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• ABBREVIATIONS OF FREQUENTLY-CITED WORKS

<i>CDEPN</i>	V.E. Watts, <i>Cambridge dictionary of English place-names</i> (forthcoming)
<i>DB</i>	<i>Domesday Book</i>
<i>DEPN (Ekwall)</i>	Eilert Ekwall, <i>Dictionary of English place-names</i> (-4 (1960) unless other edition flagged)
<i>DEPN (Mills)</i>	A.D. Mills, <i>Dictionary of English place-names</i> (1991)
<i>EPN</i>	Kenneth Cameron, <i>English place-names</i> (-5 (1997))
<i>EPNE</i>	A.H. Smith, <i>English place-name elements</i> (EPNS vols. 25/26)
<i>EPNS</i>	English Place-Name Society
<i>JEPNS</i>	<i>Journal of the English Place-Name Society</i>
<i>PN X</i>	<i>The place-names of county X</i> ; EPNS volume
<i>PN Sx (Roberts)</i>	R.G. Roberts, <i>The place-names of Sussex</i> (1914)
<i>PN Sx (Glover)</i>	Judith Glover, <i>The place-names of Sussex</i> (-2 (1998))
<i>PNIL</i>	Margaret Gelling, <i>Place-names in the landscape</i> (-2 (1998))
<i>STP</i>	Margaret Gelling, <i>Signposts to the past</i> (-2 (1988))
<i>VCH X</i>	<i>Victoria history of county X</i>
<i>VEPN</i>	D. Parsons, T. Styles, with C. Hough, <i>The vocabulary of English place-names</i> (1997-, appearing by fascicle)
-0	an edition-flag (e.g. <i>STP</i> -2, second edition of <i>STP</i>)

Main relevant local periodicals:

<i>SAC</i>	<i>Sussex Archaeological Collections</i>
<i>SASNL</i>	<i>Sussex Archaeological Society Newsletter</i>
<i>SFH</i>	<i>Sussex Family Historian</i>
<i>SH</i>	<i>Sussex History</i>
<i>SNQ</i>	<i>Sussex Notes and Queries</i>
<i>SPP</i>	<i>Sussex Past and Present</i> (successor to <i>SASNL</i>)
<i>SRS 0</i>	<i>Sussex Record Society</i> volume, with volume number
<i>WSH</i>	<i>West Sussex History</i>

• EDITORIAL

The Sussex Place-Names Net now has a presence on the World Wide Web, but only very intangibly as a link from the Editor's home-page (<http://www.cogs.susx.ac.uk/users/richardc>). It's a little step; perhaps greater things may follow if anyone out there has greater web capabilities than I do.

As links from that same page, though, the world may read electronically some of the Editor's writings on Sussex and other names, including some not yet published conventionally; and, *mirabilime dictu*, the first four issues of *Locus focus* can also be studied there, provided you have the appropriate software to read these postscript files. (I can't do maps and other decorations, alas.) The fifth issue, this one, will be there simultaneously with paper publication.

We welcome in this issue a further contribution from a non-member, Ian Hilder of Barcombe.

If anyone has access to any easily- (and legally-) reproducible maps to adorn *Locus focus* or to be instructive in their own right, do let me know.

Richard Coates
Editor

• PERSONAL STATEMENTS AND WORK IN PROGRESS: A SELECTION

PAUL CULLEN

My fascination with English place-names grew out of a more general interest in matters linguistic, especially through the study of Old English. I recently completed my doctoral thesis on the place-names of the lathes of St Augustine and Shipway in Kent (University of Sussex, 1997). I have since been appointed editor of the English Place-Name Society's survey of Kent. The affinities between Sussex and Kent, linguistic and otherwise, offer a rich source for comparative study through which much light may be shed on the nomenclatures and dialects of the two counties. Although my research has so far largely been limited to the eastern half of Kent, I am eager to get to grips with the west, and to become better acquainted with the place-names of Sussex and neighbouring counties.

KEN GREEN

I am currently researching some of the obscure church dedications that we find in West Sussex, e.g. St Rumbold, St Cyriac, etc.

TIM HUDSON

I have always had a great interest in languages and read Classics at university. I don't claim any expertise in interpreting place-names, however; though their importance for my work as Sussex Editor of the *Victoria County History* doesn't need elaborating. Our current volume covers the south-east corner of Arundel rape, Littlehampton to Goring and northwards to Burpham and North Stoke; the Lyminster/*Nonneminstre* question (see *PN Sx* 169) is an intermittent headache at the moment. (Future volumes will deal with the rest of Arundel rape, after which we move to Pevensey.) Unfortunately chronic RSI reduces my usefulness as a correspondent.

• RECENT LITERATURE

□ Items in previous issues of *Locus focus* are not listed.

Atkin, M.A. (1998a) Places named 'Anstey'. *Proceedings of the XIXth International Congress of Onomastic Sciences (Aberdeen, 1996)*. Aberdeen: University of Aberdeen (Department of English), vol. II, 15-21.

Atkin, M.A. (1998b) Places named 'Anstey': a gazetteer. *JEPNS* 30, 83-98 [including a note by Victor Watts on the philology of the term]. [Includes Ansty in Cuckfield; suggests sense is topographical but with overtones of strategic importance in keeping the king's peace.]

Coates, Richard (1997) The plural of singular *-ing*: an alternative application of Old English *-ingas*. In A.R. Rumble and A.D. Mills (eds) *Names, places and people: an onomastic miscellany for John McNeal Dodgson*. Stamford: Paul Watkins, 26-49.

Coates, Richard (1998a) A surviving Latin place-name in Sussex: Firle. *JEPNS* 30, 5-15.

Coates, Richard (1998b) Merrow, Surrey, and some related Brittonic matters. *JEPNS* 30, 16-22.

Coates, Richard (1998c) Bohemia, Hastings. *SPP* 84, 5.

Coates, Richard (1998d) Mount Caburn. *SPP* 85, 5.

Forsberg, Rune (1997) *The place-name Lewes: a study of its early spellings and etymology*. Uppsala: University of Uppsala (Studia Anglistica Upsaliensia 100). [Reviewed in this issue.]

Gordon-Williams, H.M. (1998) Ew (Eu? Yew?) know it makes sense! *SPP* 85, 6-7. [About Ewhurst. Contains much nonsense.]

Hooke, Della (1998) *The landscape of Anglo-Saxon England*. Leicester: Leicester University Press.

Hough, Carole (1997) The place-name Kingston and the Laws of Æthelbert. *Studia Neophilologica* 69, 55-7.

Hough, Carole (1998a) Old English **coppa*. *JEPNS* 30, 53-9. ['Spider', etc. Includes Cobden in Sullington.]

Hough, Carole (1998b) Place-name evidence for Old English bird-names. *JEPNS* 30, 60-76. [Includes some Sussex names, and much food for thought.]

Hudson, T.P. (ed.) (1997) *Victoria history of the counties of England: Sussex*, vol. V, part 1. Oxford: Oxford University Press. [Covers the Rape of Arundel (south-west part), including Arundel town.]

Jacobsson, Mattias (1997) *Wells, meres and pools: hydronymic terms in the Anglo-Saxon landscape*. Uppsala: University of Uppsala (Studia Anglistica Upsaliensia 98).

- Kay, John (1998) Clay Hill ringwork: is it the Plashett? *SPP* 84, 8.
- Kelly, Susan E. (ed.) (1998) *Anglo-Saxon charters VI: charters of Selsey*. London: British Academy.
- Kitson, Peter R. (1997) Worth(y). *Studia Anglica Posnaniensia* 31, 105-15. [On the phonology of this key habitative term and similar words.]
- Leppard, M.J. (1997) The place-name Warlege. *Bulletin of the East Grinstead Society* 64, 4. [Other small items on p. 13. NB also the origin of the pub name *The Guinea Pig*, p. 3.]
- Leppard, M.J. (1998a) The origins of Ashurst Wood. *Bulletin of the East Grinstead Society* 65, 4-8. [Much place-name interest.]
- Leppard, M.J. (1998b) A lost place-name repatriated (?) *Bulletin of the East Grinstead Society* 65, 9. [*Hyldhalle* and similar.]
- Lewis, Chris (1997) The cult of St Pancras in Anglo-Saxon England. Paper read to the conference of Anglo-Saxonists, Kalamazoo, Michigan, USA, May 1997.
- Stiles, Patrick (1997) Old English *halh* 'slightly raised ground isolated by marsh'. In A.R. Rumble and A.D. Mills (eds) *Names, places and people. An onomastic miscellany for John McNeal Dodgson*. Stamford: Paul Watkins, 330-44.
- Svensson, Ann-Marie (1997) *Middle English words for "town": a study of changes in a semantic field*. Gothenburg: Gothenburg University (Gothenburg Studies in English 70).
- Thorburn, Margaret (1997) Beddingham, a shrunken settlement: origins and decline. Dissertation for the Diploma in Landscape Studies, University of Sussex. [Material on names pp. 13-18, and includes local maps with field-names. Available at Barbican House Library, Sussex Archaeological Society, Lewes.]
- Items from way back when:
- Chevallier, C.J. [*rectè* C.T.] (1963/4) Malfosse. *Battle and District Historical Society Transactions* 13, 24-8. [See also vol. 2 (1952/3), 44-6; SAC 101 (1963, 1-13; SNQ 16 (1965), 175.]
- D[yer], W.H. (1966/7) Sussex inn signs. *Battle and District Historical Society Transactions* 16, 18-19.
- Lemmon, C.H. (1967) Town Creep. *SNQ* 16, 297-301. [Place in Penhurst. Note later reprinted in *Battle and District Historical Society Transactions*.]
- Lemmon, C.H. (1971/2) The Celtic background of some Sussex place-names. *Battle and District Historical Society Transactions* 21, 14-18. [Col. Lemmon's excursions into Celtic philology (see also previous item) do not inspire confidence.]
- Welch, Sir Gordon (1955/6) Sussex place-names. *Battle and District Historical Society Transactions* 5, 5-7.

Williams, Frank (1955/6) Old Sussex inns and inn-signs. *Battle and District Historical Society Transactions* 5, 8-9.

• NEWS ITEMS

The historical atlas of Sussex

The *Historical atlas of Sussex* is well under way under the editorship of Kim Leslie. It will contain some place-name material and some material of general background interest for place-name study. It is due to be published in 1999.

Ancient parishes project

A symposium took place on 4 July 1998 at the Institute of Historical Research in London with a view to creating a computerized record of changing administrative boundaries in Britain from the parish level upwards. A pilot project covers Sussex, Surrey and Kent. The website of this project, the Great Britain Historical GIS project, can be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.geog.qmw.ac.uk/gbhgis>. There is a prospect of this interacting with other GIS projects such as the computerized mapping of geological structure at the local level, and, of course, with place-name mapping. There are powerful and exciting developments here.

• FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Society for Name Studies in Britain and Ireland

The next annual meeting of the Society for Name Studies in Britain and Ireland takes place at Sorby Hall, University of Sheffield, from 26-29 March 1999. It will have a certain emphasis on personal names and on personal names in place-names. The programme organizer is Peter McClure, 47 West End Road, Cottingham, Hull HU16 5PW.

20th International Congress of Onomastic Sciences

This takes place at Santiago de Compostela, Galicia, Spain, from 20-26 September 1999. Full details are available on its website, <http://www.usc.es/ilgas/icos/inicio.html>. The local organizer is Dr Fernando R. Tato Plaza of the Faculty of Philology of Santiago University. It does not appear that any of its scheduled sections are devoted to the historical linguistics of place-names.

• NOTES

Pam Combes

N2.2.1: A cross-border link: Esledes and Eslede in Domesday Book.

Some of the Pre-Conquest lords of manors in the Sussex Domesday are notable because of the insignificance of their landholding in the county. One such is Earl Leofwin whose holding in Sussex consisted of only four virgates in *Eslede*, identified in *PN Sx* (519) as Eyelid farm in Ewhurst. The Count of Eu retained one virgate in demesne and the three others were held from him by a tenant named Hugh. Hugh also held one other virgate in the hundred which was not identified by name (Morris 1976: *DB* 9:27-30). The editors of *PN Sx* were, understandably, reluctant to offer an explanation of the name Eyelid since the only recorded early form known to them was that of Domesday Book.

Earl Leofwin was, however, a significant landholder in Kent where he was succeeded in all his manors by Odo of Bayeux. One of his holdings was the manor of *Esledes* - Leeds (Morgan 1983: *DB* 5:67). The entry states that the Count of Eu held four pig pastures (*denas*) of the manor valued at 20s. Leeds was held from the Bishop by Æthelwold the Chamberlain (*camerarius*) and he also held Frinsted jointly with Hugh who is identified in another entry as Hugh the nephew of Herbert. Hugh held several other manors lying, like Leeds, in Aihorde (Eyehorne) hundred in Aylesford Lathe, Harrietsham, Fairbourne and Shelborough.

The similarity between the early forms of the names of Leeds and Eyelid as they were recorded in 1086 suggests that the name of Leeds (*Esledes*) was transferred to its *denns* (*Eslede*) which in their turn had been or were soon to be relocated tenurially to within the rape of Hastings in the county of Sussex. The pre-conquest tenurial link of Leeds and Eyelid with Earl Leofwin further supports the idea that the holdings were linked. The joint tenure by Æthelwold, the tenant of Leeds, and Hugh at Frinsted suggests the possibility that the same Hugh held the outlying *denns* of the major of Leeds at Eyelid.

Alfhere the Pre-Conquest tenant of the Count of Eu's manor of Ulcombe in Kent (like Leeds and Frinsted in Eyehorne Hundred) also held Ewhurst, a demesne manor of the Count of Eu that lies close to Eyelid (*DB* K 2:32, *Sx* 9:120). Such coincidence of tenure suggests the possibility that other less discernible links may have existed between these holdings. The positive identification of land associated with a Kent manor lying across the border in Sussex suggests that out-of-county manorial links may have occurred more frequently than the occasional easily identifiable parochial outlier has led us to suspect. That in turn leads to questions about when the modern linear boundaries of the county of Sussex were finally established.

○ References

Morgan, P. (ed.) (1983) *Domesday Book: Kent*. Chichester: Phillimore.

Morris, John (ed.) (1976) *Domesday Book: Sussex*. Chichester: Phillimore.

○ Editor's note

The *DB* spellings of both Leeds and Eyelid are comparable, and the case for identifying them with each other are sound. But it needs to be established how one gets from *Eslede/Ellede* to *Eyelid*.

Esledes is a difficult but not unparalleled way of spelling what was and is pronounced *Leeds* (allowing for regular changes that affect the vowels); Lapford (Devon) is *Eslapaforda* in *DB*. So it would not be unreasonable to expect the Sussex place-name to be pronounced the same. If Pam Combes's account is correct, I can only assume (in the absence of a record for 800 years or so) that the modern pronunciation of the Sussex name depends on the preservation of a WRITTEN tradition of the place (where has it gone?) such that *Ellede* suggested *eyelid* to somebody (some joker?) and that pronunciation came to replace the expected *Leeds* (or maybe *Leed*). Can the FARM be traced during the 800 years' silence?

Gordon Ward identified the *Hlyda* in *Domesday Monachorum* (1094) with *Eyelid* (cited *PN Surrey* xlii), but this is no longer accepted.

Richard Coates

N2.2.2: Kirdford

This difficult name may include OE **cynn-rǣdenn*, a feminine noun meaning 'kindred' and probably the actual source of that word, literally 'state of being related by blood'. The ME spellings seem to be attributable to a **Cynn-rǣda-ford* which may be due to the genitive plural form of an alternate masculine noun **cynn-rǣd*. We can compare the attested pair of words *hīw-rǣdenn/hī(w)-rǣd* 'family (in a number of related sub-senses)', the second elements of which are those in question in the 'kindred'-word.

This is preferable to the etymon offered in *PN Sx* (102-3), *Cyneðrȳð*, a female personal name, because there is only one rather late fragment of possible support for the first ð in this reasonably well attested name. Ekwall's suggestion in *DEPN* of the male name *Cynerēd* is hampered by the absence of genitive *-es* in the early records; such an element is routine in Sussex though it is absent sometimes in other areas. Both suggestions are hampered by the absence from all attestations of any reflex of the *-e-* in *Cyne-*, but that is not a fatal objection.

The word *kindred* is otherwise not on record before the twelfth century, but there can be no doubt, for reasons having to do with the currency of the word-elements, that it must date back to OE. *Kirdford* would therefore mean 'ford of the kindreds'. The precise racial and territorial implications remain unknown. There is no known relation to administrative boundaries (though those of the pre-Conquest rapes are unknown here), and Kirdford is not an identifiable parish, manor or vill until medieval times.

The name needs to be added to the list of those containing folk-names or words referring to "folk" in some broad sense, and compared with *Walreddon* (Whitchurch, Devon), 'condition of being Welshmen or slaves', presumably used in a concrete sense of an administrative district, just as the 'family'-word mentioned above could be used concretely of a religious house. I have suggested elsewhere (not yet published) that the name *Coslany* (Norwich, Norfolk) may contain a Brittonic word meaning 'kinship, kindred', and that may also be compared.

offcentre I

Burgess Hill town council is to invite local firms to sponsor one of the roundabouts at the western entrance to the town. The prize? The roundabout in question will bear the firm's name (*Evening Argus* 08/07/98). I bet Staples and Crittalls never paid anything for their famous Corners in London.

Richard Coates

N2.2.3: *Dumpfords hundred*

[This is a more technically-argued and more soberly-titled version of a piece to appear in *SPP* 86.]

This hundred in Chichester rape shares a name with a manor and farm in Trotton, and presumably both took their name from the same feature, a ford on a right tributary of the Rother. *PN Sx* (33, 44-5) takes the rather strange set of early spellings as evidence of a first element OE/ME *demmed* 'dammed'. The best evidence for this comes only in forms from the Pipe Roll for 1175, (*de*) *Emmedeford*, *Emedford*; and in *Demetford* in a 14th-century copy of a 12th-century form in a patent roll. The Great Roll of the Pipe is a heavily Normanizing document, and is not good evidence on its own for English names. Most other extant spellings are of the type *Demesford*, or can easily be derived from forms like this, until forms without *-s-* come to predominate in the later 13th century (for unknown reasons). It did not acquire the modern form *Dump-* till the 16th century (also for unknown reasons).

The medieval forms suggest that the first element is Old English *dem(m)* 'harm, mischief, misfortune'. But the Saxons were not much given to melodrama in their naming. It is formally possible instead that the spellings could be reconciled by assuming the first element was *dēmend* 'judge', genitive case *dēmendes*. The place was clearly in early use as a hundred meeting-place, and naming from this word has the ring of appropriateness. An <n> is lost in late Old English in some medial syllables (Luick 1914-40: 899-900), though not in precisely the environment offered by the present name; nevertheless its immediate origin may be something like **Dēmedesford* 'ford of a/the judge'. But none of the spellings on record have both a <d> and an <s> in the middle.

The hundreds, created in the 10th century, were presided over by a king's reeve. I don't know whether *dēmend* would have accurately described this official who, although he presided at the hundredal folkmoot, was essentially an excise and food-rent collector. Perhaps the name could be older than the creation of the hundreds.

Best of all though would be if we could assume the existence of a word **dēm* 'judging', which would be a regular formation from *dōm* 'judgement', *dēman* 'to judge', although it does not appear in the record. It would have had a genitive case form **dēmes*; the whole name containing it, **Dēmes-ford*, would have meant 'ford of judging'. The spellings with <d> instead of <s> would be related to a known quirk of Anglo-Norman pronunciation whereby the sound [ð] (as in *there*) replaced [z] in certain circumstances, mainly before a range of consonants including [f] (Pope 1934: §§ 1175-7; also 377), the most familiar outcome of which is perhaps English *medlar* from earlier French *meslier*. In the sections mentioned, Pope is actually self-contradictory on whether this [ð] should have been replaced by [n] before certain of these sounds, and unclear about under what conditions [z] was lost early in Anglo-Norman (compare and contrast the words *male* and *medlar*, both of which had [z] before [l]), but the general position allows us to believe that the <d> spellings in the Pipe Roll could genuinely have been Normanisms for English [z] (written <s> in English).

○ References

Luick, Karl (1914-40) *Historische Grammatik der englischen Sprache*, part I. Stuttgart: Tauchnitz. [Reprinted Oxford: Blackwell (1964).]

Pope, M.K. (1934) *From Latin to Modern French*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.

Ian Hilder

N2.2.4: Why was Barcombe Cross? The origin of the name.

[Reprinted with the author's permission from the parish magazine, Barcombe.]

Following discussions at a recent parish council meeting about the possibility of the name *Barcombe Cross* appearing on local road signs, Ken Brown contacted me for some background information. This revived two old questions: How long has there been a Barcombe Cross? And why is the modern village so far from the ancient parish church?

I had assumed that *cross* referred to a cross-roads, but does the modern junction at the mini-roundabout seem worthy of such a description? Other East Sussex examples of *cross* place-names such as Stone Cross in Laughton, High Cross in Framfield, Wych Cross to the south of Forest Row and the Mark Crosses at Ripe and Rotherfield, are also in relatively remote places. They apparently refer to wayside crosses that were often placed at the intersection of public highways, to point the way both geographically and religiously, in the days before the Reformation of the 1530s. So was Barcombe Cross the place where god-fearing medieval travellers from Lewes paused for guidance through the dense woods of Spithurst on their journey to Newick? If so, this suggests a relatively early date from the place-name.

In the search of documentary evidence, I turned first to the parish registers, which survive from 1580. A number of early references are given to "the cross"; "Old Thomas Amore" had been living "at the Crosse" when buried in 1590, while "old Thomas Earle" was living "at the Crosse and one of the yards" when he died the following year. Amongst the baptisms were children of Thomas Jener and Richard Bookes who were both living "at Crosse" in 1592, as were Edward Simons in 1596 and Ninian Michel in 1602. But the first reference in the registers to Barcombe Cross by that name is not until an entry for John Kent in 1636. (Incidentally, there is no sign of a plague, or other epidemic, during the period 1580-1690 causing a sudden increase in burials.)

There is a deed of 1607, which refers to a "shop" at Barcombe Cross, on land

"abutting east on the Highways from Lewes to London south and west on the rest of Crouchland, north on land of Thomas Godman". (ESRO MS. LAN 245)

The description of a "highway from Lewes to London" suggests that the village High Street was once a more important thoroughfare, certainly a busier route than the country road passing through the original village round St Mary's Church. The jangling purses of travellers passing "the Crosse" must have drawn entrepreneurial tradesmen, craftsman and their families to the area, and away from the community near the church. So encouraged, Barcombe Cross grew as the commercial centre of the parish, whilst the old village became depopulated.

The earliest reference I have found to Barcombe Cross is in a 1575 survey of the Sussex manors of Francis Carew. His tenant John Gravely is recorded as occupying "half a yard londe at Bercombe Crosse by a rent of 7 shillings & 8 pence" a year.

But there is even earlier evidence of the cross in Barcombe. In 1327 Edward III was raising funds, by taxing moveable goods; thirty Barcombe people appear on the tax list, including one Johne atte Cruche. *Crouche* is Middle English for 'cross, crucifix' (Latin *crux*), so this John lived near the Barcombe cross(roads); remember "Crouchland" in the 1607 deed.

So there was a notable cross feature, either a wayside cross, a cross-roads, or both, in Barcombe

over twenty years before the Black Death struck Sussex in 1348/9. Whatever the exact nature of the feature, it gave its name to Crouchland, and it was around this area that Barcombe Cross developed. I wonder where the site of Crouchland is today.

David Padgham

N2.2.5: Isenherst and Synderford

Following up Michael Leppard's article on names that possibly indicate ironworking in medieval Sussex (*Locus focus* 2 (1), 14-16), it seems worthy of note that within the "vill" of Isenherst in the hundred of Dill in 1296 lived Simone *atte Synderford* (Hudson 1909: 28). The name *Synderford* undoubtedly refers to the cinder produced by the process of iron smelting. Whether the ford in question was beside an ancient ironworks or had been surfaced with cinder moved from elsewhere is impossible to determine, but the name serves to support the suggestion that Isenhurst had been associated with iron working at an early date.

By 1327 the name Synderford was no longer recorded by a Helewys' *atte Forde* and in 1332 an Emma *atte Forde* were recorded (Hudson 1909: 204, 315). Although their name may refer to another ford it seems more likely that the descriptive element *synder* had been dropped from the earlier name, a development in the naming process that is also worth noting.

○ Reference

Hudson, W. (1909) *Three Sussex subsidies*. Lewes: SRS 10.

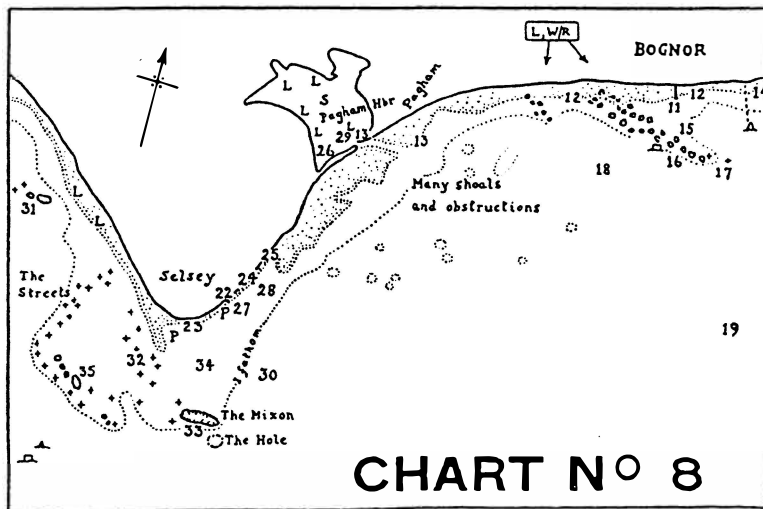
Richard Coates

N2.2.6: Kirk Arrow

This strange name attaches to a boat-angling mark about half a mile west of Selsey Bill. It is no. 32 on the chart reproduced on the next page from Stoker (1963: 63); Stoker calls it *Kerk Arrow*. I have it from a Selsey ex-lifeboatman, via Major Hume Wallace, via Bill Richardson of Flinders University, South Australia, that the local name is or was *Kakhard*. The first element is supposedly from a word *kak* 'shingle'. (Who was kidding who? I recall the archaeologist Anne Ross telling the TV camera with a straight face that artefacts came up from the seabed covered in what was "technically called *crud*".) The second is allegedly *hard* in the sense of 'grounding-place for boats'. Bill Richardson has found it on an eighteenth-century chart, "Owers, Chichester & Emsworth harbours" (Murdoch Mackenzie, 1786, BL MS. SEC.1.(14) 1804) as *kekharra*. Assuming the local version to represent the authentic form of the name, we might take it to be for whatever the first element of *Cakeham* (about four miles away in East Wittering; traditionally pronounced /kæk-/) is, plus *ord* 'point, spit', as in *Duckard Point*, North Hayling. *Cakeham* has been explained (*PN Sx* 88) as from a personal name *Cac(c)a* and *DEPN* opts for *Cæfca*. Neither of these looks very secure, though *Cac(c)a* may recur in *Cakebole* and *Cakemore* (Worcestershire).

○ Reference

Stoker, Hugh (1963) *Sea fishing in Sussex*. London and Tonbridge: Ernest Benn.



Janet Pennington catches the dying gasp of a minor place-name

N2.2.7: Lancing College slang: The Groves

The Groves has, in the last two or three years, finally dropped out of common use as a euphemism for 'the lavatories'. When in 1852 Nathaniel Woodward purchased Birvill's and Malthouse Farms in Lancing parish, Birvill's contained a grove of trees on the hill where the school buildings started taking shape. The boys moved up from the New Shoreham sites in 1857-58 and the very primitive (and cold) first lavatories were erected in this shelter belt. The phrase 'going to the groves' presumably emerged soon after. It lasted for over 130 years. Birvill's Farm was also known as *Burwells*. Tim Hudson (*VCH VI*, part I (1980), 43-44) says: "Its name is derived from the Burdeville family, a member of which granted tithes from Lancing to Henfield Church before 1209." The connection with the Burdeville family can be followed to 1534. It is now called *The Old Farmhouse* and serves as the Head Master's home at Lancing College.

Passing interest

Small prize (notional) for the most inventive name for a vegetarian restaurant: how about Brighton's *Waikikamookau* (Kensington Gardens)?

• QUERIES

□ If readers respond directly to the person making the enquiry, please would they also send a copy to the Editor?

Q2.2.1: Quickbourne in Northiam (David Padgham)

K.P. Witney, *The Jutish forest* (London: Athlone Press (1976), 269), listing the *dens* of Kent manors, says that Quickbourne in Northiam was a *den* of Appledore manor, formerly *Quickbean*, earlier *Benequyke*. However, *PN Sx* (524) gives *Quykbonecrouche* (1498), "probably from one of the streams". Witney's source is R. Furley, *History of the Weald of Kent* (1871-4); Furley does not state his own source. Is it conceivable that the two elements were actually reversed at some dated, as stated by Witney?

Q2.2.2: Busticle Lane, Sompting/Lancing (Michael Leppard, Richard Coates)

Any improvement over the local tale that it alludes to tinkers and derives from "*Bust Teakettle Lane*" ?

Q2.2.3: Phie Forest, Crowborough (Michael Leppard)

Q2.2.4: The Trippett, Bosham (Ken Green)

Any suggestions about this pathway on the sea wall at Bosham?

• QUICK RESPONSES TO QUERIES AND ARTICLES

R2.2.1: Numbered streets in Almodington [ref. Q1.3.1 (John Bleach) and cf. R2.1.2]

Ken Green reports that the numbered streets in Almodington were named by the Land Settlement Association when providing smallholdings for the resettlement of unemployed miners and their families, mostly from the north-east of the country in the years following the First World War. The numbering of the houses did not take into account the new roads, and they were known as e.g. No. 131, Almodington.

R2.2.2: Inw/alehouse locations [ref. Q2.1.1 (Janet Pennington)]

Max W. Wheeler, Michael Leppard and Mark Gardiner offer these suggestions for identifications (responses alphabetized and amalgamated by the Editor):

Chillittgate	Chelwood Gate on Ashdown Forest (<i>Red Lion</i> there now; name first mentioned 1867, but beer retailer there 1858 (<i>Danehill Parish Historical Society Magazine</i> 4 (10), 10);
--------------	--

	looks to me as if it might be a 17th-century building) -MJL, compatibly MWW
Darvett Gate	Darvell/Darwell in Mountfield (ironworking site so good for creating thirsts) -MJL; near a ridge-top route; gate into Darwell Wood, or <i>gate</i> apparently in sense of 'way' (cf. <i>SAC</i> 127 (1989), 89 and footnote 1) -MG
Easted	Elsted? -MWW and MJL
Georgeham	Northiam? (original <N-> misread as <I->, interpreted as <J->, respelt <Ge->; rest of name as in traditional pronunciation spellable as <Norgem>) -MWW
Ivindon	Although it sounds rather like Ivenden, a site in Mayfield I dug in 1982, the location is most improbable for any inn or alehouse. A possible alternative: Iveden (ESRO MS. GLY 1485, dated 1513/14), Ivydene (ESRO MS. GLY 1520, dated 1552) which was apparently on or near the road to Lewes near the Caburn. -MG
Northbridge	I guess this is what is now Northbridge Street, Salehurst. It is a likely location for an inn, on the Hastings-London road at the bridge over the Rother at Robertsbridge. The pub there now is called The New Eight Bells. -MWW
Ridgway	Rudgwick? (pronounced with /i/ in the first syllable according to <i>PN Sx</i> 156) -MWW
Roofleete	very unlikely to be Rowfant, I think; Rowfant was a large private house with no village, though it gave its name to a railway station in 1855 -MJL
Tisborne	if there really are Hampshire names in this list, Tichborne -MJL

R2.2.3: Western Road [ref. article in Locus focus 2 (1), 22-5 (Richard Coates)]

David Padgham notes that the street of that name in St Leonards is unlikely to have been prestigious or salubrious as it contained principally the mews and rear entrances for mansions in Warrior Square. Anomalously, there was until recently a minuscule *Eastern Street*, adjacent but unrelated, a few yards further WEST, off London Road; certainly not a pair.

R2.2.4: Village-names in -field [ref. N2.1.2 (Michael Leppard)]

David Padgham notes that two places in *-field* in part of East Sussex, Ninfield and Westfield, do not conform at all to a "town-like appearance with their parish churches an integral element". The churches are manorial and the settlements are not nucleated.

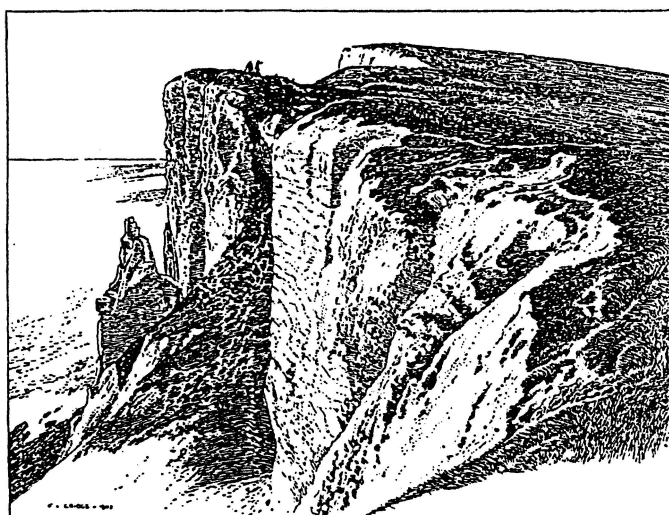
R2.2.5: *Bohemia* [ref. note in SPP 84, 5 (Richard Coates)]

David Padgham observes that there was also a *Boheamy and Forest Field* in Frant owned by Lord Aberg'enny (SRS 77: 86), on the edge of Whitehill Wood and south of Mount Nod, perhaps a picnic destination from Tunbridge Wells. The first reference to the Hastings Bohemia is Yeakell and Gardner's map (1783); the proprietor, one Foster, occupied it from 1769 and as it was briefly inhabited prior to that by general Murray whilst beauport was being built it is highly probable that Foster invented the notion [of an open-air eatery --Ed.] in the 1770s.

R2.2.6: *Seven Charleses* [ref. article on coastal place-names, Locus focus 2 (1), 11-14 (Richard Coates)]

Michael Leppard notes that the etymology proposed for *The Seven Charleses* involving *churl* is supported by Helena Hall's entry for that name (*Charles*) in her *Dictionary of the Sussex dialect* (Bexhill: Gardner's (1957), 19). The form *Charleses* could be the kind of double plural seen in the famous Sussex *Pharisees* for *fairies* (*Dictionary*, 94), and all the way back to William Durrant Cooper's *Glossary of the provincialisms in use in the county of Sussex* (London: John Russell Smith (2nd edn 1853), 64).

The engraving below by Frederick L. Griggs (1903) illustrates the possible appearance of a "charl" at Beachy Head.



Beachy Head.

R2.2.7: *Twitten* [ref. Q1.3.4, N2.1.3, R2.1.4]

Paul Cullen notes that, in so far unpublished work, Peter R. Kitson identifies an early *twicen* in the sense 'lane', or at least some linear feature, in the bounds of a grant of 956 C.E. relating to Pyrford (Surrey; BCS 955, S 621; *PN Surrey* 132).

Ken Green adds that Chichester has a *Twitten*, this being on a straight line between St Pancras Church in Eastgate Square and St Mary's Church at Rumboldswyke (not Whyke!). Several clergy were simultaneously rectors of both in the 18th century and reputedly had to dash from one to the other on a Sunday.

• ARTICLES

Paul Cullen

Courtup Farm in Nuthurst and the den of Curtehope in Lamberhurst

The name of Courtup Farm in Nuthurst (*Curtehope* 1310, *Courthope* 1418) is derived in *PN Sx* (231) from an unrecorded OE personal name **Curta* + OE *hop* 'an enclosure', a formally unobjectionable etymology. Mention is also made in *PN Sx* of an unidentified *Curting(e)hope* (c.1210, c.1240) "in the eastern part of the county". It is quite possible that this is the lost *Curtehope* (or *Courthopps*) in Lamberhurst, a parish which has long fluctuated and been divided between Kent and Sussex. Moon (1986) notes that the den of Curtehope was part of Sussex, "but considered to be within the Kent parish of Lamberhurst".¹ Additional early spellings (*Curthope* 1137-8, *Curtehope* 1171, 1284, *Courtehope* 1327 (p.), (*de*) *Courthope* 1348, *Courtoppfields* 1554) point to an origin identical with that of Courtup Farm (and, incidentally, provide support for the suggestion in *PN Sx* that the *Curting(e)hope* in the east of the county gave rise to the Sussex surname Courthope).

There are four place-names in east Kent which also appear from early data to derive from the same base, namely Court-at-Street (NGR TR 0935) in Lympne, Courthope Farms (TR 1446) in Lyminge, Courthope Wood East/West (TQ 9736) in Shadoxhurst and Woodchurch, and Courtup Shot (TR 2665) in Sarre. The coincidence of these names with Roman roads is extremely close. As it seems implausible that an unrecorded personal name should appear so disproportionately frequently with *hop*, I suggest that the first element in all six instances is rather OE **cort(e)*, **curt(e)*, a loan-word from Latin *cohors* (oblique stem *cohort-*) 'a host, a multitude' used in an agricultural context of 'an enclosed yard (especially for cattle or poultry), a farmyard enclosure' (cf. Old French *court* 'a courtyard' from late Latin). This OE loan-word, a rare term in place-names, is found as the second element of Dovercourt in Essex (*PN Essex* 337).² The key sense of OE *hop* seems to be 'a place with limited access', perhaps here employed largely tautologically. We may infer that the Anglo-Saxons used the appellative **corte-hop* for Romano-British farmyard enclosures of a specific type for which an OE term was previously lacking.

Whilst I am satisfied that the situations of the east Kent places accord well with this explanation. I would be very glad to learn of any pointers (onomastic, topographical, historical, archaeological) which might serve to put the Sussex example(s) in context. Perhaps Net members may even be able to offer further examples?

○ Notes

1 Wallenberg (1934: 309) places Courthopps in adjacent Goudhurst, while Moon (1986) locates the den of Curtehope just to the north of Scotney Castle (TQ 686354) in Lamberhurst, adjoining the Goudhurst boundary.

2 It is noteworthy that Roman buildings are recorded at Dovercourt (*STP-2* 79-80).

○ References

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David Padgham

Glesham in Beckley

The Hastings Area Archaeological Group (HAARG) is excavating part of this large moated site in Beckley under the direction of Dr Andrew Woodcock, County Archaeologist. The place-name on OS maps was *Blossoms Place* (TQ 860216), corrupted from the *Glossams* of post-medieval documents perhaps when the surveyor interviewed the local gamekeeper. The name was deleted from post-1950 maps after being engulfed in a Forestry Commission plantation, though the moat is still hachured.

No primary manorial records have been traced but a sequence of secondary references makes it certain that this is the *DB* manor of *Glesham* (*DB* 9.111). The site is thought to have been uninhabited since the late 14th century, but foundations of stone walls survive, and beneath them Roman slag and Samian ware.

From c.1110 a "vill" called *Glesi* also existed, surviving no doubt as Glasseye Farm 3km west. Some writers have assumed the two forms to be synonymous, but I have proposed from a study of the historical evidence that the whole area was originally *Glesi*, and the settlement which was at one time the demesne of the manor was *Glesham*. *PN Sx* (527, & vi) says only that *gles* is difficult to interpret, comparing it with Gleaston (La). I have not consulted *The place-names of Lancashire* (Ekwall 1922), but in *DEPN* Ekwall says the latter is *Glassertun* of *DB*, "possibly a river-name", and compares it with Glazeley (Sa) - about which he dubiously mentions OW *gleis* 'a stream' - or with Glazenwood (Ess), where the reader is circuitously referred back to Glasson (La) "which cannot have been named from a river" but may mean 'bright spot' from the OE verb *glisian* 'to shine'. Are there any other instances of *gles-* in south-east England?

Does the *-i* represent a form denoting an island (*īeg*) or a stream (*ēa*)? The whole area is a hilltop promontory with streams in ghylls some 80% of the way round - the exception being to the north, by Gate, now a farm, but a tenement by 1296 and in the mid-15th century combined with the derelict *Glesham* as the reputed manor *Gate and Glossams*.

Dodgson (1978: 83) says that *Glesham* is "presumably *hamm* class 5"; but I propose that it could be *hām* - an estate which became a *DB* manor. In support of this, we note that Alfred's will (873x888; BCS 553, S 1507) bequeathed his *ham* at *Beccanlea* "necnon et omnes terras ad illud pertinentes" ('and all the lands which belong to it', arguably referring to a whole string of estates including Beckley) to his kinsman Osferth. With the exception of *Methersham* which is surely a *hamm*, *Glesham* is the only known *-ham* name in Beckley and the principal entry in the *DB* for the parish. It is tempting to suggest that the three anonymous men who held *Glesham* TRE and still in 1086 were heirs of Alfred's kinsman, as cleared estates in the Weald were not lightly abandoned. If it was a hunting estate for Alfred, the skilled huntsmen operating it were still of service to the Count of Eu.

To quote Coates (1989: 8): "Probably a large majority of places named *hām* are still manors in *Domesday Book*. Some *hām* names may denote estates which were taken over as functioning entities from their Romano-British occupants". The whole of the moated site is covered in Roman slag. *EPNE* gives OE *glæs* as 'clear, bright, shining', but indistinguishable from the noun meaning 'glass'. (In passing, some writers have suggested that Glasseye Farm was the site of Beckley's medieval glassworks of 1579, but the PN existed much earlier.) It is intriguing that no OE word for 'slag' is known; this word is a Middle Low German borrowing into English. The Saxons did not work iron; could they have described what they found on the surface of the land at *Glesham* as

glæs 'glass'? Even now it lies on the surface in places.

○ *References*

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A gripe from the past (supplied by courtesy of Geoffrey Mead)

THE NAMES OF MODERN TOWNS: to the Editor of the Brighton Herald (c.17 October 1864)

SIR,-- I see, by your paper of Saturday last, that Mr Friend is about to erect some buildings in the north part of the town, in the Parish of Preston, and proposes to designate them by the name of Prestonville.

It is to be earnestly hoped that we shall be spared the infliction of any such barbarous appellation. The word Preston, of itself, means Priest-town; but what is the meaning of Priest-town-ville? If ville means anything (though what it does mean matters to nobody but a Frenchman) it means town, and is there any sense in Priest-town-town? By the bye, some pronounce it as if written veal instead of short - vil. Will this help us to its meaning? We have Preston, and now we are to have Preston's calf over the way.

If a new name must be found, and, perhaps, it is as well there should be, standing apart, as the new buildings will, from any others in the same parish, call them, with reference to their position over in the north part of the town, Northover. This would at least be English and sense.

It is time a stand was made against this foreign aping, and naming without the least regard to appropriateness. Look at the precious word Cliftonville! Grand, isn't it? Clifton is a very pretty and fitting name for the town it belongs to - the town on the Cliff: but here is Clifton's calf come down to the waterside, and got on a flat shore, poor thing! Isn't West Hove a sound and sensible name? What need of another? If, however, a new name must be found, call it similarly, with reference to its position, Westover, or, if that be too like the other, call it, from the haven, - the most noticeable landmark, - Havenend. A dozen good names might be found, all English and all appropriate; but the town on the Cliff ville is gibberish.

It is this naming at random which makes the names of American towns seem so vulgar, hateful, and stuck-up, with their Smithville, Jonesville, Annapolis, Jeffersonville, Lafayetteville, and goodness knows what!

A VISITOR

[Hard luck - you lost. --Ed.]

• BOOK NOTICE

Rune Forsberg, *The place-name Lewes: a study of its early spellings and etymology*. Uppsala: University of Uppsala (Studia Anglistica Upsaliensia 100 (1997)), 66 pp. (price not notified).

This little book is a mighty work of erudition. The scholarship is awesome. The assemblage of numismatic and manuscript evidence and the evaluation of it is breathtaking. When applied to the uniting problem, that of explaining the origin of the name of Lewes, it cannot be said to be successful.

The book falls into five parts. The first is a review of existing ideas about *Lewes*; previous attempts are divided into those that propose the basis is OE *hlǣw* 'barrow; hill' (the accepted wisdom) and those that don't; and, within the first camp, those that postulate that the form is plural and those that don't. Parts II-IV deal with three linguistic problems that can be read as separate studies whose import intersects on *Lewes*. Part V is the four-page *envoi* firming up Forsberg's solution and criticizing a recent alternative attempt on the name by the present reviewer. Forsberg had discussed the matter previously and left the derivation as an open question (1950: 44-7)

Part II examines all the available manuscript and numismatic evidence bearing on the form of the name in Anglo-Saxon times. Forsberg concludes correctly that (1) there is no warrant for a source-word beginning with *h-*; (2) that the spelling <ǣ> of the first vowel predominates massively over <e> (he deduces reasonably though unwarrantedly that the source-word must have had OE *ǣ*); and (3) that the source-word was not plural in form. All these points are painfully argued, and must be taken as correct. The weakest point in the demonstration is the attempted explanation of coin-legends containing medial <g> and <h>; which is a pity, as this is what could scupper Forsberg's argument in the end.

Part III contends that the dominant medieval spellings in <-s> testify to the fact that French-speakers writing manuscripts mentioning *Lewes* took its name as plural. This is the first serious attempt to attack the difficult problem of this widely-remarked tendency to apparently pluralize English (usually one-element) names since that of Zachrisson (1909), and what it achieves is important. The French origin of the phenomenon is surely correctly established (though that isn't new); Forsberg is broadly sound on the question of its grammatical number, but some will still want to know whether the masculine nominative singular suffix had any role to play. The fact that Latin versions of the name treat it as plural is strongly in his favour.

In part IV, Forsberg introduces the OE word *lǣw* and discusses its meaning. Its attested uses in Anglo-Saxon literature point to a meaning 'injury, mutilation', but Forsberg argues that continental relatives support a more precise sense 'wound, incision, gash'. He argues that this word is the source of the English legal technical term *law* 'to expeditate, i.e. to mutilate the foot (of a dog to render it incapable of doing harm (in hunting areas))'.

Part V is the showdown; *Lewes* is derived from OE *lǣw*; and other OE words found in place-names for gaps are adduced. There is no doubt that this etymology accounts for an important part of the data, but the reviewer is sceptical about whether the Ouse gap at Lewes is appropriately called by a word meaning a clean cut. Such judgements are largely subjective, I suppose. More importantly, a group of coin-legends referred to above are not handled by this theory. If correctly identified here, the word remains unique as a name-element in English, despite some half-hearted

attempts to embroil other names (pp. 52-3). Finally, Forsberg confronts the recent article by Coates (1990/1) which suggests the possibility that the name might be of Brittonic origin. He argues that the dominant <æ> spellings rule out Britt. /lexwe/ 'slope(s)' as the origin. I had argued tentatively that these spellings were Kentish inverted spellings for early OE <e>. Forsberg is right to question how this could have become the normal, indeed dominant, form in West Saxon OE, and explanation is difficult; but we may appositely compare how non-West Saxon (and arguably Kentish) *mēce* 'sword' occurs even in West Saxon literary texts (indeed, the expected West Saxon form never appears there; Campbell 1959: § 128 and fn. 2).¹ This matter is not settled, but Forsberg is wrong to be dogmatic about the implausibility of a Kenticism. Forsberg is right to protest at my expressed view (1990/1: 11), tactfully described as "astonishing", that ME <e> is an inappropriate spelling of WSax <æ>; I was in error, and <e> is normal. But my argument does not solely depend on this point. The Brittonic solution accounts for the problematic coin-spellings better than Forsberg's solution (p. 15), which is exceptionally woolly. Forsberg also takes exception to my proposal that a medial consonant group /xw/ could develop to /w/ (p. 54). However, I envisaged weakening of /x/ to [h] between resonants as is regular in OE and development of [hw] to [w] as set out by Luick (1914-40: § 656); nothing non-standard or controversial is required. Note that, in later OE words with original medial /xw/, alternation between spellings implying pronunciations [w] and [hw] is commonplace, precisely as testified by the coin evidence for the name of Lewes.

The matter is still in the balance. Forsberg, for all his erudition, has not had the last word. If it is between Forsberg and myself, then Forsberg's solution is phonologically perfect but fails to account for some coin-spellings, and is semantically questionable. My solution has one special pleading phonologically, but the development claimed is not without parallel nor implausible; it handles the consonants of the problematic coin-legends, and semantically it appears acceptable; the passage of the postulated form into West Saxon is problematic. I evaluate my claim further in an appendix to Bleach (1997). Tantalizingly, this recent work by Bleach has reinforced the practical claims of the traditional etymology in *Hlæwas*; he presents interesting evidence for a row of ancient mounds in the centre of Lewes. But it is clear that the linguistic evidence does not support the claim in *PN Sx* and elsewhere that Lewes is named from (one of) them.

Reviewed by **Richard Coates**

○ *Note*

1 This is the word found in the name *Meeching* (cf. Coates 1998), but the spellings in the record cannot settle whether this name was coined with a pronunciation of the West Saxon or the Kentish type.

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From the newspapers

"A historic part of Burgess Hill could soon revert to its original name," declared the *Evening Argus* (29/05/98). "The World's End Residents' Association wants to call Janes Lane recreation ground the World's End recreation ground instead. World's End, in the north-east of the town, got its name in the 1840s when Irish navvies came to construct the railway line and complained how isolated the area was. Janes Lane, next to the recreation ground, was built early this century and named after developer Edward Janes, who built some houses in the area. Residents' association secretary Gerry Canning said: '.... We think it is important to make the most of our history. World's End is a distinctive part of Burgess Hill and we want to keep that identity.'"

From the newspapers

A development of nine houses off Church Road, Worth, is to be called *Fontana Close* after the mansion called *Villa Fontana* which used to stand there (*Evening Argus* 13/08/98).



The seal of Brightford hundred

Said to be of the time of Edward I (SAC 5)



The spelling of the name is unparalleled in the manuscript record, as is that of Bramber

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