

**Looking even more closely at the
Nordic element in East Anglian
place-names**

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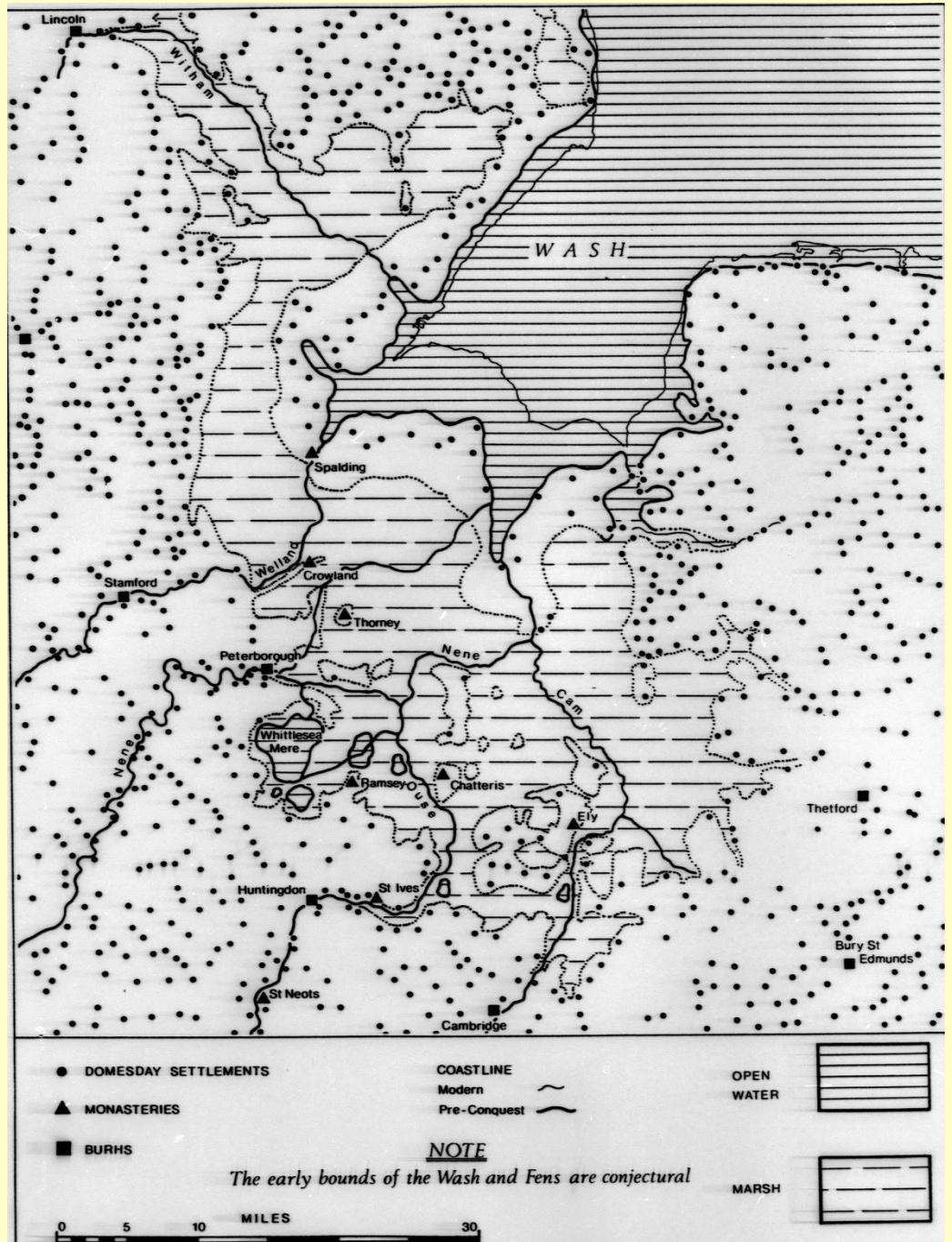
Copenhagen

Tric, LIN

Occurs 4x in this form in GDB (348c;12/77, 360a;29/12, 360a;29/24, 363c;38/9) referring to sokeland in Candleshoe Wapentake. Later known as Skegness.

Owen and Coates (2003:42-4) discuss a possible relationship with Latin *traiectus* ‘crossing place’ as in Utrecht etc. They point to C.W. Phillips’ 1932 proposal of a ferry across the Wash here.

The precise terminal point at Skegness for a Roman ferry across the Wash to connect with Holme next the Sea is uncertain. This is map 17 from Hill 1981.



Thre(e)ckingham, LIN

Triching(he)ham Ekwall explains it tentatively as a tribal name formed on OE *þræc* ‘force, courage’ or ON *þrekkr* ‘dirt, filth’ DEP.N.

Cameron proposes a hypocoristic British personal name.
**Tric* (1998:127).

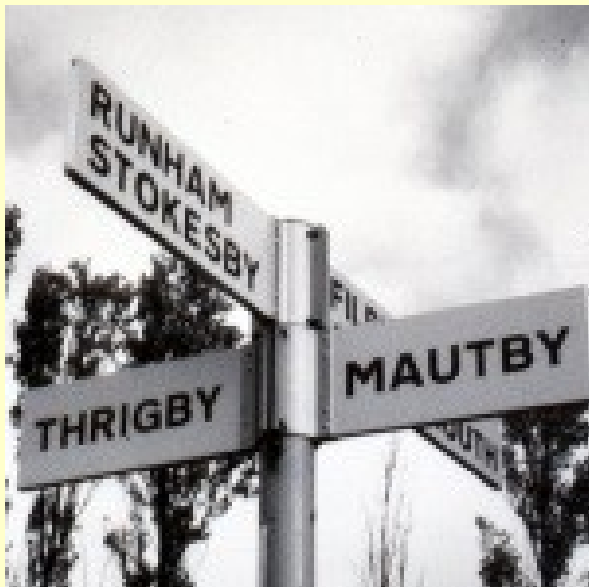
CDEPN suggests an unidentified element **Tric*, possibly denoting a place.

Thrigby, NFK

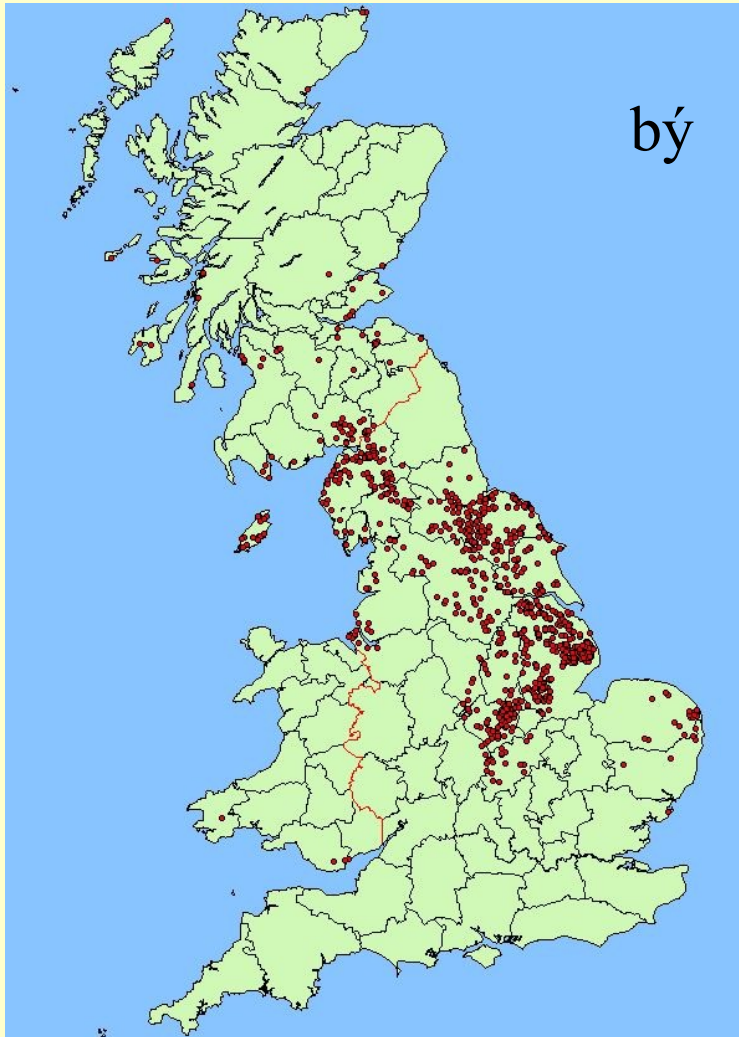
Trukebei LDB135a;1/204

Trikebei LDB 180a;9/89

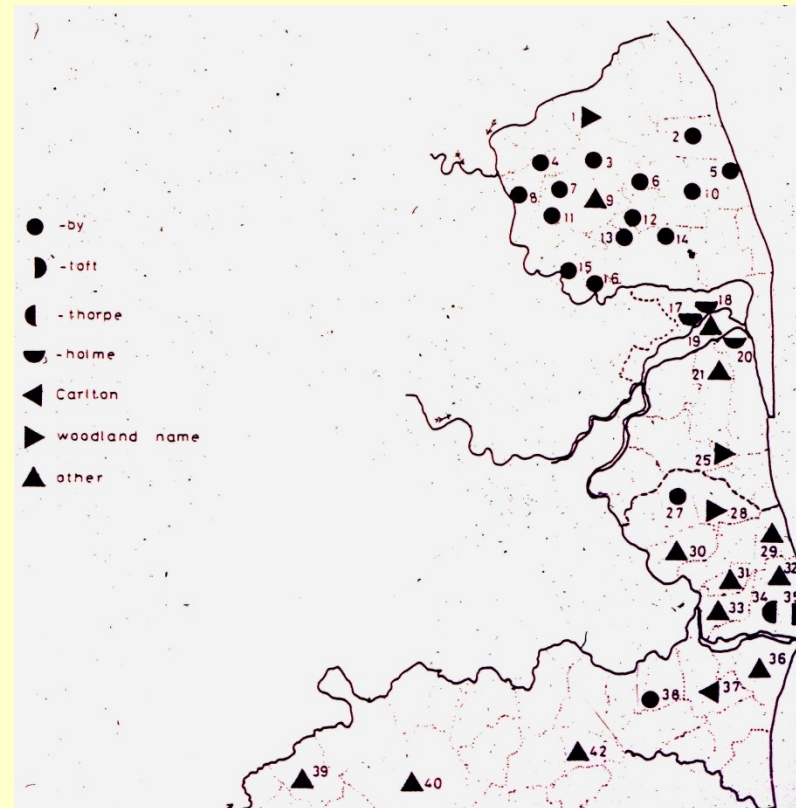
PNNf 2.26



Nordic names in East Anglia



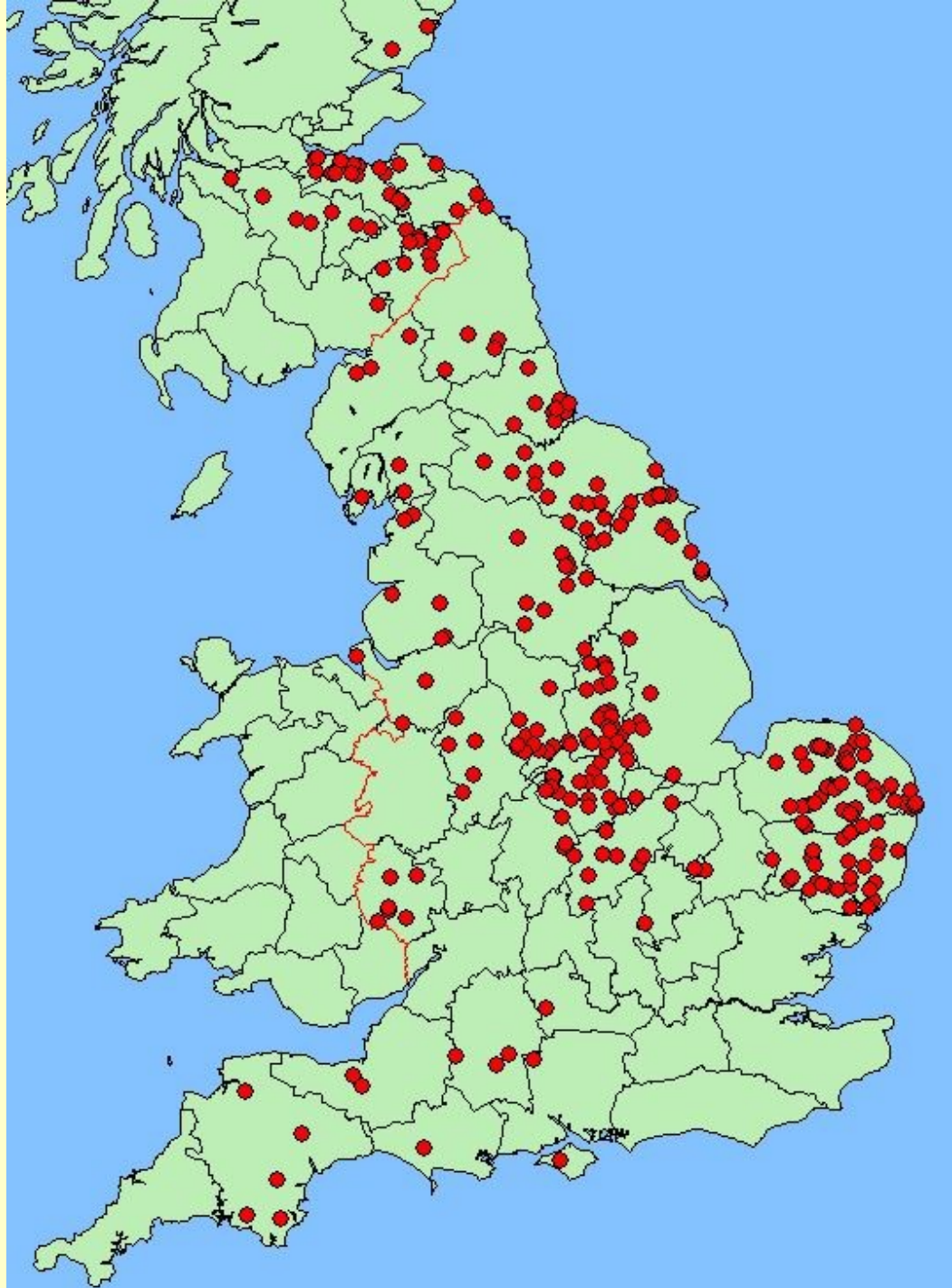
OE *hāring* 'herring' (Parsons 2004)



Flegg

Lothingland

Grimston-type names



Nordic pers.ns.in high status *tūns*, NFK

Kati in Caston in Wayland H.

Krókr in Croxton in Grimshoe H.

Grímr in Grimston in Freebridge H.

Gunni in Gunton in N. Erpingham H.

Haddr in Hadeston in Depwade H.

Hildulfr in Hindolveston in Eynsford H.

Skúli in Scoulton in Wayland H.

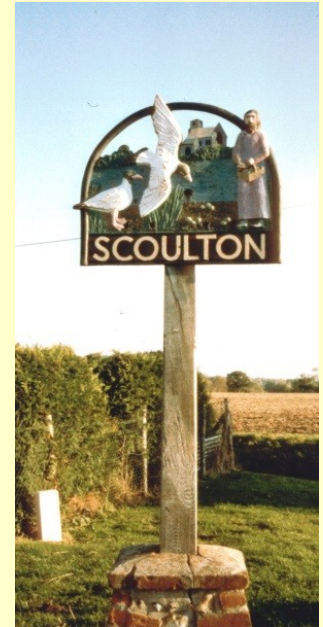
Stýrr in Starston in Earsham H.

Stýrr in Sturston in Grimshoe H.

Thjalfi in Thelveton in Diss H.

Thurgār in Thurgarton in N. Erpingh. H.

Thúrulfr in Thurlton in Clavering H.



Nordic pers.ns.in high status *tūns*, SFK

Alfildir in Alton in Samford H.

Bildir in Bildeston in Cosford H.

Brandr x2 in 2 Brandestons

Flík x2 in 2 Flixtons

Flóki in Flowton in Bosmere H.

**Gabbi* in Gapton in Lothingland H.

Hemingr in Hemingstone in Bosmere H.

Sumarliði x2 in Somerleyton/Somerton

Thrándr in Thrandeston in Hartismere H.

Thurstān in Thurston in Risbridge H.

Thúrulfr in Thurlestone in Claydon H.

Ubbi in Ubbeston in Blything H.

Ulfr in Ulveston in Claydon H.

Vestliði in Westleton in Blything H.



Grimston hybrids elsewhere

Brandr in Branston LIN & Braunston NTH

Flík in Flixton YON

Flóki in Flockton YOW

Grímr in North Grimston YON

Hildulfr in Hilderstone STF

Kalfr in Cawston WAR

Kati in 2 Cattons in YON & YOE

Stýrr in Sturston in DRB

Thurgār in Thurgarton in NTT & Wolgarston in STF

Thurstān in Thrussington in LEI

Thúrulfr in Thurlstone in YOW & Thulston in DRB



Grimstons with low valuations in NFK

Clipstone House in Gallow H. containing *Klyppr*

Kettlestone in Gallow H. containing *Ketil*

Narvestuna in Clavering H. containing *Narfi*

Thuxton in Mitford H. containing *Thurstān*

Turstanestuna in Mitford H. containing *Thurstān*



Grimstons with low valuations in SFK

Colston in Bishop's H. containing *Kolr*

Grimston Hall in Colneis H. containing *Grímr*

Ingoluestuna in Plomesgate H. containing *Ingulfr*

Kalletuna in Cosford H. containing *Kalli*

Torstuna in Stow H. containing *Thúrir*

Turstanestuna in Wilford H. containing *Thurstān*

Kalletuna in Cosford H. containing *Kalli*

Turchetlestuna in Samford H. containing *Thurketil*

Guthestuna in Colneis H. containing *Guthir*

Turstanestona in Colneis H. containing *Thurstān*

Arnketil

The only record I have found in LDB in East Anglia is:

Archillus a freeman in Aldeburgh SFK TRE 316a;6/130

He was probably a Dane

Osketel < *Ásketil*

The uncontracted forms in East Anglia always show anglicised *Ōs*-. Several men called *Osketel(lus)* in SFK, only one in NFK. All presumably English, although *Osketellus* presbyter SFK TRE 299b:4/14 may perhaps be identical with *Anschetillus* presbyter and capellanus SFK TRE 334b;7/36

The contracted forms *Aschil* SFK TRE 393a/25/53 and *Aschilli huscarli* SFK TRE 441b;67/10 are presumably borne by eleventh-century Danes.

*Anschitellus, Anschetellus,
Ansketillus, Anschillus*

Men with such names were probably Normans, although *Anschetel filius Uspaci* NFK TRW 279b;66/99 may have been the son of a man with an anglicised Nordic name *Unspati gen.* TRW 185a;9/150. Both men named in N. Erpingham H.

Anschillus freeman in Bricett SFK 405b;30/3 and 448b;76/14. This irregular name-form is probably erratic for the man from Bricett called *Anschetillus* SFK TRW 422b;38/8.

Grímketil

There is only one occurrence of this name in LDB. A freeman called *Grimketel* NFK TRE & TRW 171a;8/123.

The English moneyer *Grimcetel/Grimcytel* was active in Lincoln under King Knút.

The contracted form of the name was borne by one of the first settlers in Iceland and by a moneyer in Lund called **krimkil**

Turchetel < *Þórketil*

Turchetel is used 12 times of a freeman under Hermer de Ferrers in NFK and in Islington this man is still holding it TRW 207a;13/13. In SFK there are 2 freemen called *Turchetel* and 1 *Turketel*.

There is a reference to 30 freemen in Claydon H., one called *Turchetel* TRW 446b; 74/13.

All these men are likely to be of English descent.

Turchillus

There are 12 men in NFK and 6 in SFK called *Turchillus* who are most likely to be Danish, as probably also *Turkil haco* ‘son of Hákon’, perhaps a descendant of a follower of Knút.

Turkil de Uereteham TRW 400a; 16/12d.

And also *Turchillis teinnus* ‘the thane of King Edward’, who held land in Burstall TRE 417a;34/7.

Ulfketil

No examples of the contracted form of the name.

Only 3 instances of a surviving *f*:

Ulfketel a freeman in Heveningham SFK TRE 334a;7/27

Ofchetel a freeman in Lexham NFK TRE 165a;8/63

Ofchetel the king's reeve in action NFK TRW 279b;66/106

Ulketel and *Ulchetel* very frequent in NFK.

Olketel a freeman NFK TRE 260a;35/16

Vlchetel minor tenant-in-chief NFK TRE 270b;58/1-3

Ulchetel frequently in action as the king's reeve in NFK

Cus et Akile Sufreint

2 freemen held 80 acres in Strickland SFK as a manor under Roger Bigot the Norman sheriff of Suffolk TRW 334b;7/37. This was forfeited land that the sheriff was holding for William.

Cus

Cus is probably identical with a man of this name who held land in Cransford NFK TRE 307b;6/44.

The name would seem to be Germanic and to be associated with the base *kūs-* in a number of Low German and Scandinavian words with the primary sense of ‘something big, thick, clumsy’ and with an OE personal name *Cusa*, an Old Norw strong byname *Kuss* ‘hump’ and the Old Danish personal name and byname *Kuse* ‘bogyman’.

Akile

Olof von Feilitzen considers these references to be to a man called *Aki*, perhaps because an inorganic final *l* is found in the names of men called *Aki* in a copy of the original returns for CAM (PNDB§ 66). There are no occurrences of *Akil* in LDB, although there are three occurrences of the form *Achil* in GDB for Wiltshire TRE 73c;66/7, for Worcestershire TRE 177c;26/ and in Staffordshire TRE 248b;11/8.

I am rather reluctant to look upon *Akile* as a form of *Aki*

Sufreint

This name would seem to be derived from the Old French adjective *sufreint*, Modern French *souffrant* ‘suffering, enduring’.

I should like to treat the name-combination as **Achille sufreint*, used humorously by a Norman French speaker of a man thought to be inclined to sulk, rather like Achilles refusing to go into battle in Homer’s *Iliad*. This would require that the scribe who recorded the name was familiar with one of the Latin versions of the Troy story current at the time.

The reference to *tendo Achille* is much younger (post 1693).