

THE PLACE - NAMES OF THE TEST VALLEY.

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THE Test, the longest river in Hampshire, runs for about 38 miles from its main source beyond Overton to Southampton Water. It has cut a transverse valley through chalk and is fed by numerous springs which rise in the late autumn. The Test is joined below Whitchurch by the Bourne stream from Upton and Hurstbourne Tarrant; at Fullerton by the Anton river from Andover and the north; at Horsebridge by the Somborne and Wallop streams; at Wherwell by the Bullington river; near Mottisfont by the Lockerley stream; at Romsey by the Tadburn Lake stream; and at Nursling by the Black and Cadnam Waters. Into the Test estuary flow the Bartley Water and the Millbrook.

Local place-names, by denoting the fusion of races by conquest or settlement, have an ethnological value, and by denoting a state of civilisation have an historic value. Successive races in Hampshire—Iberian, Celtic, Romano-British, Old English (or Anglo-Saxon), Norse, Danish and Norman-French—have left their mark in place-names.

Abbot's Ann (D.B., Anna). Water belonging to a monastery. (Celtic, an, water.)

Ampfield (O.E., Ammanfeld). Amma's field or field near water. (Celtic, an, afon.)

Amport (D.B., Anne de Port). River belonging to Hugh de Port.

Andover (D.B., Andovere). Spring-water. (Celtic, can, a water-source.)

Ashe. Farm near water (Celtic, ache) or ash-tree farm. (O.E., aesc.)

Ashley (D.B., Esselie). Water-pasture (Celtic, ache) or ash-tree pasture. (O.E., aesc.)

E. Aston (O.E., East-Tūn). Eastern farm.

Appleshaw (O.E., Appelsas-Shawe). Wood of apple-trees.

Bartley (O.E., Bēorc-Lēah). Birch-wood clearing.

Barton Stacey (D.B., Bertune; O.E., Beretūn). Manor farm. The name Stacey is taken from the Norman-French family De Sacy.

Bossington (D.B., Bositone). Settlement of Bōsa's people.

Brook (D.B., Broc; O.E., Brōc). Brook.

Broughton (D.B., Brestone; O.E., Brōctūn). Farm near or bordering on a brook.

Cadnam (O.E., Cadenham). Cada's homestead.

Calmoor. Cold or barren moor or mere (O.E., cald, cold; O.E., calu, bare).

Charlton (O.E., Ceorlatūn). Peasants' farm.

Chilbolton (D.B., Cīlbodentune; O.E., Ceolboldingtūn). Cēolbold's farm

- Church Oakley** (D.B., Aclci). Oak-tree pasture belonging to a church.
- Upper Clatford** (D.B. Clabford). The higher ford where burdock grew.
- Goodworth Clatford** (D.B., Godorde). Goda's farm near the ford where burdock grew.
- Deane** (D.B., Dene). Valley (O.E., denu).
- Dunbridge** (D.B., Denebrige). Bridge near a hill-fortress (Celtic, dun), or bridge on or near a down (O.E., dūn).
- Freefolk**. Folk of the Scandinavian goddess Frig or Freya.
- Fullerton** (D.B., Fugelerestune). Farm of the bird-catchers.
- Fyfield** (D.B., Fifhide ; O.E., Fifhide). Estate of 5 hides.
- Horsebridge** (O.E., Horsbrycg). Bridge for horses.
- Houghton** (D.B., Houstune ; O.E., Höhtūn). Farm on the hoo or projecting heel of land.
- Hurstbourne Tarrant and Priors** (D.B., Esseburne). Stream lined by vine-shoots (O.E., hysse), or ash-trees (O.E., aesc), belonging to a monastery.
- Ibthorpe (Ibthorp)** (Norse and Danish, Ibetrop). Ibba's hamlet.
- Kimpton** (D.B., Chemontune ; O.E., Cymaingtūn). Cyma's farm.
- Laverstoke** (D.B., Lavrochestoche). A holding of the Laeferings. It may contain the Gaelic element "larroch," a house site.
- Lockerley** (D.B., Locherslega and Locheslei). Pasture containing a lake (Gaelic, lochan).
- Longparish**. Long parish.
- Longstock** (D.B., Stoches ; O.E., Langestok). Long holding. It may contain the Old English element stōc, a stake.
- Micheldever** (D.B., Miceldevre). Much water (O.E., micel, great).
- Michelmersh**. Much marsh (O.E., mersc, marsh).
- Middleton** (O.E., Middeltūn). Middle farm.
- Minstead** (D.B., Mintestede). Place where mint grew.
- Mottisfont** (D.B., Mortesfunde and Mortelhunte). Mōtesfunta, spring or well where moots (assemblies) were held. (Latin, "fons," a fountain or spring.)
- Overton** (D.B., Ovretune ; O.E., Ofertūn). Farm on or near a river bank.
- Newton Stacey** (D.B., Niwentone ; O.E., Niwetūn). New farm belonging to the Norman-French family De Sacy.
- Nursling** (D.B., Notesseling, Nutscillinge). Nut-grove by the water-meadows.
- Penton Mewsey**. Farm at the point or head. (Celtic, pen). The name Mewsey is taken from the Norman-French family De Meysey.
- Polhampton** (D.B., Polemtune). Homestead or settlement by a pool. (O.E., pōl ; Celtic pwl, pool).
- Pucknall**. Puca's slope or valley.
- Quidhampton**. Farm or wood for producing resin. (Cymric, coed, a wood.)
- Romsey** (D.B., Romeseye). Island in the marshes. (Cymric, rhuime, marsh ; Norse and Danish, ey, island.)
- St. Mary Bourne**. Saint Mary's stream (O.E., burne).
- King's Somborne** (D.B., Sumburne). The King's summer stream.

Southington (O.E., Suth-ingatūn). Farm of the dwellers to the South (the Suthings or Sudings).

Stanbridge. Stanbrigge. Stone bridge. It may mean Steyn's bridge.

Stockbridge. Stocbrigge. Plank bridge (O.E., stōc, stake).

Stoke Charity (D.B. Stoke). The holding of Henry de la Charité, lord of the manor in the 13th century.

E. Stratton. Farm on the eastern side of the paved road or route. (Latin, strata).

Swampton. (O.E., Swana-tūn). Swineherds' farm.

Sutton Scotney (D.B. Sudtune). Southern farm. The name Scotney is taken from the Norman-French family Escotney.

Thruxton (Norse, Thorkleston). Thorkell's farm.

Tufton. Tuckers' or Weavers' farm. It may mean Tocca's farm.

Middle Wallop, Nether Wallop, Over Wallop (D.B., Wālope). The valley of the stream. (O.E., wiell) (O.E., hop, hill-side).

East Wellow. Weleuc. Willow-tree place.

Wherwell (D.B., Warwelle ; O.E., Hwoerwelle). Hoary or ancient spring or well (O.E., uuille, well ; O.E., Hwer, ewer).

Weyhill (O.E., Wēoh, holy place). The holy place on the hill.

Whitchurch (D.B., Whitcerce). White church. This is the Roman Vindomis.

Wonston (D.B., Wenesistune). Wynsige's farm or Woden's mound or building.

Upton (D.B., Optone ; O.E., Upptūn). Upper or higher farm.

Vernham Dean. Ferncham's dene. Farm among ferns in the valley.

NOTE.—D.B. = Domesday Book.

O.E. = Old English (or Anglo-Saxon).