

The names for Britain and Ireland revisited

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Discussions on the provenance of the names Albion and Prydyn / Prydan (for Britain) and Ériu / Íriu (for Ireland) have occupied the attention of scholars since the end of the 19th century, if not before, down to the present day. Suggestions as to provenance have included a variety of languages ranging from Celtic to Hamito-Semitic, Indogermanic and Non-Indogermanic. This paper looks briefly into what has been said so far. In doing so it offers a simpler solution and thereby seeks to show that the foregoing names seemingly belong together embracing a single concept.