Divergence and Convergence within Standardizing Danish Place-Names

The case of Kramnitse/Kramnitze

Photo: TV2 Øst
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Kramnitse (Lolland)
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Wendic settlement 10th-13th cent.?
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Wendic settlement 10th-13th cent.? 

Distribution area of *itz*-names in Germany
-itse or -itze?
from Slavic -ici ('belonging to')

Wendic, West Slavic language, extinct in 15th cent. (absorbed in Low German, High German, Polish, Danish) closest related to modern-day Polish

Danish: -ici > -itse
German: -ici > -itz eller -itze
Polish: -ici > -ice
### itse eller itze ???

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1682</td>
<td>Krammesze</td>
<td>Eng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1692</td>
<td>Kramys</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1700</td>
<td>Kramysgat</td>
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<td>1727</td>
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<td>1776</td>
<td>Kramnissesegab</td>
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<td>1787</td>
<td>Krammenes Vei</td>
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<td>1858</td>
<td>Kramnisse Gab</td>
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<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td>Kramnitse Gab</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Kramnitse Gab</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Kramnitze</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pronunciation 1954: [kram·se]
-itse eller -itze ???

1200-tallet: Køcæli

1300-tallet: Quodevitze, Tiliz

1400-tallet: Bynetzæ, Kobælitze, Kotzelitze, Kvdisse, Tilitzæ

1500-tallet: Byntzæ, Kossælyssæ, Kuditse, Regidse, Tillitze

1600-tallet: Binnedtzæ, Cobelødtze, Codtzelidtze, Kuditze, Reidtse, Tillidtze

1700-tallet: Billese, Binnitze, Kodselsisse, Kuditze, Rejs, Tillidse

1800-tallet: Billese, Binnitze, Cortzelitze, Kuditse, Rejerse, Tillitze

1900-tallet: Billitse, Binnitse, Korselitse, Kuditse, Rejse, Tillitse
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Videnskabernes Selskabs Kort
1776
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Videnskabernes Selskabs Kort 1776
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Historically *itse*-names are predominantly spelled with *z*
s-form used systematically on military maps (c.1850-)

Place-Name Committee (1910-1934) suggested –*ese*
Local municipalities wanted to keep –*itze*
*z* not acceptable to Danish authorities (z not natural part of Danish orthography, *itze* ‘too German’)
-*itse* authorized as compromise in 1934

-*itze* reintroduced in 2018
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- to comply with widespread local wish
- in acknowledgement of Wendic connection
  (not to set precedence for the use of z in Danish place-names)

-itze reintroduced in 2018
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The end of the case of Kramnitse/Kramnitze