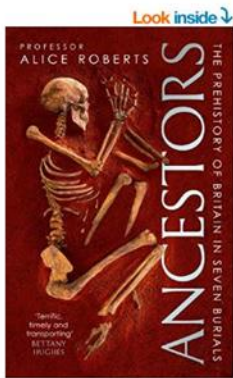


Ancient Britain

6

From Bronze to Iron



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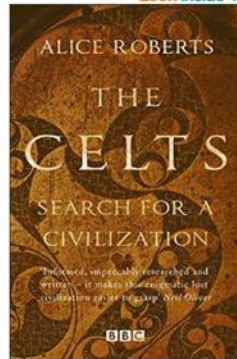
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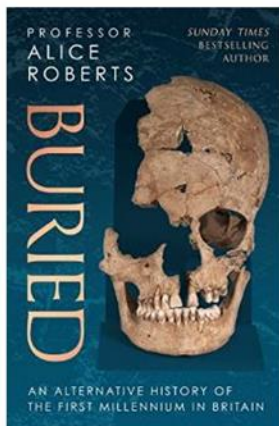
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1275 BC

**Britain was not influenced by the great Bronze Age civilizations of the Middle East.**



British cultures developed with distinctive features not found in mainland Europe (hengesh, stone circles, cursuses)....



....and within Britain, regional Bronze Age cultures developed with unique local features. Here are some of them.

- Distribution of stone circles
- Distribution of Late Bronze Age regional metalworking traditions

#### Distribution of mineral resources

- Copper
- Gold
- Silver
- Tin
- Shale
- Jet
- Copper mine

- Distribution of Early Bronze Age elite burials
- Major Middle Bronze Age enclosure
- Late Bronze Age circular enclosure

#### Other sites

- Barrow or cairn
- Stone circle
- Chambered tomb
- Wedge tomb
- Fort
- Other important site



- Distribution of stone circles
  - Distribution of Late Bronze Age regional metalworking traditions
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  - Major Middle Bronze Age enclosure
  - Late Bronze Age circular enclosure
- #### Other sites
- Barrow or cairn
  - Stone circle
  - Chambered tomb
  - Wedge tomb
  - Fort
  - Other important site

**Bronze Age Britain**  
The Bronze Age in Britain and Ireland covers the period from around 2400 BC to around 700 BC. Initially, there were strong elements of continuity with Neolithic traditions, with the ongoing use of stone circles and communal burials in chambered tombs. By the early second millennium, new traditions had arisen, including that of individual elite burials under cairns or barrows. Towards the end of the period, warfare became more important and the first hill-forts appeared. Because of the uneven distribution of metal ores, trade links were important in the Bronze Age, but these did not prevent the development of distinctive regional metalworking traditions.

## Disposing of the Dead

There have always been several options used by different cultures and groups.

—inhumation (burial)



—cremation



—excarnation



—mummification



—cannibalism





# Cladh Hallan

Exploring the roundhouse way of life in South Uist

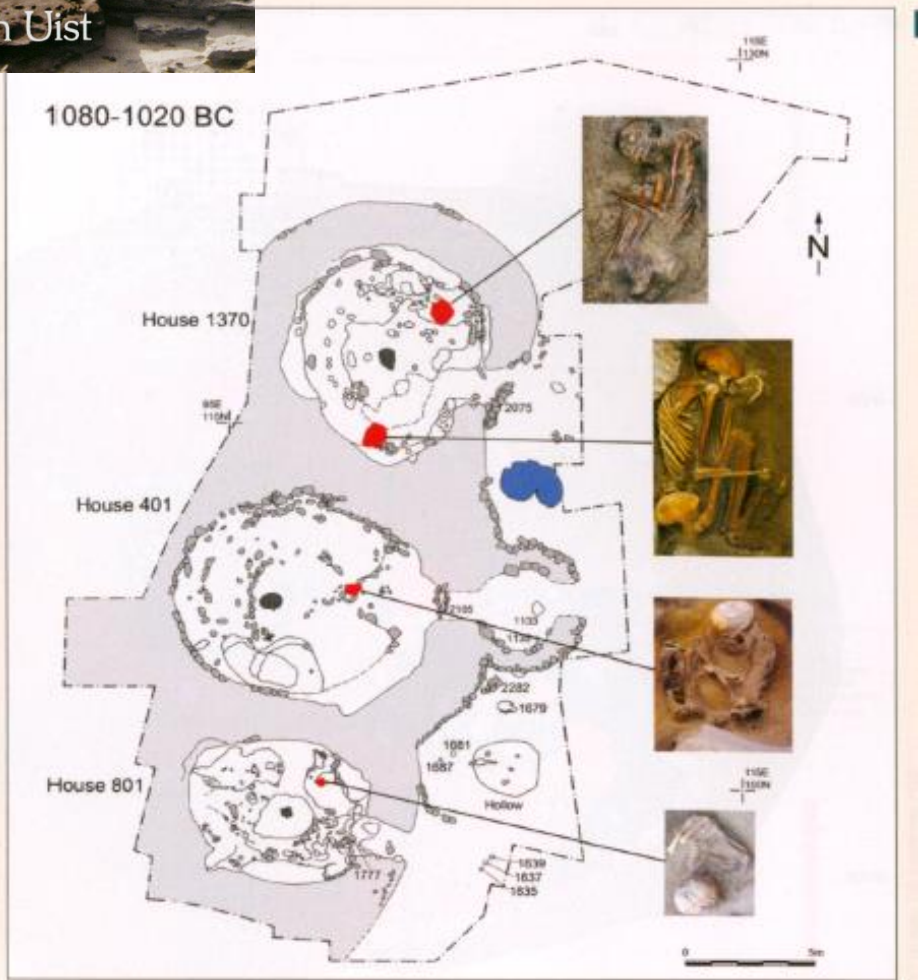
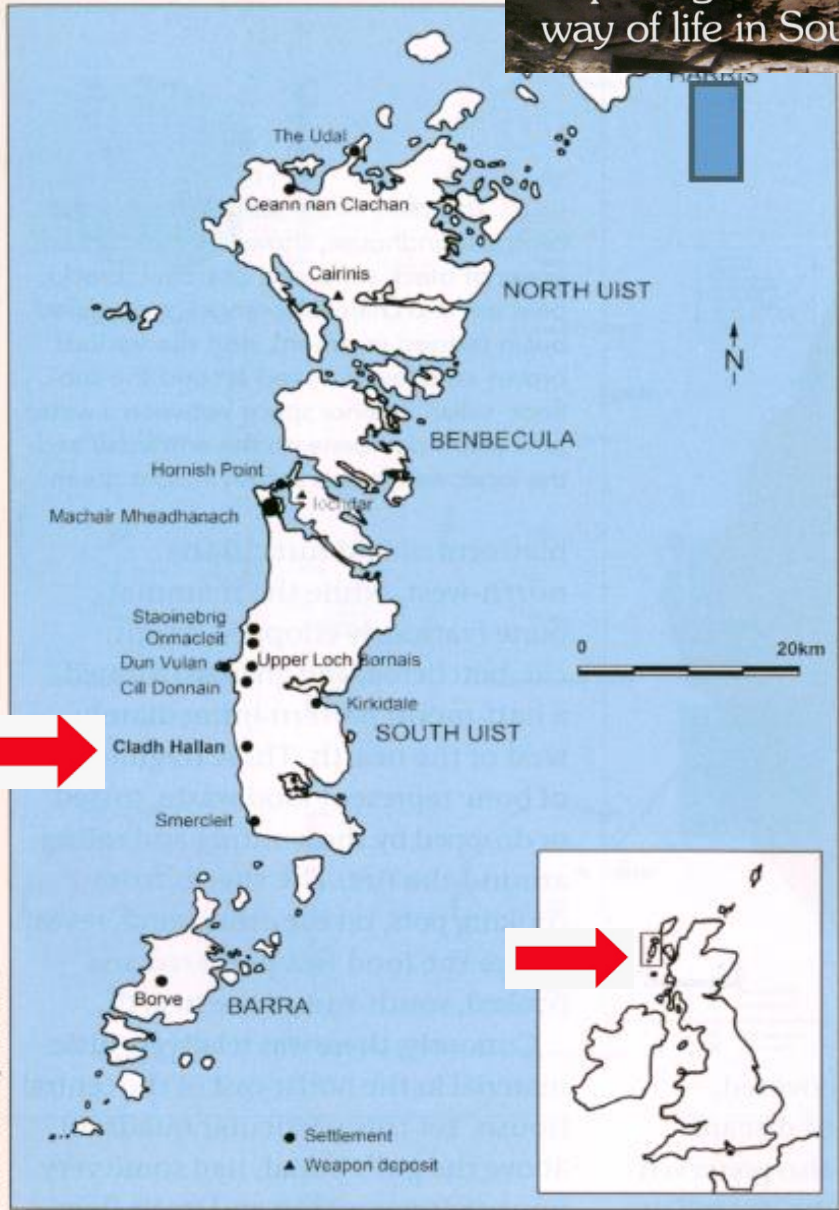
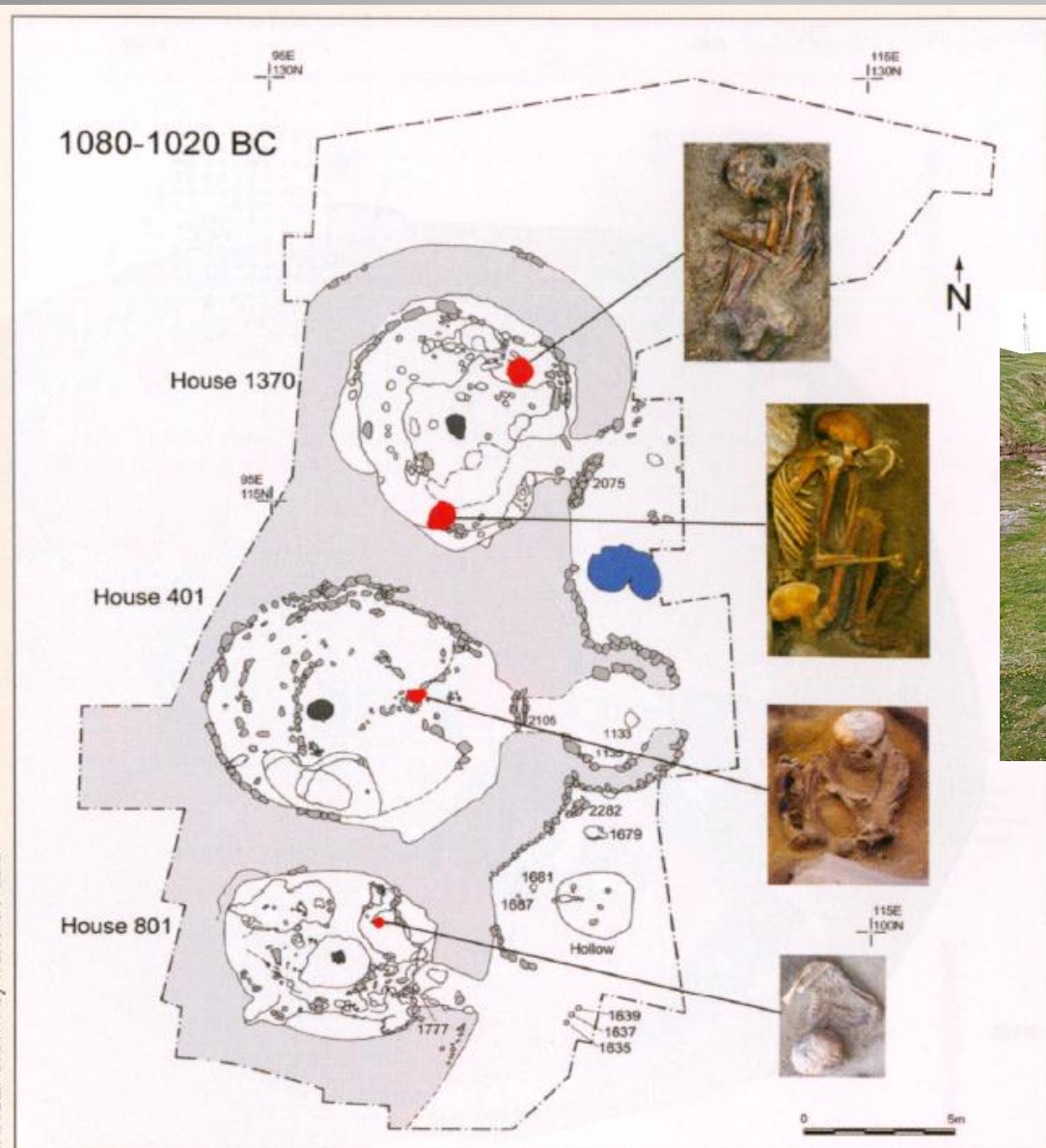


IMAGE: drawn by Irene de Luis

**LEFT** Cladh Hallan and other later prehistoric sites in South Uist and the southern isles of the Outer Hebrides.

**ABOVE** This plan shows the north-south row of roundhouses constructed in 1080-1020 BC. The four foundation burials are marked in red and the original grave of the mummified woman (second from top) is marked in blue.

IMAGE: drawn by Ian Dennis



**ABOVE** This plan shows the north-south row of roundhouses constructed in 1080-1020 BC. The four foundation burials are marked in red and the original grave of the mummified woman (second from top) is marked in blue.





A female Bronze Age mummy from Cladh Hallan is a composite of different skeletons.  
PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY MIKE PARKER PEARSON, UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

## "Frankenstein" Bog Mummies Discovered in Scotland

Two ancient bodies made from six people, new study reveals.


BY RACHEL KAUFMAN FOR NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC NEWS

PUBLISHED JULY 7, 2012

In a "eureka" moment worthy of Dr. Frankenstein, scientists have discovered that two 3,000-year-old Scottish "[bog bodies](#)" are actually made from the remains of six people.

According to new isotopic dating and DNA experiments, the mummies—a male and a female—were assembled from various body parts, although the purpose of the gruesome composites is likely lost to history.



Composition of the male mummy: 

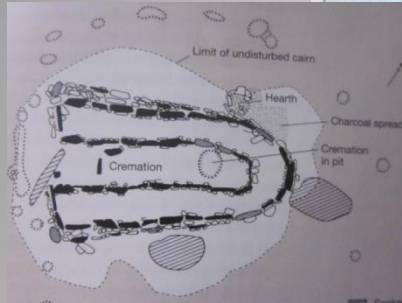
blue: male c. 1600 BC

yellow: male c. 1500-1400 BC

red: male c. 1440-1360 BC



# Some distinctive peripheral groups



6.37 Some distinctive peripheral groups





**Loanhead of Daviot, Recumbent Stone Circle** (*Historic Scotland*)

Recumbent stone circles form a tightly-knit group of Early Bronze Age monuments found in Aberdeenshire and Kincardineshire. They represent the locations of rituals, which took place over a number of years, culminating in the erection of a cairn over the central area. This was followed by the erection of a stone circle, the dominant feature of which was a large horizontal stone slab flanked by the two tallest stones of the circle. Photo: © Crown copyright RCAHMS [SC 851588]



NJ7428





Balnuaran of Clava, Bronze Age Cairn Cemetery (*Historic Scotland*)



**The Clava Cairns video**

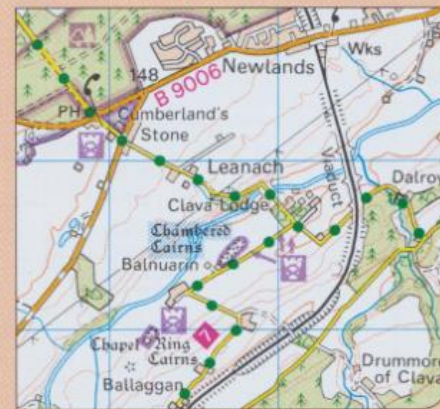






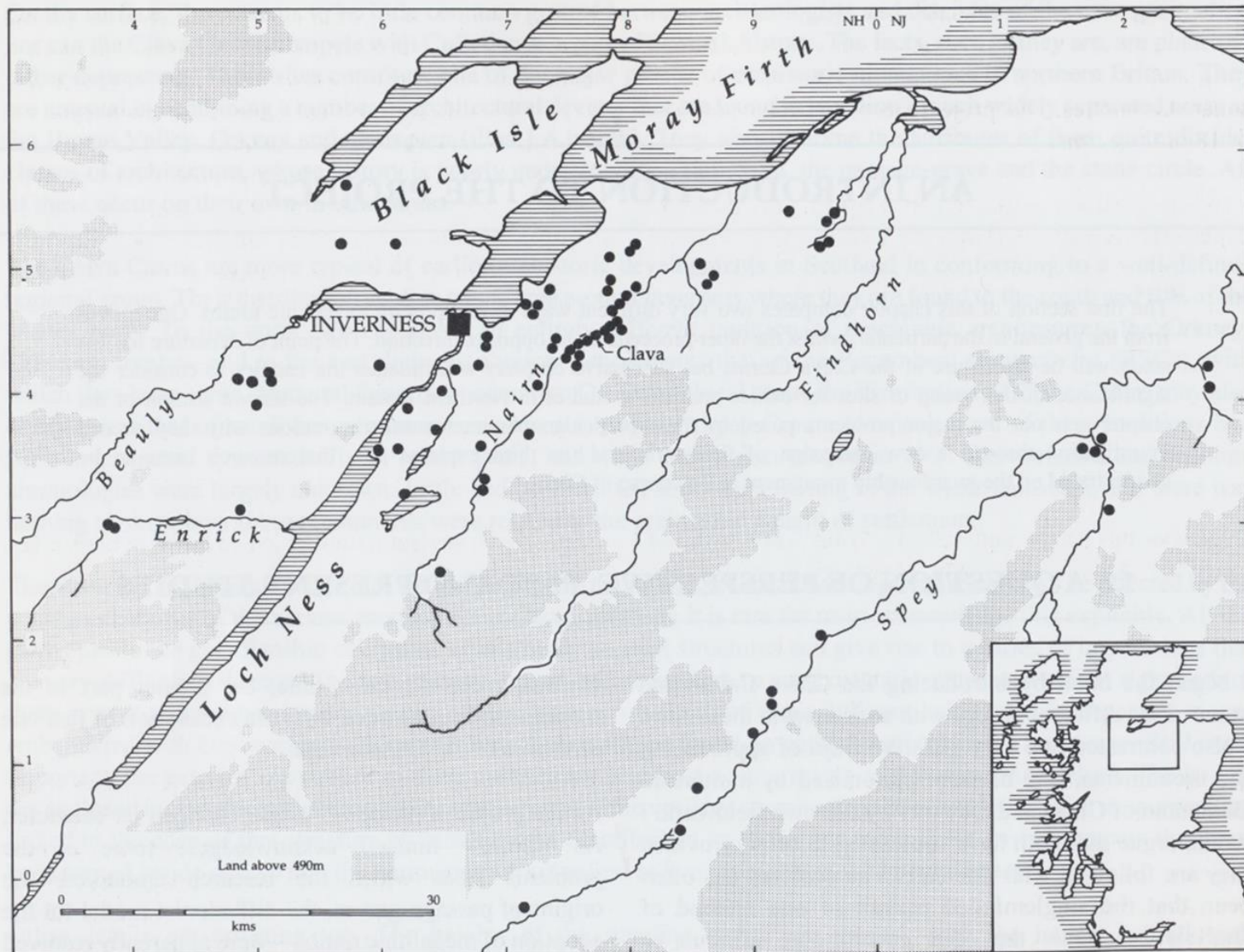
★ **Balnuaran of Clava, Bronze Age Cairn Cemetery** (*Historic Scotland*)

Excavation of this linear cemetery has shown that five of the cairns date to the Early Bronze Age, while another three were not built until the Late Bronze Age. The best-preserved of the cairns comprise two passage graves and a ring cairn, each of which is surrounded by a stone circle. These types of cairn belong to a tradition of monument building in eastern Scotland that includes the Recumbent Stone Circles of Aberdeenshire.



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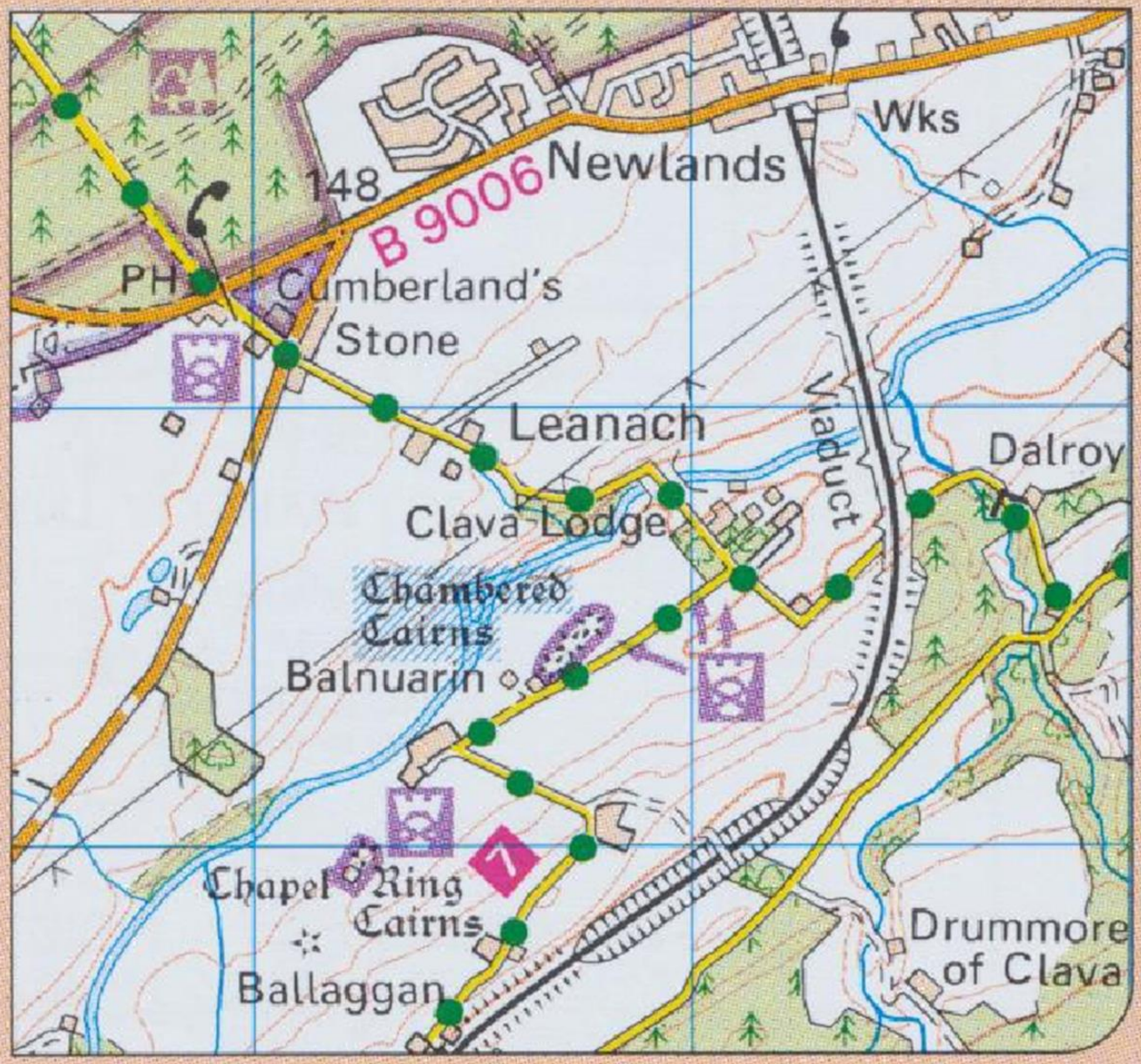
Photo: © Crown copyright RCAHMS

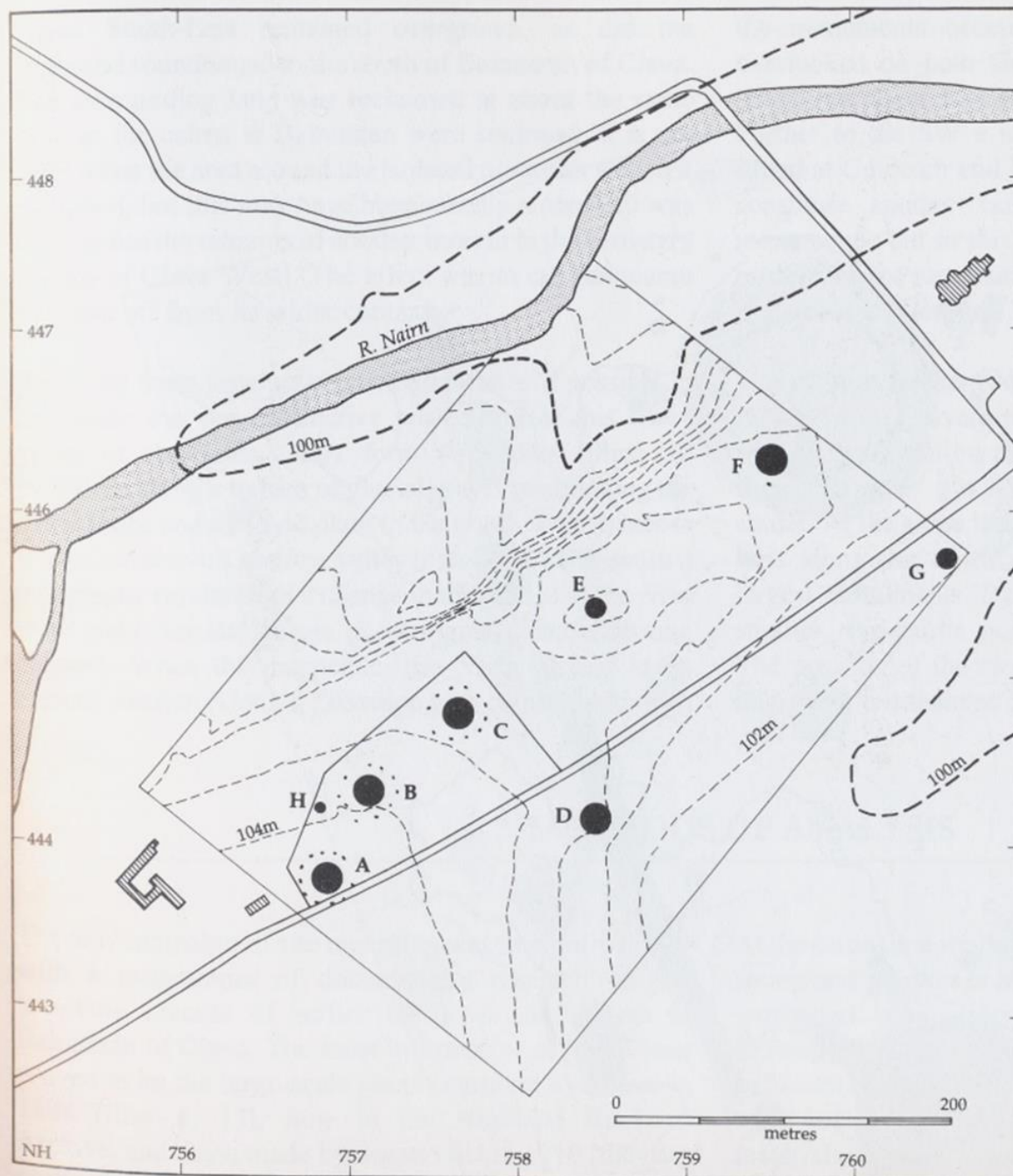


illus 2

The distribution of the Clava Cairns. (Based on the Ordnance Survey map © Crown copyright)





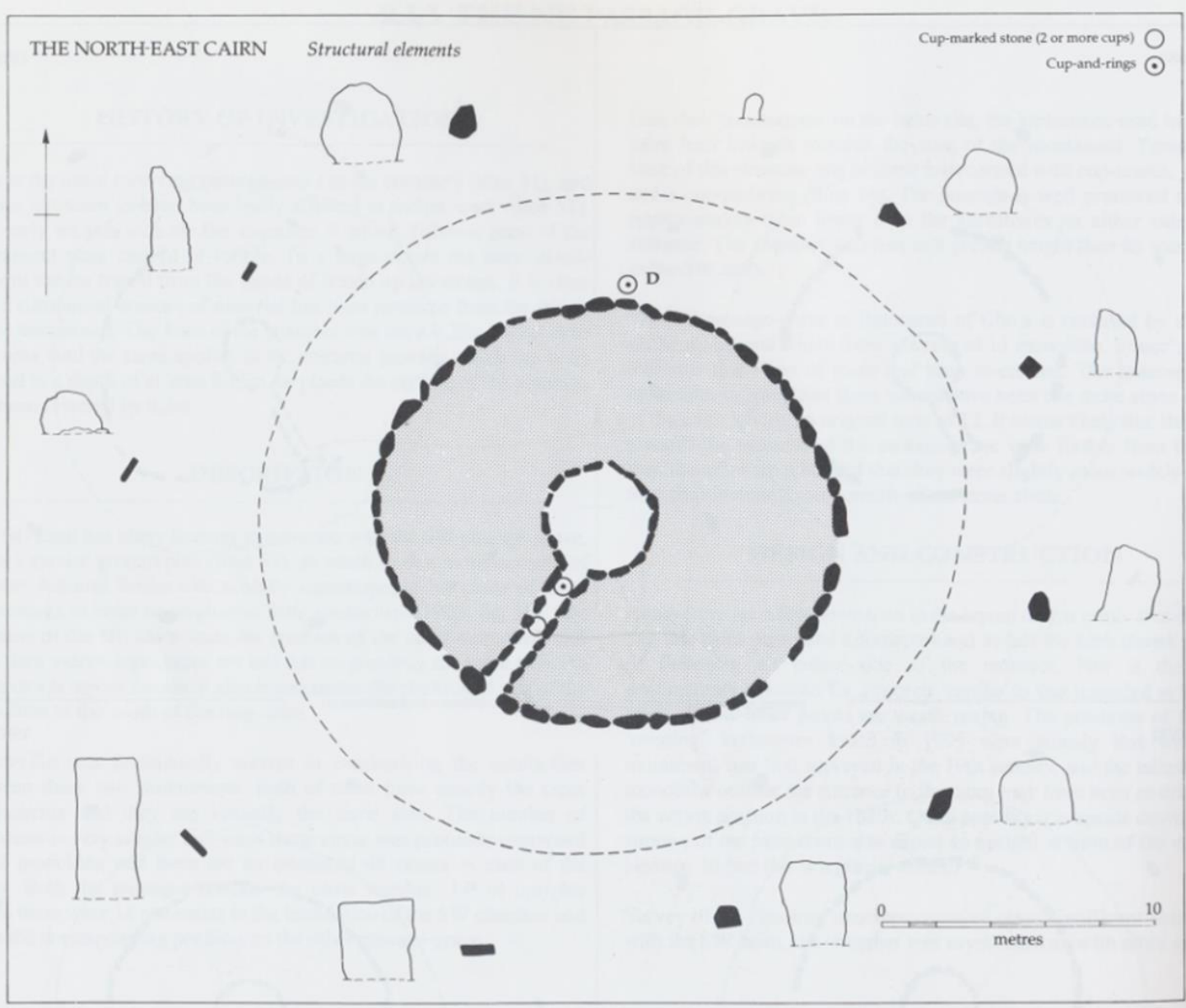


illus 10

The setting of the Clava cemetery. In the area of the cemetery itself the contours are at 1m intervals. Key: A: Balnuaran of Clava SW passage-grave; B: Balnuaran of Clava central ring-cairn; C: Balnuaran of Clava NE passage-grave; D: Balnuaran of Clava South; E: Mains of Clava West; F: Mains of Clava North-West; G: Mains of Clava South-East; H: Balnuaran of Clava kerb-cairn. (Based on the Ordnance Survey map © Crown copyright)







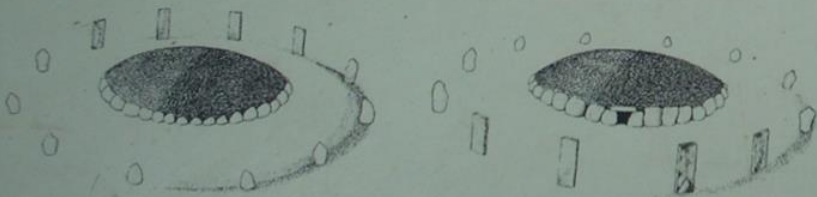
illus 33  
The structural components of the NE passage-grave at Balnuaran of Clava (after Henshall & Ritchie).



# NORTH-EAST PASSAGE GRAVE



An artist's impression of the tomb as it was when completed with twelve stones making up the circle (Aaron Watson).



A 'typical' Gava cairn from the front and back showing the different height of the stones (Aaron Watson).

## The appearance of this 'passage grave' is rather deceptive.

Today it is open to the elements, but originally it took a different form. The central chamber had a dome-shaped roof that rose to around three and a half metres. This was built entirely of overlapping stones, sealed by a single large slab.

## The passage leading to the chamber was covered by lintels and so low that people would need to crawl along it.

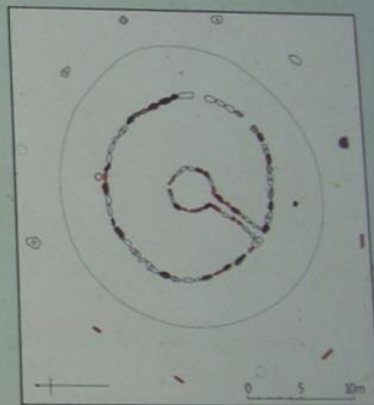
For most of the time the chamber and passage were dark, but they are carefully and deliberately aligned on the midwinter solstice. On the shortest day of the year the rear of the chamber is illuminated by the setting sun. Towards the back of this cairn particular use was made of quartz which would be illuminated by the rising sun. The monument probably contained burials but the record is rather confused.

## The foundation course of the chamber is not of even height.

It is lower towards the rear and higher towards the entrance. The same applies to the kerbstones which support the edges of the cairn. They seem to have been selected for their colour and texture and one of them is decorated with abstract designs.

## After a short interval the tomb was closed.

A bank of rubble was piled against the kerb and prevented access to the passage. At the same time the cairn was enclosed by a ring of standing stones, also graded by height. The tallest monoliths are by the entrance.



A plan of the passage grave showing the location of the different coloured stones.

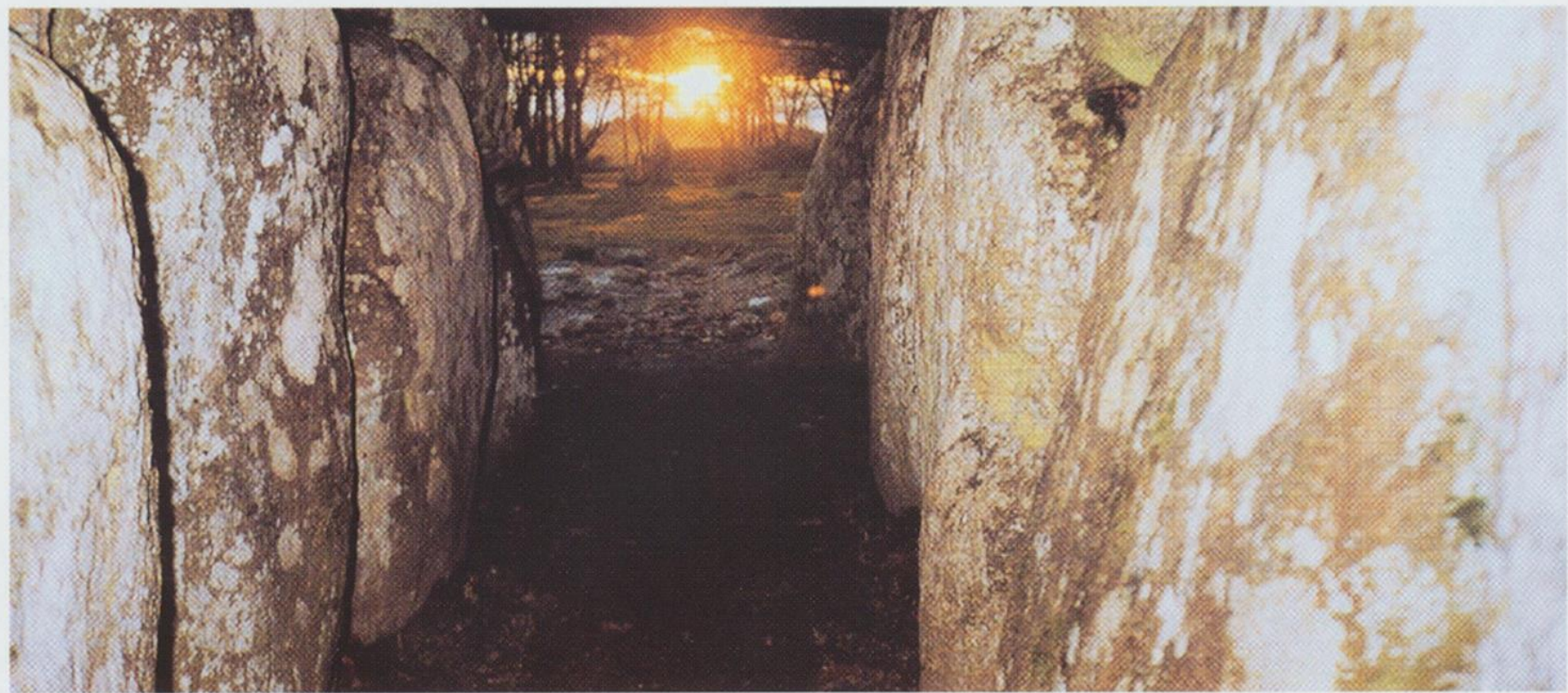
- Red Sandstone
- Red Conglomerate
- Pink
- White
- White with mica
- White with quartz
- Gneiss (white)
- Cup marks
- Probable location of missing stone
- Platform





05.15.2014 11:37



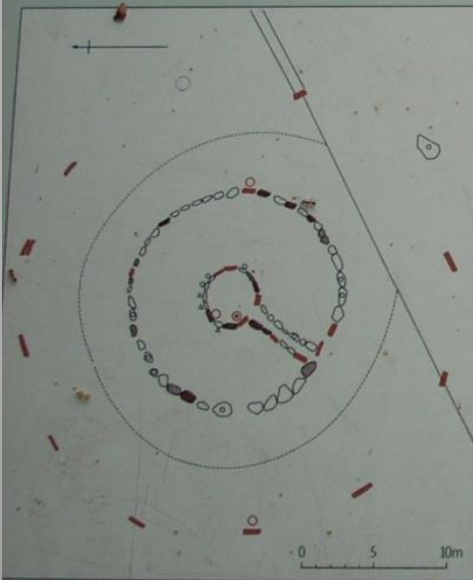


# SOUTH-WEST PASSAGE GRAVE

**The construction of this cairn is almost identical to the other passage grave at Clava.**

The passage grave was built first and used for a short period of time before being deliberately closed and surrounded by a cobbled bank and stone circle. The chamber was excavated in 1828 but little is known of the human remains that were unearthed although the monument was certainly reused for a series of cremation burials dating from about 1000 BC. The line of the modern road has separated the southernmost stones of the circle and the cairn.

The view of the midwinter sunset from this cairn. - (Aaron Watson)



A plan of the SW passage grave showing the location of the different coloured stones.

- Red Sandstone
- Red Conglomerate
- Pink
- 'White'
- 'White' with mica
- 'White' with quartz
- Gneiss (white)
- Cup marks
- Cup and rings
- Platform
- Probable location of missing stone

**A common feature of these tombs is the use of decorated stones, carved with abstract designs.**

The entrance to this chamber is marked by two tall slabs, one of which is carved with cup marks and cup and rings. There are more cup marks on the kerb. We can only guess at their significance. Were they carved specially to be incorporated into this tomb or were they taken from another structure?

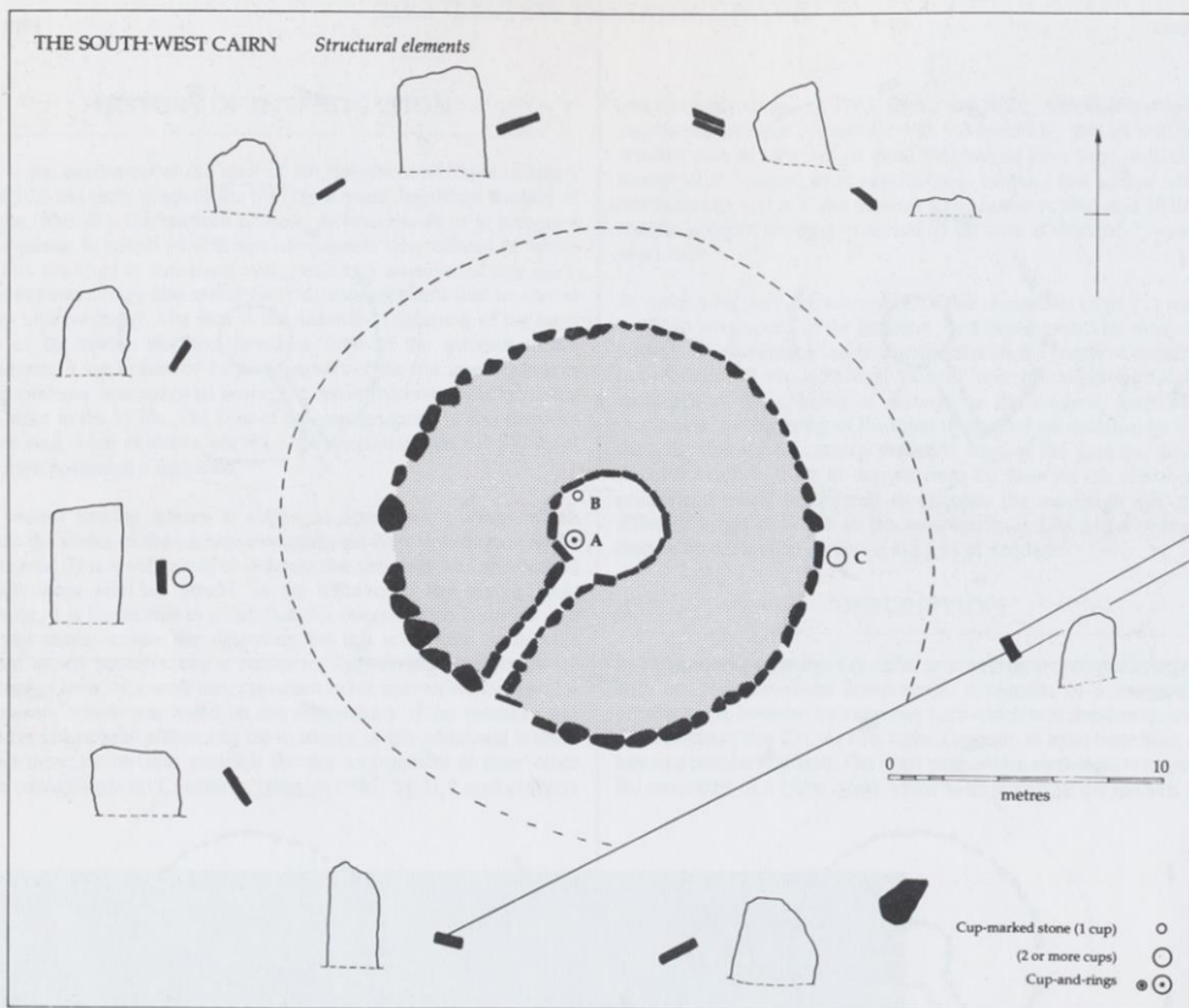
**This cairn shares the same alignment with the setting sun as the north-east passage grave.**

Seen from this tomb, the midwinter sun would have set on the valley side, but, viewed from its counterpart; it would have seemed to rest on top of this cairn. Both

Clava passage graves made use of graded rings of stones which rise towards the ends of the passage. The winter sun.

05.15.2014 11:45





illus 22

A plan of the six main structural components of the SW passage-grave at Balnuaran of Clava: circular cairn, massive kerb, platform, stone circle, passage and chamber; (after Henshall & Ritchie).







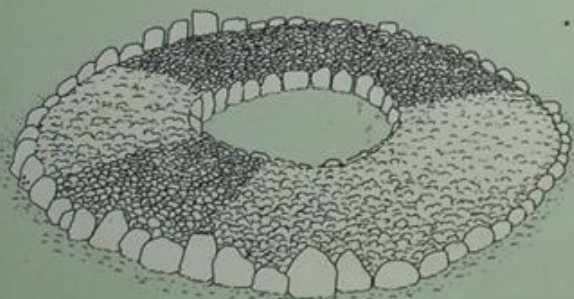
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# CENTRAL RING CAIRN

**Unroofed and with no entrance or passage way, this ring cairn was an open circular enclosure, built at about the same time as the passage graves at Clava.**

The original structure consisted of a rubble wall, supported on both sides by a kerb. Both these kerbs were graded by height, with the lowest stones in the direction of the rising sun, and the tallest towards the south-west where the sun sets at midwinter. In the inner kerb the effect is so subtle that it is difficult to recognise. It seems possible that the surface of the enclosure wall was divided into segments of differently coloured stones like the slices of a cake.



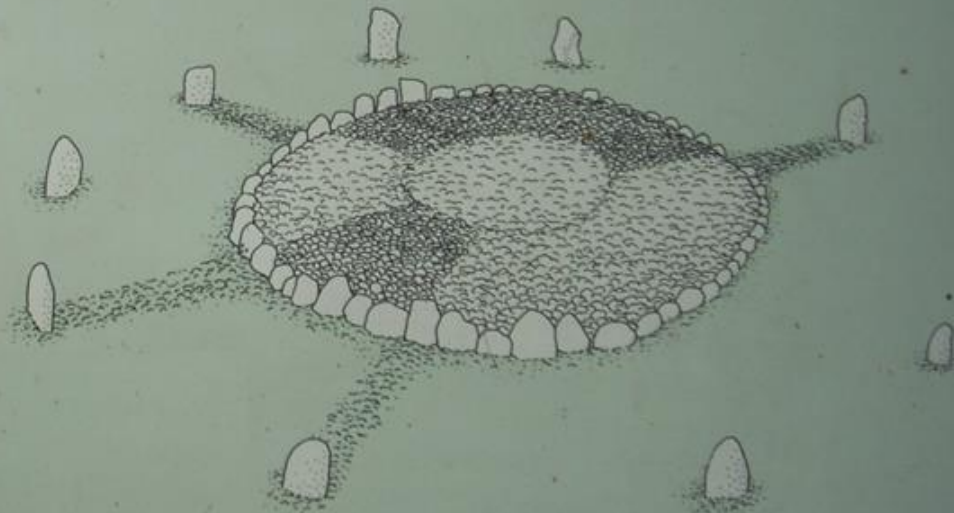
The first phase of use of the ring cairn  
(reconstruction by Aaron Watson)

**On excavation the interior contained human bones and signs of burning.**

The cairn could have been used as a tomb, but it could also have marked the position of a pyre, built to hold the ceremonies that may have accompanied the burials in the adjacent passage graves. The stones forming the cairn were never piled very high, creating a platform.

**When its use was over, the enclosure was filled with rubble to make it level with the wall, and the ring cairn was enclosed by a stone circle.**

This was also graded by height. When that happened, some of the divisions built into the enclosure wall were extended from the outer kerb to the standing stones. These can still be identified as banks of rubble. The builders also tried to match the colour, shape or material of the monoliths to the nearest stones in the inner and outer kerbs.



The second phase of the cairn  
(reconstruction by Aaron Watson)









05.15.2014 11:50



# Romancing the stones

## Clava Cairns, near Inverness

In 2014, a prehistoric monument near Inverness started to gain widespread attention as the television series *Outlander* hit our screens. The protagonist of the show, and the books it is based on, travels back to the 1740s at the fictitious stone circle Craigh na Dun. The programme's popularity has given rise to a large increase in visitors to the evocative Bronze Age Clava Cairns, thought to be the inspiration for Craigh na Dun.

The burial complex dates from around 2000 BC and is made up of two different areas: at the main site, Balnuaran of Clava,

is a row of three large cairns, each surrounded by a ring of stone circles. About 1,000 years after the initial construction of these cairns, some were reused for further burials and smaller monuments were built. A short distance away, at Milton of Clava, there is another cairn, a solitary standing stone, and the remains of a possibly medieval chapel.

More recently, what sort of impact is the increase in visitor numbers due to the 'Outlander effect' having on the site? Researchers for Monument Monitor, a joint project between

the Institute of Sustainable Heritage at UCL and Historic Environment Scotland, are calling for visitors' photographs of Clava Cairns from over the years so they can model potential erosion at the site.

Elsewhere in Scotland, Monument Monitor is looking at vegetation growth and the flow of water at the prehistoric rock-art site of Achnabreck, as well as the potential effect of climate change on the stone circles and other monuments of Machrie Moor on the Isle of Arran.

To help the work of the Monument Monitor project, you can send your photographs of any of these sites to [submissions@monumentmonitor.co.uk](mailto:submissions@monumentmonitor.co.uk).

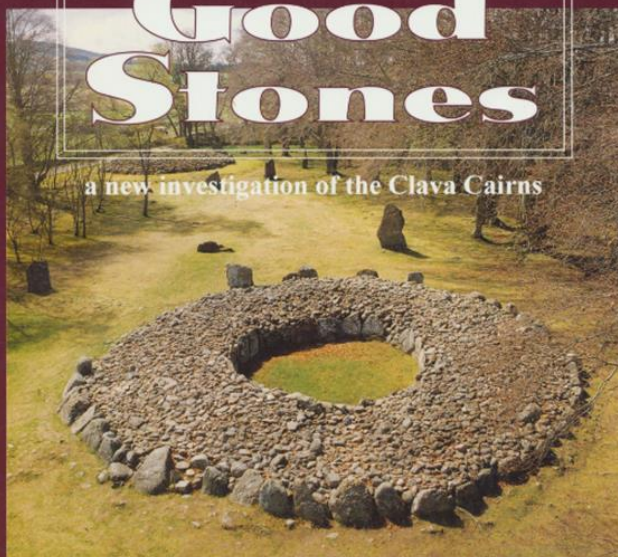
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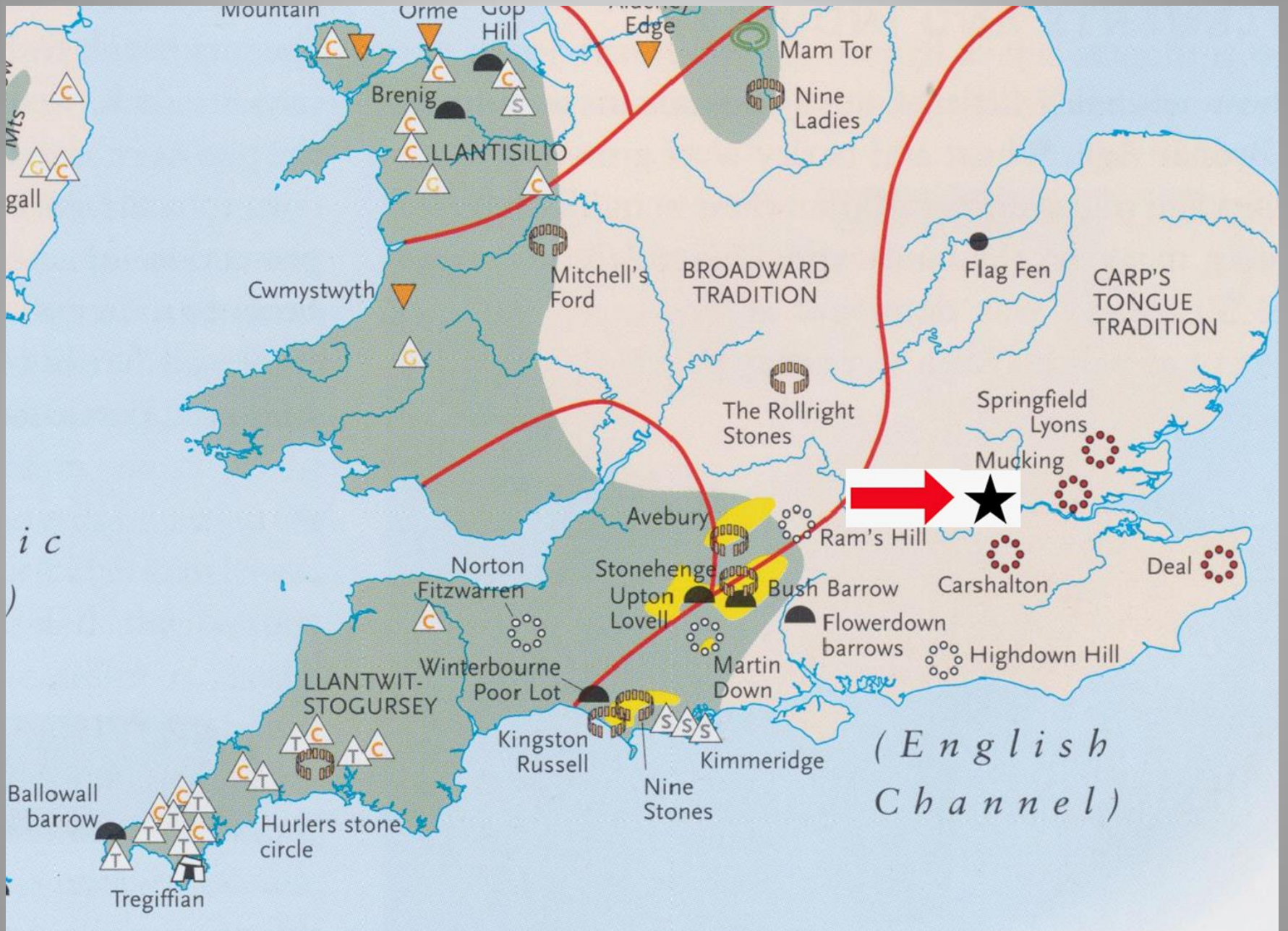
# The Good Stones

a new investigation of the Clava Cairns



**Richard Bradley**



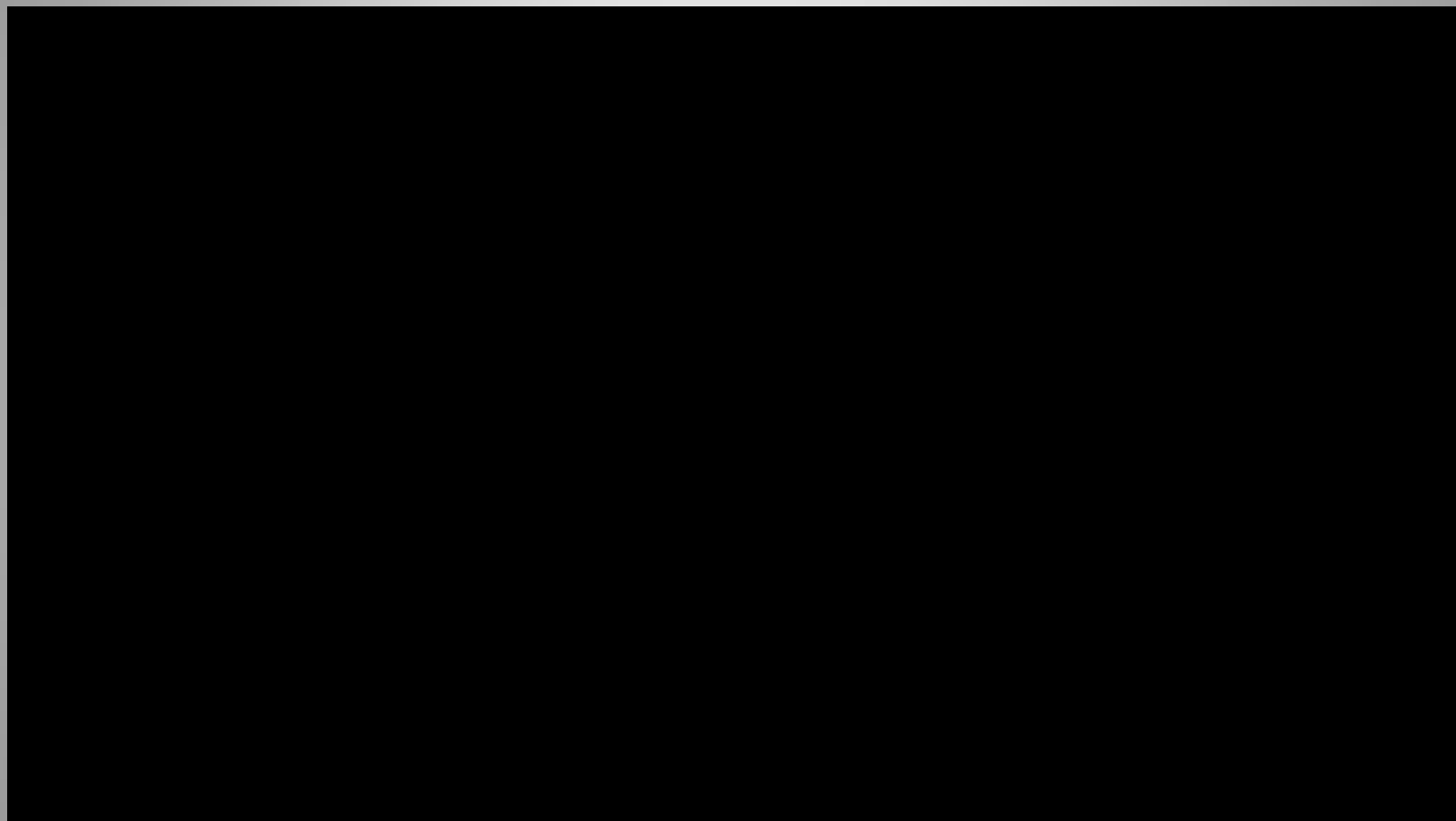








Hampstead Heath barrow video









Here is a close-up of the barrow, with the vegetation now cleared off it, so that it shows quite clearly the extent of the mound.





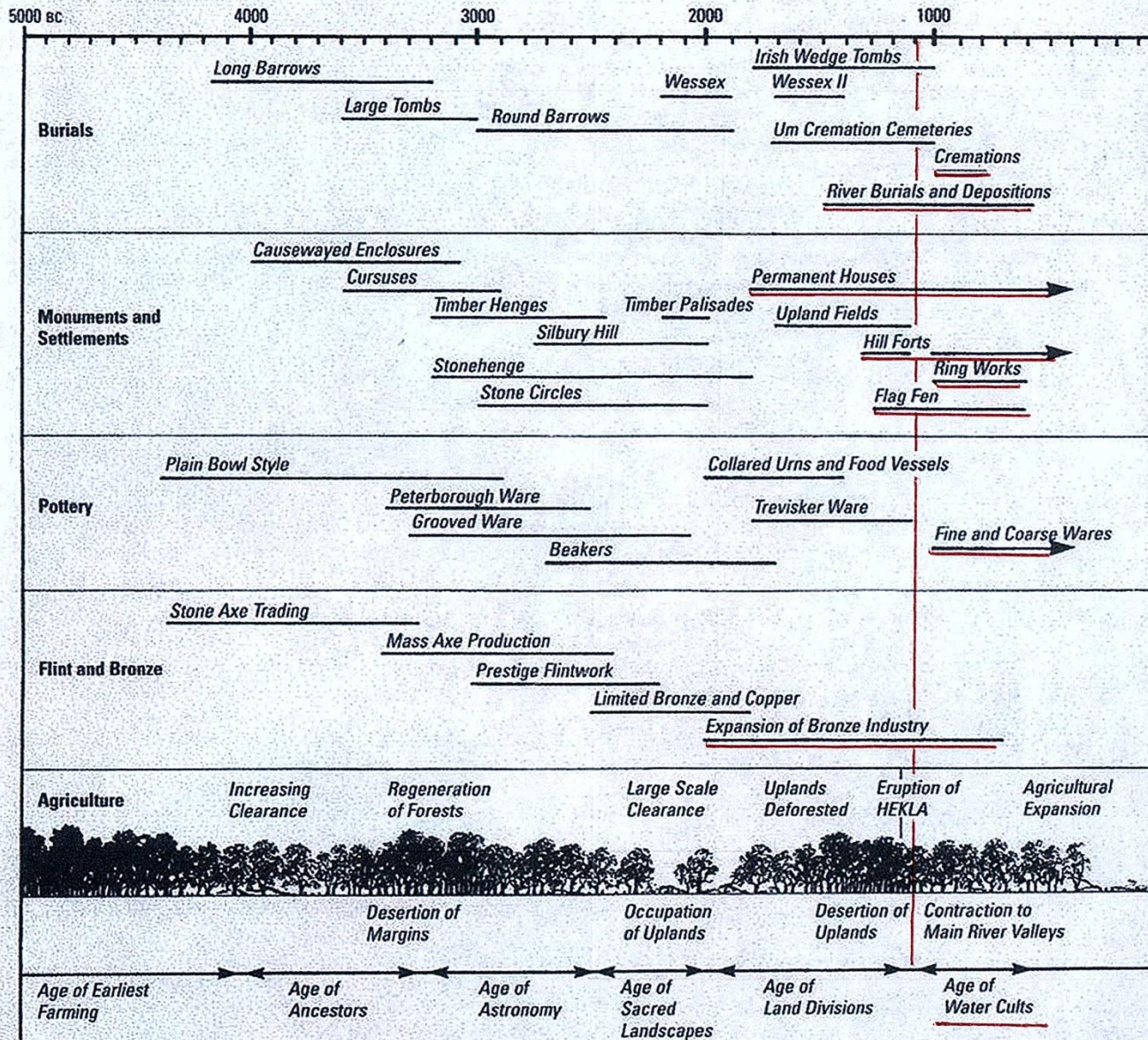
Barrow or Tumulus, 1887



**View of London from Parliament Hill, Hampstead Heath**



# From Bronze to Iron





## THE IRON AGE

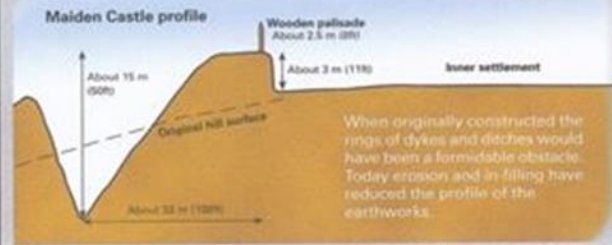
c.800BC to AD43

Fortifications are the greatest legacy of this period throughout Britain. Impressive hilltop defensive works of stone or earth, featuring one or more lines of concentric ditches and banks, were originally reinforced with timber lacing or palisading, of which neither survives. There is a wide range in the scale of defences and in the size of areas enclosed from hilltop towns, for example, at Tre'r Ceiri on the Lleyn Peninsula, to single homesteads. Many of the forts that were built at the beginning of the Iron Age, or perhaps in the late Bronze Age, appear to have gone out of use long before the end of the period, with only the more important, such as Maiden Castle in Dorset, remaining as tribal centres.

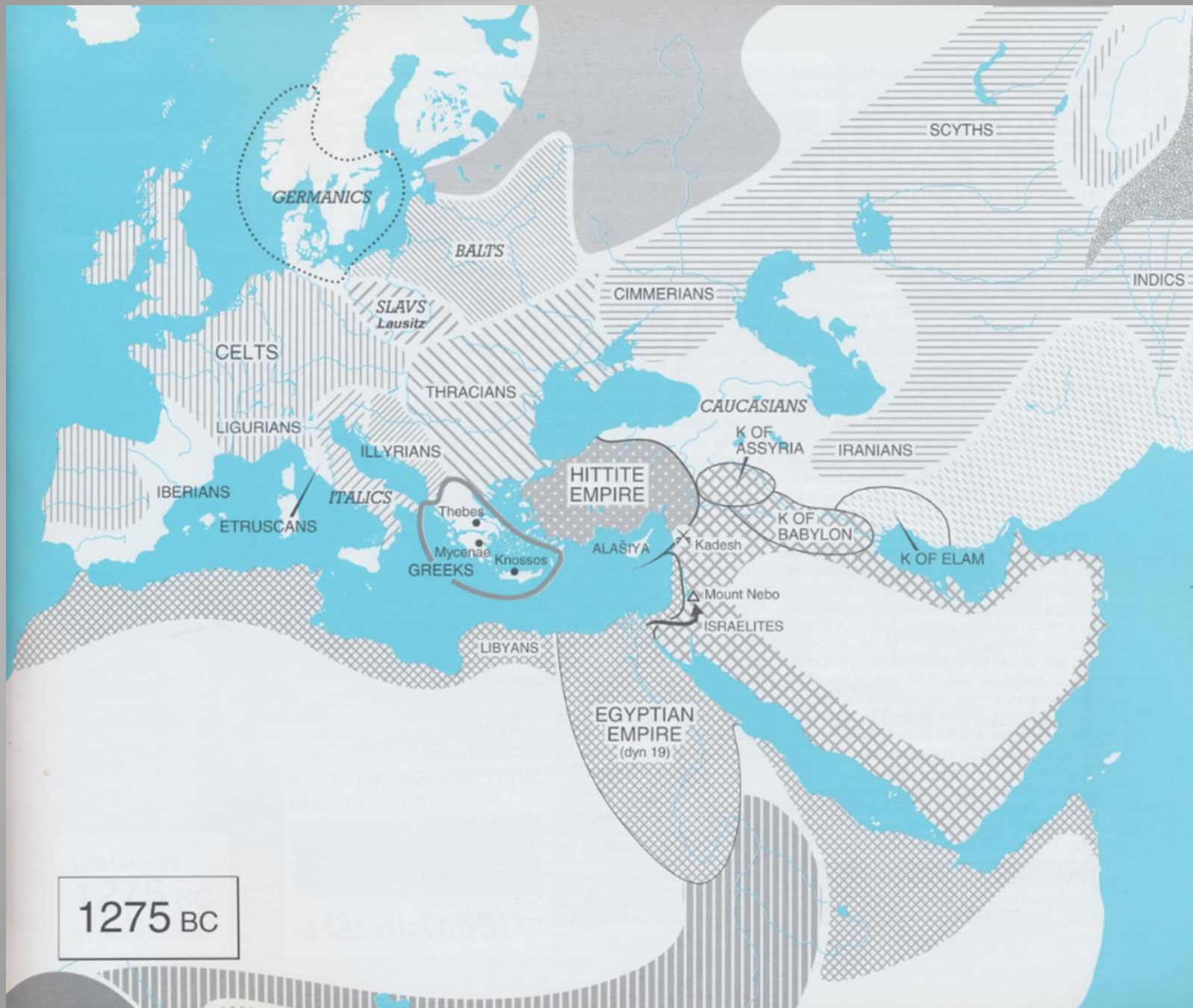


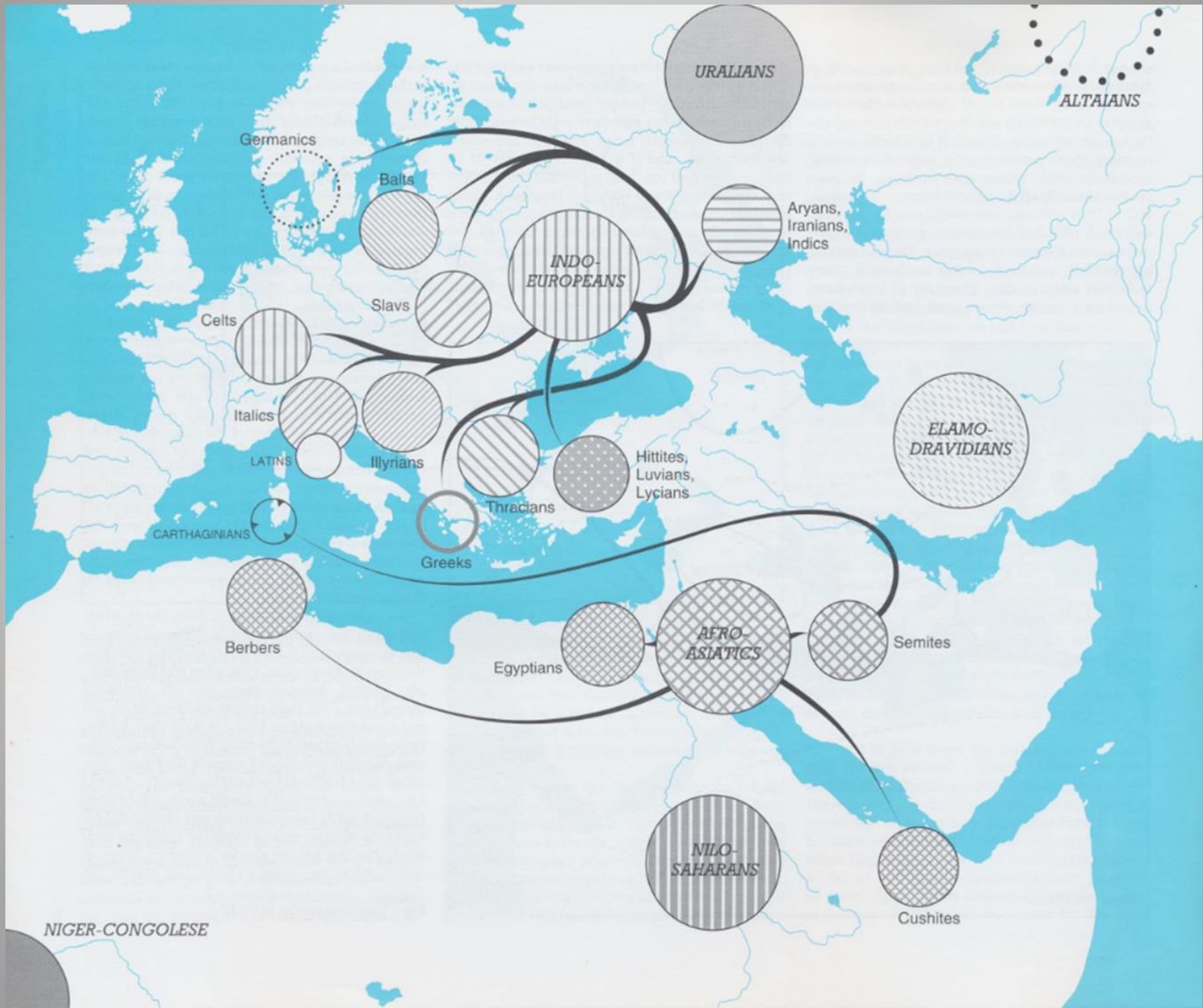
### ★ Maiden Castle (English Heritage)

An Iron Age multiphase fort also: Neolithic causewayed camp and bank barrow and Romano-Celtic temple. This is the finest and largest Iron Age fort in Europe. When the site was excavated in the 1930s, notably by Sir Mortimer Wheeler, and 1980s, it provided important information about the life and death in Iron Age societies – including dramatic insight into the native resistance to the Roman invasion in AD 43. © Crown copyright: English Heritage NMR

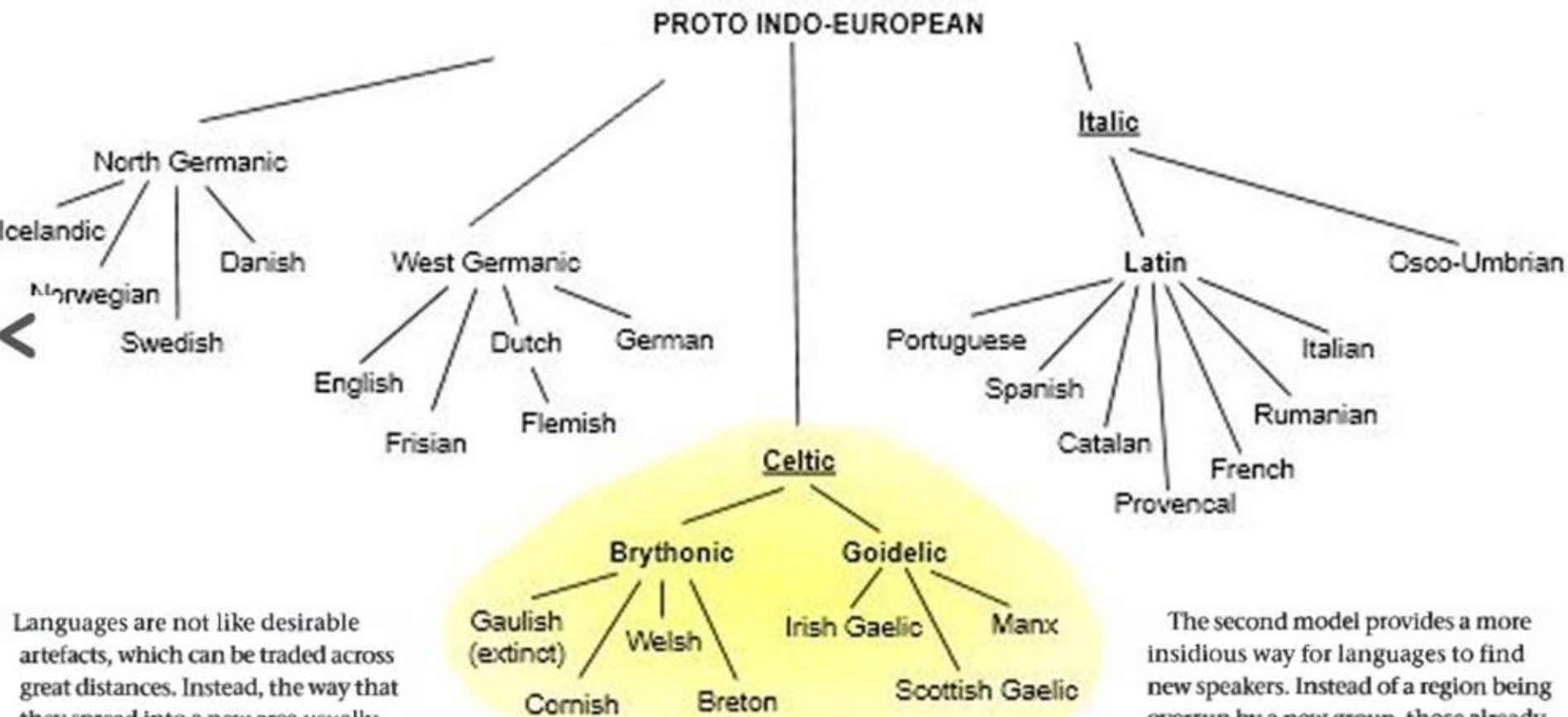












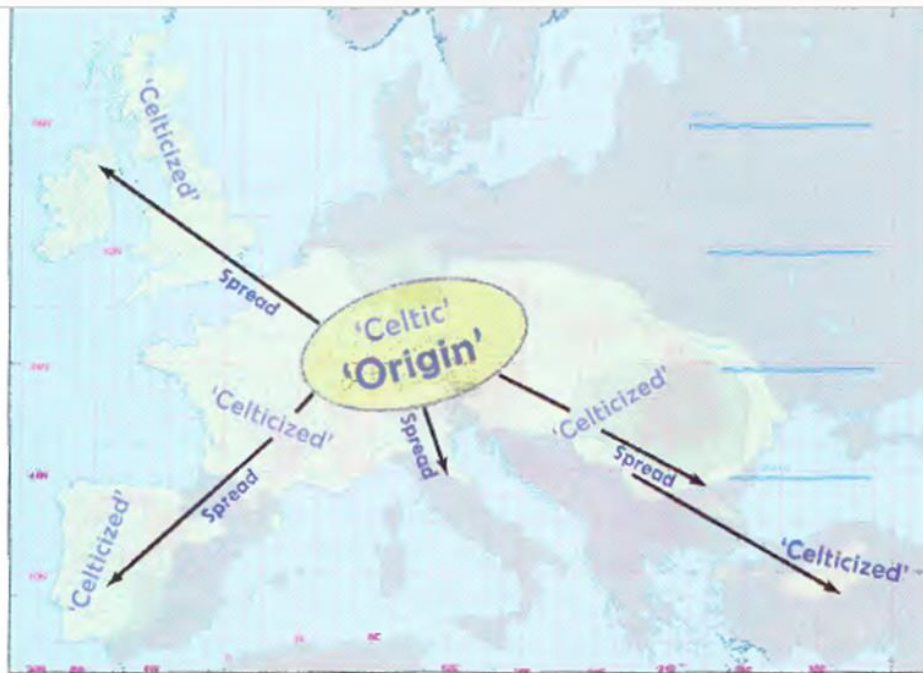
Languages are not like desirable artefacts, which can be traded across great distances. Instead, the way that they spread into a new area usually follows one of two broad models. As the most common way of passing on a language is from a parent to a child, the simplest explanation is that its speakers move into the area en masse. This is essentially the migration model, which until the 1970s was a popular means of explaining changes visible in the archaeological record.

## Celtic from the West

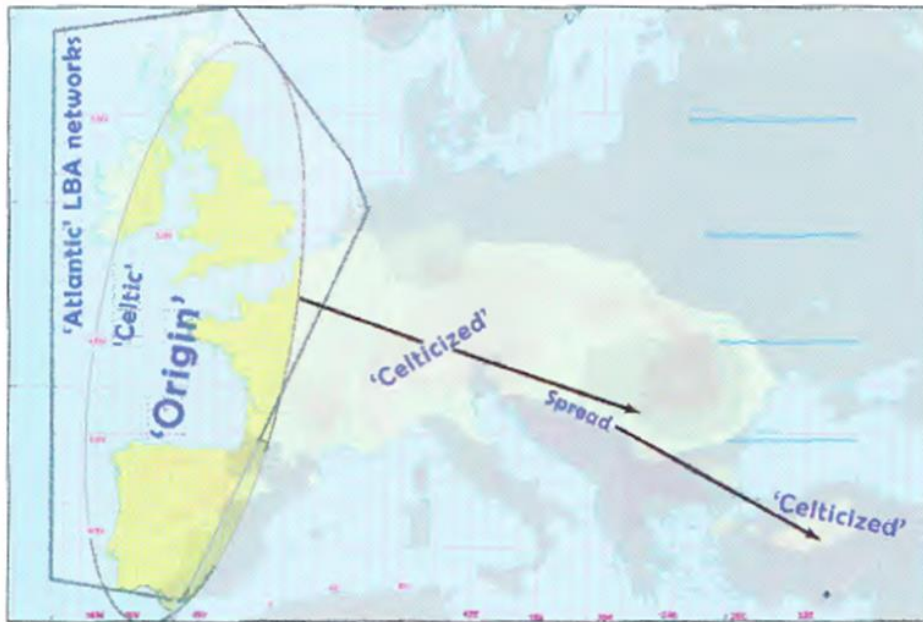
In search of the archaeology of a language

Asking where, why, and how the unified ancestral Celtic language emerged sounds more like the preserve of linguists than archaeologists. The answers, though, could revolutionise our knowledge of Bronze Age Europe. A cutting-edge collaboration between linguists, archaeologists, and geneticists is exploring the possible cradle of Celtic and putting great migrations back on the agenda, as **John Koch** told Matthew Symonds.

The second model provides a more insidious way for languages to find new speakers. Instead of a region being overrun by a new group, those already living there come under the influence of a new elite. The Roman empire is a classic example, with the majority of its Latin speakers unable to claim ancestors from Rome itself. Although this way of spreading a language requires movement on a more modest scale, it is often a by-product of empires, which the Celts famously did not have.



**LEFT** These two maps compare the traditional model for the origin and spread of the Celts outwards from southern Germany (**TOP**) to the 'Celtic from the West' interpretation (**BOTTOM**). This postulates an origin in or near the Iberian peninsula.



Once a language is established across a wide geographical area, it is not spoken unchanged thereafter. Instead, languages are constantly changing. Although words cannot be traded like artefacts, in one regard there is a striking similarity between the things that people say, and the objects they create: both display a tendency to change when they come into contact with new groups with distinct traditions. Just as different people across Europe used Celtic artwork in different ways at different times, so too those who have spoken

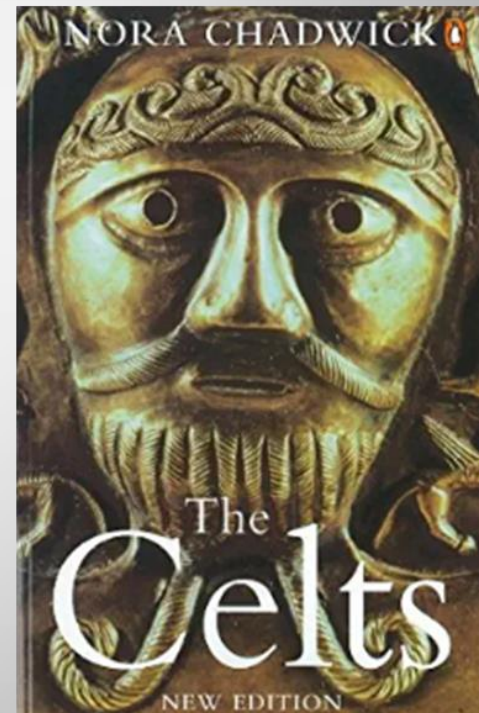
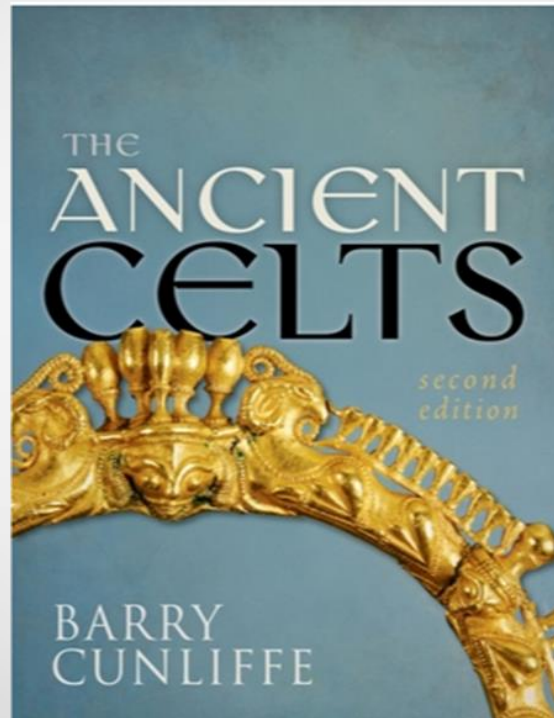
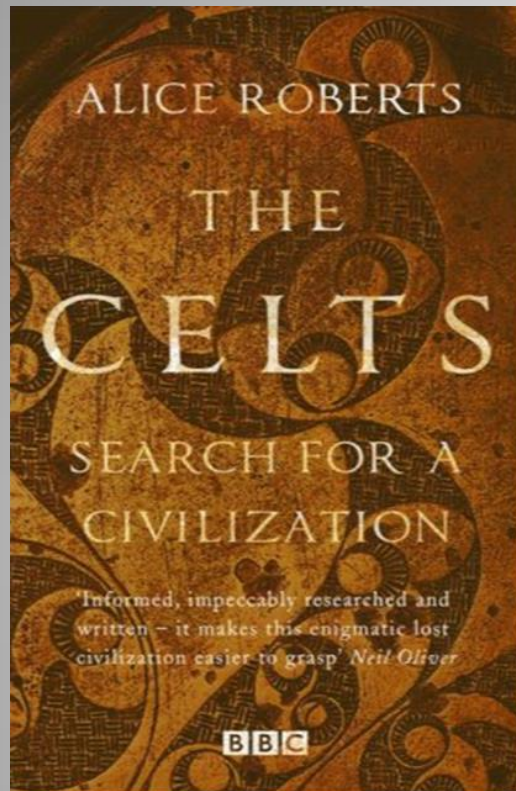
## Celtic from the West

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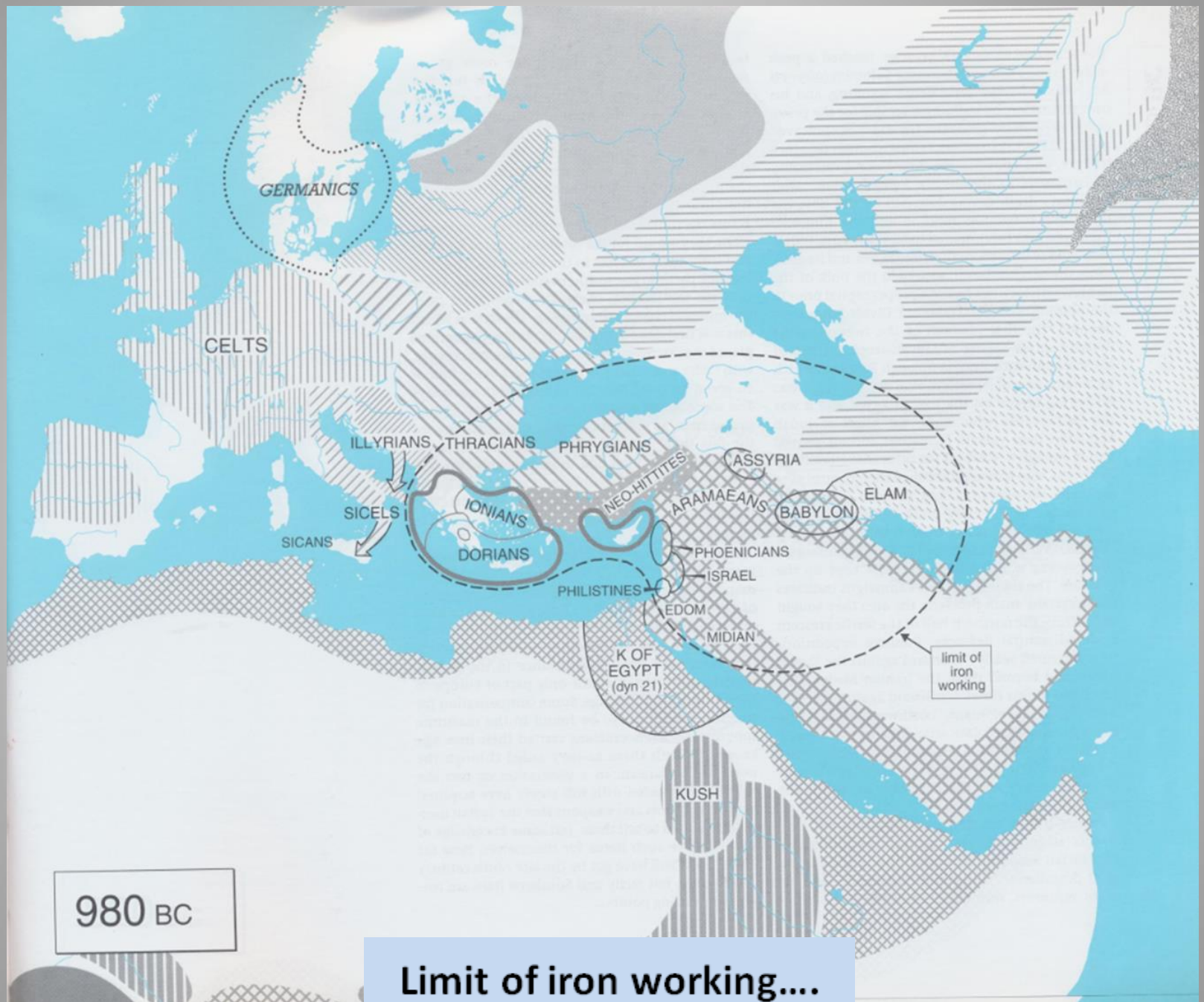


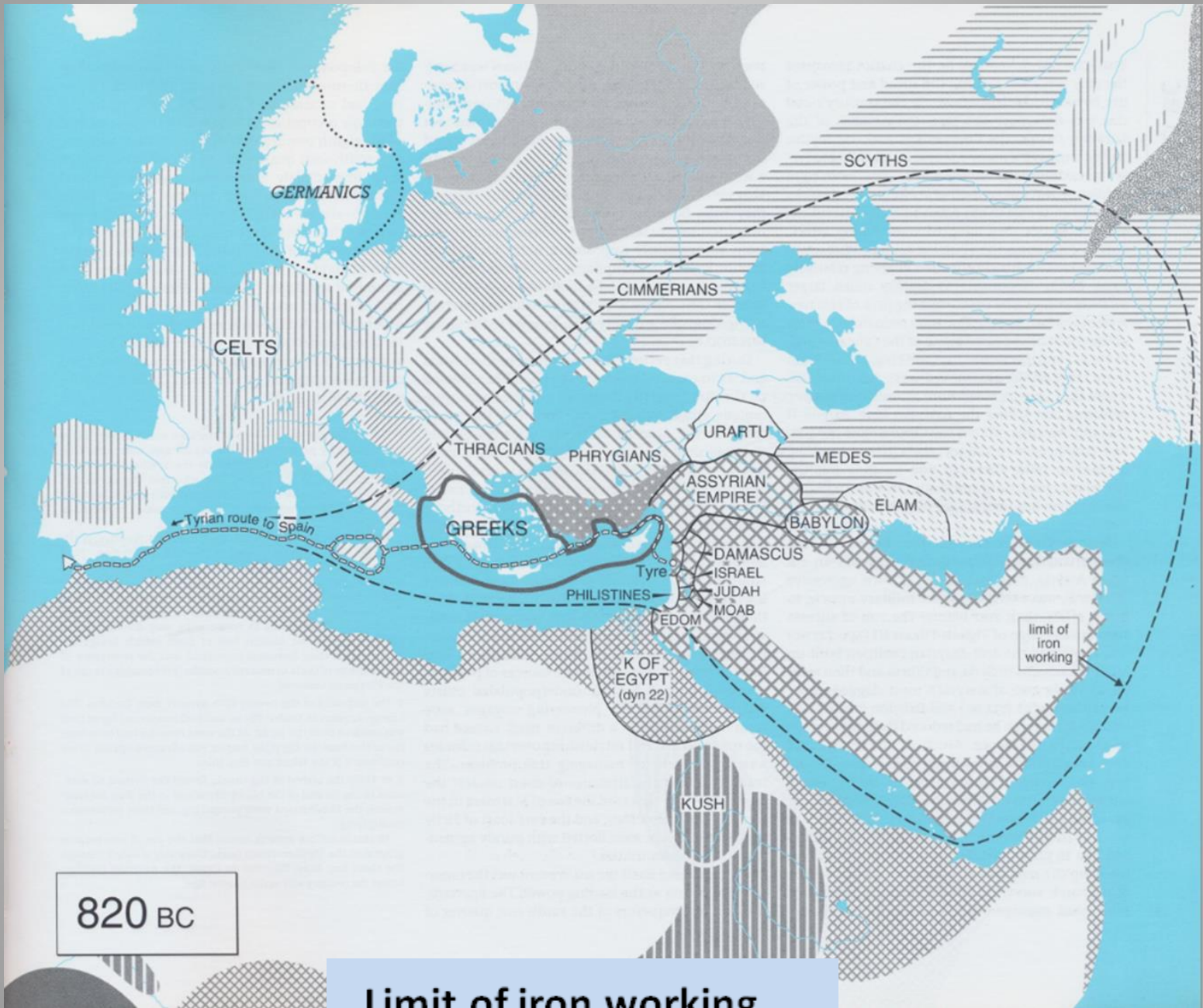


**By far the most numerous of the Celtic tribes today is that of the Wannabees.**





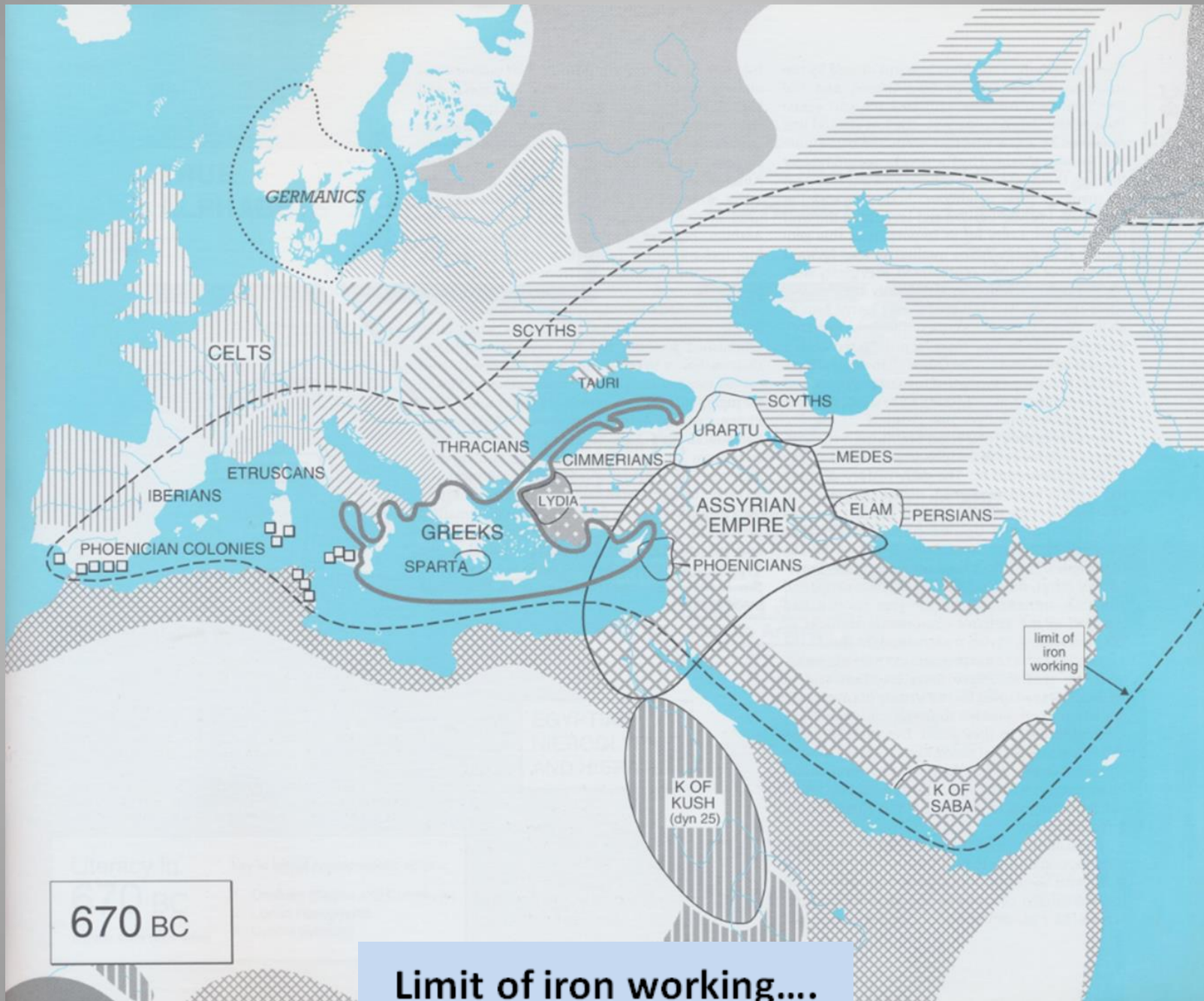




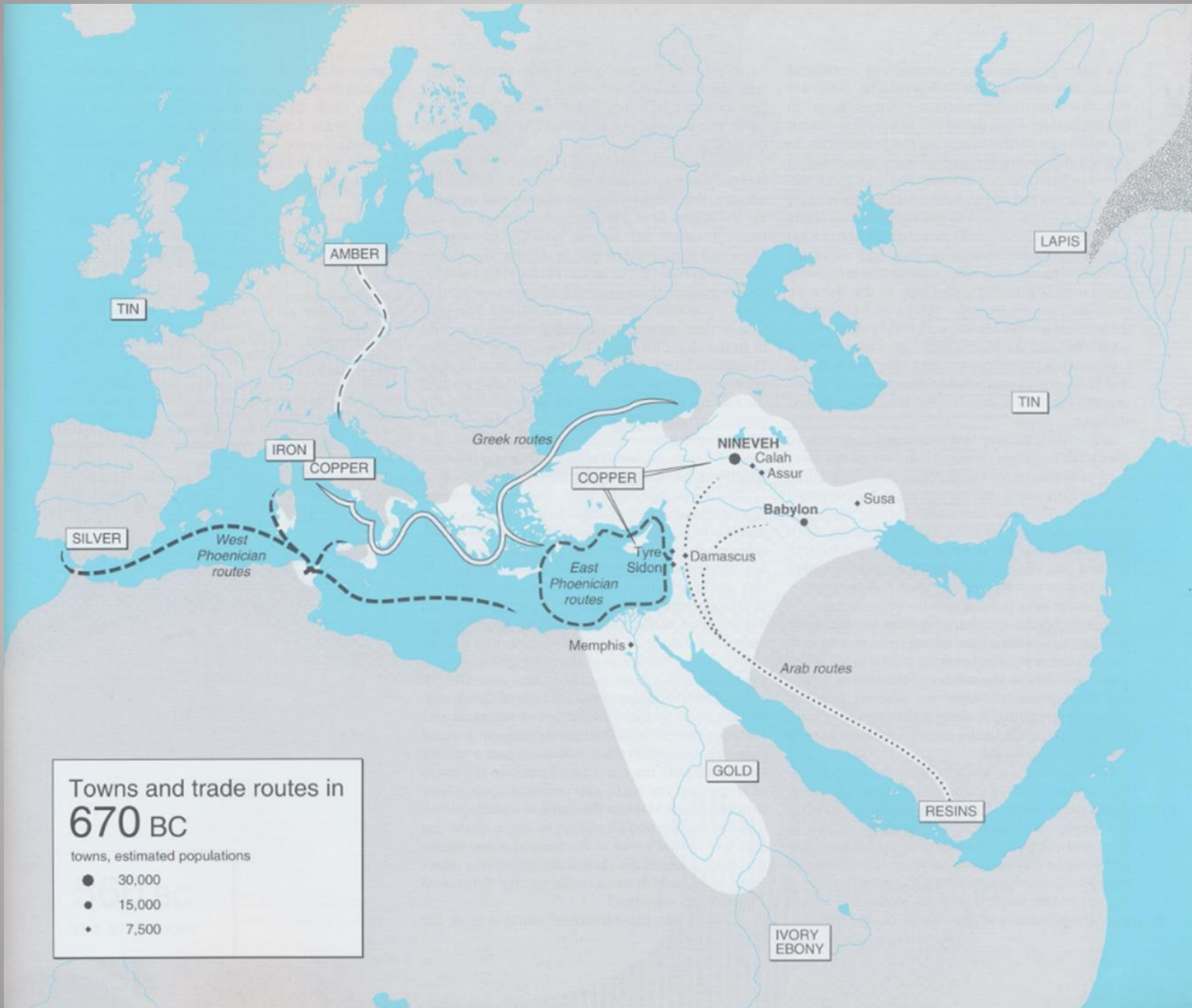
820 BC

Limit of iron working....

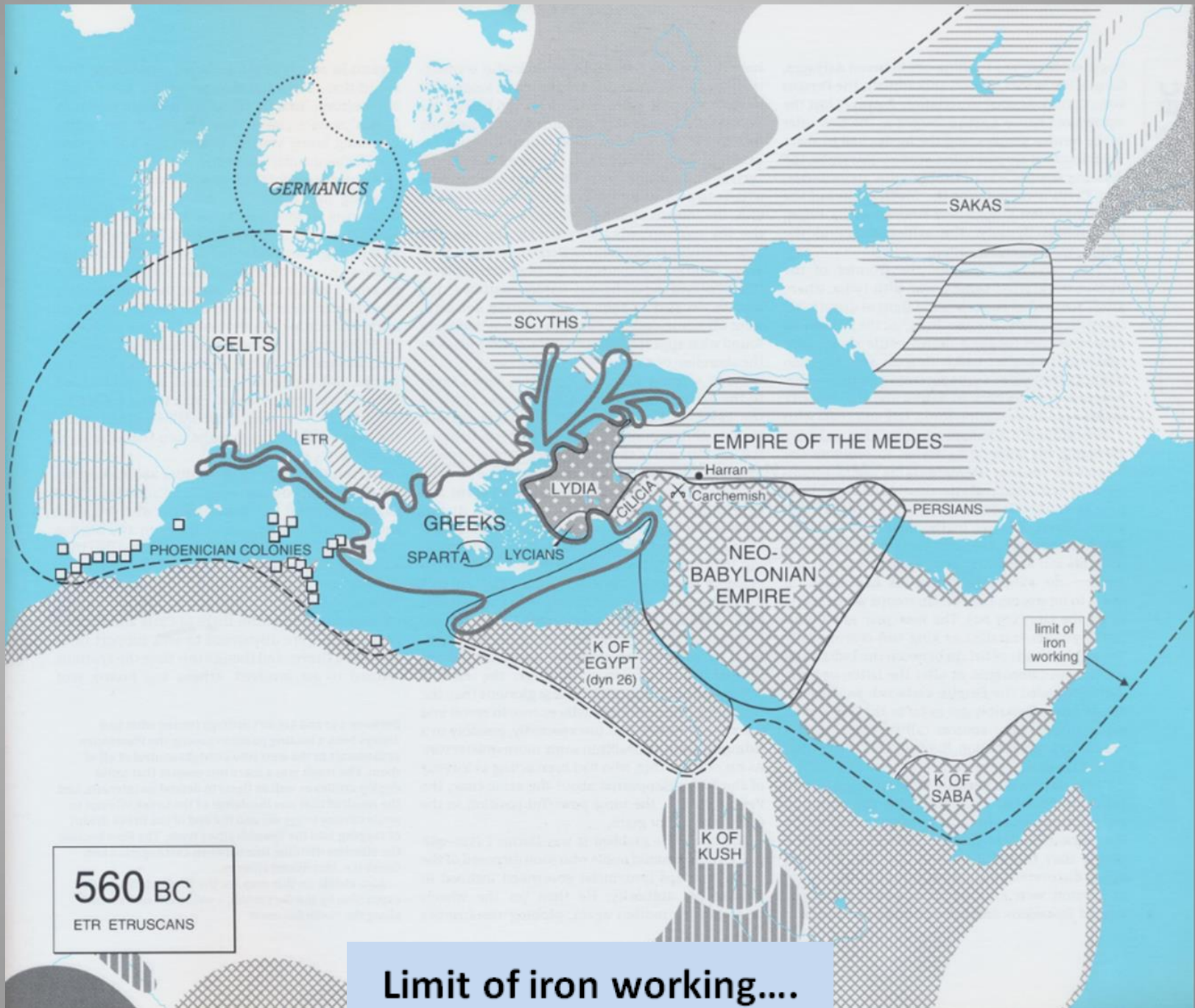




**Limit of iron working....**







**560 BC**  
ETR ETRUSCANS

**Limit of iron working....**







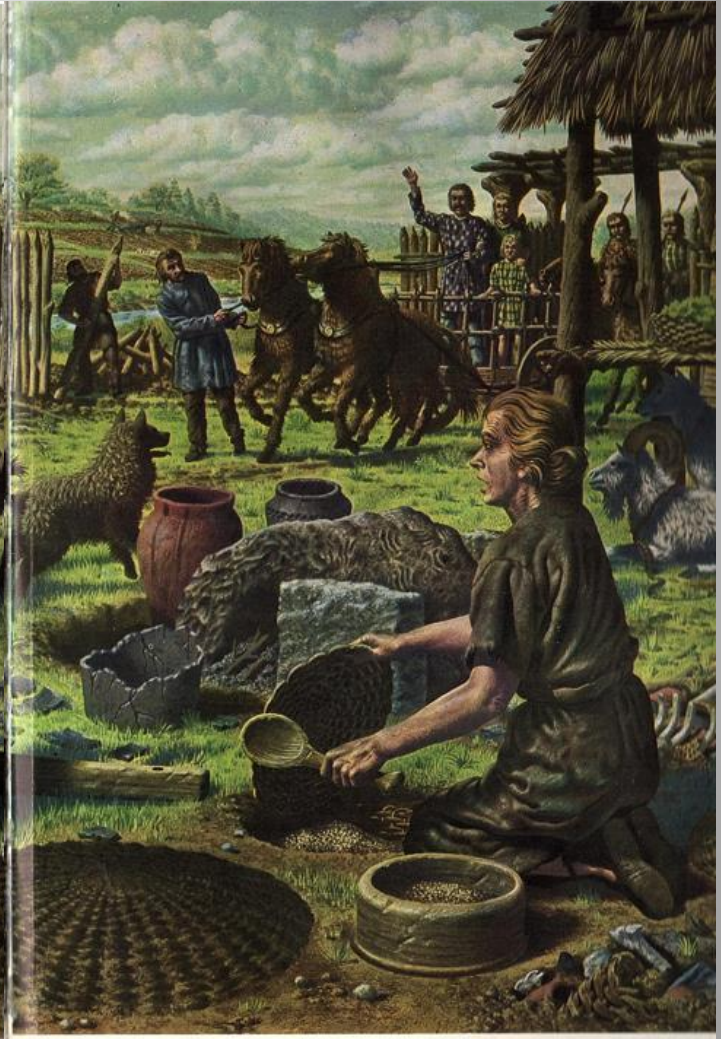
104 (above) An Iron Age plough team at work. The 'plough' is more strictly termed an ard which simply scored the ground and did not turn the sod. If the fields had been first 'rooted over' by pigs the 'ploughing' would have been much easier. There is some evidence to suggest that fields were 'ploughed' in two directions at right angles better to break up the soil.





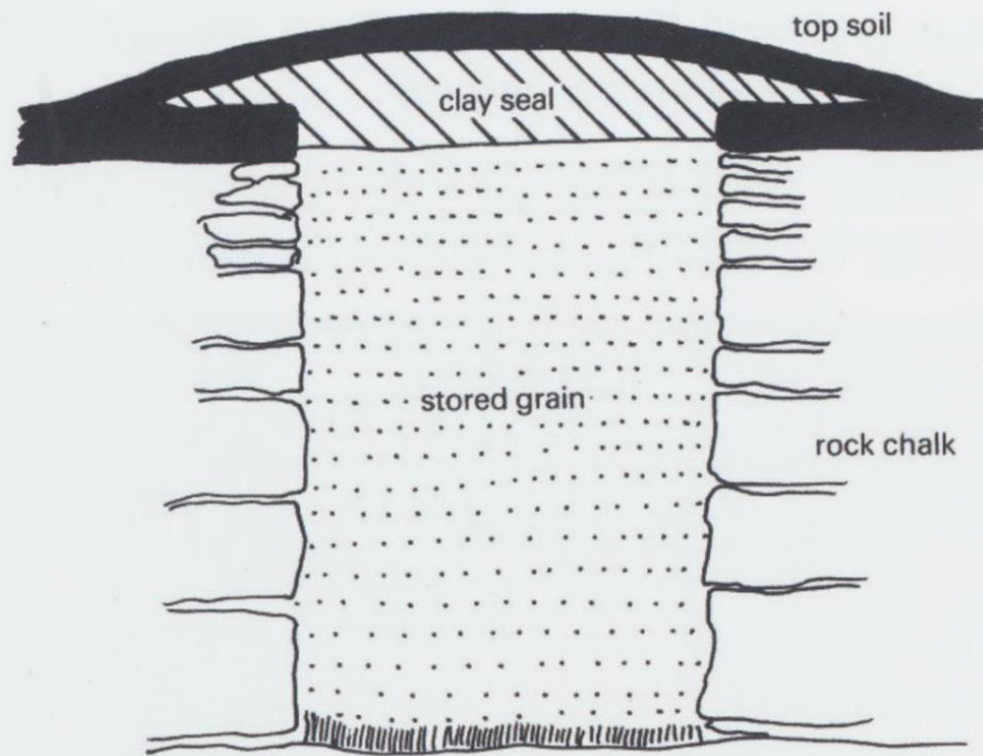
**AT A CELTIC FARMSTEAD** in southern Britain, a farmer raises his arm to greet a friend. According to the Celtic custom of "fosterage," the guest is delivering his son to live here as a foster child, thus forming a bond between

the families. Their bright-checked woolen clothes reveal the Celtic love of color. The owner's wattle-and-mud house stands at left. A woman (right) lades out coarse grain for bread from an underground storage pit. Beyond



the timber palisades lie new-plowed fields. An abandoned storage pit (lower right) is filled with assorted trash. Though untidy and littered, these farmsteads gave a stable home to many Celts at the end of their wanderings.





Section through grain storage pit





D: Fostering and Clientage, Southern Britain Early 1st century AD  
(see plate commentary for full details)

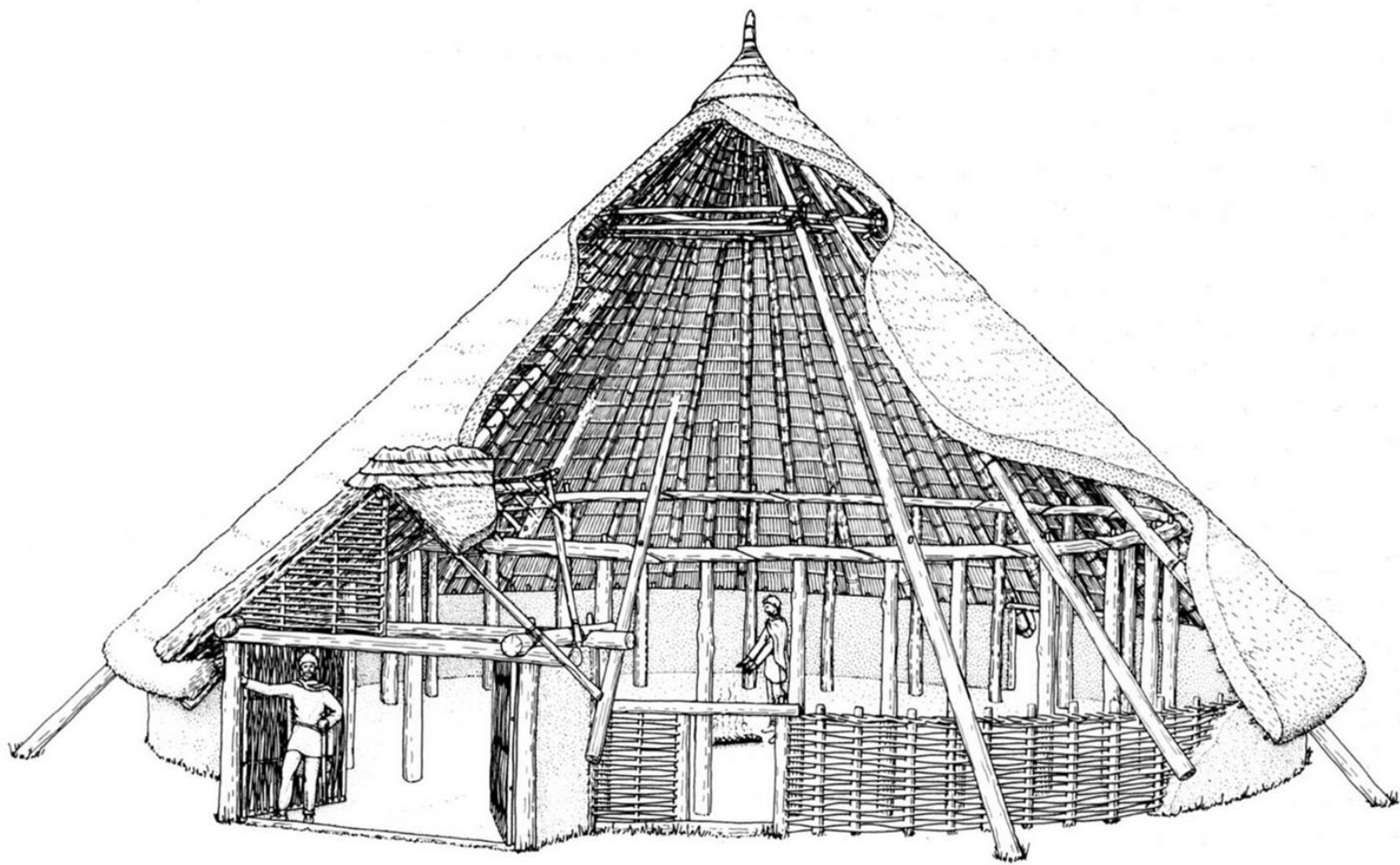


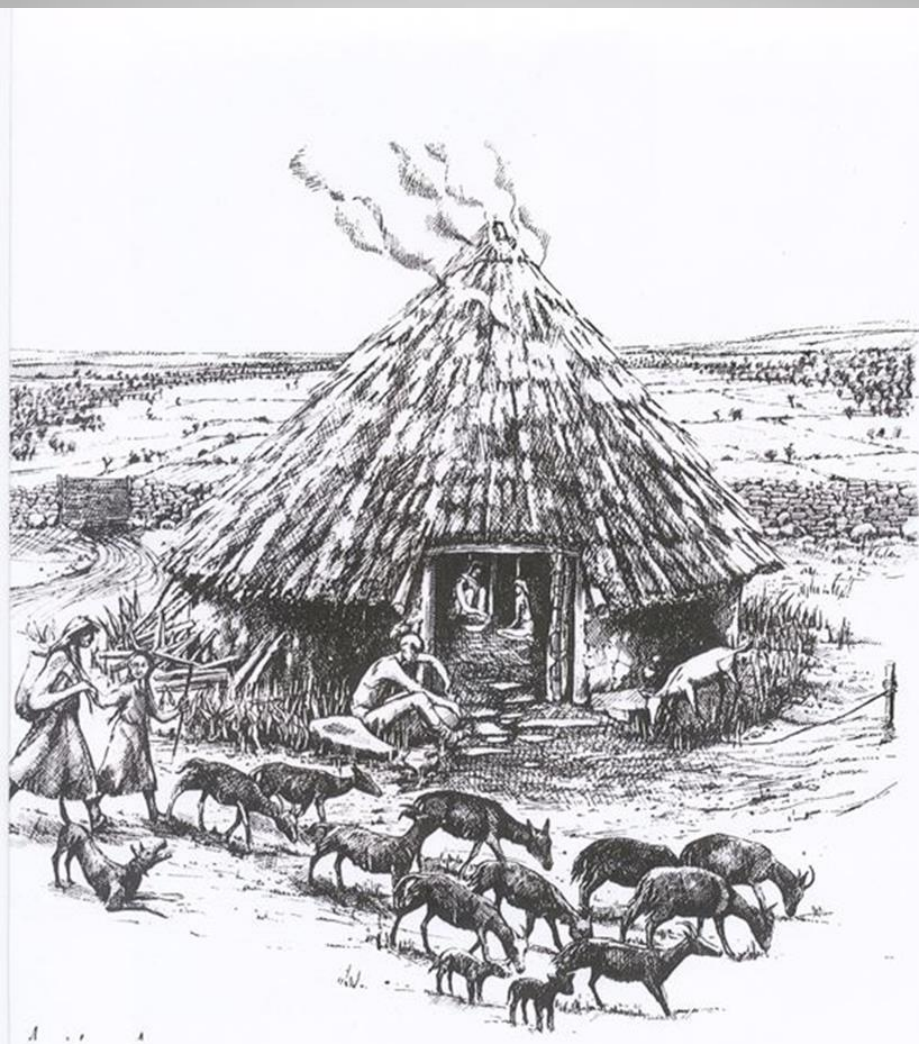




**9.8** Outline of large Early Iron Age roundhouse excavated at Flint Farm, near Andover, Hampshire, cut into the chalk bedrock. The inner ring of timbers would have supported the roof, while the outer groove took the wattle wall. The massive postholes for the porch lie on either side of the measuring rod







35 (above) Reconstruction of the Early Iron Age house excavated at Carn Euny, Cornwall. The doorway was large to allow light into the house.





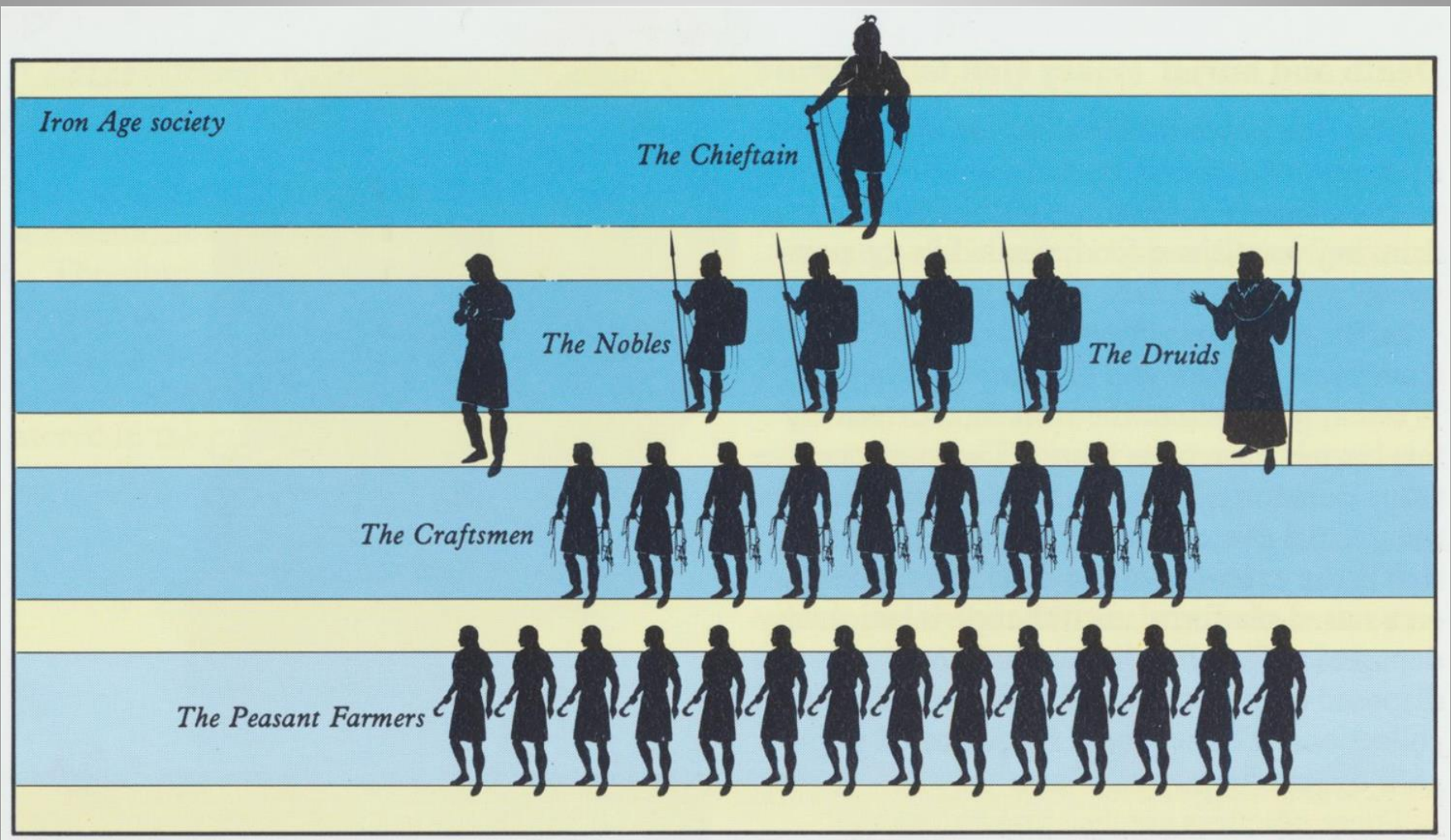










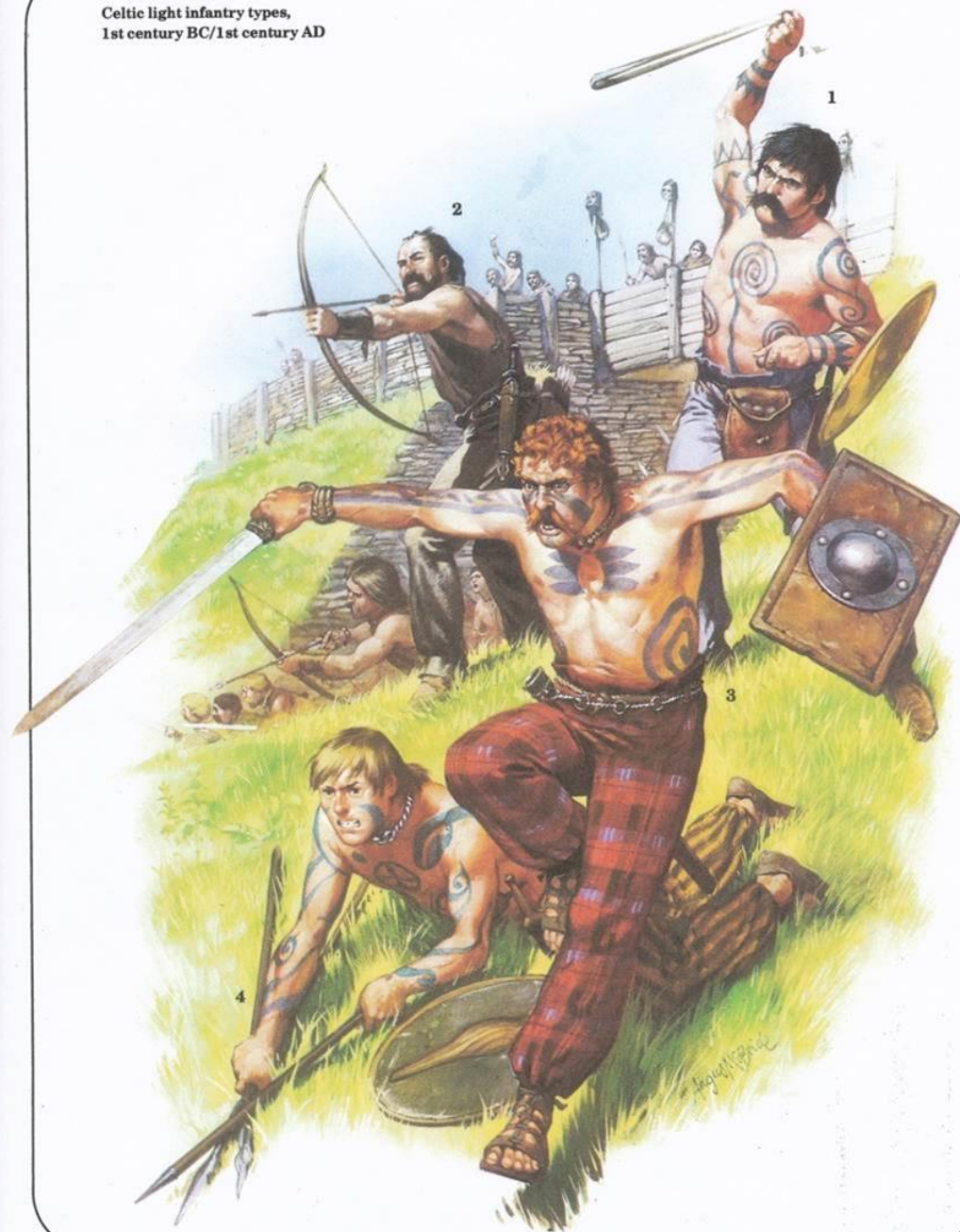


**Iron Age society in Celtic Europe**





Celtic light infantry types,  
1st century BC/1st century AD







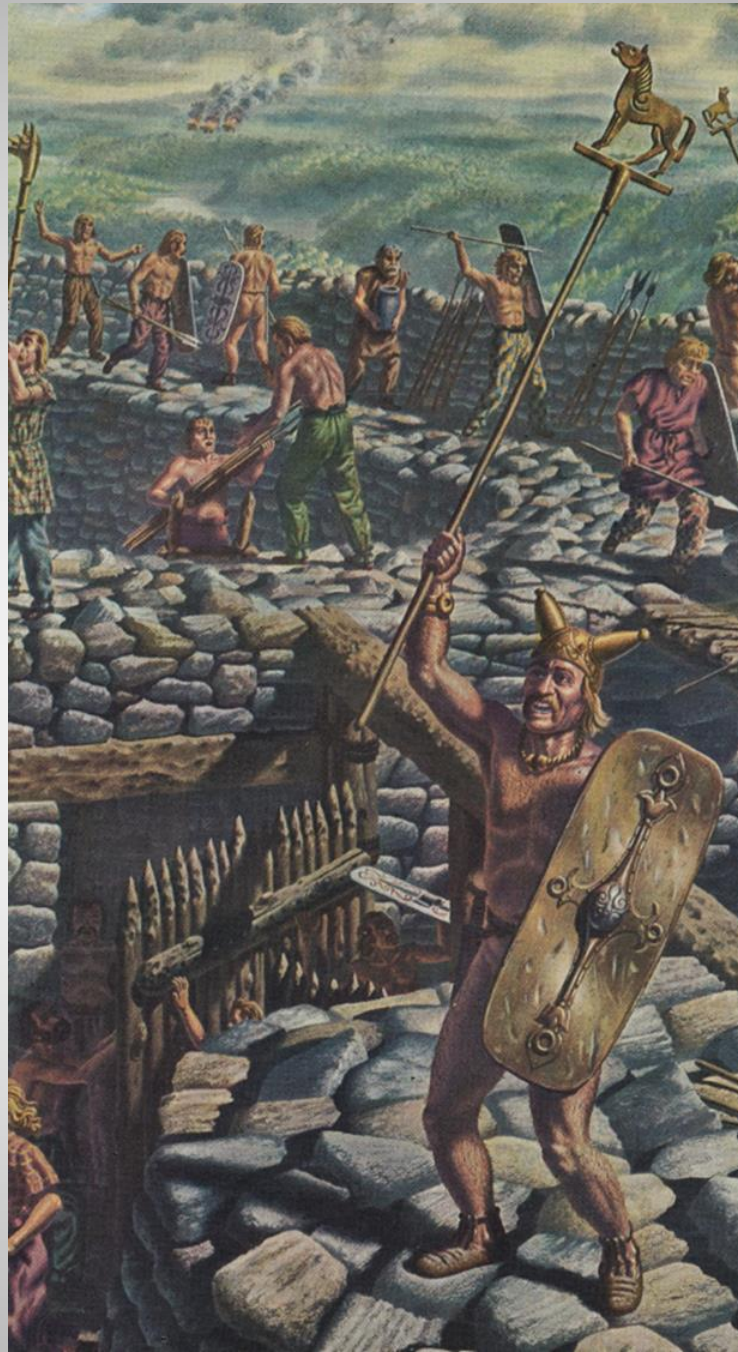




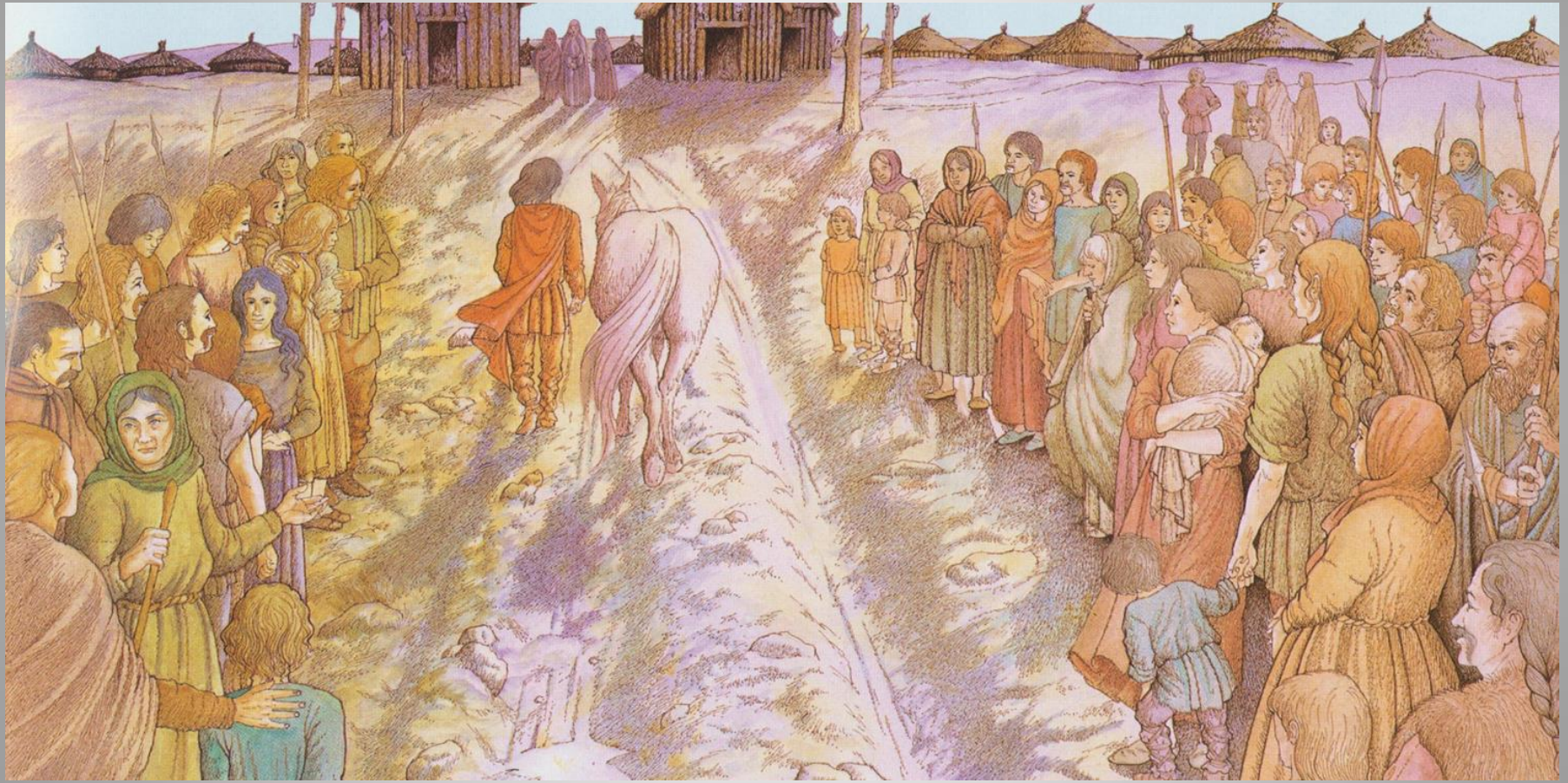












**A visiting Druid**





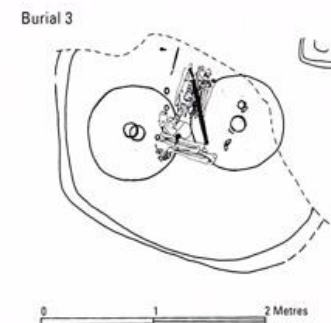
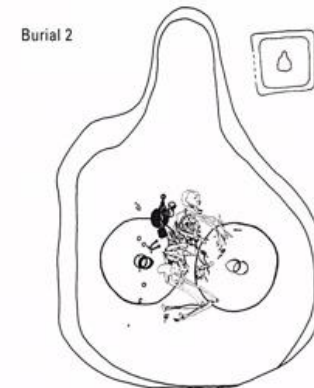
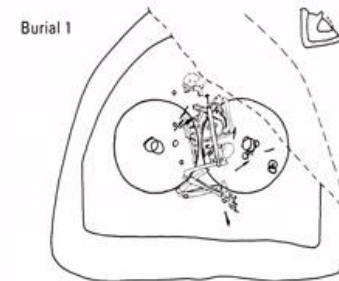
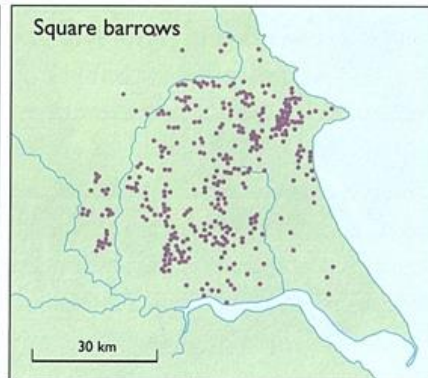
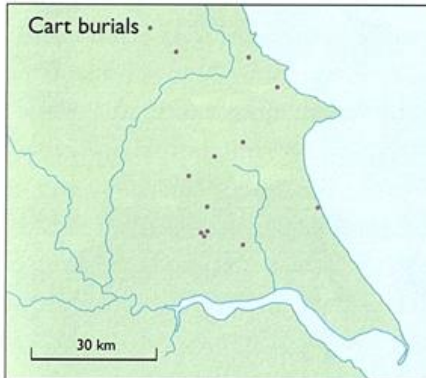
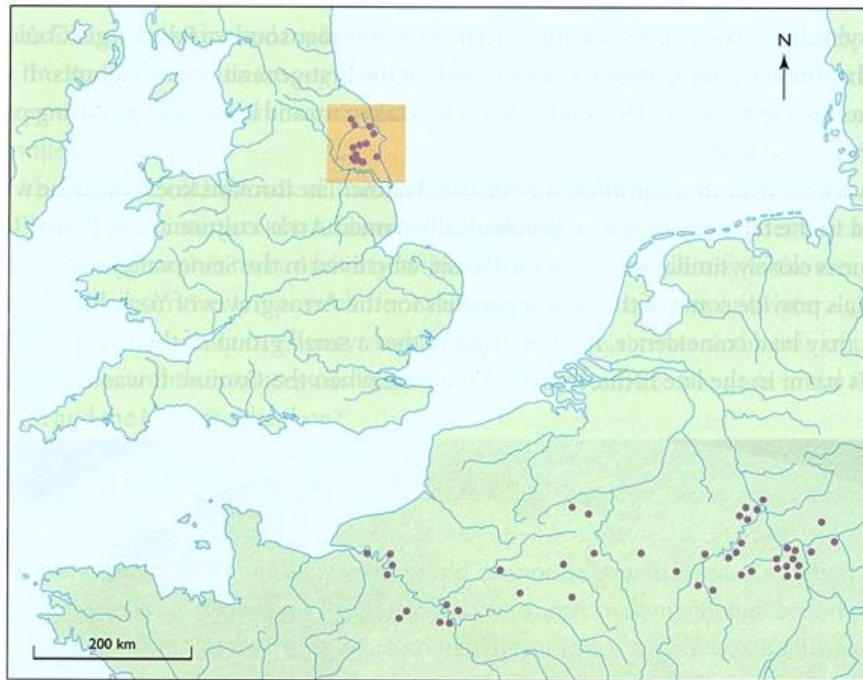








## Another regional culture: cart burials (the Arras culture)



9.20 The burial of prominent members of society accompanied by two-wheeled vehicles was a practice adopted by a number of communities during the La Tène period (*top map*). In Britain vehicle burials cluster in Yorkshire (with a few others beyond). In the same region square barrows, similar to those on the Continent, were also common. The evidence suggests that the Yorkshire communities were in contact with contemporaries in the Seine valley

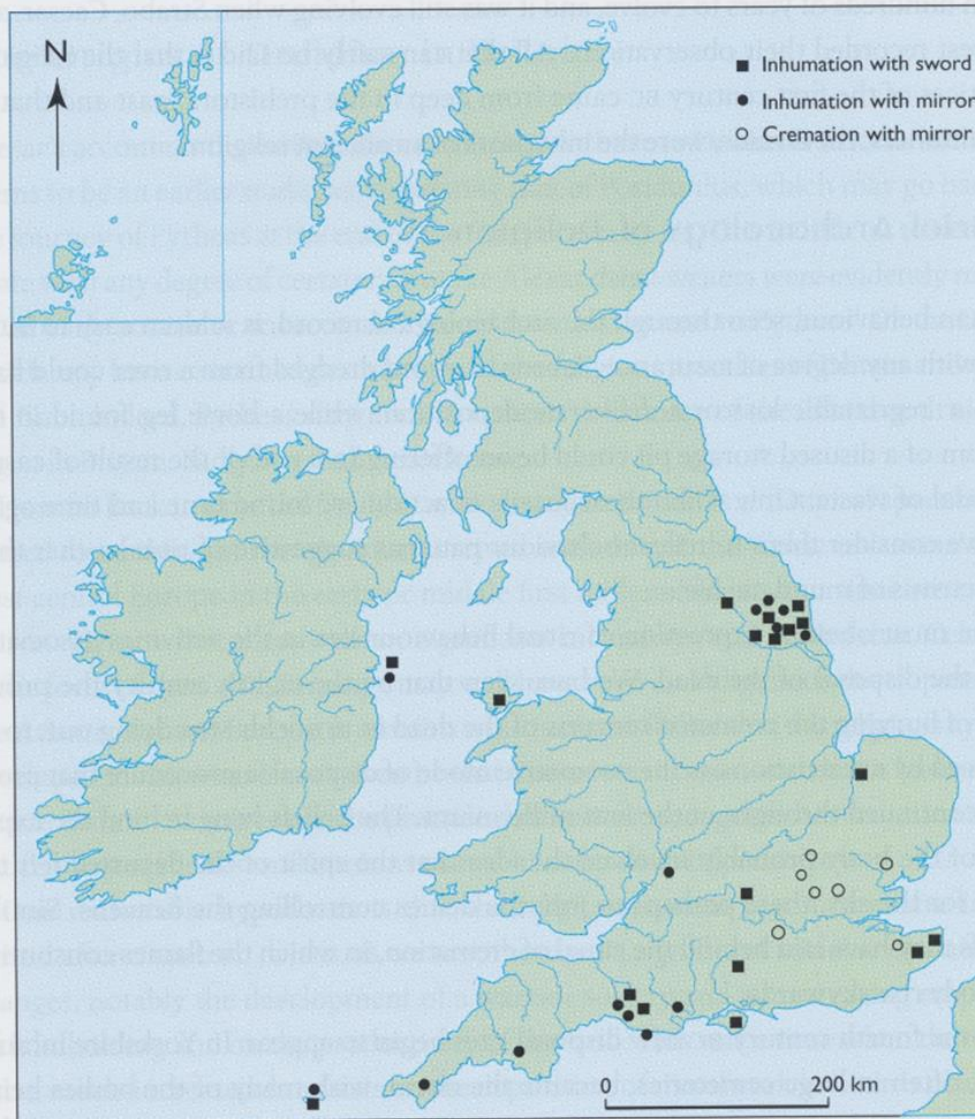
38 (*above*) Vehicle burials from the Yorkshire cemetery at Wetwang Slack. One of the common features of the Yorkshire burials is that the wheels had been removed from the vehicles at the time of burial and the bodies laid in a crouched position.





**Another regional culture: cart burials (the Arras culture)**





**10.1** Different types of elite burial practice were in use in Britain in the second to first century BC. It has been suggested that the mirrors and the swords interred with the dead represented the different genders, but one burial on the Scilly Isles contained both a sword and a mirror, implying that the symbolic meanings of the grave goods may be more complex





Castell Henllys



**Castell Henllys video**















© M.Kaliszewska





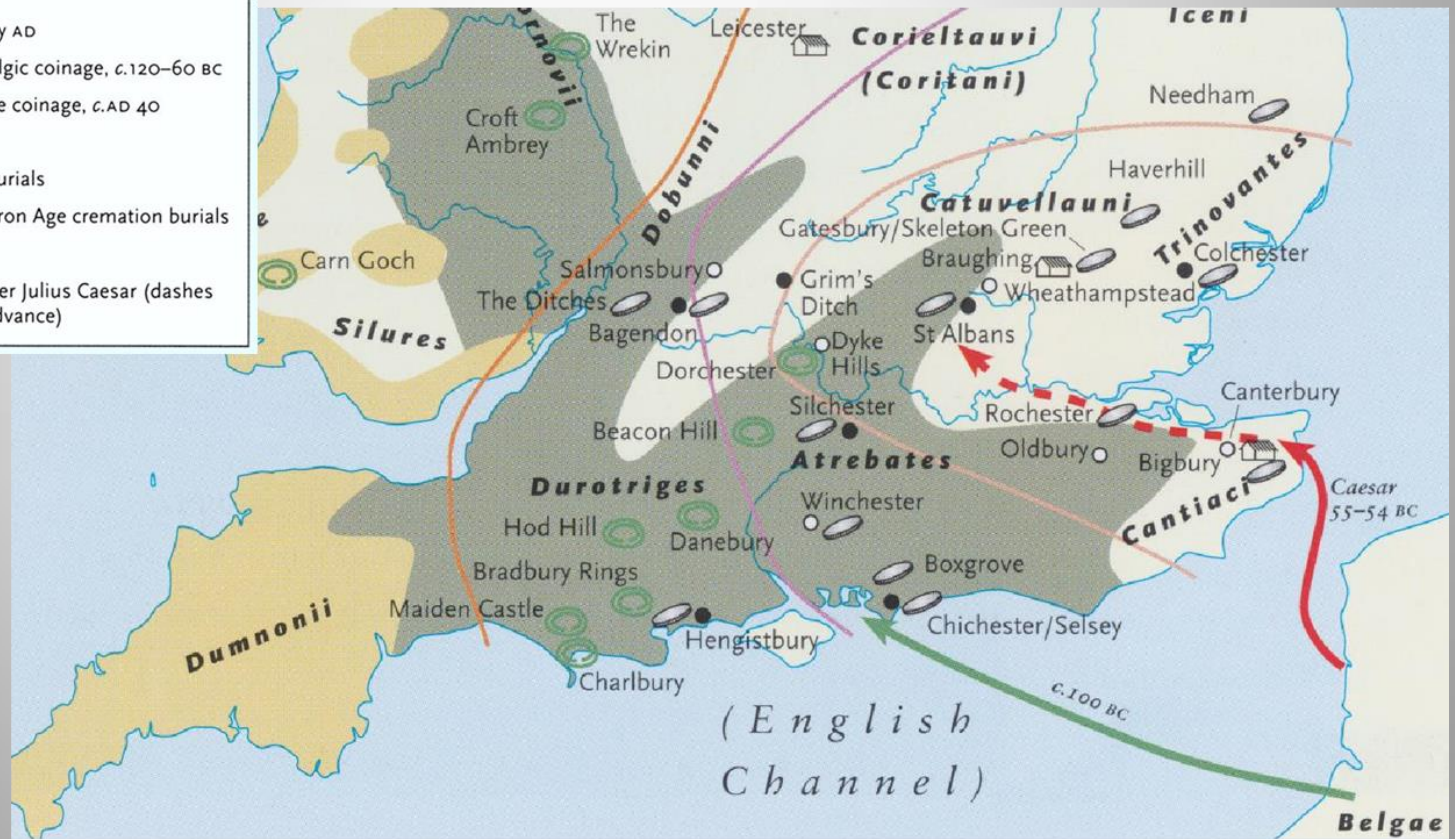








- Main hill-fort zones
- Zones of smaller defended settlements
- Distribution of brochs
- Distribution of duns
- Late Iron Age large undefended settlement
- 'Territorial' oppidum
- Other oppidum
- Other important defended site (hill-fort or broch)
- Major ritual assembly place
- Sculpted stone
- Iceni** Tribes in the 1st century AD
- Circulation of Gallo-Belgic coinage, c.120–60 BC
- Northern limit of native coinage, c.AD 40
- Mint
- Area of Arras culture burials
- Northern limit of late Iron Age cremation burials
- Migration of peoples
- Roman expedition under Julius Caesar (dashes indicate conjectured advance)









**Butser Ancient Farm video**













# EVENTS 2012

\*Pre-booking is advised for these events. Pricing available on the website or call 02392 598838  
Please note during festivals the site is closed for normal admission.

## Imbolc\* Sat 4th Feb 1~4pm

A celebration in the Great Roundhouse as we bring the farm back to life after winter. Ceremonial fire lighting, storytelling and singing after a light meal.



## Easter Holidays

### Ostara Mon 2nd to Fri 13th Apr

Children's activities & chick hunt

### Mayday Preparations Fri 13th April 1.30~3.30pm

Have a go at maypole dancing and creative activities.

## Beltain\* Sat 5th May 4.30~10pm

A celebration of the start of summer. Enjoy a variety of food stalls, licensed bar, live bands entertainment, culminating in the burning of our spectacular Wicker Man.

## Celts Weekend 3rd & 4th Jun

All things Iron Age, metal working, weapon demonstrations, textiles and cooking.

## Jubilee Picnic Tues 5th Jun

If you don't have a street party, join us on the farm. Bring a picnic with you. Afternoon tea, face painting culminating with a family procession.

## Summer Solstice\* Thurs 21st Jun

See the sun rise followed by breakfast. Booking essential.

## Fairy Festival Sun 24th June 1.30~3.30pm

Come dressed as fairy folk, join in the merriment and an audience with the Fairy Queen.

## Childhood Weekend 7th & 8th Jul

How would a child have lived during Iron Age or Roman Britain? Have a go at archery with the Aftal Society.

## Lughnasa\* Sat 14th Jul 7~10pm

Help us mark the Celtic Harvest Festival with an evening of music and Ceilidh dancing.

## Dig It Archaeology Day Fri 27th Jul

To celebrate the festival of archaeology, dig and discover with hands on activities for all the family. Metal detecting, water divining and dressing up!

## Wood Carving Competition 28th & 29th Jul

See experienced woodcarvers competing as they carve prehistoric art onto the posts within the roundhouse.



## Food Weekend 4th & 5th Aug

Celebrating the abundance of the earth and harvest. Food and cooking demonstrations.

## Lithics Weekend 11th & 12th Aug

The annual gathering of flint knappers. Watch tools being crafted from flint, and even have a go!

## Pottery Weekend 25th & 26th Aug

Have a go at making your own pot and see how pottery was fired during the Iron Age.



## Roman Weekend 1st & 2nd Sep

Activities and demonstrations on what life would have been like during Roman Britain.

## Macbeth Open Air Theatre\* Fri 7th Sep

Gates open 6pm, performance starts 7.30pm

Performed by "The Lord Chamberlain's Men"

Refreshments and licensed bar available.



## Art in the past weekend 6th & 7th Oct

Experiment with materials, styles and methods to produce art like our ancestors. Vote for your favourite entry in the photo competition.

**Photo Competition**  
**"Butser Ancient Farm 2012"**  
Winning entries to appear in a Butser Ancient Farm Calendar. Post your entries to the farm between 1st and 21st Sep.

## Samhain\* Fri 26th Oct 7~10pm

An evening celebration with folk band, storytelling, fortune teller, ghost tour, roaring fire, hot refreshments and bar.

## Ghost hunt & craft Mon 29th to Fri 2nd Nov

Afternoon entertainment for the children

## Samhain Story telling\* Wed 31st Oct 2.30pm

In addition to the ghost hunt and craft, listen to Red Phoenix around the fire in the Great Roundhouse.

## Saturnalia\* Fri 21st Dec 1~2.45pm

Take part in our Roman Christmas celebration, make decorations and get a present to take home.

## Tales of Winter Magic\* Fri 21st Dec 3.15~5pm

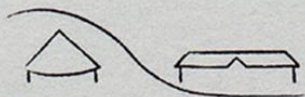
Winter Solstice stories around the fire with Red Phoenix, make decorations and get a present to take home.

02392 598838

[www.butserancientfarm.co.uk](http://www.butserancientfarm.co.uk)

1972 ~ 2012





## BUTSER ANCIENT FARM

Site Directed by **Butser Education CIC**  
Chalton, near Petersfield, Hampshire PO8 0BG

# FESTIVAL OF BELTAIN

Saturday 5th May 2012

**Adult Ticket**

**Nº 524**

Gates open 4.30pm, car park 4.00pm

**No Dogs or Other Animals**

**No alcohol** to be brought on site

Tel: 023 9259 8838

[www.butserancientfarm.co.uk](http://www.butserancientfarm.co.uk)













## Speculative structures



On most excavated sites large numbers of postholes are found. Those connected with a roundhouse are fairly easy to identify, but in other locations there may be single postholes or a small number in a square or rectangular pattern. There may be no other evidence to indicate the function of the posthole(s), so we have created a number of possible structures that they might represent. These include the centre post for a haystack, a chicken house, a latrine and a granary. We have also built a small building of a material used across southern Britain and known by various names including clunch and cob, which consists of soil and crushed chalk mixed with water and packed into frames to form walls.



These pictures here show a speculative granary on four legs for short-term storage of grain, and a general storage building with walls built of clunch.

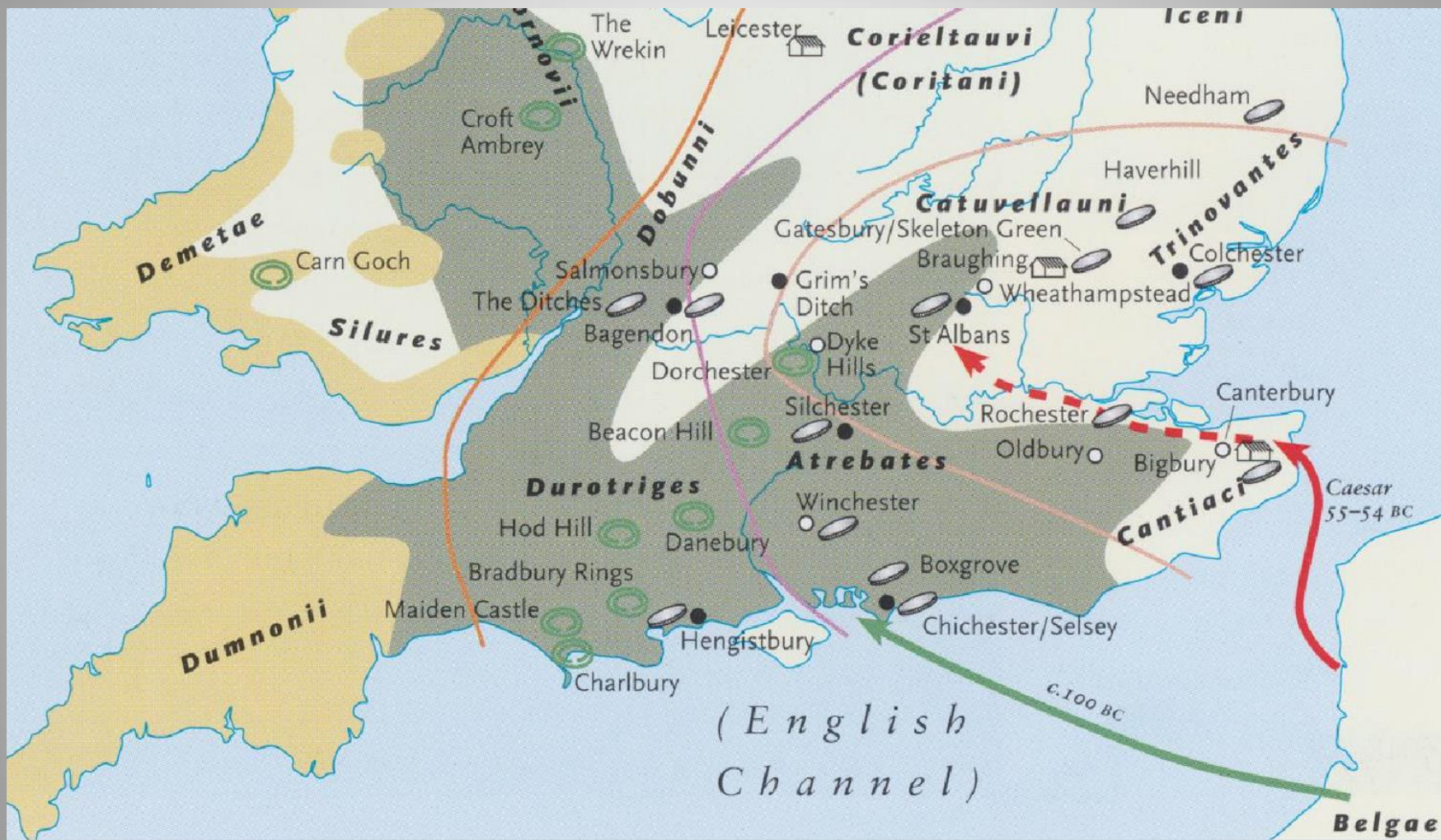














WALKER'S  
BRITAINThe Complete Pocket Guide  
to over 240 Walks  
and RamblesREVISED &  
UPDATED EDITION

## THE WESSEX DOWNS

**The Ridgeway**

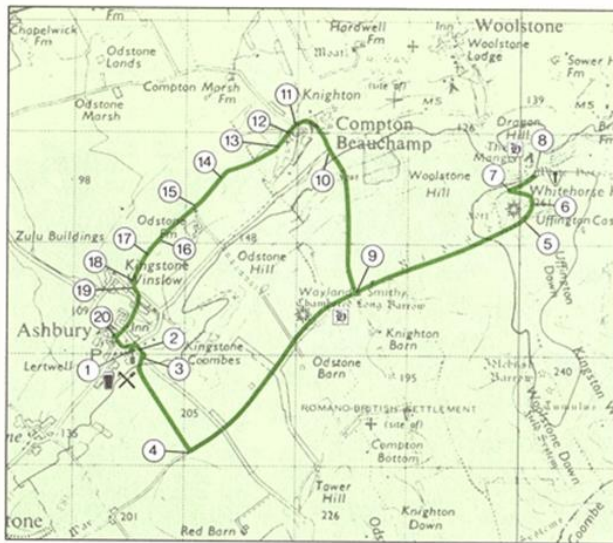
6½ miles (10.5 km) Sheet 174 265851

**Easy** An introduction to the Ridgeway long-distance path and some of its most famous features. The Ridgeway is popular, so choose an off-peak time if possible. *Downland, farmland; one climb; the chalk is slippery after rain and sticks to footwear.*

**Start** Ashbury, on the B4000. In village turn on to the B4507 and look for Rose and Crown; frequent buses. **Parking** Rose and Crown car park.

1 From car park turn right and walk along road to its junction with the B4000 (Lambourn Road) where 2 turn right and continue a few yards. 3 Turn right at Ridgeway sign and follow the path through the gate up the hill. 4 At the double lines of quicket (small thorn trees) bordering the Ridgeway, turn left and follow the wide

track for just over 2 miles (3 km). 5 Pass the embankments of Uffington Castle on left, ignoring first footpath sign on left. Turn left at the second footpath sign towards the Castle. 6 Follow the embankment round (grassy area of Castle centre on left) but do not descend the hill. 7 When the embankments turn left, leave them and turn right (past 2 isolated thorn trees) and walk a few yards along the down for a magnificent view of The Manger and Dragon Hill; also portions of the White Horse. 8 Retrace steps along Ridgeway about one mile (1.5 km) until reaching the cross-lanes just before Wayland's Smithy. 9 Turn right along the metal track. 10 Cross the B4057 (The Icknield Way) and carry straight on following the sign to 'Compton Beauchamp at foot of hill'. 11 Turn left along the lane to the right of Compton House leading to the church. 12 Go through wicket gate just right of church gate and walk up field to farm gate ahead. 13 Go through gate, turn



## THE WESSEX DOWNS



half right and cross next field, leaving corner of wood on right and clump of trees on hilltop well over to left. Continue on this line diagonally to cross 2 fences, looking ahead for small gate in corner of second field. (Path is indistinct.) 14 Go through gate, and with fence on left, follow field edge to cross stiles either side of a bridge. 15 Pass farm leaving it to left and continue through all gates, going straight ahead until line of power cables comes into view. 16 Bear left to follow line of power cables, crossing 2 stiles to fence on left. 17 Go straight on, fence and power cables on left; the path soon becomes a wide, fenced way. 18 Cross track by 2 stiles and continue round slightly left to go through a gate (marked with yellow arrow footpath sign) to join lane running through Kingstone Winslow. 19 From the gate turn left, then almost immediately right down small lane crossing a stream and rising to Ashbury. 20 After crossing B4000 take next left, then left again for the Rose and Crown.

1 Rose and Crown—try the home-made steak and kidney pie or mussels with shrimps and garlic.

2 Wayland's Smithy, a Neolithic barrow or burial mound; legend told that Wayland, smith to the Saxon gods, would shoe a horse left with a coin by the tomb.

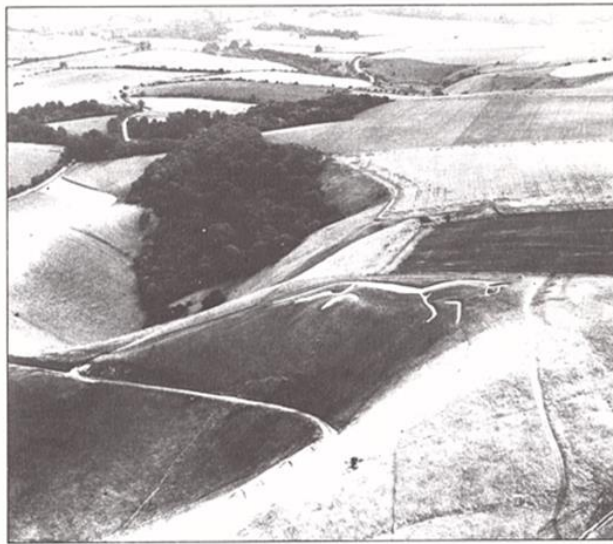
3 The Ridgeway (see pp. 328-34), possibly the oldest road in Europe, could date from before the last Ice Age—about 11,000 BC.

4 Uffington, a fine hill fort—500 BC.

5 The early chapters of *Tom Brown's Schooldays* are set among these downs.

6 Where St. George killed the dragon.

The White Horse's date and manner of carving remain a mystery.





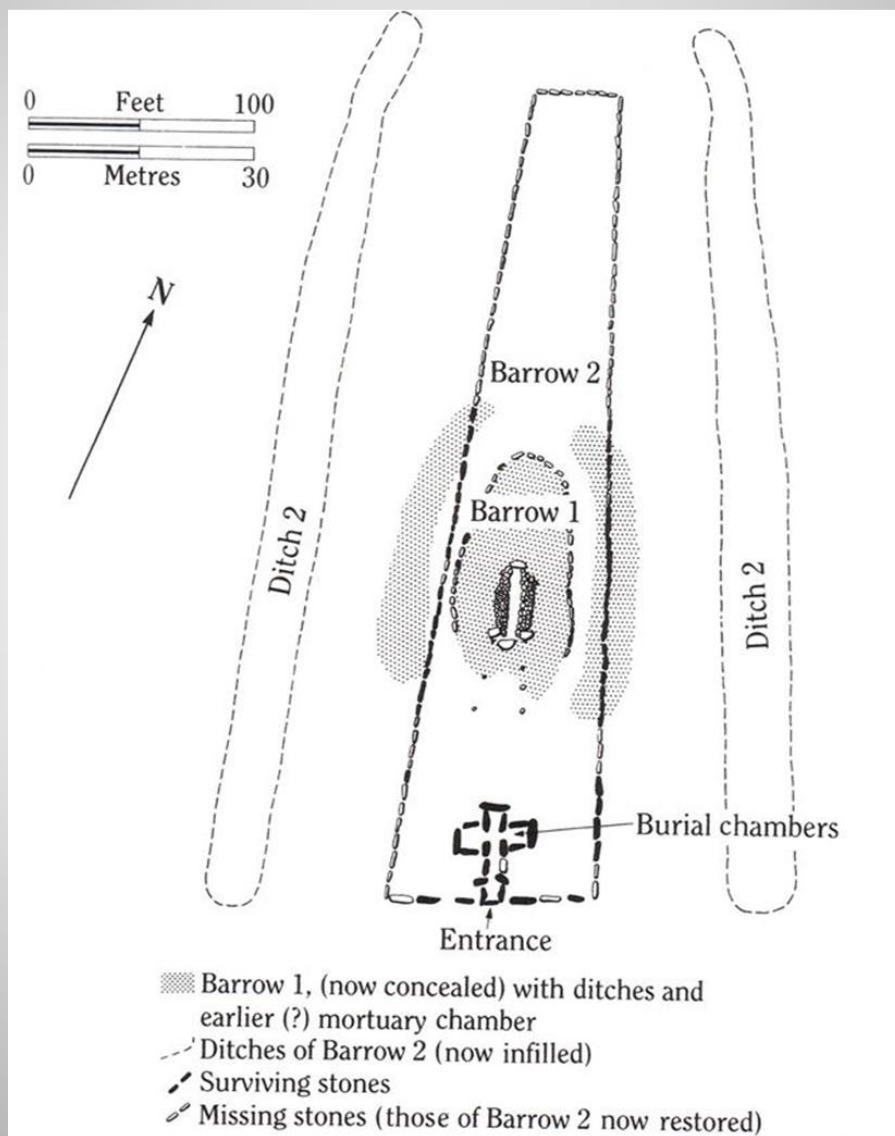
The Ridgeway video:

Wayland's Smithy, Uffington Castle, and the White Horse





# Wayland's Smithy









ABOVE: *Aerial view of Uffington Castle, an Iron Age hill fort, situated high on the Ridgeway, England's oldest road.*









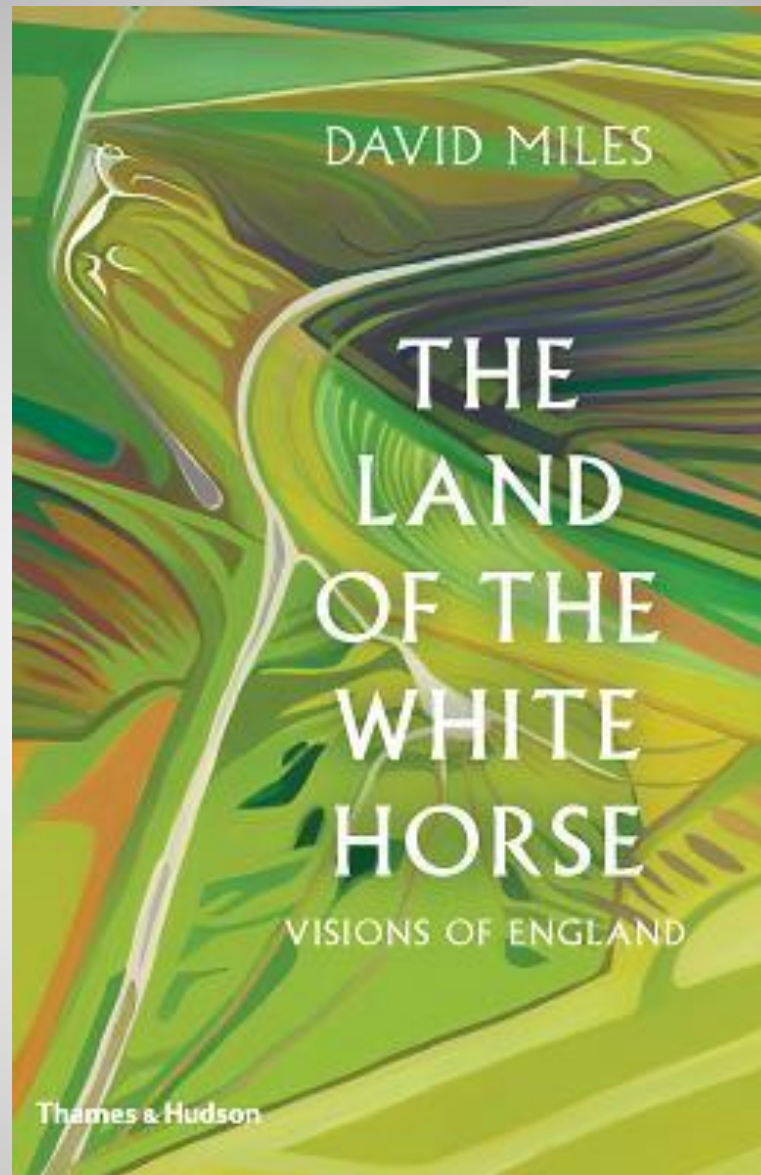
ABOVE: *The mysterious  
White Horse at  
Uffington was recorded  
as 'a wonder' in  
medieval records.*







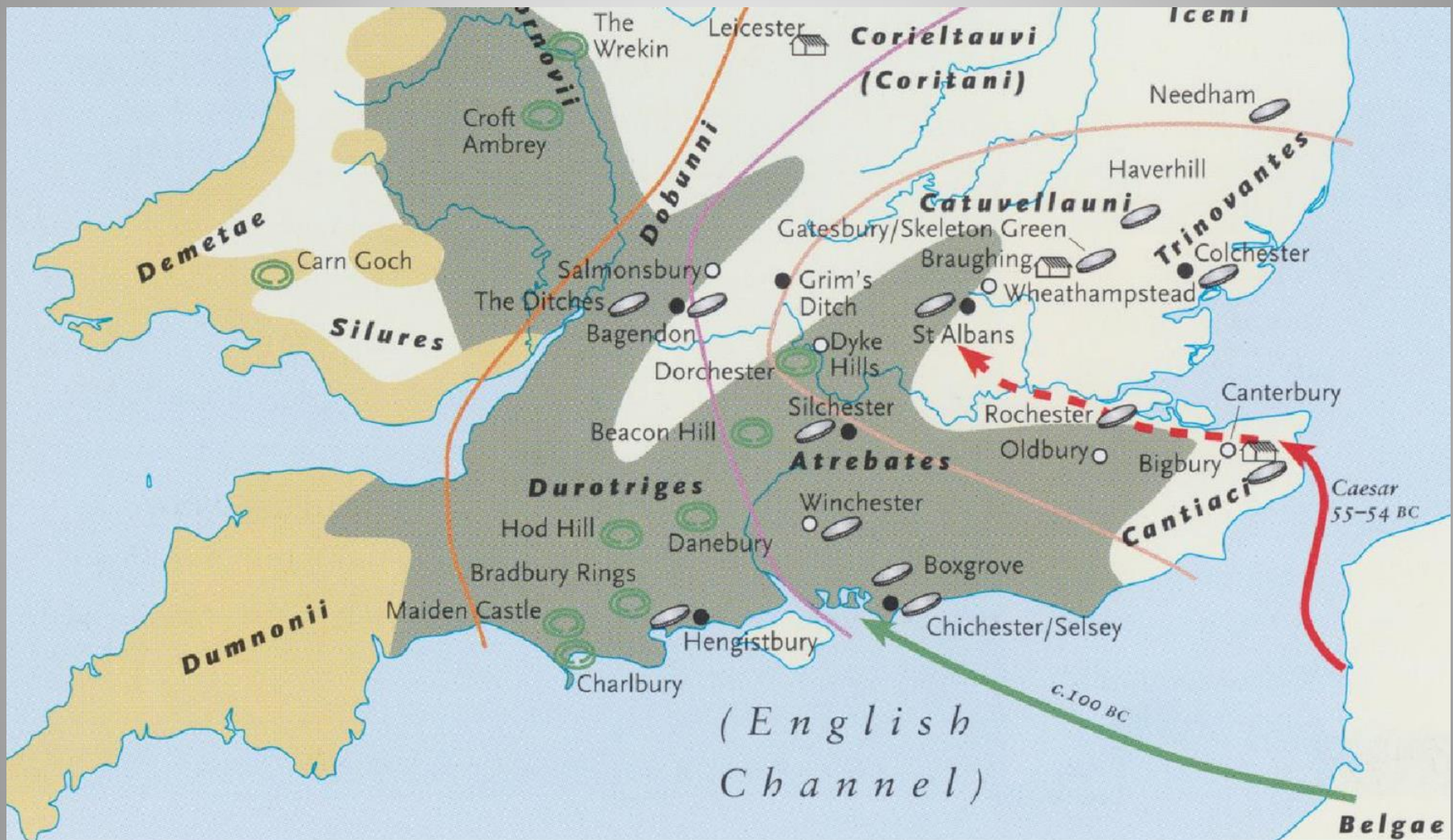




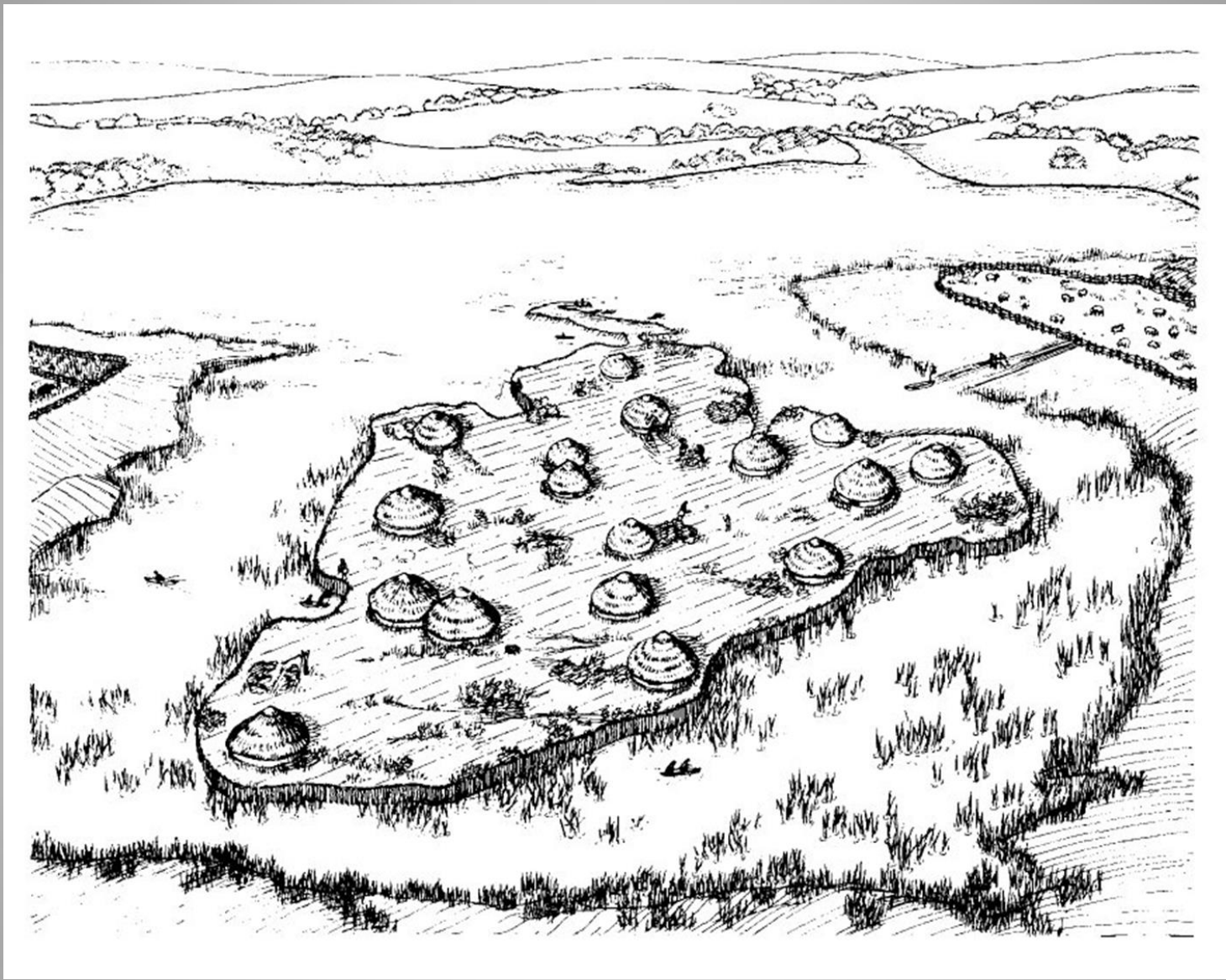
...the most enjoyable book of archaeology (and nature, and poetry, and literature, and art) I've read in years. .





















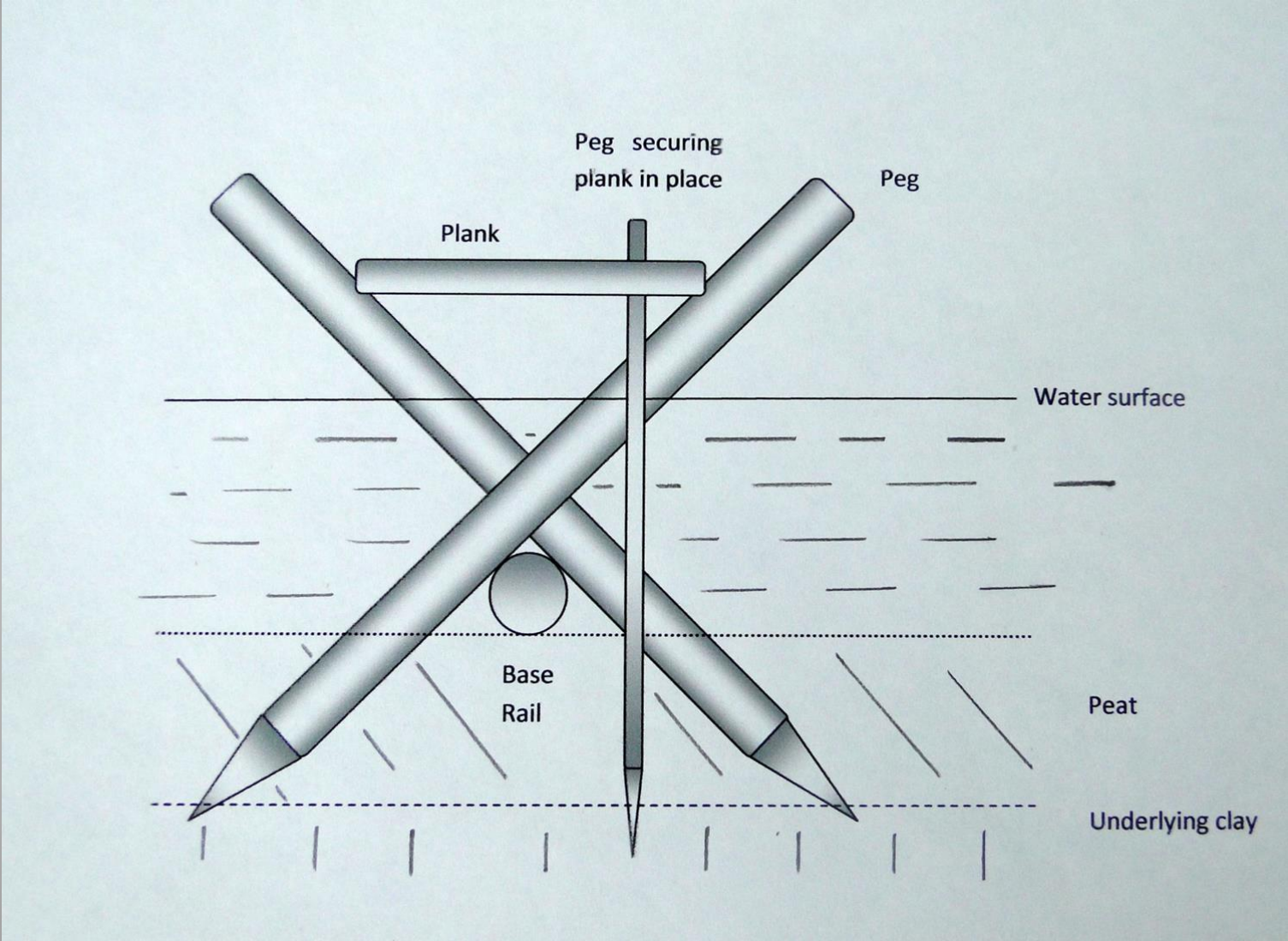


**The Sweet Track, Glastonbury video**















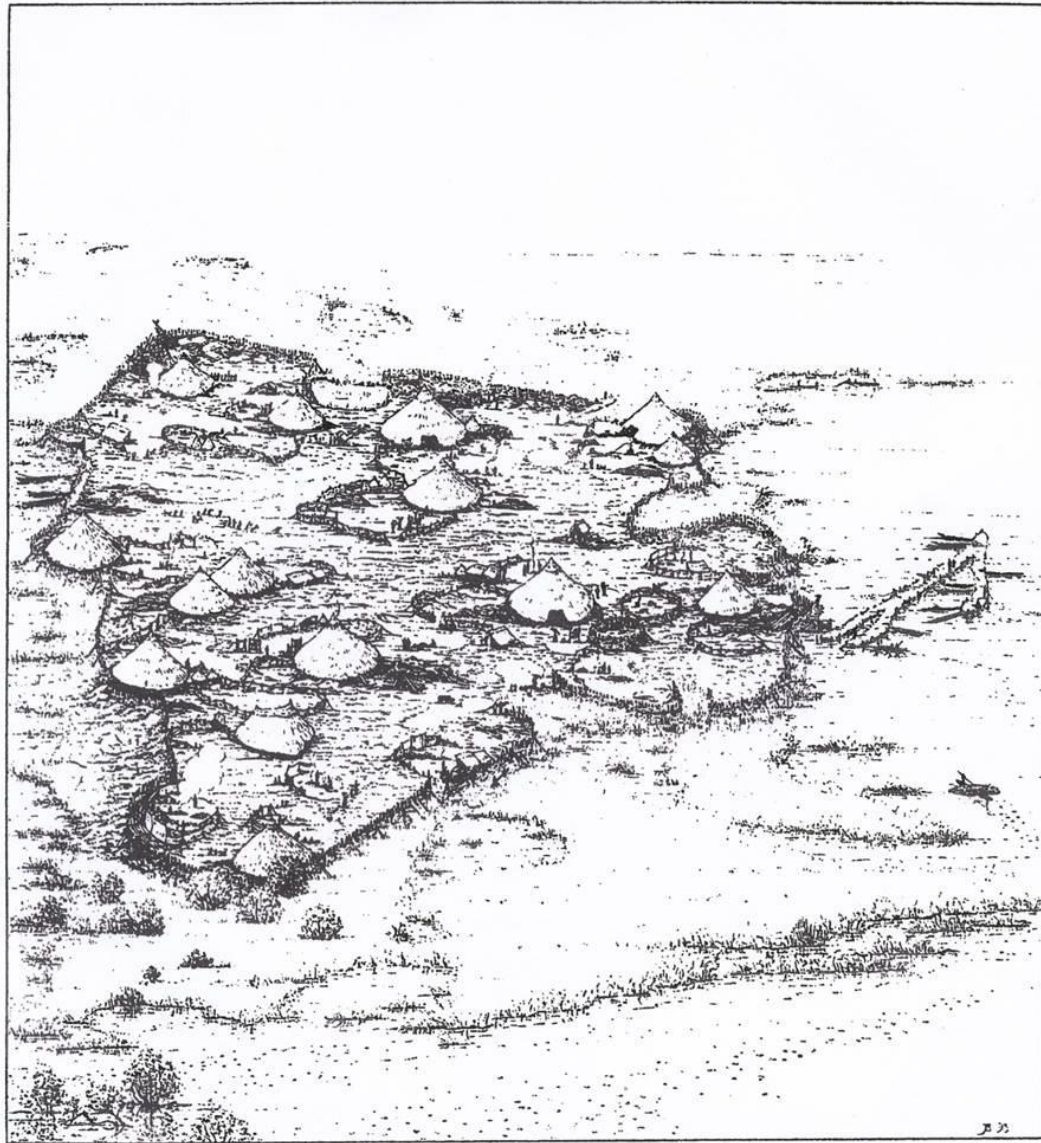


FIG 99 A bird's-eye view of Glastonbury 'lake village' at its maximum, around 125 BC (drawing by Jane Brayne).



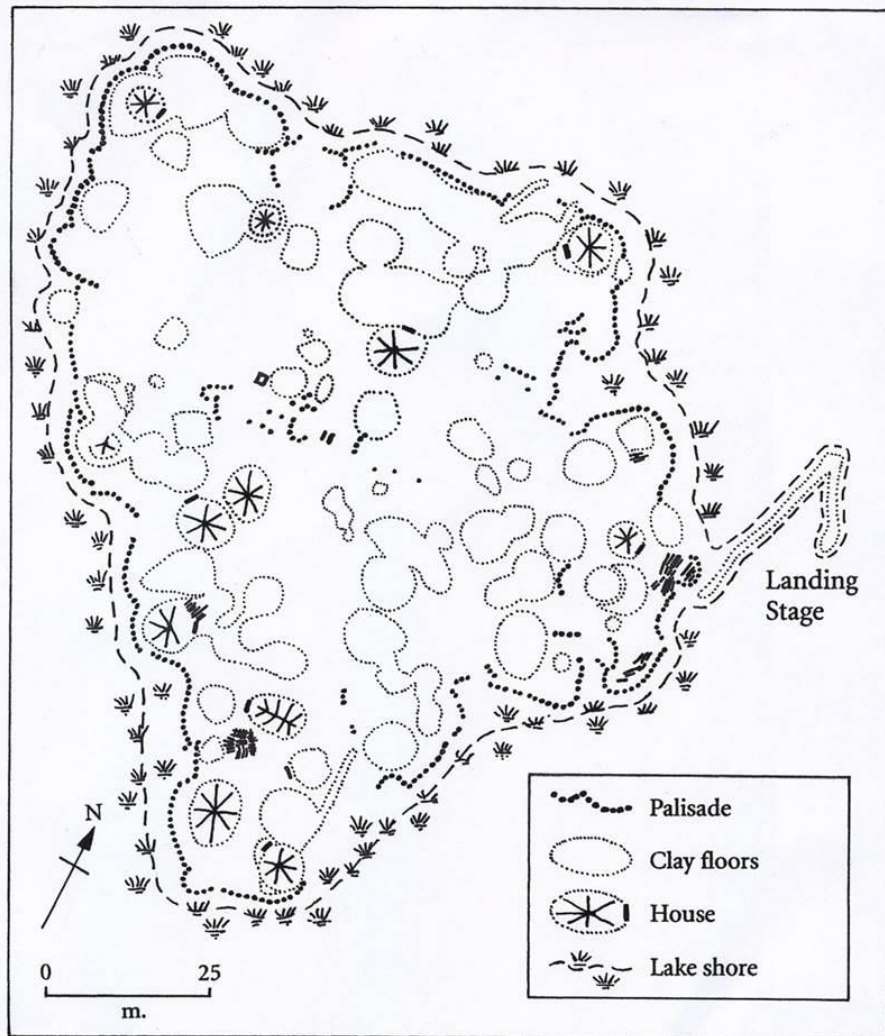
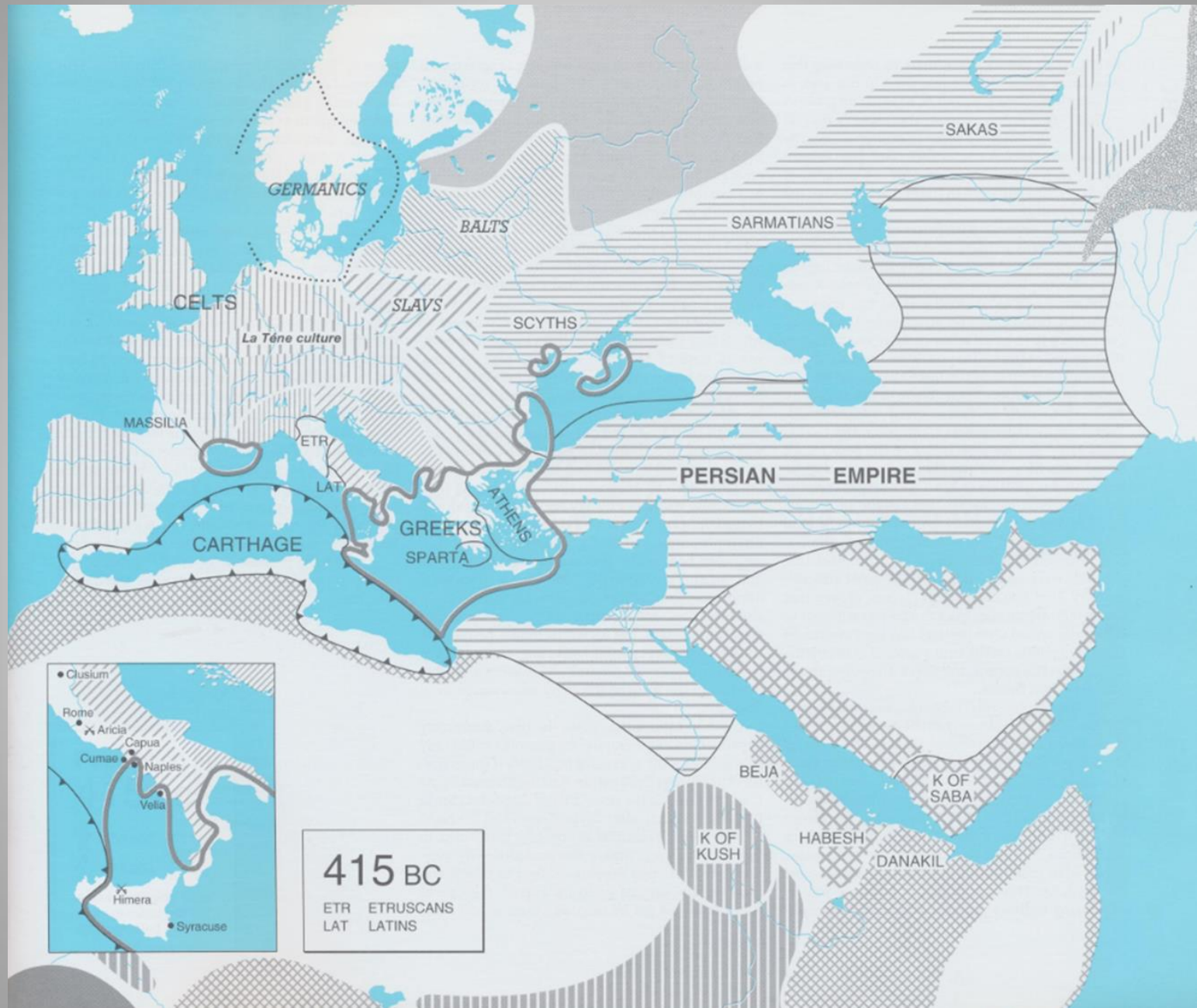
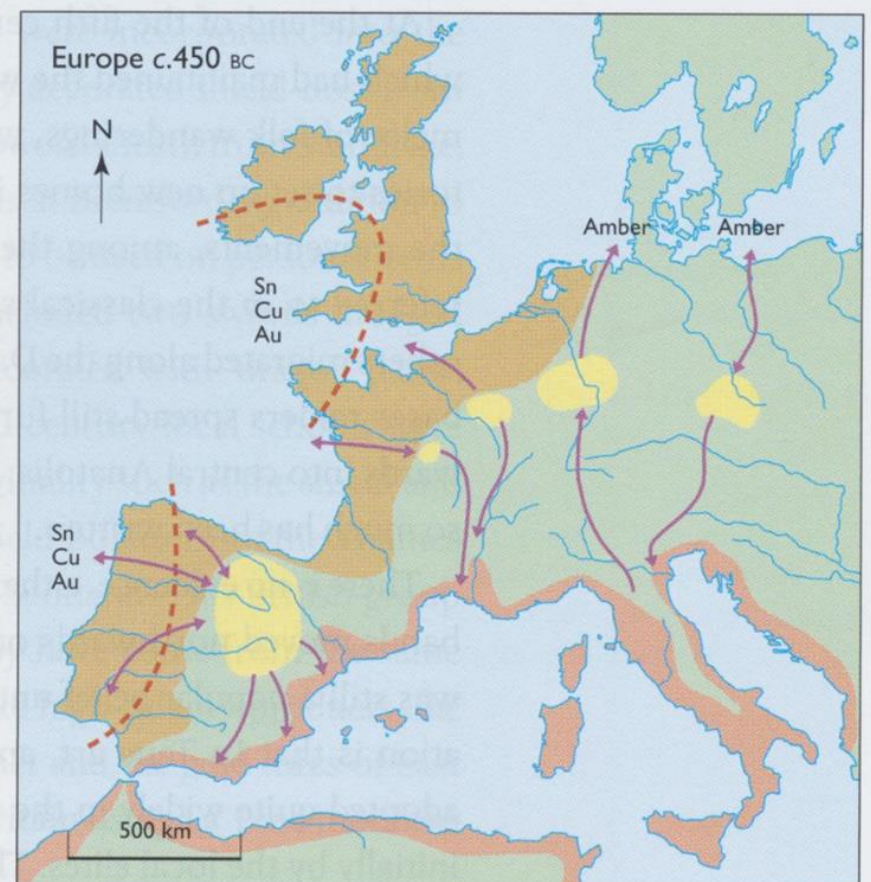
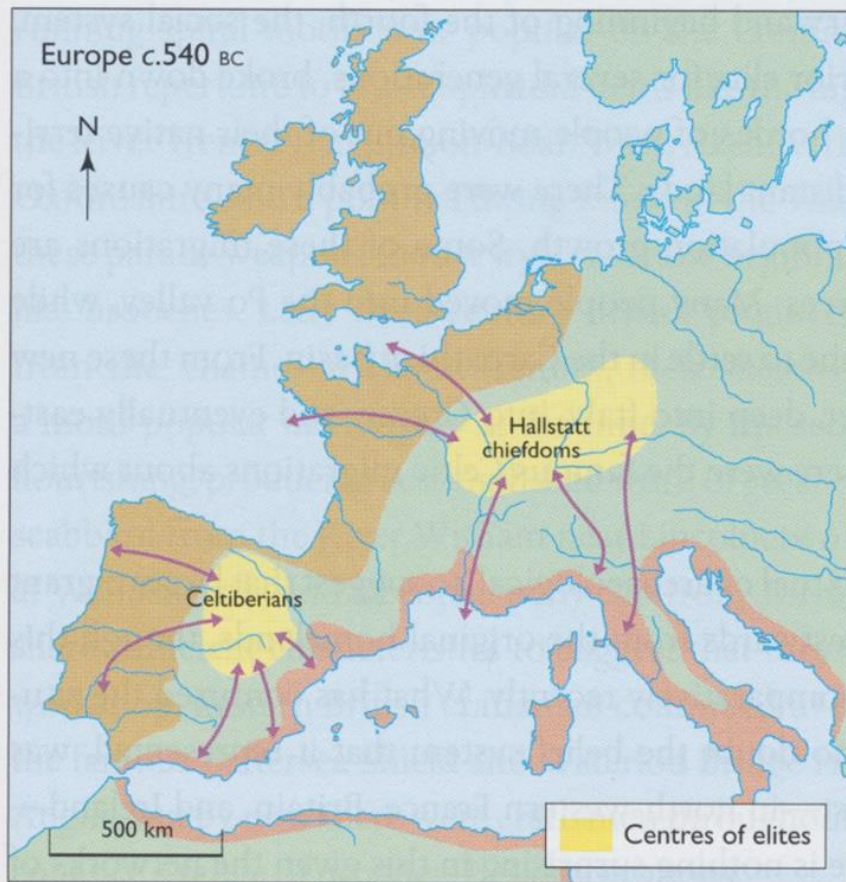


FIG 98 Ground plan of Glastonbury 'lake village' at its largest development in its late phase, about 125 BC. Roundhouses and one oval house are shown by the probable pattern of their roof rafters. The hook-shaped wooden structure to the east is a landing stage for boats.







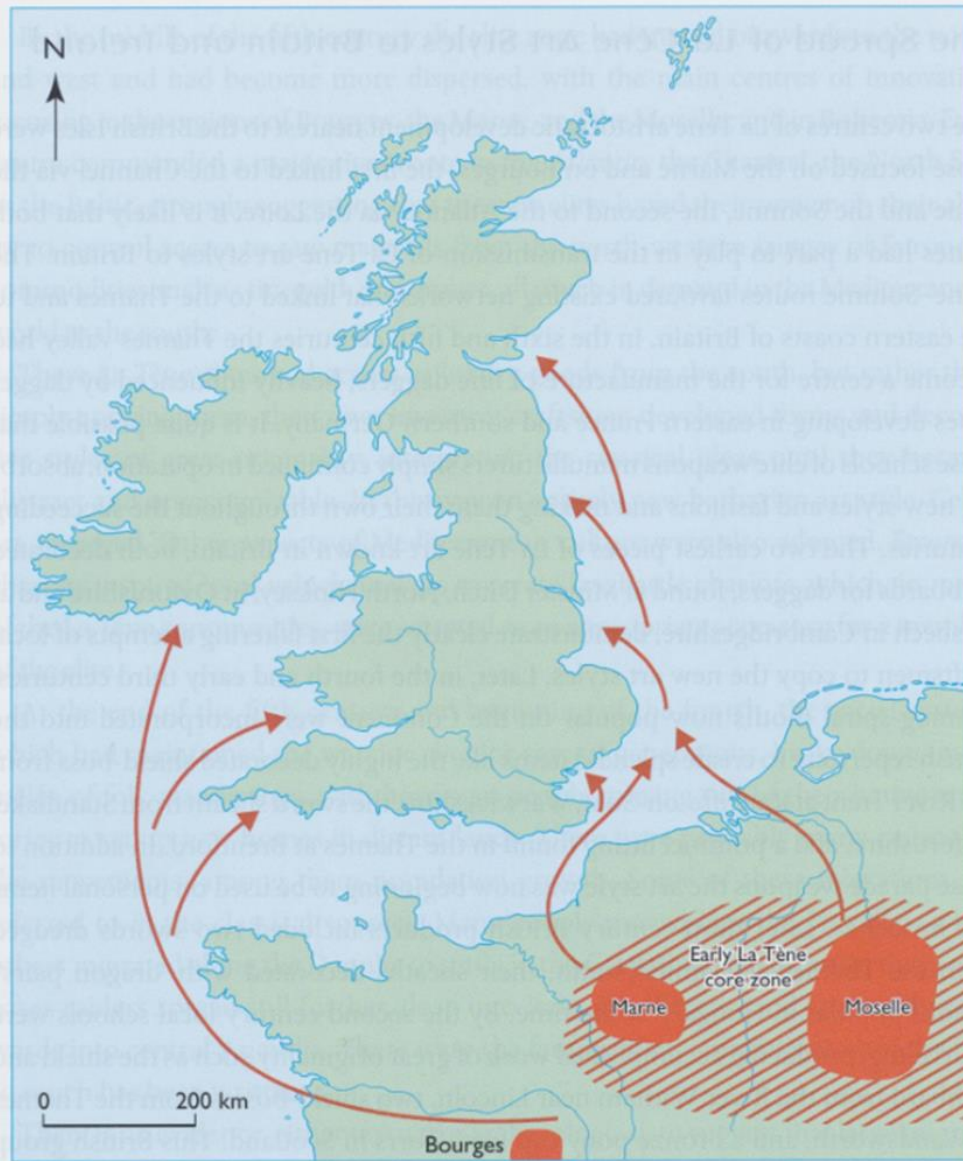


**9.12** The acquisition of raw materials such as metals (tin, copper, and gold) and amber from the Atlantic and North Sea zones by the Mediterranean world led to the emergence of communities whose power lay in their ability to control the movement of goods. The two maps illustrate the elite centres in the sixth and fifth century. In the fifth century, while the Celtiberian centre continued to develop in Iberia, in the middle regions of Europe the old Hallstatt culture was replaced by new centres sharing the La Tène culture



Early La Tène period chieftain and warriors,  
late 5th century BC





**9.13** A highly original style of decoration, generally known as 'Celtic art', developed in the elite centres of Europe in the early La Tène period in the fifth to fourth century BC. Knowledge of the new art style spread to Britain and Ireland along the Atlantic and North Sea routes



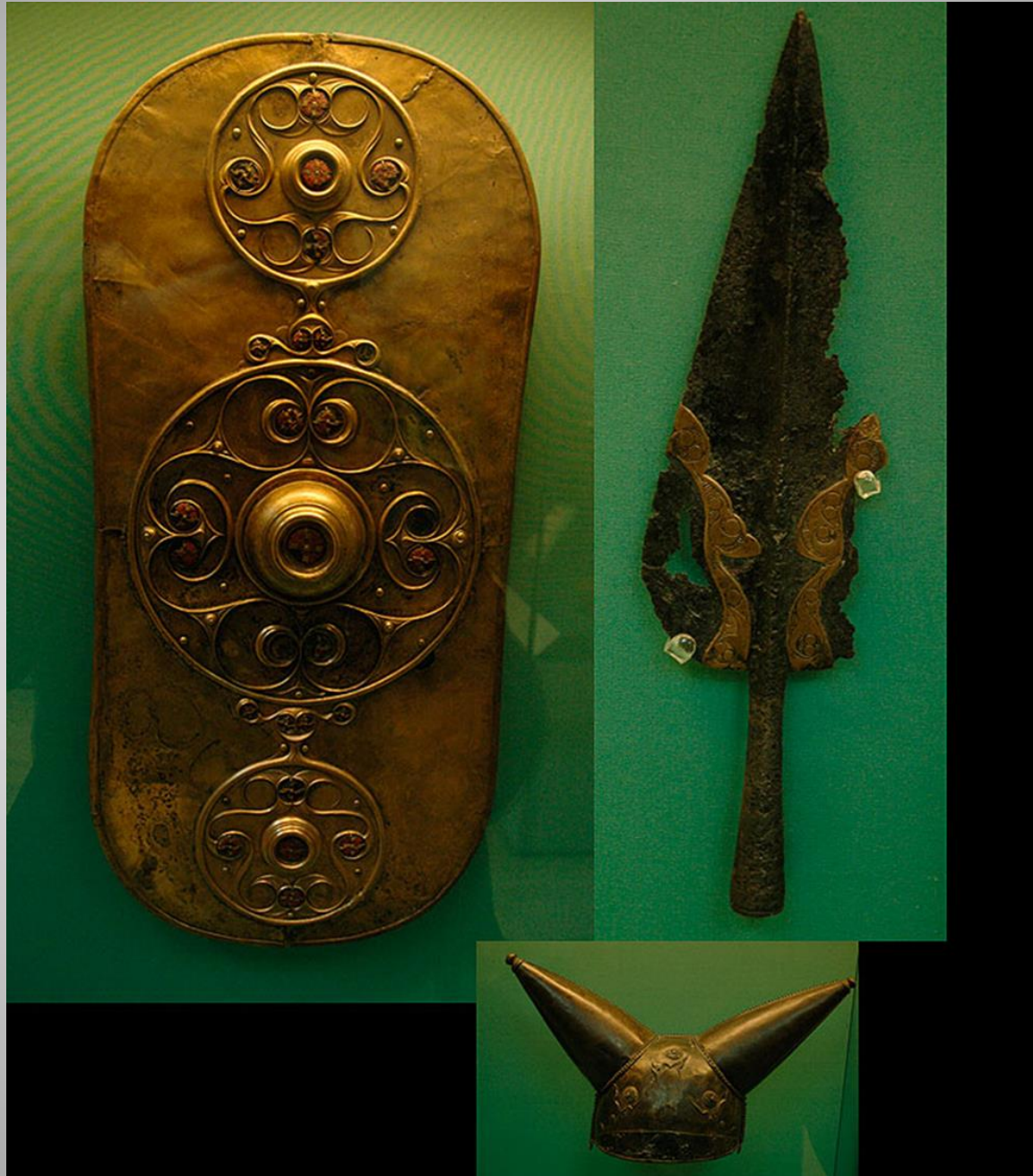


**9.16** Shield-boss from the Thames at Wandsworth. The superb repoussé decoration represents two birds with outstretched wings









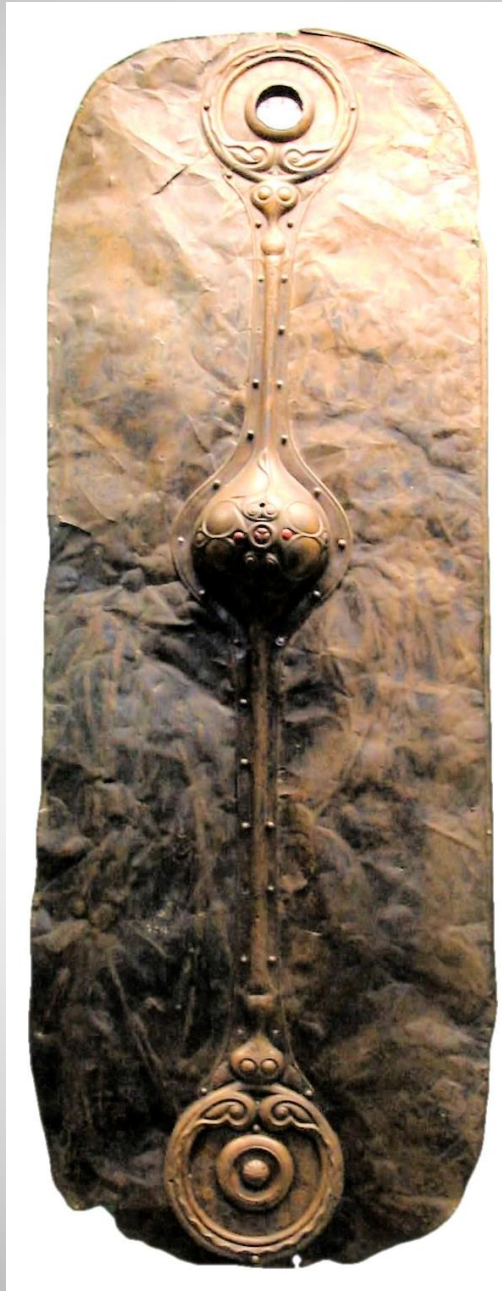






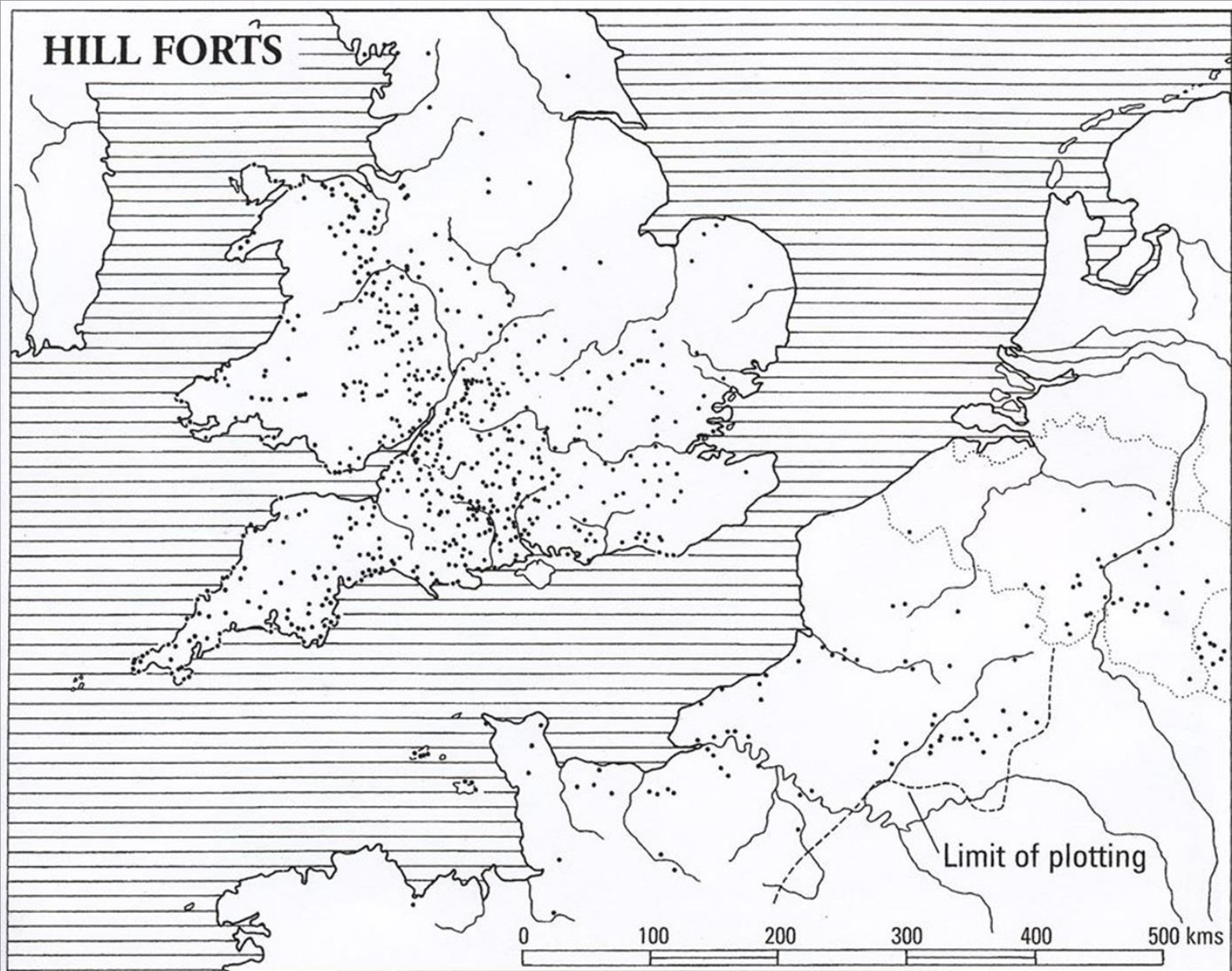


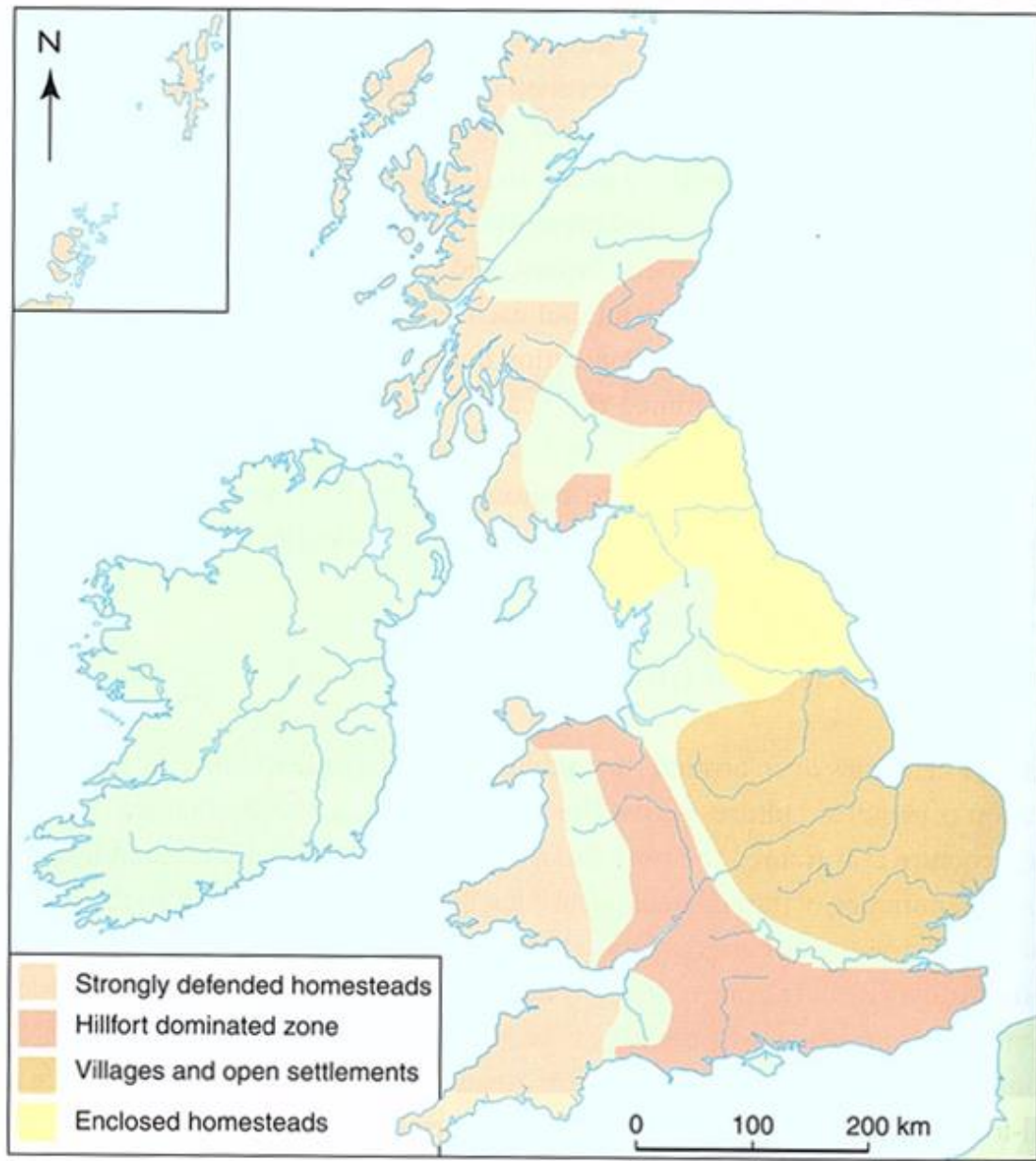






# HILL FORTS





1.10 In Britain in the second half of the first millennium BC it is possible to trace different types of settlement pattern, suggesting broad zones in which the socio-economic systems were much the same. There is a marked contrast between the west of the country and the east





## 2 DANEBURY: A CELTIC HILLFORT

In southern Britain several hillforts were constructed on the South Downs in the 6th century bc (*map below*). Gradually power became centralised and fewer hillforts continued in occupation, though those that did, such as Danebury (*above*), were more heavily fortified. Within its ramparts was an area for livestock grazing, houses with thatched conical roofs and raised timber granaries. Around 100bc the occupation of Danebury came to a sudden end, probably as a result of hostilities; bodies were thrown into charnel pits and the east gate burned down.

**1 Timber-framed rampart**, c.550bc, fronted by a flat-bottomed ditch (2). **3 Middle and outer earthworks** (2nd century bc), enclosing 5.3 hectares. **4 East entrance**, probably with a timber platform or tower above. Slingstones were found along the entrance passage and over 1000 were stored in a pit nearby.

- house
- granary
- rampart

