

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

Christopher Powell

Some Interesting Cases of Anomalous Pronunciation

An analysis of the cases so far presented in these lists will show that from the pronunciation aspect English place-names fall into the following categories:

- Names pronounced entirely according to the conventions of English phonetics and orthography, e. g. *Dorking* (Sur.) [ˈdɔː kɪŋ], *Otterburn* (N'hum.) [ˈɒtəbɜːn].
- Names pronounced regularly, but with an element which may be pronounced differently in another context, e. g. *Canterbury* (Kent), *Oxford* (Oxon.), where [bəri] and [fəd], while showing the weak vowel expected in this context, contrast with ['berɪ] and [fɔːd] for *Bury* (Lancs.) and *Ford* (W. Sus.) respectively.

These two categories offer no real pronunciation problem and are only mentioned in these lists, if at all, as examples of standard pronunciation in contrast with irregular forms.

- Names with two possibilities of pronunciation which are in free variation, e. g. *Northampton* (N'hants.) and *Southampton* (Hants.) where ['hæmptən] and ['æmptən] are both possible.
- Names belonging to several places, one or more of which may use a different pronunciation from the rest, although both

forms follow the norms of English pronunciation in relation to orthography, e. g. *Gillingham* (Kent) ['dʒɪlɪŋəm], cf *gin* and *Gillingham* (Dor.) ['gɪlɪŋəm], cf *gift*.

- Names belonging to several places, one or more of which may have a standard pronunciation while the other(s) have a non-standard one, e. g. *Leigh* (Kent) [laɪ] cf *sleight* and *Leigh* (Ess.) [li:], non-standard.
- Names with varying degrees of non-standard pronunciation, e. g. *Cleobury* (Shrops.) ['klibəri] (irregular first element)
Dunholme (Lincs.) ['dʌnəm] (irregular final element)
Chettiscombe (Dev.) sometimes ['tʃeskəm] (middle element omitted)
- *Torpenhow* (Cum) [trɪ'penə] (total general irregularity).

In addition, one must add the cases where a standard and accepted pronunciation goes hand in hand with an irregular one which is still used by older local people, in most cases this irregular form being practically extinct. Here we can class *Daventry* (N'hants.) ['dævəntri] once ['deɪntri], *Cirencester* (Glos.) ['saɪərənsɛstə/'sɪsɪtə], *Lowestoft* (Suf.) ['ləʊstɒft/'ləʊstɒf]. In a few cases the number of local people who use the irregular alternative may be considerable (as for ['brʌmɪdʒəm], a local version of *Birmingham*, which may even be spelt out as *Brummagem*), and there are also instances where the owners of historic houses and their friends use a different pronunciation from that of other people, as a class-marker, e. g. *Harewood* (W. Yorks.) ['hæwʊd] but ['ha:wʊd] in *Harewood House*.

Before continuing List B I would like to examine one or two particularly interesting cases of irregular pronunciation, which show both the tenacity of old, non-spelling pronunciations and also how easy it is for the popular mind to generate myths about such things.

Wilshamstead/Wilstead (Beds.) *BBC* gives the longer form as the main entry, adding 'also spelt *Wilstead*'. It then lists the two pronunciations ['wɪlʃəmsted] and ['wɪlsted]. *Eckwall* gives only the long spelling and the short pronounced form. *EPNS* III does the

same and then lists the various appearances of the name in writing from the earliest records. The earliest instance of the short form *Wilstead* is shown as 1780, and it is unclear whether the contracted form existed in speech much earlier. Both *Johnston's Road Atlas* (1963) and the *Geographia Road Atlas* (1980) have *Wilshamstead*. *In Britain Magazine* for August, 1978 has a short article (p. 19) stating that Ordnance Survey maps once used the longer version, but changed them to match the short form of the road signs in the area. At the same time the village decided to change the road signs to match the map, so now the road signs have the longer, and OS maps the shorter, form. The article describes the parish council as 'changing the name' of the village and this rather suggests that in the popular mind the two forms are regarded as two names rather than one name having a longer written form and a contracted pronunciation, a not uncommon phenomenon of which examples are *Coggeshall* (Ess.), now ['kɒɡɪʃl] but once ['kɒksl], *Garboldisham* (Norf.) ['gɑ:blʃəm], *Gloucester* (Glos.) ['glɒstə]. This impression is confirmed by a letter in a quite different field (*Antiquarian Horology*, Volume 9, Number 8, September 1976, page 938) where an eighteenth century clockmaker is described as marrying a resident of 'Wilshamstead now called *Wilstead*'. In fact it is quite likely that in the clockmaker's time the pronunciation was already ['wɪlstɛd], even though the longer spelling was used. What is interesting is that whereas in many cases of contracted pronunciations with longer spellings the modern trend is for the spoken form to adapt itself to the spelling (as in modern *Daventry* (N'hants.) ['dævəntri], *Coggeshall* (Ess.) ['kɒɡɪʃl] in the present case the spelling is adapting itself to the pronunciation—though the old spelling is proving hard to eradicate.

Ebrington (Glos.) *BBC* gives the modern pronunciation ['ɛbrɪŋ-tən], but mentions the older one ['jʌbətən]. (This is rendered ['jæbətən] in *EPNS XXXVIII*.) This pronunciation appears to go back to an earlier version of the village's name, *Ebberton* or *Ebarton*,

which does not appear in the records after 1700, so it is remarkable that the spoken form [ˈjʌbətən] has persisted into this century. *BBC* calls it a 'strictly local' pronunciation and it is interesting that Daniel Jones, in his *English Pronouncing Dictionary* mentions this name with the modern form of pronunciation only.

Birmingham (W. Mid.) The standard spoken form is of course [ˈbɜːmɪŋəm]. *EPNS* XIII gives an interesting comment on the well-known local pronunciation [ˈbrʌmɪdʒəm]. 'Occasional metathesis of *r*, giving forms with initial *Br-*, is found from an early date. Later this established itself as the regular local pronunciation'. It then explains how in the 13th century the medial *-ng-* came to be pronounced [ndʒ] and then [dʒ], and this gave rise to the form [ˈbrʌmɪdʒəm] in which the influence of the nearby place-name *Bromwich* [ˈbrɒmɪtʃ] has been important. Another local pronunciation given by *EPNS* is [ˈbɜːnɪŋəm], but this is definitely not R. P.

The Rodings (Ess.) The group of eight villages known as *The Rodings* are now all pronounced [ˈrəʊdɪŋ], but *BBC* says that the old form [ˈruːðɪŋ] has 'not entirely succumbed'. It is preserved in the written form *Roothing* for the civil parish and, sometimes, in the name of just one of the villages, *White Roding* or *Roothing*. Daniel Jones, writing in 1917, gives the pronunciation as 'locally generally [ˈruːdɪŋ]', and adds that 'the pronunciation [ˈrəʊdɪŋ] is being encouraged by the local county council, and will doubtless become the accepted form before long.' That the spelling *Roothing*, which does not appear in any of the old records according to *Eckwall*, has at last appeared as an encouragement to the traditional pronunciation, is another example of the tenacity of the older forms.

Sawbridgeworth (Herts.) is given in *BBC* as [ˈsɔːbrɪdʒwəθ] and also [ˈsæpswəθ]. *EPNS* XV has '*olim* [ˈsæps(w)əθ]' and the written form *Sapsworth* can be found in 1565. Another form, [ˈsæpsəd], is said to have existed at least early this century, as the following quaint rhyme, for which I no longer have the reference, shows:

There once was a young man of Sawbridgeworth,

Who threw half a brick at a Chawbridgeworth ;
 He was given in charge,
 And he won't be at large
 Until several months have Elawbridgeworth !

If the last words of the first, second and last lines are pronounced as if written *Sapsed*, *chap's (h)ead* and *elapsèd* respectively, the meaning becomes clear.

Mr Michael Horne, of Nagoya University, who knows the area of Sawbridgeworth, tells me that he has never heard of any other pronunciation than ['sə:brɪdʒwəθ]. If ['sæpswəθ] or ['sæpsed] are still used at all, they must be limited to the oldest residents.

Bobbingworth or *Bovinger* (Ess.) at first sight appears to be a genuine case of a village having two distinct names, cf *Iwerne Courtney* or *Shroton* (Dor.) However, the existence of such intermediate forms as *Bobyniour* (1511), the phonetic similarity of *b* and *v*, and cases of Old English *-worth* changing to *-ger* as in *Abinger* (Sur.) show us that the two forms are in fact related, though it is interesting that they appear to have existed together for a long time, and certainly since the 16th century. *EPNS* XII says that the Ordnance Survey 1" map gives the name *Bovinger* to a locality shown on the 6" map as *Upper Bobbingworth Green*, the main village being *Bobbingworth* in both cases. Adding to the complication is *BBC*'s information that the Post Office at this village is called *Bovinger*, though it is implied that the more commonly used name for the place is *Bobbingworth*. *Johnston's Road Atlas* only has *Bobbingworth*, but the more recent *Geographia* follows the convention of the 1" OS map. *BBC* gives the pronunciations ['bɒbɪŋwɜ:θ] and ['bɒvɪndʒə], while *EPNS* only has ['bɒvɪndʒə], implying that this is the local pronunciation of the written form *Bobbingworth*.

The above six interesting cases are only a small fraction of the instances of doubt over the spelling and pronunciation of English place-names; they show us that even though spelling pronunciations are becoming common they do not always win the day.

The remainder of this instalment will comprise the end of List B, covering the irregular pronunciations of initial elements and simplex names.

List B (continued)

- QUA --- [kwɒ] in *Quantock* Hills (Som.) ['kwɒntɔk] and *Quatford* (Shrops, not in *BBC*) ['kwɒtʃəd], but [kweɪ] in *Quadring* (Lincs.) and *Quainton* (Bucks.). [kwɔ:] is found in the simplex *Quarr Abbey* (IoW) and in *Quarles* (Norf.) [kwɔ:lz] and *Quarley* (Hants.).
- QUE --- [kwe] in *Queniborough* (Leics.) ['kwenɪbərə] and *Quenington* (Glos.) but [kʌ] in *Quemerford* (Wilts.) ['kʌməfəd].
- QUERN --- [kwɔ:] or [kwɑ:] in *Quernmore* (Lancs.) ['kwɔ:mə/'kwɑ:mə].
- QUETH --- *Quethiock* (Corn) can be ['kweðɪk], ['kweθɪk] or ['kwɪðɪk] according to *BBC*.
- QUORN This simplex, given as [kwɔ:n] in *BBC* and [kɔ:n] in *BG* gives its name to the *Quorn Hunt* and takes its name from *Quorn House* (Leics.). The nearby village is *Quorndon* ['kwɔ:ndən].
- QUY [kwai] is the name of a stream near Cambridge and was formerly that of a railway station, now defunct. The village has long since merged with its neighbour to form the village of *Stow-cum-Quy* ['stəʊ kʌm 'kwai].
- RAA --- *Raans Manor* (Bucks.) is [reɪnz].
- RAL --- *BBC* gives ['rɔ:lɪ] for *Raleigh* in the names *Colaton Raleigh* and *Withycombe Raleigh* (Dev.). *Eckwall* gives the same pronunciation for this name. I have heard the village of *Combe Raleigh* (Dev.) pronounced in this way and also as ['ræɪlɪ] and ['rɑ:lɪ], all three versions being accepted pronunciations of the name of

the famous Elizabethan explorer, Sir Walter Raleigh. *BBC* suggests that [ˈrɔ:lɪ] was the form most likely used by Raleigh's contemporaries, so this may also be the traditional pronunciation of the places, though it is not certain from the evidence that they and the family are connected.

RANE — *Ranelagh Gardens, Chelsea* (Lond.) are [ˈrænlə]. This is of course an Irish name, the gardens having been made in the 18th century by Richard Jones, 3rd Viscount Ranelagh (*Dictionary of National Biography*, Vol. X) There are now a number of other streets and areas in and around London with the same name, and it is at least probable that some of them are pronounced locally [ˈreɪnlə], a nearer approximation to the spelling.

RAPH — *Raphael Park* (Lond.) is [ˈreɪfl].

RAUGH — *Raughton Head* (Cum.) is [ˈrɑ:ftən] or [rɔftən].

RAUNDS *Raunds* (N'hants.) is [rɔ:ndz].

RAVEN — [ˈreɪvən] in *Ravenglass* (Cum.) and *East Ravendale* (Hum.) [ˈreɪvəndeɪl] also *Ravenscar* (N. Yorks., not in *BBC*) [ˈreɪvənskɑ:], [ˈrɑ:nz] in *Ravensden* (Beds.) [ˈrɑ:nzdən].

Raveningham (Norf.) can be [ˈræv(ə)nɪŋəm] or [ˈræɪnɪŋəm], and *BBC* points to the latter form as that usual for *Raveningham Hall*.

[ˈræs] is used for *Ravenstonedale* (Cum.) [ˈræsəndeɪl], not in *BBC*, but in *BG*. *EPNS* V gives [ˈre:nzθrəp] as a local pronunciation of *Ravensthorpe Manor*; the vowel-sound here is plainly that of Yorkshire dialect so it is a question whether local RP speakers say [ˈreɪnzθrəp]. Neither *BBC*, *BP*, *Eckwall* nor *EPNS* have anything to say about the pronunciation of the places named *Ravensthorpe* in W. Yorks. and

- N'hants., so it is probably [ˈreivənzθɔ:p].
- RAW — *Out* and *Upper Rawcliffe* (Lancs, not in *BBC*) are [ˈrɔ:klɪf]. [rɔ:] is also found in *Rawreth* (Ess.) [ˈrɔ:rəθ] and the *River Rawthey* (Cum.) but *Rawtenstall* (Leics.) can be either [ˈrɔ:tənstɔ:l] or [ˈrɒtənstɔ:l].
- REA There are several rivers and streams with this name. *BBC* gives [reɪ], but not whether the Cambs., Shrops., Here., or War. rivers are all pronounced in this way.
- REDEN — *Redenhall* (Norf.) [ˈredənhɔ:l].
- REEP — Both places called *Reepham*, in Norf. and Lincs., are [ˈri:fəm] according to *BBC*.
- REI — [raɪ] in *Reigate* (Sur.) [ˈraɪɡɪt], but [ri:] in *Reighton* (N. Yorks.) [ˈri:tən].
- REVES — *Revesby* (Lincs.) [ˈri:vzbɪ].
- REYMER — *Reymerston* (Norf.) [ˈreməstən].
- RIE — *Rievaulx Abbey* (N. Yorks.) can be [ˈri:vəʊ] or [ˈrɪvəz].
- RIMING -- *Rimington* (Lancs.) [ˈrɪmɪŋtən].
- RIP — *Ripon* (N. Yorks.) [ˈrɪpən].
- RIS — *Risley* (Derby.) [ˈrɪzli].
- RIVEL — *Rivelin Bridge* (S. Yorks.) is [ˈrɪvəlɪn].
- ROCH The simplex *Roch* (G. Man.) and the similar form *Roche* (Corn) are both [rɒtʃ]. *Rochdale* (G. Man.), *Rochford* (Ess.) and *Rochester* (Kent) are all pronounced with [rɒtʃ].
- ROD — *Rodmersham* (Kent) [ˈrɒdməʃəm], but *the Rodings* (Ess.) (*Abbess, Aythorpe, Beauchamp, Berners, High, Leaden, Margaret* and *White Roding*) are [ˈrəʊdɪŋ]. The last of these is still sometimes written *White Roothing* and pronounced [ˈru:ðɪŋ], according to *BBC*.
- ROLLES — [rəʊlz] in *Rollesby* (Norf.) and [rəʊls] in *Rolleston* (Leics., Notts. and Staffs., and *Rollestone* (Wilts.), all [ˈrəʊlstən].
- ROLVEN -- *Rolvenden* (Kent) [ˈrɒlvəndən]. Anciently this was

no doubt [ˌrɒlvən'den], as with other Kentish place-names in *-den*.

ROM — *Romford* (Lond.) is [ˈrɒmfəd] or [ˈrʌmfəd]. *BBC* also gives these pronunciations for the same place-name described as being in Kent. However, the maps do not show one, but there is another *Romford* in Dorset. Perhaps this is meant.

Romsey (Hants.) is [ˈrʌmzi]. *Romanby* (N. Yorks.) is [ˈrəʊmənbi], and *Eckwall* gives *Romansleigh* (Dev.) as [ˈrʌmzli].

ROTH — *Rothamsted* (Herts.) [ˈrɒθəmsted]. [rɒθ] is also found for *Rothwell* (Lincs., W. Yorks.) and *Rothwell* (N' hants.), which last can also be [ˈrəʊəl]. The *th* is voiced in *Rotherfield* (E. Sus.) and *Rotherfield Greys* and *Peppard* (Oxon.), also *Rotherham* (S. Yorks.) [ˈðɒrəɾəm] and the *River Rother*, a common river-name in half a dozen counties. *BBC* gives *Rothley* as [ˈrəʊθli] and *Eckwall* confirms this as the pronunciation for the place of that name in Leics. For *Rothley* (N'hum.) I can find no evidence, but *Eckwall's* silence suggests the possibility of [ˈrɒθli].

ROUGH — *Rougham* (Norf.) and *Rougham Green* (Suff.) are both [ˈrʌfəm]. *Roughlee* (Lancs.) is [ˈrʌf'li:]. [rau-] is used for *Roughton* (Norf., Shrops.) and *Rough Tor* (Dev.) [ˈrau'tɔ:], but *Roughton* (Lincs.) is [ˈru:tən].

ROUS — [ru:z] or [rauʒ] in *Rousdon* (Dev.), [raʊs] or [rauʃ] in *Rousham* (Oxon.) and [raʊs] in *Rous Lench* (Here.) [ˈraʊs'lentʃ]

ROUTH This simplex is [rauθ] in *Routh* (Hum, not in *BBC*.)

ROW — Usually [rau] as in *Rowarth* (Derby.) [ˈrauəθ], *Rowde* (Wilts.) (though *Eckwall* gives [ˈrəʊd]), *Rowton* (Ches., Shrops. (3)), *Rowston* (Lincs.), *Rowden* (Dev.) *Rowden Down* (Wilts.), *Rowledge* (Sur.) [ˈraʊlɪdʒ], *Rowner*

- (Hants.) *Rowridge* (Dev.) and *Rowsham* (Bucks.).
[rəʊ] is found in *Rowley Mile* at Newmarket (Suff.)
and *Rowsley* (Derby.). *Rowhedge* (Ess.) can be
[ˈrəʊhedʒ] or [ˈrəʊhedʒ], according to *BBC*. *Rowrah*
(Cum, not in *BBC*.) is [ˈru:rə]. according to *Eckwall*.
- RUAR — *Ruardean* (Glos.) [ˈruədi:n].
- RUG — *Rugby* (Staffs.) is [ˈrʌɡbi], but *Rugeley* (Staffs.) is
[ˈru:dʒli].
- RUIS — *Ruishton* (Som.) [ˈruɪftən] but *Ruislip* (Lond.)
[ˈraɪslɪp].
- RUSH — *Rusholme* (G. Man.) is [ˈrʌʃhəʊm]* and *Rushock*
(Here. (2), not in *BBC*) [ˈrʌʃək].
- RUS — [rʌz] in *Rusland* (Cum.) and [rʌs] in *Ruswarp* (N.
Yorks.), [ˈrʌsəp] which *Eckwall* gives as [ˈru:zəp],
with the local dialect vowel.
- RUTH — [rʌθ] in *Ruthwaite* (Cum.) [ˈrʌθweɪt/ˈrʌθət].
- RUY — *Ruyton-Eleven-Towns* (Shrops.) [ˈraɪtən ɪˈlevən ˈtaʊnz]
is given in some authorities (*BG*, *Geographia Atlas*)
as *Ruyton-XI-Towns*.
- RYAR — *Ryarsh* (Kent) is [ˈraɪɑːʃ].
- RYD — *Rydal* (Cum.) [ˈraɪdl].
- SA — [seɪ] in *Sacombe* (Herts.) and *Saham Toney* (Norf.)
[ˈseɪəm ˈtəʊni].
- SAC — *Sacriston Heugh* (Dur.), a hill, is [ˈsækrɪstən].
- SAIGH — *Saighton* (Ches.) [ˈseɪtən].
- SAINT Places with names which consist of or include saints'
names as their initial element are in List D.
- SAL — This initial element has two common realisations
and some irregular ones:
[sɔ:l] in *Salcombe* (Dev.), also [ˈsɒlkəm], *Salcey*

* Daniel Jones, however, says this is 'rare' and gives [ˈrʌʃəm] as
the usual pronunciation.

Forest (N'hants.), *Salisbury* (Wilts.) ['sɔ:lzbəri] or ['sɔ:lzbri], *Salle* (Norf.), also spelt *Sall*, *Great* and *Little Salkeld* (Cum.), and places beginning *Salt-*, as *Salthouse* (Norf.) *Saltmarshe* (Hum, not in *BBC*), *Saltley* (W. Mid.) (but see below, *Saltfleetby*). [sæl] in *Salfords* (Sur.) ['sælfədʒ] and *Salwick* (Lancs.) ['sælik] or ['sælwik].

Salford (Lancs.) is ['sɒlfəd], but the place of the same name in Beds. is ['sæfəd] in *BBC* (*Eckwall* and *EPNS III* have ['sɑ:fəd]. *Salmonby* (Lincs.) can be either ['sæmənbi] or ['sælmənbi]. *Saltfleetby* (Lincs.) is now usually ['sɔ:ltfli:tbi] according to *BBC*, which also gives the alternative ['sɒləbi], un-noticed by *Eckwall*.

- SAMPLES — *Samlesbury* (Lancs.) is ['sæmzbəri] or ['sɑ:mzbəri]
 SAND — [sænd] in *Sandhurst* (Berks., Kent), *Sandringham* (Norf.) and *Sandwich* (Kent) ['sæn(d)wɪtʃ], but [sɑ:n] in *Sanderstead* (Sur.) ['sɑ:ndəstɪd].
 SARIS — *Sarisbury* (Hants.) can be ['sɑ:zbəri] or ['sɛəzbəri] according to *BBC*.
 SAUGH — *Great* and *Little Saughall* (Ches.) are ['sɔ:kɪ].
 SAV — *Savernake* (Wilts.) ['sævənæk].
 SCA — [skɔ:] in *Scafell* Pike* (Cum.) ['skɔ:fel 'paɪk] [skɛə] in *Scarbrick* (Lancs.) ['skɛəzbɪk] and [skɑ:] in *Scartho* (Hum.), also spelt *Scarthoe* (both *Johnston* and *Geographia* have the former).
 SCAL — *Scalby* (Hum., N. Yorks.) can be ['skɔ:lbi] or ['skɔ:bi], according to *BBC*. The same omission of [l] is possible with *Scalford* (Leics.) ['skɔ:(l)fəd].
 SCRAIN — *Scrainwood* (N'hum.) is ['skɑ:nwʊd] in *Eckwall* (not in *BBC*).

* the stress is on both syllables ['skɔ:'fel] when *Pike* is omitted.

- SCREVE — *Screveton* (Notts.) ['skrevɪtən] or ['skri:tən].
- SCRIVELS — *Scrivelsby* (Lincs.) ['skrɪvəlzbɪ] or ['skri:lzbɪ].
- SEAV — *Seavington* (Som.) ['sevɪŋtən].
- SEBERG — *Sebergham* (Cum.) ['sebərəm].
- SEEND — *Seend* (Wilts.) ['si:nd].
- SEIGH — *Seighford* (Staffs.) ['saɪfəd].
- SEIS — *Seisdon* (Staffs.) ['si:zdən].
- SEL — *Selham* (W. Sus.) ['si:ləm] or ['seləm].
- SELMES — *Selmeston* (E. Sus.) is ['selmztən] in *BBC* but ['sɪmsən] in *Eckwall*. The former is perhaps a recently adopted spelling pronunciation.
- SELS — *BBC* rather curiously gives *Selsey* (W. Sus.) as ['selzɪ] but *Selsey Bill*, the nearby headland, as ['selzɪ] or ['selsɪ].
- SEWER — *Sewerby* (Hum.) ['suəbɪ].
- SEZIN — *Sezincote* (Glos.) ['si:zənkət].
- SHAKE — *Shakerley* (Lancs.) ['ʃækəlɪ].
- SHAL — *BBC* says that both places called *Shalford* (Ess., Sur.) are ['ʃælfəd]. *Shalden Green* (Hants.) and *Shaldon* (Dev.) can be [ʃɔ:l] or [ʃɒl].
- SHAUGH — *Shaugh Prior* (Dev.) is ['ʃɔ: 'praɪə].
- SHEEP — *Sheepwash* (Dev., N'hum.) are not in *BBC*, but I have found no evidence to contradict the obvious rendering ['ʃi:pwɒʃ]. *Sheepscombe* (Glos.), however, is ['ʃepskəm]. *Eckwall* spells it *Shepscombe*.
- SHEP — [ʃep] in *Shephall* (Herts.) ['ʃepl], *Shepherdine* (Avon) ['ʃepədɪn] and *Shepshed* (Leics., not in *BBC*), formerly ['ʃepsed] but now usually ['ʃepʃed].
- SHIP — *Shipbourne* (Kent) ['ʃɪbɜ:n].
- SHOL — [ʃəʊl] in *Sholden* (Kent) and *Sholing* (Hants.).
- SHOTES — *Shotesham* (Norf.) ['ʃɒtsəm].
- SHOTTIS — *Shottisham* (Suff.) ['ʃɒtsəm].
- SHRA — *Shrawardine* (Shrops.) ['ʃreɪwədɪn].

- SHREWS — *Shrewsbury* (Shrops.) [ˈʃrəʊzbəri] or [ˈʃru:zbəri]. *BG* says that the first of these is the preferred local pronunciation.
- SHRO — *Shroton* (Dor.) [ˈʃrəʊtən]. This village is also known as *Iwerne Courtney* [ˈju:ɜ:n ˈkɔ:tni].
- SIBLE *Sible Hedingham* (Ess.) [ˈsɪbl ˈhedɪŋəm]. *Eckwall* gives the pronunciation of the second part as [ˈhɪnɪŋəm].
- SIDE — *Sidestrand* (Norf.) [ˈsaɪdstrænd], also [ˈsaɪdɪstrænd].
- SIDLES — *Sidlesham* (W. Sus.) [ˈsɪdlsəm].
- SIMON — [ˈsɪmən] in *Simonsbath* (Som.) and *Simonstone* (Lancs.) [ˈsɪmənstəʊn] but [ˈsaɪmən] in *Simonswood* (Mer.) and *Simonside* (N'hum.).
- SIS — [ˈsaɪz] in *Sisland* (Suff.) but *Siston* (Avon) is [ˈsaɪstən] or [ˈsaɪsən]
- SKELM — *Skelmersdale* (Lancs.) [ˈskelmæzdeɪl] or [ˈskemæzdeɪl].
- SKEY — *Skeyton* (Norf.) [ˈskaitən].
- SLAITH — *Slaithwaite* (W. Yorks.) [ˈslæθwert] or [ˈslɑʊt].
- SLAUGH — Usually [slɔ:] as in *Upper and Lower Slaughter* (Glos.) and *Slaughterford* (Wilts.), but note *Slaugham* (W. Sus.) [ˈslæfəm] or [ˈslɑ:fəm].
- SLEIGHTS *BBC* gives *Sleights* (N. Yorks.) as [slɑɪts], but *EPNS V* has [sleɪts]. Curiously, *Daniel Jones*, in his *English Pronouncing Dictionary*, has the former, while *Eckwall* gives the latter.
- SNETTIS — *Snettisham* (Norf.) can be [ˈsnetɪsəm], [ˈsnetɪsəm] or [ˈsnetʃəm].
- SOMER — Apparently invariably [ˈsʌmə], as in *Somerby* (Leics., Lincs.), *Somerset*, *Somercotes* (Derby.) [ˈsʌmekəʊts], *Somerleyton* (Suff.) [ˈsʌməleɪtən].
- SOMPT — *Sompting* (W. Sus.) [ˈsʌmptɪŋ] or [ˈsɒmptɪŋ].
- SONN — *Sonning* (Berks.) [ˈsʌnɪŋ] or [ˈsɒnɪŋ].
- SOUR — *Sourton* (Dev.) [ˈsɔ:tən].
- SOUTH — Sometimes [saʊθ] and sometimes [sʌð]. The first

- is used for *Southall* (Lond.), *Southampton* (Hants.) [sauθ'hæmptən] or [sau'θæmptən], *Southsea* (Hants.), *Southleigh* (Dev.) ['sauθ'li:] (also ['sauɪ]), *Southwold* (Suff.) and *Southminster* (Ess.). The second is used for *Southrey* (Lincs.) ['sʌðri], *Southwark* (Lond.) ['sʌðək], *Southwell* (Notts.) ['sʌðl] and *Southwick* (N'hants.) ['sʌðɪk]. *Southwick* (Hants., IoW) can be either [sʌð] or [sauθ], but *BBC* says that in the Hampshire case ['sʌðɪk] is the more common pronunciation.
- SOWER — *Sowerby Bridge* (W. Yorks.) is ['səʊəbi] or ['sauəbi]. For *Sowerby* (N. Yorks.) *BBC* gives ['sauəbi]. Daniel Jones gives ['sɔ:əbi] as an obsolete version of this.
- SPARS — *Sparsholt* (Hants.) ['spɑ:ʃəʊlt].
- SPETIS — *Spetisbury* (Dor.) ['spetsbəri].
- SPITAL — *Spital-in-the-Street* (Lincs.) and *Spitalfields* (Lond.) are both ['spɪtl].
- SPON — *Spondon* (Derby.) ['spɒndən] or ['spu:ndən].
- SPROUGH — *Sproughton* (Suff.) ['sprɔ:tən].
- SPROWS — *Sprowston* (Norf.) ['sprəʊstən].
- STAL — *Stalham* (Norf.) and *Stalisfield* (Kent) are [stæl], but *Stalbridge* (Dor.) is ['stɔ:lbrɪdʒ].
- STALL — *Stallingborough* (Lincs.) ['stɑ:lɪŋbərə].
- STALY — *Stalybridge* (G. Man.) ['steɪlbrɪdʒ].
- STAM — Usually [stæm] as in *Stamford* (Lincs.), but note *Stamfordham* (N'hum.), still sometimes ['stænətən] according to *BBC*, otherwise ['stæmfədəm].
- STARE — *Stareton* (War.) ['stɑ:tən].
- STAUGH — [stɔ:] in *Great Staughton* (Cambs.) and *Little Staughton* (Beds.).
- STAVE — *Stavely* (Derby.) is ['stervɪ], but *Stavely* (Cum.) ['stervəɪ].

- STAVER — *Staverton* (Glos.) is ['stævətən], but *Eckwall* says that the place of the same name in N'hants. is ['stætən]. This is probably obsolete by now. *BBC* gives the same as for Glos.
- STEV — *Steventon* (Beds.) is ['sti:vəntən] and *Stevenage* (Herts.) ['sti:vənɪdʒ]. *Stevington* (Beds., Ess.) is ['stevɪŋtən]. in *BBC*, but *Eckwall* has ['stefntən] for Beds.
- STEYN — *The Steyne*, a street in Brighton (E. Sus.) is ['sti:n], but *Steyning* (E. Sus.) is ['stenɪŋ].
- STIFF — *Stiffkey* (Norf.) is now ['stɪfki:], but formerly it was ['st(j)u:kɪ], a pronunciation which survives in the name of its famous cockles, 'Stewkey Blues' (*BG*).
- STIP — *Stiperstones* (Shrops.) ['staipestəʊnz].
- STIS — *Stisted* (Ess.) ['staɪstɪd].
- STIVI — *Stivichall* (W. Mid.) ['stɪvɪʃl] or ['stɪvɪʃɔ:l].
- STOG — *Stogumber* (Som.) ['stəʊ'gʌmbə] or ['stɒgəmbə].
- STON — [stɒn] in *Stonham* (Ess.), *Stonham Aspull* (Suff.), *Stonor* (Oxon.) ['stɒnə] and *Stoneaston* (Som.). (*Eckwall* spells this *Stone Easton* and both *Johnston* and *Geographia* have *Ston Easton*.) [stəʊn] in *Stoneleigh* (Sur.) ['stəʊnlɪ] and *Stonehenge* (Wilts.) ['stəʊn'hendʒ].
- STOUGH — [stəʊ] in *Stoughton* (Sur.)
[stɔ:] in *West Stoughton* (Som.)
[stəʊ] in *Stoughton* (Leics., W. Sus.). *Eckwall* has ['stəʊtən] for the last of these.
- STOUL — *Stoulton* (Here.) ['stəʊltən]. *Eckwall* gives ['stəʊtən].
- STOUR — As a simplex, is a common river name. In Suff. and Ess., the pronunciation is [stʊə], in Kent [stʊə] or [stəʊə], but *Stourmouth*, on the river in that county, is usually ['stəʊəmaʊθ]. The Dor.-Hants. *Stour* can be [stəʊə] or [stʊə], but *Stour Provost* and *Stour* or *Stower Row*, in Dor., are both [stəʊə].

- Stourport-on-Severn* (Here.) has [stauə] or [stʊə], but *Stourbridge* (W. Mid.) has ['stauə] or ['stʊə]. [stɜ:] is used for *Stourton* (W. Yorks.) and [stɔ:] for *Stourton Caundle* (Dor.) but either can be used for *Stourton* (Wilts.). *Stourhead House* (Wilts.) is either ['stɔ:hed] or ['stauhed].
- STOW *BBC* gives this as [stau], without specifying whether it applies to all the places of this name in Corn., Lincs., N'hants., Shrops. and Staffs. *Stow-on-the-Wold* (Glos.) is certainly [stəʊ]. So is *Stow Bedon* (Norf.), ['stəʊ 'bi:dən].
- STOWE *Stowe* (Bucks.) [stəʊ].
- STOWT — *Stowting* (Kent) ['stautɪŋ].
- STREAT — [stret] in *Streatham* (Lond.) ['stretəm] and *Streatley* (Beds.), but *Streatley* (Berks.) is ['stri:tlɪ].
- STROUD *Stroud* (Glos., Hants.) ['strəʊd].
- STROX — *Stroxton* (Lincs.) ['strɔ:sən] or ['strəʊsən].
- SWA — [sweɪ] in *Swaby* (Lincs.) ['sweɪbɪ] and *Swafeld* (Norf.).
- SWAL — *Swalcliffe* (Oxon.) is ['sweɪklɪf] but *Swalwell* (Tyne) is ['swɒlweɪ].
- SWARDES — *Swardeston* (Norf.) ['swɔ:stən].
- SWARKES — *Swarkeston* (Derby) ['swɔ:kstən].
- SWAT — *Swaton* (Lincs.) ['sweɪtən].
- SWAYTH — *Swaythling* (Hants, nor in *BBC*) ['sweɪðlɪŋ].
- SYM — *Symond's Yat* (Here.) (somes spelt *Symonds Yat*) is ['sɪmənz'jæt]. *Symondsbury* (Dor.) is ['sɪmənz'bɜ:ɪ].
- SYRE — *Syresham* (N'hants.) is not in *BBC*, but given by *Eckwall* as ['sɪsəm]. *EPNS X* has ['saɪsəm, 'sɜ:səm, 'saɪrəsəm].
- SYS — *Syston* (Leics., Lincs.) is ['saɪstən]. *BBC* does not give the pronunciation of the town of *Sysonby* (Leics.) but the baronetcy of the name is ['saɪzənbi].
- TACOLNES — *Tacolneston* (Norf.) is in both *BBC* and *Eckwall* as

- [*'tæklstən*].
- TAL — *Talkin* (Cum.) [*'tɔ:kɪn*].
- TAM — *Tamar*, the river between Dev. and Corn., is [*'teɪmə*].
Tamworth (Staffs.) [*'tæmɜ:θ*] or [*'tæməθ*].
Tamerton Foliot (Dev.) [*'tæmətən 'fəʊlɪət*].
- TARDE — *Tardebidge* (Here.) [*'tɑ:dəbɪɡ*].
- TARPOR — *Tarporley* (Ches.) [*'tɑ:pəlɪ*].
- TAS — *Tasburgh* (Norf.) [*'teɪzbərə*].
- TAT — *Tatenhill* (Staffs.) [*'teɪtənɦɪl*]. *Tatham* (Lancs.)
 [*'teɪtəm*].
- TAUN — *Taunton* (Som.) [*'tɔ:nɪn*]. A local form is [*'tɑ:nɪn*].
- TAV — [*teɪv*] in *Taverham* (Norf.) [*'teɪvərəm*] and *Mary Tavy* and *Peter Tavy* (Dev.) [*'teɪvɪ*].
- TEIGH *Teigh* (Leics.) [*ti:*].
- TEIGN — The *River Teign* (Dev.) is [*ti:n*] or [*tɪn*] according to *BBC*. *Teignmouth* (Dev.) may be pronounced with either a short or long vowel, but the form [*'tɪnməθ*] is preferred. The same may hold for *Teigngrace* (Dev.), as this is given as [*'ti:ngreɪs*] by *BBC* and [*'tɪngreɪs*] by *Eckwall*, and *EPNS IX*. *Eckwall* gives *Teignhead* (Dev.) as [*'tɪnɪd*], and points out that the derivation is quite different from that of the others, meaning 'ten hides'. It occurs not by itself, but in the combinations *Stoke-in-Teignhead* [*'stəʊk ɪn 'tɪnɪd*] and *Combe-in Teignhead* [*'ku:m ɪn 'tɪnɪd*]. *Drewsteignton*, near Okehampton (Dev.) and *Bishopsteignton* and *Kingsteignton*, near Newton Abbot in the same county, are all pronounced with [*'teɪn*], according to *BBC*.
- TEISE The *River Teise* (Kent) is [*'ti:z*].
- TERL — *Terling* (Ess.) is [*'tɑ:lɪŋ*] or [*'tɜ:lɪŋ*].
- TEST — *Teston* (Kent) [*'ti:zən*]. Any connection with the name of the *River Teise* (see above) would be curious, as that river flows into the Medway, on

- which the village stands, some miles upstream.
- TEYN — *Teynham* (Kent) ['tenəm] or ['teɪnəm].
- THAME — *Thame* (Oxon.) [teɪm].
- THAMES — *River Thames* [temz].
- THELNET — *Thelnetham* (Suff.) [θel'ni:θəm].
- THREEK — *Threekingham* (Lincs.) is ['θrekiŋəm]. *Eckwall* and *Johnston* both spell it *Threckingham*, but the more recent *Geographia* has the older spelling.
- THROUGH — *Througham* (Glos.) ['θrʌfəm].
- THROW — *Throwley* (Kent) ['θrəʊli] or ['θrəʊli].
- THURNS — *Thurnscoe* (S. Yorks.) ['θɜ:nskəʊ].
- THURSTON — *Thurston* (Suff.) is ['θɜ:stən], but *Thurstonfield* (Cum.) ['θrʌstənfɪəld].
- TIDE — *Tideford* (Corn) ['tɪdɪfəd].
- TIDEN — *Tidenham* (Glos.) ['tɪdənəm].
- TIDES — *Tideswell* (Derby) ['tɪdzwel] or ['tɪdzl].
- TIV — *Tiverton* (Dev.) ['tɪvətən]. *Tivetshall* (Norf.) ['tɪvɪtʃɔ:l].
- TODMOR — *Todmorden* (W. Yorks.) ['tɒdmədən] or ['tɒdmɔ:dən].
- TOLLES — *Tolleshunt Knights, Major and D'Arcy* (Ess.) ['təʊlzhʌnt 'naɪts, 'meɪdʒə, 'dɑ:si]. Also *Tollesbury* (Ess.) ['təʊlzbəri].
- TOL — [tɒl] in *Tolpuddle* (Dor.) and *Tolgallow* (Corn) [tɒl'gʌləʊ] but *Tolworth* (Sur.) can have either [tɒl] or [təʊl].
- TON — *Tonbridge* (Kent) ['tʌnbrɪdʒ]. *Tonwell* (Herts.) ['tʌnl].
- TONGE — *Tonge* (Kent, sometimes spelt *Tong*), *Tonge-cum-Breightmet* ['tɒŋ kʌm 'breɪtmət] (G. Man.) and *Tonge* (Leics.) are all [tɒŋ].
- TOPPES — *Toppesfield* (Ess.) ['tɒpsɪfɪəld] or ['tɒpsfɪəld].
- TORPEN — *Torpenhow* (Cum.) [trɪ'penə] or ['tɔ:pənhaʊ].
- TOT — *Totnes* (Dev.) ['tɒtnɪs]. *Totley* (Derby.) ['tɒtli].
Toton (Notts.) ['təʊtən].
- TOV — *Tovil* (Kent) ['tɒvɪl] or ['tɒvl].

- TOW — *Towcester* (N'hants.) is ['təʊstə] in *BBC* and *Eckwall*, who also gives ['taʊstə] as an alternative. *Towednack* (Corn) [təʊ'wednæk]. *Tow Law* (Dur.) is ['təʊ'lɔ:]. *Townshend* (Corn.) is ['təʊnz'end].
- TRE — This typical Cornish prefix is usually [tri] with stress on the following syllable: thus *Trebartha* (not in *BBC*) [tri'ba:θə] *Trebarwith* [tri'ba:wɪθ], *Tregenna* [tri'genə], *Trebehor* [tri'biə], *Tregolls* [tri'gɒlz], *Tregonning* [tri'gɒnɪŋ], *Trevethick* [tri'veθɪk] *Tre-widland* [tri'wɪdlənd]. In some polysyllabic names, however, it becomes [tre] and the stress falls on the third syllable: *Tregajorran* [tregə'dʒɔ:rən], *Tregavethan* [tregə'veθən], *Tregaminian* [tregə'mɪnɪən], *Tregeseal* [tregə'si:l] or ['tregə'si:l], *Tregonetha* [tregə'neθə], *Tregonissey* [tregə'nɪsi]. Other exceptions are *Trematon* ['tremətən], *Trewoon* ['trʊən], and *Tregony* ['tregənɪ]. Note also *Tresmeer* [trez'miə]. Outside Cornwall, *Tre-* is stressed in *Treborough* (Som., not in *BBC*) ['tri:bərə]. I have heard *Tretire* (Here.) pronounced as ['tri:taiə], but do not know if this is the only accepted pronunciation. *Treales* (Lancs.) is ['treɪlz].
- TROTTIS — *Trottiscliffe* (Kent) is ['trɒtɪsklɪf] or ['trɒsli] in *BBC*. In Issac Taylor's *Words and Places* (London, 1888), only the second of these is given, he spells it *Trotterscliffe*.
- TROW — *Trowbridge* (Wilts.) and *Trowse Newton* (Norf.) both have ['trəʊ]. *Trowell* (Notts.) can be [trəʊəl] but more usually ['traʊəl] according to *BBC*.
- TRUS — [trʌs] in *Trusham* (Dev.) ['trʌsəm], also ['trisəm]. Also [trʌs] in *Trusley* (Derby, not in *BBC*) ['trʌsli] and *Trusthorpe* (Lincs.) ['trʌsθɔ:p].
- TRYS — *Trysull* (Staffs.) is ['trisɪl] or ['trɪzl].

- TUD — [tʌd] in *Tudhoe* (Dur.) [ˈtʌdəʊ]. *Tudeley* (Kent) is [ˈtjuːdli] or [ˈtuːdli].
- TWIZ — *Twizel Bridge* (N'hum.) is [ˈtwaɪzl]. It is sometimes spelt *Twizell*.
- TY — [tɪ] in *Tyldesley* (G. Man.) [ˈtɪldzli] or [ˈtɪlzli] and in *Tyntesfield* (Avon) [ˈtɪntsfiəld].
[tai] in *Tywardreath* (Corn.) [ˈtaɪwəˈdreθ] and *Tyne-mouth* (Tyne), [ˈtaɪnməʊθ] which can also be [ˈtɪnməθ].
- UG — [ʌg] in *Ugthorpe* (N. Yorks.) [ˈʌgθɔːp] and *Ugley* (Ess.) [ˈʌgli]. *EPNS* XII gives for the latter an alternative name *Oakley* which it describes as 'a modern euphemism for which there is no etymological justification.' I have heard [ˈjuːgli] suggested as a possible euphemistic pronunciation.*
- ULCE — There are two places called *Ulceby*, in Lincs. and Hum., and *BBC* does not specify whether it is one or both of them which can be pronounced [ˈʌlsbɪ] or [ˈuːsbɪ].
- ULGH — *Ulgham* (N'hum.) [ˈʌfəm].
- UTTOX — *Uttoxeter* (Staffs.) can be [juːˈtɒksɪtə] or [ʌˈtɒksɪtə] according to *BBC*, which also gives [ˈʌksɪtə], a variant mentioned by *Eckwall* along with [ˈʌtʃɪtə]. See my comments in List A under -ETER.
- VOGUE I commented in the Introduction to this study (*Konan Women's College Researches*, Vol. 17, p. 78) that I had been unable to locate *Vogue Beloth*, although it was mentioned in *BBC*. My friend Mr Gordon Groos of Jeddah University has kindly come to my rescue and tells me that it is in Cornwall. The

* a facetious note: the local W. I. is reported to style itself *Women's Institute of Ugley* rather than *Ugley Women's Institute*.

- pronunciation is [ˈvəʊg brɪˈlɒθ].
- WADE — *Wadebridge* (Corn.) [ˈweɪdbrɪdʒ].
- WAL — *Walwick* (N'hum.) [ˈwɒlɪk, ˈwɔ:lɪk].
- WALK — The *-l-* is pronounced in *River Walkham* (Dev.) [ˈwɔ:l kəm] but not in *Walkden* (G. Man.) [ˈwɔ:k dən].
- WALL — *Wallington* (Lond.) [ˈwɒlɪŋtən]; *Nether, Middle and Over Wallop* (Hants.) [ˈneðə, ˈmɪdl, ˈəʊvə ˈwɒləp]. *Wallsend* (Tyne) [ˈwɔ:lz ˈend].
- WALSING — *Walsingham* (Norf.) [ˈwɔ:lzɪŋəm].
- WALTHAM — With [θ], [ˈwɔ:lθəm] for *Waltham* (Hum.), *Waltham Cross* (Herts.) *Waltham Abbey* (Ess.), *Waltham St Lawrence* (Berks.), *North Waltham* (Hants.) and *Waltham-on-the-Wolds* (Leics.); also for *Walthamstow* (Lond.) [ˈwɔ:lθəmstəʊ].
With [t], [ˈwɔ:l təm] for *Great and Little Waltham* (Ess.).
- WAR — Usually [wɔ:], as in *Warkworth* (N'hants.) [ˈwɔ:kwəθ] and *Warleggan* (Corn) [wɔ:'legən]. An important exception is *Warwick* (War.) [ˈwɒrɪk].
- WATH — *Wath* (N. Yorks.) is [wɒθ]. *Wath-upon-Deerne* (S. Yorks.) can be either [wɒθ] or [wæθ əpɒn ˈdɜ:n].
- WATTIS — [ˈwɒtɪs] in *Wattisfield* (Suff.). *Wattisham* (Suff.) [ˈwɒtɪʃəm].
- WAVEN — *River Waveney* (Norf.) [ˈweɪvəni], but *Wavendon* (Bucks.) [ˈwævəndən]. *Eckwall* gives [ˈwɒndən] for this one.
- WAVER — [ˈweɪvə] in *Waverley* (Sur.) and *Wavertree* (Mer.) [ˈweɪvətɹi:].
- WAWNE — This simplex (also spelt *Waghen*) is the name of a village in Humberside. It is pronounced [wɔ:n].
- WEA — *Weacombe* (Som.) [ˈwi:kəm]. *Weaste* (G. Man.) [wi:st]. *Weasenham* (Norf.) [ˈwi:zenəm] *Weaverham* (Ches.) [ˈwi:vəhəm].

- WEAR — [wie] in the simplex *River Wear* (Tyne), in *Weardale* (Dur.) and in *Weare Gifford* (Dev.) ['wɪə 'dʒɪfəd].
- WEDNES — *Wednesfield* and *Wednesbury* (W. Mid.) can be pronounced with either [wenz] or [wedʒ]. *Eckwall* gives [wedʒ] as the preferred form for both of them.
- WEIGH — *Market Weighton* (Hum.) is ['wi:tən].
- WELLES — *Wellesbourne* (War.) ['welzbu:n].
- WEO — *Weobley* is the name of two localities, in Here. and Shrops. Both are ['weblɪ]. *Weoley Caste* (W. Mid.) is ['wi:əlɪ].
- WESTHOUGH — *Westhoughton* (G. Man.) ['west'hɔ:tən].
- WESTLE — *Westleton* (Suff.) ['wesltən].
- WESTMIN — *Westminster* (Lond.) ['wes(t)mɪnstə].
- WESTMOR — *Westmorland*, the old county now incorporated in Cum., is ['wes(t)mələnd].
- WEY — [weɪ] in *Weymouth* (Dor.) ['weɪməθ] but [we] in *Weybourne* (Norf.) ['webən].
- WHAL — *Whaley Bridge* (Derby.) ['weɪl'brɪdʒ].
- WHEAT — *Wheatley* (Oxon., Ess.) ['wi:tli], but *Wheatacre* (Norf.) ['wɪtəkə]. *Wheathampstead* (Herts.) is ['wetəmsted] or ['wi:təmsted].
- W(H)ELNET — *Great and Little Whelnetham* (Suff.) can also be spelt *Welnetham*, and this is the form appearing in *Geographia*. The pronunciation is [wel'nɪθəm] or ['welnetəm].
- WHIL — *Whiligh* (E. Sus.) ['waɪlaɪ].
- WHITE — [waɪt] in *Whitefield* (G. Man.), *Whitehall* (the street in London), and *Whitestone* (Here.), but *Whitestone* (Dev.) is ['wɪtstən].
- WIB — *Wibsey* (W. Yorks.) ['wɪpsɪ] or ['wɪbzɪ].
- WIDE — [wɪd] in *Widemouth Bay* (Corn), [wɪdɪ] in *Widecombe-in-the Moor* (Dev.) ['wɪdɪkəm ɪn ðə 'mʊə] and [waɪd] in *Wide Open* (Tyne).

- WIDNES *Widnes* (Ches.) ['wɪdnɪs].
- WIGHT — *Wightwick Manor*, the historic house in W. Mid., is ['wɪtɪk]. The *Isle of Wight* and *Wighton* (Norf.) are both pronounced with [wɑɪt].
- WILBAR — *Wilbarston* (N'hants.) is [wɪl'bɑːstən].
- WILBUR — *Wilburton* (Cambs.) [wɪl'bɜːtən].
- WILDER — *Wilderhope* (Shrops.) ['wɪldəhəʊp].
- WILLES — *Willesden* (Lend.) ['wɪlzdən] and *Willesborough* (Kent, not in *BBC*) ['wɪlzbərə].
- WILLIAMS — *Williamscot* (Oxon.) ['wɪlskət].
- WILMS — *Wilmslow* (Ches.) ['wɪ(l)mzləʊ].
- WILNE — *Wilnecote* (War.) ['wɪlnɪkət] or ['wɪŋkət].
- WILSHAM — *Wilshamstead* (Beds.) ['wɪlʃəmsted] or ['wɪlsted]. This place is sometimes spelt *Wilstead*. See above, *Some Interesting Cases of Anomalous Pronunciation*.
- WINLA — *Winlaton* (Tyne) [wɪn'leɪtən] or ['wɪnlətən].
- WIS — [wɪs] in *Wistaston* (Ches.) ['wɪstəstən], *Wiston* (W. Sus.) ['wɪstən] or ['wɪsən] and *Wiston* (Suff.) ['wɪstən]. *BBC* states that this last can be spelt *Wissington*, although the pronunciation is apparently usually as given above. Only the longer form of the name is to be found in *Johnston* and *Geographia*. [wɪz] in *Wisbech* (Cambs.) ['wɪzbi:tʃ] and *Wisley* (Sur.) ['wɪzlɪ].
- WITH — Normally [wɪð], as in *River Witham* (Lincs.) ['wɪðəm], *Withernsea* (Hum.) ['wɪðənsi:], *Withington* (G. Man., Glos., Ches., Here.), *Withycombe Raleigh* (Dev.) ['wɪðɪkəm 'rɑːlɪ], *Withyham* (E. Sus.) [wɪðr'hæm], now sometimes [wɪðɪəm].
[wɪθ] in *Withnell* (Lancs.) ['wɪθnəl].
[wɪt] in *Witham* (Ess.) ['wɪtəm] and *Witham Friary* (Som.), which can also be [wɪðəm].

- WIVEL — *Wiveliscombe* (Som.) is ['wivələɪskəm] or ['wɪlskəm].
Wivelsfield (E. Sus.) is ['wivəlzfiəld]. *EPNS VII* gives ['wɪlsfəl] or ['wɔlsfəl] as local versions.
- WIVEN — *Wivenhoe* (Ess.) ['wivənheɪ].
- WIVE — *Wiverton* (Notts.) ['waɪvətən] or ['wɜ:tən]. *Wiveton* (Norf.) ['wɪv(ɪ)tən].
- WO — *Woburn* (Beds.) ['wʊ:bɜ:n]. *Wothorpe* (N'hants) ['wʌðɔ:p] *Eckwall* and ['wʌðep] (*EPNS X*).
- WOK — *Woking* (Sur.) ['wəʊkɪŋ], *Wokingham* (Berks.) ['wəʊkɪŋəm].
- WOL — [wʊl] in *Wolborough* (Dev.), *Wolferton* (Norf.), *Wolsingham* (Dur.) ['wʊlzɪŋəm] and *Wolverhampton* (W. Mid.) ['wʊlvəhæmptən].
[wəʊl] in *Woldingham* (Sur.) ['wəʊldɪŋəm].
- WOLL — *Wollaton* (Notts.) ['wʊlətən].
- WOM — *Wombourn* (Staffs.) ['wɒmbɔ:n], *Wombridge* (Shrops.) ['wʌmbrɪdʒ], *Wombwell* (S. Yorks.) ['wʊ:mwel].
Womenswold (Kent) can be ['wɪmɪnzwəʊld] or ['wɪmzwəʊld].
- WOODNES — *Woodnesborough* (Kent) can be ['wʊdnɪzbərə], ['wʊnzbərə] or ['wɪnzbərə].
- WOR — [wɜ:] in *Worbarrow Bay* (Dor.), *Worfield* (Shrops.), *Worle* (Avon) [wɜ:l], *Wormleighton* (War.) ['wɜ:m'leɪtən] *Worth* (W. Sus.) and *Worthing* (W. Sus.). *Worsley* (G. Man.) is ['wɜ:slɪ] in *BBC*, but ['wʊslɪ] in *Eckwall*.
[wɔ:] in *Worplesdon* (Sur.) ['wɔ:plɪzdən].
[wʊ] in *Worstead* (Norf.) ['wʊstɪd] and *Worcester* (Here.) ['wʊstə]
- WOTT — *Wotton-under-Edge* (Glos.) is ['wʊtən]. *Eckwall* also gives ['wʊtən] for *Wotton* (Sur.).
- WOUGH — *Woughton-on-the-Green* (Bucks.) is ['wʊftən].
- WOULD — *Wouldham* (Kent) ['wʊldəm].

- WREA — [rei] in *Wrea Green* (Lancs.)
[riə] in *Wreay* (Cum.).
- WREK — [rek] in *Wrekenton* (Tyne) ['rekɪntən].
[ri:k] in *The Wrekin* ['ri:kɪn] a hill in Shrops.
- WROT — [rɒt] in *Wrottesley* (Staffs.) ['rɒtsli].
[ru:t] in *Wrotham* (Kent) ['ru:təm].
- WROUGH — *Wroughton* (Wilts.) ['rɔ:tən].
- WY — *High Wycombe* (Bucks.) ['haɪ'wɪkəm].
- WYBER — *Wyberton* (Lincs.) ['wɪbətən].
- WYBUN — *Wybunbury* (Ches.) ['wɪbənbrɪ].
- WYCH — [wɪtʃ] in *Wych Cross* (E. Sus.) in *Upper and Lower Wyche* (Here.), and *Wychwood Forest* (Oxon.).
[waɪtʃ] in *High Wych* (Herts.).
- WYK — *Wyke* (Shrops., Sur., W. Yorks.) are all [waɪk]. So is *Wyke Regis* (Dor.) ['waɪk 'ri:dʒɪs]. *Wykeham* (N. Yorks.) ['waɪkəm].
- WYM — [wɪm] in *Wymering* (Hants.) ['wɪmərɪŋ] and *Wy-
mington* (Beds.) ['wɪmɪŋtən]. [waɪm] in *Wymes-
wold* (Leics.) ['waɪmzwəʊld], *Wymondley* (Herts.)
['waɪmændli], also in *Wymondham* (Leics.)
['waɪmændəm]. However, both *BBC* and *BG* give
Wymondham (Norf.) as ['wɪndəm].
- WYRARDIS — *Wyrardisbury* (Berks.) is usually spelt *Wraysbury*
these days; the pronunciation is ['reɪzbəri].
- WYTH — [waɪt] in *Wytham* (Oxon.) ['waɪtəm].
[waɪð] *Wythburn* (Cum.), which can also be pro-
nounced ['waɪbɜ:n].
[wɪð] in *Wythop* (Cum.) ['wɪðəp] and *Wythenshawe*
(G. Man.) ['wɪðənʃɔ:].
- YAL — *Yalding* (Kent) ['jɔ:ldɪŋ].
- YEAD — *Yeading* (Lond.) ['jediŋ], but *Yeadon* (W. Yorks.)
['ji:dən].
- YEAL — *Yealand Conyers* (Lancs.) ['jelənd 'kɒnjɜz].

- YEALM — *River Yealm* (Dev.) [jæm] and *Yealmpton* (Dev.)
[ˈjæmtən].
- YEAR — *Yearby* (Cleve.) [ˈjɜːbɪ].
- YEAV — *Yeaving* (N'hum.) [ˈjevərɪŋ].
- YEO — *Yeovil* (Som.) [ˈjəʊvɪl] and *Yeolmbridge* (Dev.)
[ˈjəʊmbrɪdʒ].
- ZEL — *Zelah* (Corn.) [ˈzi:lə].