



JOURNAL OF THE ENGLISH PLACE-NAME SOCIETY

Volume 12 (1980)

ISSN 1351-3095

The hundred-name Wayland

O. Arngart (pp. 54–58)

This article is from the *Journal of the English Place-Name Society*, an annual peer-reviewed journal issued free to members of the Society. The *Journal* welcomes contributions of articles and notes on subjects of relevance to English place-names.

The English Place-Name Society (EPNS) was established in 1923 to conduct a county-by-county survey of the place-names of England. To date, the Survey has produced more than 90 volumes. Almost all English counties have been surveyed, at least in part, and work to complete the Survey is ongoing. The Survey is used by researchers, academics, and those interested in the origins, meaning, and significance of English place-names.

The research work and the publication of the Survey are financed by the annual subscriptions of members of the Society, with the help of grants from the Arts and Humanities Research Council and the British Academy. Since the progress and success of the Survey depend largely upon the strength of the membership, the Society always welcomes new members, both personal and institutional.

In return for the annual subscription, members receive free of charge the current issue of the *Journal* as well as the volume of the Survey allocated to that year's subscription. They are entitled to order, in addition, any available volume of the Survey at a concessionary price. Associate Members pay a reduced subscription, for which they receive the *Journal*.

Annual subscription prices (correct as of August 2022):

Within the UK

£40 (full)

£15 (associate)

Outside the UK

£45 (full)*

£18 (associate*)

*increased prices reflect increased postage cost.

For further details or to join the Society, please contact:

Mrs Christine Hickling
English Place-Name Society
School of English
The University of Nottingham
NG7 2RD

Tel: 0115 951 5919
Email: name-studies@nottingham.ac.uk

ABBREVIATIONS OF COUNTIES AND EPNS COUNTY SURVEYS

Co	Cornwall
Ha	Hampshire
He	Herefordshire
K	Kent
La	Lancashire
Nb	Northumberland
Sf	Suffolk
So	Somerset
Wt	Isle of Wight
CPNE	<i>Cornish Place-Name Elements.</i>
EPNE	<i>English Place-Name Elements, Parts 1 and 2.</i>
PN BdHu	<i>The Place-Names of Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire.</i>
PN Brk	<i>The Place-Names of Berkshire, Parts 1, 2 and 3.</i>
PN Bu	<i>The Place-Names of Buckinghamshire.</i>
PN Ca	<i>The Place-Names of Cambridgeshire and the Isle of Ely.</i>
PN Ch	<i>The Place-Names of Cheshire, Parts 1–5.</i>
PN Cu	<i>The Place-Names of Cumberland, Parts 1, 2 and 3.</i>
PN D	<i>The Place-Names of Devon, Parts 1 and 2.</i>
PN Db	<i>The Place-Names of Derbyshire, Parts 1, 2 and 3.</i>
PN Do	<i>The Place-Names of Dorset, Parts 1–4.</i>
PN Du	<i>The Place-Names of County Durham, Part 1.</i>
PN Ess	<i>The Place-Names of Essex.</i>
PN ERY	<i>The Place-Names of the East Riding of Yorkshire and York.</i>
PN Gl	<i>The Place-Names of Gloucestershire, Parts 1–4.</i>
PN Hrt	<i>The Place-Names of Hertfordshire.</i>
PN Le	<i>The Place-Names of Leicestershire, Parts 1–7.</i>
PN Li	<i>The Place-Names of Lincolnshire, Parts 1–7.</i>
PN Mx	<i>The Place-Names of Middlesex (apart from the City of London).</i>
PN Nf	<i>The Place-Names of Norfolk, Parts 1–3.</i>
PN Nt	<i>The Place-Names of Nottinghamshire.</i>
PN NRY	<i>The Place-Names of the North Riding of Yorkshire.</i>
PN Nth	<i>The Place-Names of Northamptonshire.</i>
PN O	<i>The Place-Names of Oxfordshire, Parts 1 and 2.</i>
PN R	<i>The Place-Names of Rutland.</i>
PN Sa	<i>The Place-Names of Shropshire, Parts 1–9.</i>
PN Sr	<i>The Place-Names of Surrey.</i>
PN St	<i>The Place-Names of Staffordshire, Part 1.</i>
PN Sx	<i>The Place-Names of Sussex, Parts 1 and 2.</i>
PN W	<i>The Place-Names of Wiltshire.</i>
PN Wa	<i>The Place-Names of Warwickshire.</i>
PN We	<i>The Place-Names of Westmorland, Parts 1 and 2.</i>
PN Wo	<i>The Place-Names of Worcestershire.</i>
PN WRY	<i>The Place-Names of the West Riding of Yorkshire, Parts 1–8.</i>

The Hundred-Name Wayland

Wayland is the name of a hundred in central Norfolk, to the west of Norwich, and contains a district surrounding the market-town of Watton. In early sources the name is *Wanelund*, -t, *Wenelunt*, *Wainelund* 1086 Domesday Book, *Wenelundh[un]dr[edum]* 1168, 1170, *Weinelundhundredum* 1188, *Weineslundhundredum* 1190, *Wainelundhundredum* 1199, *Wainelund* 1199, 1212, *Wainlund* 1208, 1220, *Waynlund* 1226-8, 1235, *Waylund* 1250, 1265 *et freq* to 1329, *Weylund* 1286, 1332, *Weyland* 1295, *Waylound* 1310.¹ The hundred was named from Wayland Wood near Watton, where according to a statement of 1809 the sheriff's tourn for the hundred was always held. The name is of Scandinavian origin, its second element being Old Norse *lundr* 'grove', which was often used about a sacred grove, enclosing a place of heathen worship, as in Old Norse *blótlundr* 'sacrificial grove'. Alexander Bugge was thinking of this kind of grove when he interpreted the name 'the grove of the *vanir*', the name of some heathen Scandinavian deities.² However, the regular diphthongal form of the name does not admit this as a possibility.

There are several names of hundreds or wapentakes in the Danelaw that have Scandinavian names in *lundr* in addition to Wayland, and a closer examination of them could throw some fresh light on the latter name too. The names to be considered are then Aveland, Lincs., Framland, Leics., Toseland, Hunts., and *Neueslund*,

Northants.

Aveland is in southern Lincolnshire and is *Avelunt* 1086, *Auelun* 1130, 1162, *Auelund* (*wapentacum*) 1163, 1180, 1193 *et freq* to 1316, *Avalund* 1223, *Avelound* 1276 etc. The meeting-place of the wapentake was at The Aveland, a moated site near the village of Aslackby, and the name of the site is to be connected with that of the lost village or hamlet of Avethorpe, near Aslackby and The Aveland, occurring as *Auetorp* 1086, 1202, *Auethorp* c. 1170, 1212 *et freq* to 1363, *Authorp* 1316, 1354, 1371 etc. It is clear that both the wapentake of Aveland and the former hamlet of Avethorpe alike were named from a man bearing the Old Danish personal name *Ave*, as already pointed out by Bugge, Aveland being his *lundr* and Avethorpe his *þorp*.

Framland in north-eastern Leicestershire is *Fran(e)lund*, *Franelun*, *Franland* 1086, *Franelun* 1130, *Franelundwap-*
[entacum] 1167, 1183, 1193, *Freneslund'wap[entacum]* 1175, *Frenelundwapentacum* 1176, *Fremelundwapentacum* 1180, *Franel-*
undwapentacum 1184, *Frenelun'wapentacum* 1195 etc. The wapentake was named from a wood at Great Framlands, near Melton Mowbray, referred to as (in) *bosco de Framelund* 1276. The first element of the name is a Scandinavian personal name, which appears as *Frana*, *Frena*, *Frana* in Old English sources and is to be derived from an Old Norse personal name **Fráni*, **Fráni*.³

Toseland hundred occupies the southern part of Huntingdonshire, mostly south of the river Ouse. In early sources it is referred to as *Toleslund*, *-t hund*' 1086 *Toleslundh[un]dr[edum]* 1166, 1168, 1185, *Thoueslundhundr-*
[edum] 1175 (erroneously given as *Thones-*), *Toulislund-*

hundredum 1179, *Touleslundhundredum* 1183, 1193, *Tolleslund-hundred* 1190, *Toules-*, *Toulislund* 1220, 1228 *et freq* to 1303, *Thouleslund* 1286, *Toulislond* 1303 etc., *Tousland* 1428. The hundred was named from Toseland Wood, called *boscus de Tolleslond* 1245, which also gave its name to Toseland village, which is *Toleslund* c.1180, 1229, 1255, *Toules-*, *Toulislund* 1232, *Tholeslund'* 1241, *Tolleslund* 1261 etc., with further spellings corresponding to those of the hundred-name. The first element is the Old Danish personal name *Tōli*, which in England appears as the name of an earl of this district, who fell in the battle of Tempsford in 921.⁴

Neveslund in eastern Northamptonshire is the Domesday Book name of part of the modern Huxloe hundred, and it also occurs as *Nauereslund* 1066-75, *North-*, *Suthnaveslunt* 12th cent., *Nor-*, *Sudnaueslond* 1202, *Nord-*, *Sudnaueslund* 1220 etc. up to 1329. This case is a more doubtful one than those preceding. The editors of *The Place-Names of Northamptonshire*⁵ assume the first element of the hundred-name as well as that of an adjacent stream called *Nafrysbroc* in a document of 1013, only preserved in a poor fourteenth century copy, to be the Old Norse personal name *Nafarr*. Ekwall⁶ instead wants to explain both names alike from an Old English **Næf-hrīs* 'coppice where materials for making naves (Old English *nafu*) were got'. There may be a few tiny question-marks in regard to this, but all the aspects of the background to the formation of the names are very carefully discussed in Ekwall's article, and it is possible that his derivation is to be accepted rather than that of the PNNth.

All the same, three of the four names in *-lund* that have been dealt with undoubtedly have Scandinavian personal names

for their first elements, and this may be further illustrated by the name of Lawress wapentake near Lincoln,⁷ which is *Lagvlris* 1086 Domesday Book, *Lagolftris* 1115-8, *Laulris* (*wapentacium*) c.1155, 1170, *Lauelris* 1202 etc. The first element of this name is **Lag-Ulf*, a personal name of Scandinavian origin and analogous to Old Icelandic names like *Laja-Ulfliótr*, *Lög-Skapti*. The wapentake was called from some lawman famous enough to have had his name *Law-Wolf* recorded in the name of the assembly over which he presided. Since the second element of the wapentake name is Old Norse *hris* 'coppice, brushwood', it is an almost perfect parallel to the above names in *-lund*.

There is thus very good reason to think that the first element of Wayland is also a personal name, denoting either the hundred-man or lawman of the hundred or else the priest who guarded the sacred grove. If so, a possible origin of the *Wayn-* theme may be the common Old Danish personal name *Waghn*, or a variant form *Waghne-*,⁸ which was Anglicised to *Wayn-* through the influence of the English word *wain*, Old English *wægn*, *wagen*.⁹ The Danish personal name also occurs by itself in Old English. It was borne by a man mentioned as *Wagene* in a source of c.1050, and would normally develop to *Wawen*, as in fact it did in the place-name Wootton Wawen, which derives its distinctive addition from the above-mentioned *Wagene*, its TRE tenant.¹⁰ However, the personal name *Waghn* is generally explained from the common noun Old Swedish *vaghn* 'wain', Danish *vogn* etc.,¹¹ so the association to the corresponding English word would be an easy and natural one, even if it is only attested in the single instance of Wayland.

O. ARNGART

NOTES

- 1 For reference to the spellings of the various names, see my *English Hundred Names* (EHN; Lund, 1934-9), I, pp. 77, *et passim*.
- 2 See *Introduction to the Survey of English Place-Names* (IPN), English Place-Name Society (EPNS), vol. I, I (Cambridge, 1924), p. 89.
- 3 See Erik Björkman, *Nordische Personennamen in England* (Halle a.S., 1910), p. 42; Olof von Feilitzen, *The Pre-Conquest Personal Names of Domesday Book* (Uppsala, 1937), p. 252.
- 4 He is variously called *Toli* and *Toglos* in the Old English sources, but the first is doubtless the more correct form. The diphthongisation to *ou* in the early spellings of Toseland has not been fully accounted for, but may be due to Anglo-Norman influence; thus the word *feld* 'field' often appears in the Anglo-Norman spelling *feud* in place-names; see also von Feilitzen, *op. cit.* paras. 61, 64, and EPNS 3, p. 251 f., 272.
- 5 J.E.B. Gover, A. Mawer and F.M. Stenton, *The Place-Names of Northamptonshire* (PNNth), EPNS, vol. 10 (1933), p. 216.
- 6 *Studia Neophilologica* 10 (1937-8), pp. 103-7.
- 7 EHN I, p. 50; 3, p. 159.
- 8 Cf. Ekwall in IPN, p. 61 f. and note.
- 9 The monophthongic *Wene-*, *Ware-* forms could likewise be due to Anglo-Norman influence, see IPN, p. 113, and cf. von Feilitzen, *op. cit.* para. 39. Possibly, however, they might derive from the Old English contracted form *wæn* 'wain', yet this is characteristic of West-Saxon rather than Anglian dialects.
- 10 See von Feilitzen, *op. cit.*, p. 402; EPNS 13, p. 242.
- 11 See G. Knudsen and M. Kristensen, *Danmarks gamle personnavne* (København, 1936-64), s.n.