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

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The Changing Pronunciation of Place-Names

Place-names, like other areas of the English language, are subject to change as the years go by; but perhaps there is more conservatism here than elsewhere, especially in the field of pronunciation. It is hard to account for the persistence of such exceptional forms as [glʌstə] for Gloucester, [wʊstə] for Worcester and [sʌðək] for Southwark, all of which are still usual in British English, unless one accepts that the British are very conservative about the way they pronounce their place-names. Still, it is certain that a great many places whose names have been spelt more or less consistently for the past two hundred years have changed in their pronunciation, as the following evidence shows.

George McKnight, in his Modern English in the Making, published by Appleton in 1928 and later reissued as The Evolution of the English Language by Dover Press in 1968, quotes an interesting list from Dr Isaac Watts' The Art of Reading and Writing English, 1721. This list shows a number of English personal and place-names together with the way they were pronounced at the time. The following is an extract from the list, showing some place-names. I have put an asterick* against the entries which are still commonly pronounced in a similar way to that shown by Watts:

St Albans — St Awbans
Birmingham — Brummijum
Lincoln — Lincon*
London — Lunnun
Apart from the three cases marked, it might be mentioned that in rapid speech the [l] of St Albans is inaudible; Birmingham is still sometimes referred to as [brʌmɪdʒəm], but in that case the spelling Brummagem is used (cf the well-known music-hall question 'Do you come from Brum?'). Cirencester, as noted above (Part I, page 96) is still occasionally pronounced ['sisita] though ['sairænsæstə] is more often heard. Deptford, in London, is now pronounced ['detfəd] — still not a spelling pronunciation.

On the whole, spelling pronunciations of place-names in England are becoming more common. Among names which have changed or are coming to change to a spelling pronunciation the following may be cited:

Alverdiscott (Dev.) from ['ɔ:lskat] to ['ælvə'diskət]. According to BBC the place is occasionally spelt Alscott, which may represent an earlier attempt to rationalise the pronunciation.

Avebury (Wilts.) from ['eɪbəri] to ['eɪvbru].

Aveton Gifford (Dev.) from ['ɔ:τən'dʒɪfəd] to ['eɪvətən'dʒɪfəd].

Barnoldswick (N. Yorks.) from ['bɑ:lk] to ['bɑ:nəldzuik]

Bawburgh (Suff.) from ['bə:bə] to ['bɔ:bərə].

Berkhamsted (Herts.) from ['bɜ:kəmstəd] to ['bɜ:kəmstəd].

Bodiam (E. Sus.) from ['bɒdʒəm] to ['bɔ:diəm] or ['bɒdiam].

Bromley (Kent) from ['bɒmlı] to ['bɒmli].

Butterwick (Hum., Lincs., N. Yorks.) from ['bʊtərɪk] to ['bʌtəwɪk].

Carshalton (Sur.) now[kɑ:'ʃɑ:ltən] but within living memory [keis'hɔ:ltən] (see above, Part II, p.80).

Chettiscombe (Dev.) from ['tʃɛskəm] to ['tʃetiskəm].

Cirencester (Glos.) from ['sɪsɪtə] to ['sairænsæstə].

Coggeshall (Ess.) from ['kɒksəl] to ['kɒgʃəl].

Covenhope (Here.) from ['kɒnæp] to ['kɑ:vənæp].

Daventry (N'hants.) from ['deɪntrɪ] to ['dævəntrɪ].

Ebrington (Glos.) from ['ɪbətən] to ['ɪbrɪtən].
According to BBC, older residents of the village use only the shorter form and the village is sometimes spelt Ketton, perhaps a forlorn attempt (as with Alverdiscott, see above?) to make the orthography conform to the traditional pronunciation. However, modern maps spell the place Kedington, and this spelling and pronunciation are no doubt likely to win.

Lasham (Hants.) from [ˈlæʃəm] to [ˈlɛʃəm]. This (and Neatishead, below) may be typical of what happens to the traditional pronunciation of a place-name when it becomes better known to the world at large. According to BBC, the former pronunciation is that of the villagers and the latter (spelling) pronunciation that used by people who attend the Gliding Centre now established outside the village. I have not ever heard the place mentioned on radio or TV, but if (as seems probable) the spelling pronunciation is used by announcers, the older pronunciation will be doomed.

Neatishead (Norf.) from [ˈniːtʃtəd] to [ˈniːtʃɪshed], at least in the speech of service personnel at the RAF station.

Pontefract (W. Yorks.) once [ˈponəfrækt] is now universally [ˈpɒntɪfrækt], but the old pronunciation survives in the name of ‘Pomfret cakes’.

Roding (Essex) from [ˈrəʊdɪŋ] to [ˈrəʊdɪŋ]. Of the eight villages (Abbess Roding, etc.) containing this name, only one, White Roding, retains, according to BBC, some trace of the old pronunciation by officially taking the spelling Rooth-ing, and on maps only Roding is usually to be found.

Rudgwick (W. Sus.) from [ˈrʌdʒɪk] to [ˈrʌdʒɪk].
Saltfleetby (Lincs.) from [ˈsɔːltflɪ:tbi] to [ˈsɔːltflɪ:tba].
Stiffkey (Norf.) from [ˈstɪfki] or [ˈstɪfki] to [ˈstɪfki].
Temple Sowerby (Cumb.) from [ˈtempəlˌsɔːbɪ] to [ˈtempəlˌsɔːbɪ].
Trottscliffe (Kent) from [ˈtrɒtsli] to [ˈtrɒtsklɪf].
Uttoxeter (Staffs.) from [ˈʌtʊkət] or [ˈʌksɪtə] to [ˈjuːtɒksɪtə] or even
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[λ'tuksita].

White Waltham (Berks.) from ['waitˈwɔːltəm] to ['waitˈwɔːlθəm]. Other place-names with Waltham in Essex and elsewhere are mostly already pronounced ['wɔːlθəm].

Woodnesborough (Kent) from ['wʊnzəbərə] or ['wɪnzəbərə] to ['wʊdnɪzəbərə].

In many of the above cases, the present spelling has been in vogue for centuries, yet until recent times a non-spelling pronunciation prevailed. Carshalton is so spelt in Blaeu's Map of Surrey (1648), at which time the local speech rendered it as Case Horton. The spelling of Pontefract is of great antiquity, but until recently it was usual to pronounce it Ponthret. Possible reasons for such discrepancies will be discussed in a future instalment of this article. The remainder of this instalment will be devoted to a continuation of List B, covering the irregular pronunciations of initial elements and simplex names.

List B (continued)

E —

Eton (Berks.) ['iːtən]. Ely (Cambs.) ['iːli]. Ewood (Lancs.) ['iːwud].

Eridge (Kent) ['ɛridʒ] and Erith (Kent) ['ɪrɪθ].

Ewell (Sur.) and Temple Ewell (Kent) are both ['juːwɛl].

EA —

The River Eamont (Cum.) is ['iːmənt] or ['jæmənt].

EAK —

Eakring (Notts.) ['eikrɪŋ] or ['eɪkrɪŋ].

EAR —

Earsham (Norf.) ['ɜːʃəm].

EAST —

Easthampstead (Berks.) is ['ɛstɪˈhæmstɪd] or ['ɛstəmstəd].

EBR —

Ebrington (Glos.) ['ebrɪŋtən] but BBC gives the form ['ɛbɪrɪŋtən] as one used by older residents.

ECC —

The normal form is that in Eccleshall (Staffs.) ['ɛklʃəl], but note Ecchinswell (Hants.) ['ɛktʃɪnzwel].

EDEN —

The simplex form Eden as in River Eden (Kent) is ['iːdən], and similarly in Edenbridge (Kent) ['iːdənbrɪdʒ], but Edensor (Derby.) is ['ɛnə] or ['ɛnsə].

EDIN —

Edingale (Staffs., not in BBC) ['ɛdɪŋeɪl], but Edington [Som., Wilts.] ['iːdɪŋtən].

EGER —

Egerton (Kent) ['ɛdʒətən].

EGLOS —

A common Cornish first element (church). Egloshale
[eglas'heil] and Egloskerry [eglas'keri] show the normal pronunciation.

EGRE — Egremont (Cumb.) ['egrimənt].
ELSE — Elsecar (S.Yorks.) ['elsikər].
ELVE — Elveden (Suff.) ['elvedən] or ['eldən].
ERE — The River Erewash (Derby., Notts.) is ['ɛrɪwɔʃ], but Eresby (Lincs.) is ['ɪəzbi].
ESH — Esher (Sur.) ['iʃə]. Esholt (W. Yorks.) ['ɛʃɔlt].
EU — Euston (Lond.) ['juːstən]. Euxton (Lancs.) ['ekstən].
EVE — ['iːv-] in Evedon (Lincs.), Evenley (N'hants.), Evenlode (Glos.) and Evesham (Here.), but ['ɛv-] in Eversholt (Beds.) ['ɛvəʃɔlt] and Everton (Beds., Hants., Mer., Notts.). Eckwall gives ['iːfɔm, 'iːsɔm] as alternatives for Evesham.
EW — Ewelme (Oxon.,) ['juːwelm]. Ewhurst (Sur.) ['juːhɔːst].
EXCE — Exceat (E. Sus.) ['ɛksət].
EXE — Exeter (Dev.) ['eksətə] and River Exe, same county, ['eks].
EY — Both BBC and BG give Eyam (Derby.) as ['iːm]. ['iː-] is also found in Eype (Dor.) ['iːp] and Eydon (N'hants.) ['iːdən]. ['ai-] is used for Eyke (Suff.) ['eik] and Eyton upon the Weald Moors (Shrops.) ['ɛɪtən ə'nɔn də 'wiːld ˈmuːz].
Eythorne (Kent) is ['eɪθɔrn] and the various villages called Eyton in different parts of Shrops., other than the one mentioned above, all appear to be ['eɪtən].
EYN — Eynesbury (Cambs.) ['einzbəri]. Eynsford (Kent) ['einzfəd]. Eynsham (Oxon.) is ['ɛinzʃəm] or ['ɛinzʃəm].
FAC — Facit (Lancs.) ['fɛsɪt].
FAK — Fakenham (Norf.) ['feɪkənəm].
FAL — Faldingworth (Lincs.) ['fɔldɪŋwɔːθ]. Falfield (Avon) ['fælfɪld].
Falmouth (Corn) ['fælmɔːθ] and Falstone (N'hum.) ['fælstəun].
FAN — Usually ['fæn-] as in Fancott (Beds.), but Fanum House (Lond.), the headquarters of the Automobile Association, is
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[feɪnəm].

FAUGH  
The simplex Faugh (Cumb.) is [ˈfæŋ].

FAULK —  
Faulkland (Som.) (not in BBC) is [ˈfɔːkland] but Faulkbourne (Ess.) is [ˈfɔːbɔːn] or [ˈfɔːbən].

FAV —  
Faversham (Kent) [ˈfɛvərəm].

FAZ —  
Fazakerley (Mer.) [ˈfəzəkəli].

FIGHEL —  
Figheldean (Wilts.) [ˈfældiən].

FINCH —  
Although the regular form is [ˈfɪŋjun] as in Finchley (Lond.) there is an irregular pronunciation in Finchale Priory (Dur.) [ˈfɪŋkəl].

FLA —  
Flawith (N. Yorks.) is [ˈflɔ:wiθ] or [ˈflɔ:xi].

FOLK —  
[ˈfɔːrk] in Folke (Dor.) and Folkestone (Kent) [ˈfɔːkstən], also in Folkton (N. Yorks., not in BBC). But Folkingham (Lincs.) is [ˈfɔːkɪŋm] and Folkington (E. Sus.) is [ˈfɔːvɪŋkən].

FRITH —  
Frithelstock (Dev.) is [ˈfɾɪlstʊk] or [ˈfrɪstʊk]. Frithsdon (Herts.) is [ˈfrɪzdən] or [ˈfrɪzdən], and BBC says it is sometimes spelt Friesden.

FRO —  
The O is usually short as in Frocester (Glos.), and Frodingham (Hum.) [ˈfrɒdɪŋm], but Frome (Som.), and the several rivers of the same name in the West Country have the pronunciation. [ˈfrʌm].

GALM —  
Galmpton (Dev.) [ˈɡæmptən]. cf. Yealmpton, below.

GARBOLD —  
Garboldisham (Norf.) [ˈɡɑːbɔːlʃəm].

GELDES —  
Geldeston (Norf.) [ˈɡeldstən], [ˈɡeldstən] or [ˈɡelstən].

GILL —  
Gillingham (Kent) is [ˈɡɪlɪŋm], but in Dor. and Norf. [ˈɡɪlɪŋm].

GIM —  
Gimingham (Norf.) [ˈɡɪmɪŋm].

GIP —  
Gipping (Suff.) [ˈɡɪpɪŋ].

GISLE —  
Gisleham (Suff.) [ˈɡɪsləm] or [ˈɡɪsləm]; Gislingham, same county. [ˈɡɪslɪŋm].

GIV —  
Givons Grove (Sur.) [ˈdʒɪvənsˈɡrɔv].

GLAIS —  
Glaisdale (N. Yorks.) [ˈɡleɪzdəl].

GLAS —  
[ˈɡlɑːs-] in Glastonbury (Som.) but [ˈɡleɪs-] in Glaston  

GLEAD — ['gliːd-] in Gleadless (S. Yorks.) [ˈɡliːdləs] and Gleadthorpe (N’Hants.) [ˈɡliːdθɔːp].

GLOU — Gloucester (Glos.) [ˈɡluːstər].

GLYNDIE — Glyndebourne (E. Sus.), home of the famous opera, [ˈɡlaindəʊn].

GNO — Gnosall (Staffs.) [ˈɡəʊsɔːl].

GOD — Godalming (Sur.) [ˈɡəʊdlɪŋ], Godmersham (Kent) [ˈɡəʊdməʃæm].

Godrevy (Corn.) is [ɡəˈdrɛviː], Godmanchester (Cambs.) is [ˈɡəʊmdənˈtʃɛstə] these days, but for archaic [ˈɡəʊmpstə], see - CHESTER in List A.

GOM — As with names beginning with COM- (see above), names in GOM - show hesitation between [ˈɡəʊm-] and [ˈɡəʊm-], though the former is now usual.

Gomeldon (Wilt.) [ˈɡəʊmɪldən]; Gomersal (W. Yorks.) [ˈɡəʊməsəl]; Gomshall (Sur.) [ˈɡəʊmʃɔːl] or [ˈɡəʊmʃɔːl].

GOODNES — Goodnestone (Kent) is now usually the spelling pronunciation [ˈɡəʊdnestən] instead of the traditional [ˈɡəʊnstən].

GOON — Goonhavern (Corn.) is [ɡəˈnævən] or [ˈɡuːnˈhævən].

GOR — ['ɡɔːr] in Goring (W. Sus. and Oxon.) and Gorleston (Norf.) [ˈɡɔːlstən]

Gorhambury, the mansion of the Earl of Verulam at St Albans (Herts.) is. however, [ˈɡɔːrməbəri].

GOT — Gotham (Notts.), perhaps the scene of the exploits of the ‘Three Wise Men of Gotham’ in the nursery rhyme, is [ˈɡəʊtəm], but I have heard the rhyme repeated with the spelling pronunciation [ˈɡəʊəm].

GOUD — Goudhurst (Kent) [ˈɡəʊdhɔːrʃt].

GOUL — Goulceby (Lincs.) [ˈɡəʊlsbɪ].

GOVE — Goveton (Dev.) [ˈɡəʊvətən].

GRAF — Graffham (Cambs.) is given by BBC as [ˈɡrɑːfəm] while Graffham (Sur.) is [ˈɡrɑːfəm]. There is no evidence on the va-
rious *Graftons* (Ches., Here., N. Yorks., Northants., Oxon., Shrops.) but I would expect ['gra:f-].

**GRANT —**
*Grantchester* (Cambs.) ['ɡræntʃestəˌ,ˈɡræntʃestəˌ]. *Grantham* (Lincs.) ['ɡrænθəm].

**GREA —**
*Greasby* (Mer.) ['ɡriːzbi]. *Greaseley* (Notts., not in BBC) ['ɡriːzli].

**GREAT —**
*Greatham* (Cleve.) ['ɡreɪθəm] but *Greatham* (Hants., W. Sus.) ['ɡreɪθəm].

*Eckwall* notes ['ɡreɪtwəθ] for *Greatworth* (N'hants.).

Other places beginning with this element (e.g. *Greatford* (Lincs.) have no special entry for pronunciation in *Eckwall* and are not in BBC, so are apparently pronounced with ['ɡreɪt-].

**GREEN —**
*Greenwich* (Lond.) ['ɡrɪnɪdʒ] or ['ɡrɪntʃ] or ['ɡreɪntʃ].

**GREY —**
Normally ['ɡreɪ-] as in *Greystoke* (Cumb.) ['ɡreɪstək] (note pronunciation of second element), but note *Greywell* (Hants.) ['ɡreɪwel] but sometimes ['ɡruːæl].

**GROS —**
*Grosmont* (N. Yorks.) can be ['ɡrəʊmənt] or ['ɡrəʊsmaŋt]. *Grosvenor* in street-names in *London* and elsewhere is ['ɡrəʊvənə].

**GRUNDIS —**
*Grundisburgh* (Suff.) ['ɡrændzboʊə].

**GUILD —**
*Guildford* (Surr.) ['ɡaʊfləd].

**GUIS —**
*Guisborough* (Cleve.) ['ɡuɪzbəʊə] but *Guiseley* (W. Yorks.) ['ɡaɪzlɪ] and *Guist* (Norf.) ['ɡaɪst].

**GUL —**
*Guldeford* (Kent) ['ɡəlfiːd]. *Gulval* (Corn.) ['ɡʌlˈvæl].

**HAIGH —**
As a simplex, this is ['heɪ] in *Haigh* (G. Man.) but ['heɪɡ] in *Haigh* (S. Yorks.). *Hainton* (Lancs.) is ['heɪtən].

**HAL —**
*Halford* (Shrops.) is ['hɔːlfəd] but *Halford* (War.) is ['hælfəd] or ['hɒːfəd].

*Halford* (Dev.) is not given in BBC nor is the pronunciation noted in *Eckwall*; the derivation suggests ['hælfəd].

Other places in ['heɪ:]- are *Halsall* (Lancs.) ['hɔːlsl], *Halstock* (Dor.) ['hɔːlstək] *Haltemprice* (part of *Hull*, Hum.; = *haute*...
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emprise) [ˈhɔːltəmpɔːrəs]. [ˈhæl-] is used for Halmore (Glos.), Halstead (Ess.) and Halsted (Kent). Lower Halstow (Kent) is also with [ˈhæl-]. Halwell (Dev.) can be either [ˈhælwəl] or [ˈhɔːlwəl]. Halwill (Dev.) can be [ˈhælwɪl] or [ˈhɔːlwɪl]. Halnaker (W. Sus.) is [ˈhænəkə]. The name means 'Half-an-acre'. Eckwall gives Halmaby (N. Yorks.) as [ˈhɔːməbi]; this is not in BBC.

HALL —

Usually [ˈhæl-]: Hallam (Derby., S. Yorks.) [ˈhæləm], Hallaton (Leics.) [ˈhælətən]. However, Halling (Kent) is [ˈhɔːlɪŋ] and Hallingbury (Essex) is [ˈhɔːlɪŋbəri] or [ˈhɔːlɪŋbərɪ]. Eckwall (but not BBC) notes Hallow (Here.) as [ˈhɔːləu].

HAMP —

Usually [ˈhæmp-] as in Hampton Court (Lond.) [ˈhæmpˌtɔn ˈkɔːt] and Hampstead (Lond.). Hampden Park (E. Sus.) is [ˈhæmdən].

HAPPIS —

Happisburgh (Norf.) [ˈheizbərə].

HAR —

Harwich (Ess.) [ˈhærɪdʒ] or [ˈhærtʃ]. Eckwall has Harworth (Notts.) as [ˈhærətʃ].

HARD —

Hardenhuish (Wilts.) [ˈhɔːnɪʃ]; otherwise places with HARD- all appear to be [ˈhɑːd-] Harden (W. Mid., W. Yorks. not in BBC), [ˈhɑːdən], Hardwick (Cambs., Derby. and elsewhere) [ˈhɑːdwɪk]. Eckwall notes Hardwick (Bucks.) as [ˈhɑːdɪk]. Hardres (Kent) [ˈhɑːdrəz].

HARE —

Usually [ˈhɛə-] as in Haresfield (Herts.), but Harewood House (W. Yorks.) is [ˈhɑːrwʊd], though BBC notes that the nearby village is usually [ˈhɛəwʊd] to the inhabitants.

HARGH —

Hargham (Norf.) [ˈhɑːgəm].

HARRIET —

Harrietsham (Kant) [ˈhærɪətʃəm] or [ˈhærɪʃəm].

HARTLE —

Usually [ˈhɑːtɪl-] as in Hartlebury (Here.) [ˈhɑːtlbəri], but there is a well-known exception: Hartlepool (Cleve.) [ˈhɑːtlpʊl].

HASLE —

Haslemere (Sur.) [ˈheizləri].

HASLING —

Haslingfield (Cambs.) [ˈhæzlɪŋfɪld], but Haslingden (Lancs.) [ˈhæzlɪŋdən].
HAUGH — There are several realisations of this element: ['hɔː-'] in
Haugh (Lincs.), Haughley (Suff.) and the various places cal-
led Haughton (Ches., G. Man., Notts., Shrops. (4 places),
Staffs.), also Haughton Common (N'hum.) and Haughton-le-
Skerne (Dur.) ['hɔːtən la 'skɜːn].

['hɔːf] in Upper and Nether Haugh (S. Yorks.).

['hɑːf-'] in Haugham (Kent) ['hɑːfəm].

['hæf-'] in Haugham (lincs.) ['hæfəm].

Haughmond Hill (Shrops.) can be ['hɔːmənd] or ['heɪmənd].

HAULGH — Haulgh (Lancs.) ['hɔːf].

HAUT — Great and Little Hautbois (Ess.) ['hɔbɪs].

HAUX — Hauxwell (N. Yorks.) ['hɔkswel].

HAVER — ['hæv-'] in Haverigg (Cumb.) ['hævərɪɡ] and Havertonhaite
(Cumb., not in BBC) ['hævərwajt].

['heɪv-'] in Haverhill (Suff.) ['heɪvəl], Havering-attie-Bower
(Ess.) ['heɪvərɪŋ æti 'baʊə] and Haveringland (Norf.)

['heɪvərɪŋlænd].

HAW — Normally ['hɔː-] as in Hawinge (Kent) ['hɔːkɪŋd] and
Hawthorn (Wilt., not in BBC). However, Haworth (W.
Yorks.) is ['hɔːə] or ['hɔːː]. Hawridge (Bucks.) is ['hærɪdʒ]
according to BBC., though Eckwall gives ['hʌrɪdʒ].

HE — Hedon (Hum.) ['hedən].

HEA — ['heɪ-] in Heamoor (Corn.). ['hɪː-] in Healaugh (N., Yorks., 2
places) ['hɪəla], Heage (Derby.) ['hɪədʒ] Heather (Leics.)
['hɪəθə] and Heathfield (E. Sus.) ['hɪθfɪeld] EPNS (VII) gives
this last as ['hefl], a form probably now confined to aged loc-
al residents.

Heacham (Norf.) is ['hɛʃəm], also ['hɪʃəm]; Headingley
(W. Yorks.) and Headington (Oxon,) also use ['hed-].

HEDGE — Eckwall gives Hedgeley (N'hum.) as ['hɪdʒli].

HEDING — Eckwall gives Castle and Sible Hedingham (Ess.) as
['hɛdɪŋɡəm] but BBC has ['hɛdɪɡəm]. The spelling pronun-
ciation is probably universal by now. Eckwall’s indication of a
termination in [-gəm] rather than [-əm] seems unusual for a locality so far south.

HEDNES — Hednesford (Staffs.) is ['henzəd, 'hedzəd] in BBC. Rather surprisingly, Eckwall makes no comment on the pronunciation.

HEIGH — Heigham Sound (Norf.) is presumably the Heigham given as ['heɪəm] in BBC, but the neighbouring Potter Heigham is given as ['heɪəm], ['hæɪəm] or ['hæm]. I have heard the last myself. Heighton (Lincs.) is [heɪˈtɔŋ] in BBC. Eckwall suggests ['heɪˈtɔŋ] while Heighton (Dur.) is ['hæɪˈtɔŋ] in both; BBC adds ['heɪˈtɔŋ] and ['hæɪˈtɔŋ] as alternative forms.

Heighton Street (E. Sus.) is ['heɪˈtɔŋ] in Eckwall.

HELE — The simplex Hele (Dev.) is [ˈhiːəl]. Although Johnston marks only one place of this name, the Geographia Road Atlas has seven in Dev., and one each in Corn. and Som.

HELM — Helmsley (N.Yorks.) is ['helmzli] or ['həmzli] in BBC. Eckwall gives only the second of these.

HEP — Hepburn (N'hum.) ['hebən]. Heptonstall (W. Yorks. not in BBC) is now ['heptənstəl], but the existence of the related form Heppenstall as a family name may indicate a former way of pronouncing the place-name.

HERE — Hereford (Here.) ['hərəfəd]. In Shakespeare's time it may have been ['hərəfəd]; see The Penguin Shakespeare, notes to Richard II, 'Actors' Names.'

HERG — Hergest (Here.) ['hərgɪst].

HERT — Hertford (Herts.) ['hərəfəd] but Hertingfordbury (Herts.) ['hər̩ɪŋfərdˈbər].

HESS — Hessle (Hum.), a suburb of Hull, is ['hezl] in BBC.

HETH — Hethel (Norf.) ['hiːəl] or ['heəl] This is in Eckwall, not BBC.

HEUGH — ['hiːəf] in the simplex Heugh (N'hum.).

HEV — Hever (Kent) ['hiːvə].

HEY — Usually ['heɪ-] as in Heyford (N'hants., Oxon.) and Heydon
(Cambs., Norf.) but ['hiː]- in Heysham (Lancs.) and Heythrop (Oxon.) ['heɪərəp]. Note also Heyrod (G. Man.) ['heɪəd], whereas Heywood (G. Man.) not far off, is ['heɪwud].

HIGH —

Higham (Kent) is ['hæɪəm] but the locality of the same name in S. Yorks. is sometimes ['hɪkəm] according to BBC, while Higham (Suff.) is sometimes ['hɪgəm]. In all cases the written form appears to be leading to the realisation ['hæɪ-].

HIND —

['hɪnd-] in Hinderclay (Suff.) ['hɪndəklai], Hinderwell (N. Yorks.) and Hindlip (Here.), but ['hænd-] in Hindhead (Sur.: not in BBC).

Hindolveston (Norf.), sometimes spelt Hindolvestone, can be either ['hɪndəlvestən] or ['hɪlvɪstən].

HOATH —

East and West Hoathly (E. Sus.) are [hɔə'lai].

HOGH —

Hoghton (Lancs.) ['hɔtən].

HOL —

['hʊl-] in Holbeach (Lincs.) ['hʊlbɪtʃ], Holcombe (Dev.) (but see below), Holkham (Norf.) ['hʊlkəm], Holton Heath (Dor.), Holybourne (Hants.) ['hɒlbɔːn], Holypart (Berks.), Holwell (Dev., Dor., Herts., Leics., Oxon.) and certain places called Holywell. BBC lists these as being in Oxon. and Som., also Holywell Row (Suff.), but the map shows no Holywell in Oxon. (though there is a Holywell Street in the City of Oxford). Eckwall adds the information that Holywell is pronounced with ['hʊl-] in Cambs., Kent and N'hum., but is ['hɑʊl-] in the case of Holywell (Lincs.). There is no evidence I can find about the pronunciation of Holywell in Corn., Dor., Here., N'hum., Tyne, War. and W. Yorks. They may be ['hɑʊliwel]. ['hɑʊl-] is the realisation of HOL- in Holbeton (Dev.) ['hɒlbɪtən], Holderness (Hum.) ['hɒldənəs], Holsworthy (Dev.) ['hɒlsəwɔːdɪ] and Holton-cum-Beckering (Lincs.).

['hɑʊ-] (no [-l-]) is the pronunciation in Holcombe Burnell (Dev.) and Holcombe Rogus (Som.), Holmbury St Mary (Sur.), Holme-next-the-Sea (Norf.), Holme Moss Television
Station (W. Yorks.), Holmer Green (Bucks.), Holmfirth (W. Yorks.), Holmpston (Hum.) ['hæumtən], and Hollesley (Suff.) ['hæulzli]. Holborn [Lond.] can be ['hæubən] or ['hæulbən], as BBC points out. BBC gives Holne (Dor.) as ['hæun], but Eckwall has ['hæul].

Holker (Cumb.) is ['hʌkə], and Holnicote (Som.) is ['hænikət].

HOM —
['hæum-] in Homer Green (Mer.) and in Homerton (Lond.) and Homington (Wils.) (neither of the last two in BBC). Homersfield (Suff.) is ['hʌməsfləd] or ['hʌməzfild] in BBC; Eckwall only gives the second of these.

HON —
As with elements beginning with COMP—, CON— etc. (see above in List B) there is some hesitation between ['hʌn-] and ['hʌn-]. The first is used for Honley (W. Yorks.) and Honister (Cum., not in BBC) and also for Honiley (War.) ['hʌnɪli]. The second is found in Honingham (Norf.) ['hʌnɪŋm] and the various places incorporating the word 'honey', such as Honeychurch and Honeycroft (both Dev., not in BBC). Honiton (Dev.) and Honington (Suff.) can use either form. Honing (Norf.) is ['hʌmɪŋ].

HOR —
['hɔː-] in Horsmonden (Kent) ['hɔːsməndən] and Horsey (Norf., Som.) ['hɔːsi] but note Horwich (G. Man.) ['hɔːrf]. Eckwall gives ['hɔːridʒ].

HOTH —
['hʌθ-] in Hothfield (Kent) but ['hʌð-] in Hotham (Hum.) ['hʌθɛm].

HOUGH —
A simplex or first element with several possible or alternative pronunciations:
['hɒf] as a simplex: Hough (Ches.) and Hough-on-the-Hill (Lincs.)
BBC also lists ['hɒf-] for Hougham (Lincs.) ['hɒfəm].
['hɔf] as an alternative for Hough-on-the-Hill and in Houghall (Dur.) ['hɔfl].
['hɔu-] for Houghton (Cambs.), Great and Little Houghton
(N'hants.) Houghton-le-Spring (Tyne) and Houghton-on-the-Hill (Leics.).

[ˈhau-] for Glass Houghton (W. Yorks.) [ˈɡla:s ˈhautən] and Houghton-le-Side (Dur.).

BBC lists either [ˈhau-] or [ˈhɔʊ-] for Houghton (Norf.) and Houghton (Hants.) but gives the former realisation as more common in the first case, and the latter in the second.

[ˈhɔ-] for Great and Little Houghton (S. Yorks.), also for Houghton (Lancs.), which may also be [ˈhautən].

HOV —
Hove (E. Sus.) is [ˈhʌv]. [ˈhɔv-] is used for Hovingham (N. Yorks.) [ˈhʌvɪŋəm] and Hoveringham (Notts.) [ˈhʌvərɪŋəm].

Hoveton (Norf.) is [ˈhaftən, ˈhɑftən] or [ˈhʌvɪtən].

HOW —
Usually [ˈhau-] as in Howden (Hum.), but Howick (N'hum.) is [ˈhɔuɪk].

Howsham (N. Yorks.) is [ˈhɔuʃəm, ˈhauʒəm] or [ˈhauʒəm]. Howley (Som.) is [ˈhɔuli].

HULME —
Hulme (G. Man.) and Hulme (Staffs.); the latter may also be [ˈhjuːm].

HUN —
Hunstanton [Norf.] may be [ˈhʌnˈstɑntən] or [ˈhænˈstæntən].

HUTH —
There are two places called Huthwaite: BBC gives [ˈhʌθweɪt] or [ˈhjuθweɪt] without specifying whether the Notts. or N. Yorks. one is intended, or both. Eckwall specifies [ˈhʌθweɪt] for the first.

HUY —
Huyton (Mer.) [ˈhaitən].

I —
[ˈai-] in Idle (W. Yorks.) [ˈaɪdl], Iden (E. Sus.) [ˈaiɗən], Iken (Suff.) [ˈaikən] Ilem (Staffs.) [ˈailəm] and Isham (N'hants.) [ˈaiʃəm], but [ˈi-] in Icomb (Glos.) [ˈɪkəm].

ID —
Idless (Corn.) is [ˈɪdləs]. Ideford (Dev.) is [ˈɪdfəd]. Idridgehay (Derby.) can be [ˈɪdrɪdʒheɪ] or [ˈɪdʒiː].

IGH —
Ightham (Kent) [ˈaɪtəm].

IS —
[ˈɪs-] in Isfield (E. Sus.), but [ˈɪz-] in Isington (Hants.) [ˈɪzɪŋtən] and [ˈaɪz-] in Isleworth (Lond.) [ˈaɪzlwɜː].

JER —
BBC notes that Jervaulx Abbey (N. Yorks.) is now pro-
nounced ['dʒə:vəʊ] but that some local speakers still use ['dʒə:vɪs].

KEAR — ['kɛəz-] in Kearsley (G. Man.) and Kearsney (Kent) ['kɛəznɪ].

KED — Kedington (Suff.) is, according to BBC, sometimes spelt Ketton and always pronounced ['kɛtən] by older residents.

The spelling pronunciation ['kɛdɪŋtən] is also found.

Kedleston (Derby.) is ['kɛdɫstən].

KEIGH — Keighley (W. Yroks.) ['kiːəli].

KEIS — Keisby (Lincs.) is ['kɛizbi] or ['kɛɪsbɪ].

KELM — Kelmscott (Oxon.) ['kɛmskɔt]. Eckwall spells it Kelmscott.

KEMP — Kempsey (Here.) is ['kɛmsɪ] or ['kɛmzɪ], with no [p]. Kempton Park, the racecourse near London (not in BBC) is ['kɛmptən].

KENID — Kenidjack (Corn.) is [kə'nɪdʒæk].

KERE — Keresley (W. Mid.) ['kɛəzlɪ].

KES — Kesgrave (Suff.) ['kɛzɡrɛv]. Kesteven, the now obsolete administrative division of Lincs. is ['kɛstɪvən].

Keswick (Cumb., Norf.) are both ['kɛzɪk].

KEY — Keyingham (Hum.) can be ['kɛɪŋəm, 'kɛɪnɪŋəm] or ['kɛɪnɪŋəm].

Keymer (W. Sus.) is ['kɛɪmə] or ['kɛɪmə]. Keysoe (Beds.) is ['kiːsoʊ] (Eckwall has ['kɛɪsoʊ]). Keynsham (Avon) ['kɛɪnʃəm]. Keyston (Cambs.) is not given in BBC, but in Eckwall as ['kɛstən].

KIN — Kinwarton (War.) is ['kɪnətən] or ['kɪnwaʊən] in BBC, but Eckwall has only the former.

KIRK — There are many localities named Kirky, often in conjunction with personal names; these will be dealt with in List C. Of the plain instances of Kirky, that in Mer. is given by Eckwall as ['kɛəzbi] and is probably the one intended by BBC.

For Kirky (N. Yorks.) EPNS gives no help on pronunciation.

For Kirky (Lincs.) and Kirky-on-Bain (same county) I can
not at present find any evidence. *Kirkby Moorside* and *Kirkby Malham* (both N. Yorks.) are both ['kɔːbɪ] according to BBC. *Kirkby-in-Ashfield* (Notts.) is ['kɔːkbi]. *Kirkby Thore* (Cum.) is ['kɔːbɪ] in BBC.

*Kirkby-in-Furness* (same county) is not in BBC; again, *EPNS* is no help. See also List C for further localities called *Kirkby*.

KIVE — *Kiveton* (S. Yorks.) is ['kɪvɪtɔn].

KNAI — *Knaitth* (Lincs.) is ['nɛɪð, 'nɛɪθ].

KNARES — *Knaresborough* (N. Yorks.) ['nɛəzbrəʊə].

KNIGHT — The various places called *Knighton* in Leics., War., Wilts., etc., all appear to be ['nɑːtən], but BBC curiously lists *Knighton* (Hants.) as [kɪ'nɑːtən].

KNIVE — *Kniveton* (Derby.) is ['nɔvɪtən] or ['nɪfɪtən].

KNOWES — *Knowesgate* (N'hum.) is ['nəuzɡeɪt].

KNOW — *Eckwall* lists *Knowstone* (Dev., not in BBC) as ['nɔʊstən].

BBC gives Knowle as ['nəul]; there are places of this name in Avon, Dor., Shrops., Som. and W. Mid.

KNYP — *Knypersley* (Staffs.) is ['nəpəzli].

KY — *Kynance* (Corn.) ['kainəns].

KYRE — *Kyre* (Here.) is not in BBC, but *Eckwall* says it is pronounced ['kɪɾ].

LAC — ['leɪk-] in *Lacock* (Wilts.) but *Lackenby* (Cleve.) is ['lækənbi].

LAIRA — *Laira* (Dev., in *Plymouth*) is ['lɛəɾə].

LAD — *Lakenheath* (Suff.) ['leikənhiːθ].

LA — *Lamars—Í* ('Ess.) is [læməʃ] or ['læməʃ]. *Lamas* (Norf.) is ['læməs].

LAM — *Lames—Í* (Tyne) is ['leɪmsli].

LAN — Usually ['læn-] as in *Lancaster* (Lancs.) and Cornish names like *Landewednack* ['lændɨdɨwədnek] and *Lanteglos* ['lænˈte(1)gloʊs]. *Lancing* (W. Sus.), however, is ['læŋsɪŋ].

LAS — *Lasham* (Hants.) is ['læsəm] to people in the village and ['læʃəm] to users of the Gliding Centre, according to BBC.
See the list at the beginning of this article.

**LATH**

*Lathbury* (Bucks.) is ['læðbəri] but *Lathom* (Lancs.) is ['lɛtəm].

**LAU**

*Laughern* (Here.) is ['ləʊn]. ['lɔː-] is also found in *Laughton* (Leics., Lincs., E. Sus., S. Yorks.) ['lɔːtən].

*Launcestons* (Corn.) is ['laʊnsəlz] or ['lænsəlz] and *Launcestons* (same county) is ['laʊnsən, 'laʊnstən] or ['lænsən].

**LAV**

['læv-] in *Lavenham* (Suff.), *Laverstock* (Wilt.) and *Laverstock* (Hants.).

*BBC* gives the River *Laver* (N. Yorks.) as ['lɑːvə]; *EPNS* (XII) gives *Laver* (Ess.) as ['lɛvə], but *Eckwall* has ['lɑːvə].

**LAW**

['lɔː-] in *Lawshalls* (Suff.) ['lɔʃəl] and *Lawthitton* (Corn)

['lɔːwɪtən], also ['ləwɪtən].

**LAZ**

['leɪz-] in *Lazonby* (Cum.) ['leɪzəbɪ]

**LEAD**

['lɛd-] in *Leadenham* (Suff.) ['lɛdəm] and *Leadenhall Street* (Lond.) ['lɛdəhlɔː].

**LEAM**

['lem-] in *Leamington* (War.) ['lɛmɪntən].

**LEAS**

['lɪz-] in *Leasingthorne* (Dur.) but ['lɪs-] in *Leasowes* (Ches.) ['lɪsəu].

**LEAV**

['lɛv-] in *Leavening* (N. Yorks.) ['lɛvənɪŋ].

**LEGH**

*Legh Manor* (W. Sus., not in *BBC*) is ['lɪː].

**LEIC**

*Leicester* (Leics.) ['lɛstə]

**LEIGH (S)**


['lai] in *Leigh* (Sur., Kent., Dor.) and *Leigh Court* (Dev.)

*Leigh-on-Mendip* (Som.) can be either.

*Great* and *Little Leigs* (Ess.) are ['lɛiz].

Cases of *Leigh* added to personal names will be discussed in List C.

**LEINT**

*Leintwardine* (Here.) is ['lɛntwɔːdɪn, 'lɛntwɔːdiːn] or ['læntədɪn].

**LEIS**

*Leiston* (Suff.) ['lɛɪstən].

**LEITH**

*Leith Hill* (Sur.) ['lɪθ].
Some Aspects of the Pronunciation of English Place-Names (II)

LEL — *Lelant* (Corn.) is [ləˈlænt].

LEO — *Leominster* (Here.) [ˈlemɪntə].

LES — This Cornish first element (from Cornish *lis* 'a palace') is pronounced with the weak vowel [ə] in *Lescudjack* [ləsˈkʌdʒæk] and similarly in *Leskernick* [ləsˈkərnɪk] and *Lestowder* [ləˈstʊdər] (neither in BBC) but with [e] and voiced -S in *Lesnewth* [lɛzˈnjuːθ].

LEV — *Leven* (Hum.) is [ˈliːvən] but *Levens* (Cumb.) is [ˈlevənz].

*Levenshulme* (G. Man.) is [ˈlevənʃuːm]. *North* and *South Levertown* (Notts.) are both [ˈlevətən].

LEW — *Lew Down* or *Lewdown* (Dev.) [ˈluːˈdʌn] but *Lewannick* (Corn.) [ləˈwɒnɪk] and *Lewanne* (same county) [ləˈwɔːn].

*Lewell* (Dor., not in BBC) is [ˈluːəl]. *Lewes* (E. Sus.) [ˈluːwɨs].

LEY — *Leycett* (Staffs.) [ˈlɪsɪt, ˈlɛɪsɪt]. [ˈlɛɪ-] is used for *Leybourne* (Kent) [ˈleɪbɜːn], *Leyburn* (N. Yorks.), *Leyland* (Lancs.) [ˈlɛɪlənd], and *Leysdown* (Kent). *Leyhill* (Bucks.) is [ˈleɪhɪl] but *Leyhill* (Derby.) is [ˈlɪːhɪl]. *Leytonstone* (Lond.) is [ˈleɪtənstɔːn].

LEZ — *Lezant* (Corn) [ləˈzænt]. *Leziate* (Norf.) is [ˈlɛdʒət] in *Eckwall* but BBC shows [ˈlezɪət] as the more common pronunciation, another instance of spelling overcoming the traditional usage.

LILLE — *Lilleshall* (Shrops.) [ˈlɪlɪʃl].

LIVER — *Liverpool* (Mer.) is [ˈlɪvəpʊl] but the pronunciation [ˈlaɪvə] is used for the *Royal Liver Building* in the city, named after the mythological Liver Bird associated with the city's origins.

LLAN — This is of course a Welsh element (= 'enclosure, especially for a church') but it is not uncommon on the English side of the border in the so-called 'Marcher Country' of Hereford, Shropshire, Worcester and Gloucester. BBC gives *Llanwarne* (Here.) as [lænˈwɔːn] and *Llanyblodwel* (Shrops.) as [lænəˈblɔdwel]. *Llanthony* (the Abbey in Glos. as well as
the town in Gwent) is given as [kɛntˈtɔnɪ]. English people, even educated ones, who are not familiar with the Welsh language will tend to pronounce these places with [l-] or with [ɬ-], an approximation to the Welsh [l-] within the terms of the English phonemic system.

LON — London ['lændən].
LONG — Longhoughton (N‘hum.) [lɒŋˈhau̯tən, lɒŋˈhau̯tən]. Longsleddale (Cum.) [lɒŋˈslɪdəl].
LOOS — ['luːs-] in Loose (Kent) and Loosley Row (Bucks.).
LOSE — Loseley Park (Surr.) is ['ləuzli].
LOS — Lostwithiel (Corn.) ['lɒstˌwɪθiəl].
LOTH — Lothbury (Lond.) is either ['ləʊðbəri] or ['ləʊðbəri].
LOUGH — [lɔf-] in Loughborough (Leics.) ['lɒðbərə] and Loughrigg (Cum.) ['lɒfrɪg], ['lɔv-] in Loughton (Bucks., Ess.).
LOUTH — Louth (Lincs.) ['ləʊθ].
LOW — Lowick (Cum., Nhants.); ['ləʊɪk] for the latter Eckwall also has ['lɔfɪk]. Lowick (N‘hum.) is also ['ləʊɪk], but there is an alternative form ['ləʊɪk]. Lowton (Dev.) is ['ləʊtən].
LOWD — Lowdham (Notts.) ['ləʊðəm].
LOWES — ['ləʊəs-] in Lowestoft (Suff.) ['ləʊʃtəft, ləʊʃtəf(t)] but ['ləʊz-] in Loweswater (Cum.) ['ləʊzəwɔːtə] and Lowesby (Leics.) ['ləʊzbi].
LOWTH — Lowther (Cum.) ['ləʊθə].
LUB — ['læb-] in Lubbenham (Leice.) ['lʌbənəm].
LUD — ['lʌd-] in Ludlow (Shrops.) ['lʌdləʊ]. Ludgershall (Bucks., Wilts.) is ['lʌdʒəʃəl]; BBC and Eckwall also give ['lʌdʒəʃəl] for the Wilts. one and Eckwall has ['lædʒəʃəl] for Bucks.
LUT — Luton ( Beds.) ['lʊtən].
LYM — ['laɪm] in Lyme Regis (Dev.) ['laɪm ˈriːdʒɪs].
['lɪm-] in Lyminge (Kent) ['lɪmɪŋdʒ], though ['lɪmɪŋdʒ] is also given in BBC. ['lɪm] is also used for Lympe (Kent). Eckwall has ['lɪmʃtə] for Lyminster (W. Sus.), but BBC gives ['lɪmɪnʃtə]. Lympstone (Dev.) is ['lɪmpstən].
Some Aspects of the Pronunciation of English Place-Names (II)

LYTH — [lɪð-] in *Lytham St Annes* (Lancs.) [ˈlɪðəm] but [lait] in the simplex *Lythe* (N. Yorks. not in BBC). Lyth (Cumb.) is [laɪ] in BBC; *Eckwall* also gives [liː].

LYVE — *Lyveden* (N'hants.) is [ˈlaɪdən].

MABLE — *Mablethorpe* (Lincs., not in BBC) [ˈmeɪbləp].

MACCLES — *Macclesfield* (Ches.) [ˈmæklɪf].

MADE — *Madeley* (Shrops. Staffs.) [ˈmeɪdli], but *Eckwall* has [ˈmædəli] for *Madehurst* (W. Sus.).

MADRES — *Madresfield* (Here.) [ˈmædəsfiːd].

MAG — [mæg-] in *Magdalen Laver* (Ess., not in BBC) [ˈmægdələn ˈleɪvə], but [mɔːr-] in *Magdalen College* (Oxford) and *Magdalen College* (Cambridge) both [ˈmædələn]. *Maghull* (Mer.) [ˈmæɡəl].

MAISE — *Maisemore* (Glos.) [ˈmeɪzmɔː].

MAL — [mɔːl-] in *Malborough* (Dev.) [ˈmɔːblər], also in *Maldon* (Ess.) and *New Malden* (Sur.): so also *Malton* (N. Yorks.) *Malvern* (Here.) can be [ˈmɔːlvən] or [ˈmɔːvən]. *Malpas* (Ches.) is [ˈmɔːlpəs, ˈmælpəs] or [ˈmɔːpəs]. *Malpas* (Corn.) is [ˈmævpəs].

MALL — *The Mall*, the drive leading to Buckingham Palace in *London*, is [ˈmɔːl].

MALME — *Malmesbury* (Wilts.) [ˈmæmzbaː].

MAN — *Manchester* [ˈmæntʃistə, ˈmæntʃiʃtə] *Manaton* (Dev.) [ˈmæntən], *Manuden* (Ess.) [ˈmænjudən]. *Manea* (Corn.) [ˈmeini].

MAPLE — Usually [meɪpl-] as in *Mapledurham* (Oxon., not in BBC) [meɪplˈdɜːrm] and *Mapledurwell* (Hants.) [meɪplˈdɜːwel]. However, *Mapleton* (Derby., Kent) can be [ˈmeɪpltən] or [ˈmæpltən] according to BBC.

MAR — Usually [mær-] *Margate* (Kent) [ˈmæɡət]. *Margaretting* (Ess.) [ˈmæɡərət].

Marazion (Corn.) is [ˈmærəzən]. *Marham* (Norf.) is listed in BBC as [ˈmærəm] in local parlance and [ˈmærəm] to per-
sonnel of the local RAF station. Marholm (Cambs.) is ['mærəm].

**MARL —** Marlborough (Wills.) ['mɔːlbərə].

**MARY —** ['meəri-] for Marystow (Dev.) ['meəristəu] and Mary Tavy (Dev.) ['meəri ˈteivi] but Marylebone (Lond.) is ['meələbən, 'mærɪbən] or ['mæələbən].

**MAS —** ['mæs-] in Masbrough (S. Yorks.) but ['mæsus-] in Masham (N. Yorks.) ['mæsəm], though BBC notes ['mæʃəm] as an alternative pronunciation.

**MATH —** ['meɪθ-] in Mathon (Here., not in BBC) ['mæθən].

**MAUG —** Maugersbury (Glos.) ['mɔːzbəri].

**MAUGH —** Maughenby (Cum.), so spelt in BBC but Maughonby in Eckwall, is ['mæʃənbi].

**MAUT —** Mautby (Norf.) ['mɔːbi].

**MEA —** Measham (Leics., not in BBC) ['meɪʃəm] (in EPNS).

Meaforf (Staffs.) ['meɪfəd]; Meathop (Cum.) ['miəθəp] and Meavy (Dev.) ['miəvi]. Meaux (N. Yorks.) ['mjus].

**MEDMEN —** Medmenham (Bucks.) ['medmən].

**MELMER —** Melmerby (Cumb., N. Yorks.) ['melməbi] or ['meləbi]. Once more, the spelling pronunciation seems to be gaining, as Eckwall (1936) only shows the second form.

**MEOL —** [mel-] in Meols (Ches.) ['melz], but ['miːl-] in Meols (Lancs.) and Meole Brace (Shrops.) ['miːlˈbreis].

**MEON** East and West Meon (Hants.) are ['meɪn].

**MEOP —** Meopham (Kent) ['meɪpəm].

**MERE —** ['miə-] in Mere (Wilts. and Ches.) also Meretown (Staffs., not in BBC) and Meresborough (Kent, not in BBC) ['mɪəzbərə]. However, ['mer-] is found in Merewale (War.) ['merɪvel] and Mereworth (Kent) ['merɪwəθ].

**MERS —** Merstham (Sur.) ['merstəm], and Mersham (Kent) ['merʃəm]. Eckwall gives Mersea (Ess.) as ['mɜːzi], but BBC has ['mə zi]. The former pronunciation is probably now obsolete.
Aspects of the Pronunciation of English Place-Names (III)

MESNE — *Cliffords Mesne* (Glos.) ['klifədz'mi:n].

MEVA — *Mevgissey* (Corn.) ['mevə'gisil] ['mevə'gizi].

MICHEL — *Micheldever* (Hants.) ['mitʃldevə].

MILDEN — *Mildenhall* (Suff.) is ['mildənhol] but *Mildenhall* (Wilts.) can be either pronounced in the same way, or spelt *Minal* and pronounced ['mainəl], according to BBC. *Eckwall* just gives the full spelling and the pronunciation ['mainəl] for the Wilts. locality.

MINE — *Minety* (Wilts.) ['mainti].

MININGS — *Miningsby* (Lincs.) ['miŋizbi].

MISER — *Miserden* (Glos.) ['mizədən].

MOGGER — *Moggerhanger* (Beds.) is ['mɔ:θəŋə] in *Eckwall*, BBC spells it *Muggerhanger* and gives the pronunciation ['muvəθəŋə].

MOL — *Molash* (Kent) ['məuləʃ]; *Molesey* (Surr.) ['məulzi].

MONGE — *Mongeham* (Kent) and *Mongewell* (Oxon.) are ['mʌndʒ-] in BBC. *Eckwall* has the same pronunciation for the first of these; the other is given as ['mʌndʒəl].

MONK — ['mæŋk-] in *Monkton* (Dev.), *Monkwearmouth* (Tyne) etc.

MONN — The *River Monnow* ['mʌnəu] is in Here., though *Monmouth* is in Gwent, and therefore in Wales.

MONY — *Monyash* (Derby.) ['məʊnjəʃ]. *Monylaws* (N'hum., not in BBC) ['məʊnlɔz]

MORE — ['mɔː-] in *Morebath* and *Moreleigh* (Dev.) and the numerous *Moretons* (Dev., Dor., Ess., Staffs., etc.). However, ['mɔːr-] in *Moresby* (Cumb.) ['mɔːrsbi]

MOR — *Morwick* (N'hum., not in BBC) is ['mɔːrɪk] in *Eckwall*. Otherwise as in *Morpeth* (N'hum.) ['mɔːpəθ], also *Morvah* ['mɔːvə] and *Morval* ['mɔːvə], both Corn. (the latter not in BBC). *Morwenstow* (same county) is ['mɔːwɛnstəu].

MOTHE — *Mothecombe* Dev.) ['məθikəm].

MOUL — ['məul-] in *Mouselcoomb* (W. Sus.) ['məulzkəm], *Moulsford* (Oxon.) ['məulzfəd] *Moulsham* (Ess.) ['məulʃəm] and Moul-
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soe (Bucks.) ['malsəu], according to BBC. Eckwall gives ['mʌlʃəm] and ['malsəu] for the last two.

MOUS — Mousehold Heath (Norf.) ['məushəuld] but Mousehole (Corn.) ['maʊzl].

MOW — ['maʊv-] in Mow Cop (Staffs.) and Mowsley (Leics.). The latter can also be ['məuzli].

MUDE — Mudeford (Dor.) ['mʌdfəd].

MUNDLES — Mundesley (Norf.) ['mʌnzli].

MUNGRIS — Mungrisdale (Cumb.) ['man'graɪzdəl].

MUS — BBC gives Muston as ['mʌst(ə)n] without specifying whether the locality in Leics. or that in N. Yorks., or both, is intended.

MYTH — ['mɪθ-] in Mythop (Lancs.) ['mɪθəp] but ['mæθ-] in Mythom and Mytholmroyd (W. Yorks.) ['mʌθlrmrɔid].

NA — Naburn (N. Yorks., not in BBC) is ['neibərn].

NANCE — Nancegollen (Corn.) ['nænsi'gələn] but Nancekuke (same county) ['næns'kju:k].

NANJI — Nanjizal Bay (Corn.) ['næn'dʒi:zl].

NAS — Nasty (Herts.) ['næstI]. Naseby (N'hants., not in BBC) ['neizbi].

NAV — Navenby (Lincs.) ['neɪvənbI].

NAW — Naworth (Cumb.) ['nɔwə] or ['nɔ:waθ].

NEATIS — Neatishead (Norf.) is ['nətɪstid] to the villagers and ['nətɪstshed] to the personnel at the RAF Station, according to BBC.

Yet another incidence of the encroachment of a spelling pronunciation.

NETTES — Netteswell (Ess.) ['netswel].

NIT — Niton (IOW) ['nətən].

NONE — Nonely (Shrops.) ['nənəli]. Nonsuch (Sur.) ['nɔnsətʃ] or ['nɔnsətʃ].

NOR — Norham (N'hum.) ['nɔrəm]. Norwich (Norf.) ['nɔridʒ], or ['nɔridʒ].
NORTH — Usually ['nɔːθ-] as in *Northampton* (N’hants.) ['nɔːθæmptən]. However, the traditional pronunciation of *Northiam* (E. Sus.), given in *EPNS* (VII), is [ˈnɔːθiəm], though *BBC* gives the spelling pronunciation ['nɔːθiəm'], which is no doubt current today. *BBC* gives *Northleigh* (Dev., 2 localities) as ['nɔːθli], but has ['nɔːθli] as an alternative form for the place of that name near *Goodleigh*.

NOW — *Nowton* (Suff.) ['nɔːutən].

NUN — *Nuneaton* (War.) ['nʌnɪtən]. *Nunwick* (N. Yorks.) ['nʌnɪk].

NYMP — *Bishop’s Nympton* (Dev.) ['bɪʃəps 'nɪmpən].

O — ['ɔːr-] in *Over* (Ches.) but ['ɔː-] in *Over* (Glos.) ['ɔːvə]. *Oby* (Norf.) is ['ɔːbɪ] and *Osea Island* (Ess.) ['ɔːzi, 'ɔːsɪ].

OARE — *Oare* (Kent, not in *BBC*) ['ɔː].

OATH — *Oath* (Som.) ['ɔːθ].

ODI — *Odiham* (Hants.) ['ɔːdiæm].

OFF — ['ɔv-f-] in *Offwell* (Dev., not in *BBC*) ['ɔvflɛl] and *Offham* (Kent) but ['ɔv-f-] in *Offham* (W. Sus.) ['ɔvfeɪm].

OG — *Ogwell* (Dev.) ['ɔgwel] but *Ogston* (Derby., not in *BBC*) is ['ɒɡstən].

OL — *Olanthi* Towers, a country house in Kent, is ['ɒlənti 'təʊəz].

*Oheay* (Bucks.) is ['ɔvni] or ['əʊni]. Neither *BBC* nor *Eckwall* clarify the pronunciation of the place of the same name in N’hants.

*Olveston* (Avon) is ['ɔlvɪstən] or ['əʊvlstən].

ONE — *Onecote* (Staffs.) is ['ɒnkt] in *BBC* and *Eckwall*, but neither is enlightening about *Onehouse* (Suff.). The derivation (from OE ana = ‘lonely’) suggests a traditional pronunciation *[ənhaʊs]*, but the spelling may by now have induced ['wənhaʊs].

OS — ['ɔz-] in *Osney* (Oxon.), ['ɔs-] in *Springe* (Kent) and ['ɔs-] in *Osmaston* (Derby.) ['ɔzməstən] and *Oswestry* (Shrops.) ['ɒzwəstrɪ], also ['ɒzɪstrɪ].
OT — *Othan* (Kent) ['ʌtəm]. *Othy* (Som.) ['ɔːðəri].

OUTH — *Oughtershaw* (N. Yorks.) and *Oughterside* (Cum.) take ['aut], but *Oughtibridge* (S. Yorks.) is ['ɔːtɪbrɪdʒ, 'ɔːtɪbrɪdʒ] or ['ɔːtɪbrɪdʒ] or ['ɔːtɪbrɪdʒ] *Oughtrington* (Ches.) is ['ʌtrɪŋtən].

OUL — ['auəl-] in *Oulton* (Norf., Staffs., Suff., W. Yorks.).

OUN — *Oundle* (N'hants.) ['aʊndl].

OUS — The various rivers named *Ouse* in E. Sus., N'hants., N. Yorks. and elsewhere appear to be universally ['üz], though the name is not listed in *BBC*. *Ousby* (Cumb.) is ['ʊzbi]. *Ousden* (Suff., sometimes spelt *Owsden* according to *BBC*) is ['ɔʊzdən]. *Ouston* (Dur., 2 in N'hum.) ['aʊstən].

OVEN — *Ovenden* (W. Yorks.) ['ɒvəndən].

OVING — *BBC* gives both localities called *Oving* (Bucks., W. Sus.) as ['əvɪŋ], but the second of these was certainly ['u:ʊvɪŋ] until recently; see *EPNS* (VI); *Eckwall* gives this pronunciation for both of them. *Ovingham* (N'hum.) is ['ʌvɪŋdʒæm]. *Ovington* (Norf.) is ['ɒvɪŋtən] but *Ovington* (Dur.) ['ɒvɪŋtən]. There is no indication for *Ovington* (Ess.). *Eckwall* has ['uːvɪŋdʒɪn] for *Ovingdean* (W. Sus.) but this is by now probably ['uːvɪŋdʒɪn] as with *Oving*.

OWER — *Owermoigne* (Dor.) ['ɔːməmɔɪn], but *Owersby* (Lincs.) ['ɔːəzbi].

OWL — *Owlerton* (S. Yorks.) ['ɔːlətən] and *Owler Bar* (Derby.) ['ɔːlə'bær].

OWM — *Owmbry* (Lincs.) ['ɔːmbi].

OWSLE — *Owslebury* (Hants.) is ['ɔsəblə] or ['ɒsəblə] in *BBC*. *Eckwall* gives only the second of these.

OZEN — *Ozengell Grange*, a country house in Kent, is ['ɔzəŋəl].

PAIGN — *Paignton* (Dev.) ['peintən].

PAK — *Pakenham* (Suff.) ['pækənəm].

PAL — *Palgrave* (Suff.) ['pælɡrɑːv].

PALL — *Palling* (Norf.) ['pɔ:liŋ]. *Pallion* (Dur.) ['pæliŋ]. *Pall Mall*,
the street in London, is now commonly ['pæl'mæl], but
many people still use the traditional pronunciation ['pel'mæl].

PAR —
Parham (Suff., W. Sus.) is ['pærəm]; so is Parham Park, the
great house at the latter place.

PARKES —
Parkeston Quay (Ess.) is ['pærkstən].

PAS —
Eckwall gives Paston as ['pɔ:stən] for N'hum. and ['pɔ:stən]
for Norf., but BBC mentions neither.

PAUL —
['pəl-] in Paulerspury (N'hants.) ['pɔ:lrəspəri] and
Pauperhaugh (N'hum.) ['pɔ:prəhoʊf].

PAV —
Pavenham (Beds.) ['pɛvənəm].

PEL —
Pelaw (Tyne) ['pi:la] or ['pi:lo:]. Pelynt (Corn.) ['pɛlənt] or
['plənt].

PEO —
Peover (Ches.) ['pi:və]. Peopleton (Here., not in BBC )
['pi:plətən](Eckwall).

PEN —
Pendomer (Som.) ['pen'dəʊmə]. Penistone (S. Yorks.)
['penɪstən] Penyghent (N. Yorks) ['penɪɡənt].

PEP —
Peper Harrow (Sur.) ['pɛpə'rærv].

PERRAN —
Perranaworthal (Corn.) [ˈpɛrənəˈwɜːθəl]. Perranuthnoe
(Corn.) [ˈpɛrənˈjuːθnəʊ] or [ˈpɛrənˈʌθnəʊ]. Perranzabuloe
(Corn.) [ˈpɛrənˌzæbʊləʊ].

PIPE —
Pipewell (N'hants.) ['pɪpəwel].

PLAI —
['pleɪ-] in Plaistow (Derby., Here.). Plaitford (Hants.).
['plæs-] in Plaistow (W. Sus.), Plaistow (Lond.). This last is
more commonly ['pleɪstəʊ] according to BBC.

[ plaɪs-] in Plaistow (Kent), which may sometimes be['pleɪs-],
says BBC.

PLEAS —
['plez-] in Pleasington (Lancs.) and Pleasley (Derby.)

PLYM —
['plɪm-] in Plymouth ['plɪməʊ] and Plympton ['plɪmptən], both
in Dev. The latter is not in BBC.

POL —
['pəul-] in Polden Hill (Som.) and Polstead (Suff.). also in
Poling (W. Sus.) Poltimore (Dev.) ['pɔltɪmə]. However, it is
['pɔl-] in Cornish names such as Polbathic ['pɔlbæθik],
Poldhu ['pɔldhu], Polperro ['pɔlˈpɜːrəʊ], Polruan ['pɔlˈruːən],
Polwhele [pɔlˈwiːl], Polzeath [pɔlˈziːθ].

PON — [pɒn-] in Pontesbury (Shrops.), Pontop (Dur.) [ˈpɒntɒp], Ponsanooth (Corn.) [pɒnˈzənuːθ]. Ponsonby (Cumm.) can be pronounced with [ˈpɔn-] or, more usually, [ˈpɒnsənbɪ]. Pontefract (W. Yorks.) was once locally [ˈpɒmfrɪkt] or [ˈpɒmfrɪkt], but now [ˈpɒntɪfrækt].

BBC points out that the older form is usual in describing the well-known 'Pomfret cakes'.

Ponteland (N'hum.) is [ˈpɒntlənd].

PORTES — Portesham (Dor.) [ˈpɔrɪʃəm].

PORTH — Porthallow (Corn., 2) [pɔrˈθæləʊ]. Porthoustock (Corn.) [pɔrˈθaʊstək] or [ˈpʰraʊstək].

PORTIS — Portishead (Som.) [ˈpɔrɪʃhed].

PORT — Portscatho (Corn.) [pɔrtˈskæθə].

POST — [ˈpɔst-] in Postling (Kent) and Postcombe (Oxon.), also Postbridge (Dev., not in BBC). BBC gives Postwick (Norf.) as [ˈpɔstɪk] but Eckwall has [ˈpɒstɪk]. Postern (Derby.) and Poston (Here.) are both probably [ˈpɒstən], though neither BBC, Eckwall nor EPNS are any help on the matter. (BBC gives [ˈpɒstən] for the surname Poston).

POUGH — Poughill (Corn.) is [ˈpɒfi] or [ˈpʰafli]; Poughill (Dev.), [ˈpʰaʊli]. Eckwall only gives the second alternative for the Cornish one.

POUL — [ˈpɔul-] in Poulshot (Wilt.) and Poulney (Leics.).

[ˈpɔu-] in Poulner (Hants.) [ˈpəʊnə].

[ˈpʰuːl-] in Poulton-le-Fylde (Lancs.) [ˈpʰəltən ə ˈfaɪld]. There are other Poultons in Glos., Mer. and Wilt. and a Poulston in Dev.; BBC, Eckwall and EPNS give no help regarding pronunciation.

POV — Povey Cross (Sur.) [ˈpəʊvi ˈkrɒs]. Eckwall has [ˈpɔv-] for Povington (Dor., not in BBC).

POW — Powburn (N'hum.) [ˈpɔubɜːn]. Powick (Here.) [ˈpɔwik].

PRAH — Prah Sands (Corn.) [ˈpreɪ]. Sometimes spelt Praa or Praah.
Some Aspects of the Pronunciation of English Place-Names (II)

POYN —  Eckwall gives ['pænɪŋz] for Poynings (W. Sus.), but it is not in BBC. I have only ever heard ['pɔɪŋz]. Probably Eckwall's form is an old local one.

PRED —  Predannack (Corn.) ['predənæk] or ['prednæk].

PRINK —  Prinknash, the famous Abbey in Glos., is ['prɪŋdʒ]. Eckwall curiously makes no mention of the pronunciation.

PRO —  Probus (Corn.) ['prəbəs].

PRUD —  Prudhoe (N'hum.) ['prʌdəʊ] or ['prʌdhoʊ].

PUD —  Pudsey (W. Yorks.) ['pʌdseɪ].

PUNC —  Pucknowle (Dor.) ['pʌknəl].

PYLE —  Pyle (IoW) ['pail].

PYTCH —  Pytchley (N'hants.) ['pætʃli]. (see WYCH, List A).

(to be continued)