AN ELEVEN-LETTER POSITIONAL LIST

JEFF GRANT
Hastings, New Zealand
ROGER HANNAHS
Wilmington, Delaware

In the May 1978 Word Ways, John Meyer exhibited a list of 26 seven-letter words in which the central letter took each alphabetic value (A to Z) and the two three-letter ends were also words. In the August 1978 Word Ways, Leslie Card extended this exercise to nine-letter words, finding examples for all central letters but Q. In this article, we extend it further to eleven-letter words:

axiomAtical  blockAdings
crossB(arred)  underBought
extraCtable  guideCrafts
underDrains  screwDriver
adultErated  butchErings
grandFather  satinFlower
underGround  superGrants
overtHrower  unrigHtable
deteriorate  interJangle
interJangle  underKeeled
underKeeled  (shrin)Kheads
perchLorate  oversLoping
blackMailed  poundMaster
heaveNwards  dragoNFLies
demonOlogic  trampOlines
enterPrises  birthPlaces
butteRFlies  timbeRlands
sweepStakes  thankSGiver
forgeTtable  roughTailed
interJangle  presUldying
extraVagate  promoVental
lightWeight  wheelWright
(bisse).Xtiles  (overe)Xpress
brachYdomes  staphYlions
hydraZ(oates)

All eleven-letter and five-letter words can be found in Webster's Second or Third, or inferred from words therein, with the exception of those in parentheses which are in the OED.

As usual, the central letter Q is a problem. The best solution to date is COLLOQUISTS, where Collo is an Algerian town and the two Uists (N. Uist and S. Uist) are islands in the Outer Hebrides.