

SURREY PLACE-NAMES.

BY

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THE Surrey Archæological Society may be regarded as a pioneer society in the study of local place names. In 1864 its Council inaugurated a series of papers upon 'Surrey Etymologies,' and the first of these appeared in the third volume of its 'Collections,' issued in 1865. This paper dealt with the names in the hundred of Wallington, prefaced by an Introduction and an essay on the County name, from the pen of Mr. J. Wickham Flower, F.G.S., a member of the Council. In 1870¹ the second and third papers were published, by Messrs. R. A. C. Godwin-Austen, F.R.S., and J. W. Flower, F.G.S., dealing respectively with the Hundred of Blackheath and with the names of rivers and streams and of the towns upon them. Four years later, in the Society's sixth volume, Tandridge Hundred was handled in two papers by Mr. Granville Leveson-Gower F.S.A.; and at this point, unfortunately, the series broke off, and no further papers appeared.

It is interesting to read these contributions in the light of the progress in the study of Place Names, which has been so marked during the half-century which has elapsed, and to note how well they stand the test. As might be expected from the writers, the material then available was made good use of and from a well-informed and up-to-date viewpoint. The last of the papers in particular contains much of permanent value, largely by reason of the extensive use which Mr. Leveson-Gower made of manorial and other deeds and records relating to his own and neighbouring estates.

Our forerunners in 1865-74 made use of Kemble's well known collection of Pre-Conquest land-charters,² which, supported by Thorpe's volume,³ then held the field and pro-

¹ S.A.C. Vol. 5. ² *Codex Diplomaticus Aevi Saxonici*, 6 vols. 1839-48.

³ *Diplomatarium Anglicum Aevi Saxonici*, 1865.

vided them with original forms of a number of names. In Domesday they found a medieval link to assist in connecting these with modern forms, and it also provided early forms of other names; while the later local records referred to above afforded further data.

The progress made since 1874 has been due firstly to the vastly increased accessibility of material, and secondly to the realisation by students of the value of this material and of the method of using it to the best advantage. For instance, Kemble and Thorpe's volumes were followed by Dr. de Gray Birch's revised and improved transcripts,¹ Professor John Earle's *Land Charters and Saxon Documents* (1888), and Napier and Stevenson's masterly work on the Crawford Charters in the Bodleian Library (1895); and these were admirably complemented by the volumes of Facsimiles—with transcripts and annotations or translations—of early Land Charters etc. which were issued by the Ordnance Survey Department and by the British Museum Authorities, 1873-81. The Charters in these volumes date from the 7th to the 11th centuries and include thousands of names in contemporary spellings; and they yield numerous original forms of our Place Names. Of these original forms, a considerable number may be identified with little or no difficulty, but the majority need connecting links, by reason of the changes which have taken place during the intervening thousand or more years.

Our medieval records provide such links in generous measure. Abounding in Place-Names, written by contemporary scribes, century by century, and huge in number and bulk, they afford a field for research which is practically inexhaustible. As we well know, however, Palæography is a special study, and direct use of medieval scripts is confined to the few; so that research would be slow indeed if we had to go direct to the original manuscripts. In this connection we find the chief factor in the progress which has been made during the last half-century: viz. the printed volumes of transcripts, calendars, and descriptive catalogues of ancient records which have been published, mainly since 1890. Several hundreds of these volumes have been issued and the great work is being maintained, as rapidly as insufficient funds will allow,

¹ *Cartularium Saxonicum*, 3 vols., 1883-93.

by the Public Record Office and the other bodies concerned; but the mass of material is so enormous that the publication may never be completed.

These Calendars etc. are carefully compiled by trained palæographers and archivists, and they reproduce the ancient name-spellings. From them the student—with an occasional reference to originals—may extract the names he is interested in with comparative facility and rapidity. When the name-forms thus extracted are arranged in order of date and properly collated with the earlier spellings in the Pre-Conquest and Domesday records, it is found that a more or less complete history of a name may be drawn up, and frequently its evolution is clear.

Hence has developed the Historical Method of Place-Name research, which is now generally adopted by students and scholars. The late Professor Skeat led the way in this movement, and his *Place Names of Cambridgeshire*, published by the Cambridge Antiquarian Society in 1901, was the first of the now lengthening series of books dealing with English Place Names by Counties. His next essays followed in 1904, and dealt with Huntingdonshire and Hertfordshire, and Bedfordshire, Berkshire and Suffolk were the other counties which he was able to handle before his death in 1912.¹ I may here quote some of Professor Skeat's prefatory remarks to his essays on Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire:—

'Perhaps the most striking point about modern methods is their startling opposition to those formerly in vogue, and still believed in by many who have not had the opportunity of moving with the times. It is now known and recognised that both the underlying ideas and the practice of the eighteenth century and more than the former half of the nineteenth century are by all means to be abandoned; and, consequently, that very little that is really valuable is to be obtained from county historians. The chief idea, at that time, was that English names are not really English, but Celtic; and this notion was backed by the amazing proposi-

¹ Prof. Skeat then had Buckinghamshire in hand. I may here note that Berkshire was also dealt with by Prof. F. M. Stenton, of University College, Reading, in an admirable monograph which appeared in 1911—about the same time as Prof. Skeat's little book on the same County.

tion that even if the names were English they would still be of Celtic origin, because all English was such, since our unfortunate language had nothing original about it. . . .

‘The difference between former and present methods is, in fact, seen to be this. The old method depended too much upon guess-work, and neglected the collection of sufficient evidence. The present method is to collect all available evidence before the formation of any theory, whilst the subsequent interpretation of the evidence follows very strict rules. . . .’

‘It is only of late years that the phonetic laws which govern the gradations and mutations of Anglo-Saxon words have been intelligently investigated; and hence it is that it is quite impossible for such as know nothing about such laws to realise their intricacy, and the certainty with which, in the hands of the student, they point to the original sounds.’

He proceeded to state thus the requirements for interpreting place-names (*Hertfordshire*, p. 9):—

‘1. It is first of all necessary to collect all available evidence.

2. As the evidence presents us with the place-names in early spellings, it is necessary for the right understanding of such spellings that we should thoroughly understand the following subjects:—

(a) The pronunciation of early Latin and Anglo-Saxon; especially the phonetic laws that affect the relationship of the vowels to one another, wherever such relationship exists.

(b) The pronunciation of early Norman-French; especially the peculiar ways in which English sounds were rendered by Norman scribes who endeavoured to represent such sounds, often with indifferent success.

(c) The pronunciation of the Early English spoken after the Conquest, varying as it did from century to century, and from district to district.

3. As a large number of names are of English origin, it is necessary to understand the principles upon which Anglo-Saxon personal names were conferred and compounded, as

well as to be familiar with the suffixes which were in use from time to time to denote natural objects or the nature of the farm or holding.

After all these things have been duly weighed, the right interpretation can usually be arrived at if the evidence is sufficient; but hardly otherwise.'

It may be remarked in passing that record-searching for Professor Skeat's essays was mostly done for him, and that instances of weakness are noticeable by reason of paucity of medieval forms; and hence he was induced, in such cases, himself to conjecture from the modern form of the name in the absence of historical data.

Mr. W. H. Duignan, of Walsall, followed closely on Professor Skeat's *Cambridgeshire* with his *Notes on Staffordshire Place-Names* (in December 1901) and his similar book on *Worcestershire* three years later; and a third volume by him, on *Warwickshire*, appeared in 1912. Other counties which have been treated on the modern method are: Cumberland, Derbyshire, Durham, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Lancashire,¹ Middlesex, Northumberland, Nottinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Sussex, Westmorland, Wiltshire, and Yorkshire (South West, and West Riding). These works appeared during the years 1910 to 1916, with the exception of Professor Allen Mawer's volume on Northumberland and Durham, which was published in 1920, and Professor Ekwall's on *Lancashire*.

The latest development of the movement initiated by Professor Skeat has been seen in the inauguration of the Survey of English Place-Names under the auspices of the British Academy. This resulted from a paper read before the Academy, in January 1921, by Professor Allen Mawer, M.A. (then of Durham, and now of Liverpool, University), upon *English Place-Name Study: its present condition and future possibilities*. Herein he clearly showed the necessity of considering our ancient name-forms in the light not only of Philology but also of Topography and History, and he demonstrated 'that no trustworthy account of the history of a name can be given

¹ Three books: 1. By Prof. H. C. Wyld and Dr. T. O. Hirst, of Liverpool University, 1911; 2. By Prof. Sephton (formerly of Liverpool University) 1913; 3. By Professor Eilert Ekwall, of Lund University, 1922.

until the whole of the relevant comparative evidence has been collected and sifted." He further stressed the weakness of working on isolated areas, without due consideration of the same or similar names occurring in other districts, and he urged the collection of material relating to the whole country, pointing to what has been done in this way in Norway, Sweden and Denmark. Professor Mawer's able paper has been reprinted from the Proceedings of the British Academy in pamphlet form,¹ and it should be read by all who are interested in this subject.

To carry out the work of the Survey, the English Place Name Society was established in 1923, with Professor Mawer as Honorary Director and (*pro tempore*) Secretary. The first of its annual volumes appeared in July this year (1924) in two parts: i. Introduction to the Survey of English Place-Names, edited by Professors Mawer and Stenton; and ii. The chief elements used in English Place-Names, edited by Professor Mawer. Part i. contains papers on Methods of Study; the elements—Celtic, Scandinavian, French, Feudal, and English; Place-Names and Archæology; and Personal names in Place-Names: written by Professors Sedgfield, Ekwall, Stenton, Zachrisson, Tait, and Wyld (assisted by Miss Mary Serjeantson), and Mr. O. G. S. Crawford. The Society's volume for 1925 will probably deal with the Place Names of Buckinghamshire, and that for 1926, it is hoped, with those of Surrey. This excellent movement must naturally appeal to all who are interested in the subject, and their support will be welcomed by the Society.

Turning to the practical side—the method in actual working—the accompanying illustrations represent two forms of medieval records: (a) Official Rolls, and (b) Deeds. Each includes names of places in Surrey, and to each is attached the corresponding transcript or summary as printed in the Public Record Office volumes. The first, which faces this page, shows a portion of the Roll of the King's Court recording the proceedings in the Easter Term of 2 John (1201). Against each of the entries in view is a marginal note of the county in which the case is concerned; the third one relates to Surrey, and below this is laid a cutting from the printed transcripts in

¹ Oxford University Press, Amen Corner, E.C., 1/6d.

108
Johannes de Wiltbergh & Roger & Henr & Richard & Rob & Lambert & John & Radt & Hugo & J. G. G. G.
& Galfridus Redemiger Lutens & Henr & J. G. G. G. & J. G. G. G.

109
Johannes de Wiltbergh & Richard & Henr & J. G. G. G. & J. G. G. G. & J. G. G. G.

110
Johannes de Wiltbergh & Richard & Henr & J. G. G. G. & J. G. G. G. & J. G. G. G.
& J. G. G. G. & Henr & J. G. G. G. & J. G. G. G. & J. G. G. G. & J. G. G. G.

111
Dies datus est Waltero Esturmi et Goroelino de Scaldford
ad audiendum electionem xij. militum qui facere debent magistrum assisum
de placito servitii a die sancti Michaelis in j. mensum. Item dies datus
est Laurens (sic) de la Wintecote et Gilberto de Micheldam Eljye de Edinton
Willelmo de Barres, inf. militibus qui debent eligere xij.

112
Dies datus est Waltero Esturmi et Goroelino de Scaldford
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114
Johannes de Wiltbergh & Richard & Henr & J. G. G. G. & J. G. G. G. & J. G. G. G.
& J. G. G. G. & Henr & J. G. G. G. & J. G. G. G. & J. G. G. G. & J. G. G. G.

115
Johannes de Wiltbergh & Richard & Henr & J. G. G. G. & J. G. G. G. & J. G. G. G.
& J. G. G. G. & Henr & J. G. G. G. & J. G. G. G. & J. G. G. G. & J. G. G. G.

Part of a membrane of the Curia Regis Roll for 1201: showing its appearance in the official printed transcript.

THE PUBLICATION OF SURREY DOCUMENTS

a volume issued by the Record Office in 1922 under the Title *Curia Regis Rolls*, Vol. I. Early 13th century spellings of the Surrey names, Shalford, Woodcote, Mickleham, and Addington appear as personal names.¹ These Rolls are made up of membranes of several feet in length attached at their heads. They are cumbersome to handle, and the Place-Name hunter finds his progress correspondingly slow. It will readily be understood that printed transcripts in book-form, with an Index, are an immense gain in point of time.

The second (Frontispiece) shows one of the valuable series of medieval documents to which the general heading of *Ancient Deeds* has been applied by the Record Office. The Deeds are arranged in series, A., B., C., etc., according to their provenance, and each series is numbered from 1 upwards. They are gradually being catalogued, and in the 6 volumes of the catalogue published to date some 27000 deeds are described. There is an enormous number of these deeds yet to be handled, and the publication of the volumes of the catalogue is necessarily a very lengthy process. They are a copious and valuable source of name-spellings of all dates. The deed shown here is No. 11790 in Series A, and it yields to the student spellings of date 1361 of Rotherhithe and Bermondsey. Above it is seen the description of it which is printed in Volume 5 of the *Catalogue*.

These illustrations merely indicate two of the many Series of medieval records which provide the necessary links in the chain of the history of our place-names. They will doubtless assist the reader to realise the increased facilities of research and the advantage enjoyed by the present-day investigator.

I append a few of the Surrey names which have been traced on the historical method, by the means indicated above. The spellings are arranged in order of the earliest date at which they have been found in the records. The Pre-Conquest sources are noted in parentheses after the date, by their initials: Birch's *Cartularium Saxonicum* (B.C.S.), Kemble's *Codex Diplomaticus* (K.C.D.), and *Anglo-Saxon Chronicles* (A.S.C.). Domesday (D.B.) entries are dated 1086. The later sources

¹ A form which, while frequently helpful, needs to be used with caution by the searcher, as it may not be readily identifiable with the particular place he is at work upon.

are too numerous to be shown here, but the dates will suffice to show the approximate period at or during which such spelling has been noted. Parentheses to a final *-e* indicate that it is sometimes absent.

WOKING

Uuocchingas } Wocchingas }	c. 710 (B.C.S. 133)
Wocingas:	777 (A.S.C.)
Woccingas:	795 (B.C.S. 275)
Wochinges:	1086 (D.B.), 1131
Wokinges:	1166 to 1235
Wokkinges:	1166
Woching(e):	1168 to 1187
Wockinga:	1173, 1174.
Woking:	1176 and later
Wocking(e):	1179 to 1485
Wokinge:	1180 to 1241
Wokinga:	1182, 1183
Wokyng(e):	1235 to 1540
Wockyngge:	1241 to 1344
Wockingg(e):	1241 and 1304
Wokinges:	1248
Wokking(e):	c. 1250 to 1291
Wokyng(e):	1258 to 1489
Wokyng(e):	1357 to 1489.
Wochyng:	1489
Ookyng:	1526

The first two spellings are from a very early document—a letter from Pope Constantine to Hedda, Abbot of Bermondsey and Woking, granting privileges to those Monasteries; they are from the transcript in Birch numbered 133. From them and the two following forms the origin from a personal name, *Wocc*, is indicated, and *-ingas*, his family or people,¹ the sense being: The place or dwelling of the people of Wocc. Beyond the loss

¹ The *-ing* in Place-Names has for some years past received special attention from scholars, and views have had to be revised in the light of recent investigation and discussion. The latest contribution in the subject is 'English Place-Names in *-ing*,' by Dr. Eilert Ekwall, Professor of English in the University of Lund (Oxford University Press, 1923, 12s. 6d.). Prof. Ekwall gives data of hundreds of instances and

of the final *-as*, the sound of the name does not appear to have altered much. The present spelling was reached during the 12th century, although it did not come into general usage for several centuries afterwards.

In an interesting document of the 10th or 11th century, transcribed in Birch (No. 297) and handled by the late Professor Maitland in his 'Domesday and Beyond' (pp. 502-7), one of the territories named is 'Wocensætna' which is credited with an area of 7000 hides. Some early association with Woking has been suggested—and possibly with Wokingham in Berks., which lies 15 miles WNW. Woking and apparently originated from the same personal name.

There was another Place-Name in Wocce in Hampshire, near Hurstbourne, which appears as *Wocces geat* in land-charters of 901 and 961 (B.C.S. 594 and 1080).

GATTON.

Gatatune: c. 880 (B.C.S. 558)

Gatone: 1086 (D.B.)

Gattone: c. 1181 to 1422

Gattun(e): 1212 to 1263

Gatton: 1224 and later.

Gatton has a brief name-history. The document in which it first appears is the Will of 'Duke' Alfred, the wealthy land-owner of King Alfred's time. The original, like that of Woking, is obviously Anglo-Saxon, and the etymology is clear: *gata*, genitive plural of *gat*, goat (fem.), and *-tun*, a farm (or, earlier, an enclosure), the sense being Goats farm, or, a farm kept by a breeder of goats. Goat-breeding was highly important, and cheese-making from goats milk was a considerable industry. The dairies were known as wicks¹: cheese-wicks and goat-wicks. The formerly favoured etymology in A.S. *geat* is not supported by the actual original of the name—which clearly implies that, then as now, the grassy and leafy slopes of Gatton were well adapted to support the useful nanny-goat.

deals with the subject broadly and thoroughly, with a wide acquaintance with English topography and distinguished scholarship—such as he showed in his excellent work on Lancashire Place-Names, and in his recent lectures at Kings College, London, on English Place-Names.

¹ See Dr. J. H. Round's remarks and data in his notes on the Domesday Section in the V.C.H. of Essex.

BEDDINGTON

- Beaddinctun: c. 905 and c. 966 (B.C.S. 618, 619,
and 1155)
Beaddingtun: 909 (B.C.S. 620)
Bedintun: 1002 (K.C.D. 1298)
Beddintone: 1086 (D.B.)
Bedynton(e): c. 1156 to 1418
Bedinton(e): 1219 to 1372
Bedington(e): 1229 to 1598
Bedyngton: 1324 to 1496
Beddyngton: 1340
Beddington: 1569 and later.

Beddington, like Gatton, has a simple history phonetically, and the present spelling of the name represents nearly the same speech-sound as that of 1000 years ago. Popular speech has not succeeded in permanently displacing the *g* in the medial *-ing-*. In the 10th century form, the first element has the personal name *Bead(da)*: *Bead(da)*'s farm, or (at that date), it may be, the village of *Bead(da)*'s people. The name appears in *Beaddingaham*, the 9th century form (B.C.S. 553: King Alfred's Will) of the modern Beddingham, Sussex; and in *Beaddingaburn*, the form in which Bangbourne (I.W.) appears in a charter of an. 958 (B.C.S. 1024-5). It is one of the well known A.S. name-stem, *Beadu*. One of the compound names of this stem is *Beaduric* (later *Badoric* and *Badric*), from which the modern 'Battersea' is now known to have descended.

EPSOM.

- {Ebbes ham: 973 (B.C.S. 1296)
{Ebbesham: 1200 to 1603
Ebesham: 1062 to 1602
Evesham: 1086 (D.B.) and 1594
Ebsham: 1297 to 1605
Ebisham: 1372
Epsam: 1404 and c. 1626
Eppesham: 1574
Ebbisham: 1576 to 1610
Ebsam: 1598 to 1604
Ebyshame: 1605
Epsom: 1607

The document of an. 973 related to a previous transaction in land at Bromley and Fawkham in Kent, and *Ælfric on Ebbes ham* was one of the witnesses to the earlier deed.

Ebbes ham=Ebbe's homestead; *Ebbe* (two syllables) was a feminine form of a well-known personal name. In speech, the three syllables persisted into the 17th century, and then gave place to the shortened form which had started about the close of the 13th century with *Ebsham*. The present spelling is first noted in 1607, but it is merely a slight literal change from *Epsam*, which had then been in partial use for two centuries—along with *Ebsham*, which was almost identical in sound.

Ebbesfleet, the name of the traditional landing-place of Hengist and Horsa, may appear to have a common origin with Epsom; but the A.S.C. (an. 449) render it *Yþwines fleot* and *Heopwines fleot*, i.e., Eopwine's fleet (creek or tidal channel). Ebbesborne, near Salisbury, again, appears in the 10th century as *ebles burn* and *ebbeles burn*, from *Ebbel(la)*, a name kin but not identical with Ebbe.

BRIXTON

Brixes stan and Brixges stane: 1062 (K.C.D

813)

Brixistan(e):	1067 to 1255
Brixiestan:	1086 to 1185
Bricsistan(e):	1086 to 1255
Bricsiston(e):	1172 to 1219
Bricsieston:	1174 to 1189
Brichsiston:	1174
Brichsiestan:	1186 and 1187
Brixieston:	1189
Brixiston(e):	1225 to 1332
Brixtone:	1241
Brixinstone:	1241
Brichistan:	1250
Brixtan:	1279
Bryxten:	1279
Bryxston(e):	1279 to 1553
Brixstone:	1553
Brixton:	1553

The Brix, Brixī or Bricsi whose stone (land boundary) is here commemorated was probably the Bricsi who in 1065 held Hatcham¹ of King Eadward. The three spellings are simplified forms of a well known A.S. name, originally Beorhtsige, which apparently was so difficult to pronounce that it had perhaps more than the usual number of diminutives and 'simplified spellings.'²

The earlier entries refer to the Hundred, the village evidently being of much later date. The medial syllable in the name began to be dropped during the 13th century, and the modern disyllable is practically the same in sound as the forms dated 1279.

CHALDON.

Cealfadun:	1062 (K.C.D. 812)
Calvedone:	1086 to 1270
Chalvedune:	13th century.
Chaluedone	} 1235 to 1445
Chalvedon(e)	
Chaluedene:	1241
Chauledone:	1262
Chelvedon:	1271, 1275
Chalveden:	1304
Chalfeden and Chalvidone:	1378
Chalvysdon:	1441
Chaldon:	1553

Cealfa=plural of *cealf*, calf; and *dun*=a down, hill, or slope; and Calves Down signifies a hill-pasturage for calves—very applicable to the turfy hillsides about Chaldon. The occasional *u* before the *e* in the 1st element is merely a scribal variant of *v*. 'Chauledone' in 13th cent. is a transitional form towards the modern pronunciation and spelling; it indicates how the *a* was sounded, and the dropping of the *v*.

¹ D.B. also shows 'Brixī' as holding manors at Compton and W. Horsley before 1066.

² A.S. Beorhtsige = two words, *beorht* = bright, and *sige* = victory, or, sunset. The letter *r* was rolled, and *h* was aspirated, and the usual metathesis rendered *beorht* as *briht* (*i* as in list); in *sige* the *g* between the vowels liquefied and finally became soundless.

Chaldon, Dorset, was *Chaluedon* in the 13th century, and its etymology is probably identical.

Challock, Kent, was *Cealfa locus* (Calves enclosure or fold) in the 9th century.

Calverton, Notts., also derives its name from the calf;¹ and there are other instances.

TOOTING.

Totinges:	c. 1050 (K.C.D. 846)
Tottingas:	1067
Totingas:	c. 1080
Toting(e):	1224 to 1595
Tottingges:	1241
Totyng(e):	1332 to 1553
Totyngg(e):	1321 to 1344
Tootinge:	1597 to 1603
Tooting:	1599
Towting:	late 17th cent.

The grant or confirmation to Westminster Abbey by Edward the Confessor, from which the first spelling is extracted, is a medieval copy, and the monastic copyist wrote *e* instead of *a* in the final syllable. His *Totinges* represents A.S. *Totingas*, the settlement of the people of Tota; and the 13th cent. *Totinge* represents A.S. *Totinga*, the genitive plural form of the same word.² The addition of Beck and Gravenel (or Graveney) to the two Tooting manors, in respect of their owners—the Abbey of Beck and the Gravenel or Graveney family—is seen in 1255 (Assize Rolls), as *Toting' de Bek'* and *Toting' Grauel'*,³ and in many later records.

WADDINGTON, or WHATTINGDON.

This little group of dwellings in Coulsdon parish has a name-history of some interest. Until the Dissolution there

¹ *The Place Names of Nottinghamshire*, by H. Mutschmann (Cambridge University Press, 1913), p. 29.

² The late Prof. Skeat, in the Introduction to the volume of Court Rolls of Tooting Beck Manor published by the L.C.C. in 1909.

³ *u = v.*

was a chapel here under Chertsey Abbey, which also held other land in Coulsdon. In the Abbey Chartulary it appears as

Hyætedune:	1062
Whatindone:	675 and 933
Whetindune:	967

The dates are those of the original charters, which were re-written—after repeated destructions of the monastery and its muniments—in the 13th cent. In this ‘copying’ of the Edward Confessor Charter, the scribe got very near to the original spelling of this name, viz. *Hwætedun*, his -y- being a shot at the A.S. character known as the *Wen*, which was frequently written *uu*, and is represented by the mediæval and modern *w*. In the rewriting of the other charters, current spellings were substituted for the 7th and 10th cent. forms.

A.S. *Hwætedun* is a compound of *hwæte*, wheat, and *dun*, a down or hillside; and the sense is Wheat Down, downland on which wheat was grown.

Duke—or Alderman—Alfred’s Will, cited above under Gatton, bequeaths two hides at *Hwætedune* and one at *Gatātune* to his son Æthelwald, along with 100 swine.

D.B. renders the name *Watendone*, and the mediæval forms *Watedon*, *Wetedune*, *Whatedon(e)*, *Watdone*, *Whatindone*, *Watindon(e)*, *Whatyngdon*, *Wattindone*, indicate the progression of the name. The present alternative form, *Waddington*, shows a transposition which has come into use during the last 100 years or so.

ADDISCOMBE

Haddescompe:	1255
Adescompe:	1344 to 1503
Adiscaumpe:	1352
Adyscomp(e):	1392 to 1442
Addescompe:	1417
Adiscompe:	1457
Addescombe:	1456 to 1505
Adescombe:	1482
Agecomb:	1539

Manning and Bray, in their sentence ' Adscomb, Adgecomb, or Edgecomb House existed 1518 to 1808 and later,' give other late spellings, which they had apparently met with.

Here we have a Place-Name which has not been found in records earlier than the middle of the 13th century. Its earliest form, however, appears to be a good guide to a Pre-Conquest original. Of its two elements, the first, *Haddes* (later spelt without the H-) indicates the A.S. pers. name *Hadd*, one of the *Had-*, *Hæd-*, *Head-*, *Hæth-* stem of A.S. masc. names which, when standing alone, more often added *-a*, or *-i*, to its doubled *d*—*Hadda*, or *Haddi*. The second element, *comp(e)*, is interesting. The list shows that the modern *-combe* is a corruption, which has crept into common usage since about the middle of the 15th cent., and that the earlier *-comp(e)* died out during the 16th cent. *Comp*, a frequent element in Place-Names, was borrowed from the Latin *campus*, a field; and its *p*, coming at the end of a name, was liable to become either blunted or unsounded in careless speech—a fate it has met with in other instances. The sense of *Haddes-compe* is *Hadd's field*—the field of Mr. *Hadd*. The *Adscomb(e)* spelling survived on maps of the early 19th century. I have not noticed the present spelling before 1819 (Ordnance Survey map, 1" scale).

The nine names dealt with—taken rather haphazard from 400 or more Surrey names investigated by the present writer—may serve as practical illustrations of the actual working of the historical method. Six of them originate in personal names, and bring out the important and well known fact that a large proportion of our Place-Names do owe their origin to the name of an early tenant or settler. Professor Skeat's contention quoted above, that a knowledge of Anglo-Saxon personal names is necessary to the understanding and interpretation of Place-Names has been well borne out, and the principle he laid down as to the unreliability of guesses from the present spellings has become an axiom.

I conclude with two or three instances of the changes which have taken place in some of these original personal names. The simple name *Cufa*, later *Cofa*, in Warwickshire appeared in *Cufan tree* (*Cufa's tree*) and progressed easily to *Coventry*;

in Oxfordshire and Middlesex *Cufan leah* (Cufa's lea, or grass-land) changed to Cowley¹; and in Surrey *Cufan ham* became *Covenham*, *Coveham*, *Cobeham*, and finally Cobham.²

The well known compound name Beorhthelm (original meaning=bright helmet) or Brihthelm, gave *Brihthelmes tun* in Sussex, Oxfordshire and Worcestershire (D.B. Bristelmestone, Bristelmestone, and Bricstelmestone, respectively³), and progressed post-Conquest to the modern Brighton, Brighthampton (Oxon.) and Bricklehampton (Worc.).

From other similar cases of change, I select, as a final illustration, two names originating in *Theodwulf*. As usual with A.S. compound names, Theodwulf had its simplified forms or diminutives, Thidulf, Tidwulf, etc., formed by slurring or dropping the awkward-sounding letters. In Hertfordshire *Theodwulfes* (or *Tidwulfes*) *treow* (tree), and in Wilts. *Theodwulfes hyd* (hide of land) led to Place Names whose history I tabulate thus in parallel columns.

ELSTREE.

Tithulfes treow: '785' (B.C.S.
245.)⁴

Thidolves tre: 1198

Tydolnes tre: c. 1220

Idulfes tre: c. 1230

Idelves tre : 1253 to 1308

Idulfes tre: 1272 and 1274

Idolves tre: 1287

Idelnes ter: 1293

Ideles tre: 1320 to 1412

Idels tre: 1329 to 1556

Idls tre: 16th-17th cents.

Iles tree: 16th cent.

Ils tree: 16th cent.

Els tree: 1575

TILSHEAD (Wilts).

Theodulves ide: 1086

Tidulfes hide: 1086

Tydolnes hith: 1255

Tidelves hid: 1238

Tidulfes hide: 1198

Tidolves side: 1274

Tidolnes hide: 1291

Tydeles- & Tidoles- } 1275 to

Tydels- & Tidels- } 1361

Tiduls ide: 1600

Tyles-: 1399 to 1582

Tyls-, Tils-: 16th

¹ Other Cowleys are from A.S. *cu*, cow.

² Cobham, Kent, however was *Cobba hamme* in the 10th century.

³ The nearest the Norman scribes could get to the A.S. aspirated *h* before *t* was *st*.

⁴ Not an original but a later copy, in which the scribe turned Tidulf into Tithulf by crossing the stem of the *d*.

It should be borne in mind that *i* and *y* in the first syllable had the same sound, viz. that of the short *i*, as in *will*. I have not shown all the variations in the spelling of these two names—merely those which indicate most clearly the similarities in their changes.

While the second element in the Hertfordshire name, A.S. *treow*, progresses normally to *-tree*, and that in Wiltshire has made but a slight change from *-hyd* to *-head*, the personal name has lost heavily in the running, and has been cut down and changed to *Els-* and *Tils-*. In Hertfordshire the initial *T* drops out during the 13th cent., but in Wiltshire it is retained. There is a notable similarity in the medieval adventures of the A.S. *-wulf*, which gets consigned to *-el-* and then disappears.¹

¹ In his *Place Names of Hertfordshire* (p. 5c) Professor Skeat suggests for Elstree an origin in Eadwulf. He had only a few forms of the name, however—those in *Idolves-* and *Idels-*—and he had not seen the earlier *Tid-* and *Thid-* forms until I showed him a more complete list of dated spellings (in 1910). He agreed at once that *Tid-* (for *Theod-*) was clearly the original.