

Maps from Coates and Breeze, *Celtic Voices English Places* (2000)

This folder contains some of the county maps from this work, showing the distribution of Celtic survivals in modern England.

A few points to bear in mind:

- They chose not to map rivers (which inconveniently often run across several county-boundaries), the single most common category of Celtic survival.
- They do not map Roman-period Celtic names, even when they can be securely located, if they did not survive into later periods.
- They make some rather fine linguistic decisions ('ancient', 'root Celtic', etc.) which are very technical, rather doubtful and not generally to be worried about. Though 'ancient', in their terms, may mean potentially pre-Celtic, which is of interest.
- They include a number of late-recorded names (i.e. 18th- or 19th-century), which look as if they could be Celtic, but must be uncertain evidence for early survivals.

Notwithstanding all that, the county-by-county impression is extremely useful. For good examples from a county, start from these maps and track down dates and explanations in the recommended dictionaries (Ekwall, *Dictionary of English Place-Names*, Mills, *Dictionary of English/British Place-Names*; or failing them the online 'Key to English Place-names' (<http://kepn.nottingham.ac.uk/>) [the last a resource with great potential but a number of 'issues' of its own!]). If the names are not in the dictionaries they are probably places too small and/or too late-recorded to have been noted by them.