

Where did we come from?

Spelling variations of the **Yelland** family name include: **Yalan, Yaland, Yallan, Yalland, Yallen, Yallend, Yallon, Yallond, Yealand, Yealande, Yealland, Yeallande, Yealon, Yealond, Yeland, Yelaund, Yelland, Yellen, Yellend, Yellin, Yellind, Yellon, Yellond, Yelon, Yelond, Yeoland, Yeolland, Yoland, Yolande, Yollan, Yolland, Yollande, Yollond, Yollonde**, and many more.

Recorded in the spellings of **Yeoland** and **Yelland**, this is a surname of English, and specifically Lancastrian origins. **It derives from two places originally called Yealand Conyers and Yealand Redmayne in the parish of Warton, Lancashire**; which translate as 'the land by the ea,' the latter word being Ancient British (pre Roman) and means the stream. The additive Conyers and Redmayne refer to the two families who were the lords of the manor in medieval times.

Topographical surnames form the largest single segment of surname types; since it was from natural forms in the landscape (hills, brooks, oaks, etc) that the original languages and the original surnames, took their form. In this case we have a medieval fusion of 'ea' and 'land', with a 'Y' prefix to aid in pronunciation. In certain parts of the country particularly the South West 'yeo' is the normal spelling to indicate a river.

Surnames became necessary when governments introduced personal taxation. In England this was known as the Poll Tax. Throughout the centuries, surnames in every country have continued to "develop" often leading to astonishing variants of the original spelling.

The first recorded spelling of the family name is shown to be that of **Adam de Yeland**, the warden of the Honor of Lancaster, which was dated **1229**, in the County of Lancashire Pipe Rolls, during the reign of King Henry III, known as 'The Frenchman,' 1216-1272. **John de Yaldelonde** was recorded in the Hundred Rolls of Devon in **1273**. **William de Yelaund** of Northumberland is also recorded in the same year, whilst **Wilemus de Yeland** appears in the **1379** Poll Tax Rolls for the Sub County of Howden.

It appears that Devon could very well be the originating point of the proud name of **Yelland**. I know of at least four trees that appear to originate within 30 or 40 miles of South Tawton. Now, is South Tawton, South Brent, South Molton, or Cheriton Bishop, the originating point? That remains to be seen. I'm sure we would all like to solve that mystery. I will keep working on it and I invite everyone researching the **Yelland** name to do the same.

If anyone comes up with any additional information on the Yelland name, that they would like to share, please [contact me](#) so I can add it to this site.

The Yelland Family Crest

