

Below are entries from Old English Translator. Does the place-name Romsey mean an island of soot or a sooty, blackened island? This description would certainly fit in with the iron smelting industry. Romsey is not an island geographically. However, an area covered in ash and charcoal would stand out as a virtual island within the river terrace. The earliest iron smelting is mid-Saxon. If this derivation of the name is correct it would suggest that the settlement itself dates from the same period. A pre-existing settlement would have acquired its own place-name.

hrúm Strong Masculine Noun soot		
hrúm	Singular	Plural
Nominative	(the/that se) hrúm	(the/those þá) hrúmas
Accusative	(the/that þone) hrúm	(the/those þá) hrúmas
Genitive	(the/that þæs) hrúmes	(the/those þára) hrúma
Dative	(the/that þæm) hrúme	(the/those þæm) hrúmum

hrúmig Strong adjective sooty						
hrúmig	Masculine		Feminine		Neuter	
Strong	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Nominative	hrúmig	hrúmige	hrúmigu	hrúmiga	hrúmig	hrúmigu
Accusative	hrúmigne	hrúmige	hrúmige	hrúmiga	hrúmig	hrúmigu
Genitive	hrúmiges	hrúmigra	hrúmigre	hrúmigra	hrúmiges	hrúmigra
Dative	hrúmigum	hrúmigum	hrúmigre	hrúmigum	hrúmigum	hrúmigum

rómig Strong adjective
blackened sooty

rómig	Masculine		Feminine		Neuter	
Strong	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Nominative	rómig	rómige	rómigu	rómiga	rómig	rómigu
Accusative	rómigne	rómige	rómige	rómiga	rómig	rómigu
Genitive	rómiges	rómigra	rómigre	rómigra	rómiges	rómigra
Dative	rómigum	rómigum	rómigre	rómigum	rómigum	rómigum

