



HWÆT FE LARDA
 na mæcra dazum. heod cyminga
 þrum se þrumon huda æþelingsas elles
 þre medon. of seold secping sceapen
 þreacum monegū mæspum meodo secl
 of teah esode eopil syddan ærest þe
 fea sceap fundon he þæs þroffe seba
 þeox undra polenum þeod myndam þah
 oð þ him æghpyle þara ymb sitten dya
 ofra hron. iude hyran seolde zomban
 syl dan þæs god cyming. dan æra þas
 æra camed zong mæardum þone god
 sende folce to þroffe þyng. dæppe on
 zear þhe ærdwgon alda wæse. lange
 hpile him þæs lif þre puld þe. þealden
 þeold ære to zear. þeap þe. þe. þe. þe.
 bl. þe. þe. þe. þe. þe. þe. þe. þe. þe. þe.
 Landum in. þe. þe. þe. þe. þe. þe. þe. þe. þe.
 ze witecan þromum þe. þe. þe. þe. þe. þe. þe. þe. þe.

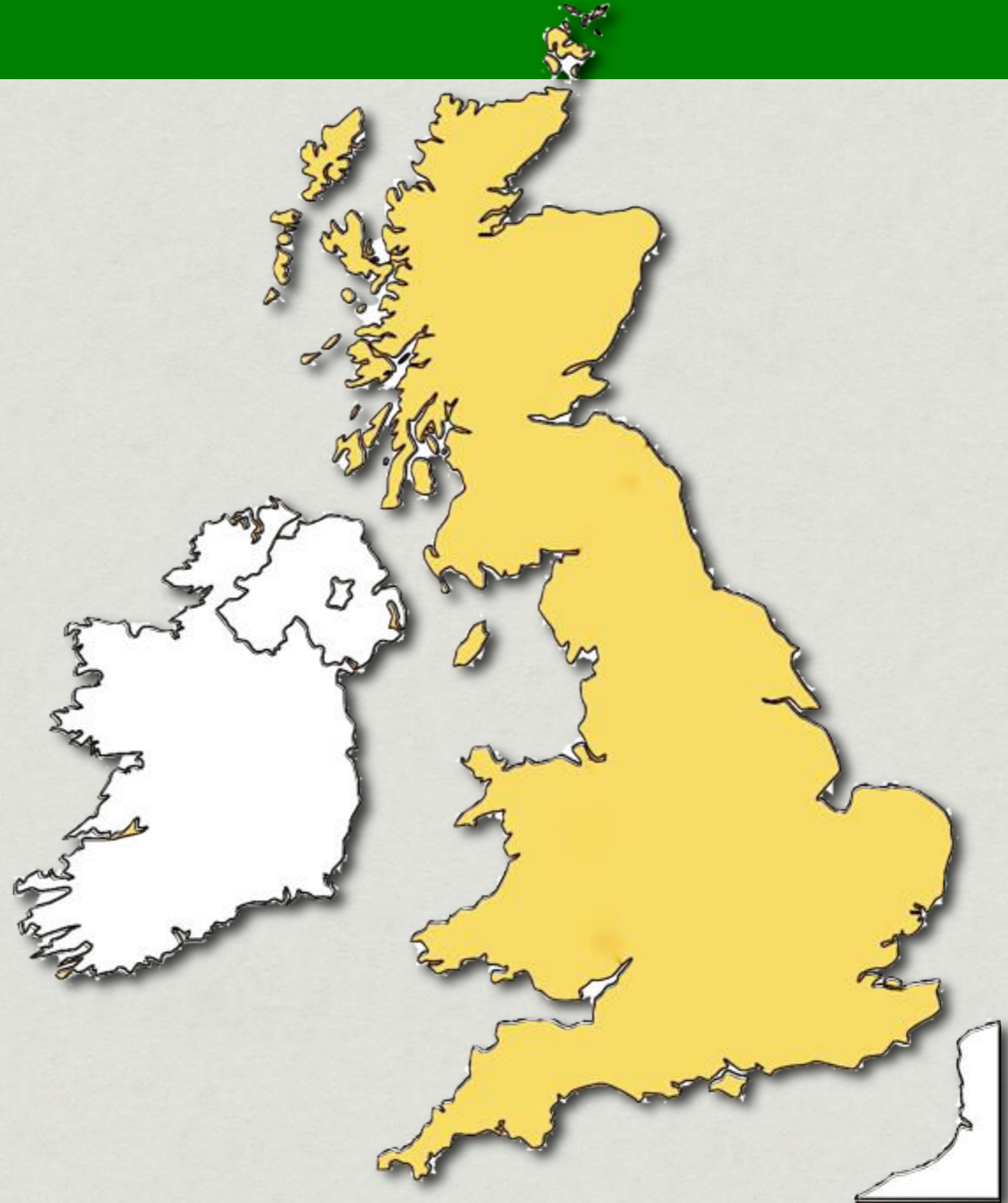
i	æ	p	z	s
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English Literature
 The origins
 Presented by Dr. Korde R.C.

**WHEN WAS THE ENGLISH
LANGUAGE BORN?**



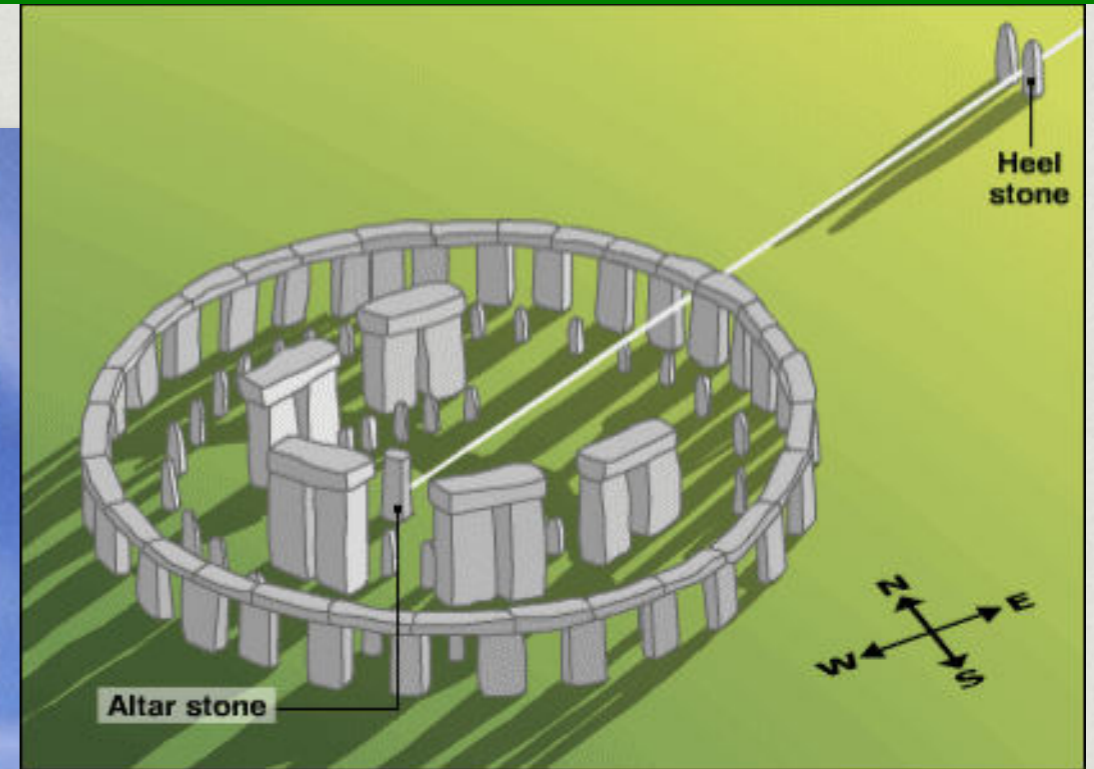
2000 B.C. IBERIANS



PRE-CELTIC BRITAIN



STONHENGE





CELTIC BRITAIN

TWO CELTIC MIGRATIONS:

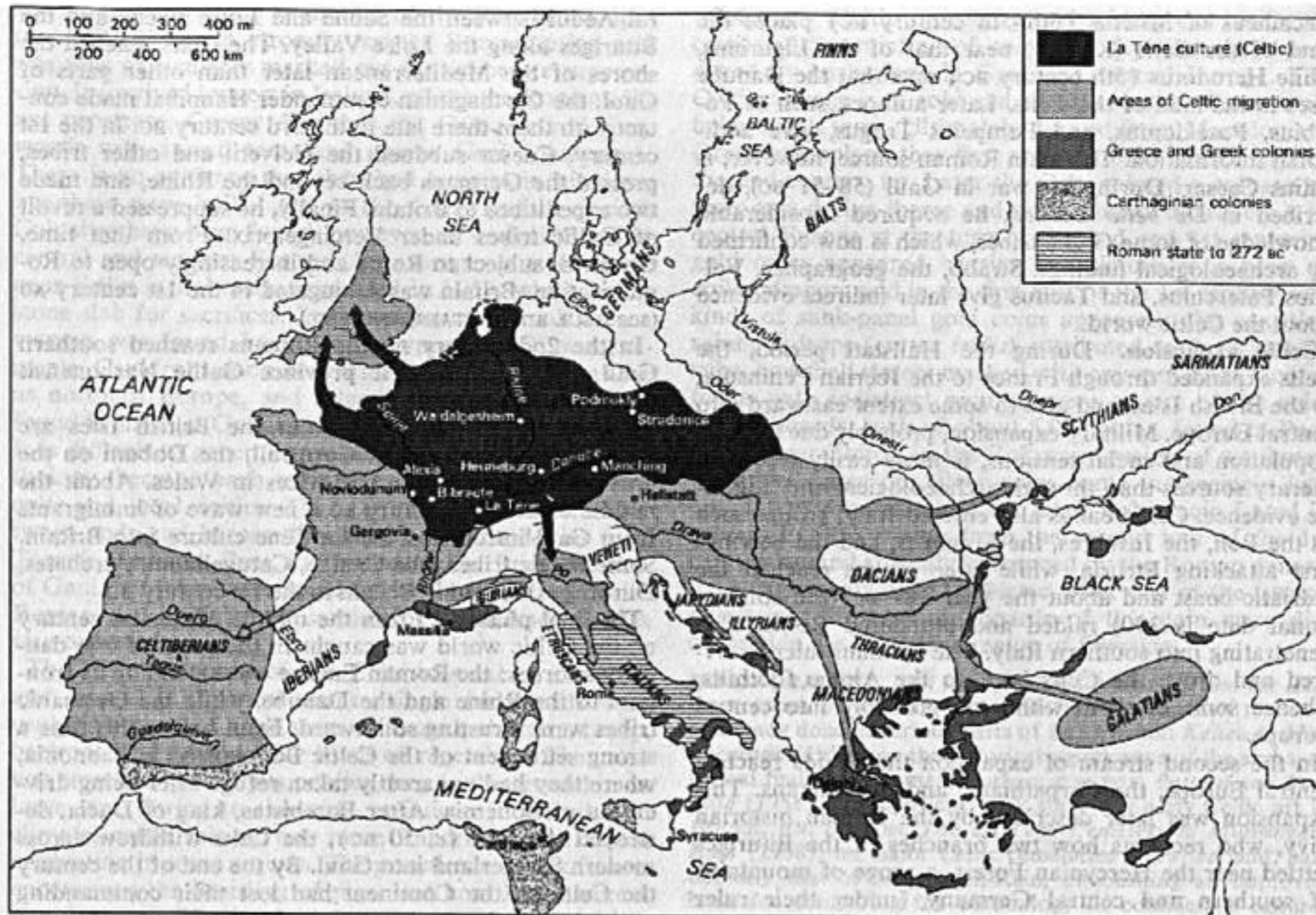
- 7TH CENTURY B.C.
- 4TH CENTURY B.C.





CELTIC BRITAIN

WHERE DID THE CELTS COME FROM?



The Celtic migrations.
 From Grossen Historischen Weltatlas, vol. I, Vorgeschichte und Altertum (1963); Bayerischer Schulbuch-Verlag, Munich



THE CELTS DIDN'T KNOW TO BE CELTS!

They never formed a unified ethnic group



THE CELTS

1. Were organised in **clans** and **tribes**.
2. Had religious and political leaders: the **druids**.
3. Were **Pagans**. Their religion was known as “animism” (Latin for “spirit”).
4. Their language was the **Gaelic**.

ROMAN EMPEROR **Julius Caesar**
INVADED BRITAIN FIRST IN **55** AND
THEN IN **54 B.C.**

43 A.D.

EMPEROR CLAUDIUS CONQUERS BRITAIN

He was unable to subdue Scotland because he met with
the resistance of
the **Picts** and the **Scots**

ROMAN BRITAIN



121 A.D. EMPEROR HADRIAN ERECTS THE WALL



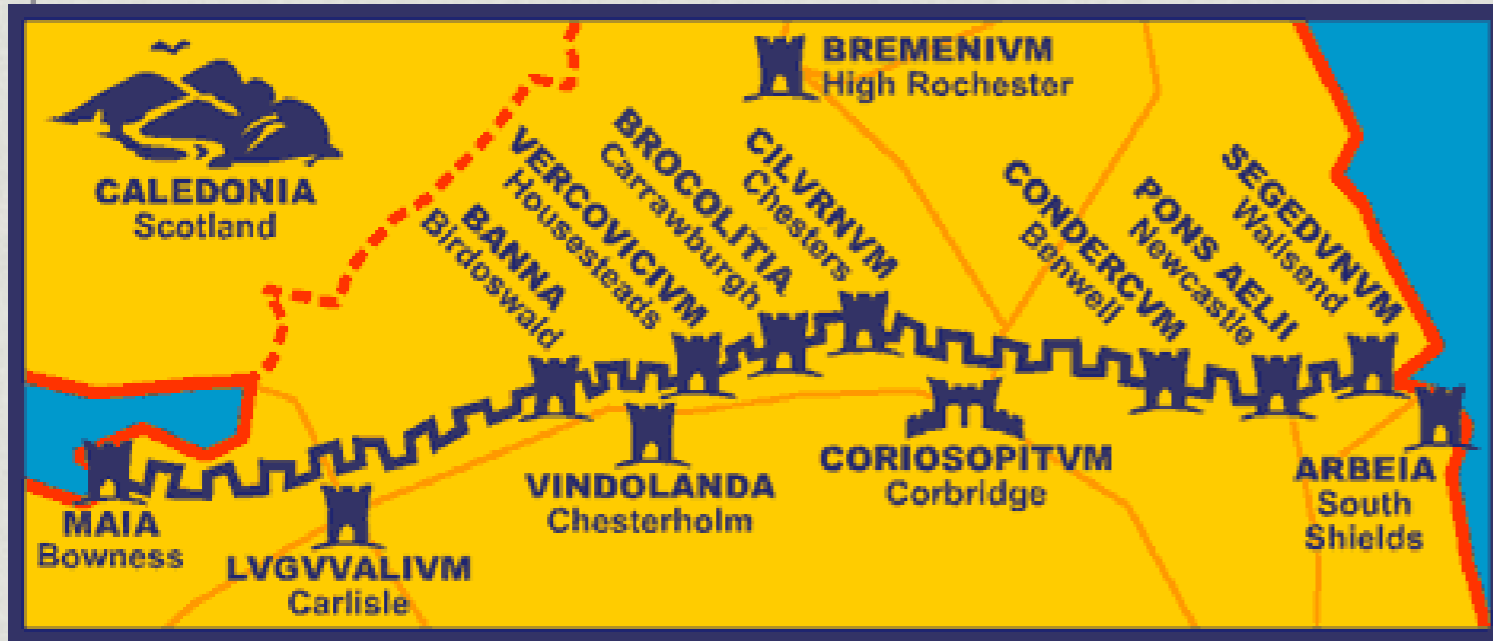
HADRIAN'S WALL:

AN EXTRAORDINARY FEAT OF ENGINEERING

- 73 miles long
- 8-10 feet wide
- 15 feet high
- 18 millions of specially prepared blocks of stone

ROMAN BRITAIN

HADRIAN'S WALL:



THE ROMANS FINALLY
WITHDREW IN
410 a.d.

WHAT DID THE ROMAN DOMINATION MEAN FOR BRITAIN?

- **Civilisation and a law system**
- **Roads**
- **Christianity** (possibly, we have little archeological evidence of such early christianisation)

ROMAN BRITAIN

Several cities in Britain have a Roman origin, which can be guessed from their names

Latin roots:

- **Strata via** (paved road)
- **Castrum** (camp)
- **Portus** (harbour)
- **Colonia** (military settlement)
- **Vallus** (wall)

Other Latin borrowings are such words as:

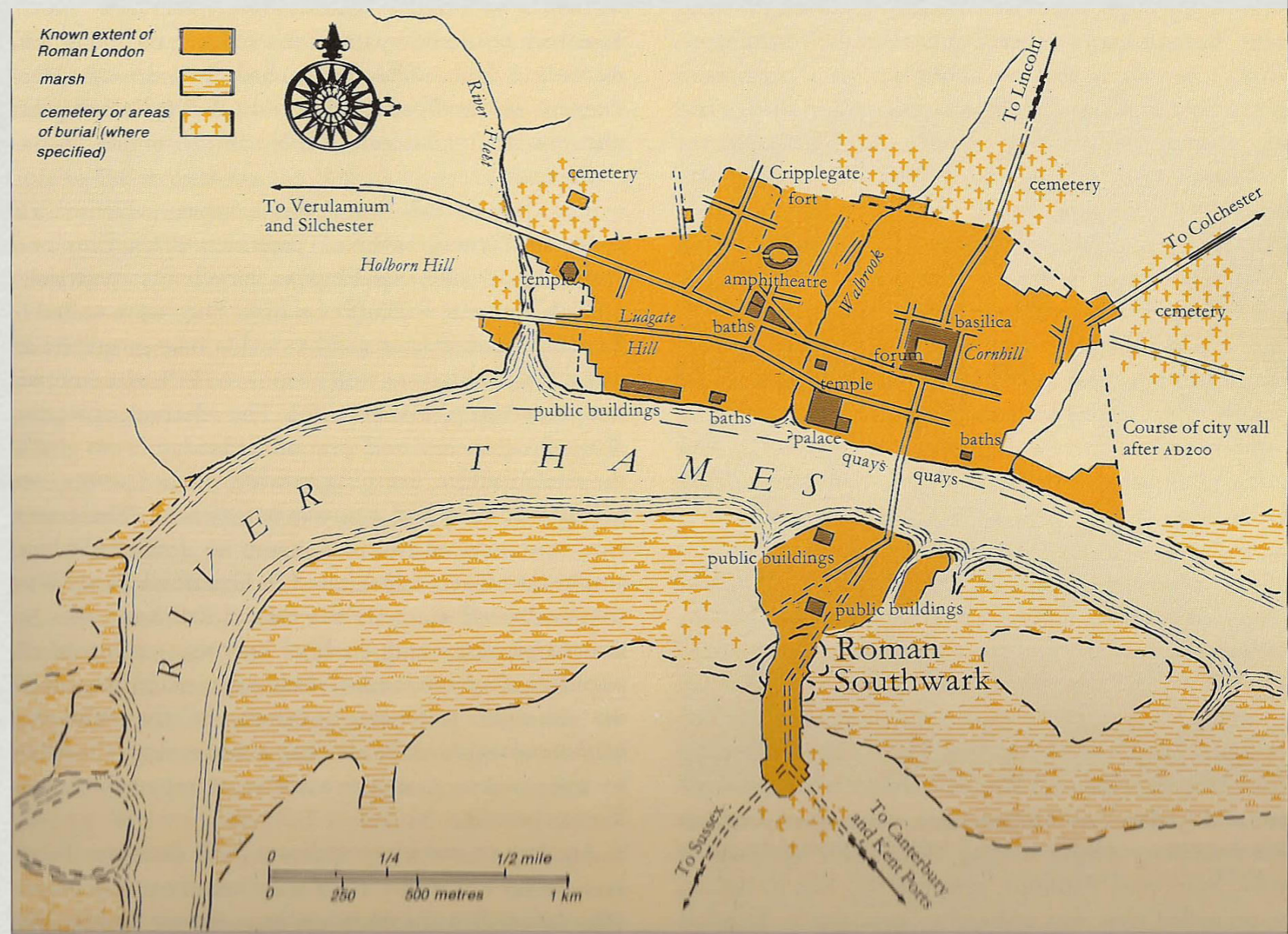
- **Wine** ('vinus')
- **Cheese** ('caseus')
- **Noon** ('nona hora')
- **Dish** ('discus')



LONDINIUM

The origins of London

- 43 A.D. The Romans built a bridge across the river Thames.
- They established a settlement on the north side of the bridge, called *Londinium*.
- *Londinium* quickly became an important trading centre (goods were transported by boats on the river).

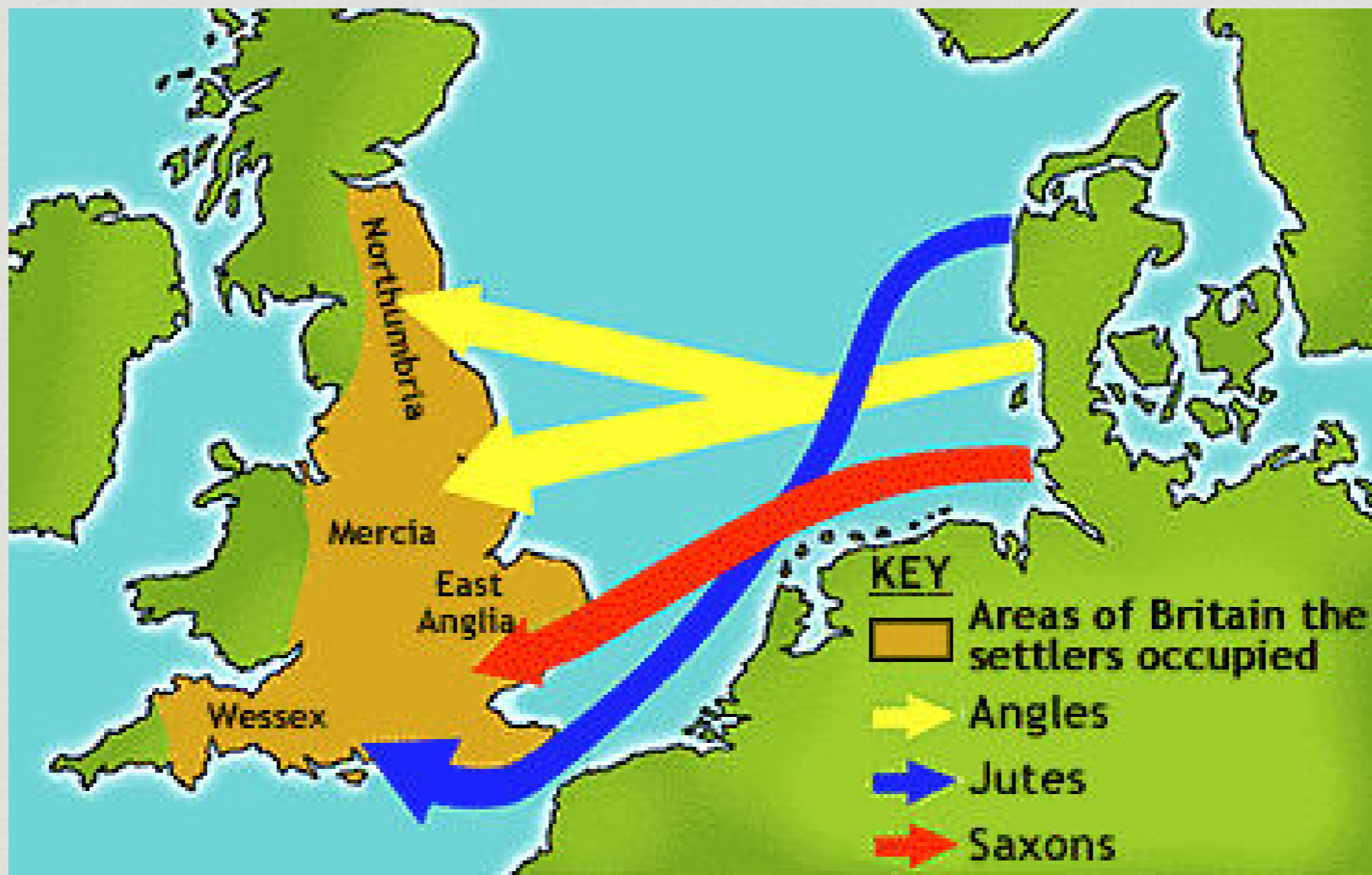




FIFTH CENTURY A.D. GERMANIC INVASIONS

After the Romans left Britain, three **Germanic tribes**
invaded the land
they were the **Angles**, the **Saxons** and the **Jutes**

ANGLO-SAXON ENGLAND



The Angles were called so because they came from a piece of land called the “Angulum”. They settled in the East, in the area which, even nowadays, we call England.



THE ANGLO-SAXONS



- Were uncivilized **barbarians**
- Were **pagans**
- Spoke a **Germanic language** (four main dialects: Northumbrian, Mercian, Kentish and West Saxon)

Roman civilization was wiped out!



«Secretum illud quod sola
reverentia vident, hoc deum
appellant»

Tacito, Germania

Quella cosa misteriosa che essi intuivano in timore e
tremore, questo chiamavano Dio.



REVISION

2000 B.C.

Iberians

7th - 4th cent. B.C.

Celtic migrations

55 and 54 B.C.

Julius Caesar's invasions

43 A.D.

Claudius' conquest

410 A.D.

Roman withdrawal

5th cent. A.D.

Germanic invasions



OLD ENGLISH

English language is the result of the **gradual fusion** of the germanic dialects spoken by the Angles, Saxons and Jutes. The early form of English is called **Old English**.









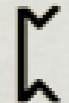

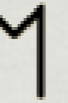









ANGLO-SAXON ENGLAND



Old English had a particular type of alphabet: the **Futhorc** (or Futhork).

The letters of the alphabet were called **Runes**, from the English 'Rûn' (secret) and 'Runa' (magician).

(The Franks Casket, c. 700)

 f	 u	 th	 o	 r	 c	 g	 w	
 h	 n	 i	 j	 ei	 p	 z	 s	
 t	 b	 e	 m	 l	 ng	 d	 æ	
 a	 æ	 y	 lo	 ea	 q	 k	 st	 g

Old English had **cases** and **inflections**. The spelling and the pronunciation of Old English are so different from present-day English that, except for a few words, make it virtually incomprehensible to a modern reader.



ANGLO-SAXON ENGLAND



The ancient Germanic alphabet was largely supplanted by the Latin alphabet after England's conversion to Christianity between the VIth and VIIth century; but it continued to be employed for inscriptions.

(The Ruthwell Cross, eighth century and its runic inscriptions which spell out passages from 'The Dream of The Rood')





THE ANGLO-SAXON HEPTARCHY





«NON ANGLI SED ANGELI»

The **Venerable Bede** is the author of the chronicle '**Historia Ecclesiastica Gentis Anglorum**' (c. 731). Although it is not always reliable as historiographic source, yet our knowledge of the Anglo-Saxon period would be incomplete without it.

Bede reports that **Gregory the Great**, before becoming Pope, came across a crowd of English slaves and was captured by their fair hair and skin. Apparently, he commented by saying that they were 'Angels rather than Angles'. Once Pope, he sent **St. Augustine of Canterbury** to England in **597 A.D.** to bring **Christianity** to the Anglo-Saxons.



DANISH INVASIONS

The Anglo-Saxons were invaded by the **Danes** (or Vikings) three times between the 8th and the 11th century. They were pagans and just wanted to exploit the land.

The famous Anglo-Saxon **King Alfred** (later named 'the Great') raised an army during the second invasion and defeated the Danes in the battle of **Ethandune** in **878 A.D.**



LINK TO «THE HISTORY OF ENGLISH IN TEN MINUTES»:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r9Tfbeqyu2U&list=PLA03075BAD88B909E>



TO SUM UP:

Old English words have different origins:

- The bulk of Old English vocabulary come from the **Anglo-Saxon dialects**, which gave 'everyday words'
- **Latin** had little influence in the first instance (the main evidence is in city names), but it introduced new words after the advent of Christianity. Most English words connected to the Christian religion and liturgy come from Latin
- The Viking raids too left a mark in the language. Many terms connected to war have a **Scandinavian** origin

THANK YOU