* (Kent) can be ['ɔːkəm] or ['ɔːkəm].

**ALL-**

[eəl-] in *Allerton Mauleverer* (N. Yorks.) ['æltən mɔːˈlevərə] and *Allestree* (Derby.) ['ælistri]; also *Allington* (Dor., Kent, Lincs., Wilts. (3). *Allesley* (W. Mid.) is ['ɔːlzli].

**AL(M)-**

[eəl-] in *Almer* (Dor.).

[æm-] or ['æm-] in *Almeley* (Here.).

*Almondbury* (W. Yorks.) is ['æmbəri, 'ɔːmbəri] or ['əlməndbəri].
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(Eckwall has ['æ:mbri]). Almondsbury (Avon) is ['æ:mzbəri].

**AL(N)** -
River Aln (N'hum) ['æln]; Eckwall also gives ['æl].
Alnmouth (N'hum.) is ['ælnmaʊθ]. Alnham (N'hum.) is ['ælnəm].
Alne (N. Yorks.) ['ən].
Great and Little Alne (War.) ['ən] or ['əln].

**ALRE** -
Alresford (Hants.) is ['ælzfəd] or ['ælzfəd], but Alresford (Ess.) is ['ælzfəd] or ['ɛlzfəd].
Alrewas (Staffs.) is ['əlrəs] or ['əlrəwəs].

**ALS** -
Alsager (Ches.) ['ɔl'seɪdʒə] or ['ɔlsədʒə].

**AL(T)** -
Altrum (Corn) ['æltə'nən].
Altofts (W. Yorks.) ['ɔltəftz] or ['ɔltəs].
Altrincham (G. Man.) ['ɔltərˌɪŋəm].

**AL(TH)** -
Althorpe (Hum.) ['ɔlθərp] but Althorp (N'hants.) ['ɔlθərp].

**ALV** -
[æv-] in Alveley (Shrops.).
[ælv-] in Alverdiscott (Dev.) ['ælvə'diskət] also ['ɔlskət],
in which (less common) case, the place is spelt Alscoft.
Alveston (Avon.) ['ælvɪstən] and Alvington (Glos.)
['ælvɪŋtən]. [ɔlv-] in Alverthorpe (W. Yorks.), Alvingham (Lincs.) and West Alvington (Dev.).
Alvescot (Oxon.) is ['ɔlskət, 'ɔlskət] or ['ɔlvɪskət].

**ALWAL** -
Alwalton (Cambs.) ['ɔlˌwɔlˈtən].

**AMPT** -
Ampthill (Beds.) ['æmpθil].

**AN** -
Anick (N'hum.) ['ænɪk] (not to be confused with Alnwick, same county, different pronunciation). Anwick (Lincs., not in BBC)
['ænɪk] (Eckwall).

**ANG** -
Angmering (W. Sus.) ['æŋmərɪŋ], but Angersleigh (Som.)
['æŋəlzli].

**ANNES** -
Annesley (Notts.) is ['ænzli] or ['ænzli].

**APE** -
Apethorpe (N'hants.) is ['æpəθəp] or ['ɛpəθəp].

**ARUN** -
River Arun (W. Sus.) ['ærən]; Arundel (W. Sus.) ['ærəndəl].

**ASHAMP** -
Ashampstead (Berks.) ['æʃæmpstɛd]; note stress.

ASHREIGN- *Ashreigney* (Dev.) [æʃˈreɪni]. *Eckwall* gives the place an alternative name, *Ringsash*, which is not in BBC.

ASLACK- *Aslackby* (Lincs.) ['əzləbɪ]. See above, AIS-.

ASPA- *Aspatria* (Cumb.) [æsˈpətrɪə]. The name derives from *asc-Patrick* ‘Patrick’s ash’ and *Eckwall* comments ‘the order of the elements is due to Celtic influence.’

ASTER- *Asterley* (Shrops.) is ['æstəlɪ] (not in BBC) but *Asterby* (Lincs.) is ['eɪstəbɪ].

ATH- *Athelney* (Som.) and *Athelstone* (Som, War.) are [æθəln-]; *Eckwall* gives the first of these as ['æθəlni]. *Atherton* (G. Man.) is either [æθ-] or [æθ-] in BBC.

AUGH- *Aughton* (Lancs., near Lancaster) is ['ɔftən], but the place of the same name near *Ormskirk* is ['ɔtən]. So are the two places of the same name in Hum. and S. Yorks.

AUST- *Austerfield* (S. Yorks., not in BBC) ['ɔstəfɪld]; *Austwick* (N. Yorks.) ['ɔst(w)ɪk].

AVE- *Avebury* (Wiltz.) ['eɪvɜrɪ], also ['eɪvərɪ]. *Averham* (Notts.) ['ævəm], *Aveton Gifford* (Dev.) ['əvən dʒɪfəd], also ['eɪvən dʒɪfəd].

AVON- The numerous rivers of this name in various parts of England (cf Welsh *afon* ‘river’) are usually pronounced ['eɪvən]; so also *Avonmouth* (Avon). However, the S.Dev. river of this name name is ['ævən] and so also *Avonwick* village which stands on it.

BAB- *Babington* (Som., not in BBC) ['bæbɪŋtən], *Babworth* (Notts., not in BBC) ['bæbwɜː]; similarly for other localities, but *Babraham* (Cambs.) ['bæbrəm].

BAC- *Bacup* (Lancs.) ['bɛkɔp].

BADD- *North Baddesley* (Hants.) is ['bædzli] but *Baddesley Ensor* (War.) can be either ['bædzli] or ['bædzli], according to...
BBC.

BAG- Baguley (Ches.) [ˈbæɡəli] or [ˈbægli]; Bagworthy Water, a stream in Som., sometimes spelt Badgworthy, is [ˈbædɡəri].

BAL- Balham (Lond.) [ˈbæləm], Baldhu (Corn.) [ˈbældjuː,ˈbɔldjuː] or [ˈbɔldjuː]; most others seem to be [ɔːl-] as in Balcombe (W. Sus.), Balby (S. Yorks.). Balne (N. Yorks.) is [ˈbɔːn].

BALL- Ballinger (Bucks.) [ˈbælɪŋdʒə]. Balliol College, Oxford, is [ˈbɔːljəl].

BAR- Barfreston (Kent) is not given in BBC or Eckwall, but in Isaac Taylor's Words and Places (Macmillan, London, 1863) it is spelt Barfreestone and given the pronunciation [ˈbɑːstən]. Barlborough (Derby.) is [ˈbɑːləbərə] or [ˈbɑːbərə] in BBC, Barlestone (Leics.) [ˈbɔːlstəun].

BARH- BBC gives Barham [ˈbærəm], without specifying whether this applies to all the villages of this name; they exist in Cambs., Kent and Suff. Eckwall gives [ˈbærəm] for the Kent village only, implying [ˈbəːrəm] for the others.

BARW- Barwick (Herts., Norf., Som.) and Barwick-in-Elmet (W. Yorks) are all [ˈbærɪk] according to BBC. EPNS, BBC and Eckwall are all silent on Barwick (Dev.).

BAS- Basford (Staffs.) is [ˈbæsfd] but the suburb of Nottingham of the same name is [ˈbæsfd]. Basildon (Berks., Ess.) is [ˈbæzldən] and Baslow (Derby.) [ˈbæzləʊ].

BAUGH- No entries in BBC. Eckwall has Baughurst (Hants.) [ˈbɔːghɔːst]. I would expect Baughton (Here.) to be [ˈbɔːtən].

BAW- Usually [bɔː-] as in Bawdeswell (Norf.) [ˈbɔːdzwɔːl], but note Bawburgh (Suff.) [ˈbɔːbə] or [ˈbɔːbərə].

BEA- Beaconsfield (Bucks.) is [ˈbɛkənsfɪld] or [ˈbɪːkənsfɪld]; BBC notes that the latter is appropriate for the Earldom. Beaminster (Dor.) is [ˈbɛmɪnsta] and Mr E. F. G. Light has heard [ˈbɛmɪnsta]. Beaworthy (Dev.) is [ˈbɛwɔːθi] or [ˈbɔwərθi].

BEAR- Beare Green (Sur.) [ˈbɛəˈɡriːn]; Beare (Dev.), Bearpark (Dur.)
and Bearstone (Shrops.) all ['bɪə]. Bearsted (Kent) ['bæstɪd] or ['bærəstɪd]. Bearwardcote (Derby.) ['bærəkət].

BEAU-

This common first element, of Norman French origin, has given rise to several modern pronunciations:

[biː-]: Beauchief (S. Yorks.) ['biːtʃɪf], Beauchamp (Ess.) ['biːtʃəm], Beaumont (Cum.) ['biːmənt].

[bəʊ-]: Beaumont (Ess.) ['bəʊmənt], Beaumanor (Leics.) ['bəʊmænə], Beaudesert Park (Staffs.) ['bəʊdɪzə].

BBC also gives another Beaudesert [bəʊ'deɪzət] or [ˌbəʊdɪzə], which is probably the village in War.

[bjuː-]: Beaulieu (Hants.) ['bjuːli:], Beausale (War.) ['bjuːsl].

BED-

Bedale (N. Yorks.) is ['biːdəl], but the local Hunt is ['biːdəl]. Bedales School (Hants.) is ['biːdəlz].

BEIGH-

Beighton (Derby.) is ['biːtən], but Beighton (Norf.) is ['bairən] or ['beɪtən].

BEL-

Usually [bel-] as in Belthorn (Lancs.), but note Belvoir (Leics.) ['biːvə].

BERK-

The county of Berkshire is always ['bækʃɪə], but Berkhamstead (Herts.) can be either ['bækəmsted] or ['bækəmsted].

Likewise Berkswell (W. Mid.) can be ['bækswel] or ['bækswel]. Berkeley (Glos.) and Berkley (Som.) are both ['bækli].

BER(W)-

Berwick-upon-Tweed (N'hum.) is ['berɪk], and the same pronunciation applies to villages called Berwick in E. Sus., Wilts. and elsewhere.

BETTES-

Betteshanger (Kent) ['betʃæŋə].

BEVER-

Bevercotes (Notts.) ['bəvəkəts].

BEWAL-

Bewaldeth (Cumb.) ['bjuː'əldəθ].

BIB-

Bibury (Oxon.) ['bɪbərɪ].

BI(C)-

Bicester (Oxon.) ['bɪstə].

BIDE-

Bideford (Dev.) ['bɪdɪfəd].

BIDD-

Biddlesden (Bucks.) is ['bɪldzən], according to BBC. Eckwall has ['bɪdl] for Biddulph (Staffs.); BBC gives ['bɪdlalf].
Some Aspects of the Pronunciation of English Place-Names (II)

BIER- ['baɪəli] in Bierley (W. Yorks.) but ['biətən] in Bierton (Bucks.).

BIS(H)- [biʃ-] in Bishopwearmouth (Dev.) and other places having Bishop, but [biʃ-] in Bisham (Bucks.) ['biʃəm].

BLACK- Normally [blæk-] as in Blackpool (Lancs., not in BBC) but note Blackley (G. Man.) ['bleɪkli].

BLAD- Bladon (Oxon.) ['bleɪdən].

BLEAN This simplex is ['bleɪn] in Blean (N. Yorks.) but ['blɪn] in Blean (Kent).

BLIS- Blisworth (N'hants.) ['blɪzwɔrθ].

BLITH- Blithfield (Staffs.) is ['blɪ菲尔d], but I have no information on Blithbury in the same county.

BLYTH- Blythburgh (Suff.) ['blaɪbərə]. Blyth (N'hum.) and the local River Blyth are ['blaɪð].

BOD- Bodmin (Corn.) is ['bɔdmin]; Bodiam (E. Sus.) can be either ['bɒdɪm] or ['bɒdɪm], according to BBC. EPNS (IV) gives ['bɒdɪm].

BORROW- Usually [ˈbɔrəʊ-] as in Borrowby (N. Yorks.), but BBC gives Borrowash (Derby.) as ['bɔrəʊəʃ, 'bɔrəʊɛʃ] or ['bɔrəʊəʃ].

BOS- Boscastle (Corn) is ['bɔskæsl]* but Boscawen in the same county is [bɒsˈkeven]. Bosinney also has [bɒs-]. Bosham (W. Sus.) is ['bɒzəm]. and Bosworth (Leics.) ['bɒzware].

BOTH- may be [bɔθ-] or [bɒθ-] according to context. Bothel (Cum) and Bothenhampton (Dor.) are [bɒθ-], but Bothamsall (Notts.) is ['bɒθæmsəl].

BOUGH- There are at least eleven localities in England called Boughton. Of these, the ones in Ches. and Kent are pronounced ['bɔtən], those in Cambs. and N'hants. ['bɔtən], and that in Notts. is either ['bɔtən] or ['bɔtən]. I can find no evidence on the remainder.

* see List A under -CASTLE for my comment on BBC's alternative for pronouncing the second element.
BOUL-  Boulton (Derby.) and Boulter's Lock on the Thames (not in BBC) are ['bœlt-]. Boulmer (N'hum.) is ['bu:mr]. Boultham (Lincs.) is ['bu:təm] or ['bu:ðəm]. Boulge (Suff.) is ['bu:lʤ] or ['bœuldʒ].

BOUR-  There are at least ten places named Bourton in England. BBC has ['bɔtən] for this name in general, including the well-known Bourton-on-the-Water (Oxon.). Eckwall appears to show ['bɔtən] for Bucks., Berks., Dor, and Glos., and ['bɔtən] for Shrops. and Avon, as well as for Black Bourton (Oxon.) and Bourton-on-Dunsmore (War.). For the others there is no clue.

BOV-  Boveney (Bucks.) and Boveny Tracy (Dev.) are both ['bʌv-]. Bovingdon (Herts.) is ['bʌvɪŋdən] or ['bʌvɪŋdən] and Bovinger (Ess.) ['bʌvɪndʒə].

BOW-  As a simplex this is Bow (Cumb., Dev., Oxon., Lond.) ['bəu]. As a first element there is more variety. Bowdon (G. Man.) is ['bəudən] and Bowness-on-Solway and Bowness-on-Windermere both Cum.) are ['bəunəs]. BBC gives ['bəudən] for Bowden, which appears to cover three places of this name in Dev., one in Wilts., and Great and Little Bowden (Leics.). Bowder Stone (Cumb.) is ['bɔudə]. Bowland Forest (Lancs.) is ['bɔlænd].

BOZ-  Bozeat (N'hants.) is ['bəuziət] or ['bəuzət] (the latter only in Eckwall).

BRA-  Brabourne (Kent) ['breɪbən, 'breɪbən]. Bracoon Ash (Norf.) ['breɪkən 'æʃ].

BRAUGH-  Braughing (Herts.) is ['bræfɪŋ].

BREA-  Breage (Corn.) ['breɪg, 'briːg]. Breamore (Hants.) ['breimə]. Brean (Som.) ['breɪn]. Breaston (Derby.) ['breɪ.stən].

BRED-  [bri:d-] in Bredon (Here.) but [bred-] in Bredwardine (Here.) [,bredwə'dain].

BRIGHT-  Brightmet (G. Man.) ['breɪtmɪt] or ['breɪtmɪt].

BRET-  Brettygarg Holt (Lancs.) ['breɪtər həult]. Bretforton (Here.)
Some Aspects of the Pronunciation of English Place-Names (II)

['brefətən] or ['bretətən].

BRE(W) - Brewood (Staffs.) ['bruːd].

BRIDE - Bridewell (Lond.) ['braɪdwel] but Bridesworth (Dev.) ['braɪdstrəʊ].

BRIG(H) - Brightstone (I.O.W.) ['braɪstən] and Brighton (E. Sus.) ['braɪtən] but Brighouse (W. Yorks.) ['brɪgəʊs].

BROM - Usually ['brɔm-] or ['brɔm-]; the first in Bromham (Beds., Wilts.) and the latter in Bromsgrove (Here.) and West Bromwich (W. Mid.) ['west 'brɒmɪtʃ]. BBC notes that Bromley (Kent) used to be pronounced in the first way, but is now only to be found with the second. Brome (Suff.) is ['bruːm].

BROUGH - There appear to be five realisations:

['braʊf] in the simplex Brough. There are places of this name in Cum., Derby., Hum. and Notts. also several in N. Yorks. BBC simply gives ['braʊf] for Cum. and Yorks., adding that Brough-under-Stainmore (Cum.) is normally referred to as plain Brough. Eckwall gives ['bruːf] for the Yorkshire localities, but this is certainly a local form.

['bruːf] in Broughall (Shrops.) ['bruːfl].

['brɔx-] in Broughton (Bucks., Cambs., Cum. and many other counties). The only exceptional Broughtons seem to be the ones given below.

['bruː-] in Broughton (N‘hants.).

['brɔr-] in Brant Broughton (Lincs.), also in Brougham (Cum.), ['bruːm].

BUILD - Buildwas (Shrops.) is not in BBC. See -WAS (List A).

BUL - Normally ['bul-] as in Bulford (Wilts.). Note Bulwick (N'hants.) ['bulɪk] and Bulphan (Ess.) ['bulvən]. Bulkworthy (Dev., not in BBC) is ['bʌlkwrɔr]. Bulkington (War., Wilts.) are both ['bʌlkɪŋtən] in Eckwall, but absent from BBC. Bulkeley

* The one-horse four-wheeled carriage known as a ‘brougham’ is pronounced ['bruːm] according to the Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English.
Christopher Powell

(Burgh-) Common as a simplex as well as a first or last element. In the simplex form there are three common realisations:

['bɔːrə] in Burgh-le-Marsh (Lincs.) and Burgh-St.-Peter (Suff.)
Burgh Heath (Sur.) is usually ['bɔːrə] but sometimes ['bɔːx].

['bɔːg] in Burgh House (Hampstead, Lon.). BBC also gives this pronunciation for a place Burgh of unspecified location, probably the Burgh in Suff.

['bɜːf] in Burgh-by-Sands (Cum.).

As a first element, the usual rendering is ['bɔː-] as in Burghclere (Hants.) ['bɔːklə] and Burghfield (Berk.).

(Burs-) Burrslem (Staffs.) ['bɔːzələm].

(Bury) As a simplex, this is pronounced ['bəri] (as distinct from the [-bəri] form in final elements): Bury (Cambs., Dev., Lancs., Som., W. Sus.), Bury-St.-Edmunds (Suff.).

(Buri-) Buriton (Hants.) ['bərɪtən].

(Cab-) Cabourne (Lincs.) ['keɪbɔːn].

(Caen-) Caenby (Lincs.) ['keɪnbi, 'keɪənbi].

(Caer-) This common Welsh first element ('fort') is to be found in Caer Caradoc (Shrops.) ['kær ʃəˈrædɔk].

(Caius-) Caius College in Cambridge ['keɪə sələ].

(Cal-) Pronounced in a number of different ways according to context:

[kɔːl-] in Caldecote and Caldecott (many places in Cambs., Herts., Leics., N’hants., War., Oxon. and elsewhere) ['kɔːldəkət] and in Calbeck (Cum.) ['kɔːldbɛk], also ['kɔːdəbek, 'kɔːdbɛk].

[kæl-] in Calcot (Berk., Glos.) Calshot (Hants.), Calstock (Corn), Calthorpe (Norf.).

[kɔː-] in Calne (Wilts.) ['kɔːn], Calveley (Ches.) ['kɔːvəli], also ['kɔːvəli], Calverley (W. Yorks.) ['kɔːvəli], also ['kɔːvəli].

[keɪ-] in Calow (Derby.) ['keɪləʊ], also ['kɔːləʊ].

[kɔː-] in Calke (Derby.) ['kɔːk].

(Cap-) Capel (Sur., Kent, Suff.) and Capel-le-Ferne (Kent) ['keɪpəl].
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Capheaton (N'hum.) [ˌkæpˈhiːtən].

CARLE- BBC gives Carleton Forehoe (Norf.) as [ˈkɑːltən ˈfɔːhəʊ], but says that Carleton Road. (Lond.) is [ˌkɑː ˈliːtən]. There is no indication (nor in Eckwall) of the pronunciation of Carleton in Cum. (3 places), Dur., N'hants. or a great many other cases.

CARS- Carshalton (Lond.) is now [kɑː ˈʃɔːltən], but BBC points out that the form [kɛɪsˈhɔːtən] existed 'in living memory'. My mother, Mrs N. B. Powell, does in fact remember this pronunciation having been used by the then Rector of Carshalton, the Rev. G. B. Vaux, prior to 1919. It had evidently been in use for some time; Mr A. E. Jones, in his history of Carshalton From Medieval Manor to London Suburb quotes a writer in the Gentleman's Magazine in 1798 referring to Carshalton 'or, as it is absurdly called in its neighbourhood, Case-horton.' Medieval documents suggest an earlier pronunciation with the spelling Kersaweltone. As the present-day spelling appears on Blaeu's Map of Surrey, 1648, the spoken form [kɛɪsˈhɔːtən] may have co-existed with it for some time and so the modern [kɑː ˈʃɔːltən] is a good example of the eventual triumph of a spelling-pronunciation.

CAT- Eckwall has [ˈkɛətərəm] for Caterham (Sur., not in BBC) but it may be a misprint; as a local resident I know only the pronunciation [ˈkɛətərəm].

CA(W)- Cawood (Lancs., N. Yorks.) [ˈkɛəwud].

CHA- [ˈtʃeɪkəm] in Chacombe (N'hants.).

CHADDLE- Chaddlehanger (Dev.) is [ˈtʃædlənəʊ] or [ˈtʃæliŋə].

CHAL- [tʃɔːl-] in Chaldon (Sur.) but [tʃɔːl-] in Challock (Kent) [ˈtʃɔːlək]. [tʃɔːl-] in Chalford and Chalgrove (both Oxon.) and in Chalfington (E. Sus.), which can also be pronounced [ˈtʃɔːlɪŋtən]. Chalfont St Giles and St Peter (Bucks.) are [ˈtʃɔːlfənt] or
CHER-

Chester (Dev.) is ['tʃɛstə] in BBC and I can find in no authority, even EPNS, any special comment on any unusual pronunciation of this name, but my friend Mr E. F. G. Light has confirmed by letter my recollection of his late mother, Mrs G. H. Light, a former resident of Barnstaple, having used the pronunciation ['tʃɪləm]. Chelmondston (Suff.) is ['tʃɛmstən]. Chelmsford (Ess.) is in BBC as ['tʃelmzfəd] or ['tʃɛmzfəd], but the latter must be very rare now. Chelsham (Sur.) is ['tʃelʃəm].

CHEN-

Cheney Longville (Shrops., not in BBC) is ['tʃiːnə]. Chenies (Herts.) is ['tʃiːnɪz] or ['tʃiːnɪz].

CHETTIS-

Chettiscombe (Dev.) ['tʃɛtɪskəm] or ['tʃɛskəm].

CHEV-

Chevening (Kent) ['tʃiːvənɪŋ]. Cheveley Park (Camb.) ['tʃiːvəli]. Chevington (Suff.) ['tʃɛvɪŋtən]. The Cheviot Hills, between England and Scotland, are ['tʃiːvɪət] or ['tʃəvɪət]. It is worth quoting BBC at length on this name: "A theory that the first of these two pronunciations is used north of the Border, and the other on the English side, has been discredited by observation over a long period. The truth appears to be that the former is almost invariably used in the Border country, in both England and Scotland, and that it is speakers from further south who favour the second. A third pronunciation, ['tʃiːvɪət], has been heard in Edinburgh for the cloth of the name."

CHILD-

Childerditch (Ess.) ['tʃɪldədɪtʃ] and Childer Thornton (Ches.)
[\text{'tʃɔɪdə}]. Childwall (Mer.) [\text{'tʃɔɪlwɔl}]. Childwick (Herts.)
[\text{'tʃɔɪlk}], along with Childwick Bury and Childwick Green.

CHOL-
Cholsey (Oxon.) [\text{'tʃɔʊlzi}]. Cholmondeley and Cholmondeston
(Ches.) are respectively [\text{'tʃɔməli}] and [\text{'tʃɔmsən}] in BBC.
Eckwall gives the latter as [\text{'tʃɔmsən}].

CHY-
A Cornish prefix = 'house'. There appears to be hesitation
between [\text{'ʃo}-], [\text{'ʃa}-] and [\text{'ʃi}]: BBC has Chyandour,['(t)ʃaiəndəʊə'],
Chysogster ['tʃaiəsəstær] and Chyvelah [ʃi'viələ]. There is
no entry for Chyanvounder. Eckwall says nothing about any of
these. Mr Edward Costigan of Osaka University, a Cornish
resident, tells me that Chycoon, near Falmouth, is pronounced
[\text{'tʃu:n}]. BBC has Chynoweth [ʃi'nuəθ] as a personal name;
perhaps the place-name has the same pronunciation.

CIREN-
Cirencester (Glos.) ['sɛrənɛstær] or ['sɪsɪtə]. See List A
for the full BBC comment.

CLAP-
Clapworthy (Dev.) ['klæpərə].

CLAV-
Clavering (Ess.) ['kleɪvərɪŋ]. Claverdon (War.), Claverley
(Shrops.), Claverham and Claverton (both Avon) all take [klæv-].

CLEHON-
Clehonger (Here.) is ['klɒgə].

CLEO-
Cleobury Mortimer and North (Shrops.) ['klɪbərɪ].

CLEY
[klɛə] or ['kleɪ] in Cley-next-the-Sea and Cockley
Cley (Norf.).

CLOUGH-
As a simplex, this is [\text{'klʌf}]: River Clough (Cum., Yorks.),
Clough Fold (Lancs.). Cloughton (3 places in N. Yorks.) all
figure in BBC as [\text{'klʌutən}] or ['kləutən].

CLOV-
Clovelly (Dev.) [kləu'velɪ], but Cloverley (Shrops.)['klɒvəli].

CLUNGUN-
Clungunford (Shrops.) [klæn'ɡænfəd].

COB-
Coberley (Glos.) ['kɑbəl].

COG-
Cogenhoe (N'hants) is ['kɔʊɡənhoʊ] or ['kʊknəʊ]; Coggeshall
(Ess.) is ['kɒɡʃəl] or ['kɒksl]. In both cases the first pronun-
ciation is no doubt more common these days than the second.

COL-
[kəʊl-] in Colchester (Ess.), Colbury (Herts.),
[kɔl-] in Colby (Cum., Norf.), Colwall (Here.), Colwich (Staffs.) [ˈkɔlwaʧ], Colwick (Notts.) [ˈkɔlik] or [ˈkɔlwɪk], Colworth (W. Sus.) [ˈkɔlwɜːθ], Colyton and Colyford (Dev.).

Places spelt COLL- are [kɔl-] as Collingbourne Ducis (Wilts.) BBC gives four alternatives for Coltishall (Norf.):

[ˈkɔultɪsl], ˈkɔultɪsl, ˈkɔultɪsl, ˈkɔultɪsl].

Most places with this spelling are [ˈkɔːn]: Colne (Ess., Lancs.), Colne Engaine (Ess.), Colney Hatch (Lond.), Colney Heath (Herts.), Coln St Aldwyns (Glos.). However, Colnbrook (Bucks.) is [ˈkɔːnbrʊk] or [ˈkɔulnbruːk].

[ˈkʌm] in the simplex Combe, found in many places in England, especially in Devon, Somerset and the South-West: Combe Cross, Combe Raleigh, Combe-in-Teignhead (all Dev.) etc. Also in Compyne (Dev.) [ˈkʌmpən].

[kəm-] in Combrook (War.) and [kæm-] in Combwich (Som.) [ˈkæmidʒ], also [ˈkʌmidʒ, ˈkʌmɪtʃ].

The name Compton, found in many counties, is sometimes [kɔmp-] and sometimes [kæmp-]. The first is correct for Compton (Berk.), Compton Chamberlayne (Wilts.) [ˈkɒmptənˈtʃeɪmbəlɪn], Compton Down (Wilts.), Compton Pauncefoot (Som.) [ˈkɒmptənˈpɔnsfʊt], Compton Valence (Dor.) [ˈkɒmptənˈvæləns]. The second is correct for Compton (2 places in Hants.), and for the historic house Compton Wynyates (War.) as pronounced by its occupants; BBC gives the local village pronunciation as [ˈkɒmptənˈwɪnjeɪts]. No less than twenty-four localities named Compton are listed in Johnston’s Road Atlas and in practice there can be little doubt that the two forms [kɔmp-] and [kæmp-] are in free variation for most of them, with a possible tendency for the latter to predominate in the speech of people who use Conservative R. P. In connection with place names where orthographic o is followed by a nasal consonant in an accented syllable (e.g. BROM-,
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COMP-, CON-, etc.) see A. C. Gimson’s *Introduction to the Pronunciation of English*, 1962 edition, p. 103, where he mentions [ɒ] and [ʌ] as two common pronunciations for such a spelling, and not only for place-names. He mentions Bromley and Tonbridge along with comrade, accomplish etc; see BBC on these under BROM- above and TON- below.

As with the previous entry, [kən-] and [kæn-] are both to be found. [kən-] is used for Condicote (Glos.), Constantine (Corn.) ['kɒnstəntain], Conisbrough (S. Yorks.) ['kɒnisbɔːrə], Conisholme (Lincs.) ['kɒnishəm, 'kɒnɪzəm] or ['kɒnɪʃəm], High and Low Coniscliffe (Dur.) and Coniston (Cum.). [kæn-] is used for Conover (Shrops.) ['kændəʊvə], Constable Burton (N. Yorks.) and Melton Constable (Norf.). Coningsby (Lincs.) and Conyer (Kent) can be either, according to BBC, Eckwall has [kæn-] for Conington (Cambs., near Sawtry) but not for Conington (Cambs., near Cambridge). BBC just gives [kən-] without specifying where. Eckwall’s [kæn-] for Coniston is almost certainly obsolete. Congresbury (Avon) is ['kʌŋzbɔːri] in Eckwall, but BBC says this is a Bristol pronunciation, and gives the local version as ['kɒŋzbɔːri]. The Blue Guide has ‘Commsbury’.

The River Coquet and Coquetdale (N’hum.) are ['koʊkwɪt]. [kɔs-] in Cosford (War.) and Cosham (Hants.) ['kɒʃəm], but [kɔz-] in Cosgrove (N’hants.). There are three localities named Cossington listed in Eckwall of which two (Leics., Som.) appear in Johnston. BBC gives ['kɒsɪŋtən,'kæzɪŋtən] without specifying whether this applies to all cases. Coston likewise appears in BBC without attribution, as ['kɒstən]. This may be the village in Leics., which is in Eckwall as ['kəʊstən] derived from ME Částun. The same authority gives Coston (Norf.) without showing the pronunciation, but giving the medieval spelling Corston. I surmise this may now be pronounced ['kɔstən].
COTE-

*Cotesbach* (Leics.) [ˈkoʊtsbætʃ]. *Cotehele* (Corn.) [ˈkətɪl, kətˈhi:l].

COTH-

*Cotheridge* (Here.) [ˈkoʊərɪdʒ]. *Cotherstone* (Dur.) [ˈkoʊəstən]. *Cothelstone* (Som.) [ˈkoʊlston] or [ˈkɒlston].

COT-

The standard is [kɒt-] as in *Cotswolds*, the hills to the west of Oxford, but note *Coton* (Cambs., Derby., Shrops., Staffs.) [ˈkəʊtən].

COUGH-

*Coughton* (Here.) [ˈkəʊtən]. *Coughton* (War.) [ˈkəʊtən] or [ˈkəʊtən], the former pronunciation being used for the historic house *Coughton Court*.

COUL-

*Coulton* (N. Yorks., not in BBC) [ˈkʌltən]. *Coulsdon* (Lond.) [ˈkʌlzdən] or [ˈkəulsdən]. As a long-time local resident, I can say that I have rarely heard the second of these.

COURT-

*Eckwall* has [ˈkətəfəl] for *Courteenhall* (N’hants.).

COVE-

As for COMP- there is hesitation between [kʌv-] and [kɒv-]. *Covent Garden* (Lond.) is [ˈkʌvənt, kəvənt], and *Coventry* (W. Mid.) [ˈkʌvəntri, kəvəntri]; BBC notes ‘the first is appropriate for the Earl of Coventry. The second, however, is commonly used in the expression, ‘to send someone to Coventry’.

*Coverack* (Corn.) is [ˈkəvəræk] or [ˈkəʊvəræk]. A number of places are pronounced with COVE- as [kəv-]: *Coven* (Staffs.) [ˈkəʊvən], *Covehithe* (Suff.) [ˈkəʊvəhɑːð], *Coveney* (Cambs.) [ˈkəʊvəni], *Covenham* (Lincs.) [ˈkəʊvənəm]. *Covenhope* (Here.) is [ˈkəʊvəp] or the spelling pronunciation [ˈkəʊvənˌhəʊp].

COW-

*Cowley* is a common place-name. There are at least eleven: Bucks., Dev. (2), Derby. (2), Glos., Lond. (2), Oxon., Staffs. and S. Yorks. BBC gives *Cowley* (Oxon.) as [ˈkɔːli], and the same for Yorks. (presumably the S. Yorks. instance) but in the latter case an alternative [ˈkɔːli]. There seems to be no information available about the way the others are pronounced, but [kəʊ-] seems likely. *Cowling* (Lancs.) is [ˈkɔːlɪŋ, kəʊlɪŋ] but in N. Yorks. [ˈkəʊlɪŋ] only. *Cowlinge* (Suff.) is [ˈkʌlɪndʒ]
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and Cowpen Bewley (Cleve.) ['kwɒpən 'bjuːli]. Cowbit (Lincs.) is ['kʌbit] in BBC, but BG gives ‘Cubbitt’.

CRAD-  
Cradley (Here.) ['krædli], but Cradley and Cradley Heath (W. Mid.) are ['k्रædli].

CRED-  
Crediton (Dev.) ['krediːn], but Credenhill (Here.) ['kredənɪl] or ['k्रɪːdənɪl].

CRIGH-  
Crichel Down (Dor.) ['krɪtʃl], but Crich (Derby.) ['kraɪʃ].

CROM-  
Cromford (Derby.) ['krəmfəd] in BBC but ['k्रəmfəd] in Eckwall. Cromer (Herts., Norf.) is ['k्रəmə].

CRON-  
Cron dall (Hants.) ['krændl] or ['k्रændl]; Cron ton (Ess.) and Cronton (Mer.) are both with ['k्रɔːn-] (neither in BBC).

CROUCH  
Crouch End (Lond.) ['kraʊʃ].

CROUGH- ['k्रəʊ-] is used for Croughton (N’hants.).

CROW- ['k्रəʊ-] in Crowcombe (Som.), Crowborough (E. Sus.) and most other places beginning CROW-; note, however, that Crowle (Hum.) is ['k्रəul] or ['k्रʊəl], and Crowle (Here.) ['k्रəul] or ['k्रʊəl]. Places in Cornwall use ['k्रəʊ-]: Crowlas ['k्रəuləs], Crowan ['k्रəʊn], Crows-an-wra ['k्रəusənreɪ].

CROX-  
Croxton (Norf.) ['k्रəkstən], but in Lincs. there is an alternative ['k्रəusən]. Croxton Kerrial (Leics.) is ['kɾəusən 'kɾɪəl]. South Croxton in the same county can be ['kɾəusən, 'kɾəustən] or ['kɾəusən] according to BBC.

CUCK- ['kʌk-] in Cuckfield and Cuckmere (E. Sus.), but ['kʌk] in Cuckney (Notts.).

CUX- ['kʌks-] in Cuxwold (Lincs.) ['kækswəuld], but Cuxham (Oxon.) is ['kʌksəm] or ['kækəm] according to BBC (Eckwall gives only the former alternative).

DAV-  
Davenham (Ches.) ['deɪvənəm, 'dəɪnəm]; Davidstow (Corn.) ['dɐɪvɪstəʊ]. Daventry (N’hants.) ['dævəntri, 'deɪntrɪ].

Since the opening of the broadcasting transmitter at Daventry and local urban development, the latter (traditional) form has
been dying out.  

DEBEN-  
Debenham (Suff.) is ['debənəm], but the local River Deben is ['dɪbən].

DEIGH-  
Deighton is the name of two places in N. Yorks. On the evidence of EPNS(V) the one in the old North Riding is ['dɪtən], and the similar origin of that in the old East Riding and the 14th century spelling Digton suggest a similar modern rendering. Kirk Deighton (W. Yorks.) is ['kɪk dɪtən].

DEO-  
Deopham (Norf.) ['dɪpəm, 'dɪʃəm].

DEPT-  
Deptford (Lond.) ['dɛptfəd].

DERBY-  
[dəˈbri] in Derby and Derbyshire.

DERE-  
Dereham (Norf.) ['diərəm].

DERWENT  
The simplex river name (Cum., Derby., Dur., N'hum., N.Yorks.) is ['dɪwənt] and so is Derwentwater (Cum.). BBC notes the pronunciation ['də:went] for the personal name of Baron Derwent.

DEV-  
The county of Devon is ['dɪvən] and Devoran (Corn.) is ['dɪvərn] but the River Devon (Leics., Notts.) is ['dɪvən].  
The unaccented form in Devizes (Wilts.) gives [dɪˈvaɪzəz].

DINE-  
Dinedor (Here.) ['daindər].

DIPT-  
Diptford (Dev.) ['dɪptfəd].

DON-  
[don-, dən-] alternatives, as for COMPT- etc. Donington (Lincs., Shrops.) is ['dɔnɪŋtən], but Castle Donington (Derby.) is ['kæsli dənɪŋtən]. Donington-on-Bain (Lincs.) can use either [don-] or [dən-] according to BBC. There is no entry in BBC for Donington-le-Heath (Leics.). All these places appear from Eckwall to have similar derivations and to have been spelt in various ways in the past, sometimes with o and sometimes with u. Probably, as with COMPT-, there is free variation in the way different people say at least some of these names. Places called Donnington in several counties all appear to be [don-], except that Eckwall has Donnington (W. Sus.)
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as ['dauntən]. Donkleywood (N'hum.) is ['dɒkliwud].

DOUGH- Doughton (Glos., Norf.) ['dɔftən].

DOVE- Doveridge (Derby.) ['dɔvridʒ], Dovenby (Cumb.) ['dʌvənbi]. The River Dove (Derby.) can apparently be ['dɔv] or ['dəuv], but the valley is Dovedale ['dɔvdɛl]. Dover (Kent), Dovercourt (Ess., not in BBC) and Dover Beck (Notts., not in BBC) are all ['dəuvə]. Eckwall has Doverdale (Here.) as ['dɔvdɛl]; BBC has no entry for the place but gives the title of Baron Doverdale as ['dɔvdɛdəl].

DRAUGH- Draughton (N'hants.) is ['draːtən] but (N. Yorks.) ['dɾəftən].

DRIGH- Drighlington (W. Yorks.) ['driɡlɪntən].

DUKIN- Dukinfield (G. Man.) ['dʌkinfiəld].

DUL- Dulwich (Lond.) ['dʌlɪʃ, 'dʌlɪdʒ], Duloe (Corn.) ['djuːləʊ].

DUR- Durham (Dur.) ['dərəm] and Durweston (Dor.) ['dəristən]. Dursley (Glos.) [dɜzli].

(to be continued)