Ancient Britain

8

Celts and Romans

The End of Prehistory

Iron Age Britain

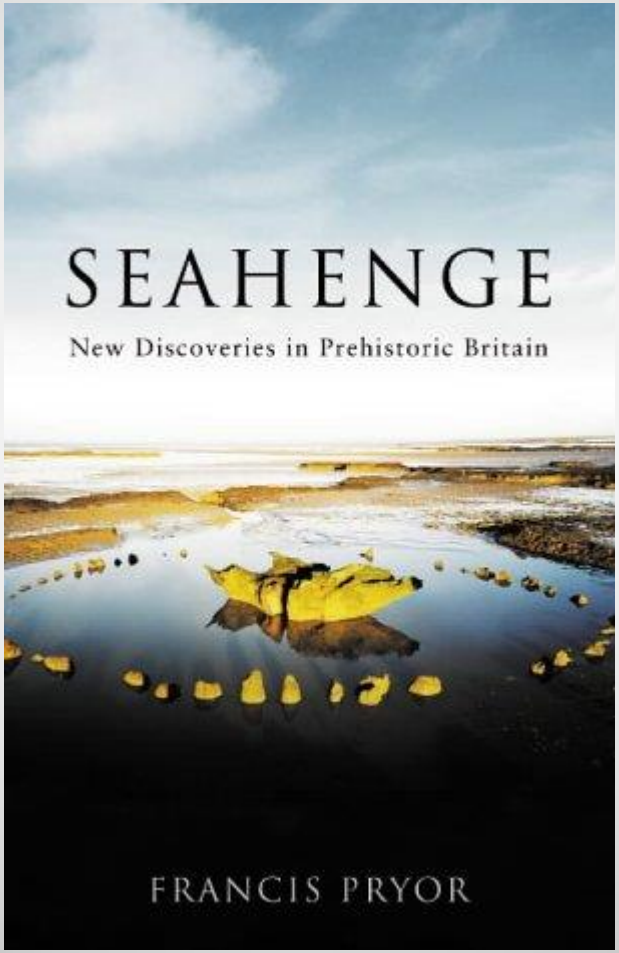
Two “ancient British” items not yet mentioned—

1. Seahenge

Seahenge, believed to have been constructed in 2049BC, was revealed in 1998 on the north Norfolk coast
EDWARD PARKER/ALAMY

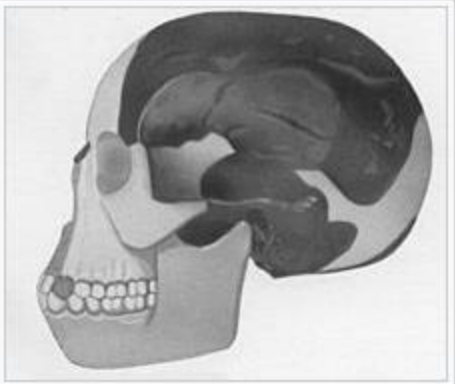
Seahenge, which is also known as **Holme I**, was a prehistoric monument located in the village of Holme-next-the-Sea, near Old Hunstanton in the English county of Norfolk. A timber circle with an upturned tree root in the centre, Seahenge, along with the nearby timber circle Holme II, was built in the spring-summer of 2049 BCE, during the early Bronze Age in Britain. Contemporary theory is that they were used for ritual purposes; in particular Holme II has been interpreted as a mortuary monument that may originally have formed the boundary of a burial mound.

In order to preserve the timber in the site from exposure to air, due to recent exposure of the remains by the sea, it was excavated in Spring 1999, and its remains taken to an archeological museum and then a maritime museum for preservation of the wood. In 1999, a reproduction was put up by some of the excavators, near the site. In 2008, after further study, a second reproduction was erected near the original's location.[1] Due to controversy about the excavation of Seahenge, Holme II was left in place to be monitored as it is gradually destroyed by erosion.


SEAHENGE
New Discoveries in Prehistoric Britain
FRANCIS PRYOR

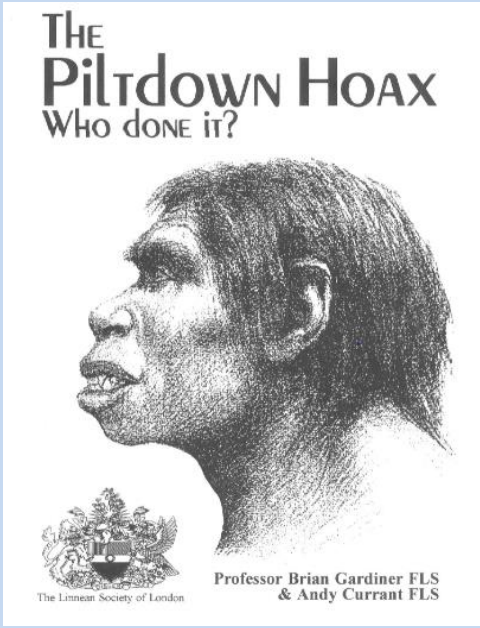
Two “ancient British” items not yet mentioned—

2. Piltdown Man



Piltdown Man skull reconstruction

Group portrait of the Piltdown skull being examined. Back row (from left): F. O. Barlow, G. Elliot Smith, Charles Dawson, Arthur Smith Woodward. Front row: A. S. Underwood, Arthur Keith, W. P. Pycraft, and Ray Lankester. Note the portrait of Charles Darwin on the wall. Painting by John Cooke, 1915.



The **Piltdown Man** was a paleoanthropological fraud in which bone fragments were presented as the fossilised remains of a previously unknown early human. Although there were doubts about its authenticity virtually from the beginning, the remains were still broadly accepted for many years, and the falsity of the hoax was only definitively demonstrated in 1953. An extensive scientific review in 2016 established that amateur archaeologist Charles Dawson was responsible for the fraudulent evidence.[

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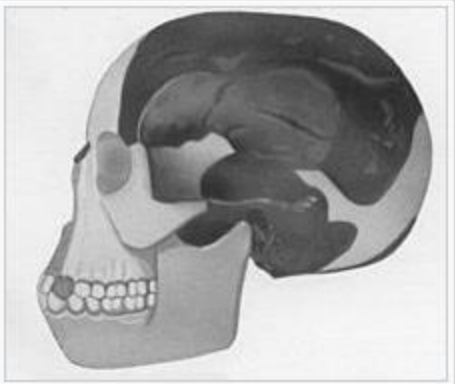

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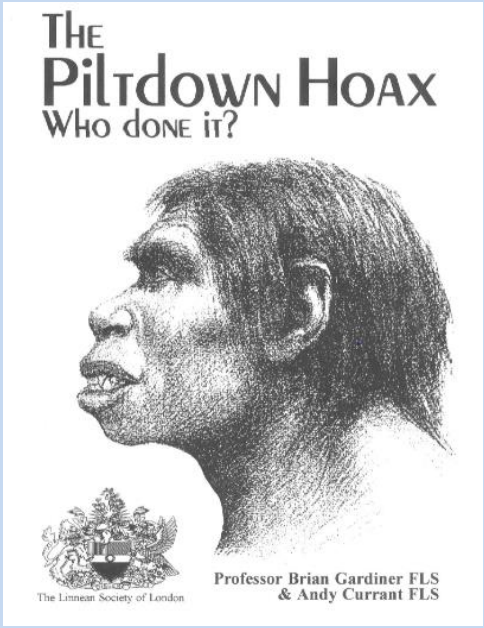

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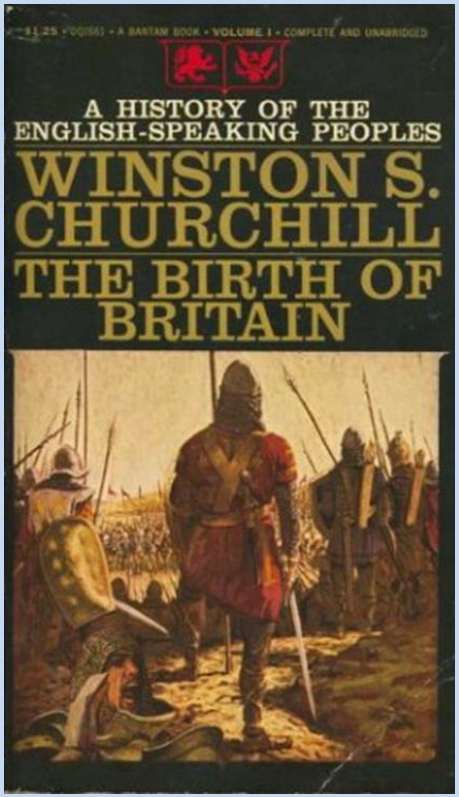
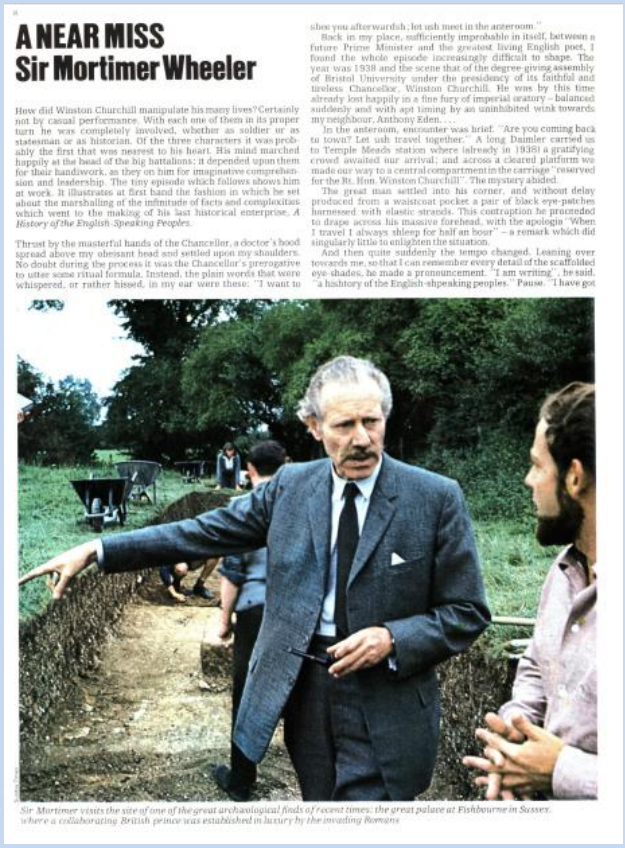
The opening chapter of Winston Churchill's "The Birth of Britain" includes a discussion of the "first Briton." In 1938 Churchill consulted archaeologist Mortimer Wheeler on this, and his text mentioned Piltdown Man. The manuscript was set aside during the 1940s (Churchill was rather busy during those years).





A NEAR MISS
Sir Mortimer Wheeler

How did Winston Churchill manipulate his many lives? Certainly not by casual performance. With each one of them in its proper turn he was completely involved, whether as soldier or as statesman or as historian. Of the three characters it was probably the first that was nearest to his heart. His mind marched happily at the head of the big battalions; it depended upon them for their handiwork, as they on him for imaginative comprehension and leadership. The tiny episode which follows shows him at work. It illustrates at first hand the fashion in which he set about the marshalling of the infinitude of facts and complexities which went to the making of his last historical enterprise, *A History of the English-Speaking Peoples*.

Thrust by the masterful hands of the Chancellor, a doctor's hood spread above my obeisant head and settled upon my shoulders. No doubt during the process it was the Chancellor's prerogative to utter some ritual formula. Instead, the plain words that were whispered, or rather hissed, in my ear were these: "I want to shee you afterwardsh, let ush meet in the anteroom."

Back in my place, sufficiently improbable in itself, between a future Prime Minister and the greatest living English poet, I found the whole episode increasingly difficult to shape. The year was 1938 and the scene that of the degree-giving assembly of Bristol University under the presidency of its faithful and tireless Chancellor, Winston Churchill. He was by this time already lost happily in a fine fury of imperial oratory – balanced suddenly and with apt timing by an uninhibited wink towards my neighbour, Anthony Eden. . . .

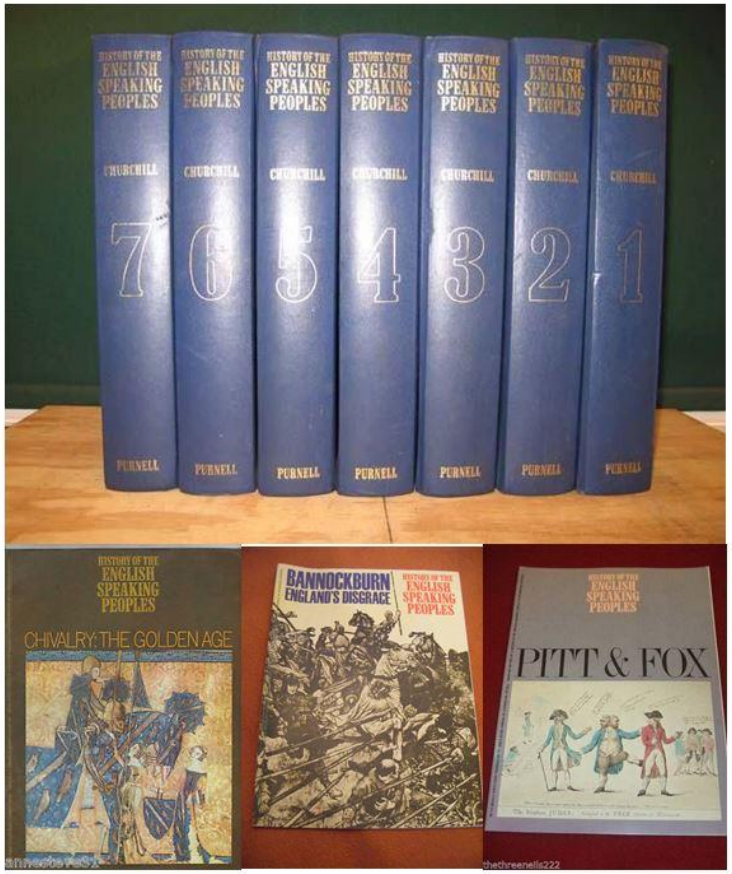
In the anteroom, encounter was brief. "Are you coming back to town? Let ush travel together." A long Daimler carried us to Temple Meads station where already in 1938 a gratifying crowd awaited our arrival; and across a cleared platform we made our way to a central compartment in the carriage "reserved for the Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill". The mystery abided.

The great man settled into his corner, and without delay produced from a waistcoat pocket a pair of black eye-patches harnessed with elastic strands. This contraption he proceeded to drape across his massive forehead, with the apologia "When I travel I always sheep for half an hour" – a remark which did singularly little to enlighten the situation.

And then quite suddenly the tempo changed. Leaning over towards me, so that I can remember every detail of the scaffolded eye-shades, he made a pronouncement. "I am writing", he said, "a hishtory of the English-shpeaking peoples." Pause. "I have got

Sir Mortimer visits the site of one of the great archaeological finds of recent times: the great palace at Fishbourne in Sussex, where a collaborating British prince was established in luxury by the invading Romans

In 1954 Sir Mortimer Wheeler was provided with the pre-publication final draft, and was horrified to see Piltdown Man still there. His last-minute correction saved Churchill from humiliation, and let the author mention Swanscombe Man instead!



BOOK

History of the English speaking peoples in 112 weekly parts.

Churchill, Winston, 1874-1965.; Wheeler, Mortimer, 1890-1976.; Trevor-Roper, H. R. (Hugh Redwald), 1914-2003.; Taylor, A. J. P. (Alan John Percivale), 1906-1990.

1969-1971

Available at Parkland College Library Third Floor (DA16 .C478) ›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Picture
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Everything
Peru
a journey
in time
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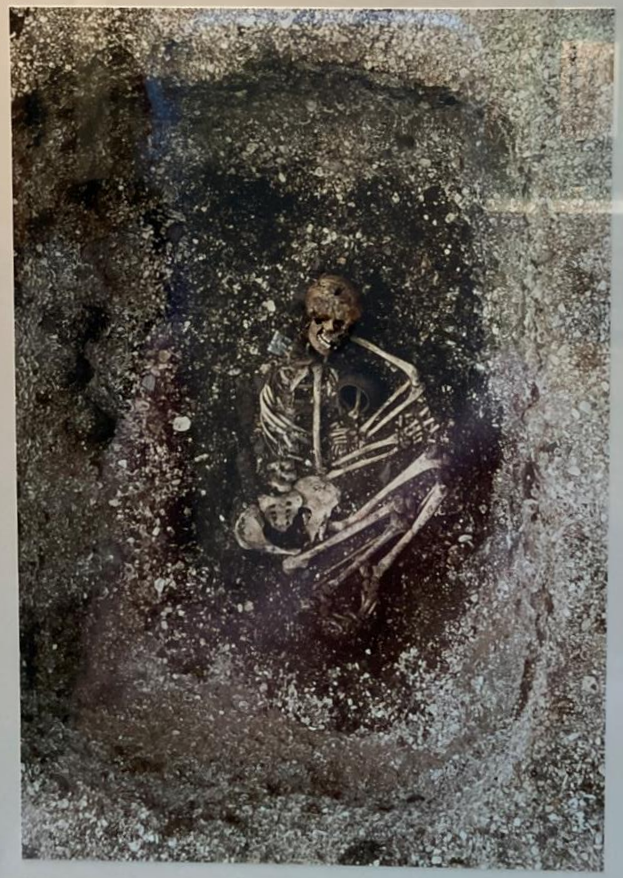
closer as
a Member


Ancient Europe
4000–800BC

Everyday life in the Iron Age

Although this gallery contains many beautiful objects from the Iron Age, they were actually very rare at the time. Most people lived on farms or in small villages.

Everyday utensils – such as tools and cooking pots – were often very plain, or had simple decoration. People in Iron Age Britain would have used pots like these every day for cooking and storing food.



The grave of a young woman cradling a handmade pottery jar in her left arm. The grave was found at Rudston in East Yorkshire.

Handmade pots and sheep bones
Rudston, Burton Fleming and Danes Graves, East Yorkshire
350–100 BC

A number of handmade pots, all containing the left humerus of a sheep, have been found in graves in East Yorkshire.

We do not know why these bones were put inside the pots or why the left fore-limb of a sheep was specifically selected. In other graves found in East Yorkshire people were also buried with the remains of pigs.

Analysis of the sheep bones from these pots tells us that Iron Age sheep were smaller in size than most modern breeds.

P&E 1975,0401.4, 23 & 79 & 1978,1202.7
Presented by G R Wilson and TE Wells & Sons and bequeathed by Reverend W G Greenwell

Ladle
Orton Meadows, Orton Waterville, Cambridgeshire

PRB 1981 12-2 3

Spoon
AD 1-50
King Harry Lane cemetery, St Albans, Hertfordshire

Handled spoons were introduced from the Roman empire

Given by William Old Ltd
PRB 1976 5-1 72

Spoon
AD 1-50
King Harry Lane cemetery,
St Albans, Hertfordshire

Handled spoons were introduced from the Roman empire

Given by William Old Ltd
PRB 1976 5-1 72

Metal- and wood-working tools

Files, gouges and chisels
Tiefenau, Berne, Switzerland

Given by Sir A W Franks
PRB 1875 10-6 10 & 17, 14-5 &20

Adze
Lisnacrogher, Skerry, County Antrim, Ireland

Given by Sir A W Franks
PRB 1880 8-2 118

Circular disc cutter
AD 1-50
King Harry Lane cemetery, St Albans, Hertfordshire

Given by William Old Ltd
PRB 1976 5-1 874

A selection of tools used by a black-smith
Buried AD 50-100 Waltham Abbey, Essex

Part of a large hoard of tools including anvil, tongs, hammer, chisel and poker. Many had been bent or broken before deposition.

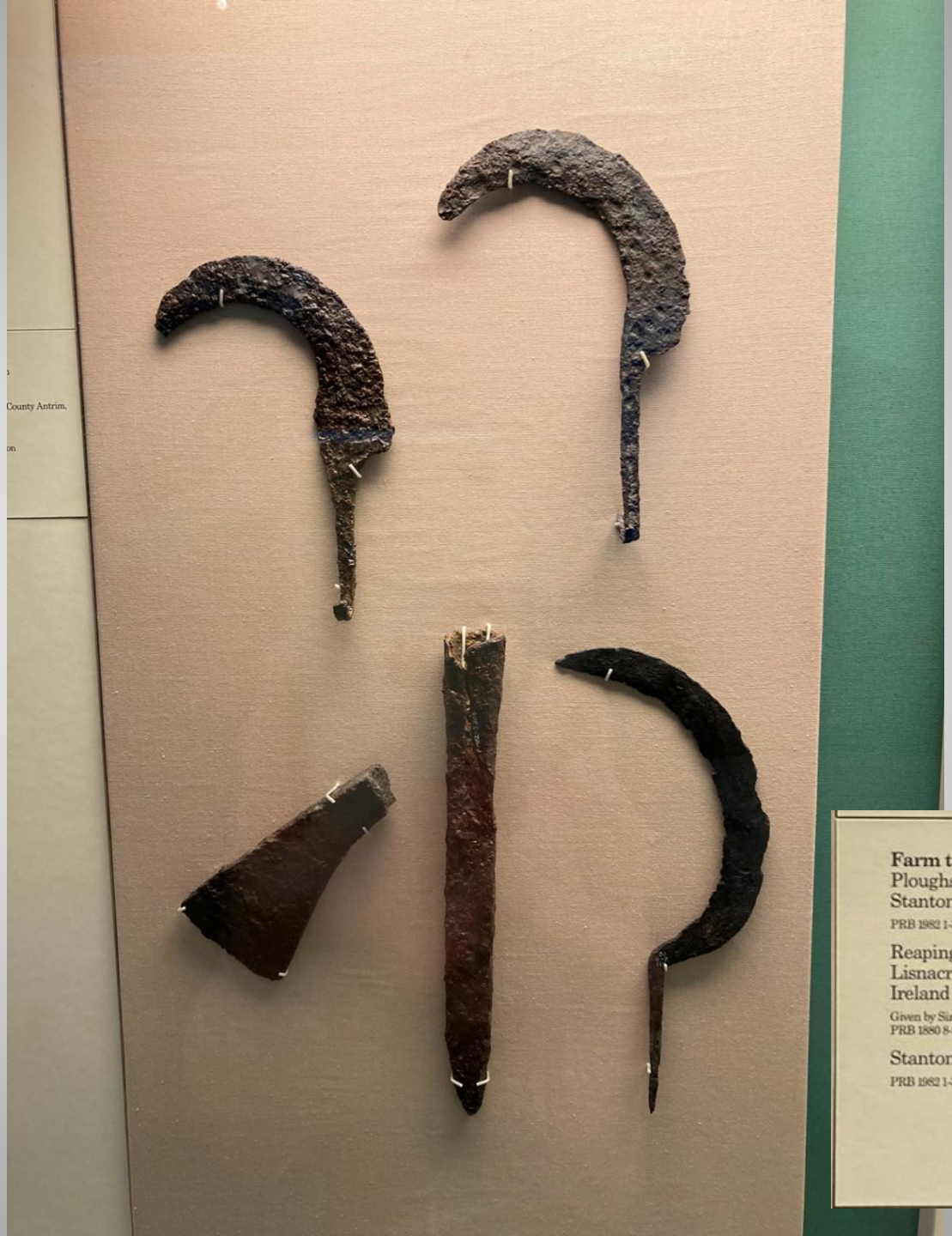
Deposited on loan by Epping Forest District Council

Semi-finished ingots
Semi-finished ingots of fairly standard shapes and sizes were prepared for distribution to settlements where they were wrought into tools and weapons. They are termed 'currency bars' because of a reference in Caesar to the use of iron bars as currency at the time of his campaigns.

Currency bars
Salmonsbury, Gloucestershire
PRB 1861 8-6 1

Spettisbury Rings, Spettisbury, Dorset
PRB 1862 2-27 18

Bar ingot
Hod Hill, Stourpaine, Dorset
PRB 1975 7-1 6



Farm tools
Ploughshare
Stantonbury Hill, Avon
PRB 1982 1-3 308

Reaping hooks
Lisnacrogher, Skerry, County Antrim, Ireland
Given by Sir A W Franks
PRB 1880 8-2 119

Stantonbury Hill, Avon
PRB 1982 1-3 309-10

Socketed Axes
Walthamstow, Greater London and the Thames at the Tate Gallery, London

Given by J Pierpoint Morgan
PRB 1882 4-24 6 & PRB WG 1785

Socke
type
Possi
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Altho

Shears
50 BC-AD 50

Hertford Heath, Hertfordshire

Given by Hertford Heath Rural District Council
PRB1958 7-4 667

King Harry Lane cemetery,
St Albans, Hertfordshire

Given by William Old Ltd
PRB 1976 5-1 1028 & 610

Knife
450-50 BC France
PRB ML 2514

Hollow-backed knife or cleaver
450-50 BC
Hod Hill, Stourpaine, Dorset
PRB 1975 7-1 2

Razor
AD 1-50
King Harry Lane cemetery,
St Albans, Hertfordshire
Given by William Old Ltd
PRB 1976 5-1 497

Triangular knives or razors
AD 1-50
King Harry Lane cemetery,
St Albans, Hertfordshire
Given by William Old Ltd
PRB 1976 5-1 1182 & 1029

Composite terret of cast bronze with wrought iron cross-bar
250-100 BC
Hagbourn Hill, Berkshire
Given by Thomas Evans
PRB 1861 9-20 4

St Albans, Hertfordshire
Given by William Old Ltd
PRB 1976 5-1 1182 & 1029

Composite terret of cast bronze with wrought iron cross-bar
250-100 BC
Hagbourn Hill, Berkshire
Given by Thomas Evans
PRB 1861 9-20 4

Personal ornaments made from twisted iron wire
Dress-pins and brooches were easily formed from iron wire twisted into the required shape.

Ring-headed pin
800-500 BC
Kilham, East Yorkshire
Given by William Brown
PRB 1960 4-4 12

La Tène I brooch
500-350 BC
From an inhumation cemetery at Marson, Marne, France
PRB ML 1523

La Tène II brooch
250-120 BC
France
PRB ML 2850

'Colchester' brooch
AD 1-50
King Harry Lane cemetery, St Albans, Hertfordshire
Given by William Old Ltd
PRB 1976 5-1 1206

What is a Hoard?

A hoard is a group of valuable objects deliberately gathered together and buried in the ground. Hoards often contain coins and jewellery. But why did people put these objects in the ground? Was it to keep the objects safe during times of war or uncertainty? Or perhaps they were offerings to the gods? At least twelve hoards were deposited at Snettisham in Norfolk, but we do not know why.

One of the hoards, known as hoard L, contained 21 torcs placed in a small hole in the ground. Archaeologists found seven torcs, carefully placed in the ground. Below a layer of soil, they then found another 14 torcs placed on top of one another along with two bronze bracelets.

P&E 1991,0407.7,23-7,30,32-9

e is charcoal in some torcs

of the smaller bronze torcs have
al as a core between the twisted
Scientists have identified the
species as dogwood (*Cornus*
nea) and alder (*Alnus glutinosa*).
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How to see inside the torcs

X-ray images of some torcs help the interpretation of complex structures by revealing internal and obscured features such as ancient repairs, the hollow terminals and construction

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The Snettisham Treasure
Ken Hill, Snettisham, Norfolk
Buried around 100 BC

Snettisham is one of the key sites of British prehistory. Occupying a wooded hillside near the north-west coast of Norfolk, near Hunstanton, it first began to reveal its secrets in 1948 when five torcs were uncovered during ploughing. Further finds were made at the site in subsequent years. Some of these objects are now in Norwich Castle Museum. The objects now in the British Museum were discovered in 1950 and 1990.

At least 12 groups of objects, known as hoards (hoards A–L), have been found at the site. They were buried in shallow pits, some barely large enough to contain a large torc. In addition to complete torcs, fragments of broken torcs, coins, rings and ingots were also deposited.

Rings, bracelets, ingots, coins and broken torcs

In addition to complete and broken torcs many of the hoards included objects such as coins, rings, bracelets and ingots. Sometimes these objects were strung together. Other objects were deliberately deformed by cutting and some were partly melted. We do not know why this was done. It could be that the objects were being prepared for recycling.

What was the intended colour?

The colour of some of the bronze torcs was changed by plating with a thin layer of gold, to simulate a solid gold torc. This has been identified as mercury gilding, the earliest example found in Britain.

The surfaces of some other gold alloy torcs were treated during manufacture to remove copper and thus enhance the gold and silver at the surface.

What is a torc?

A torc is a large ornament made from precious metals or bronze, and worn around the neck. Torcs were common across Britain and Europe during the Iron Age. Some were very heavy and others needed to be flexed so that they could be placed around the neck. Torcs are worn with the terminals pointing forward and would be uncomfortable to wear for long periods. They may only have been used on special occasions.

A golden face
Ken Hill, Snettisham, Norfolk
100 BC

This torc is made from a single sheet of flattened gold. The face design on the end of the torc was formed by hammering the back of the gold sheet to create a raised impression. The torc was broken before it was deliberately placed in the ground over 2000 years ago.

P&E 1991,0407.40

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How to see inside the torcs

X-ray images of some torcs help the interpretation of complex structures by revealing internal and obscured features such as ancient repairs, the hollow terminals and construction details.

There is charcoal in some torcs

Some of the smaller bronze torcs have charcoal as a core between the twisted wires. Scientists have identified the wood species as dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*) and alder (*Alnus glutinosa*). Thin round twigs from these flexible woods were used originally as the core around which the torc wires were tightly twisted and bent to the curved shape during their manufacture.

The Great Torc
Snettisham
Buried around 100 BC

This torc is one of the most elaborate golden objects from the ancient world. It is made from gold mixed with silver and weighs over 1 kg. Torcs are made from complex threads of metal, grouped into ropes and twisted around each other. The ends of the torc were cast in moulds and welded onto the metal ropes.

Gift of The Art Fund
P&E 1951,0402.2

Objects found with the Snettisham Great Torc
150–50 BC

These objects (a bracelet, a torc terminal and a small gold coin) were found tangled in the terminals of the Snettisham Great Torc.
The coin is an important find because it can help to date the other objects.

P&E 1951,0402.2-4; C&M 1951,0507.1

Celtic Europe

Gold and silver in Iron Age Britain

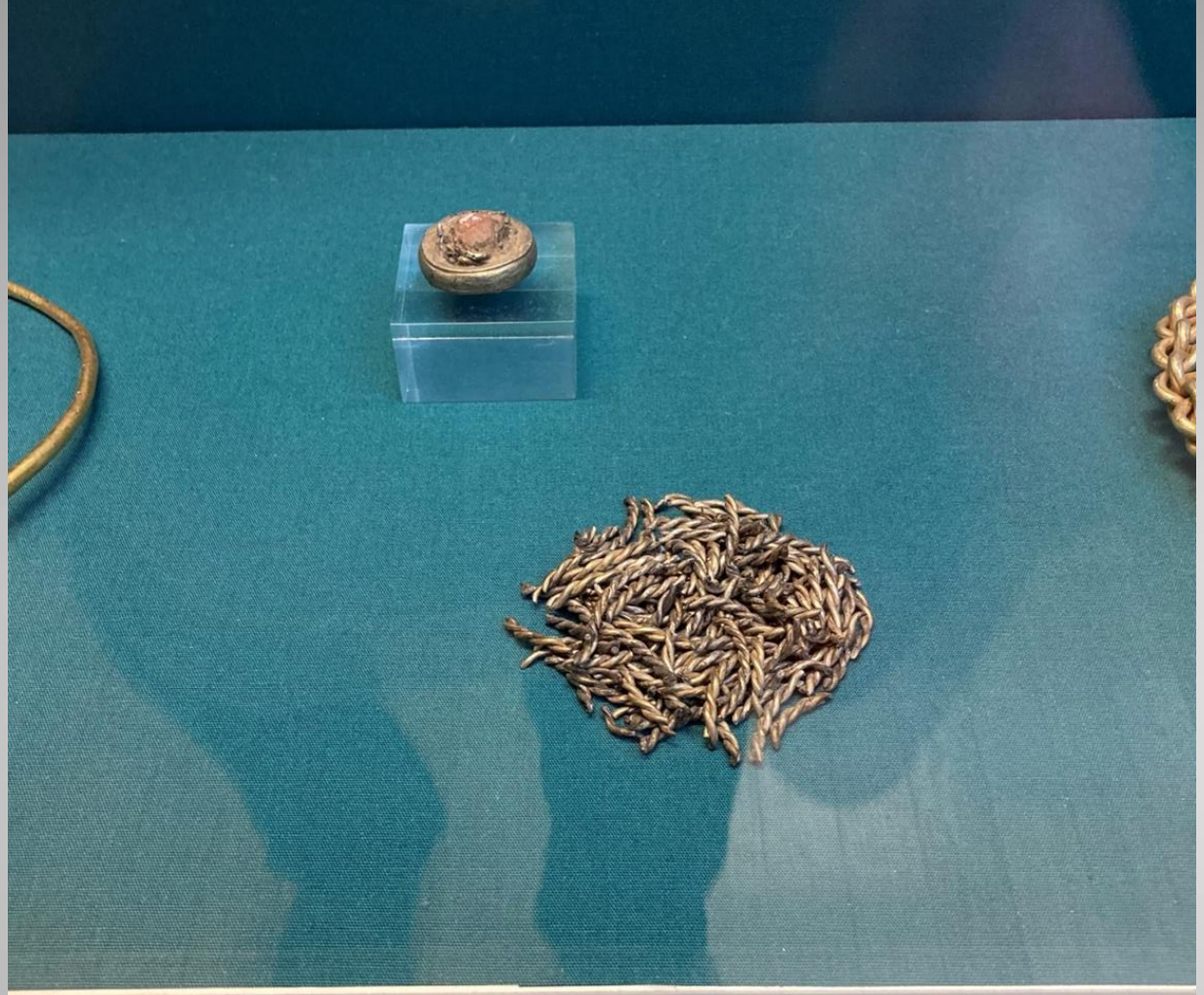
Before the days of banks, the earth was regarded as the most secure hiding place for wealth. Until coinage was introduced, gold was buried in the form of torcs and occasionally other jewellery. In Iron Age Britain gold was only used for personal ornament; no vessels have been identified. It was seldom placed in graves, but was carefully buried in hoards.

Hoards of gold torcs have mostly been found in East Anglia. Besides large deposits at Snettisham, Norfolk, there are six from Ipswich, Suffolk, and others from Bawsey, Middleton and Sedgeford, all in Norfolk. Elsewhere, discoveries have been made in Staffordshire including the example from Needwood Forest displayed here. In comparison, finds of other ornaments, like the Snettisham bracelet and the Market Rasen brooch, are extremely rare.

Silver jewellery is not common. The finger-ring from Park Brow, Sussex, dates to the fourth century BC and is the earliest piece of silver yet found in Britain. In the first century BC more use was made of it for brooches and torcs and many items in the Snettisham Hoards are in fact silver.

Hollow gold torc with buffer terminals
350-200 BC

The knot demonstrates how soft gold is to work as it was made after the torc was finished without using heat. Twelve terminals from similar torcs were found in Hoard F at Snettisham (Case 19).



One of a matching pair of buffer terminals and fragments of the neck-ring of silver alloy torc
Buried about 75 BC
Bawsey, Norfolk

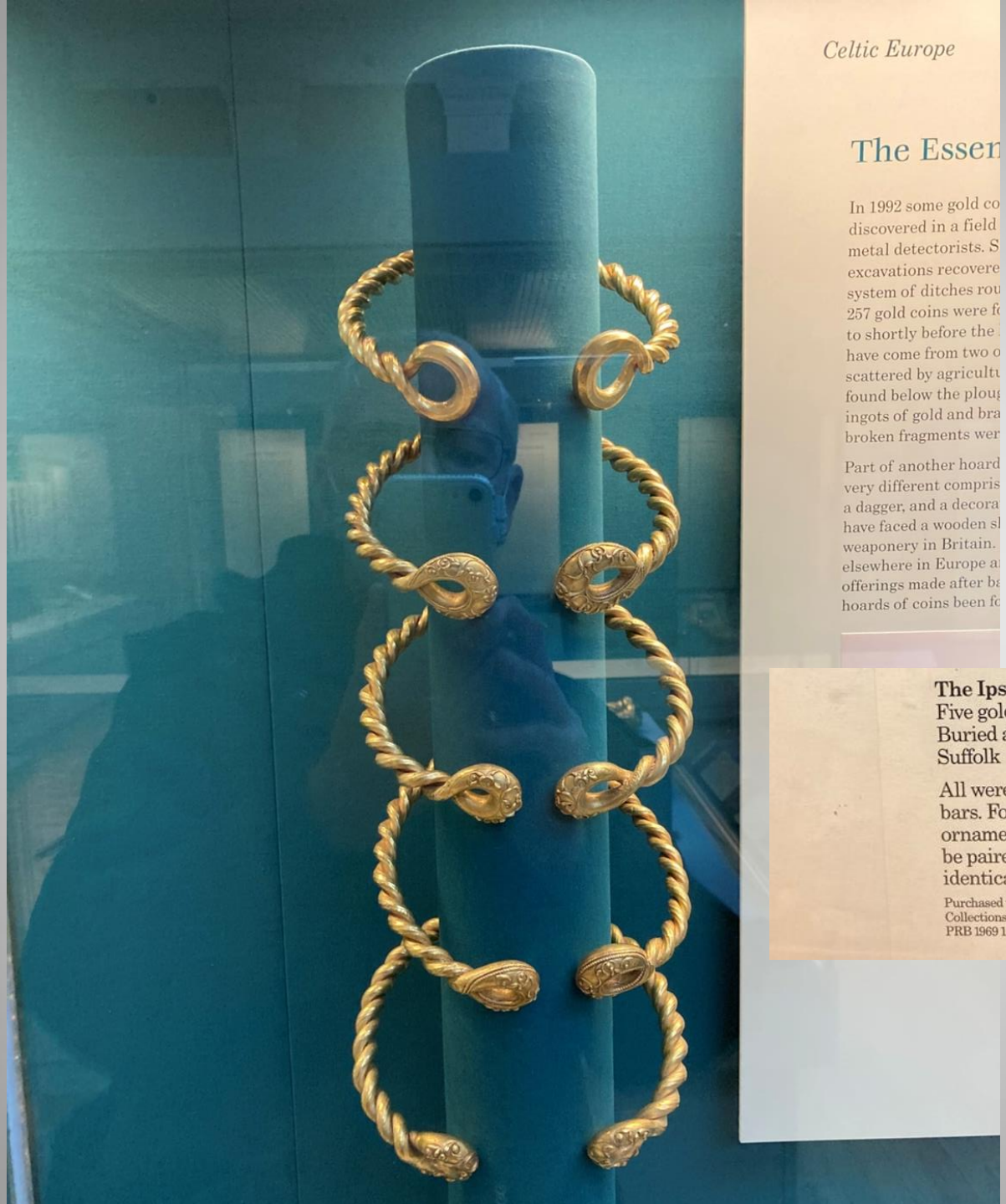
The torc had been deliberately cut into lengths sufficiently small to fit into an crucible for melting down. The fragments were recovered from ploughsoil over several years.

Treasure Trove
PRB 1985 12-4 1 + PRB 1990 3-4 1-135

Gold alloy torc with loop terminals
Buried about 75 BC
Middleton, Norfolk

The neck-ring was twisted in two stages using four wires.

Treasure Trove
PRB 1985 3-3 1



The Essen

In 1992 some gold co
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Part of another hoard
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have faced a wooden sh
weaponery in Britain.
elsewhere in Europe a
offerings made after ba
hoards of coins been fo

The Ipswich Torcs
Five gold torcs found together
Buried about 75 BC, near Ipswich, Suffolk

All were made from two twisted solid bars. Four have cast terminals ornamented in high relief: they can be paired but their patterns are not identical.

Purchased with contributions from the National Art Collections Fund, Goldsmiths Company and Pilgrim Trust
PRB 1969 1-3 1-5

Fragments from a gold tubular torc with globular terminals, triangular gold alloy ingots and British coins
Essendon, Hertfordshire

Ten coins had been wrapped in part of the torc, otherwise the artefacts were found separately in the same field. Evidently two or more gold hoards had been disturbed by ploughing. The ingots are the same shape and size as crucibles used widely in the Iron Age for casting metal.

Treasure Trove
PRB 1994 4-1 1ff

Gold and silver
finger-rings
400-200 BC

The people of Iro
rarely wore finge
two V-shaped rin
Britain but may
imported from C
Europe, where th
common.

Silver ring: Park Brow, Sompti
Presented by Major Tristram
BEP 1926.0313.12

Gold alloy ring: Chislet, Kent
BEP 2018.8003.1

Gold and silver V-shaped finger-rings
400-200 BC

The people of Iron Age Britain rarely wore finger-rings. These two V-shaped rings were found in Britain but may have been imported from Continental Europe, where the design is more common.

Silver ring: Park Brow, Sompting, West Sussex
Presented by Major Tristram
BEP 1926,0313.12

Gold alloy ring: Chislet, Kent
BEP 2018,8003.1

Coins from the Essendon hoard

The 257 coins discovered at Essendon represent the remains of at least two large hoards. One hoard contained some of the earliest types of coins that circulated in Britain and dates to the mid first century BC. The other consisted mostly of coins of the British kings Tasciovanus and Cunobelin who ruled between about 20 BC and AD 40.

▲ **Torcs fou**

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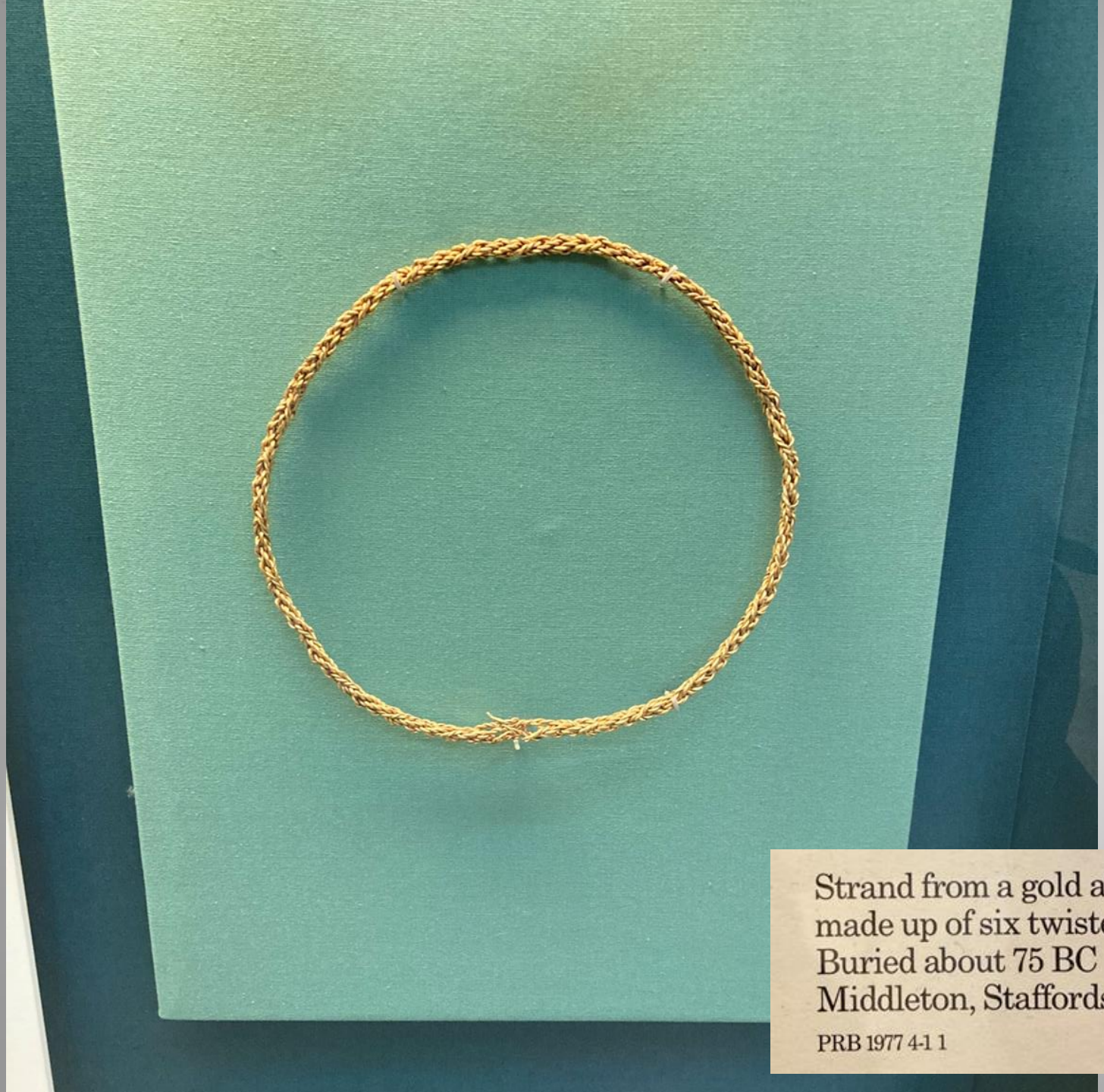


Strand from a gold alloy neck-ring
made up of six twisted wires
Buried about 75 BC
Middleton, Staffordshire

PRB 1977 4-1 1

-ring

Silver alloy ring terminal from a torc
Buried about 75 BC
Hengistbury Head, Dorset

The cast terminal still has a ceramic core *in situ*.

Deposited on loan by the Society of Antiquaries of London

The Winchester Hoard
75-25 BC

How the Winchester Hoard may have been worn

The hoard contains two sets of jewellery made of pure gold. Each set has a necklace and two brooches that were originally chained together.

How the Winchester Hoard may have been worn

The hoard contains two sets of jewellery made of pure gold. Each set has a necklace and two brooches that were originally chained together.

The jewellery was probably made for two important people, perhaps a king and a queen. They lived at about the same time as the Roman army, led by Julius Caesar, conquered France and twice invaded England in 55-54 BC.

The necklaces were crafted differently from other torcs made in Britain at this time, such as those from Snettisham or Ipswich. Roman jewellery-making techniques were used and they were not decorated with native Iron Age designs. It is possible that a Roman craftworker made them. They showed how important their wearers were and that they had contacts with the Roman world and other parts of Iron Age Europe. Gold brooches of this type were also rare. Only two other Iron Age examples have been found in Britain.

The hoard was discovered by Kevan Halls scattered in a ploughed field while he was metal detecting near Winchester, Hampshire in 2000. It had been deliberately buried for safe keeping or as a gift to the gods.

Purchased with the assistance of

NATIONAL HERITAGE MEMORIAL FUND

THE NATIONAL ART COLLECTIONS FUND

THE BRITISH MUSEUM FRIENDS

Part of a bronze bowl
25 BC–AD 50
Found near Winchester,
Hampshire, England

Part of the handle, in the shape of a bird's head, from a bronze bowl. The eyes are inlaid with silver. It is a Roman object, probably made in Italy. It was found by Kevan Halls, who found the Winchester Hoard 500 metres from the same spot.

PEE 2001.7-1.1

Wrought iron frame with oxhead terminals
La Tène III 50-25 BC
Welwyn (Burial B) Hertfordshire

Found in the second, even richer cremation burial at Welwyn with silver cups and five wine amphorae, its function is unknown. The frame may have been used to spit-roast meat. Traces of wood preserved in the corrosion may indicate that it was a sacrificial table or altar.

Ten components were cut and forged from iron bars. Two square horizontal stretchers are secured to the legs with domed rivets. Heavy twisted iron wire decorates the lower legs. The horns were formed from bars threaded through each head-shaped terminal.

Presented by Mrs A J Neall
PRB 1911 12-8 20-22

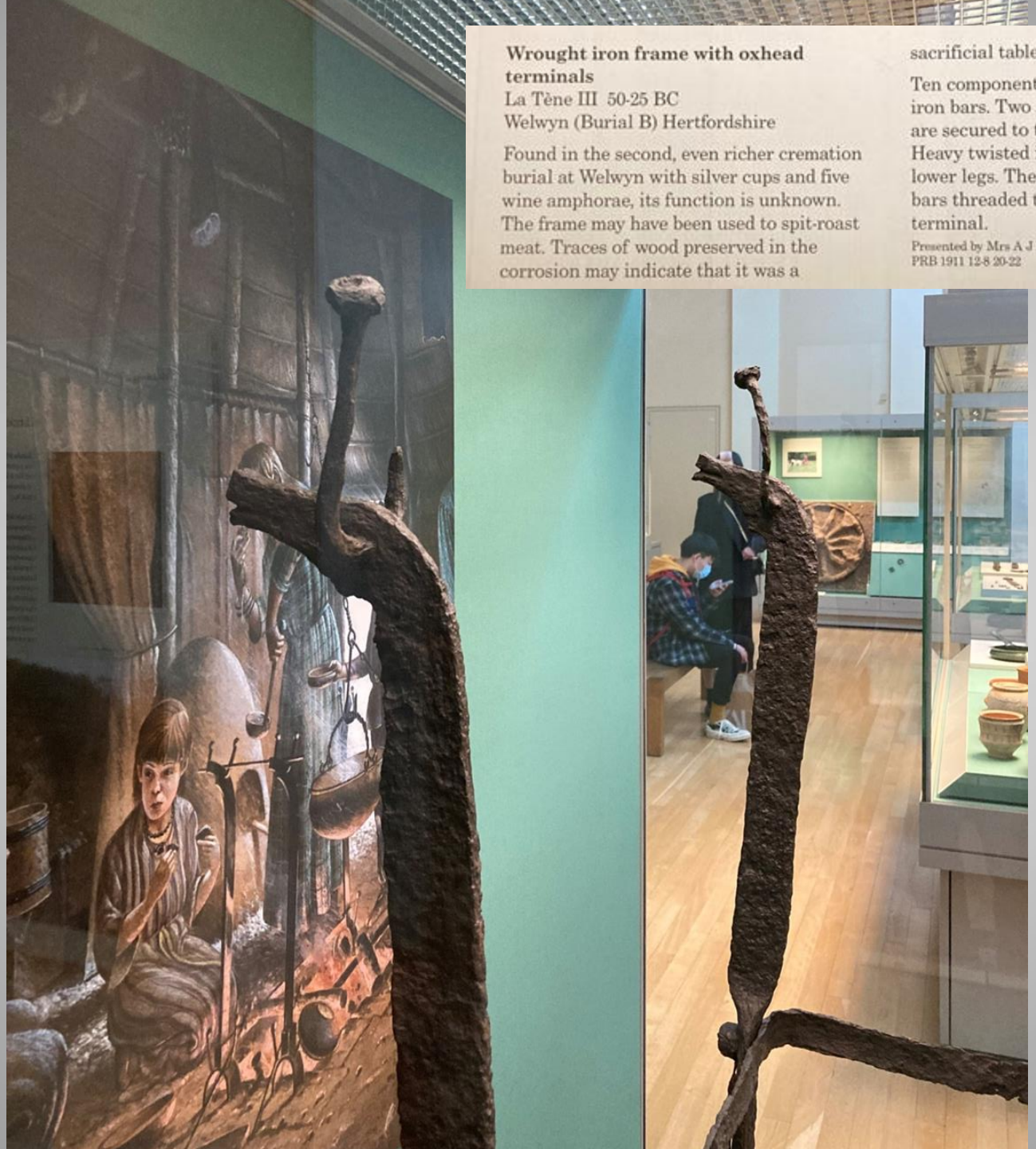
This reconstruction shows the inside of an Iron Age roundhouse. People not only slept in roundhouses, they prepared and ate their food, as well as conducting daily tasks such as weaving. At the centre of this roundhouse is a firedog as it may have been used to cook meat over a fire.

Wrought iron frame with oxhead terminals
La Tène III 50-25 BC
Welwyn (Burial B) Hertfordshire

Found in the second, even richer cremation burial at Welwyn with silver cups and five wine amphorae, its function is unknown. The frame may have been used to spit-roast meat. Traces of wood preserved in the corrosion may indicate that it was a sacrificial table or altar.

Ten components were cut and forged from iron bars. Two square horizontal stretchers are secured to the legs with domed rivets. Heavy twisted iron wire decorates the lower legs. The horns were formed from bars threaded through each head-shaped terminal.

Presented by Mrs A J Neall
PRB 1911 12-8 20-22



Wrought iron frame with oxhead terminals
La Tène III 50-25 BC
Welwyn (Burial B) Hertfordshire

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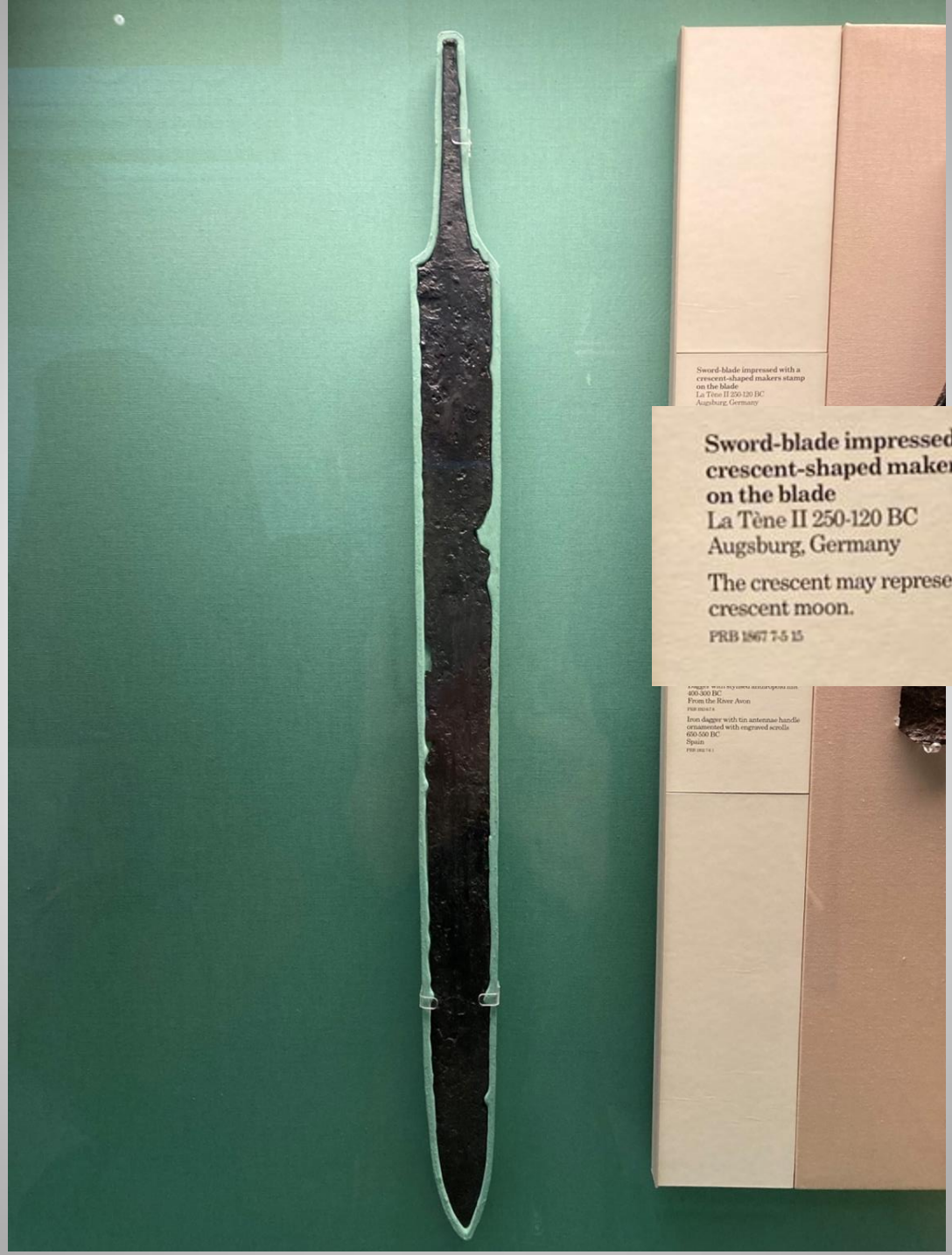
Presented by Mrs A J Neall
PRB 1911 12-8 20-22

A wrought iron firedog
La Tène III 50-25 BC
Welwyn (Burial A), Hertfordshire

Found in the cremation burial of a man of wealth and power with the paraphenalia for feasting, including imported metal vessels and a wine amphora. Firedogs may have been used to spit-roast meat over an open fire for the funeral feast. The oxhead terminals with flaring horns are typical.

The firedog comprises 13 cut, forged and welded components, the basic H-shaped frame being formed from bars slotted together using mortice and tenon joints. It illustrates the mastery of forging techniques achieved by blacksmiths in the Iron Age. Firedogs were rare and prestigious objects which have been found in only four burials, all sited north of the river Thames.

Presented by Mrs A J Neall
PRB 1911 12-8 2


Sword-blade impressed with a crescent-shaped makers stamp on the blade
La Tène II 250-120 BC
Augsburg, Germany
The crescent may represent the crescent moon.
PRB 1867 7-5 15
From the River Avon
Iron dagger with tin antennae handle ornamented with engraved scrolls
650-500 BC
Spain

Suspension chain to attach a sword scabbard to a belt
La Tène II 300-150 BC
From an inhumation grave at Somsois, Marne, France

The front surfaces were ornamented with circular punch marks.

PRB ML 1569

Special decorative effects used for weapons

Dagger with stylised anthropoid hilt
400-300 BC
From the River Avon

PRB 1913 6-7 8

Iron dagger with tin antennae handle ornamented with engraved scrolls
650-550 BC
Spain

PRB 1902 7-6 1

Celtic Europe

Art in northern Britain after the Roman conquest

The Romans introduced new artistic ideas to Britain, such as the representation of the human body. Even after the Roman Conquest of AD 43 some people, particularly in northern England and Scotland, continued decorating their objects with traditional, abstract Celtic designs.

The Romans invaders were also inspired by native Celtic art. This helmet dates to the Roman period and features flowing Celtic decoration on the neck guard.

▲ **Personal ornaments of northern types**

Beaded collar
AD 100-250
Lochar Moss, Dumfriesshire

The collar consists of a flat cast segment completed with an articulated section composed of fluted beads with concave spacers originally threaded onto bronze or iron wire. It was found inside the bronze bowl during peat-cutting.

Given by Thomas Gray
PRB 1853 11-5 2

Dragonesque brooch in cast bronze with blue, red, yellow and white enamel inlay
AD 50-200
Norton, North Yorkshire
PRB 1862 7-1 18

Cast copper alloy belt mounts
Cumberland
PRB 1898 6-18 16

Helmet
AD 50-150
Possibly found in northern Britain

Copper alloy helmet with repoussé ornament on the neck guard. Originally the cross-hatched studs were covered with opaque red glass.

Given by Sir A W Franks
PRB 1872 12-13 2

Iron sword with brass hilt fittings and scabbard
Embleton, Cockermouth, Cumbria
AD 50 – 200

The cast hilt and scabbard fittings are inlaid with red and yellow enamel. The front plate and suspension loop have engraved decoration.

P & E 1870, 1013.5

Cotterdale Sword
Cotterdale, North Yorkshire
AD 50 – 200

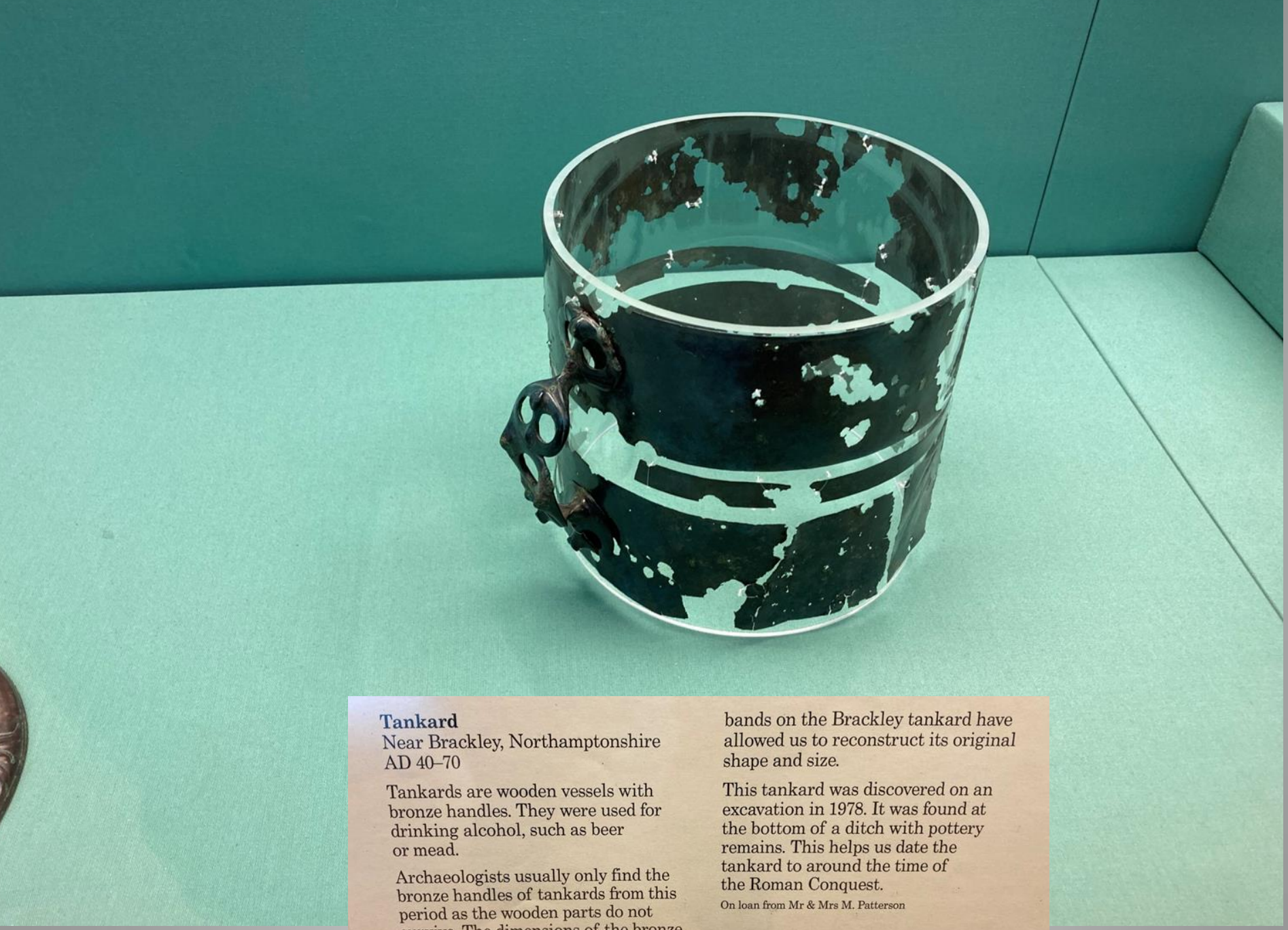
Iron sword with brass hilt fittings and scabbard with cast pierced suspension loop.

Deposited on loan by the Society of Antiquaries of London

Helmet
AD 50-150
Possibly found in northern Britain

Copper alloy helmet with repoussé ornament on the neck guard. Originally the cross-hatched studs were covered with opaque red glass.

Given by Sir A W Franks
PRB 1873 12-12.2



Tankard
Near Brackley, Northamptonshire
AD 40–70

Tankards are wooden vessels with bronze handles. They were used for drinking alcohol, such as beer or mead.

Archaeologists usually only find the bronze handles of tankards from this period as the wooden parts do not survive. The dimensions of the bronze bands on the Brackley tankard have allowed us to reconstruct its original shape and size.

This tankard was discovered on an excavation in 1978. It was found at the bottom of a ditch with pottery remains. This helps us date the tankard to around the time of the Roman Conquest.

On loan from Mr & Mrs M. Patterson

Tankard Handles
50 BC – AD 60

These cast bronze handles were originally attached to wooden tankards. Unfortunately Iron Age wood rarely survives. Tankard handles vary in size and shape. Many are beautifully moulded and some have incised decoration.

Camerton, Somerset
P&E 1982,0103.119-120

Hod Hill, Dorset
P&E 1892,0901.486-7

Archaeologists excavating th
cauldrons found together in a
Photo: Courtesy of Wessex Archae

Eating and drinking in Iron Age Britain

Scientific research into the food residues found in pots from this period tells us that people ate stews and porridge. Some pots and wooden tankards were used exclusively for drinking alcohol.

Feasting was an important political and social activity in the Iron Age. The elaborate serving utensils used at feasts helped hosts to impress their guests, reinforcing status, wealth and power. At such feasts people ate large quantities of meat and drank wine, beer and mead.

Archaeologists excavating the remains of at least 12 bronze cauldrons found together in a pit at Chiseldon, Wiltshire in 2005
Photo: Courtesy of Wessex Archaeology

Handmade pots
300 BC–AD 43

People used handmade pots like these to cook, store and serve their food.

Coldham's Common, Cambridgeshire
P & E 1870,1208.8

Glastonbury Lake Village, Glastonbury, Somerset
P& E 1951,0705.1
Donated by Somerset Archaeological Society

Bronze bowl
AD 100-250
Lochar Moss, Dumfriesshire

Raised from a single piece of bronze. Found with the beaded collar when peat digging.

Given by Thomas Gray
PRB 1853 11-5 1

nd drinking in
e Britain

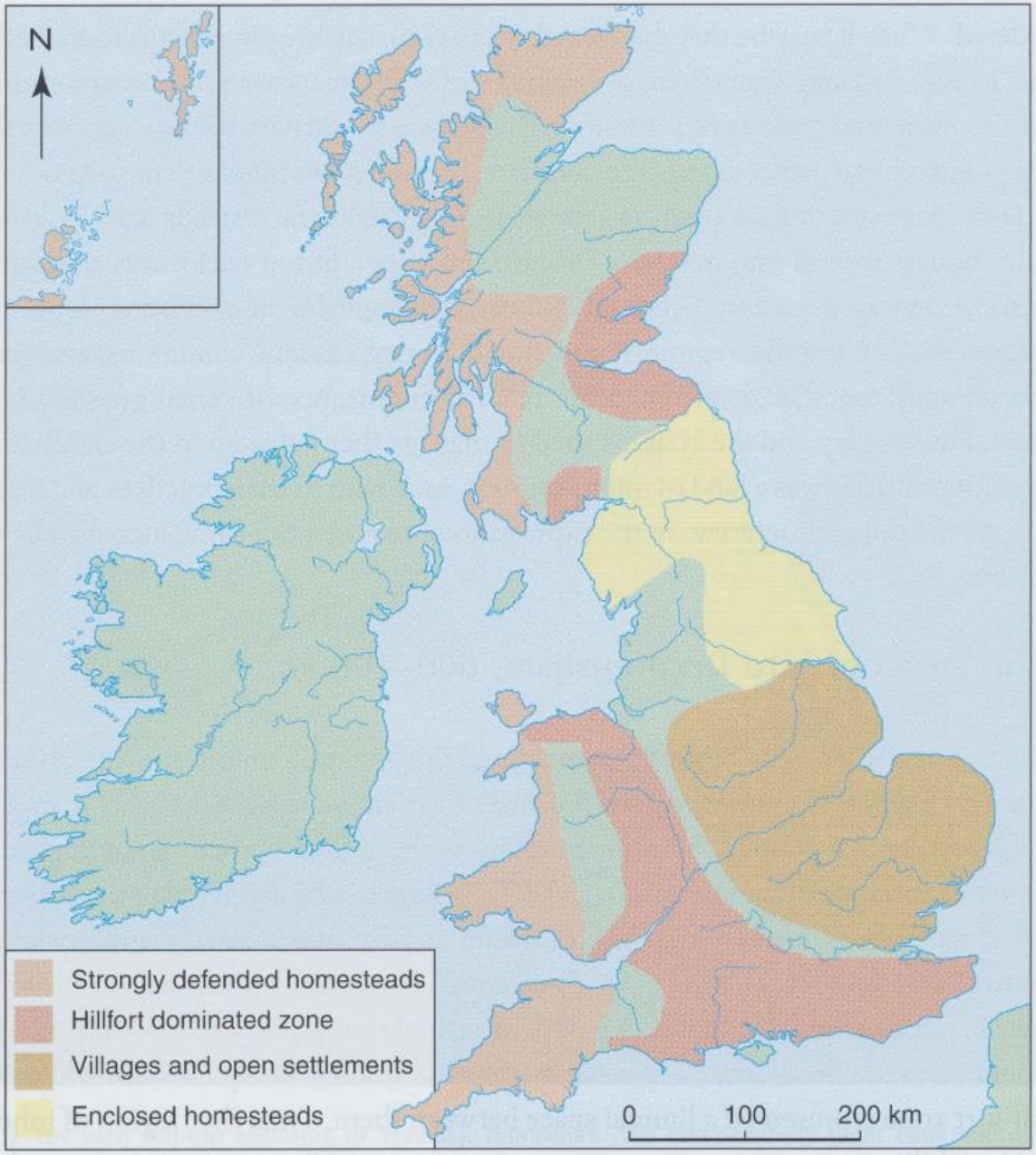
h into the food residues found in
riod tells us that people ate stews
ne pots and wooden tankards were
for drinking alcohol.

important political and social
on Age. The elaborate serving
easts helped hosts to impress their
ng status, wealth and power. At such
large quantities of meat and drank
ead.

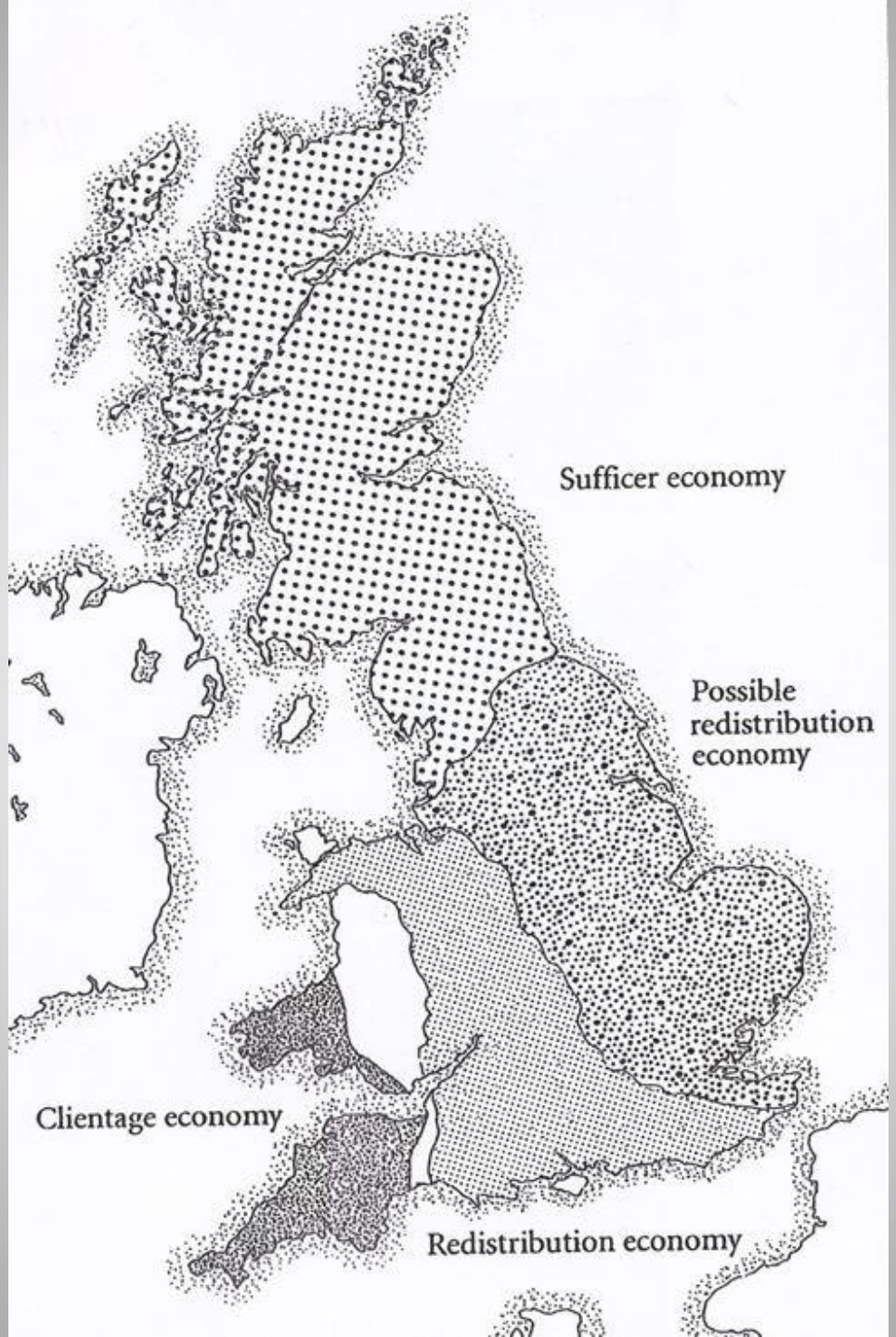
Bronze hanging bowl
25 BC-AD 75
Rose Ash, Devon

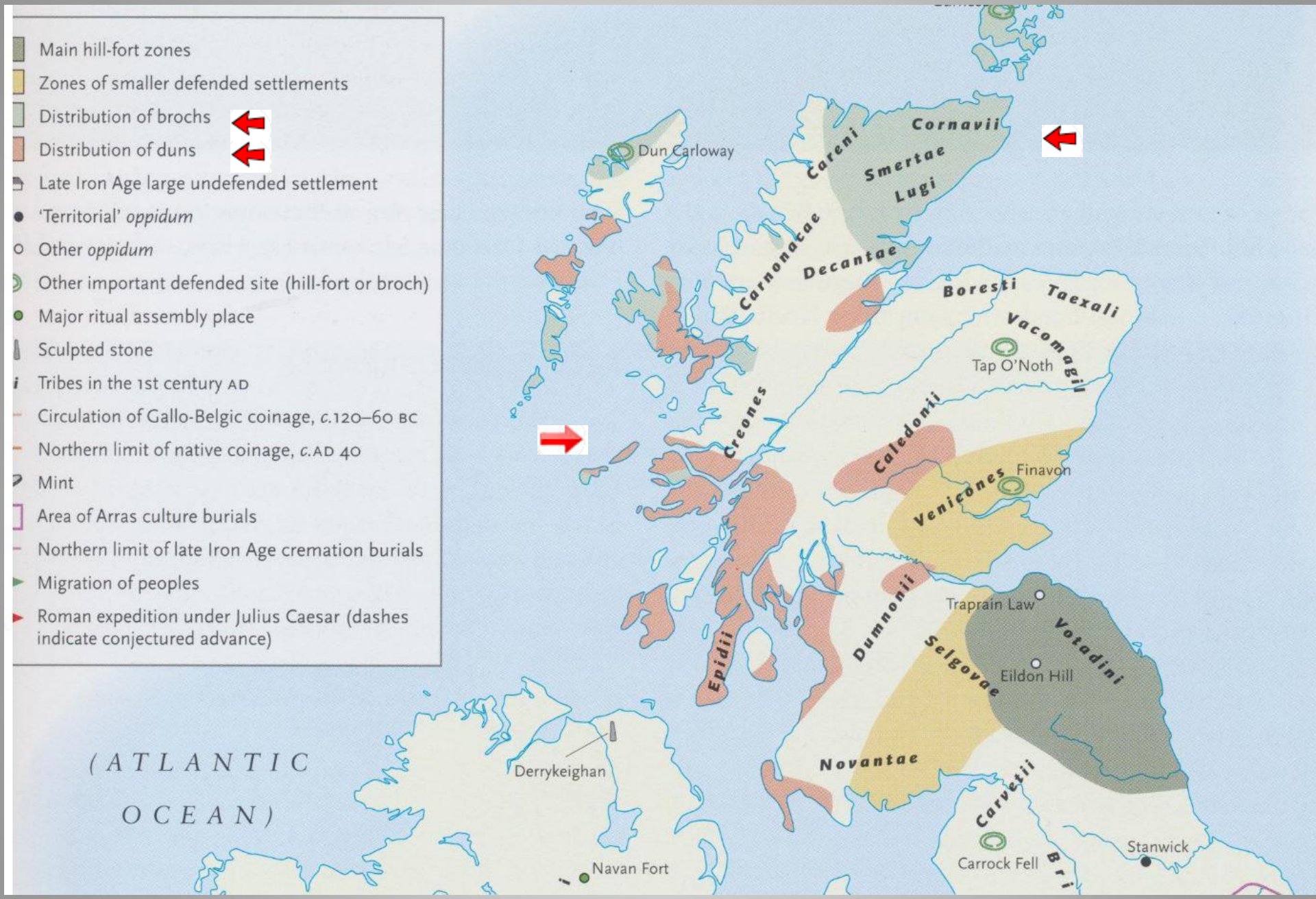
Hanging bowl raised from a single sheet of bronze with a cast handle mount in the form a stylised animal head. The metal was so thin it cracked and molten lead was poured in to effect repair. Found by chance during peat digging. Few bronze vessels survive from the pre-Roman period.

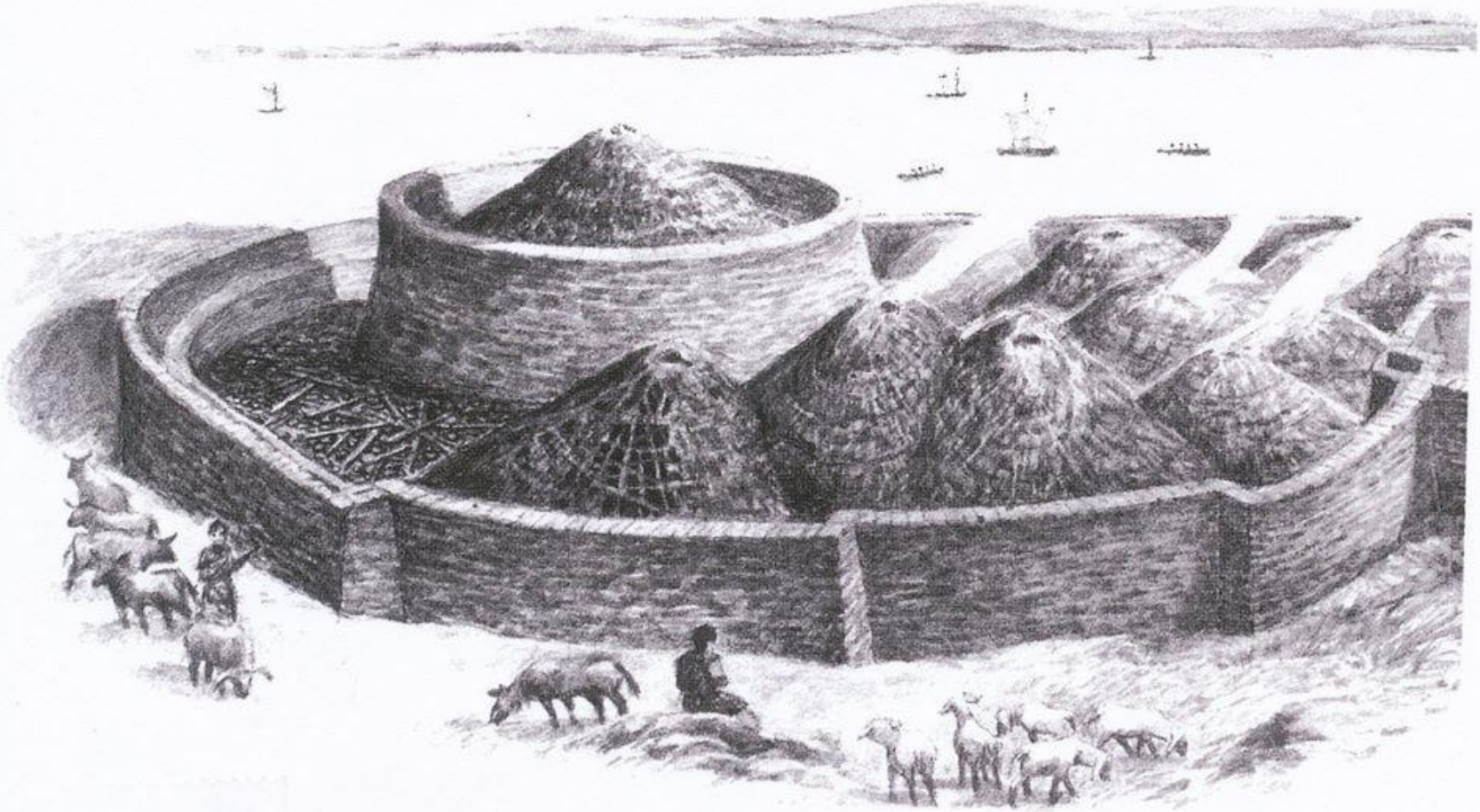
PRB 1961 10-7 1



9.10 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


Sufficer economy
Possible redistribution economy
Clientage economy
Redistribution economy


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
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)
Dun Carloway
Careni
Cornavii
Smertae
Lugi
Carnonacae
Decantae
Boresti
Taexali
Vacomagi
Tap O'Noth
Creones
Caledonii
Finavon
Venicones
Epidii
Dumnonii
Traprain Law
Votadini
Selgovae
Eildon Hill
Novantae
Carvetii
Carrock Fell
Stanwick
Derrykeighan
Navan Fort
(ATLANTIC OCEAN)



74 *(above right)* Artist's reconstruction of what the Broch of Guerness may have looked like. The short returns in the line of the outer wall look like defensive measures to provide 'raking fire' along the wall face but there is little evidence of warfare on Orkney at this time.

The Broch of Mousa

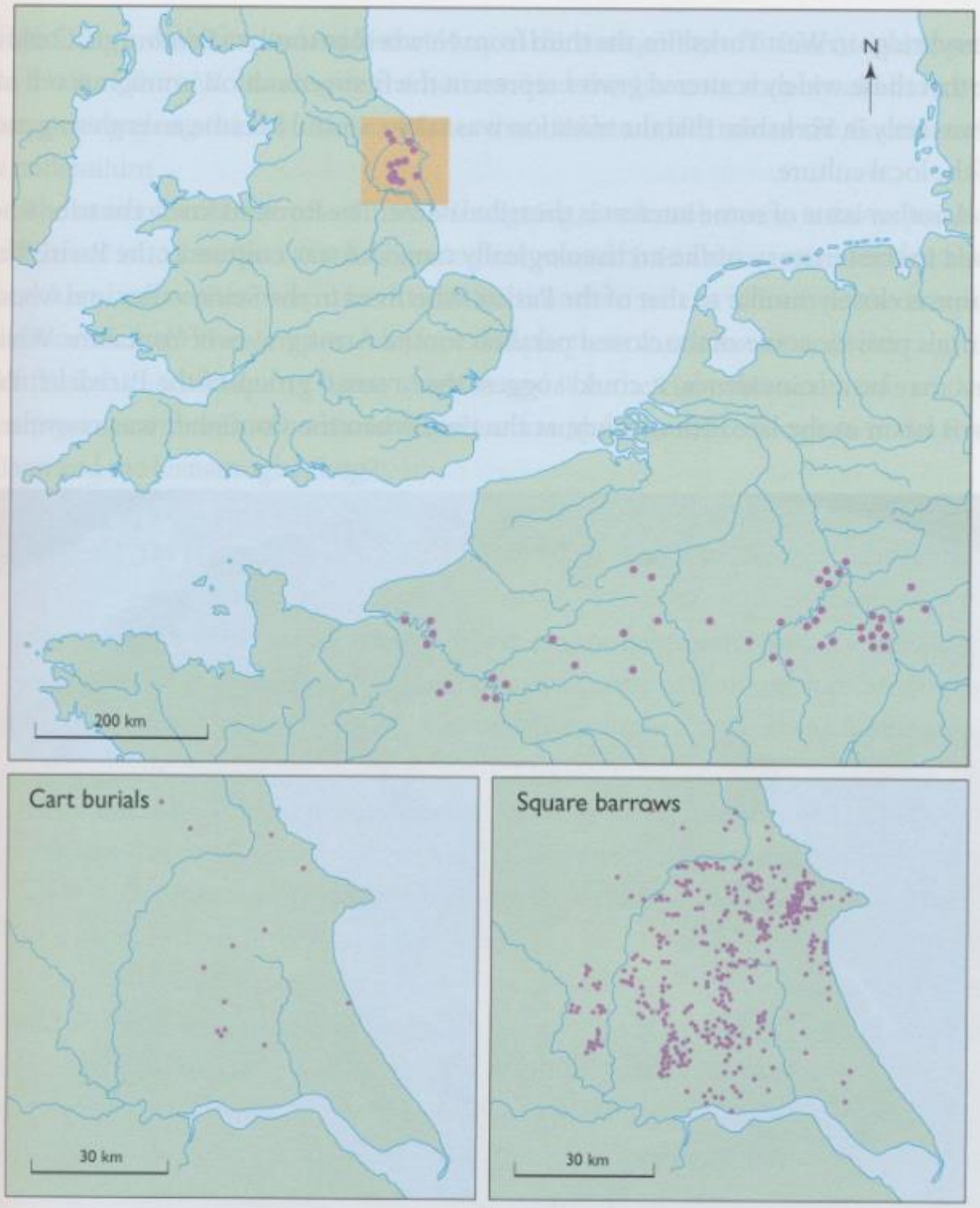
Broch: a circular drystone defensive structure of the Iron Age, with features of considerable architectural sophistication, such as intramural galleries and cells. The etymology is related to Old Norse: *borg*, castle.

Brochs are mysterious features of Scottish archaeology. These two thousand year old stone structures date from the Iron Age, and it is estimated that at least seven hundred brochs once existed across Scotland. Most are now in a poor state of repair, but the most complete examples can only be said to resemble the cooling towers of modern power stations.

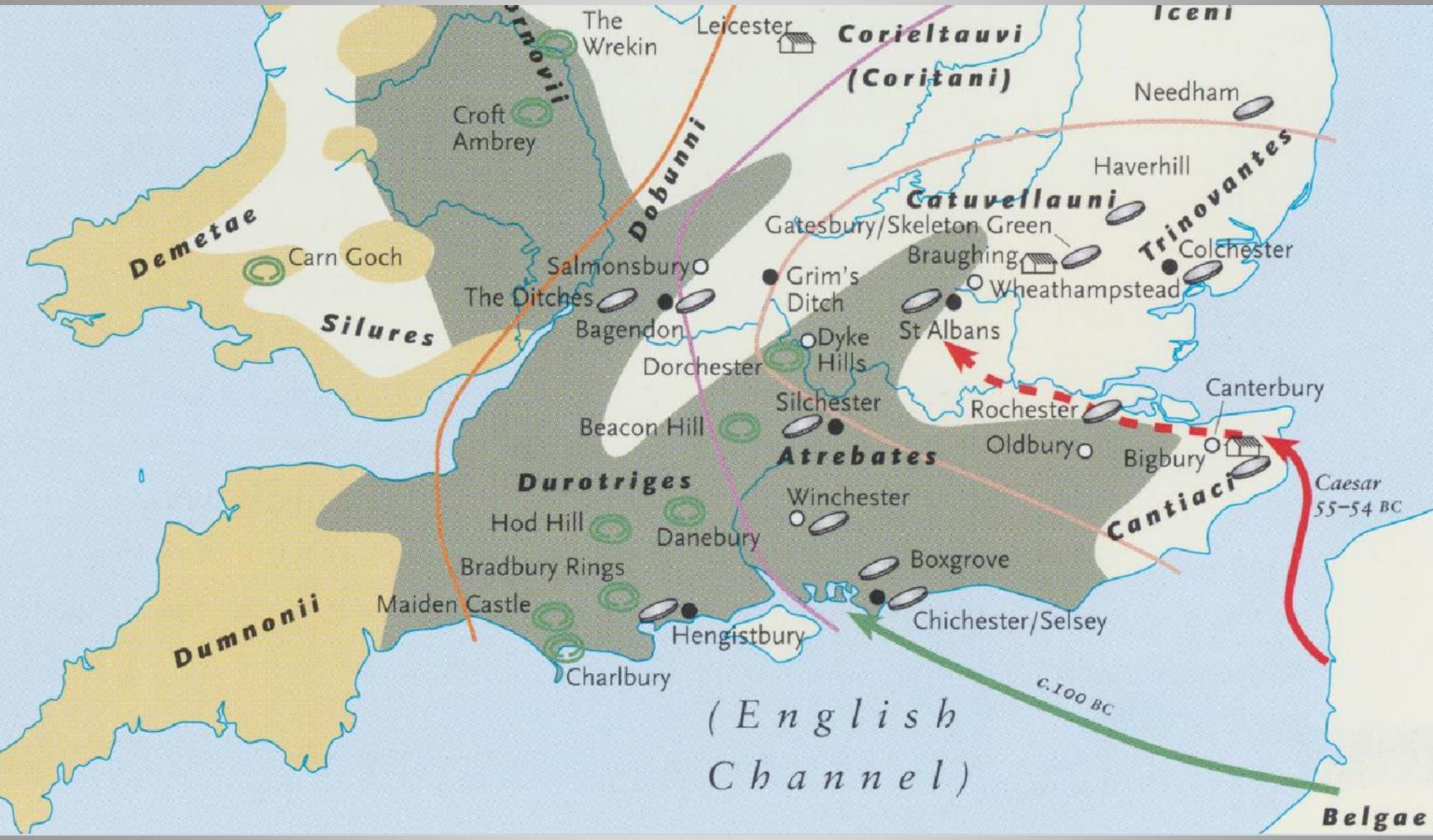
Dun: drystone fortification of Iron Age or Early Historic date representing a single homestead (Gaelic: *dun*, fort or fortification).


Novantae
Carvetii
Carrock Fell
Brigantes
Stanwick
(Irish Sea)
Ingleborough
Barwick in Elmet
Parisi
(North Sea)
Almondbury
Dragonby
Scotton
Deceangli
Ordovices
Old Sleaford
Tre'r Ceiri
Old Oswestry
Cornovii
The Wrekin
Leicester
Corieltauvi (Coritani)
Iceni
Needham

9.21 A vehicle burial from Ferrybridge, West Yorkshire, during excavation by Oxford Archaeology North. The vehicle was placed complete in the grave pit with the human body lying within it. The two wheels are represented now by their iron tyres. The pole of the vehicle to which the horses were attached can be seen in the front



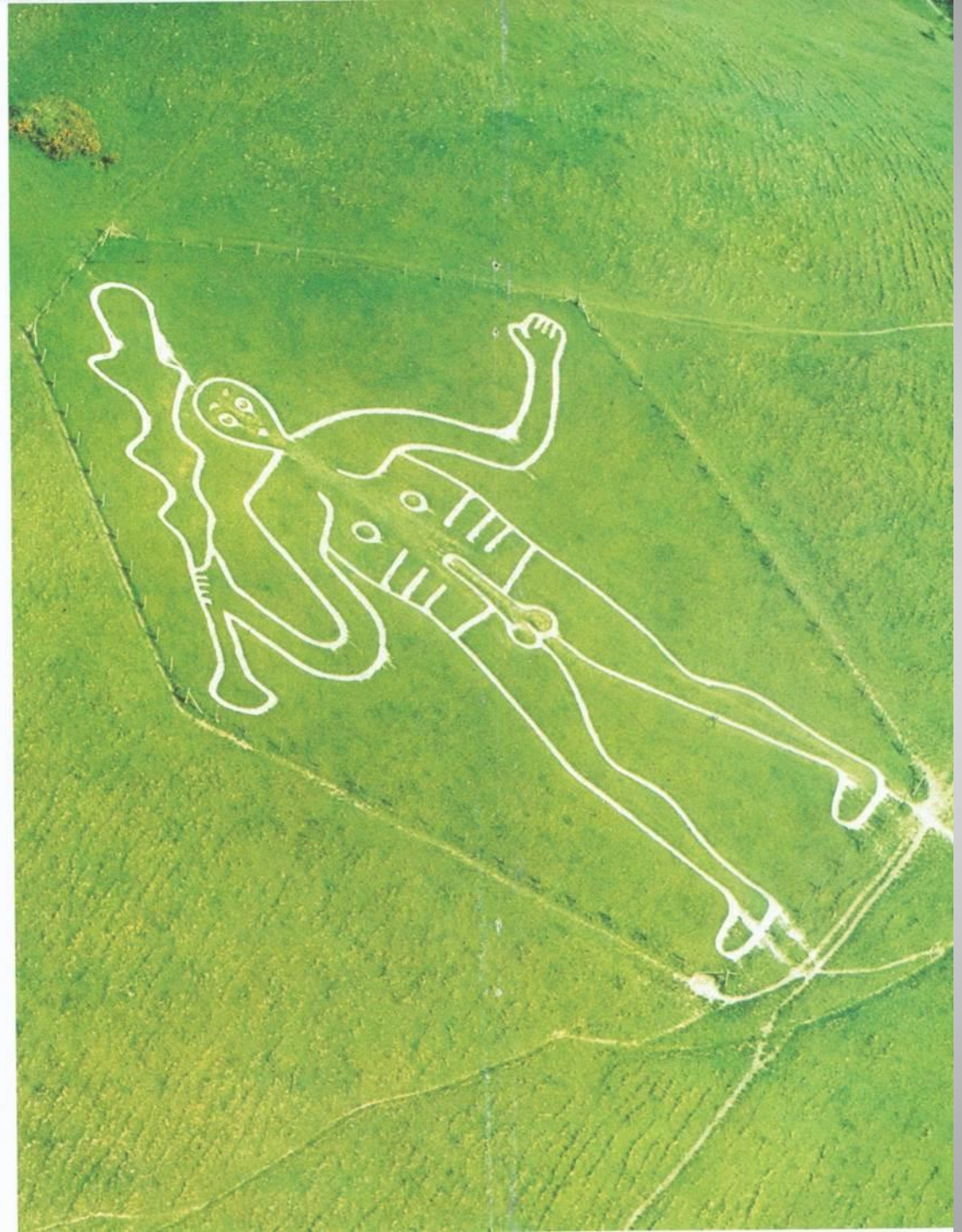
9.20 The burial of prominent members of society accompanied by two-wheeled vehicles was a practice adopted by a number of communities during the La Tène period (*top map*). In Britain vehicle burials cluster in Yorkshire (with a few others beyond). In the same region square barrows, similar to those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



The chalk ridges of southern England allowed impressive images to be displayed.

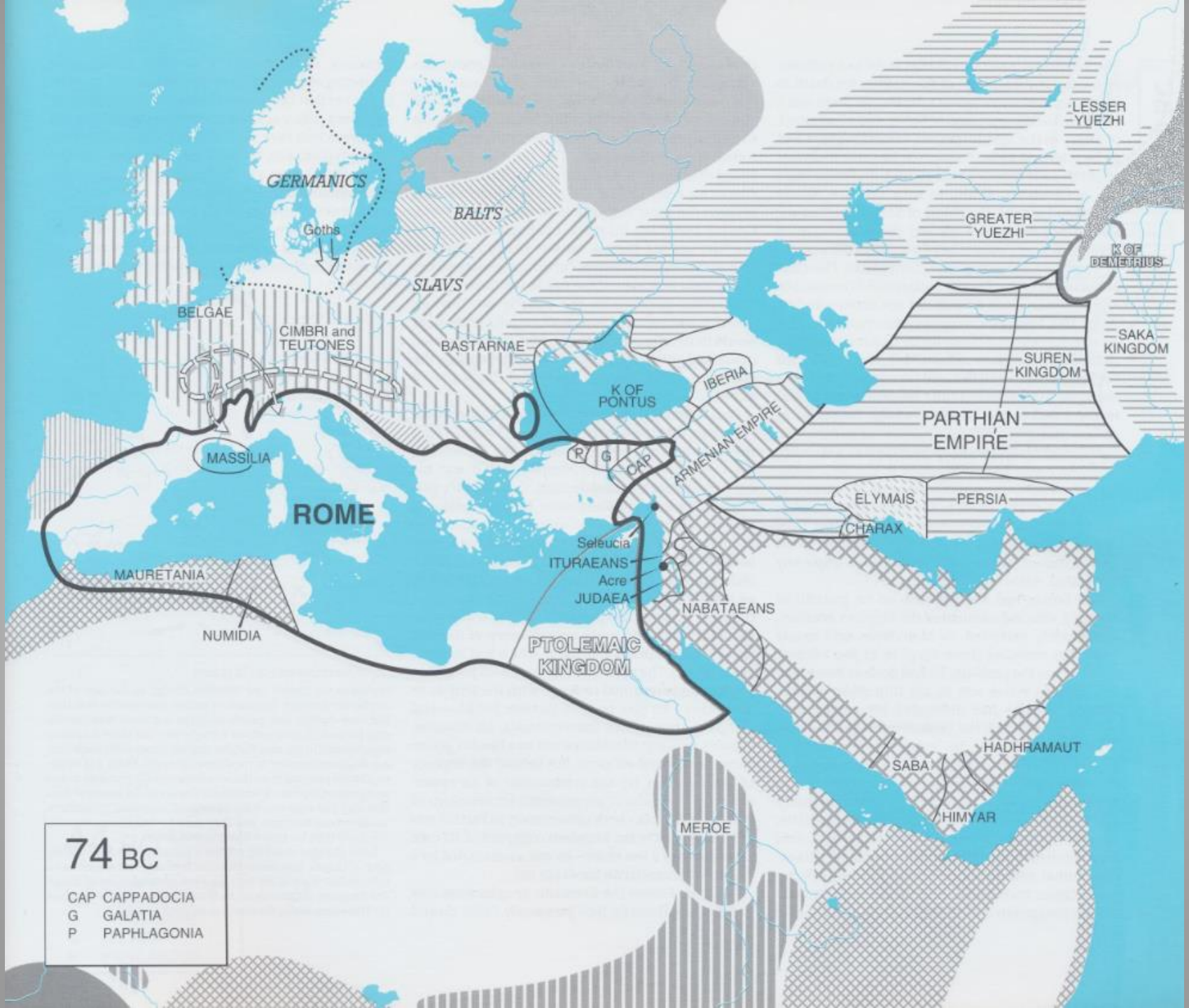
The Long Man of Wilmington

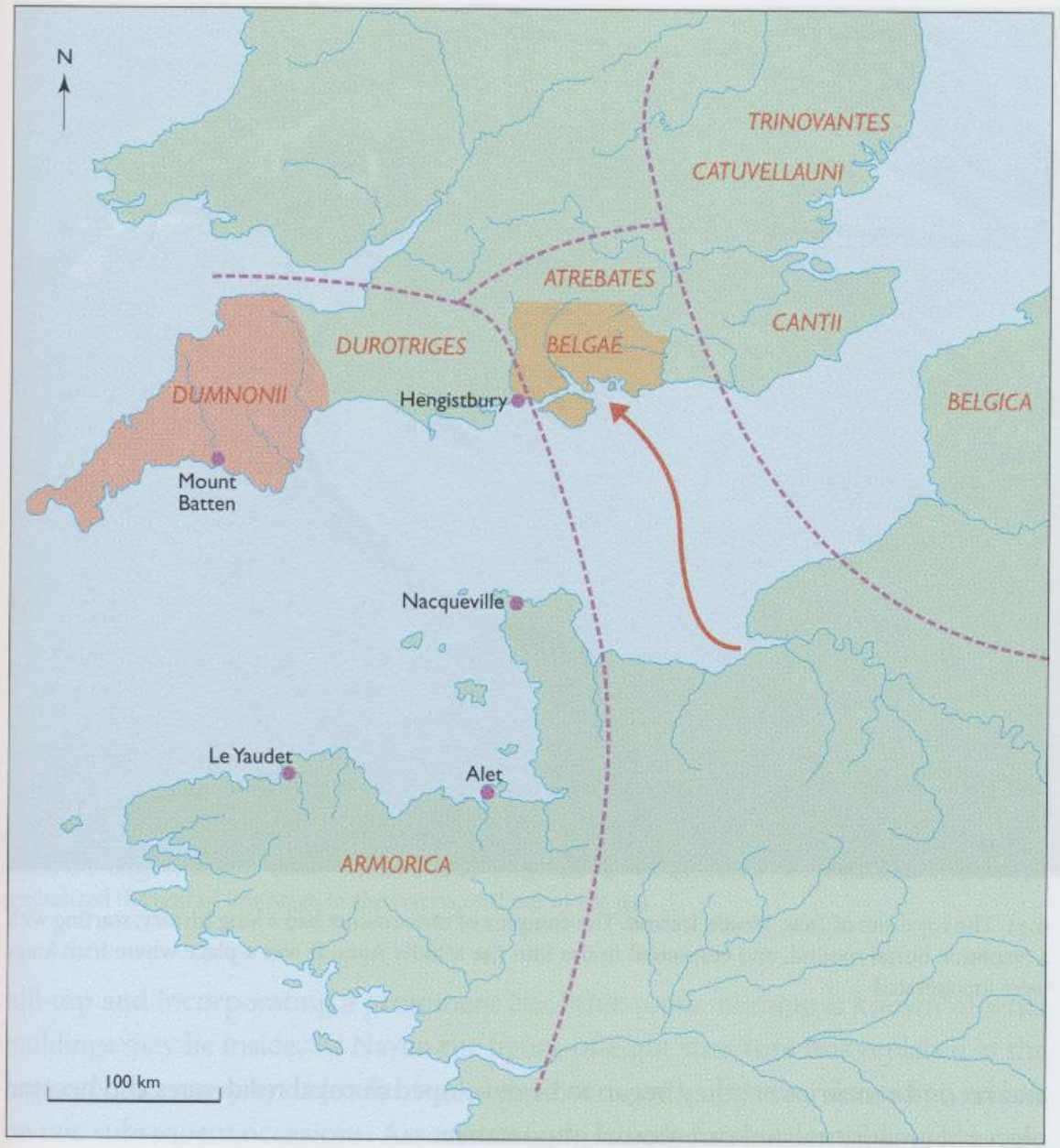
The Cerne Abbas Giant video



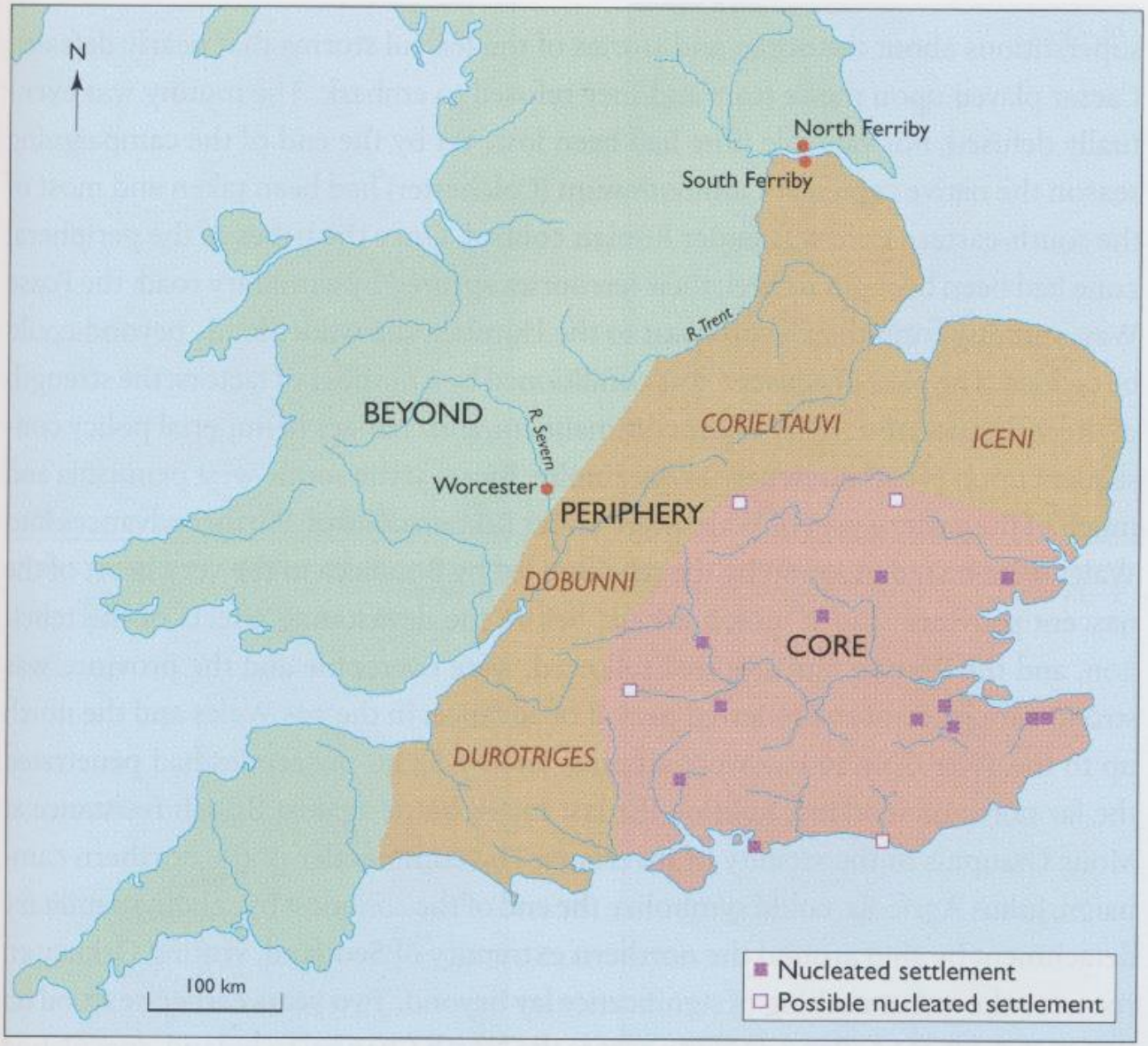
Astonishing new discovery made on the hillside near the Cerne Abbas Giant.

This may revolutionize all theories about ancient beliefs and rituals.


GERMANICS
Goths
BALTS
SLAVS
BELGAE
CIMBRI and TEUTONES
BASTARNAE
LESSER YUEZHI
GREATER YUEZHI
K OF DEMETRIUS
SAKA KINGDOM
SUREN KINGDOM
K OF PONTUS
IBERIA
ARMENIAN EMPIRE
PARTHIAN EMPIRE
MASSILIA
P
G
CAP
ROME
ELYMAIS
PERSIA
CHARAX
Seleucia
ITURAEANS
Acre
JUDAEA
NABATAEANS
MAURETANIA
NUMIDIA
PTOLEMAIC KINGDOM
HADHRAMAUT
SABA
HIMYAR
MEROE
74 BC
CAP CAPPADOCIA
G GALATIA
P PAPHLAGONIA

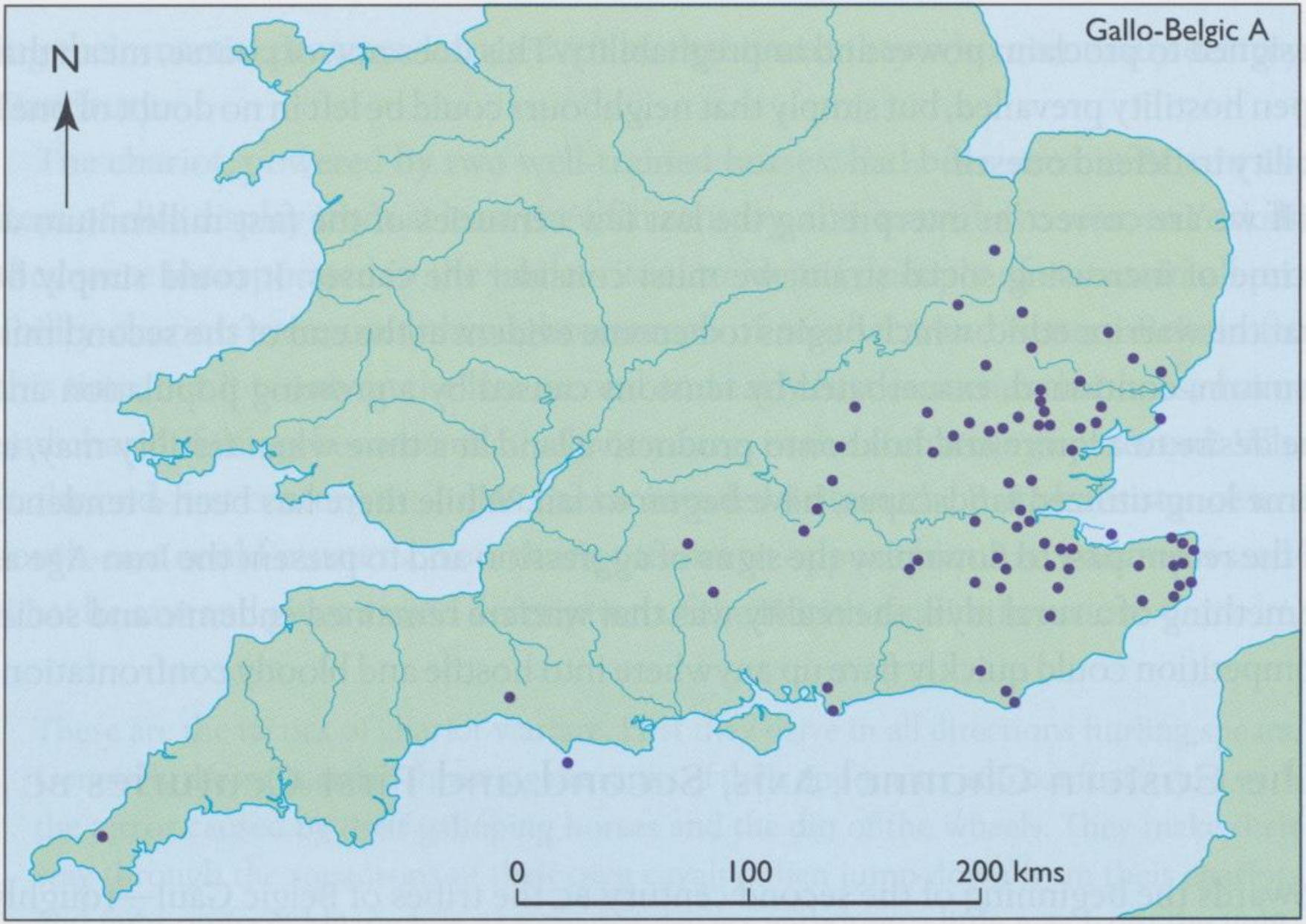


9.32 By the middle of the first century BC the southern part of Britain was closely linked to the Continent. The two main spheres of connectivity linked the south-west with Armorica and the south-east with the Belgic region of Gaul. The central zone, focused on the Solent, seems to have received the Belgic immigrants mentioned by Caesar, who may have come from the Seine valley

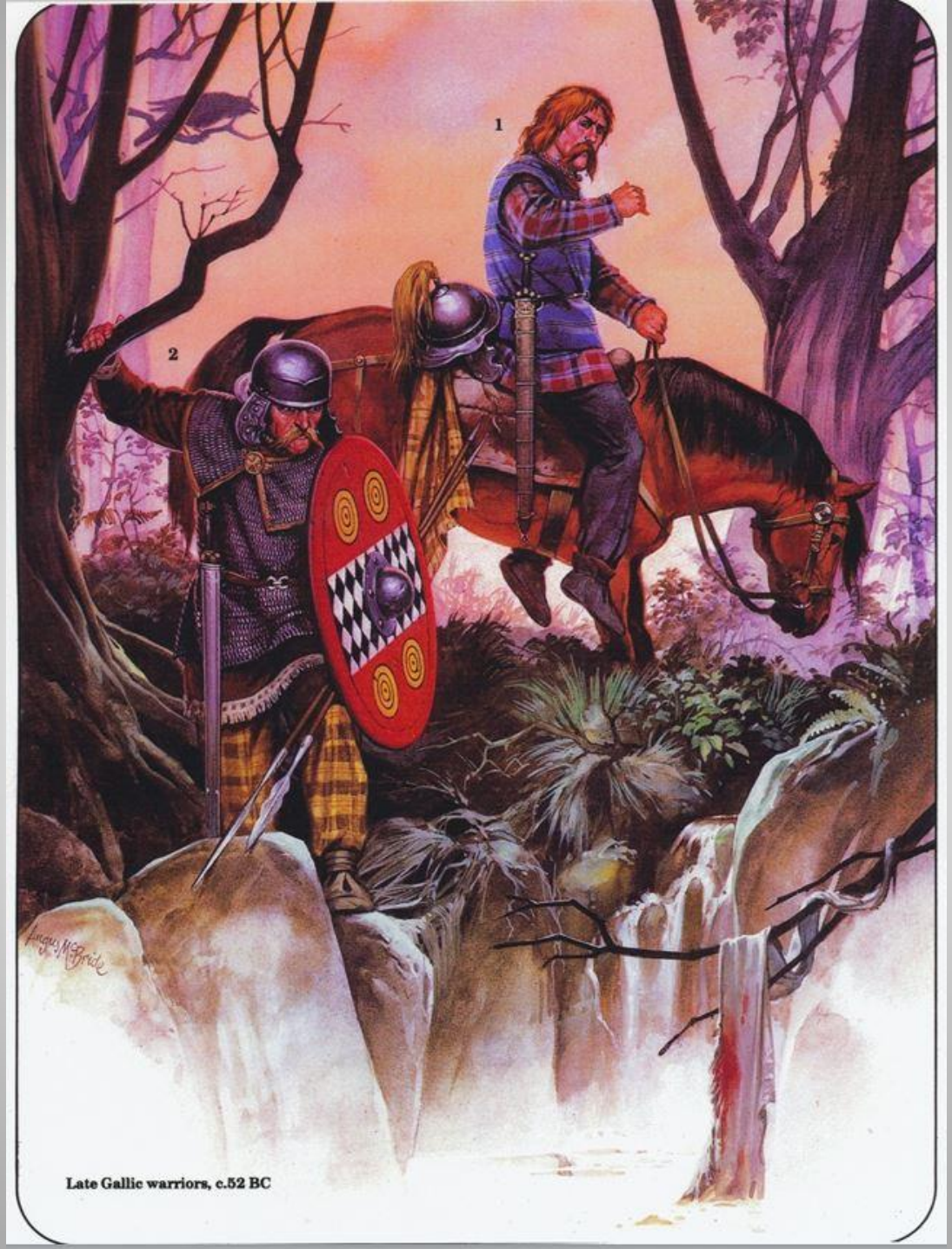


11.6 By the early first century AD three distinct socio-economic zones can be recognized in southern Britain. In the south-east the core zone had developed large settlements that can be regarded as towns and was linked by trade to the Continent, now under Roman control. Beyond the core was a peripheral zone of tribes who traded with the core and through whose territory raw materials and slaves from the north and west of the country passed

9.25 Gold stater of Gallo-Belgic A type. These coins were minted in Belgic Gaul and brought to Britain probably as gifts for the local elite. Gallo-Belgic coins served as models for British coinage



9.24 The distribution of Gallo-Belgic A coins, made in northern France, which reached Britain through systems of gift exchange in the second and early first centuries BC

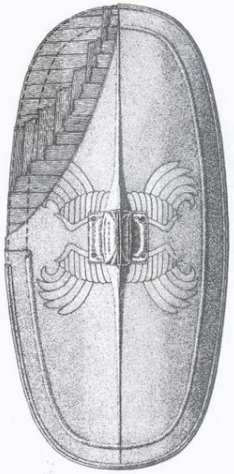


Late Gallic warriors, c.52 BC

Marius' Legionary

Marius' reforms simply formalised a growing trend for the Roman army to become necessarily more professional as Rome's empire expanded. All legionaries were equipped much as the soldier (left). The helmets shown on p. 109—particularly the "Montefortino" type—were all popular. Mail shirts though expensive, became universal. Greaves disappeared, except on centurions. The *pilum*, *scutum* and *gladius* continued in use, plus a dagger (*pugio*). Another of Marius' reforms was to reduce the size of the baggage train (*impedimenta*). The troops thus had to carry much of their gear, hence the wry description: "Marius' mules". The soldier is depicted in marching order. In addition to the equipment shown right, he has a bedroll and cloak, 3 or more days' ration of grain and hard-tack, and an entrenching tool virtually identical to modern ones. The whole, including arms and armour, weighed an estimated 80-100lb (35-44kg). Each squad (*contubernium*) of 8 men was also allowed one mule, which carried heavier items such as the squad's leather tent and mill-stones.

The Scutum (below)
Polybius describes the shield as being curved, 24" (·66m) wide, 44" (1·1m) long or more, and as "thick as a palm." Archaeology bears this out, but additionally shows that the thickness of individual shields might vary between ·5-·75" (12·5-19mm). He continues, "... of a double thickness (sometimes more) of planks glued together ... a binding of iron which protects it from cutting strokes ... (and) an iron boss, which deflects the more destructive blows ..." Its construction thus resembled modern plywood. It also had a leather cover.



The Caliga (right)
This heavy sandal was very tough and long-wearing. The sole consisted of several layers of leather and was c ·75" (20mm) thick and studded with hob-nails. The upper was cut in one piece and sewn up at the heel. The front was laced up. In winter they could be stuffed with cloth or fur for warmth. The Emperor Gaius derived his nickname "Little boot" (Caligula) from having worn specially-made *caligae* as a child.

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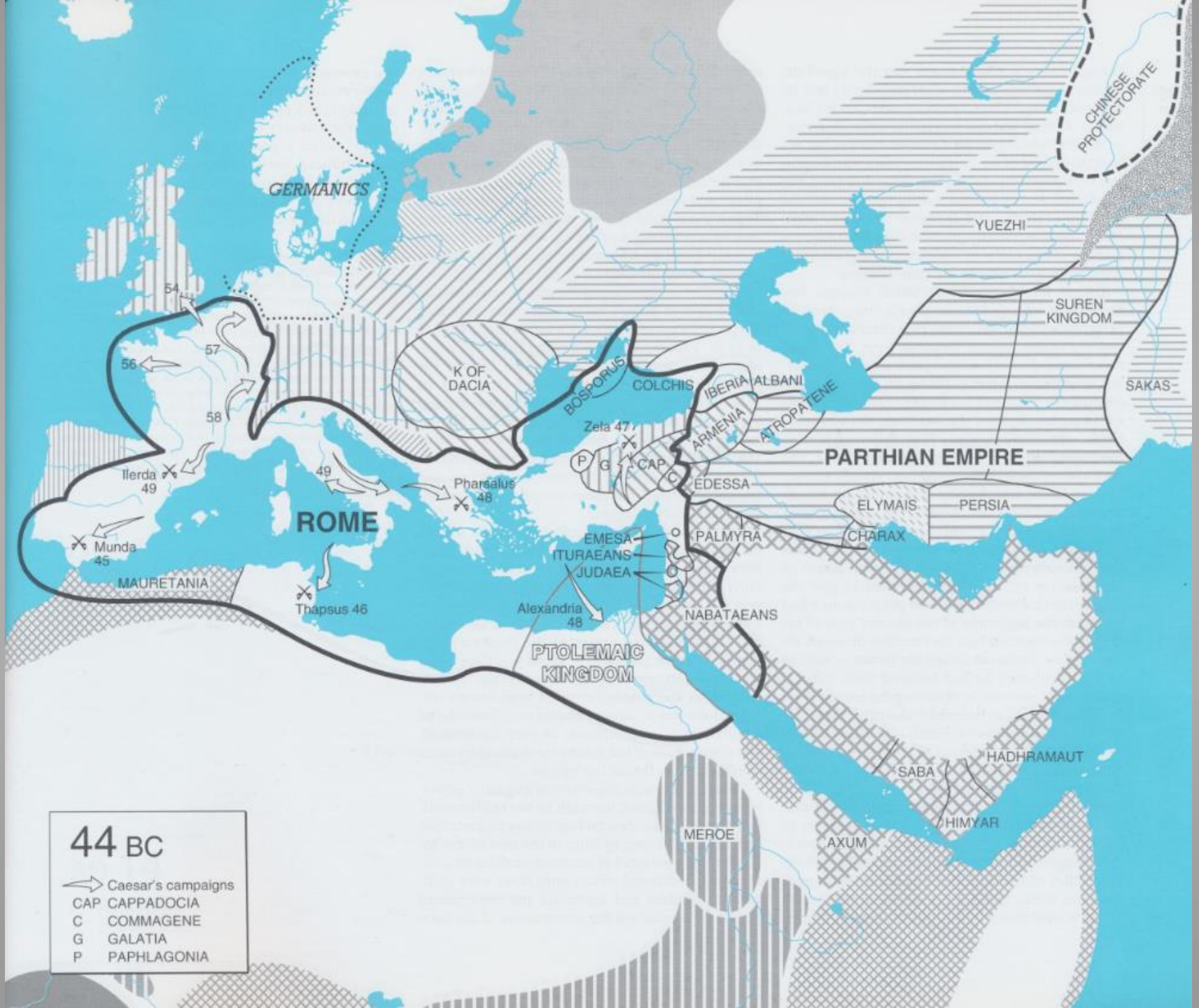
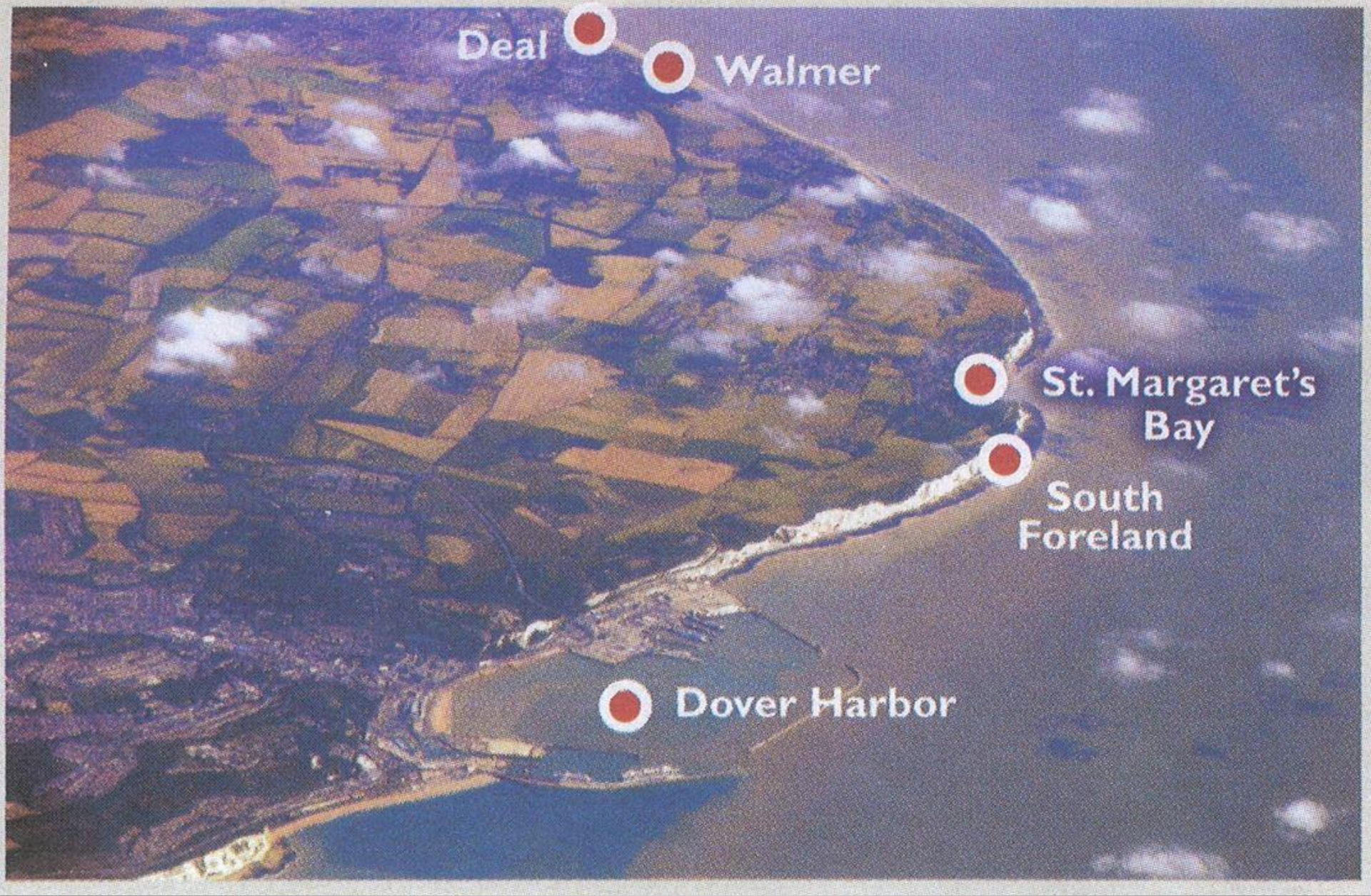
LEGIONARY HELMET

SWORD

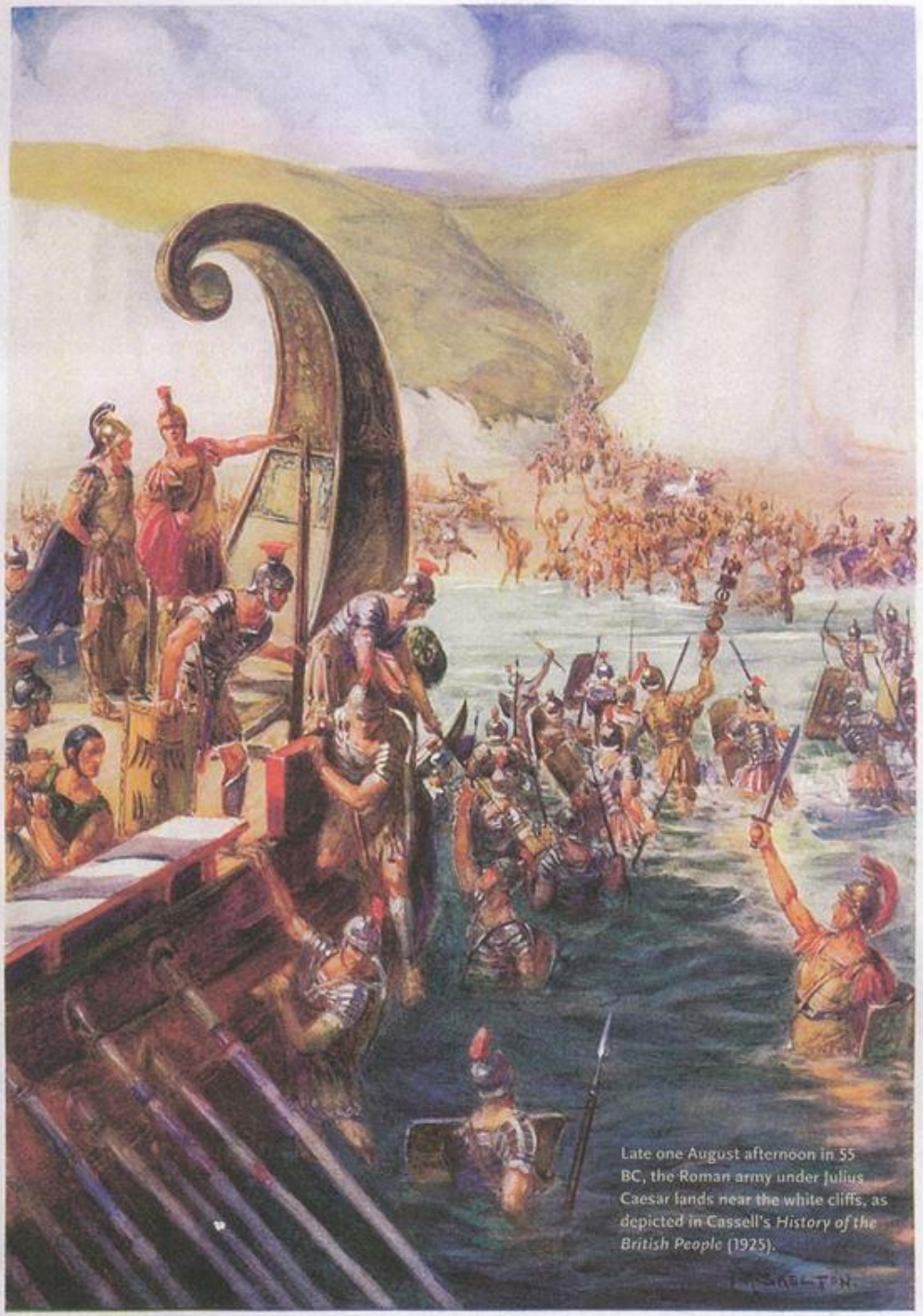
ROMAN CENTURION AND LEGIONARY


GERMANICS
CHINESE PROTECTORATE
YUEZHI
SUREN KINGDOM
SAKAS
54
57
56
58
K OF DACIA
BOSPORUS
COLCHIS
IBERIA
ALBANI
ATROPATENE
ARMENIA
Zela 47
P
G
CAP
C
EDESSA
PARTHIAN EMPIRE
ELYMAIS
PERSIA
CHARAX
Ilerda 49
49
Pharsalus 48
ROME
Munda 45
MAURETANIA
Thapsus 46
EMESA
ITURAEANS
JUDAEA
PALMYRA
Alexandria 48
NABATAEANS
PTOLEMAIC KINGDOM
HADHRAMAUT
SABA
HIMYAR
MEROE
AXUM
44 BC
Caesar's campaigns
CAP CAPPADOCIA
C COMMAGENE
G GALATIA
P PAPHLAGONIA

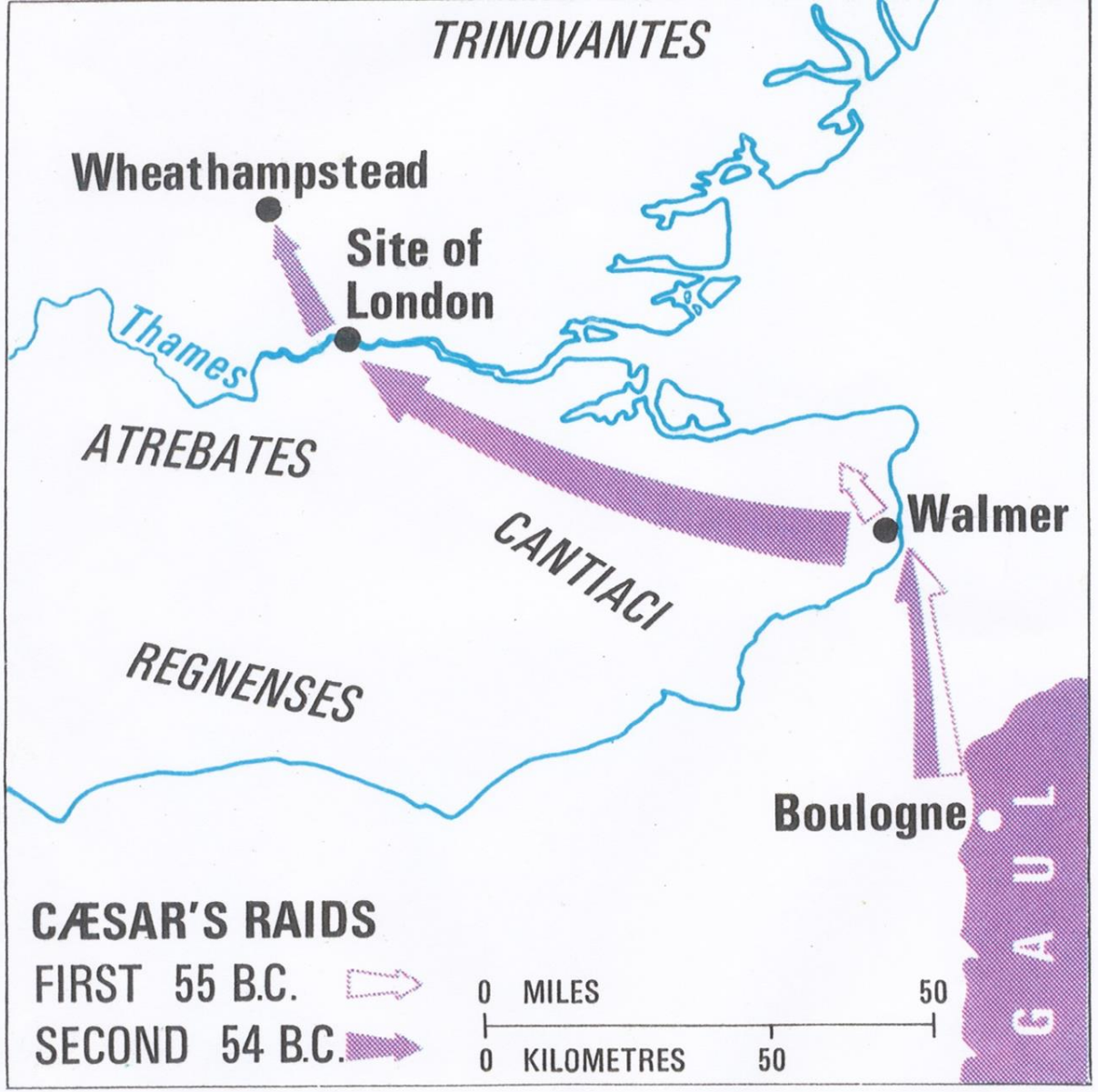
Map 1 Tribal Britain and north Gaul at the time of Julius Caesar


Deal
Walmer
St. Margaret's Bay
South Foreland
Dover Harbor

Caesar's Landing 55 BC video



Late one August afternoon in 55 BC, the Roman army under Julius Caesar lands near the white cliffs, as depicted in Cassell's *History of the British People* (1925).



The legions come to Britain: Cæsar's two raids of 55 and 54 B.C. The second raid reached Cassivellaunus' capital

Caesar's Landing 54 BC video

Caesar's invasion of Britain began from Pegwell Bay in Kent, say archaeologists

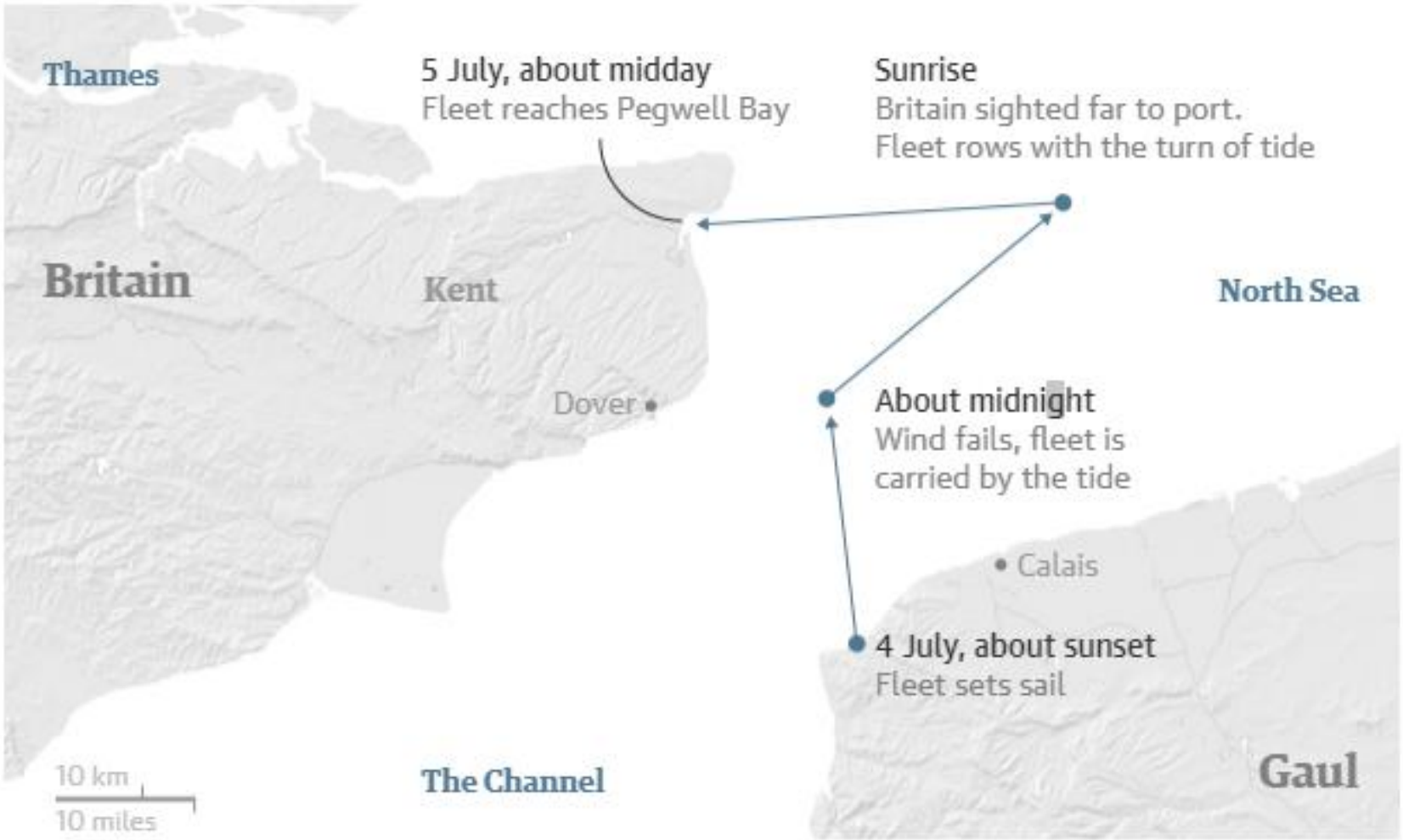
Nearby excavations reveal remains of an ancient defensive base, bones and iron weapons, which suggest bay as most likely landing spot for Roman fleet

Julius Caesar's army landing in Britain. Archaeologists believe that the wide, shallow Pegwell Bay on Kent's easterly tip, is the most likely landing spot. Illustration: Alamy

Julius Caesar's invasion of Britain was launched from the sandy shores of Pegwell Bay on the most easterly tip of Kent, according to fresh evidence unearthed by archaeologists.

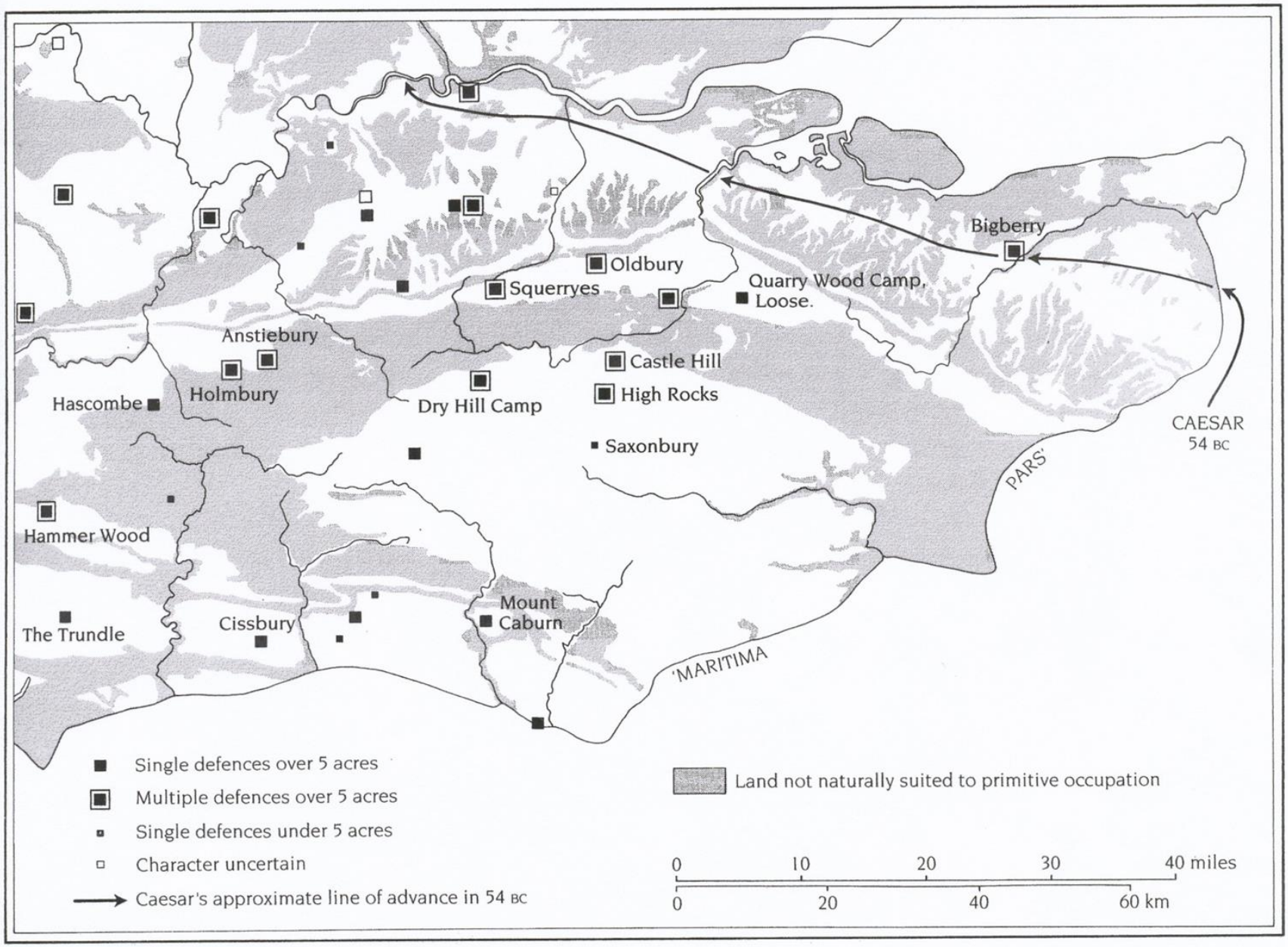
Researchers named the wide, shallow bay the most likely landing spot for the

How Caesar reached Britain in 54BC



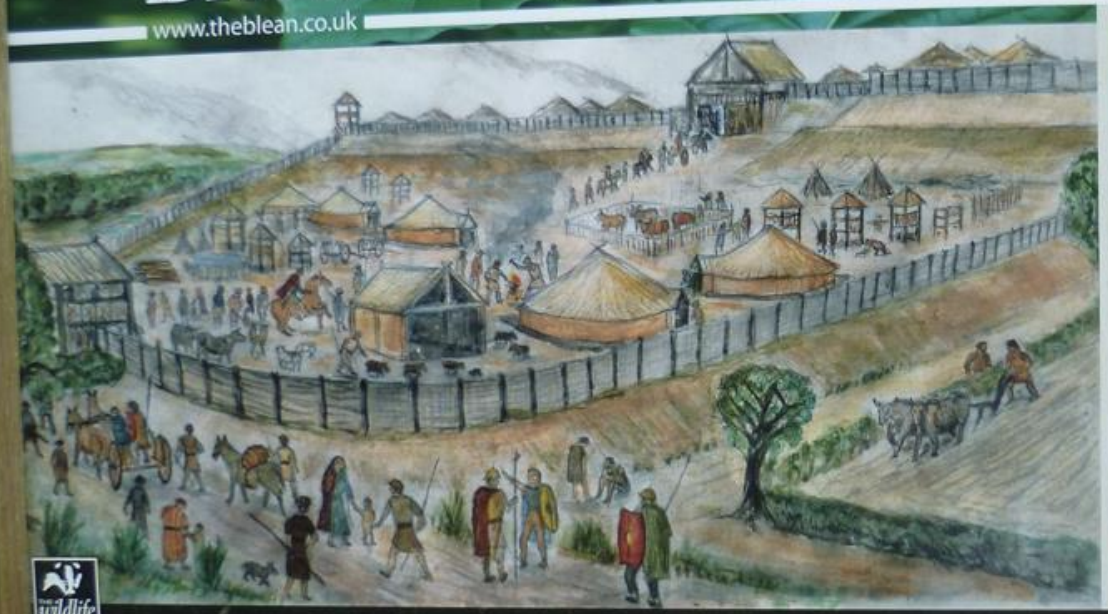
Guardian graphic | Source: University of Leicester

CAESAR'S ADVANCE TO THE THAMES in 54 BC was probably along a route north of the North Downs, bypassing all of the principal strongholds that might have been defended by the Britons (except Bigberry), minimizing costly assaults and avoiding sieges for which he did not have the time.



the Blean Canterbury's ancient woodlands

www.theblean.co.uk



Bigbury Camp – A Landscape with a History

Bigbury Camp is the major prehistoric earthwork in the Canterbury area and up until recently has been masked by the woodland of South Blean, part of one of the largest areas of ancient woodland in Kent. Much of the ridge of high ground to the west and north of the Stour valley and the City was covered by woodland. This hill fort was first recognised in 1874, following discoveries of Iron Age tools. A slave chain and domestic equipment were found within the southern interior part of the structure. The finds are now held in museums at Canterbury, Maidstone and Manchester.

Archaeological excavations over the last 80 years have revealed the extent of the site and shown it to have been occupied from at least the later part of the first century BC. The latest survey has shown that other earthworks linked to Bigbury Camp extend south west beyond Chartham Hatch and into the rest of South Blean Woods.

This hill fort is believed to be the site of Julius Caesar's first battle in 54 BC as he led his forces in the Roman invasion of Britain.

The illustrated view depicts the hill fort in its prime. Much of the layout is hypothetical but excavations have revealed some evidences to support many theories. The bank climbing the hillside to the right is shown here as originally topped by a fence as an outer defence to an annex within which a blacksmith's workshop has been revealed and is shown here, in the centre of the picture. Caesar describes the use of chariots, as shown here, and an iron tyre of a wheeled vehicle is reported as found within the earthworks. The large building on the skyline is a gate presumed to have given access from the lower working area to the defended hilltop. The very path you stand on is likely to be the ancient route people used for centuries to get to the agricultural land you can glimpse through the trees behind you, now covered by hop gardens and orchards.

Kent Wildlife Trust has worked with English Heritage to restore this Iron Age hill fort to the historical landscape of two thousand years ago. Seven hectares of sweet chestnut coppice have been removed from the site to reveal the archaeological features. Hard working staff, volunteers and livestock control the coppice re-growth to retain the open wood pasture across the monument.

Kent wildlife Trust

Illustration by Christopher Sparey-Green, April 2013

LOTTERY FUNDED

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Your living landscape. Your living seas.

Bigbury Camp – A Landscape with a History

Bigbury Camp is the major prehistoric earthwork in the Canterbury area and up until recently has been masked by the woodland of South Blean, part of one of the largest areas of ancient woodland in Kent. Much of the ridge of high ground to the west and north of the Stour valley and the City was covered by woodland. This hill fort was first recognised in 1874, following discoveries of Iron Age tools. A slave chain and domestic equipment were found within the southern interior part of the structure. The finds are now held in museums at Canterbury, Maidstone and Manchester.

Archaeological excavations over the last 80 years have revealed the extent of the site and shown it to have been occupied from at least the later part of the first century BC. The latest survey has shown that other earthworks linked to Bigbury Camp extend south west beyond Chartham Hatch and into the rest of South Blean Woods.

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...een, April 2013.

Blean Woods.

to the rest of South

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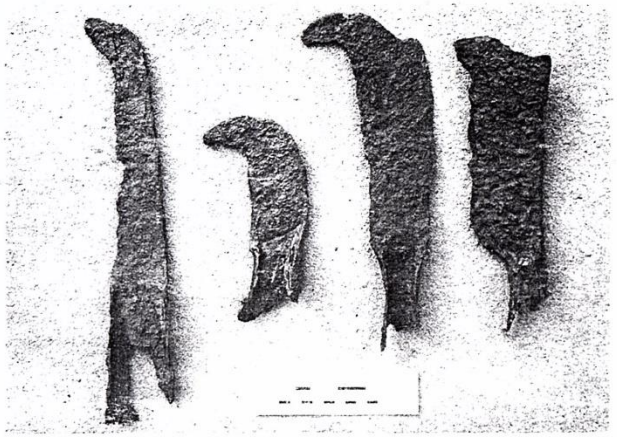
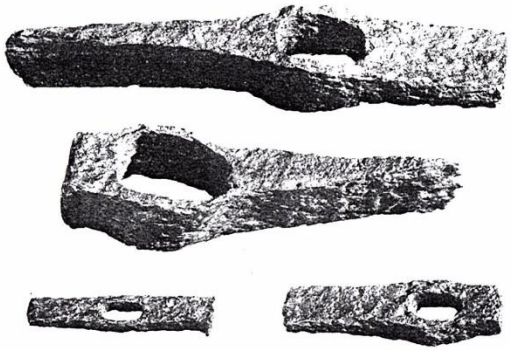
Illustration by Christopher

Bigbury Hillfort

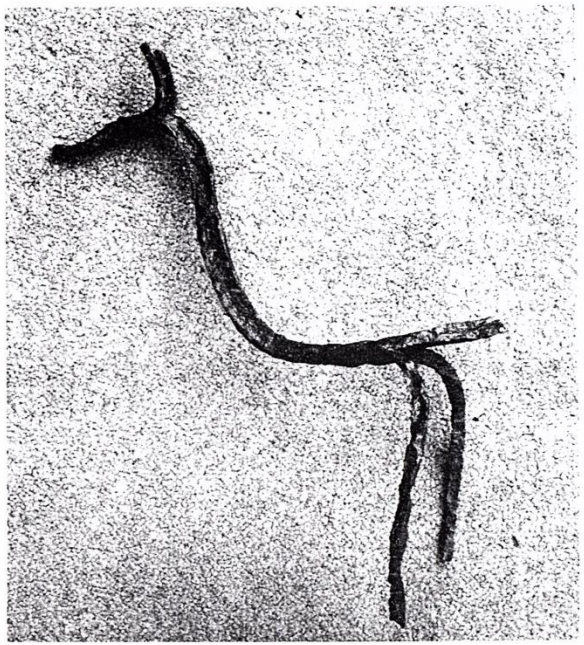
a. Iron sickles, C.M. ($\frac{1}{5}$)



b. Iron bill-hooks, C.M. and M.M. ($\frac{1}{3}$)
Bigberry



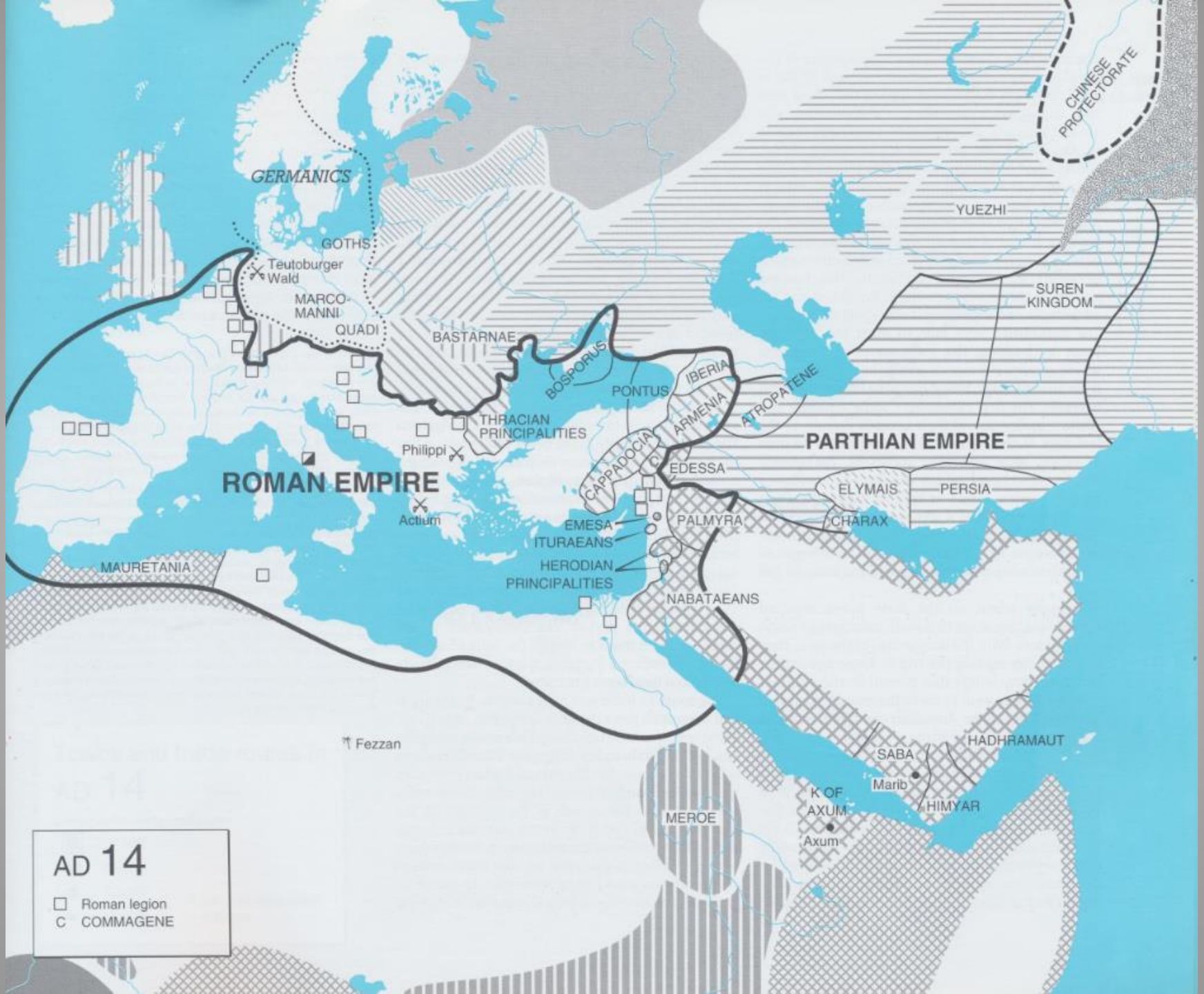
a. Iron pick, axe-hammer, and hammers, MC.M. ($\frac{1}{3}$)

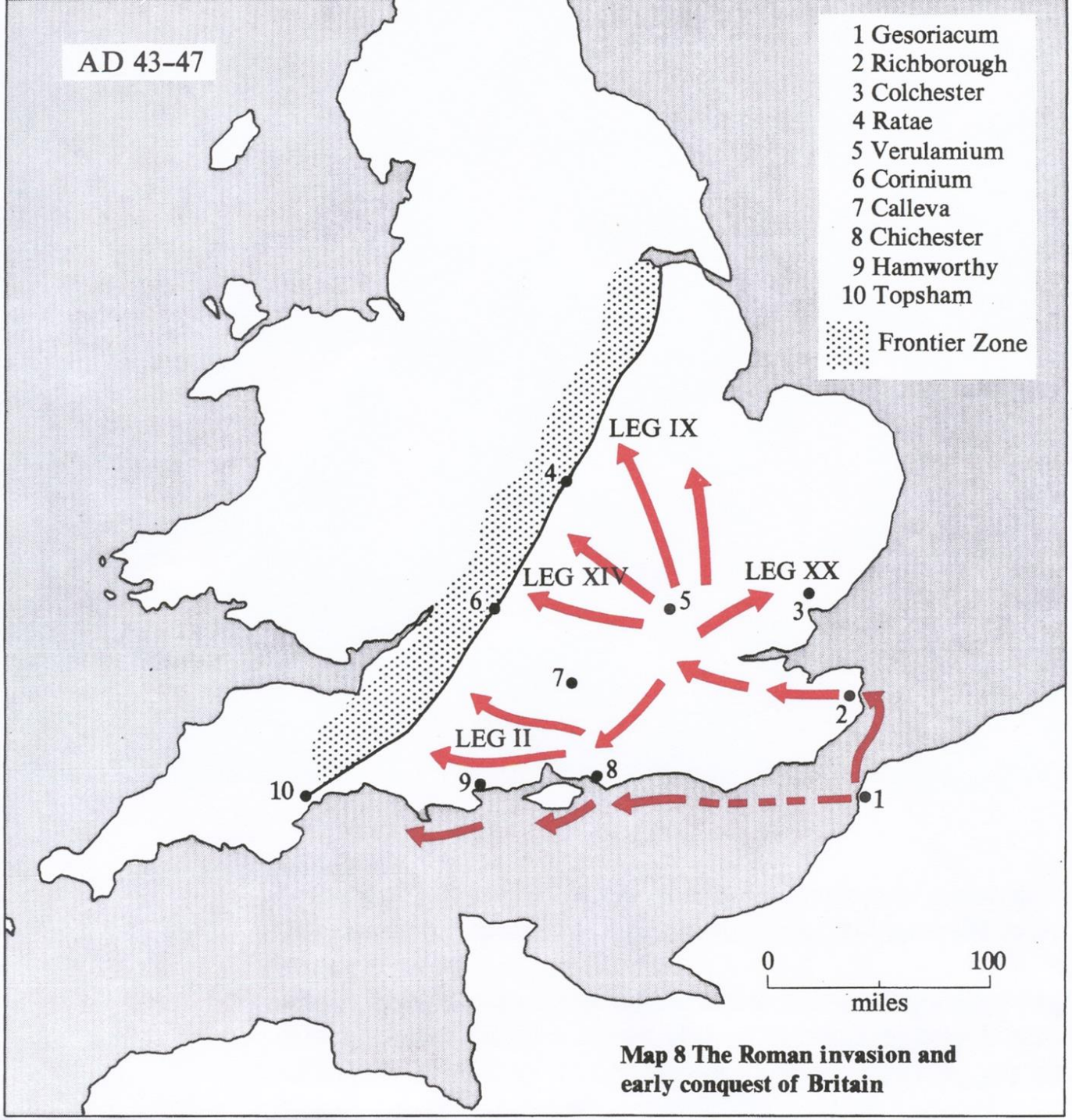


These shackles were excavated at Bigbury Camp, Harbledown, Canterbury. During this era, slaves would often be gathered by war lords during raids, and even be used as gift exchange. Slaves were also exported to the continent, with these shackles accompanied by others around their necks.

Battle across the Thames. *Caesar's invading army clashing with native warriors on the north bank of the river in 54 BC.*


I: Ambush and Skirmish, Southern Britain mid 1st century B
(see plate commentary for full details)


GERMANICS
GOTHS
Teutoburger Wald
MARCO-MANNI
QUADI
BASTARNAE
BOSPORUS
PONTUS
IBERIA
ARMENIA
ATROPATENE
CHINESE PROTECTORATE
YUEZHI
SUREN KINGDOM
THRACIAN PRINCIPALITIES
Philippi
ROMAN EMPIRE
Actium
PARTHIAN EMPIRE
CAPPADOCIA
C
EDESSA
ELYMAIS
PERSIA
PALMYRA
CHARAX
EMESA
ITURAEANS
HERODIAN PRINCIPALITIES
NABATAEANS
MAURETANIA
Fezzan
HADHRAMAUT
SABA
Marib
K OF AXUM
HIMYAR
Axum
MEROE
AD 14
Roman legion
C COMMAGENE



Map 8 The Roman invasion and early conquest of Britain

Lindow Man video

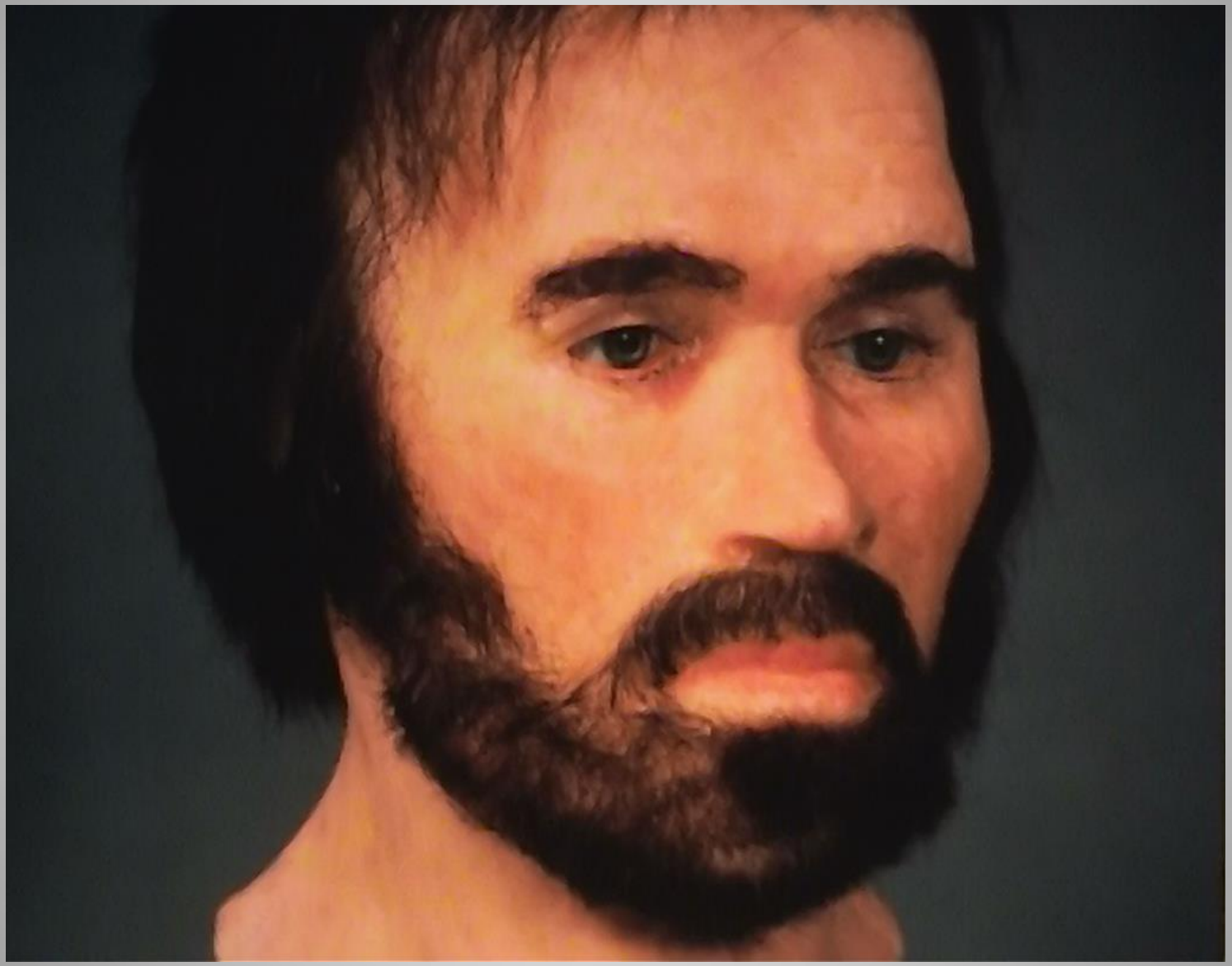
Lindow Moss, a peat bog near Manchester

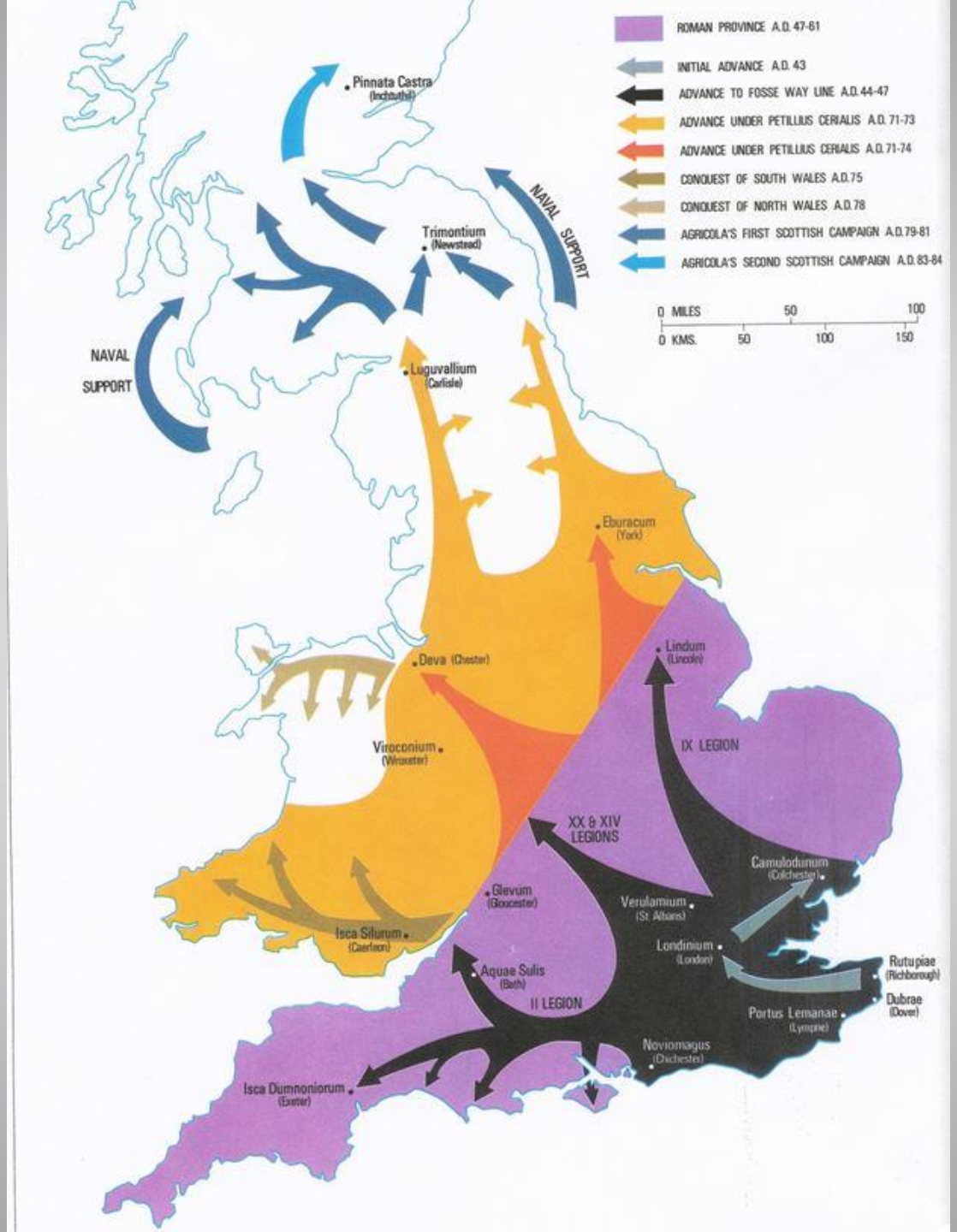
Lindow Man

Lindow Man is a well-preserved human body found in a peat-bog at Lindow Moss, near Manchester, in 1984. He died a violent death, sustaining many injuries before he was placed face down in a pool in the bog.

Lindow Man's discovery triggered an unprecedented scientific investigation, which ultimately led to his display at the British Museum.

Lindow Man's discovery triggered an unprecedented scientific investigation, which ultimately led to his display at the British Museum. Radiocarbon dating indicates that he was killed sometime between 2 BC –119 AD. This means that he was probably killed shortly before or after the Roman conquest of this part of Iron Age Britain in the early 60s AD. The Romans outlawed human sacrifice, but without a more precise date of death we cannot say for certain whether this was the most likely reason for him to be killed. Lindow Man could also have been the victim of a violent crime or an executed criminal.



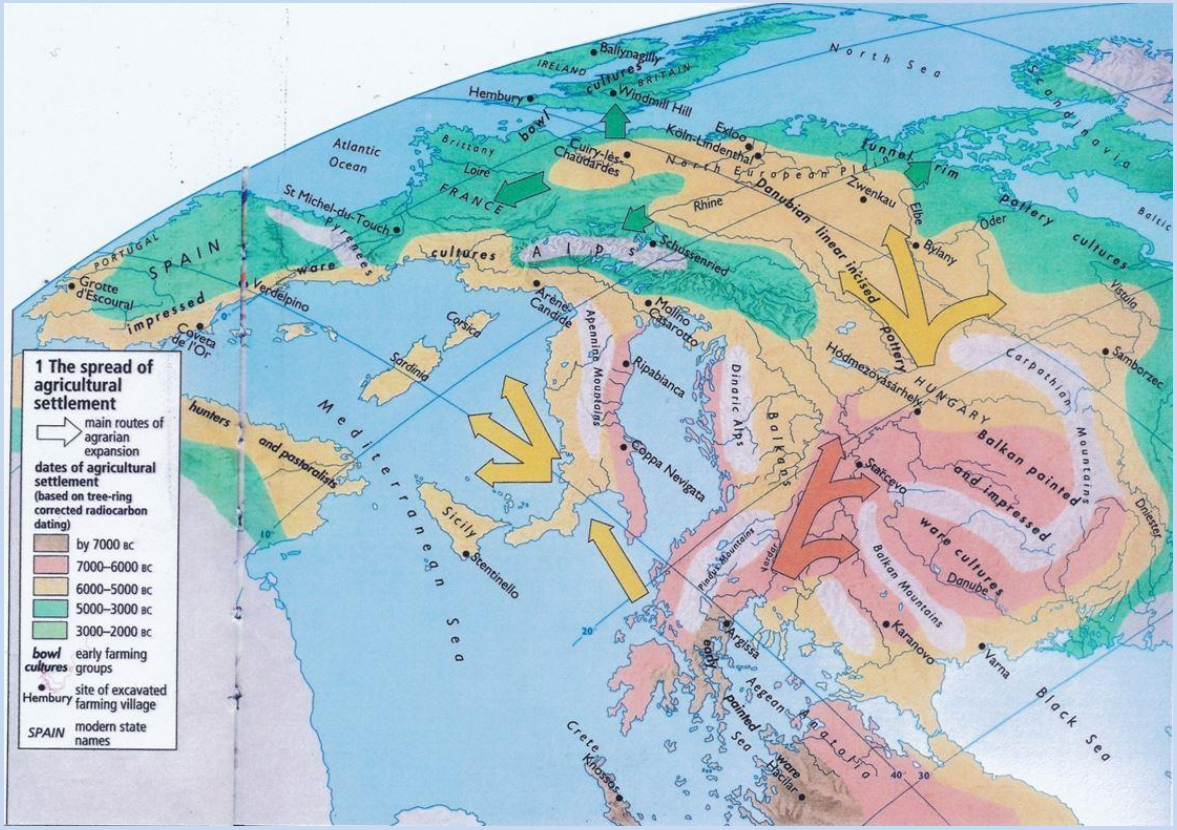

ROMAN PROVINCE A.D. 47-61
INITIAL ADVANCE A.D. 43
ADVANCE TO FOSSE WAY LINE A.D. 44-47
ADVANCE UNDER PETILLIUS CERIALIS A.D. 71-73
ADVANCE UNDER PETILLIUS CERIALIS A.D. 71-74
CONQUEST OF SOUTH WALES A.D. 75
CONQUEST OF NORTH WALES A.D. 78
AGRICOLA'S FIRST SCOTTISH CAMPAIGN A.D. 79-81
AGRICOLA'S SECOND SCOTTISH CAMPAIGN A.D. 83-84
0 MILES 50 100
0 KMS. 50 100 150
Pinnata Castra (Inchtuthil)
Trimontium (Newstead)
NAVAL SUPPORT
NAVAL SUPPORT
Luguvallium (Carlisle)
Eburacum (York)
Deva (Chester)
Lindum (Lincoln)
Viroconium (Wroxeter)
IX LEGION
XX & XIV LEGIONS
Camulodunum (Colchester)
Glevum (Gloucester)
Verulamium (St Albans)
Isca Silurum (Caerleon)
Londinium (London)
Rutupiae (Richborough)
Aquae Sulis (Bath)
II LEGION
Dubrae (Dover)
Portus Lemanae (Lympne)
Noviomagus (Chichester)
Isca Dumnoniorum (Exeter)

Roman Britain
about 410.
Routes of Caesar's expeditions to Britain (55-54 B.C.)
Roman roads.
Names of native tribes thus: Brigantes
Scale 1:5000000
Miles
Long. West 2 of Greenw.
CALEDONIA (SCOTLAND)
Bodotria Aest. (Firth of Forth)
Antonine Wall
Trimontium
Cheviot Hills
Bremenium
Habitancum
Blatobulgium
Hadrian's Wall
Corstopitum
Luguvallium (Carlisle)
Voreda
Vinovia
Ituna Aest. (Solway Firth)
Uxellodunum
Brocavum
Galava
Cumbrian Mts.
Lavatrae
Cataractonium
HIBERNIA (IRELAND)
Clanoventa
Monapia (I. of Man)
Brigantes
Isurium
Eburacum (Colonia) (York)
Ilkley
Bremetennacum
Parisi
OCEANUS GERMANICUS (NORTH SEA OR GERMAN OCEAN)
OCEANUS HIBERNICUS (IRISH SEA)
Legiolium
Cambodunum
Mona (Anglesey)
Coccium
Anavio
Abus Aest. (Humber R.)
Lindum (Colonia) (Lincoln)
Aquae
Canovium
Segontium
Deva (Chester)
Ordovices
Metaris Aest. (The Wash)
Cornovii
Coritani
Branodunum
Iceni
Gariannonum
Viroconium (Wroxeter)
Letocetum
Ratae (Leicester)
Venta Icenorum (Caistor, Bury St. Edmunds)
Durobrivae
Venonae
Bravonium
Bannaventa
Trinovantes
Demetae
Cambrian Mts.
Silures
Magnae
Lactodorum
Maridunum
Gobannium
Dobuni
Glevum (Gloucester) (Colonia)
Durocobrivae
Verulamium (St. Albans)
Camulodunum (Colchester)
Corinium (Cirencester)
Londinium (London)
Isca Silurum (Caerleon)
Venta Silurum
Sabrina Aest. (Bristol Channel)
Aquae Sulis (Bath)
Cunetio
Calleva Atrebatum (Silchester)
Regulbium
Tanatus I.
Rutupiae
Durovernum (Canterbury)
Belgae
Cantii
Portus Lemanae
Dubrae
Sorbiodunum (Salisbury)
Venta Belgarum (Winchester)
Clausentum (Southampton)
Regnum (Chichester)
Litus Saxonicum (Saxon Shore)
Dumnonii
Isca Dumnoniorum (Exeter)
Durotriges
Fretum Gallicum (Strait of Dover)
Moridunum
Durnovaria
Vectis (I. of Wight)
Gesoriacum (Boulogne)
OCEANUS BRITANNICUS (ENGLISH CHANNEL)
56
54
52
50


Areas above 1600 feet
" " 600 "
" below " "
Forests
Swamps
Coalfields
Scale 1:6000000
Miles.
SHETLAND IS.
ORKNEY IS.
ATLANTIC OCEAN
THE HEBRIDES
NORTH SEA
Highlands
Moray Firth
The Minch
Skye
Grampian Mts.
Ben Nevis
Iona
Firth of Lorne
Firth of Forth
Central Lowlands
Islay
North Channel
Firth of Clyde
Southern Uplands
Cheviot Hills
Tyne R.
Donegal Bay
Sligo R.
Lough Neagh
Cumbrian Mts.
Lake Country
Pennine Chain
Vale of York
Isle of Man
York Wolds
IRISH SEA
Central Plain
Humber R.
The Peak
Lincoln Heights
Lincoln Wolds
Galway B.
Anglesey
Snowdon
The Wash
Great Central Plain
The Fens
Cambrian Mts.
East Anglian Heights
Malvern Hills
Edge Hill
Cotswold Hills
Chilterns
North Downs
Bristol Channel
Exmoor
Salisbury Plain
The Weald
South Downs
Str. of Dover
Dartmoor
Isle of Wight
St. George's Channel
C. Clear
Land's End
English Channel
Guernsey
Channel Is.
Jersey

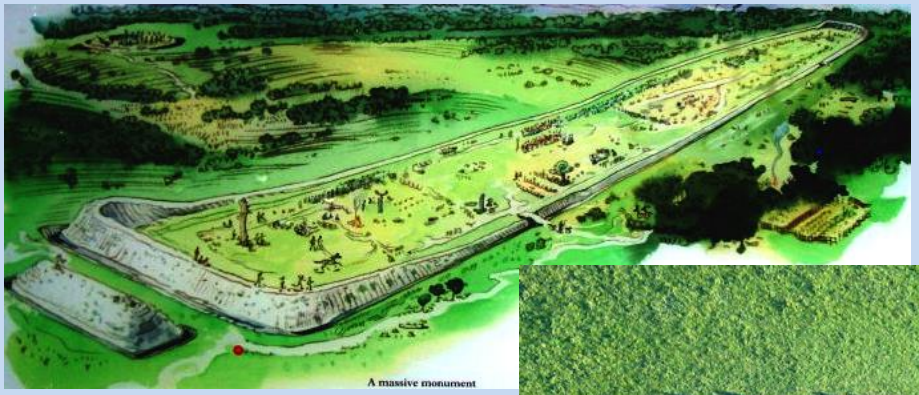
Some main themes and conclusions….

"At the Edge of the World:" Britain's location at the far west of the Eurasian land mass meant that it would be late experiencing major changes in ways of life (new species of Homo, the coming of agriculture, metallurgy, etc.)



Some main themes and conclusions….

As an island, Britain often developed its own unique cultural features different from those of the mainland (round houses, stone circles, cursuses, etc.)



Some main themes and conclusions….

Britain's very diverse landscapes encouraged many different local adaptations of lifestyles.

Some main themes and conclusions….

New scientific techniques continue to produce fascinating new information, sometimes answering questions that have been asked for many decades…

…not just new fashions, but new peoples moving in.

Neolithic farmers 4000 BC

Beaker people 2500 BC

Some main themes and conclusions….

New scientific techniques continue to produce fascinating new information, sometimes answering questions that have been asked for many decades…

OSL (Optical Stimulated Luminescence) technology can tell when subsoil was last exposed to light, thus allowing “geoglyphs” like the Uffington White Horse to be (approximately) dated.

Isotopic chemical analysis of teeth shows that the Amesbury Archer was born in central Europe, and came to Stonehenge in his later years.

Some main themes and conclusions….

There will continue to be fascinating new discoveries, findings, and conclusions drawn from new evidence.