

Place-name info

Ballykeel, parish of Forkill, Co. Armagh

An Baile Caol 'the narrow townland' PNiU

Seán O'Coinn PNP also *An Baile Caol* H 9921 'Narrow townland'.

Ballekeill was named in a 1605 Exchequer Inquisition, and the townland was shown as *B:keile* on the 1609 map. On the 19th century OS maps, it is a small, roughly rectangular, townland of 136 acres, shown with a cromlech near its western boundary. It is not particularly narrow, and as often the exact significance of the recurring townland name *An Baile Caol* (20 in Northern Ireland) is something of a puzzle!

Kay Muhr, Ulster Place-Name Society, August 2012