

BRITISH MIDDLE AGES STUDY GUIDE



“Elizabeth and Raleigh”



HERITAGE CLASSICAL CURRICULUM



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OVERVIEW

The British Middle Ages Classical Curriculum is primarily a reading program. Its centerpiece is a library of over fifty engaging histories written for young people. While knowledgeable instructors and organized lessons can be of great value, history lends itself better than most subjects to self-instruction from high-quality texts. A great deal can be learned about British history and Mediaeval Europe just by reading traditional histories written by talented authors.

In addition to books, the curriculum includes learning aids that are intended to complement a student's reading experience. The main purpose of the British Middle Ages Study Guide is to provide access to appropriate review materials—such as maps, timelines, and short biographies—in order to help students understand and remember the events and characters they have read about.

Most of the information in the British Middle Ages Study Guide is also contained in HTML format in the Study Aids sections of the associated Compact Library. The Study Guide version is intended to be printed and bound in a three-ring notebook so that students can review maps and timelines while they read without begin tied to a computer. The Study Guide resources provide a thorough overview of British history but are not all-inclusive. We encourage students to add additional material that they find useful—from either the Compact Library or other sources—to their notebook for easy reference.

In addition to review materials, the Study Guide includes information that can be used for helping students decide what books to read and for keeping track of those books that they have already completed. The Recommended Reading section of the study Guide includes information about all of the books in the British Middle Ages Library, and the Accountability section includes reproducible forms which help to track students' progress.

The Heritage Classical Curriculum was designed to be flexible. It may be used by students who prefer a self-paced, reading-only approach to history or by instructors who teach history in a co-operative or classroom setting. The Study Guide, therefore, does not include day-to-day lesson plans. A thoughtful instructor could certainly impose more structure if desired, but families who prefer an individual approach need not follow a particular regimen.

An overview of the contents of the main body and appendices of the British Middle Ages Study Guide is provided on the following pages, and a discussion of the ways in which the study guide can be used follows.

STUDY GUIDE CONTENTS

The main body of the British Middle Ages Study Guide includes four sections, each with its own particular purpose.

Recommended Reading—This section of the Study Guide lists the author, title, reading level, and length of every book in the British Middle Ages library. The core reading selections for each reading level are specified along with book summaries describing their importance. Supplemental reading suggestions are also made, but they are described in less detail. More information about *all* of the books in the British Middle Ages Library is included on the Book Summaries page of the Compact Library.

Historical Divisions—This section of the Study Guide provides much of the reference material we have amassed about mediaeval Britain, organized by historical era. It begins with an overview of British history which discusses the major contributions of British culture to Western Civilization. It then breaks the overall history of British and European history into several logical divisions. The divisions pertaining specifically to English history are chronological, but the divisions that focus on Scotland and Western Europe are comprehensive rather than periodic.

Each historical era begins with a short summary of the important historical events of the period. These summaries are not intended as a substitute for reading more thorough histories, but rather as a quick review of the major points. Students who have read several comprehensive histories should be familiar with most of the incidents listed. For students who have not yet mastered the material, suggested reading assignments that pertain directly to each era are given.

Most historical divisions include a timeline, a list of important characters, and sometimes a list of important wars or conflicts. Occasionally these lists are omitted when they provide no useful information. For example, the Heroic Age of Greece, which deals with legendary heroes, includes no timeline, and the timelines for periods that are steeped in legend, such as Ancient Scotland and the British Dark Ages, are relatively sketchy.

Historical and Outline Maps—This section of the Study Guide includes historical maps as well as reproducible outline maps and relevant geography terms. The historical maps can be used for reference, and the outline maps can be used either to learn geography terms or to create reference maps.

Accountability Forms—Students who are using the Heritage Classical Curriculum are expected to keep track of the amount of history reading they do each week and the books they have read over the course of a term. These reproducible forms aid with student accountability and can be included in a history binder for these purposes.

Several appendixes can be added to the Study Guide if their contents are of interest to particular students.

Curriculum User Guide—This Guide is intended for first time users of the Heritage Curriculum. It provides insight into the learning philosophy of the Heritage Curriculum as well as practical guidelines for its use. The Heritage program advocates an independent study method of learning history, but recognizes that some sort of accountability is required. Methods of assuring students are learning the basics, while giving them flexibility to pursue their own interests, are the key strategies discussed.

Electronic Text User Guide—The Heritage British Middle Ages Library includes e-book and printable versions of every book. The Heritage e-book versions can be uploaded directly to most e-readers without any additional fees or purchase and the method for doing so is documented in the Electronic Text User Guide. Information for those who have not yet purchased an e-reader is also available.

Like the Curriculum User Guide, the Electronic Text User Guide is most useful to new users of the Heritage Classical Curriculum, but anyone who is not already familiar with the whole range of modern technologies available for reading and printing electronic texts may benefit from reading this guide.

British Middle Ages Battle Dictionary—Some students (mainly boys) are extremely interested in the details of mediaeval warfare, while others (mainly girls), have very little interest in the subject. Because the information in our battle dictionary is of special interest only to some students, we recommend publishing it and including it your student's history binder only if he shows a particular interest in military matters.

Personalized Additions—In addition to these special interest supplements, students, parents or instructors are encouraged to add any information to a student's study guide that he or she might find interesting. This can include, among other things, additional maps, favorite images, information about historical landmarks, vocabulary words, a glossary, reports, articles, review exercises, drawings, favorite short stories, poems, or any other material that pertains to British history.

Any student that takes an interest in British Middle Ages and keeps his eyes open for interesting information will undoubtedly come across material worth preserving. Your student's history notebook can start off the year as a Study Guide, and end the year as an anthology.

HOW TO USE THIS STUDY GUIDE

As emphasized earlier, the Heritage Classical Curriculum is primarily a reading-based program. Some students, especially younger ones, do enjoy learning activities as well as reading, but the primary purpose of having a printed Study Guide is not to accommodate activities but to complement the reading itself.

Visual Learning—Many of the resources provided in the British Middle Ages Study Guide are intended to help students visualize their subjects. Most students form detailed pictures of striking incidents in their mind while they read, and visual aids such as timelines, maps, and favorite illustrations help stimulate their imagination. A student will do a better job of visualizing the Hundred Years War with France if he has studied the location of the major battle sites on a map and seen pictures of battle axes and long bows.

It is frequently worthwhile to have students review historical maps either before or after they tackle a reading assignment. If younger students are reading about Saint Augustine of Kent, they should find Canterbury on one of the historical maps. If older students are reading about Mary Queen of Scots, they should locate Holyrood Palace and Fotheringhay. The Study Guide includes at least ten historical maps, but many more are available in the British Middle Ages Compact Library, and can be printed and added to the Study Guide if desired.

The British Middle Ages Compact Library also includes hundreds of historical images that could be of interest to individual students. There are far too many to include in the printable Study Guide, but individual students can review the Images directory and print a few favorites. Students enjoy personalizing their notebooks by adding favorite illustrations, and they can even use their favorite images or map to design a custom notebook cover.

Historical Framework—A secondary purpose of the Study Guide is to provide a framework for understanding the comprehensive histories that all students are assigned to read. Most histories written for students start at the beginning of a civilization and move on towards the end, covering dozens of characters and events. The British Middle Ages Study Guide breaks each civilization up into a number of historical divisions and then identifies dates, characters, and events as belonging to one particular era. These divisions help students organize characters and incidents into meaningful categories.

Historical dates are most meaningful when remembered in context of a particular era. For this reason all of the timelines in the British Middle Ages Study Guide are based on specific eras. It is too much to expect that students will remember the exact dates of dozens of individual incidents, but remembering the overall dates associated with major eras is not particularly difficult.

Specifically, if students remember the following sequence they will have an essential outline of the major divisions of English History.

- Early Britain, 1st to 8th centuries, (57 BC to 800 AD)
- Saxons, Danes and Norman Kingdoms, 9th to 12th centuries (800-1154)
- Plantagenet Kings, 12th to 15th centuries, (1154-1485)
- Tudor England, 16th century, (1485-1603)
- Stuart England, 17th century, (1603-1714)

The two other divisions included in the British Middle Ages Study Guide, Scottish History, and European Middle Ages, are comprehensive and cover periods from 400 to 1700 AD.

Because the British Middle Ages Classical Curriculum uses many books, each with different emphases, it is helpful for students to have a master framework within which all books can be considered. There is even a *Recommended Reading* section associated with every historical division that explicitly identifies the range of chapters in each history book that pertain to each era. Students naturally remember things better when they can easily categorize them, so emphasizing the historical divisions throughout their studies will help them associate characters and events with specific eras, and will naturally enhance retention.

Some of the general histories in the British library cover all of these divisions, while others books, such as biographies and episodic histories, touch on only a few. Although all students should be aware of each of these periods and be familiar with the overall framework of British history, it is not essential for all students to study all periods. Young students, in particular, are likely to focus on the most romantic incidents of each period, and may skip some of the more complicated incidents. The historical eras for each civilization were designated for overall thoroughness, rather than to direct the studies of individual students.

Review—Each historical division includes a short summary of the main events that occur during the era. These summaries are meant for review rather than initial study. Students retain information best when they learn about incidents in the context of the great stories of history rather than memorizing facts from condensed texts. Nevertheless, once they have read longer versions of the stories, short reviews can be useful.

The character lists and timelines associated with each era are also useful for review. Instructors who would like to create games or activities to review such information with students can base some of their questions on these resources. Those who are working with younger students, however, should bear in mind that era summaries, character lists, and timelines include much more information than younger students are likely to retain so they should be simplified accordingly.

Reading Selections—The first section of the Study Guide provides a complete list of all of the books in the British library, with information including author, title, size and reading level. A short synopsis of about a third of the books is given in the Study Guide, and more information about all of the books in the British Middle Ages collection is available on the Compact Library. Since the book summaries and the complete text of the entire British Middle Ages Library is available to browse in the Compact Library environment, students may want to make reading selections while perusing the Compact Library, rather than from the limited information in the Study Guide.

Nevertheless, the Recommended Reading section of the Study Guide helps keep the whole selection of books foremost in the minds of students so they become familiar with titles and authors. This is of considerable benefit, since it piques students' curiosity. Students are far more likely to read books that they have heard of, by authors they are familiar with, than they are to take an interest in a completely unknown entity.

Accountability—One of the most important purpose of keeping a history notebooks is for student accountability. The last section of the Study Guide includes reproducible forms that help students track the hours they spend reading history. Even students who are good readers and who show a real interest in history need to be held accountable, and recording their weekly reading selections is an excellent way to make sure they are keeping up with their reading goals.

Personalize History—The last tip for using the Heritage Study Guide is simply to encourage your student to add any information about England or Scotland to his history notebook that he finds to be of interest. This may include assignments, such as written reports or projects, or it might be information that he found on the internet or in some picture book that was of particular interest. It might be pictures, diagrams or drawings that he cut from a magazine or made himself, or it could be short stories, poems, or articles.

Some students who have artistic flair might make a scrapbook out of their history notebook, while others might simply stuff interesting British items into the back pocket of their folder. Some might collect a great many items, and some very few. Some instructors will want to organize structured projects and activities and some will refuse to do anything of the kind. In short, if your student has a particular interest or a flair for a certain type of activity, encourage it. If they don't, nothing is essential but keeping students' interest alive.

The key to enjoying history is simple enough. Encourage students to read books they are interested in and pursue projects that engage them. Nothing essential in history can be learned by force or by drudgery. Don't let busy work or regurgitation spoil a field so rich in human drama. The goal of a real history education is not to instill facts, but to inspire interest. Have fun!

RECOMMENDED READING

The books selected for inclusion in the British Middle Ages Classical Curriculum are extraordinarily good. All were written by first-rate scholars who loved their subjects and understood how to introduce students to the delights of classical history. H. E. Marshall, Jacob Abbott, Samuel Harding, Eva March Tappan, and M. B. Synge are just a few of the exceptional authors who contributed to the British Middle Ages collection, and one would be hard pressed to find classical scholars of equal talent in today's education system.

Most history programs that focus on the European Middle Ages take a thematic approach, rather than focusing on the histories of particular nations. One reason for this is because many of the borders of what we know as modern nations changed dramatically over the years. Another reason is that, although incidents of specific interest were usually local events, they were often part of a larger pattern common to all of Europe. For example, a few themes common to European history include: the spread of Christianity, feudalism and chivalry, Viking invasions, the Moslem threat and the Crusades, church-state conflicts, and the Reformation.

The Heritage Classical Curriculum takes a slightly different approach. Although British Middle Ages library includes books that cover all of these themes, most of the books in the collection focus specifically on the happenings in Britain between the fall of the Roman Empire and the seventeenth century. Virtually all of the themes common to the European Middle Ages are covered in British history but in a specific and comprehensible manner that is easy for younger students to understand. In many ways mediaeval Britain is a microcosm of European Christendom and in other ways its history is unique. Students who would like to understand the cultural roots of American history will find the study of British history especially instructive.

British history is a wonderful way to introduce students of any age to the Middle Ages. Its stories are as enlightening for parents as they are for grade-schoolers. The Heritage library includes detailed biographies of many of the most fascinating characters of British history as well as short, easy-to-read selections. If your student is not yet ready for advanced histories, let them enjoy the introductory books now and return to the more sophisticated classics later when they are better prepared.

The following reading lists include the names, authors, length and reading level of each book in the Heritage British Middle Ages Library. Short summaries of the core reading selections are included in the following lists, but synopses of all other books can be found on the [Book Summaries](#) page of the British Middle Ages Curriculum CD.

THE BRITISH MIDDLE AGES LIBRARY

All of the titles included in the British Middle Ages Library are listed below. The number to the right indicates how many (single sided) sheets of paper the complete book takes to print on letter size (8 ½ x 11) paper. This corresponds to about half the number of pages in the original books.

Comprehensive History	level	pages
Stories from English History by Hilda Skae	Beg.	39
Historical Reader: Vol I by Cambridge Press	Beg.	72
Our Island Story by H. E. Marshall	Int.	230
The Story of England by Samuel B. Harding	Int.	170
English History: I by Alfred J. Church	Int.	77
English History: II by Alfred J. Church	Int.	67
Scotland's Story by H. E. Marshall	Int.	186
The Story of the English by Helene Guerber	Int.	145
Historical Tales: English by Charles Morris	Adv.	142
Tudors and Stuarts by M. B. Synge	Adv.	120

Legends	level	pages
Stories of Beowulf by H. E. Marshall	Beg.	29
Stories of Robin Hood by H. E. Marshall	Beg.	38
Stories of Guy of Warwick by H. E. Marshall	Beg.	31
King Arthur's Knights by Mary Macgregor	Beg.	36
Stories from the Ballads by Mary Macgregor	Beg.	36
King Arthur and His Knights by Maude Radford Warren	Int.	78
Border Marches by John Lang	Adv.	128

Adapted Literature	level	pages
Robinson Crusoe by James Baldwin	Beg.	69
Stories from Pilgrim's Progress by Mary Macgregor	Beg.	37
Stories from the Faerie Queen by Jeannie Lang	Beg.	42
Beautiful Stories from Shakespeare by Edith Nesbit	Int.	83
Tales from Shakespeare by Charles Lamb	Int.	176
Chaucer Story Book by Eva March Tappan	Int.	59
English Literature by H. E. Marshall	Adv.	329

Biographies	level	pages
Our Island Saints <i>by Amy Steedman</i>	Beg.	75
Story of Raleigh <i>by Margaret Duncan Kelly</i>	Beg.	36
Through Britain With Cromwell <i>by H. E. Marshall</i>	Beg.	58
Story of Francis Drake <i>by Mrs. Oliver Elton</i>	Beg.	37
Story of Robert Bruce <i>by Jeanie Lang</i>	Beg.	44
Great Englishmen <i>by M. B. Synge</i>	Int.	63
Great Englishwomen <i>by M. B. Synge</i>	Int.	52
Days of Alfred the Great <i>by Eva March Tappan</i>	Int.	91
Days of William the Conqueror <i>by Eva March Tappan</i>	Int.	94
Days of Queen Elizabeth <i>by Eva March Tappan</i>	Int.	88
Story of Cromwell <i>by Estelle Ross</i>	Int	68
William the Conqueror <i>by Jacob Abbott</i>	Adv.	80
Margaret of Anjou <i>by Jacob Abbott</i>	Adv.	91
Richard I <i>by Jacob Abbott</i>	Adv.	95
Richard II <i>by Jacob Abbott</i>	Adv.	77
Richard III <i>by Jacob Abbott</i>	Adv.	94
Mary Queen of Scots <i>by Jacob Abbott</i>	Adv.	77
Charles I <i>by Jacob Abbott</i>	Adv.	78
Charles II <i>by Jacob Abbott</i>	Adv.	83
Queen Elizabeth <i>by Jacob Abbott</i>	Adv.	74

Historical Fiction	level	pages
Our Little Saxon Cousin <i>by Julia Darrow Cowles</i>	Beg.	34
Men of Iron <i>by Howard Pyle</i>	Int.	119
Chantry Priest of Barnet <i>by Alfred J. Church</i>	Adv.	89
With the King at Oxford <i>by Alfred J. Church</i>	Adv.	86
Count of the Saxon Shore <i>by Alfred J. Church</i>	Adv.	108

European Middle Ages	level	pages
Famous Men of the Middle Ages <i>by John Haaren</i>	Beg.	98
Famous Men of Modern Times <i>by John Haaren</i>	Beg.	119
Story of Europe <i>by H. E. Marshall</i>	Int.	108
Discovery of New Worlds <i>by M. B. Synge</i>	Int.	85
Awakening of Europe <i>by M. B. Synge</i>	Int.	90
Brave Men and Brave Deeds <i>by M. B. Synge</i>	Int.	107

YOUNG READERS' CORE SELECTIONS

The following books can be read by upper grammar school students and provide an excellent introduction to English history. The two most important are Famous Men of the Middle Ages, which introduces famous characters from both British and European history, and the Cambridge Historical Reader, which focuses specifically on Britain. The other books are taken from three excellent children's series: Stories from History; Told to the Children; and Children's Heroes.

Cambridge Historical Reader - Primary by **Cambridge Press**

This grammar school level introduction to British history covers many of the most important characters and incidents of British history, and is richly illustrated. It covers many of the most important and romantic incidents of English history, from the rebellion of Boadicea to the reign of Queen Victoria, in a manner that is easily accessible to elementary students.

Famous Men of the Middle Ages by **John Haaren**

Attractive biographical sketches of thirty-five of the most prominent characters in the history of the Middle Ages, from the barbarian invasions to the invention of the printing press. Subjects include Rollo the Viking, Henry the Fowler, Canute the Great, Peter the Hermit, Marco Polo, and many more. Each story is told in a clear, simple manner, and is well calculated to awaken and stimulate the youthful imagination.

Stories of Beowulf by **H. E. Marshall**

This volume retells the famous Anglo-Saxon saga in the manner of a folktale, with the heroic qualities emphasized. It relates how Beowulf, the hero of the Saxons, came to Daneland and how he overcame the ogre Grendel and the Waterwitch. It closes with the story of how the fire dragon warred with the Goth folk and how Beowulf fought his last fight.

The Story of Francis Drake by **Mrs. Oliver Elton**

Sir Francis Drake was one of the most colorful characters in Elizabethan England. He was a sworn enemy of the Spanish and spent many years plundering their ships and towns in the new world, both to enrich himself and to strike a blow at England's most threatening enemy. He was only the second European, after Magellan, to pass Cape Horn in South America and sail around the world, but it is his daring feats and audacious exploits against Spain for which he is best known.

Stories from English History by **Hilda Skae**

This book recounts six stories from early English history written for grammar school students, beginning with the Celtic hero Caradoc and ending with Sir Francis Drake. Other tales include the story of the conversion of the Saxons to Christianity, William the Conqueror and the Battle of Hastings, King John and the murder of his rival Prince Arthur, and the story of the Black Prince at Crecy and Poitiers.

INTERMEDIATE CORE SELECTIONS

Our Island Story, by H. E. Marshall, is a long but thoroughly entertaining “story-book” of English history. It has been popular with middle school age students for over a century and is highly recommended. Guerber’s *Story of the English* is also very good and significantly shorter. The Stories of *Francis Drake* and *Robert Bruce* are taken from the *Children’s Heroes* collection, which focuses mainly on English men-of-action and is appealing to students of all ages. *Stories from Shakespeare* is suggested because of the enormous importance of Shakespeare to English culture.

We suggest that middle school students read at least one book that introduces them to continental history to complement their focus on the British Middle Ages. *The Story of Europe*, is written by H. E. Marshall, but takes a thematic rather than a story-book approach to European history. For families that enjoy story-based histories, M. B. Synge’s *Discovery of New World* and *Awakening of Europe* cover the periods of interest. Haaren’s *Famous Men* series covers both British and European history, and is easy and enjoyable to read.

Our Island Story by H. E. Marshall

Marshall’s storybook of English history is an undeniable classic, popular with generations of British children. It takes a romantic view of English history, combining the most well-known stories from British history with legends and folklore. It begins with the legends of Albion and Brutus, and covers Roman Britain, the British Middle Ages, and the rise of England through the Stuart Kings

The Story of the English by Helene Guerber

Middle school level introduction to British history, from the age of the Celts and Druids to the Victorian Age. Many of the most romantic stories from English history are recounted in simple terms for school aged children. Includes a great many famous anecdotes and legends from English history. Stories about Arthur, Alfred, Canute, Lady Godiva, William the Conqueror, Thomas Becket, Richard Coeur d’ Leon, and many others English heroes are featured.

In the Days of Alfred the Great by Eva March Tappan

Alfred the Great is one of the most outstanding characters of English history and this books brings him to life in an appealing manner for students of all ages. The book spends a considerable amount of time on the childhood of Alfred and tells how at twenty-two he inherited a land overrun by savage pirates,—a restless ignorant, defenseless land. After spending most of his youth in conflict with the invaders, the final chapters tell how he fought the Danes and restored the country to a condition of peace and safety.

The Story of Robert Bruce by **Jeanie Lang**

This story of Robert Bruce, hero of Scotland, is an action packed tale of one of the greatest patriotic heroes of Scotland. Deprived of his crown by Edward I of England, who had completely subjugated Scotland by the time he came of age, he won back Scotland's independence against terrific odds. With lots of hand-to-hand combat, treachery, and larger-than-life action, the story of Robert the Bruce is one of the greatest adventure-dramas in English history.

Stories from Shakespeare by **E. Nesbit**

Twenty stories from Shakespeare are retold in lively prose by a superlative storyteller. The author makes Shakespeare's greatest plays accessible to young children by relating the stories that form the core of the plays. Her graceful, vivid retellings are the perfect introduction to Shakespeare's works. The plays included in Nesbit's collection include Shakespeare's most famous comedies and tragedies but few of his historical works.

The Story of Europe by **H. E. Marshall**

This book presents the broader movements of European history, emphasizing the main factors which have gone into the development of the various European states from the fall of the Roman Empire to the Reformation. The history of England is included only when that country plays a prominent part in the politics of Europe. A full treatment of the period immediately following the fall of the Roman Empire is given, since that period provides the necessary key to future developments. Maps, timelines, and genealogy charts of the various royal houses of Europe contribute to making this book an excellent resource for the study of the Middle Ages in Europe.

Oliver Cromwell by **Estelle Ross**

This biography of Oliver Cromwell, the fierce puritan general who led the Roundheads to victory in the English Civil War and formed the Commonwealth government very ably describes the problems of the age, and Cromwell's role in permanently transforming the English monarchy. It is an excellent intermediate biography, suitable for mature middle school or high school students who would like to better understand this critical period in English history.

ADVANCED CORE SELECTIONS

*The **Makers of History** series by the Abbott brothers is a particular treat for advanced students who are already familiar with the basic outline of English history. Our “core” selection lists only William the Conqueror, but the complete collection includes ten biographies from early English history, each of which introduces a fascinating character. Another suggestion for advanced readers is The Tudors and Stuarts. It explains the political ramifications of English reformation politics in just enough detail to be thorough, without becoming tedious. H. E. Marshall’s English Literature for Boys and Girls provides an excellent survey of English authors, literature, and culture. Although it is supposedly directed to younger children, it is detailed enough to be more appealing to sophisticated readers than to novices.*

Historical Tales: English by Charles Morris:

This selection of stories from English history includes many well-known episodes, but also a variety of lesser known but romantic events. Morris is an excellent writer and his stories are told with enough detail and dramatic flair to be of interest to an older student or adult. Although there are many familiar heroes, a good number are less well-known, such as Elfrida, Hereward, Arabella Stuart, and Bonnie Prince Charles.

Tudors and Stuarts by M. B. Syngé

This book presents an excellent intermediate level history of 16th and 17th century England. The Tudor section provides details of how the Reformation came about, including the closing of the monasteries and widespread religious persecutions. The Stuart section explains the rising conflict between parliament and the monarchy, the relationship between religious and political freedom, and the rise of political parties and religious toleration.

English Literature for Boys and Girls by H. E. Marshall:

A terrific and accessible introduction to English literature by one of Britain’s greatest authors of juvenile history. All of the major authors and literature of England are covered, from the Celtic ballads to the nineteenth century greats such as Dickens and Thackeray. Short examples of most of the literature is included, along with fascinating biographies

William the Conqueror by M. B. Syngé

Even before invading England to claim the throne, William the Conqueror was recognized throughout Europe as the greatest warrior of his time. His entire life was a series of battles and rebellions in which he was uniformly successful. He was often hated but always respected by his subjects, and his iron-fisted policies were more effective in ruling England than in managing his own family.

SUPPLEMENTAL READING SELECTIONS

We recommend that students who are studying the British Middle Ages for the first time read four or more selections from our supplemental reading list, in addition to their core material. All selections should be age and interest appropriate, but student can select their supplemental reading from any difficulty level.

The British Middle Ages provides a broad selection for supplemental reading. Our selection of British biographies are especially rich, and there are series at every available reading level. Likewise, the selections of British legends, folklore, and literature is broad and compelling. Students should have no trouble finding additional reading suitable to every interest and ability.

Beginner Titles	Genre	Historical Era
Our Island Saints by Steedman	Biography	Early Britain
The Story of Raleigh by Kelly	Biography	Tudor
Through Britain With Cromwell by Marshall	Biography	Stuart
Stories of Robin Hood by Marshall	Legend	Plantagenet
Stories of Guy of Warwick by Marshall	Legend	Plantagenet
Stories of King Arthur's Knights by Macgregor	Legend	Early Britain
Stories from the Faerie Queen by Lang	Adapted Literature	Tudor
Stories from Robinson Crusoe by Lang	Adapted Literature	Stuart
Robinson Crusoe Told Anew by Baldwin	Adapted Literature	Stuart
Stories from Pilgrim's Progress by Macgregor	Adapted Literature	Stuart
Stories from the Ballads by Macgregor	Adapted Literature	Scotland
Our Little Saxon Cousin of Long Ago by Cowles	Historical Fiction	Saxons—Normans
Famous Men of Modern Times by Haaren	Episodic History	European

Intermediate Titles	Genre	Historical Era
Scotland's Story by Marshall	Comprehensive	Scotland
The Story of England by Harding	Comprehensive	All
Great Englishmen by Synge	Biography	All
Great Englishwomen by Synge	Biography	All
Through Britain with Cromwell by Marshall	Biography	Stuart
Days of William the Conqueror by Tappan	Biography	Saxon—Normans
Days of Queen Elizabeth by Tappan	Biography	Tudor
English History Stories I by Church	Episodic History	Saxon, Plantagenet
English History Stories II by Church	Episodic History	Tudor, Stuart
Discovery of New Worlds by Synge	Episodic History	European
Awakening of Europe by Synge	Episodic History	European
Brave Men and Brave Deeds by Synge	Episodic History	European
Men of Iron by Pyle	Historical Fiction	Plantagenet
Chaucer Story Book by Tappan	Literature	Plantagenet
Tales from Shakespeare by Lamb	Adapted Literature	Tudor
King Arthur and his Knights by Warren	Legends	Early Britain

Advanced Titles	Genre	Historical Era
Richard I by Abbott	Biography	Plantagenet
Richard II by Abbott	Biography	Plantagenet
Richard III by Abbott	Biography	Plantagenet
Queen Elizabeth by Abbott	Biography	Tudor
Mary Queen of Scots by Abbott	Biography	Tudor
Charles II by Abbott	Biography	Stuart
Count of the Saxon Shore by Church	Fiction	Early Britain
English Literature by Marshall	Literature	All
With the King at Oxford by Church	Fiction	Stuart

HISTORICAL ERAS OF BRITISH MIDDLE AGES

THEMES OF THE MIDDLE AGES



Most world history courses treat the European Middle Ages thematically rather than as a particular civilization with a continuous history, and there are good reasons for this. Although Christianity did much to unify the diverse peoples of Europe, the cultures, governments, and fortunes of the major regions of Europe differed dramatically. The Iberian peninsula, for example, was under Moorish control for much of the Middle Ages, and many of the Eastern regions of Europe were not Christianized until the 10th century or later. The borders of France, the governments of the Italian states, the dominions of the Holy Roman Empire, and the prestige of the Papacy all underwent tremendous transformations over time.

Pre-Modern Europe was a diverse group of states that were unified by a common religion rather than a powerful government. Its story can be told either by relating the particular stories of individual states within Europe or by focusing on themes common to all. Histories that take the thematic approach to European history usually cover the following topics, among others:

- The Fall of the Roman Empire
- The Christianization of Germanic tribes
- Feudalism and chivalry
- Viking raids and Norse kingdoms
- The Moslem threat and the Crusades
- Church-state conflicts
- The Renaissance and revival of classical learning
- New World Exploration
- The Reformation

The thematic approach succeeds in covering the major aspects of European history common to all regions. Its major disadvantage is that it glosses over terrific differences in culture between the various states of Europe and the contributions of regional leaders, local saints, and national heroes.

Most of the books in the Heritage History collection focus on national rather than thematic history so the Heritage Classical Curriculum provides separate collections that feature the national histories of Britain, Spain, and Western Europe. All of the major themes of European history are covered in each of these collections, but in a specific and coherent manner that recognizes national heroes and events of local significance. This approach is appealing to younger students who can comprehend personal stories more easily than broad ideas. In British history, for example, the memorable stories of Augustine of Kent, Alfred the Great, and Richard the Lionheart personify such themes as Christian conversion, resistance to Viking incursions, and the Crusades.

Thematic histories of European history are valuable, and the British collection includes several general histories of the Middle Ages. Most of the biographies, legends, adapted literature and historical fiction selections, however, refer specifically to British history. We suggest that each student read at least one general history of the European Middle Ages, but focus mainly on the specifics of Britain so that he or she may gain an in depth understanding of how the events of the Middle Ages forged modern Western culture.

HISTORICAL DIVISIONS

Virtually all of the major themes of the **European Middle Ages** mentioned above are realized in the history of Britain. Like most of the rest of Western Europe, the British Isles were settled in prehistoric times by Celts and civilized by the Romans. The southeastern regions of Britain became a Roman province, although the wilds of Scotland and Ireland were never seriously Romanized. Soon after the Roman legions left Britain Germanic tribes from Saxony and Denmark swept in and over the next few centuries overwhelmed the native Celts. The territory settled by the Angle and Saxon tribes became known as England (Angle-land), while the Celts were pushed west and north, forming the nations we know as Ireland, Wales and Scotland.

Christianity had spread among the British Celts during Roman times and St. Patrick brought Christianity to the Irish just as Britain descended into its dark ages. Christianity did not begin to spread among the Saxons until the 6th century but by 793 A.D., when the first Viking attack on English soil was recorded, most of the Saxon kingdoms were predominantly Christian. The Viking attacks posed an existential threat to the Saxon Kingdoms and mark the end of our first division of British History, **Early Britain**.



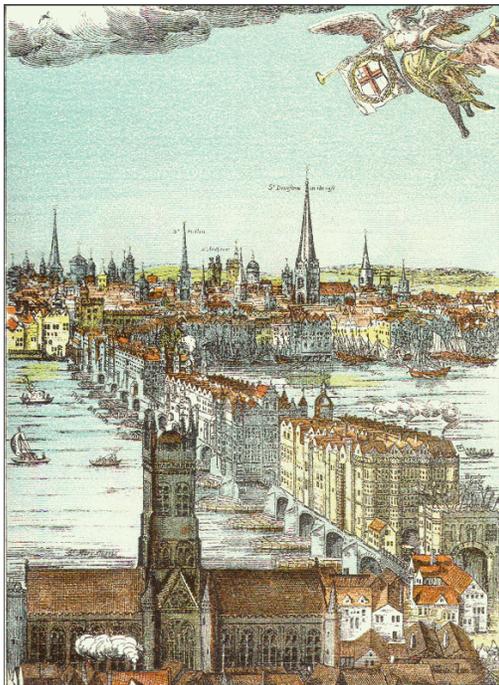
Canterbury Cathedral

The Norsemen who assailed Britain were called “Danes” and their assaults continued for over two centuries until a Danish king actually ruled over England. The most important Saxon leader during this era was Alfred the Great, who restored England’s fortunes both by defeating the Danes in battle and by making peace with those invaders who were willing to become Christians and settle permanently in Saxon lands. By the time the Danish king Sven Forkbeard drove the Saxon king into exile, most of the Danes both inside and outside Britain had been Christianized, so his rule over England was a peaceful one. A Saxon king, Edward the Confessor, regained the throne of Wessex after Danish rule, but he was the last of the Saxon kings.

In 1066 Saxon England was invaded by William the Conqueror, the Duke of Normandy, who brought with him the model of a powerful central government inherited from the Romanized dominion of France. Although the Normans had a tremendous influence on English government and laid the foundations for a powerful, centralized, monarchy, the culture and language of the country remained predominantly Saxon. The Norman line reigned for 90 years, but was superseded by the Plantagenet dynasty founded by Henry II, a great-grandson of William the Conqueror. The Rise of the Plantagenets marks the end of our second division of British History, **Saxons, Danes, and Normans.**

The **Plantagenet Kings** reigned for over three hundred years, from the 12th through the 15th century, and produced many well-known kings and princes such as Henry II, founder of the dynasty; Richard the Lionheart, hero of the Third Crusade; John I, a devious tyrant who was forced to sign the Magna Carta; Edward I, who conquered Wales and Scotland; Edwards III, who began the Hundred Years War; Henry V, hero of Agincourt; and Richard III, the villain of Shakespeare's greatest historical tragedy.

The best known wars of the Plantagenet reign were the Hundred Years War with France and the War of the Roses. The Hundred Years War went well for England at first, but ultimately resulted in the loss of all English territory on the continent. The War of the Roses was a deadly civil war between the Yorkist and Lancastrian lines that lasted thirty years, killed off much of the royal family, and brought the Plantagenet dynasty to an end.



The **Tudor** dynasty, which succeeded the Plantagenet era, was founded by Henry Tudor and is closely associated with the Reformation in England. Henry VIII of England and his daughters Mary and Elizabeth were the most important Tudor monarchs, and all three were prominent figures in the English Reformation. The other development of great importance that occurred during the Tudor era was the discovery of the New World and the sea-route to East Asia. Led by such romantic heroes as Cabot, Hawkins, Drake, Raleigh, and Grenville, England began its rise as a great naval power, and with its dramatic defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588, opened the door to New World exploration.

The Tudor reign ended near the turn of the 17th century when the throne passed to James Stuart of Scotland, a nephew of Elizabeth. For

the next hundred years England and Scotland were ruled as separate countries under the **Stuart** dynasty. Just as the Tudors are known as the Reformation monarchs, the Stuarts are associated with the English Civil Wars, the struggle of parliament to gain control over the monarchy, and the rise of religious pluralism. The struggle between parliament and monarchy was resolved in

favor of parliament when James II, the last Catholic king of England, was deposed during the “Glorious Revolution” of 1688. In the final years of the Stuart era Scotland and England were permanently united, and the rise of the British Empire began.

The final division of the British Middle Ages unit is the history of **Scotland**. Although several of the most famous characters of Scottish history, such as William Wallace, Robert Bruce, and Mary Queen of Scots, are introduced as part of English history, the complete story of Scotland is reserved for its own unit. Neither the Romans nor the English were ever able to subdue the ferocious Scots, who preferred their independence to vassalage under their wealthy and powerful neighbor. The story of Scotland is rich in local lore and clan rivalry, and when the pugnacious Scots did unite with England it was as equals rather than a subject population.

The history of the Middle Ages and Early Modern period of British history came to an end when Scotland and England were united into the kingdom of Great Britain in 1707. The history of this period is divided into the following eras. Timelines, character lists, historical maps, and other information associated with each era are provided on additional pages.

HISTORICAL ERAS OF THE BRITISH MIDDLE AGES

Era	Dates	Description
Early Britain	40-800	Roman conquest of Britain to first Viking raids.
Saxons, Danes, and Normans	800-1154	First Saxon King of Wessex to death of last Norman King.
Plantagenet Kings	1154-1485	Reign of Henry II Plantagenet to War of the Roses.
Tudor England	1485-1603	Reign of Henry VII Tudor to death of Queen Elizabeth.
Stuart England	1603-1714	Reign of James I of England to death of Queen Anne.
Scotland	483-1707	Macalpine unifies Picts and Scots to the Act of Union.
European Middle Ages	483-1707	Rise of the Frankish Empire to the Thirty Years War.

EARLY BRITAIN—56 B.C. TO 784 A.D.

INVASION OF JULIUS CAESAR TO THE FIRST VIKING RAIDS ON SAXON ENGLAND

The British isles were originally settled by Celtic tribes, who were the original inhabitants of much of Western Europe. Known by the Romans as *Gauls*, the Celts were notable for their druid priests, colorful fabrics, clever metal-working, and ferocious warrior spirit. The Romans had extensive contact with the Gauls, and by the time they sought to take possession of the British Isles, they had already conquered most of Gaul (France) and Hispania (Spain). Julius Caesar sent ships across the English channel and subdued the Britons (British Celts) in 54 B.C. He succeeded in vanquishing a local tribe but did not follow up his victories by establishing permanent forts in the region.



British Celts prepare to meet the Romans

Roman Britain—It was not until a hundred years after the age of Caesar that the Emperor Claudius led a second invasion of Britain. United under Caractacus, the British Celts continued to resist for several years, but at last submitted to Roman rule. Most of the Britons submitted peacefully, especially after Agricola, a prominent Roman governor, demonstrated the benefits of civilization by building schools, roads, and aqueducts. The only rebellion of Britons against the Romans was led by Queen Boadicea just ten years after the second invasion.

Although the Romans were able to subdue the Britons in the south, they never conquered the wild tribes of Picts in the north. Emperor Hadrian built a wall from the River Tyne to the Solway Firth to indicate the northern border of civilization. This same boundary remained the border between the countries of England and Scotland for more than a thousand years following

Britain fared well under Roman rule. Roads were built, trade and commerce thrived, and as Christianity spread throughout the empire, many native Celts became Christian. Saint Patrick was a Celtic Christian who left Britain in 433 as a missionary to Ireland, and is known for converting most of the Irish to Christianity. The Celtic Christians in both Britain and Ireland built monasteries, which were important repositories of learning and helped keep Christianity alive in the British Isles during the years of struggle against Saxon invaders

Saxon Britain—In 402, Rome officially withdrew its legions from Britain, leaving the Celts to fend for themselves against the savage Picts of the north and the Saxon pirates who raided the coastal towns. The Jutes, Angles, and Saxons were German-speaking tribes from Northern Europe who were aware of the good roads, wealthy towns, and productive farmland that could be found in Britain. As soon as the Roman legions were gone these German tribes began their incursions.

Legend has it that the first Anglo-Saxon settlers were Hengist and Horsa, two princes invited to Britain by Vortigern, a Celtic king. He sought the help of the Saxon princes in fighting off his enemies but soon regretted permitting them to settle. The inflow of Saxon warriors soon threatened the Celtic kingdoms and there followed centuries of war between the Celts and the invading Saxons. The Celtic heroes of these wars were the legendary King Arthur and his knights but we know few of the details of the struggle. In the end, the Anglo-Saxons were the uncontested rulers of the rich and prosperous southeast lowlands, and the British Celts had been driven to the far reaches of Wales, Ireland, and Scotland.

The next important event in early British history was the conversion of Ethelbert, a Saxon king, to Christianity by the Roman missionary Saint Augustine of Kent. The Saxons were too proud to be converted by the despised Celts, but they were impressed by an embassy from Rome and gradually accepted the faith. During the sixth and seventh centuries, Saxon England became Christianized, although the Celtic and Saxon churches continued to be governed independently for many years.

TIMELINE—EARLY BRITAIN

Year AD	Event
B.C. 54	Julius Caesar invades Britain and demands tribute.
51	Emperor Claudius reconquers Britain.
61	Rebellion of Boadicea is put down by the Romans.
77-84	Agricola Romanizes Britain; builds schools, roads, aqueducts.
122	Hadrian's wall is built to protect Roman Britain from the Picts of Scotland.
304	Death of Saint Alban , the first Christian martyr in Britain.
402	Roman legions leave Britain.
433	Saint Patrick converts the Irish Celts to Christianity.
460	Hengist and Horsa , German princes from Juteland, arrive in Britain.
540	Saint Mungo helps convert the Celtic Scots to Christianity.
542	Death of King Arthur .
596	Saint Augustine of Kent sent from Rome to convert Saxon kingdoms of Britain.
660	Celtic Christian and Roman Christian churches are united.
700	Venerable Bede publishes an <i>Ecclesiastic History of the English people</i> .
757-796	Reign of king Offa of Mercia , most influential of the early Saxon kings.

RECOMMENDED READING—EARLY BRITAIN

Book Title	chaps	Selected Chapters
Cambridge Historical Reader	4	Queen Boadicea to Gospel in the North
Stories from English History by Skae	2	Hero of Ancient Britain to Boy Captives
Our Island Story by Marshall	15	Albion & Brutus to Gregory & Children
English History Stories: I by Church	7	Caius Grandfather to England Christian
The Story of England by Harding	6	Introduction to English Accept Christianity
Historical Tales - English by Morris	1	How England Became Christian
English Literature by Marshall	10	Listening Time to Passing of Arthur
Great Englishmen by Synge	1	Bede
Great Englishwomen by Synge	1	Queen Bertha
European Hero Stories by Tappan	4	Coming of the Teutons to Beowulf
Our Island Saints by Steedman		<i>all</i>
King Arthur and Knights by Warren		<i>all</i>

WARS—EARLY BRITAIN

Year AD	War	Outcome
55–84	Roman Conquest of Britain	Romans under Claudius complete the conquest of Britain
456–823	Saxon Conquest of Britain	Saxon conquests and wars of the Early Saxon kingdoms in Britain.

CHARACTERS—EARLY BRITAIN

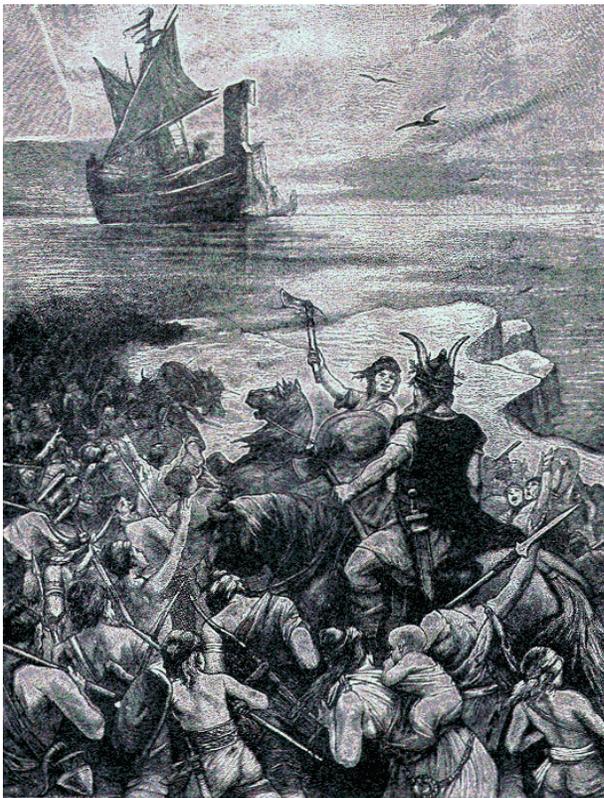
Character	Date	Short Biography
Caswallon	fl. BC 54	Celtic chieftain in Britain who resisted the invasion of Caesar.
Boadicea	died 61	Queen of the Iceni. Led revolt of Britons against Romans.
Saint Alban	died 304	First martyr of England. Killed for hiding a priest in his home.
Vortigern	fl. 488	King of the Britons. Usurped the throne from rightful heir. Invited Hengist and Horsa to settle Britain.
Sir Galahad	fl. 500	Considered noblest and worthiest knight of the Round Table.
Sir Gawain	fl. 500	Arthur's Knight, famous for his encounter with the Green Giant.
King Arthur	460–510	Legendary king of the Britons. Led Knights of Round Table.
Sir Perceval	fl. 500	Arthur's Knight, raised in the woods by his mother.
Saint Patrick	389–461	Slave who fled Ireland, then returned to spread Christianity.
Saint Brigid	451–525	Patron saint of Ireland. Founded a monastery at Kildare.
Hengist and Horsa	died 488	Jutish princes invited to Britain to help fight the Picts. Established first Saxon/Jute Kingdoms.
Augustine of Kent	died 604	Sent by Gregory to preach to the Saxons. Converted Ethelbert.
Bertha	539–612	Christian princess who married the Saxon king, Ethelbert. Helped convert him to Christianity.
Ethelbert	552–616	First Christian Saxon king. Invited St. Augustine to Kent.
Saint Cuthbert	634–687	Bishop at Lisdifarne. Helped unify Celtic and Roman Churches.
Venerable Bede	672–735	Monk at Jarrow. Scholar and author of <i>The Ecclesiastical History of English People</i> .
Saint Mungo	fl. 540	Early Christian missionary to Scotland.
Saint Columba	521–597	Missionary who helped to Christianize Scotland. Founded a monastery on Iona in Scotland.
Saint George	275–303	Patron saint of England. Soldier/martyr who killed a dragon and died a martyr's death.

SAXONS, DANES, AND NORMANS—802 TO 1154 A.D.

EGBERT THE SAXON BECOMES FIRST KING OF WESSEX, TO DEATH OF THE LAST NORMAN KING.

At the end of the eighth century, the Saxons suffered their first attack by the Danes—also known as Vikings—a warlike race of pagans from Denmark and Norway. Shortly thereafter Egbert the Saxon unified the Saxon and Angle kingdoms for the purpose of common defense, and at that time the name of England (or Angle Land) was given to the country. Saxon kings descended from Egbert ruled the Kingdom of Wessex from 802 until shortly before the Norman conquest in 1066. The Danish incursions continued for the next hundred and fifty years until the Danes finally drove the Wessex king into exile. By that time, however, many of the

Danes had become Christian and the age of Vikings was coming to a close.



Danes landing on Britain's Shore

Alfred the Great—By far the most outstanding Saxon king was Alfred the Great. He reigned from 871 to 899 at a time when the Viking marauders had destroyed dozens of Saxon towns and monasteries, laid waste to acres of productive farmland, and utterly disrupted civilized society. Alfred himself was driven from his throne and compelled to go into hiding, where he watched helplessly as his kingdom was ravaged by villainous pagans. Eventually he recovered from his ill fortune and organized a Saxon army, which, when the time was right, attacked and defeated the Danes. Instead of slaughtering his enemies, however, he made a pact with their leader Guthrum and agreed to a settlement by which the Danes would lay down their arms, convert to Christianity, and help repel further incursions by pagans. This brought

several decades of peace to the Saxon kingdom during which Alfred organized a navy and rebuilt infrastructure, schools, and churches.

There were several other important Saxon kings. Athelstan, Alfred's grandson, defeated a united army of Celts and Danes at the battle of Brunanburh. He, like his father and grandfather, was an excellent king. Unfortunately, by the beginning of the eleventh century, a series of boy kings greatly weakened the Wessex monarchy. This series of immature rulers finally ended with Aethelred the Unready, who misgoverned his entire reign and was driven from the throne.

For a time Aethelred's son co-ruled with a Danish king, but he eventually died, leaving a Dane as king of the Saxons. Fortunately, the Danish king's son, Canute the Great, ruled well and again brought peace between the Saxons and Danes. When he died, Edward the Confessor, the youngest son of Aethelred, was restored to the throne. He died without issue, bringing the Wessex line to an end, and William the Duke of Normandy, who was of Norse stock, won the throne at the Battle of Hastings in 1066.

Norman England—The Norman conquest was one of the most important events in the history of England. The Saxon kings were never as powerful as the Dukes of Normandy, for the Normans had inherited the old Roman habits of centralized government, whereas the Saxon kings were merely overlords of their earls and barons. William the Conqueror ruled England firmly but fairly, making sure that taxes were collected and justice was done in a uniform manner. He crushed all rebellions and replaced most of the Saxon overlords with Norman nobles. He made many changes in the government, all of which resulted in a relatively strong and independent central government and curtailed the power of the nobles. He was an effective king, but very unpopular with the Saxon population.

The house of Norman only lasted for three generations. After William died, his son William Rufus ruled. When he was killed in a hunting accident, his brother Henry Beauclerc ruled for 35 years, and also died without a male heir. The throne of England was then contested between Henry's daughter Matilda of England and her cousin Stephen, a weak king favored by the mischievous barons. With the throne as good as vacant, the barons were allowed to have their own way, and civil wars plagued the country for almost 20 years. Finally Matilda's son, better known as Henry Plantagenet, fought his way to the throne. During his long reign, order and prosperity were restored to the realm.

TIMELINE—SAXONS, DANES, AND NORMANS

Year	Event
787	First Viking attack on Britain.
793	Sack of the monastery at Lindisfarne.
802	Egbert the Saxon reigns over united Anglo and Saxon Kingdoms.
871-99	Reign of Alfred the Great
878	<i>Battle of Edington</i> —Saxons under Alfred defeat Danes under Guthrum
937	<i>Battle of Brunanburh</i> —Wessex Saxons defeat Celts and Danes
991	<i>Battle of Maldon</i> —Saxons defeated by Vikings and pay tribute.
1002	Aethelred the Unready orders the death of all Danish citizens.
1016-42	Danish king assumes the throne of England; reigns of Sweyn Forkbeard and his son.
1042	Edward the Confessor recalled to the throne, Saxon rule restored.
1065	Consecration of Westminster Chapel.
1066	<i>Battle of Stamford Bridge</i> — Harold Godwinson defeats Viking invaders.
1066	<i>Battle of Hastings</i> —Harold is killed and the Normans conquer England.
1086	Completion of Domesday Book.
1087	Death of William the Conqueror .
1095	First Crusade.
1100-35	Reign of Henry I , youngest son of William the Conqueror.
1135-54	Anarchy and civil war between followers of Stephen of England and Matilda , daughter of Henry II.
1154	Death of Stephen; crown passes to Henry II , son of Matilda.

WARS—SAXONS, DANES, AND NORMANS

Years	War	Outcome
835–1066	Danish Invasion	Danish Vikings invade the British Isles over two centuries.
1066–1106	Norman Conquests	Rise of the French Normans and their conquests in Italy and Britain.
1093–1138	Norman Scottish Wars	Scottish revolts against Norman kings.

CHARACTERS—SAXONS, DANES, AND NORMANS

Character	Dates	Short Biography
Egbert the Saxon	770-837	United the Saxon and Anglo kingdoms to resist the Danes.
Guthrum	died 890	Danish king defeated by Alfred the Great. Agreed to become Christian and settle in England.
Alfred the Great	849-899	Noblest of Saxon kings. Fought Danes, made peace. Built churches.
Athelstan	895-939	Grandson of Alfred. Hero of the Battle of Brunanburh.
Elfrida	fl. 960	Saxon queen, mother of Ethelred. Involved in stepson's murder.
Saint Dunstan	909-88	Influential archbishop at the court of Edgar of England.
Ethelred Unready	968-1016	Ascended to Saxon throne at a young age; ineffective against the Danes.
Edmund Ironside	988-1016	Eldest son of Ethelred, fought Canute for the throne, then died.
Canute	994-1035	Danish King of Britain. Married Emma, widow of his enemy, Ethelred.
Emma of Normandy	988-1052	Norman princess, wife first of Ethelred, then of Canute. Mother of Edward the Confessor.
Godwin	1001-53	Influential Earl of Wessex during reigns of Canute and Edward Confessor.
Hereward the Wake	fl. 1066	Saxon rebel who led resistance to William the Conqueror.
Harold Godwinson	1022-66	Son of Godwin. Ascended to Saxon throne when Edward the Confessor died.
Tostig Godwinson	1026-66	Led an army of Vikings against his brother Harold at <i>Stamford Bridge</i> .
Edward Confessor	1004-66	Last Saxon king of the Wessex line. Raised in Normandy
William Conqueror	1028-87	Won crown of England at <i>Battle of Hastings</i> . Ruled forcefully, but justly.
Margaret of Scotland	1045-93	Well-loved queen of Malcolm Canmore. Mother of Maude the Good.
William II	1056-1100	Corrupt and brutal Norman king. Killed in the New Forest.
Saint Anselm	1033-1109	Archbishop of Canterbury under William Rufus and Henry I.
Maude the Good	1080-1118	Grandmother of Henry Plantagenet. Patron and benefactor to poor.
Henry I	1068-1135	Competent Norman king who reigned 35 years. Left throne to Matilda.
Stephen	1096-1154	Grandson of William the Conqueror who usurped throne from Matilda.
Matilda	1102-67	Queen deposed by Stephen for the throne. Mother of Henry Plantagenet.
Saint Hugh	1140-1200	Patron of Lincoln. Known for charity and dedication to education.

RECOMMENDED READING—SAXONS, DANES, AND NORMANS

Book Title	chaps	Selected Chapters
Cambridge Historical Reader	6	<u>Alfred Royal Harper</u> to <u>Loss of White Ship</u>
Stories from English History by Skae	1	<u>English and Norman</u>
Our Island Story by Marshall	15	<u>Alfred Learned to Read</u> to <u>King Stephen</u>
The Story of England by Harding	3	<u>Alfred and the Danes</u> to <u>Rule of the Normans</u>
English History Stories: I by Church	13	<u>King Alfred</u> to <u>The Red King</u>
Historical Tales - English by Morris	7	<u>Alfred and the Danes</u> to <u>Contest for Crown</u>
English Literature by Marshall	7	<u>Beowulf</u> to <u>Havelok the Dane</u>
Great Englishmen by Synge	2	<u>Alfred the Great</u> to <u>Harold</u>
Great Englishwomen by Synge	1	<u>Maude the Good</u>
European Hero Stories by Tappan	2	<u>Alfred Rules</u> to <u>William Conquers England</u>
Boy's Book of Battles by Wood	2	<u>Maldon</u> to <u>Hastings</u>
Famous Men of Middle Ages by Haaren	4	<u>Egbert the Saxon</u> to <u>William the Conqueror</u>
Alfred the Great by Abbott		<i>all</i>
William the Conqueror by Abbott		<i>all</i>
Days of Alfred the Great by Tappan		<i>all</i>
Days of William Conqueror by Tappan		<i>all</i>
Stories of Beowulf by Marshall		<i>all</i>
Our Little Saxon Cousin by Cowles		<i>all</i>

PLANTAGENET KINGS—1154 TO 1485 A.D.

HENRY PLANTAGENET ASSUMES THRONE OF ENGLAND, TO WAR OF THE ROSES



Black Prince becomes a knight of the garter

The rule of the Plantagenet dynasty was long and eventful. Henry Plantagenet (II) came to the throne in 1154, and the last Plantagenet, Richard III, was killed at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485, over three hundred years later. During this time, great changes took place in England. In the early years of the Plantagenet dynasty, the barons revolted against King John and forced him to sign the Magna Carta, which guaranteed certain rights to the towns and nobles. Later, they forced the king to call a Parliament, or group of nobles to advise him in ruling the kingdom. The Plantagenets were involved in two long and ruinous wars. The first was the Hundred Years War with France, which went well for England at first but in the end proved disastrous. The second was the War of the Roses, a frightful civil war between rival claimants to the throne that wiped most of the Plantagenet line.

Henry Plantagenet and Sons—Henry II, founder of the Plantagenet dynasty, was the great-grandson of William the Conqueror. He inherited the throne through his mother but had to fight to establish his claim. He married Eleanor of Aquitaine, the very wealthy heir to the duchy of Aquitaine, so between the two they controlled much of France as well as all of England. Henry spent much of his reign in various wars, consolidating his power. He had four sons, two of whom became king. The elder son, Richard the Lionheart, is best known as a crusader. He spent almost his entire reign away from England, leaving the country in the hands of his devious brother John Lackland. John was one of the worst kings that England ever had and managed to lose most of the land in France that he had inherited from his parents. Finally, Archbishop Langton and the barons forced him to sign the Magna Carta, limiting his power.

Edwards I, II, and III—John's son Henry III of England supposedly ruled for 56 years, but for much of that time his brother-in-law Simon de Montfort governed in his place. Montfort ruled competently and established the first English parliament. When Henry III's son Edward I came to the throne the people rejoiced because they finally had a king who was half Saxon and spoke English instead of French, which had been the language of the ruling class since the Norman conquest.

Edward I proved to be a competent king, and brought Wales, Ireland, and Scotland under his sway. His hold on Ireland was never strong and shortly after his death Scotland decisively won its independence from England at the Battle of Bannockburn. Edward's degenerate son was a cowardly leader with unpopular favorites. He was deposed in favor of his son Edward III, who ruled for fifty years and got England involved in a war with France. There were several important battles in the Hundred Years War, including Calais, Crecy, and Poitiers. England won all three battles against great odds, but never succeeded in establishing Edward III's claim to the French throne.

Edward III's eldest son was Edward the Black Prince, a warrior prince popular with the people, who never became king because he died before his long-lived father. The crown then passed to the Black Prince's son. Richard II was a poor king and unpopular, so he was deposed in favor of his cousin Henry IV Bolingbroke. Unfortunately, Henry IV was not the rightful king, but his selection was not resisted because his father John of Gaunt was exceedingly powerful and had been regent for much of Richard II's reign. The issue was not pressed for two generations but later became the cause of a devastating civil war.

The Lancastrians: Henrys IV, V, and VI—Henry Bolingbroke's son was Henry V, famous for his victory over the French at Agincourt. Henry V reopened the Hundred Years War and came close to gaining the French crown, but died only a few years after his great victory. He left a young son, Henry VI, who was a peace-loving and studious man but a weak leader. During his reign the French rallied under Joan of Arc and reclaimed all of the land England had won, bringing an end to the war in favor of France.

The Yorks: Edward IV and Richard III—Because of his weak leadership and the loss of English holdings in France, Henry VI became unpopular with both the nobles and the populace. Seeing an opportunity, his cousin the Duke of York claimed the throne. He denied that Henry Bolingbroke, who ascended to the throne in 1399, was the rightful king. This led to the ruinous War of the Roses, in which the Lancaster and the York lines of the Plantagenet family vied for the throne. The plots turns and reverses of this war are difficult to follow, but the main contenders were not the monarchs themselves, but the Earl of Warwick, cousin to the Duke of York, and Margaret of Anjou, Henry VI's wife. The war proved bitter and deadly, and many nobles lost their lives. It also greatly enhanced the power of the king, since the king was allowed to confiscate the estates of any noble that rose in rebellion. As the kingship passed back and forth between the Lancastrians and Yorkists for dozens of years, almost every house was at some point in alliance with a "rebel".

The Yorks were finally victorious, but they came to a bad end. Edward IV ruled for 22 years, but when he died his brother Richard usurped the throne by killing Edward's young sons. This villainy accomplished, Richard III found he had made many enemies, and when Henry Tudor, a distant relative on the Lancaster side, brought an army against him, several of his generals deserted to the Tudor cause. Richard III, the last of the Plantagenet kings, was killed on the battlefield of Bosworth, bringing the noble line that had ruled England for three centuries to an inglorious end.

TIMELINE—PLANTAGENET KINGS

Year	Event
1170	Murder of Saint Thomas a Becket .
1172	Henry Plantagenet conquers Ireland.
1190	Richard Coeur de Lion goes on Third Crusade.
1215	John Lackland signs Magna Carta.
1265	Meeting of first Parliament arranged by Simon de Montfort .
1284	Edward I conquers Wales.
1291	Edward I conquers Scotland.
1314	Battle of Bannockburn—Scots under Robert Bruce regain independence.
1348-1349	Black Plague.
1337-1453	Hundred Year War: England vs. France.
1346	— Edward III prevails at the <i>Battle of Crecy</i> .
1356	— Edward the Black Prince prevails at the <i>Battle of Poitiers</i> .
1415	— Henry V prevails at the <i>Battle of Agincourt</i> .
1428	— Joan of Arc prevails at the <i>Siege of Orleans</i> .
1362	English becomes official legal language, displacing French.
1381	Wat Tyler's Rebellion .
1399	Richard II deposed by Henry Bolingbroke .
1400	Death of Geoffrey Chaucer , author of <i>Canterbury Tales</i> .
1403	Henry IV puts down a rebellion at the <i>Battle of Shrewsbury</i> .
1455-1485	War of the Roses —Yorkists vs. Lancastrians.
1461	—Yorkists prevail at <i>Battle of Towton</i> ; Lancastrians exiled.
1469	—Lancastrians regain throne thanks to machinations of Earl of Warwick .
1471	—Yorkists again prevail at <i>Battle of Barnet</i> .
1483	— Richard III murders princes, usurps throne at death of Edward IV .
1484	— Henry Tudor defeats Richard III at <i>Battle of Bosworth Field</i> .
1476	William Caxton brings a printing press to England. Publishes first book.

CHARACTERS—PLANTAGENET KINGS

Character	Dates	Short Biography
Thomas a Becket	1118–1170	Archbishop of Henry II, who strove for independent church.
Henry II	1133–1189	Reclaimed kingdoms in England and Normandy after chaotic reign of Stephen. Founded Plantagenet dynasty.
Richard I	1157–1199	Heroic king who spent time crusading and fighting in France.
Robin Hood	fl. 1200	Leader of a band of benevolent bandits in Sherwood forest.
Eleanor of Aquitaine	1122–1204	Wife of Henry II, queen of Aquitaine. Led adventurous life.
John I	1167–1216	Wicked king who murdered his nephew. Signed Magna Carta.
Archbishop Langton	1150–1228	Archbishop who rallied opposition to King John.
Simon de Montfort	1208–1265	French nobleman who laid foundations of English Parliament.
Henry III	1207–1272	Blundering king whose government was controlled by regents.
William Wallace	1272–1305	Led resistance to Edward I's conquest of Scotland.
Edward I	1239–1307	Competent and decisive king of England. Reformed government, pacified Wales and Scotland. Ruled 35 years.
Edward II	1284–1327	Profligate son of Edward I. Lost father's holdings in Scotland.
Robert Bruce	1274–1329	Scottish king who led resistance to England at Bannockburn.
James Douglas	1286–1330	Associate of Robert Bruce. Fought for Scottish independence.
Philippa of Hainault	1313–1369	Wife of Edward III, mother of 13. Intervened at siege of Calais.
The Black Prince	1330–1376	Prince who ruled with his father, Edward III. Victor at <i>Poitiers</i> .
Edward III	1312–1377	Reigned for nearly 50 years. Started Hundred Years War.
Wat Tyler	died 1381	Leader of a peasant rebellion during reign of Richard II.
John Wycliffe	1335–1384	Early proponent of reform in the Catholic Church.
Geoffrey Chaucer	1340–1400	Wrote first epic poem in English language, <i>Canterbury Tales</i> .
Richard II	1367–1400	Son of the Black Prince. Deposed by Henry Bolingbroke.
Henry IV	1367–1413	Son of John of Gaunt. Assumed throne after Richard II.
Owen Glendower	1359–1416	Last Welsh Prince of Wales. Led revolt against Edward I.
Henry V	1387–1422	Led victorious army against France at Agincourt.
Jack Cade	died 1450	Led a rebellion against Henry VI's government.
Duke of York	1411–1460	Aspirant to the throne in the early years of War of the Roses.
Earl of Warwick	1428–1471	Primary figure in war of the Roses. Changed sides from York to Lancaster. Killed at Barnet.
Margaret of Anjou	1429–1482	Ruled in place of her weak husband, Henry VI. Led armies against Yorks. Deposed after the York victory at Hexham.
Edward IV	1442–1483	Yorkist aspirant to the throne after Henry VI deposed.
Richard III	1432–1485	Brother of Edward IV, killed his nephews and usurped throne.
Margaret Beaufort	1441–1509	Mother of Henry Tudor. Benefactor of Cambridge University.

WARS—PLANTAGENET KINGS

Years	War	Outcome
1357–1460	Anglo Scottish Wars	Perennial border wars between Scotland and England
1119–1214	Anglo French Wars	Wars between Plantagenets and Philip Augustus of France
1296–1327	Scottish Wars of Independence	Against great odds Scotland wins its independence from England.
1340–1453	Hundred Years War	England and France fight over the French crown.
1453–1485	War of the Roses	Civil War in England between the Yorks and Lancastrians.
1047–1291	Crusades	Christians and Turks fight for control of the Holy Lands.

RECOMMENDED READINGS—PLANTAGENET KINGS

Book Title	chaps	Selected Chapters
Cambridge Historical Reader	10	Richard the Lion-Heart to Princes in Tower
Stories from English History by Skae	2	Boy Who would be King to Black Prince
Our Island Story by Marshall	30	Gilbert and Rohesia to Two Little Princes
The Story of England by Harding	10	Henry II, Plantagenet to Wars of the Roses
English History Stories: I by Church	13	Thomas Becket , to Battle of Poitiers
English History Stories: II by Church	11	Story of Wat Tyler to Bosworth Field
Historical Tales - English by Morris	8	Captivity of Richard I to White Rose
English Literature by Marshall	17	Song Stories to Story of Everyman
Great Englishmen by Synge	6	Thomas à Becket to William Caxton
Great Englishwomen by Synge	3	Eleanor of Aquitaine to Margaret of Anjou
European Hero Stories by Tappan	4	Magna Carta signed to Black Prince
Famous Men of Middle Ages by Haaren	5	Henry II and Sons to Warwick Kingmaker
Margaret of Anjou by Abbott		<i>all</i>
Richard I by Abbott		<i>all</i>
Richard II by Abbott		<i>all</i>
Richard III by Abbott		<i>all</i>
Stories of Robin Hood by Marshall		<i>all</i>
Stories of Guy of Warwick by Marshall		<i>all</i>
Chantry Priest of Barnet by Church		<i>all</i>
Men of Iron by Pyle		<i>all</i>
Chaucer Story Book by Tappan		<i>all</i>

TUDOR ENGLAND—1485 TO 1603 A.D.

HENRY TUDOR DEFEATS RICHARD III AT BOSWORTH FIELD TO DEATH OF QUEEN ELIZABETH

Henry Tudor was descended from John of Lancaster, but his claim to the throne was no greater than those of many other Plantagenet descendants. Soon after defeating Richard III at Bosworth Field he married the daughter of the Yorkist King Edward IV and joined the York and Lancaster houses into a single line. He ruled diplomatically, tried to avoid war, and gave England time to recover from the disturbances caused by the War of the Roses. Many doubted his claim but few were willing to reopen the issue.

Henry VIII—Henry Tudor's son Henry VIII of England ascended to the throne in 1509 and ruled for 38 years. His reign coincided with the outbreak of the Reformation in Europe, and during his reign England became a Protestant country. England's conversion to Protestantism was controversial because, although there were many sincere churchmen who favored reforms, the manner in which Henry VIII broke England's ties with the Church of Rome was highly opportunistic.

There were two issues which motivated Henry VIII to declare the "Act of Supremacy" which asserted the sovereignty of the king of England over the laws of the Church in England. One was to remove all obstacles to his divorce from his wife of 20 years, Catherine of Aragon, so he could marry Anne Boleyn. The second was for an excuse to dissolve the monasteries and confiscate Church property. This scheme was advanced by Henry's minister, Thomas Cromwell, in spite of a tremendous outcry from clergy and poor tenants who depended on the monasteries for their living. Although some of the monasteries were wealthy and corrupt, Henry made no effort to reform them or to distinguish good from bad. He simply closed them all, turned hundreds of their inmates into the streets, and sold their lands to nobles and wealthy merchants for cash. Once this great theft had occurred there was no turning back because many of the nobles of England were in possession of valuable property that the Roman Church claimed as its own.



Henry VIII and Cardinal Wolsey

Henry VIII outlawed the Catholic Church and executed hundreds of people who opposed him. Most of those who were executed, including both the Catholic Saint Thomas More and the Protestant Thomas Cromwell, did not suffer directly from persecution based on their belief but were killed because they stood in the way of Henry's schemes.



Queen Elizabeth

Henry left three children by three different wives. His only son, Edward VI of England, reigned for six years, but was under the sway of his uncles, the Dukes of Somerset and Northumberland. Both were Protestants who had benefited from the dissolution of the monasteries and were primarily interested in consolidating their own power. Like Henry VIII, they persecuted Catholics based on political factors rather than ideology. When Edward VI fell ill, the Duke of Northumberland arranged for his young cousin Lady Jane Grey to assume the throne, since he believed she would be easier to control than Mary, Edward's elder sister. However, most people believed that Mary had a better right to the throne and supported her claim, even though she was known to have Catholic sympathies

Mary I—Mary Tudor was a sincere Catholic and as soon as she came to the throne tried her best to mend the breach with the Church of Rome. By this time, however, Protestantism was well established, especially among the aristocracy and the merchant class. Her greatest miscalculation was to take Philip II of Spain, the most powerful Catholic monarch in Europe, for her husband. Even among devout Catholic Englishmen, Spain was feared and hated. To make matters worse, her marriage was an unhappy one and did not produced an heir as Mary hoped.

Mary put over three hundred people to death during her reign,—far less than those killed under the reign of her father and brother. However, because she was a sincere Catholic instead of a mere politician, Mary harassed many of the most able and articulate Protestant leaders for their heretical beliefs, rather than focusing only on those who stood in her way politically. This made her unpopular with those who genuinely sympathized with the Protestant cause and her reputation for religious persecution far exceeds that of her far more murderous father.

Elizabeth I—Elizabeth was only 24 when her older sister Mary died and she became queen. From a young age she was exceptionally politic in her manner of ruling and sought to ease religious strife. Although she embraced the Protestant cause, Elizabeth sought compromise, and did not aggressively persecute Catholics.

Whenever possible, Elizabeth tried to avoid or delay direct conflict. She never married, but kept dozens of suitors on the line, presumably to gain favors and forge alliances. She was occasionally duplicitous: for example, she signed a death warrant for her arch-rival, Mary, Queen of Scots, but protested loudly when she was executed. It was often difficult to discern her true motives but she lived in troublesome times, and her duplicity usually had diplomatic intents. For instance, England's relationship with Spain was poor for many years, but Elizabeth managed to put off direct confrontation for nearly three decades by obfuscation and insincere promises. When the Spanish finally invaded she united the entire country—even many English Catholics—against them. The defeat of the Spanish Armada was the decisive battle of the Anglo-Spanish Wars and profoundly affected the perceived strength of England and Spain both in Europe and in the New World.

The reign of Elizabeth is also famous for her outstanding seamen. Sir Francis Drake, Sir Martin Frobisher, Sir John Hawkins, and Richard Grenville were some of the men who laid the foundation for British naval power before, during, and after the Spanish Armada. The Elizabethan age is also known for some of its literary greats, including Edmund Spenser, Sir Philip Sidney, Ben Jonson and William Shakespeare.

TIMELINE—TUDOR ENGLAND

Year	Event
1486	Henry VII defeats Richard III and marries Elizabeth of York.
1492	Christopher Columbus discovers America.
1517	Martin Luther incites widespread rebellion against the Church of Rome.
1534	Act of Supremacy— Henry VIII breaks ties with the Church of Rome.
1535	Execution of Thomas More for failing to approve of Henry VIII's divorce.
1536	Execution of Anne Boleyn .
1540	Dissolution of the monasteries enriches the Protestant gentry.
1553	Lady Jane Grey attempts to usurp the throne at the death of Edward VI.
1553-1558	Reign of Mary I . Failed attempt to return England to the Catholic faith.
1558-1603	Reign of Elizabeth I .
1591	Edmund Spenser publishes the <i>Fairie Queen</i> .
1584	Founding of the 'Lost Colony' at Roanoke. First British colony in America.
1577-1580	Sir Francis Drake circumnavigates the globe.
1587	Execution of Mary Queen of Scots , Elizabeth's rival for the throne.
1588	England defeats the Spanish <i>Armada</i> and deals a deadly blow to Spanish naval supremacy.
1594-1603	Tyrone rebellion in Ireland ultimately delivers Ulster to English rule.

WARS—TUDOR ENGLAND

Years	War	Outcome
1587–1655	Anglo Spanish Wars	English sailors prevail over a great Spanish naval fleet.
1540–1603	Tudor Conquest of Ireland	Wars under Tudor monarchs to subdue Ireland
1487–1570	Tudor Rebellions	Major rebellions of the Tudor era.
1513–1547	Anglo Scottish Wars	Tudor era wars between Scotland and England

CHARACTERS—TUDOR ENGLAND

Character	Dates	Short Biography
Henry VII	1457–1509	Descendent of John of Gaunt who defeated Richard III.
Thomas Wolsey	1471–1530	From humble beginnings, become Chancellor and Archbishop.
Anne Boleyn	1502–1536	Second wife of Henry VIII, executed when she fell from grace.
Thomas Cromwell	1489–1540	Minister under Henry VIII who encouraged his divorce and helped dissolve the monasteries.
Thomas More	1478–1543	Chancellor under Henry VIII. Executed for opposing divorce.
Margaret Roper	1501–1544	Daughter of Thomas More. Supported him through ordeal.
Henry VIII	1491–1547	English king famous for marrying and dispensing with six wives and breaking with Rome.
Lady Jane Grey	1537–1554	Noblewoman executed for involvement in conspiracies.
Thomas Cranmer	1489–1556	Archbishop of Canterbury under Henry VIII. Broke with Rome. Founded Anglican Church.
Mary I	1516–1558	Eldest daughter of Henry VIII. Tried to restore Catholicism.
Humphrey Gilbert	1537–1583	Sea-faring adventurer. Founded English colony in Canada.
Philip Sidney	1554–1586	Elizabeth favorite. Poet, soldier, courtier, and adventurer.
Mary Queen Scots	1542–1587	Queen of Scotland. Deposed and exiled. Held captive and executed by Queen Elizabeth.
Robert Dudley	1532–1588	Favorite suitor of Elizabeth. Granted favors, but not power.
Martin Frobisher	1535–1594	Explored much of Canada in search of Northwest Passage.
Francis Drake	1540–1596	Greatest sea adventurer. Sailed around the world, harassed Spanish ships. Fought in Armada.
William Cecil	1520–1598	Minister of Elizabeth throughout her entire reign.
Edmund Spenser	1552–1599	Elizabethan era poet. Wrote <i>The Fairy Queen</i> .
Earl of Essex	1566–1601	Favorite of Elizabeth. Involved in a conspiracy, died in prison.
Elizabeth I	1533–1603	Led England through tumultuous age of Reformation and exploration. Reigned 45 years.
John Knox	1533–1603	Religious leader in Scotland who founded Presbyterian Church.
John Davis	1550–1605	British explorer who sought Canadian Northwest Passage.
Will Shakespeare	1564–1611	Greatest dramatist in the history of the English language.
Walter Raleigh	1552–1618	Courtier of Queen Elizabeth. Explorer, mastermind of the Jamestown colony in Virginia.

RECOMMENDED READINGS—TUDOR ENGLAND

Book Title	chaps	Selected Chapters
Cambridge Historical Reader	4	<u>The Battle of Flodden</u> to <u>The Little Revenge</u>
Stories from English History by Skae	1	<u>Singeing the King of Spain's Beard</u>
Our Island Story by Marshall	14	<u>Make-Believe Prince</u> to <u>Queen's Favorite</u>
The Story of England by Harding	4	<u>Beginning of Modern</u> to <u>England under Elizabeth</u>
English History Stories: II by Church	11	<u>True or False</u> to <u>Sir Walter Raleigh</u>
Historical Tales - English by Morris	3	<u>White Rose of England</u> to <u>Arabella Stuart</u>
English Literature by Marshall	17	<u>Poet Comforted a Girl</u> to <u>Raleigh's History</u>
Great Englishmen by Synge	3	<u>Thomas Wolsey</u> to <u>Sir Philip Sidney</u>
Great Englishwomen by Synge	3	<u>Lady Margaret</u> to <u>Lady Jane Grey</u>
European Hero Stories by Tappan	1	<u>Invincible Armada is Defeated</u>
Tudors and Stuarts by Synge	11	<u>Four Hundred Years</u> to <u>Days of Elizabeth</u>
Queen Elizabeth by Abbott		<i>all</i>
Story of Raleigh by Duncan		<i>all</i>
The Faerie Queen by Lang		<i>all</i>
Story of Francis Drake by Elton		<i>all</i>
Days of Queen Elizabeth by Tappan		<i>all</i>
Stories from Shakespeare by Nesbit		<i>all</i>

STUART ENGLAND—1603 TO 1714 A.D.

JAMES I ASCENDS TO THRONE OF ENGLAND, TO DEATH OF QUEEN ANNE

The reign of the Stuarts, lasting from 1603 to 1714, coincided almost exactly with the 17th century and was the most significant in English history in terms of formation of modern ideas of political and religious liberty. By the end of the Stuart reign England was governed primarily by a democratically elected parliament and the idea of “freedom of conscience” in religious matters was well established. Obviously these ideas had not yet been followed to their ultimate conclusion, since only the wealthiest classes were allowed to vote and Catholics were still persecuted, but it was Englishmen living under the turbulent Stuart reign who laid the foundations for western style democracy and religious pluralism, an achievement unparalleled by any other nation, even within Christendom.

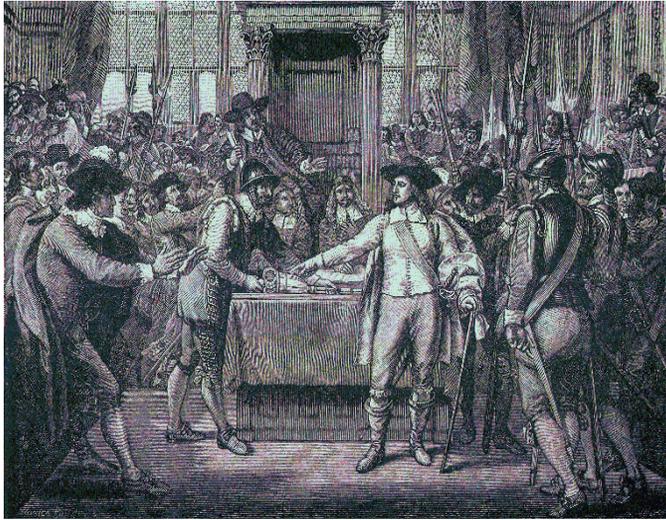
The problem of reporting on the evolution of ideas is that ideas are complicated and controversial, whereas events are relatively straight forward. The “dictates of conscience” was not a particularly important factor during the War of the Roses, for example, since loyalties on all sides were determined by self-interest. The English Civil Wars, on the other hand, were the result of a convoluted mixture of strongly held religious principles, ideals of self-government, dismay at the corruption of existing institutions, loyalty to traditional institutions, and good old-fashioned self-interest. There were brave and heroic men on all sides (not both sides, for this was a many-sided conflict) as well opportunists and tyrants. Bearing in mind the complexities of the situation, the Stuart reign proceeded as follows:

James I—When Elizabeth died, the crown passed to her grand-nephew, James I (a.k.a. James VI of Scotland), so he became king of both England and Scotland; two independent governments under a single sovereign. Scotland was a much poorer and more backward country than England, and had also been affected by the Reformation. Instead of merely breaking with Rome, however, the Scottish Presbyterians favored more radical Calvinist style reforms, which did away entirely with the priesthood, liturgy, and organized church.



King Charles and Cornet Joyce

Although James had grown up entirely under the sway of the Presbyterian Scots, he was by no means sympathetic to many of their ideas. He saw that rejecting the ideal of traditional authority was but a step towards rejecting the idea of a king. The Scots as a nation were bound by loyalty to the Stuart kings, who were descended from Robert Bruce, but there were radicals among the Presbyterians with dangerous ideas regarding self-government. James therefore allied himself with the interests of the Anglican Church and repressed the non-conformists in England. It was during the reign of James that the Puritans settled the New England colonies in America. Other important events of the reign of James I included a failed Catholic rebellion called the Gunpowder Plot and the publication of the King James Bible.



The Long Parliament

Charles I and the Civil War—

James I quarreled with his Parliament, which was becoming more sympathetic to the cause of the Puritans, but a full scale war between Parliament and the king did not break out until the reign of his son Charles I. Charles I was no more tyrannical than previous kings, but the disposition of Parliament had changed considerably. England was becoming a wealthy and powerful trading nation; the cities were growing larger; the middle-class

was rising in importance; gunpowder had changed the nature of warfare; and old ideas of being ruled by a landed aristocracy were resisted by many of the best men of the nation. The ideas of self-government and freedom of conscience in religious matters were hopelessly intermixed, but when war finally broke out the essential division was between the traditionalists, who supported the king and the Anglican Church, and the Puritans, who supported more rights for Parliament and the disestablishment of the state church. From the very beginning, however, loyalties were mixed on both sides. For example, about a third of Parliament decided to fight for the king, and many Scots who opposed the Anglican Church were entirely loyal to their Stuart king.

Cromwell and the Commonwealth—After the first phase of the English Civil Wars (1642-1645), the king was captured. Parliament and the army sought a compromise that would bring peace to the nation, but could not find one. Even when the king was beheaded by his enemies, no closure to the conflict followed. The civil war continued to rage, first in Ireland and then in Scotland. The man who had come to the fore during the civil war was Oliver Cromwell, whose highly disciplined “Ironsides” had brought Parliament the victory. He was an extremely controversial figure, who, like Charles I, attempted to dissolve parliament when it disagreed with him.

Cromwell presided over the Commonwealth of England, ruling essentially as a dictator. During this period the Anglican Church was disestablished and many prominent families, including the ancestors of some of America's founding fathers, moved to Virginia, a royalist stronghold. Cromwell did much to advance the cause of religious freedom for everyone but Catholics and Anglicans, but was extremely unpopular with the general population, who decided that the only thing worse than a lax and corrupt government was a despotic and puritanical government.

Restoration and the “Glorious Revolution”—When Cromwell died, one of his Puritan generals proposed to restore Charles II to the throne if he promised to respect the rights of Parliament and religious dissenters. Because Charles II was a hedonistic and carefree monarch, he did not persecute those who disagreed with him, but neither did he provide strong leadership when it was needed. Charles II's reign was wrought with crises, including a terrible plague, the great fire of London, and an invasion by the Dutch navy. But although troubles and controversies continued between the monarchy and parliament, neither side was inclined to turn to armed resistance or civil war to resolve them.

A crisis within the monarchy did not arise again until the death of Charles II, at which time his brother James II, a Catholic, ascended to the throne and attempted to pass laws granting tolerance to Catholics. This alarming development united the feuding Protestants and within a short time James II was driven from the throne in favor of his daughter and son-in-law, who were loyal Protestants. The English refer to this as the “Glorious Revolution” because it was accomplished almost entirely without bloodshed on English soil. William III and Mary assumed the throne at the behest of Parliament, thereby establishing the precedent that the rights of Parliament should prevail over royal prerogatives.

After Mary's death her sister Anne assumed the throne. During the remainder of the Stuart reign the idea that one could accomplish political change through elected representatives rather than by petitioning a sovereign took hold and party politics became the accepted way of doing business. The Royalists became the Tory or conservative party, and the Whig party represented the old Roundhead cause.

A few other notable things occurred during Anne's reign. The Duke of Marlborough, the greatest general of his age, won a tremendous victory over France at the battle of Blenheim. This critical turning point in the War of the Spanish Succession was important because it curtailed the power of Louis XIV. Also, the Act of Union in 1707 permanently united Scotland and England into the country of Great Britain by combining the two parliaments. Finally, the Act of Settlement established that when Anne should die, the crown would pass to the Hanoverians of Germany. Thus the groundwork was laid for the rise of the British Empire.

TIMELINE—STUART ENGLAND

Year	Event
1603	James I assumes the throne on the death of Elizabeth.
1605	Guy Fawkes ' Gunpowder Plot to blow up Parliament discovered.
1607	Founding of Jamestown colony in Virginia.
1607	Voyages of Henry Hudson to the new world.
1611	King James version of the Bible first published in England.
1616	Death of William Shakespeare .
1620	Voyage of the Mayflower; Puritans settle in New England.
1641-1649	English Civil Wars.
1642	— <i>Battle of Edgehill</i> —opening battle in Civil War.
1645	— <i>Battle of Naseby</i> — Charles I is taken prisoner.
1649	— <i>Battle of Drogheda</i> — Oliver Cromwell invades Ireland.
1649	Charles I executed for “treason” against parliament.
1649-1658	Commonwealth, led by Cromwell.
1653	<i>First Anglo-Dutch War</i> : great naval battles between English and Dutch.
1659	Restoration of Charles II .
1665	Great Plague of London.
1667	Great Fire of London.
1688	Glorious Revolution: James II deposed by William III and Mary.
1689	<i>Williamite War</i> —James II exiled to France after <i>Battle of Boyne</i> .
1689	Bill of Rights and Toleration act secure triumph of Parliament.
1701-1714	<i>War of the Spanish Succession</i> checks the growing influence of France.
1704	—British victory at the <i>Battle of Blenheim</i> under Duke of Marlborough .
1704	—British gain possession of Gibraltar.
1707	England and Scotland join to become Great Britain.

CHARACTERS—STUART ENGLAND

Character	Dates	Short Biography
Francis Bacon	1561–1626	Chancellor of England and advocate of the scientific method of experimentation and logical reasoning.
Guy Fawkes	1570–1606	Explosives expert of the infamous “Gunpowder Plot”.
Henry Hudson	1575–1611	Explorer who discovered Hudson River and Hudson Bay.
James I	1566–1625	First Stuart king of England. Intelligent and competent, but unable to work effectively with Parliament.
John Smith	1580–1631	Adventurer, early settler at Jamestown. Befriended Pocahontas.
Samuel de Champlain	1580–1635	Founded French colonies in the St. Lawrence seaway and Great Lake region. Father of “New France.”
Archbishop Laud	1573–1645	Head of Church of England during the reign of Charles I. Very unpopular with parliament.
Charles I	1600–1649	Stuart king whose quarrels with Parliament led to civil war.
Robert Blake	1599–1657	Admiral who took a leading role in the Anglo-Dutch Wars.
Oliver Cromwell	1599–1658	Military leader of Parliament who headed the Commonwealth government after death of Charles I.
John Milton	1608–1674	Cromwell era poet, best known for writing <i>Paradise Lost</i> .
Charles II	1630–1685	Restored to the throne after death of Cromwell.
John Bunyan	1628–1688	Author of <i>Pilgrim’s Progress</i> , a widely read spiritual allegory.
George Fox	1624–1691	Founder of the “Society of Friends,” better known as Quakers.
William III	1650–1702	Netherland king called to rule England when James II deposed.
Samuel Pepys	1633–1703	Kept a diary during the reign of Charles II; mentions the plague, the great fire, and much else.
Anne of England	1665–1714	Last Stuart queen, ruled during <i>War of Spanish Succession</i> .
Duke of Marlborough	1650–1722	Most renowned general of his age. Prevailed against the French at the <i>Battle of Blenheim</i> .
Sir Isaac Newton	1642–1727	Outstanding scientist. Made important breakthroughs in physics, optics, and mathematics.
Daniel Defoe	1661–1731	Author of <i>Robinson Crusoe</i> and <i>Moll Flanders</i> .

WARS—STUART ENGLAND

Years	War	Outcome
1642–1650	English Civil Wars	A series of 17 th century Civil Wars that curtailed the power of the English king.
1652–1672	Anglo Dutch Wars	England and Holland battle at sea for command of colonial trade.
1689–1746	Jacobite Rebellion	When the Stuart King, James II, was deposed many Scots and Irish remained loyal to the Stuart line.
1690–1693	Grand Alliance	England, Holland, and Sweden unite against France.
1700–1709	Spanish Succession	Large scale European war which curtailed the expanding power of Louis XIV of France.
1685	Monmouth Rebellion	Early attempt to overthrow James II shortly after death of Charles II.

RECOMMENDED READINGS—STUART ENGLAND

Book Title	chaps	Selected Chapters
Cambridge Historical Reader	5	Charles I and Children to Londonderry
Our Island Story by Marshall	16	Guy Fawkes to Union Jack was Made
The Story of England by Harding	8	First Stuart King to Last of the Stuarts
English History Stories II by Church	4	A Little Romance to Window in Whitehall
English History Stories III by Church	11	Lord Protector to Good Queen Anne
Historical Tales - English by Morris	5	Love's Knight-errant to Relief Londonderry
English Literature by Marshall	11	Bacon—Ways of Wisdom to Defoe—Crusoe
Great Englishmen by Synge	2	John Milton to Sir Isaac Newton
Great Englishwomen by Synge	2	Princess Elizabeth to Lady Rachel Russell
Tudors and Stuarts by Synge	15	The Great Drama to Progress in Stuart Times
Charles I by Abbott		<i>all</i>
Charles II by Abbott		<i>all</i>
The Story of Cromwell by Ross		<i>all</i>
Thru Britain with Cromwell by Marshall		<i>all</i>
With the King at Oxford by Church		<i>all</i>
Robinson Crusoe by Baldwin		<i>all</i>

SCOTLAND—483 TO 1707 A.D.

UNION OF THE SCOTS AND PICTS UNDER MACALPINE, TO THE ACT OF UNION

Little is known of Scottish history until the age of Roman Britain. By that time, Scotland was inhabited by Celtic Britons, who had fled from the Romans, and by Picts, a fearsome and uncivilized people. In spite of many campaigns, the Romans were never able to conquer the land to the north. The pride of the Scottish nation is that it has lost many battles but never been conquered. In spite of sharing a border with a much stronger nation for hundreds of years, Scotland largely retained its independence until its voluntary union with England in 1707.

Early Kings—The Romans referred to northern Britain as Caledonia. The name Scotland came from a tribe of Irish ‘Scots’ that migrated to the region soon after the Romans left Briton. For hundreds of years, the Scots, Picts, and Britons lived as independent tribes. The Scots eventually became the dominant tribe, and in 843 after many battles, the King of the Picts submitted to Kenneth Macalpine, who became the first “King of Scots”.

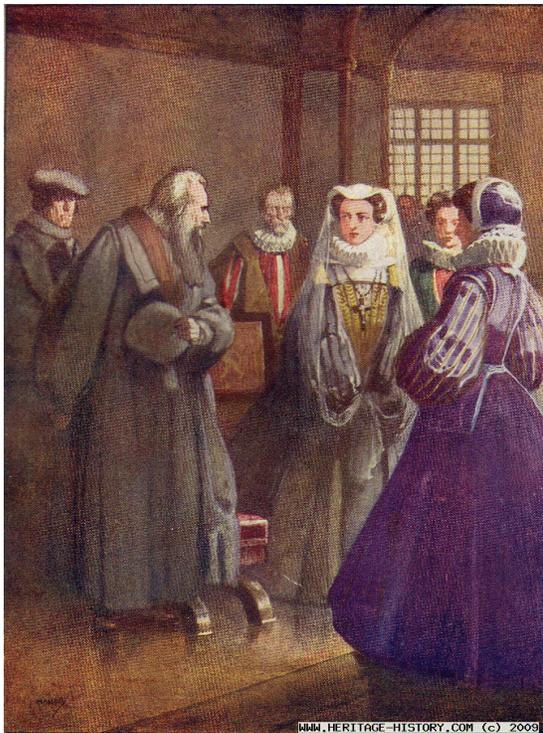
The Irish were converted to Christianity in the fifth century by Saint Patrick, and because of the close relationship between Ireland and Scotland, Irish missionaries such as Saint Columba were important in the conversion of Scotland to Christianity. Celtic monasteries, such as Iona and Lindisfarne, became centers of learning and culture, while the surrounding regions remained primitive. The Scots as well as the English suffered Viking attacks during the ninth and tenth centuries, but as the Scots were more dispersed there was little outside of the monasteries to plunder. The Vikings, however, took over several northern islands, including Orkney and Shetland, and held them for many years.

Malcolm Canmore was an early Scottish king, whose reign occurred during and after the Norman invasion of England. He was the son of Duncan, who was murdered by Macbeth of Shakespeare fame. Malcolm married Saint Margaret of Scotland, sister of the rightful Saxon king, who had a greatly civilizing effect on him. Their daughter, Maude the Good, married Henry Beauclerc, so during this period the king of Scots was on good terms with the Normans of England. Many Norman nobles, including an ancestor of the great patriot Robert Bruce, were granted lands in Scotland.



Columba made the Sign of the Cross

Scottish Wars of Independence—The descendants of Malcolm Canmore ruled Scotland until Alexander III of Scotland died without an heir during the reign of Edward I of England. Edward threw his support behind Baliol, one of the claimants of the throne, on condition that Baliol agree to acknowledge him as an overlord. Edward I was such a powerful monarch that most of the Scottish nobles agreed to pay homage to him. Not until William Wallace, a commoner, rallied the population against him did he begin to lose his hold on Scotland. Eventually Wallace was beaten and killed, but then another Scottish hero arose, Robert Bruce, the rightful heir to the crown. Bruce at first sided with Edward I, but then turned against him and dedicated his life to freeing Scotland from the English yoke. The Battle of Bannockburn, fought against the weak son of Edward I, was the high point of the Scottish Wars of Independence. It abolished English power in Scotland for generations and firmly established Bruce as the rightful monarch in Scotland.



Mary Queen of Scots and John Knox

civil war to bring them down. The Stuart's reign was not particularly peaceful, but the Scots were a war-loving people and could not be kept at peace except by a very strong hand.

Mary Queen of Scots—During the mid-sixteenth century, the Protestant cause in Scotland gained much ground. The problems were political as well as religious—two parties formed and civil war ensued. The problems came to a head during the reign of Mary, Queen of Scots, who inherited the throne from her father James V when she was only a few weeks old. The royal family remained Catholic, and Mary was raised in France and briefly married to the king of France.

Bruce's son David died without heirs, so the crown passed to Robert II of Scotland, a grandson of Robert the Bruce and first of the Stuart kings. The Stuart kings continued to rule Scotland until James II of England (a.k.a. James VII of Scotland) was deposed. Even afterwards the Scots remained loyal to the Stuart line, and a Jacobite party dedicated to restoring the Stuart monarchy remained active until the 19th century.

The Stuart kings were of mixed ability. Scotland's relationship with England was always tense and throughout the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries there were continual border wars. In addition, many Scottish barons became so strong that the Stuarts had a great deal of difficulty controlling them. The Douglas clan, descended from a favorite knight of Robert Bruce, became so powerful that the Stuart kings resorted to murder and

Upon the death of her husband, Mary returned to rule Scotland and found the country torn by religious strife. She married her cousin, Stuart Darnley and produced a son but quickly became embroiled in a scandal involving the murder of her husband. More civil wars followed and after a decisive defeat she was deposed by the Protestant faction, who reigned in the name of her infant son James VI. She was then driven from the country, imprisoned, and finally executed by her arch-nemesis, Elizabeth I.

Crowns of Scotland and England United—Mary's son James VI was heir to the English throne, so on the death of Queen Elizabeth, he became James I of England. From that time, the Stuart kings resided in England and the government of Scotland was left in the hands of Parliament. Although James VI was raised as Presbyterian, he and his descendants subscribed to the Anglican faith and did not tolerate non-conformists. This caused considerable conflict between the Stuart kings and their Scottish subjects, which flared up during the reign of Charles I, triggering the English Civil Wars. Although many Scots fought against the king during the English Civil War, they fought only for the principles of religious freedom and self-government and strongly resisted Cromwell's effort to eliminate crown altogether.

The Stuarts presided over the independent countries of England and Scotland for over 100 years before the Parliaments were combined into the United Kingdom of Great Britain in 1707. There was much popular resistance to the union among native Scots, and it is thought the Act of Union was brought about by strategic bribery. Anti-English feeling was still strong enough to fuel the Jacobite Rebellion in 1715 and 1745, but by the 18th century the industrial revolution, spurred on the by Scottish inventor James Watt and Scottish economist Adam Smith, was well underway. Rail transportation and commercial trade helped close the distance between the two countries, and pride in the growing empire unified patriot feeling between the two countries. The Scots' reputation as fearless fighters and dauntless explorers was enhanced by their important contributions to colonial development, and from the 18th century on, the history of Scotland is the history of the British Empire

TIMELINE—SCOTLAND

Year	Event
540	Saint Mungo arrives in Glasgow as a missionary to Scotland.
563	Saint Columba founds the Monastery of Iona.
843	Picts and Scots unite under Kenneth Macalpine .
1040	Duncan, the King of Scots, is killed by the usurper, Macbeth .
1058-1096	Reign of Malcolm Canmore and his wife Saint Margaret of Scotland .
1286	Death of Alexander III leaves the Scottish throne vacant, chaos ensues.
1297	William Wallace leads the Scots in revolt against Edward I .
1306	Robert Bruce is crowned king of Scotland in defiance of Edward I.
1314	Scottish victory at the <i>Battle of Bannockburn</i> assures Scotland's independence from England.
1371	Robert II ascends the throne as the first Stuart King of Scotland.
1424	James I of Scotland is released by Henry VI after many years in prison.
1460	Fall of the Black Douglases.
1513	James IV of Scotland dies at <i>Flodden Field</i> , a disastrous loss for Scotland.
1560	The Scottish Parliament, led by John Knox , establishes a national church.
1567	Mary, Queen of Scots exiled and imprisoned by Queen Elizabeth.
1603	James I of England (formerly James VI of Scotland) assumes the throne of England on the death of Elizabeth.
1641	Scotland declares against Charles I in the <i>English Civil Wars</i> .
1649	After execution of Charles I, Scotland declares against Cromwell in the <i>English Civil Wars</i> .
1692	Massacre of Glencoe results from Jacobite resistance to William III .
1707	Act of Union unites England and Scotland into Great Britain.
1715	First Jacobite uprising in Scotland in support of the Old Pretender .
1745	Second Jacobite uprising in Scotland in support of Bonnie Prince Charles .

CHARACTERS—SCOTLAND

Character	Dates	Short Biography
Saint Mungo	fl. 540	Early Christian missionary to Scotland.
Saint Columba	521–597	Missionary who founded monastery of Iona in Scotland.
Margaret of Scotland	1045–1093	Wife of Malcolm III of Scotland. Pious and noble Queen. Mother of Maude the Good.
William Wallace	1272–1305	Commoner who led resistance to Edward I's conquests.
Robert Bruce	1274–1329	Scottish nobleman who claimed the crown and led resistance to England at battle of Bannockburn.
James Douglas	1286–1330	Fought in Wars of Independence with Robert Bruce.
James V	1512–1542	Father of Mary Stuart. Defeated in battle and died shortly after Mary was born.
Mary Queen of Scots	1542–1587	Queen of Scotland. Deposed and exiled. Held captive and executed by Queen Elizabeth.
John Knox	1533–1603	Religious leader who founded the Presbyterian Church.
Jenny Geddes	fl. 1637	Commoner who led a rebellion against Anglican Church.
Young Pretender	1720–1788	Grandson of James II, led Jacobites in bid to restore Stuarts to the throne of England.
Flora MacDonald	1722–1790	Heroine who helped Bonnie Prince Charles escape.
Adam Smith	1723–1790	Inventor of modern capitalism. Wrote <i>Wealth of Nations</i> .
Robert Burns	1759–1796	Romantic poet, who wrote in a Scottish dialect.
James Watt	1736–1819	Inventor of Steam Engine, founder of Industrial Revolution.
Sir Walter Scott	1771–1832	Author best known for novels set in Scotland.

WARS—SCOTLAND

Years	War	Outcome
1054–1679	Scottish Civil Wars	Clans wars, religious wars, and other Civil Wars in Scotland.”
1093–1547	Anglo-Scottish Wars	Perennial border wars between Scotland and England
1296–1327	Scottish Wars of Independence	Against great odds Scotland wins its independence from England.
1642–1650	English Civil Wars	A series of Civil Wars in the mid-17th century curtailed the power of the English king.
1689–1746	Jacobite Rebellion	When the Stuart king is deposed many Scots and Irish remain loyal to the Stuart line.

RECOMMENDED READINGS—SCOTLAND

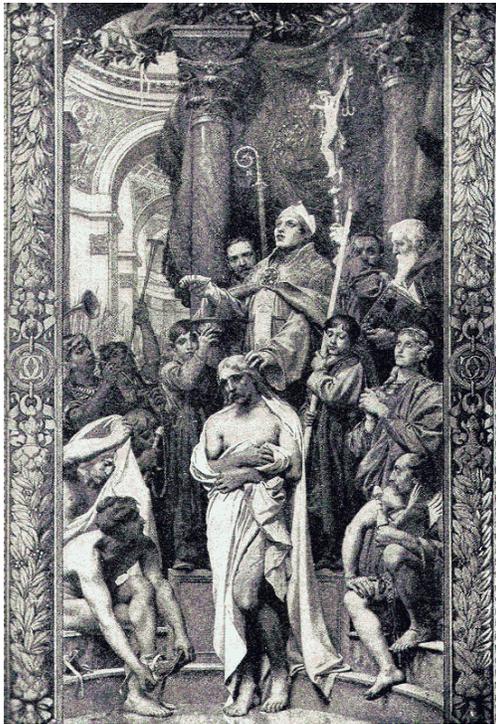
Book Title	chaps	Selected Chapters
Scotland's Story by Marshall		<i>all</i>
Mary Queen of Scots by Abbott		<i>all</i>
The Scotch Twins by Perkins		<i>all</i>
Stories from Ballads by Macgregor		<i>all</i>
Story of Robert Bruce by Jean Lang		<i>all</i>
Border Marches by John Lang		<i>all</i>

EUROPEAN MIDDLE AGES—500 TO 1650 A.D.

CONVERSION OF CLOVIS, KING OF FRANKS, TO THE 'THIRTY YEARS' WAR

Christian Conversion—The central organizing principle of Europe during its rise from the remnants of the Roman Empire to the modern nations of Europe was the Christian religion. The barbarian tribes of Hispania and Gaul had been Christianized to some extent during Roman times, but many of the Germanic and Slavic tribes in the north of Europe were not brought under the influence of Christianity until much later. With the “conversion” of a country to Christianity came many trappings of Christian civilization, including an educated class of clerics, Roman legal institutions, Christian teachings on morals, and most importantly for regional kings—the recognition of their legitimacy. That is, a local ruler who paid homage to the Church and other Christian overlords could be recognized as a legitimate ruler throughout all of Christendom and had less to fear from both internal rebellions and

external invasions. Becoming part of the Christian family of nations did not eliminate these threats, but it enhanced the stability of the ruling classes of Europe and helped create the conditions necessarily for peace, commerce, and progress.



Baptism of Clovis

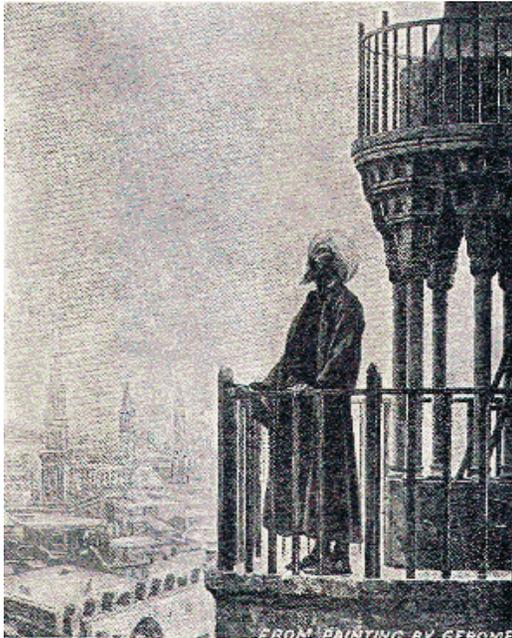
Charlemagne and the Franks—Many important milestones of the early years of the European Middle Ages relate to the conversion of barbarian tribes to Catholic Christianity, and the defense of already Christian territories from pagan hosts. The conversion of Clovis, king of the Franks, to Catholic Christianity was of utmost importance. During the 7th and 8th centuries, the Franks kept the Moors of Spain at bay, defended Catholic interests in Western Europe, and converted pagan tribes to the Christian cause. In 800 A. D., the greatest of the Frankish kings, Charlemagne, was crowned Holy Roman Emperor by the pope. Charlemagne not only helped fend off the Moslems in the Iberian

Peninsula, but also conquered Northern Italy from the pagan Lombards, and forcibly converted great swaths of Saxony to Christianity. The territory he controlled consisted mainly of modern day France, Germany, and Italy, the central territories of Western Europe.

Once the Holy Roman Empire was established, it faced several long-term threats. First, the threat of Vikings, or barbarian invasion from the North; second, the growing threat of Moslem aggression in the Mediterranean regions; and third strife between the Church and various princes. Although specific conflicts related were regional, the overall threats were common to all of Christian Europe.

Vikings and Normans—Between the years 900 and 1200 A. D., a hardy race of pagan Norsemen over-ran much of Northern Europe. After decades of plunder and rampage, the Vikings were won over the Christian cause, less by armed resistance than by acculturation. They frequently conquered Christian lands but ended up marrying Christian women, ruling over Christian subjects, and raising Christian children. As second and third generation Viking rulers became Christianized, their adopted religion spread to their native lands, and eventually all of Scandinavia became Christian. The most important of the Viking rulers were the Normans, who ruled over Northern France and eventually conquered all of Britain and much of Italy. The Norsemen even formed several “crusader kingdoms” in the Middle East, and founded a dynasty in Russia.

During this same period, Christianity was spreading to the Slavic regions of eastern Europe. Poland, Russia, Hungary, Bohemia, and Lithuania were converted to Christianity by both Catholic and Orthodox missionaries. These regions had never been influenced by Roman civilization, and did not have written languages until they were converted to Christianity. Even though they were late to adopt the customs and culture of Western Europe, they were important Christian bulwarks against the advancing Mohammed and Mongol threats from the east.



Calling Moslems to Prayer

The Islamic Threat—The Christian church had been fighting off schisms and heresies for hundreds of years when the Islamic threat took hold in the outermost regions of Christendom. Within fifty years of the death of Mohammed the new religion had swept all of the Middle East, Egypt and North Africa. Soon after the Moors conquered most of the Iberian Peninsula and threatened all of Europe. The Franks were key in turning the Mohammedan tide in Spain, and the Eastern Empire, centered in Constantinople, provided a buffer-state between the Moslem states of the Middle East and southeast Europe. Without these bulwarks, Europe almost certainly would have been overrun.

The Mohammedan Abbasid dynasty (750 to 1258 A.D.) was centered in Baghdad and ruled over a highly civilized region. The Abbasids tolerated Christian travelers, so for hundreds of years commerce and religious pilgrimages to the holy land continued unhindered. Eventually, however, the Abbasids lost ground to a more radical, less civilized tribe from central Asia. The “Turkish” Moslems conquered both Christian and Abbasid territories and eventually formed the Ottoman Empire. It was this branch of Islam which threatened Europe from the south and East for much of the Middle Ages.

The Crusades, which occurred during the eleventh and twelfth centuries, were a series of campaigns by Christian Europeans intended to reclaim the Holy Lands from Turkish Moslems. When these campaigns failed, the Turks were able to consolidate their territories in Asia Minor and invade southern Europe. Much of the Balkans fell to the Turks in the 12th and 13th centuries, and Constantinople fell in 1453. The Ottoman Turks continued to threaten Eastern Europe throughout the 15th and 16th centuries, and were not driven from the Balkan Peninsula until the 19th century. Many Christian heroes of the Middle Ages gained their renown from fighting to drive back the Mohammedans and maintain a Christian culture within Europe.

Church vs. State—The Christian religion sees the world as having both a spiritual realm and a material realm, and the mediaeval Church claimed the “spiritual” realm as its domain, while acknowledging the rights of princes over their earthly kingdoms. The border between material and spiritual reality, however, has ever been a messy one. From the princes’ point of view, the church provided important services, but should be made to serve the interests of the state. From the Church’s point of view, the princes ruled by the grace of God and were beholden to promote the interests of the Church. This conflict of interests has existed throughout the life of the church, and but in the Middle Ages, when the church held so much influence that an “excommunicated” prince could not command the allegiance of his subjects, the controversy raged in many forms.

In Germany and Italy, the “investiture controversy” was essentially a conflict about who should control church property. Princes thought that since their armies were needed to protect church properties, they should be allowed to appoint bishops that would serve their interests. The church thought that it should be able to appoint bishops that were faithful to the papacy and Christian interests. Since church properties generated a great deal of income, this was more than a philosophical disagreement and many wars were fought over the issue. In France the same pressures applied, but the conflict was resolved for a long time by outright theft of the papacy. The “Avignon Papacy” was a hundred year period during which the King of France selected and maintained the Pope in his own domains, and even when the papacy was restored to Rome, it became largely a pawn of the Italian princes.

The result of princes appointing and controlling bishops was inevitably systematic corruption. Church offices and their revenues became tools of the government, and a great deal of the money and land donated to the church for charitable purposes fell under the control of feckless nobles. The astounding factor in this situation was not the deplorable state of morals within the church hierarchy but the fact that at the parish level, so much charitable work continued to get done, and so many pious and faithful servants of God were still attached to the religious life.

The Reformation—The widespread corruption within the church was in blatant conflict with the dogmas the church was bound to uphold. Sincere reformers from both inside and outside the church arose, but the extreme wealth of the church was a magnet but for opportunists of all stripes. The manner in which the reformation of the Catholic church occurred, therefore, varied by region, and had a great deal to do with local politics as well as theology.

In Germany, where Luther held sway, the church properties of kingdoms that broke away from Rome fell under the control of the princes, but much of the Church organization remained intact. In the Netherlands, the Calvinist variety of Christianity became a rallying point against the oppressions of Hapsburg Spain. Calvinism was especially popular with the merchant classes in independent cities throughout Europe, where local leaders opposed all hierarchy and rituals of the “papists” and sought to appoint church elders by popular election. In France, the Huguenot movement was almost crushed by the clever machinations of the mastermind, Richelieu, who sought to promote religious unity at home, while he sowed discord among his enemies by promoting Protestant causes in Germany.

The devastating Thirty Years War resulted in the Peace of Westphalia, which granted legitimacy and recognition to many of the Protestant governments of Europe. Its primary effect, however, was political: it resulted in a strengthened Bourbon France and a greatly weakened Hapsburg Empire. From this point on, the Hapsburg Empire was no longer the predominant power in Europe. Politics were driven by “balance of power” considerations, as Austria, France, Prussia, Prussia, and England maneuvered to protect their political interests in a continent where the ideal of religious unity could no longer serve as an effective break on nationalistic ambition.

TIMELINE—EUROPEAN MIDDLE AGES

Date	Event
Christian Conversion	
500	Conversion of Clovis to Catholic Christianity.
520	Saint Benedict founds Western Monasticism
785	Baptism of Wittekind, chief of the Saxons.
865	Cyril and Methodius convert Slavs to Christianity.
1000	Olaf I converts Vikings to Christianity.
1000	Steven of Hungary converts Hungarians to Christianity.
The Viking Menace	
885	Vikings <i>besiege Paris</i> .
911	Rollo the Viking becomes the first Duke of Normandy.
The Moslem Threat and the Crusades	
732	Charles Martel stops the Mohammedan invasion at the <i>Battle of Tours</i> .
1096	Peter the Hermit organizes the <i>First Crusade</i> .
1270	Saint Louis of France dies on his final <i>Crusade</i> in Tunis.
1453	Mohammed II <i>conquers Constantinople</i> , expands Turkish empire in Balkans.
1492	<i>Siege of Granada</i> , last stronghold of the Moors is conquered.
1517	Don John of Austria defeats Turkish Army at the <i>Battle of Lepanto</i> .
1683	Second <i>Siege of Vienna</i> relieved by Polish king Sobieski
Church-State Conflicts	
800	Charlemagne is crowned Holy Roman Emperor in Rome.
1076	Gregory VII seeks to reform lay bishoprics; excommunicates Henry IV.
1303-1378	“Avignon Papacy” is captive of the French Crown.
1378-1417	Western Schism. Multiple claimants for the office of pope.
New World Exploration	
1492	Columbus discovers America.
1498	Vasco da Gama opens up a trade route to Asia.
1520	Ferdinand Magellan dies while circumnavigating the globe.
The Reformation	
1450	Gutenberg publishes the first Bible.
1517	Martin Luther initiates Protestant Reformation in Germany.
1572	St. Bartholomew Day’s Massacre of Huguenots in France.
1568	<i>Revolt of the Netherlands</i> led by William the Silent.
1598	Henry IV of France issues edict of Nantes, granting rights to Protestants.
1620-1650	The <i>Thirty Year’s War</i> reduces the power of the Catholic Hapsburgs.

CHARACTERS—EUROPEAN MIDDLE AGES

Character	Dates	Short Biography
Christian Conversion and the Holy Roman Empire		
Clovis	466–511	Founder of the Frankish kingdom. Converted to Christianity.
Wittekind	fl. 780	Leader of Saxon resistance to Charlemagne. After years of struggle accepted baptism.
Charlemagne	742–814	First Holy Roman Emperor. Unified most of Western Europe.
Saint Stephen	975–1038	First Christian king of Hungary. Defeated pagans, united Magyars.
Henry the Fowler	876–936	United rival German duchies in a confederation to resist the Magyars.
The Vikings and Norsemen		
Rollo the Viking	died 931	Viking Leader, made Duke of Normandy when he became Christian.
Rurik	830–879	Norseman who ruled over a Slavic tribe on Volga. First Russian monarch.
The Moslem Threat and the Crusades		
Charles Martel	686–741	Frankish king who defeated the Moors at the Battle of Tours.
Peter the Hermit	1050–1115	Monk who instigated the First Crusade by preaching against Turks.
Barbarossa	1122–1190	German warrior king and crusader. Campaigned in Italy and Germany.
St. Louis IX	1214–1270	Crusading king. Canonized as a saint for his piety and compassion.
Don John of Austria	1545–1578	Hero of the naval battle of Lepanto. Briefly governed Spanish Netherlands during the Dutch Revolt.
Mohammed II	1432–1481	Ottoman Sultan who conquered Constantinople and Balkans.
Solyman the Great	1494–1566	Most famous Ottoman Emperor. Extended Ottoman's reach to the Balkans and North Africa.
Eugene of Savoy	1663–1736	Superlative Austrian general. Drove Turks out of Serbia and fought France during the War of the Spanish Succession.
Church-State Conflicts		
Saint Benedict	480–547	Established the Benedictine order of monks. Founded the monastic movement in Europe.
Pope Gregory VII	1020–1085	Tested wills with Holy Roman Emperor Henry IV over lay appointment of bishops.

Catherine of Siena	1347–1380	Saint who helped resolve the Papal schism of the 14th century.
Joan of Arc	1412–1431	Led the French army to victory at the Siege of Orleans, then burned at the stake.
Renaissance		
Gutenberg	1400–1468	Invented printing press. Improved types, inks and methods. Printed first Bible.
Lorenzo de Medici	1449–1492	Banker and power broker of Renaissance Florence. Great Patron of the Arts.
Reformation		
Martin Luther	1483–1546	Leader of the Protestant Reformation. Raged against indulgences and clerical abuse.
Charles V	1500–1558	Hapsburg Emperor who ruled Austria, Low Countries, Spain, Italy.
Richelieu	1585–1682	Minister of Louis XIII. Consolidated royal power, crushed dissenters.
William Silent	1533–1584	Hero of the Dutch Revolt. Led resistance to Spanish tyranny.
Henry IV	1553–1610	Popular Huguenot king who converted to Catholicism, but decreed religious toleration.
G. Adolphus	1594–1632	Protestant general during the Thirty Years War. King of Sweden.
New World Exploration		
Marco Polo	1254–1324	Traveller from Venice who spent 30 years with Kublai Khan in China.
Columbus	1451–1506	Sailed across Atlantic Ocean and discovered the Americas.
Vasco da Gama	1460–1524	Sailed from Europe to the Orient by sailing around the Cape of Good Hope.

RECOMMENDED READINGS—EUROPEAN MIDDLE AGES

Book Title	chaps	Selected Chapters
Famous Men of the Middle Ages by John Haaren		<i>all</i>
The Story of Europe by H. E. Marshall		<i>all</i>
The Discovery of New Worlds by M. B. Synge		<i>all</i>
The Awakening of Europe by M. B. Synge		<i>all</i>
Brave Men and Brave Deeds by M. B. Synge		<i>all</i>

HISTORICAL AND OUTLINE MAPS

BRITISH ISLES

The British Isles were known of by Greek navigators as far back as 220 B.C., but they were not explored and settled by the Ancients until the Roman conquest in the first century A.D. The original inhabitants were Celts, and Gaelic languages were still spoken in parts of Scotland, Ireland, and Wales up until the 19th century. The Southern portion of Great Britain, better known as England, was not inhabited by English-speaking settlers until the 6th century.

GEOGRAPHY TERMS

Islands:

- Great Britain:** Largest British Isle, composed of England, Scotland, and Wales.
Ireland: (Roman Hibernia) Large Island to the west of Great Britain
Isle of Wight: (Roman Vectis) Island off south England, near Portsmouth harbor.
Isle of Mann: Island between Scotland and North Ireland.
Isle of Anglesey: Island off the North coast of Wales.

Regions:

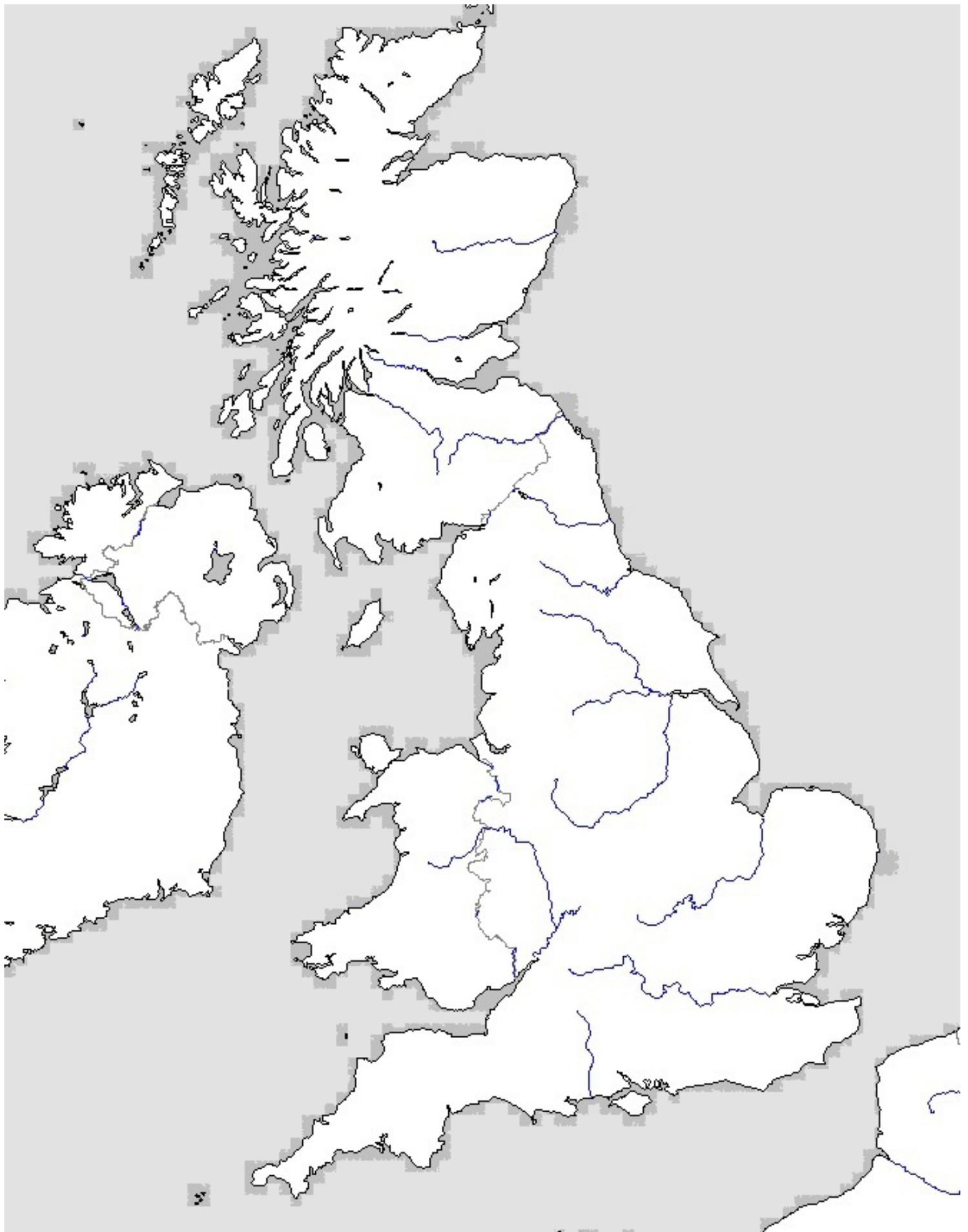
- Scotland:** Northern region of Great Britain, home to the Celtic Scots, Picts.
England: Southern region of Great Britain, home of the Anglo-Saxon English.
Wales: Western region of Great Britain; home of the Celtic Welsh.
Ireland: Western Island, a.k.a. Erin, Eire, Scotia, Hibernia,

Water Bodies:

English Channel, Strait of Dover, North Sea, Irish Sea
St. Georges Channel, The Wash, Bristol Channel

Maps:

- British Isles—Outline Map**
British Isles—Physical Map
Norman Conquest, 1070.





	Areas above 1600 feet
	" " below 600 "
	Forests
	Swamps
	Coalfields

Scale 1:6000000

Miles

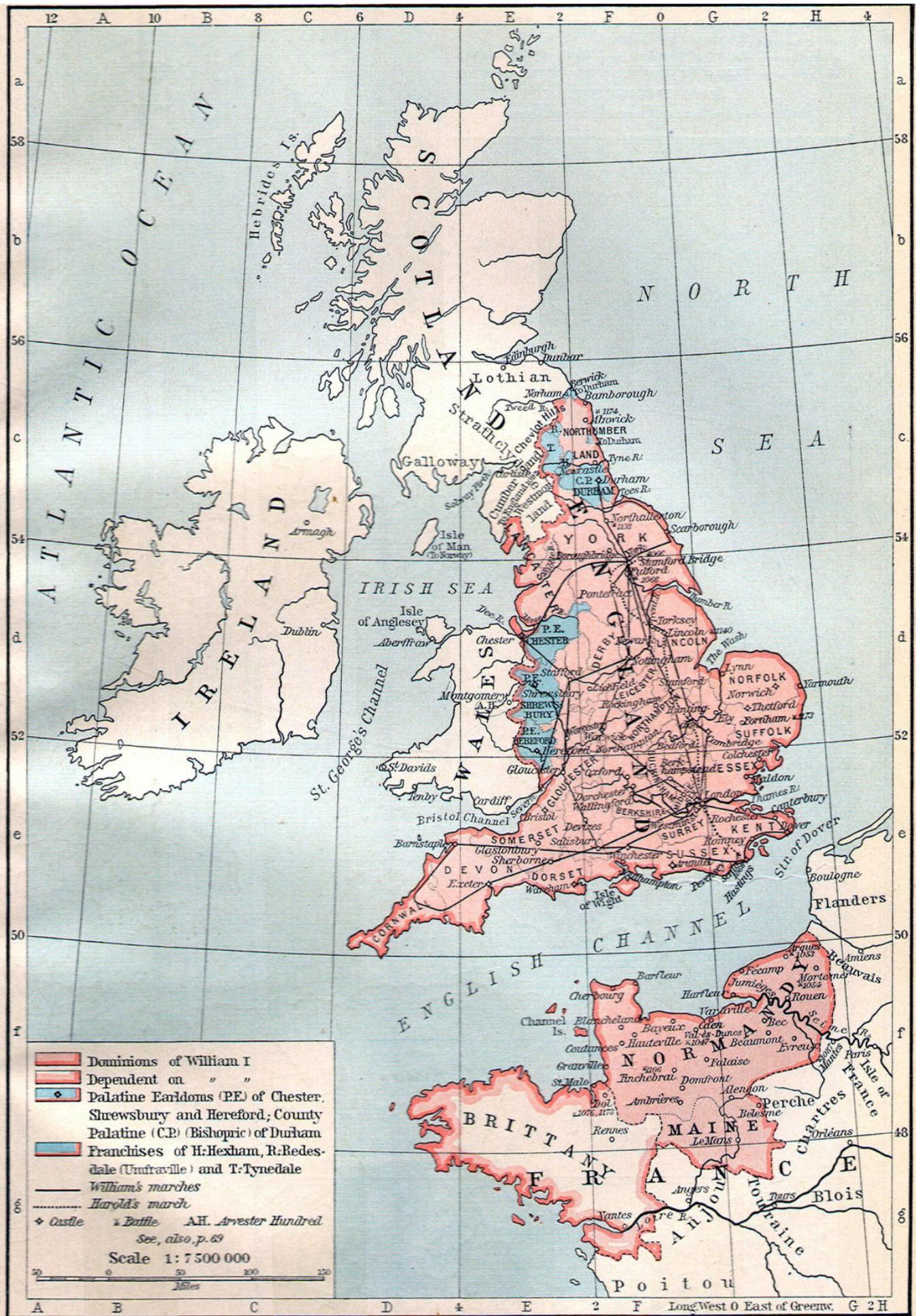
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	Dominions of William I
	Dependent on " "
	Palatine Earldoms (P.E.) of Chester, Shrewsbury and Hereford, County Palatine (C.P.) (Bishopric) of Durham
	Franchises of H. Hexham, R. Redesdale (Umfraville) and T. Tynedale
	William's marches
	Harold's march
	Castle
	Battle
	A.H. Arvester Hundred

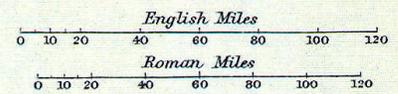
See, also, p. 69

Scale 1:7 500 000

0 50 100 150 Miles

A B C D E F G H Long West 0 East of Greenw. G 2 H

BRITANNIA



Longitude West 2 of Greenwich

ENGLAND

England is the south-eastern section of Great Britain that was inhabited by Anglo-Saxon, English speaking settlers from Northern Germany. The region was settled and civilized by the Romans, who built many roads and much infrastructure. It has always been the most populated and prosperous region of the British Isles because of its close proximity to the rest of Europe. The British Isles were dominated by England during most of the Middle Ages and early modern periods.

GEOGRAPHY TERMS

Rivers:

Thames:	Major river through southern England. Site of London.
Tyne:	River traditionally marking the border of England and Scotland.
Humber, Trent, Ouse:	East flowing river system that drains central England.
Great Ouse:	Major river that borders East Anglia and drains into "The Wash."
Severn	River draining the Cambrian mountains of Wales into Bristol Channel.
Avon	River flowing from Bath to Bristol, of Shakespearean fame.

Forest and Marshes:

New Forest:	Forest in the South of England, hunting grounds of Norman kings.
Sherwood Forest:	Central forest near Trent River, haunt of Robin Hood.
Forest of Arden:	Forest in the geographic center of England.
The Fens:	Marshy area around Great Ouse River.

Saxon Kingdoms:

Northumbria:	Kingdom on Eastern coast of England, North of Humber River.
Mercia:	Central kingdom centered around the Trent River.
East Anglia:	Eastern Kingdom, east of the Great Ouse River.
Kent:	Early Saxon Kingdom immediately across Strait of Dover.
Sussex	Kingdom of the Southern Saxons, South of Kent.
Essex	Kingdom of the Eastern Saxons, North of Thames.
Wessex	Kingdom of the Western Saxons, West of London.
Middlesex	Middle Saxon Kingdom centered around the Thames.

Cities

London, Winchester, Exeter, Lincoln, York, Canterbury
Salisbury, Gloucester, Worcester, Nottingham, Hastings, Reading, Oxford
Norwich, Bristol, Chester

Monasteries and Abbeys:

- Jarrow:** Monastery in North England, home of Venerable Bede.
Lindisfarne: Celtic Monastery founded by Cuthbert, raided by Vikings in 793 A.D.
Crowland: Mediaeval Abbey destroyed by the Danes in 870 A. D.
Canterbury: First See in Saxon England, founded by Augustine of Kent in 600 A.D.
Westminster: Abbey near London. Coronation and burial place of English kings.

Maps:

Outline Map: England

Roman England: 300 A. D.

Saxon England: 626 A. D.

Tudor England: 1500 A. D. (Ecclesiastical)

English Civil War: 1660 A. D.





The boundaries of Old Bishoprics are shown in colours and named thus — DURHAM

The boundaries of New Bishoprics (created by Henry VIII) are shown by broad red lines & named thus — CHESTER

Archi-Episcopal Sees York

Episcopal Sees Ely

Parliamentary Abbeys represented in the House of Lords Ⓞ

Greater Monasteries dissolved 1539 Ⓢ

Other Monasteries Ⓜ

In many towns there were several Monastic Houses. The figure placed after the name represents the number:

ECCLESIASTICAL ENGLAND
to the time of
HENRY VIII

Scale 1:3,000,000 (50 miles - 1 inch)
English Miles

0 10 20 30 40 50



ENGLAND during the CIVIL WAR

Scale 1:4000000 (6.4 miles-1 inch)
English Miles

- Districts controlled by Parliament at the beginning of 1645.
- Districts controlled by the King at the end of 1645.
- Districts conquered by Parliament during 1645.

PLANTAGENET EMPIRE

The Normans, who conquered England in 1066, were originally rulers of Normandy, a Duchy in the North of France. For three generations, the Normans held both England and Normandy. When the throne fell to Henry Plantagenet, he married Eleanor of Aquitaine, heir to Aquitaine and Gascony, two of the most prosperous provinces in Southern France. For many years, therefore, the Plantagenets rule both England and much of France. This led to many wars between England and France, culminating in the Hundred Years War between 1337 and 1453. By end of the Plantagenet reign, almost all holdings in France were lost to the Empire.

GEOGRAPHY TERMS

Plantagenet Holdings in France:

- Normandy:** Dukedom in Northern France controlled by Normans.
- Aquitaine, Gascony:** Provinces in Southwest France bequeathed to Plantagenets by Eleanor of Aquitaine, wife of Henry II.
- Anjou:** French province south of Normandy, home of Margaret of Anjou, leader of the Lancaster faction and wife of Henry VI.
- Maine:** Province south of Normandy, sometimes controlled by the Normans.
- Flanders:** Burgundian Province directly across the Strait of Dover. Site of Calais.

Hundred Years War Battles:

- Sluys—1340:** Important English naval victory over France.
- Crecy—1346:** Decisive victory for England. English longbows defeated French knights.
- Calais—1346:** English conquer French port town directly across the Strait of Dover.
- Poitiers—1356:** Major English victory, Black Prince captures the King of France.
- Agincourt—1415:** Henry V leads English to a dramatic victory over French.
- Orleans—1429:** Joan of Arc relieves Orleans and makes great gains for France.

French Rivers:

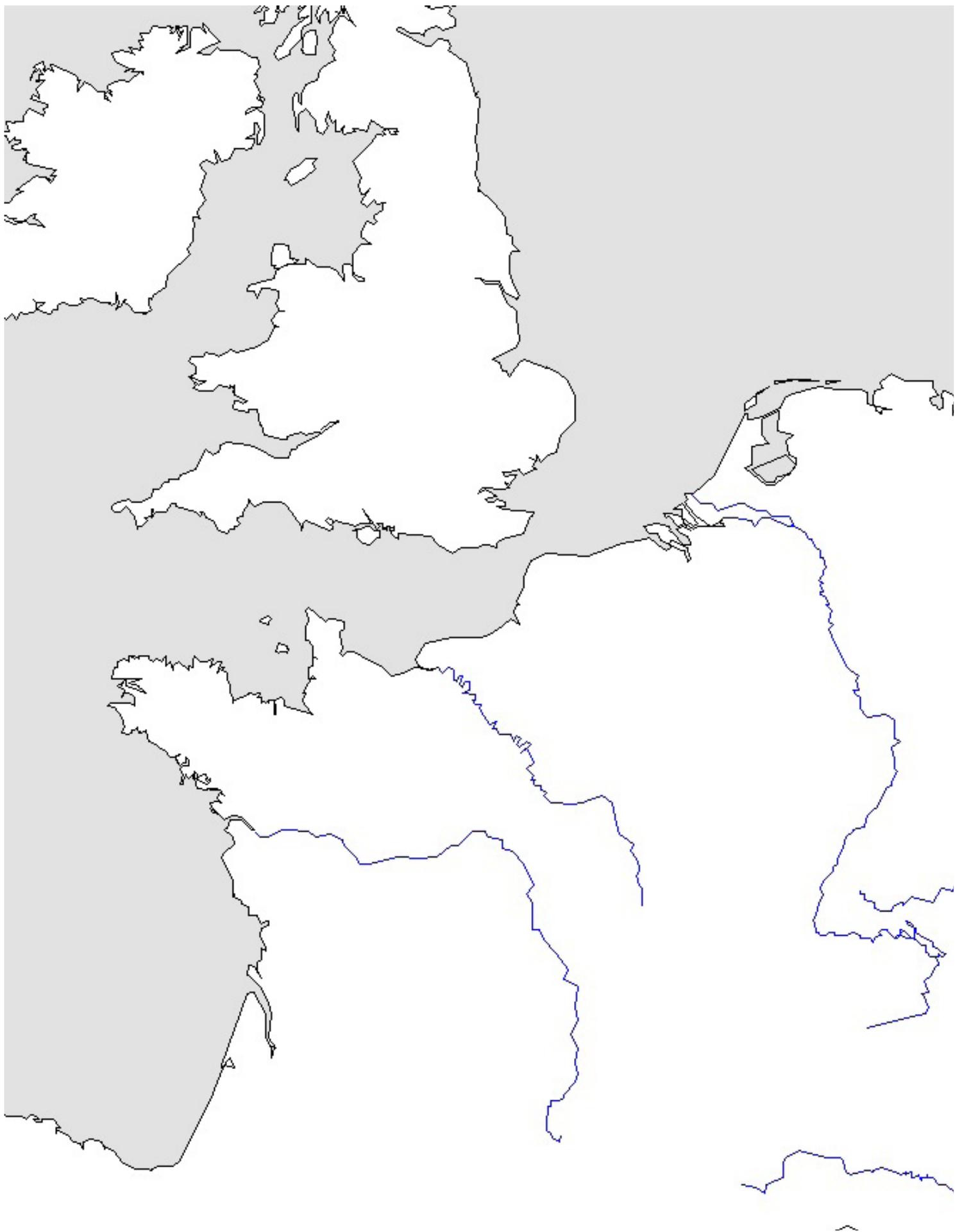
- Seine:** Major French river, site of Paris, Rouen.
- Loire:** Major French river, site of Orleans, Tours.

French Cities:

- Bayeux:** Major city on the coast of Normandy. Famed for its Tapestry.
- Rouen:** Capital of Normandy.
- Paris:** Capital of France.

Maps:

- Outline Map: England**
- Roman England: 300 A. D.**
- Saxon England: 626 A. D.**
- Tudor England: 1500 A. D. (Ecclesiastical)**
- English Civil War: 1660 A. D.**





SCOTLAND

Even in Roman times, “Caledonia”, the northern region of Great Britain, was considered “unconquerable”. The reputation of the Scots for ferocious independence lasted well beyond the Middle Ages. The traditional border between England and Scotland—going back to Roman times—is the Tyne River and Solway Frith.

Water Bodies:

Firth of Forth, Firth of Clyde, Firth of Tay, Moray Firth, Solway Firth
Loch Ness, Loch Lomand,

Islands:

The Hebrides, Orkney, Islay, Iona

Mountains:

- Grampian Mts:** Mountain range dividing Scotland into Highlands and Lowlands.
Cheviot Hills: Rolling hills along the England/Scotland border.
Highlands: Rural, regions of Scotland, Northwest of the Grampian Mountains.
Lowlands: Highly populated regions around Firth of Forth.

Scottish Cities:

Edinburgh, Glasgow, Scone, Inverness, Perth, Scone, St. Andrews, Melrose, Glasgow

Celtic Monasteries:

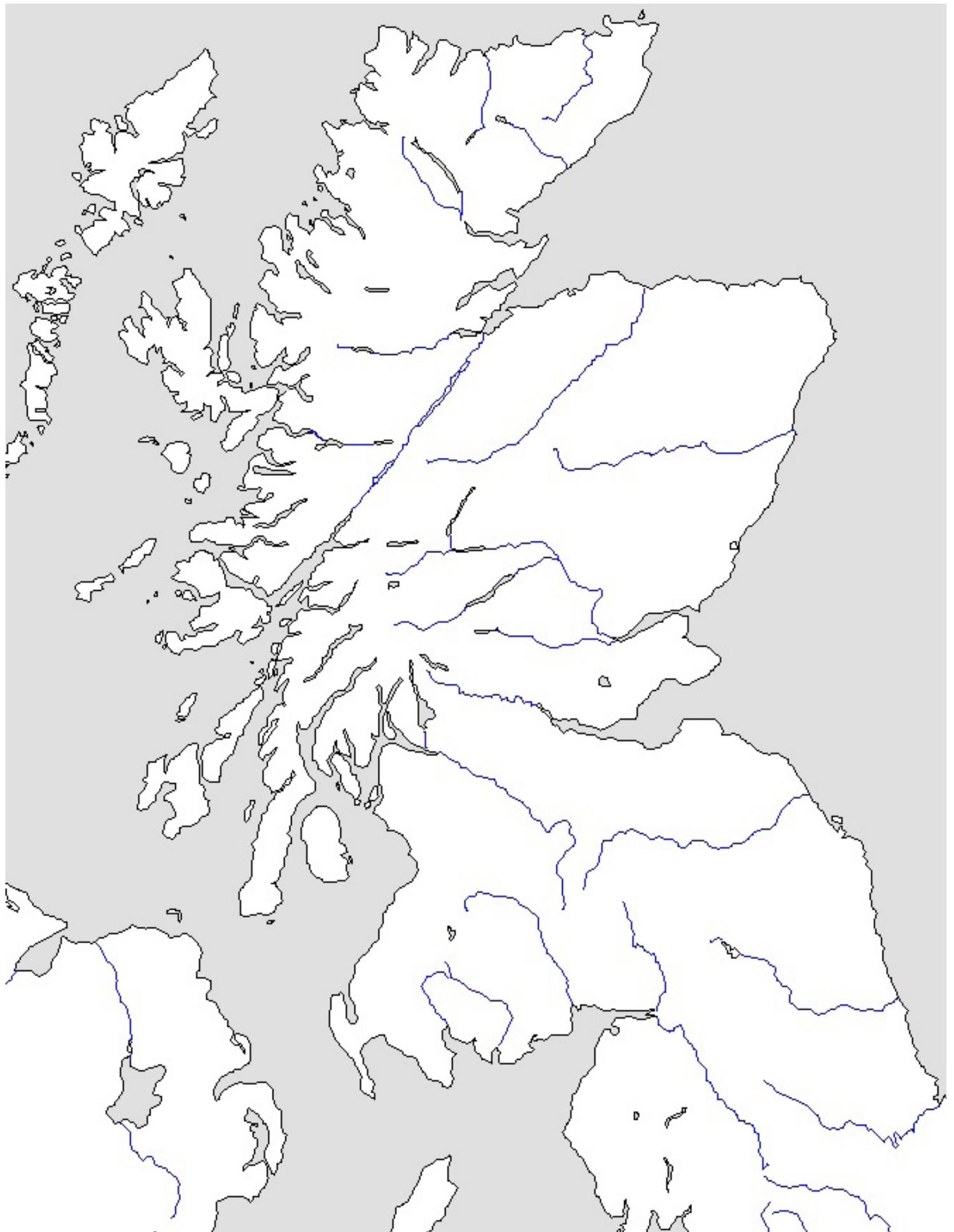
- Iona:** Celtic monastery founded by Saint Columba.
Lindisfarne: Celtic monastery founded by St. Aiden in 650 A.D.

Battle Sites:

Stirling
Falkirk
Bannockburn
Neville’s Cross
Culloden

Maps:

Scotland—Outline Map
Scotland—Physical Map
Border Region



SCOTLAND in the XITH CENTURY

Scale 1:2000000 (3.2 miles=1 inch)

English Miles

The red lines show the broad divisions of the country about 1018.



Highlands over 3000 Ft.
from 1200-3000 ..
Uplands .. 600-1200 ..
Lowlands .. 0-600 ..

FIRST CONQUESTS
of the
SCOTS, c. 500 A.D.
Scale 1:3000000 (50 m=1 m)
Scale 1:3000000 (50 m=1 m)

ACCOUNTABILITY FORMS

The following pages may be reproduced to help keep track of students' weekly and quarterly history reading objectives.

Book Selection Register:

When a student selects a book to read he enters it in his Book Selection Register. When he completes the books he writes comments if desired. Each form registers up to five books.

Title: <i>Plutarch's Lives</i>	Category: <i>suggested</i>	Length: <i>90 pgs</i>
Author: <i>W. H. Weston</i>	Start: <i>11-10</i>	Finish: <i>11-19</i>
Comments: <i>Only read the chapters on Greeks: Aristides, Themistocles, Alexander, Timoleon, and Philopomen.</i>		

Weekly Reading Register:

Each day that a student reads history, he should write down the number of minutes he spent reading, and the name of the book and author. The "length" of the book can be tracked either by recording printed pages, or in the case of e-books (which don't have fixed page numbers), by recording chapters. Students can make up to five entries per week using this form.

Date	Mon	Tues	Thu	Sat		Weekly Total
Time	<i>1:20</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>1:45</i>		<i>4:35</i>
Author/ Title	<i>Church Iliad</i>	<i>Church Iliad</i>	<i>Colum Golden Fleece</i>	<i>Colum Golden Fleece</i>		<i>Finished Iliad</i>
Length	<i>CA 10- 19</i>	<i>CA 20- 26</i>	<i>CA 1-5</i>	<i>CA 6-16</i>		<i>Iliad-16 Fleece-16</i>

Weekly Reading Long Form:

The Weekly Reading long form contains much of the same information as the Weekly Reading Register, but organized differently, with more room to write information about reading topics.

Instructors can also create their own forms to personalize tracking methods.

BOOK SELECTION REGISTER

Title:	Category:	Length:
Author:	Start:	Finish:
Comments:		

Title:	Category:	Pages:
Author:	Start:	Finish:
Comments:		

Title:	Category:	Pages:
Author:	Start:	Finish:
Comments:		

Title:	Category:	Pages:
Author:	Start:	Finish:
Comments:		

Title:	Category:	Pages:
Author:	Start:	Finish:
Comments:		

WEEKLY READING REGISTER

Date						Weekly Total
Time						
Author/ Title						
Length						

Date						Weekly Total
Time						
Author/ Title						
Length						

Date						Weekly Total
Time						
Author/ Title						
Length						

