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NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION

TREATMENT OF NAMES IN MULTILINGUAL AREAS

Treatment of names in multilingual areas

Paper submitted by the United Kingdom

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TREATMENT OF NAMES IN MULTILINGUAL AREAS

(PAPER SUBMITTED BY THE UNITED KINGDOM)

A noteworthy event in 1986 was the publication of a Welsh school atlas (Yr Atlas Cymraeg).

The editors consulted a great number of organizations and individuals before settling on the final form of the atlas. At the outset there was a tendency to turn all foreign placenames into Welsh. That would have involved the conversion of roman alphabet and non-roman alphabet toponyms into Welsh.

The Welsh alphabet is more or less phonetic. Transliteration and transcription from other alphabets and other writing systems would have necessitated the invention of new letters and the combining of letters into combinations alien to Welsh. Since the purpose of the atlas was for use in schools where instruction was in Welsh, such a procedure would have created many difficulties for pupils. In the end the concept was abandoned.

In the present atlas Welsh versions of names are given wherever a source in Welsh literature can provide them. The Welsh Bible was one of those sources and it provided names such as Rhufain for Rome.

Where names of countries, oceans, or states within countries have names which can be translated into Welsh the Welsh translation is given. Examples are New South Wales and Northern Territory in Australia.

Where a Welsh name cannot be provided by one or other of those means the English language transliteration, transcription or conventional name was adopted.

Examination of the atlas will reveal the guiding principle that on the largest scale maps the 'local' name is used either as written in the Roman alphabet or in its English transliteration or transcription. On the very small scale maps Welsh names where they exist or English conventional names are used instead of the 'local' name.

It should be remembered that the atlas is a school atlas and that Welsh-speaking children are bilingual in Welsh and English.

Appended for comparison are selections of various kinds of names in English with their Welsh equivalents as given in the atlas.

Welsh equivalents of place-names in England, Scotland or Northern Ireland are not given on official maps. Neither are all the Welsh names given in the atlas necessarily to be found on maps and road-signs. The choice between Welsh and English depends on a number of factors. Local usage is an important factor. By local usage is meant the use of a name as the preferred name in a wider context than the immediate area to which the name applies.

The showing of dual names is only possible at 1:25 000 scale or larger. At 1:50 000 the great amount of detail restricts the possibility of using dual names. At this scale dual naming is used for all places which appear in upper-case lettering and, in addition, for well-known geographical features like 'Snowdon' (see the map appended).

It will be noted that the margins of the 1:50 000 series are tri-lingual in English, French and German. The addition of Welsh is hardly feasible. The Ordnance Survey of Great Britain publishes leaflets in Welsh for each of the national map scales including the conventional signs employed on them.

A.

GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES OF WALES

	<u>English</u>	<u>Welsh</u>
1.	Newport	Casnewydd
2.	Black Mountains	Mynyddoedd Du
3.	Monmouth	Trefywy
4.	Cardiff	Caerdydd
7.	Barry	Y Barri
8.	Swansea	Abertawe
9.	Mumbles	Y Mwmbwls
10.	Gower Peninsula	Bro Gwyr
11.	Burry Point	Porth Tywyn
12.	Ramsay I	Ys Dewi
13.	Builth Wells	Llanfair-ym-Muallt
14.	Brecon	Aberhonddu
15.	Brecon Beacons	Bannau Brycheiniog
16.	Knighton	Trefyclo
17.	Montgomery	Trefaldwyn
18.	L Vyrnwy	Llyn Llanwyddin
21.	Holy I	Ynys Cybi

B.

GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES OF ENGLAND

1.	Liverpool	Lerpwl
2.	Birkenhead	Penbedw
3.	Manchester	Manceinion
4.	Leicester	Caerlyr
5.	London	Llundain
6.	Lancashire	Caerhirfryn
7.	York (Yorkshire)	Efrog (Efrog)
8.	Cambridge	Caergrawnt
9.	Oxford	Rhydychen
10.	Forest of Dean	Fforest Y Ddena
11.	Oswestry	Croesoswallt
12.	Shrewsbury)	
13.	Shropshire)	Amwythig
14.	Whittington	Y Dref Wen
15.	Whitchurch	Eglwys Wen
16.	Chester	Caer
17.	Leominster	Llanllieni
18.	Kington	Ceintun
19.	Bishop's Castle	Trefesgob
20.	Carlisle	Caerliwelydd
21	Bristol	Briste

C.

GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES OF SCOTLAND

1.	Southern Uplands	Uwchdiroedd Y De
2.	Northwest Highlands	Ucheldiroedd Y Gogledd Orllewin
3.	Grampian Mountains	Mynyddoedd Grampian
4.	Inner Hebrides	Hebrides Mewnol
5.	Outer Hebrides	Hebrides Allanol
6.	Sidlaw Hills	Bryniau Sidlaw
7.	Edinburgh	Caeredin
8.	Glasgow	Glaschu

D.

OTHER GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

1.	North Sea	Môr y Gogledd
2.	Isle of Man	Ynys Manaw
3.	English Channel	Y Sianel (Y Môr Udd)
4.	Bristol Channel	Môr Hafren
5.	England	Lloegr
6.	Wales	Cymru
7.	Scotland	Yr Alban
8.	Ireland	Iwerddon
9.	Netherlands	Yr Iseldiroedd
10.	Finland	Y Ffindir
11.	Germany	Yr Almaen
12.	Poland	Gwlad Pwyl
13.	France	Ffainc
14.	Spain	Sbaen
15.	Belgium	Gwlad Belg
16.	Switzerland	Y Swistir
17.	Köln	Cwlen
18.	Rome	Rhufain