

The Anglo Saxon Landscape The Kingdom Of The Hwicce

A sweeping and original history of the Anglo-Saxons by national bestselling author Marc Morris. Sixteen hundred years ago Britain left the Roman Empire and swiftly fell into ruin. Grand cities and luxurious villas were deserted and left to crumble, and civil society collapsed into chaos. Into this violent and unstable world came foreign invaders from across the sea, and established themselves as its new masters. The Anglo-Saxons traces the turbulent history of these people across the next six centuries. It explains how their earliest rulers fought relentlessly against each other for glory and supremacy, and then were almost destroyed by the onslaught of the vikings. It explores how they abandoned their old gods for Christianity, established hundreds of churches and created dazzlingly intricate works of art. It charts the revival of towns and trade, and the origins of a familiar landscape of shires, boroughs and bishoprics. It is a tale of famous figures like King Offa, Alfred the Great and Edward the Confessor, but also features a host of lesser known characters - ambitious queens, revolutionary saints, intolerant monks and grasping nobles. Through their remarkable careers we see how a new society, a new culture and a single unified nation came into being. Drawing on a vast range of original evidence - chronicles, letters, archaeology and artefacts - renowned historian Marc Morris illuminates a period of history that is only dimly understood, separates the truth from the legend, and tells the extraordinary story of how the foundations of England were laid.

The landscape of medieval England was the product of a multitude of hands. While the power to shape the landscape inevitably lay with the Crown, the nobility and the religious houses, this study also highlights the contribution of the peasantry in the layout of rural settlements and ridge-and-furrow field works, and the funding of parish churches by ordinary townsfolk. The importance of population trends is emphasised as a major factor in shaping the medieval landscape: the rising curve of the eleventh to thirteenth centuries imposing growing pressures on resources, and the devastating impact of the Black Death leading to radical decline in the fourteenth century. Opening with a broad-ranging analysis of political and economic trends in medieval England, the book progresses thematically to assess the impact of farming, rural settlement, towns, the Church, and fortification using many original case studies. The concluding chapter charts the end of the medieval landscape with the dissolution of the monasteries, the replacement of castles by country houses, the ongoing enclosure of fields, and the growth of towns.

Britons and Anglo-Saxons offers an interdisciplinary approach to the history of the Lincoln region in the post-Roman period, drawing together a wide range of sources. In particular, it indicates that a British polity named *Lind was based at Lincoln into the sixth century, and that the seventh-century Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Lindsey (Lindissi) had an intimate connection to this British political unit. The picture that emerges is also of importance nationally, helping to answer key questions regarding the nature and extent of Anglian-British interaction and the origins of Anglo-Saxon kingdoms.

This book examines recent views on the emerging settlement patterns of early medieval Britain and their relation to land use, drawing on both archaeological and documentary sources. Simon Esmonde Cleary takes the study from the later Romano-British into the post-Roman period; Christopher Holdsworth examines the re-emergence of Christianity in sixth-century England, the location of minsters and their role in the economy. The problematic theme of continuity or dislocation recurs in a number of chapters and is closely investigated by Peter Rose and Ann Preston Jones in their chapter on Cornwall, a region marginal to the main thrust of Anglo-Saxon cultural influence. Ethnicity as a factor for change is challenged and

Colleen Batey, looking at Northern Britain, finds that archaeology fails to identify with any degree of certainty the specific Scandinavian house type in the uplands. Della Hooke presents a more general summary of the period across England, noting the evidence for the emerging landscape regions which were characterized by particular settlement types and field systems and, in a case study of the Failand ridge in North Somerset, James Bond sets the evidence within a much broader time scale, revealing the gaps which still characterize our knowledge of the early medieval period.

The Medieval English Landscape, 1000-1540

Trees in Anglo-Saxon England

Waterways and Canal-Building in Medieval England

Territoriality and the Early Medieval Landscape

Anglo-Saxon History

The Anglo-Saxon Fenland

An exploration of small early folk communities prior to the eleventh century, showing their development and sophistication.

No description available.

This study examines the progression from fragmented kingdoms to organised nation state in England.'

A powerful exploration of trees in both the real and the imagined Anglo-Saxon landscape.

A History of the Beginnings of England: 400 – 1066

The Anglo-Saxons

The Oxford Handbook of Anglo-Saxon Archaeology

Tradition and Transformation in Anglo-Saxon England

Anglo-Saxon Literary Landscapes

Wells, Meres, and Pools

The Anglo-Saxon period was crucial to the development of the English landscape, but is rarely studied. The essays here provide radical new interpretations of its development.

An atlas of English archaeology covering the period from the middle Bronze Age (c. 1500 BC) to Domesday Book (AD 1086), encompassing the Bronze and Iron Ages, the Roman period, and the early medieval (Anglo-Saxon) age.

This book concerns the landscape that surrounded early medieval man, often described as he saw and experienced it. The Anglo-Saxon period was one of considerable change in settlement and land use patterns but the landscape regions that emerge, documented for the first time in history, are still familiar to us today. The image conjured up, and for the present it can hardly be any more than an image, is tentative and incomplete, for many more threads have been embroidered upon it in the thousand succeeding years; but the early patterns often guided the latter and occasionally still show through. This book examines the Anglo-Saxon's view of his natural surroundings and how he utilized the resources available -- the cropland,

woodland and marginal land of pasture and fen -- and how this is reflected in administrative patterns, how it influenced settlement, communications and trade and, moreover, influenced the landscape patterns of successive ages.

Elves and elf-belief during the Anglo-Saxon period are reassessed in this lively and provocative study.

Matters of Belief, Health, Gender and Identity

Perceptions of the Prehistoric in Anglo-Saxon England

Writing the Map of Anglo-Saxon England

Later Anglo-Saxon England

Building Anglo-Saxon England

Religion, Ritual, and Rulership in the Landscape

A revisionist interpretation of Anglo-Saxon England. Nicholas Howe proposes that the Anglo-Saxons fashioned a myth out of the 5th-century migration of their Germanic ancestors to Britain. Through the retelling of this story, the Anglo-Saxons ordered their complex history and identified their destiny as a people. Howe traces the migration myth throughout the literature of the Anglo-Saxon period, in poems, sermons, letters and histories from the sixth to the eleventh centuries.

This book explores the development of territorial identity in the late prehistoric, Roman, and early medieval periods. Over the course of the Iron Age, a series of marked regional variations in material culture and landscape character emerged across eastern England that reflect the development of discrete zones of social and economic interaction. The boundaries between these zones appear to have run through sparsely settled areas of the landscape on high ground, and corresponded to a series of kingdoms that emerged during the Late Iron Age. In eastern England at least, these pre-Roman socio-economic territories appear to have survived throughout the Roman period despite a trend towards cultural homogenization brought about by Romanization. Although there is no direct evidence for the relationship between these socio-economic zones and the Roman administrative territories known as civitates, they probably corresponded very closely. The fifth century saw some Anglo-Saxon immigration but whereas in East Anglia these communities spread out across much of the landscape, in the Northern Thames Basin they appear to have been restricted to certain coastal and estuarine districts. The remaining areas continued to be occupied by a substantial native British population, including much of the East Saxon kingdom (very little of which appears to have been 'Saxon'). By the sixth century a series of regionally distinct identities - that can be regarded as separate ethnic groups - had developed which corresponded very closely to those that had emerged during the late prehistoric and Roman periods. These ancient regional identities survived through to the Viking incursions, whereafter they were swept away following the English re-conquest and replaced with the counties with which we are familiar today.

The first major synthesis of the evidence for Anglo-Saxon settlements from across England and throughout the Anglo-Saxon

period, and a study of what it reveals about the communities who built and lived in them.

Most people believe that traditional landscapes did not survive the collapse of Roman Britain, and that medieval open fields and commons originated in Anglo-Saxon innovations unsullied by the past. The argument presented here tests that belief by contrasting the form and management of early medieval fields and pastures with those of the prehistoric and Roman landscapes they are supposed to have superseded. The comparison reveals unexpected continuities in the layout and management of arable and pasture from the fourth millennium BC to the Norman Conquest. The results suggest a new paradigm: the collective organisation of agricultural resources originated many centuries, perhaps millennia, before Germanic migrants reached Britain. In many places, medieval open fields and common rights over pasture preserved long-standing traditions for organising community assets. In central, southern England, a negotiated compromise between early medieval lords eager to introduce new managerial structures and communities as keen to retain their customary traditions of landscape organisation underpinned the emergence of nucleated settlements and distinctive, highly-regulated open fields.

The Shaping of the English Landscape: An Atlas of Archaeology from the Bronze Age to Domesday Book

Rome, Britain and the Anglo-Saxons

Migration and Mythmaking in Anglo-Saxon England

Place-names, Language and the Anglo-Saxon Landscape

Basic Readings

The Kingdom of the Hwicce

Water and the Environment in the Anglo-Saxon World, third volume of Daily Living in the Anglo-Saxon World, continues to introduce students of Anglo-Saxon culture to aspects of the realities of the environment that surrounded Anglo-Saxon peoples through reference to archaeological and textual sources. Similar in theme and method to the first and second volumes, the collected articles of Water and the Environment in the Anglo-Saxon World illuminate how an understanding of the impact of water features on the daily lives of the people and the environment of the Anglo-Saxon world can inform reading and scholarship in Anglo-Saxon studies. In discussing fishing, for example, we might ask, in what ways did fish and fishing locations impact the life of the average person living in those areas within the period? How would it impact those persons' diets, livelihood, and religious obligations; how would fish impact the social and cultural structures for those who lived near the water features of fishing? Study of the impact of water features on the daily lives of the people and the environment of the Anglo-Saxon world will assist serious students of the Anglo-Saxon period in both perceiving and understanding the imagery of material culture in the archaeology and textual materials of the period.

Literary scholars have traditionally understood landscapes, whether natural or manmade, as metaphors for humanity instead of concrete settings for people's actions. This book accepts the natural world as such by investigating how Anglo-Saxons interacted with and conceived of their lived environments. Examining Old English poems, such as Beowulf and Judith, as well as descriptions of natural events from the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle and other documentary texts, Heide Estes shows that Anglo-Saxon ideologies that view nature as diametrically opposed to humans, and the natural world as designed for human use, have become deeply embedded in our cultural heritage, language, and more.

Archaeologies and histories of the fens of eastern England, continue to suggest, explicitly or by implication, that the early medieval fenland was dominated by the activities of north-west European colonists in a largely empty landscape. Using existing and new evidence and arguments, this new interdisciplinary history of the Anglo-Saxon fenland offers another interpretation. The fen islands and the silt fens show a degree of occupation unexpected a few decades ago. Dense Romano-British settlement appears to have been followed by consistent early medieval occupation on every island in the peat fens and across the silt fens, despite the impact of climatic change. The inhabitants of the region were organised within territorial groups in a complicated, almost certainly dynamic, hierarchy of subordinate and dominant polities, principalities and kingdoms. Their prosperous livelihoods were based on careful collective control, exploitation and management of the vast natural water-meadows on which their herds of cattle grazed. This was a society whose origins could be found in prehistoric Britain, and which had evolved through the period of Roman control and into the post-imperial decades and centuries that followed. The rich and complex history of the development of the region shows, it is argued, a traditional social order evolving, adapting and innovating in response to changing times.

Represents an unparalleled exploration of the place of prehistoric monuments in the Anglo-Saxon psyche, and examines how Anglo-Saxon communities perceived and used these monuments during the period AD 400-1100.

Environment, Society and Landscape in Early Medieval England

Lincolnshire AD 400-650

The Anglo-Saxon Landscape of North Gloucestershire

The Landscape Archaeology of Anglo-Saxon England

Anglo-Saxon Law in the Landscape

Anglo-Saxon Attitudes to the Past

Written by a team of experts and presenting the results of the most up-to-date research, The Handbook of Anglo-Saxon

Archaeology will both stimulate and support further investigation into a society poised at the interface between prehistory and history.

"About hydronymic terms denoting lentic systems, and springs and wells found in Old English. The term "lentic" is borrowed from hydrology where it is used about inland bodies of water where the exchange of water is relatively slow (lakes and pools) in contrast to lotic systems (rivers and streams). ... [It] is intended to fill a gap in the field of English onomastics" --p.11.

This study examines the progression from fragmented kingdoms to organised nation state in England.

The origins of England's regional cultures are here shown to be strongly influenced by the natural environment and geographical features.

Kingdom, Civitas, and County

The Countryside of the East Saxon Kingdom

The Charter Evidence

The Context of Monuments

Britons and Anglo-Saxons

Archaeology, Common Rights and Landscape

Eminent Anglo-Saxonist Nicholas Howe explores how the English, in the centuries before the Norman Conquest, located themselves literally and imaginatively in the world. His elegantly written study focuses on Anglo-Saxon representations of place as revealed in a variety of texts in Latin and Old English, as well as in diagrams of holy sites and a single map of the known world found in British Cotton Tiberius B v. The scholar's investigations are supplemented and aided by insights gleaned from his many trips to physical sites. Anglo-Saxons possessed a remarkable body of geographical knowledge in written rather than cartographic form, Howe demonstrates. To understand fully their cultural geography, he considers Anglo-Saxon writings about the places they actually inhabited and those they imagined. He finds in Anglo-Saxon geographic images a persistent sense of being far from the center of the world, and he discusses how Anglo-Saxon peoples narrowed that distance and developed ways to define themselves.

The location of the Anglo-Saxon burial ground at Sutton Hoo, on a ridge overlooking the estuary of the river Deben, has always been strange and challenging. This is not so much because the site is today an isolated and lonely one, but rather because it lies on the periphery of the early medieval kingdom of East Anglia, whose rulers - the Wuffingas - were buried there. In this extended meditation on the geography of a very special and evocative place, Tom Williamson explores the meaning of the cemetery's location. To understand the significance of ancient monuments we need to examine not only the character of past landscapes, but also the ways that contemporaries experienced and felt about them: we need to reconstruct aspects of their mental world. Williamson argues that the cemetery at Sutton Hoo was not in order to display power and dominance over territory, but because the river, and its brooding estuary, had long had

central place in the lives and perceptions of a local society. As King Raedwald and his family rose to dominance over this river, he chose to be buried at the heart of their territory. Such approaches may help us to understand why the cemetery was established within the territory of the Wuffingas: but they cannot explain why that group came to dominate the whole of East Anglia. For this, as I argue, we need to examine wider geographical contexts - patterns of movement, contact, and social allegiance which were shaped by landforms and topography at a regional and national level. It is only by joining aspects of the new 'phenomenological' approach to the archaeology of landscape, to more traditional geographical interpretations, that we can appreciate the full significance of the site. Combining a keen understanding of local and regional geography, Anglo-Saxon history, and current debates about approaches to landscapes, this book is a masterly exploration of the context and meaning of an iconic set of monuments.

From the impact of the first monasteries in the seventh century, to the emergence of the local parochial system five hundred years later, the Church was a force for change in Anglo-Saxon society. It shaped culture and ideas, social and economic behaviour, and the organic development of the landscape and settlement. This book traces how the widespread foundation of monastic sites ('minsters') during c.670-730 gave rise to new pagan English new ways of living, of exploiting their resources, and of absorbing European culture, as well as opening new spiritual and intellectual horizons. Through the era of Viking wars, and the tenth-century reconstruction of political and economic life, the minsters gradually lost their wealth, their independence, and their role as sites of high culture, but grew in stature as foci of local social and economic life. After 950, with the increasing prominence of manors, manor-houses, and village communities, a new and much larger type of churches were founded, endowed, and rebuilt: the parish churches of the emergent eleventh- and twelfth-century local parochial system. In this innovative study, John Blair brings together written, topographical, and archaeological evidence to build a multi-dimensional picture of how local churches and local communities meant to each other in early England.

First published in 2000, Basic Readings in Anglo-Saxon England (BRASE) is a series of volumes that collect classic, exemplary, and groundbreaking essays in the fields of Anglo-Saxon studies generally written in the 1960s or later, or commissioned by a volume editor for the purpose of the given volume. This, the sixth volume in the series, is the first devoted to history and the first edited by a scholar in the field of literary study. David Pelteret has collected fifteen previously published essays: the first nine of his essays present a conspectus of Anglo-Saxon history; the other seven are spread among seven "Special Approaches": Anthropology, Archaeology, Art History, Economic History, Comparative History, Geography and Geology, Place-Names, and Topography and Archaeology.

The Anglo-Saxon Landscape

Water and the Environment in the Anglo-Saxon World

Time and Topography

Life & Landscape

Anglo-Saxon Settlement and Landscape

Anglo-Saxon Deviant Burial Customs

A radical rethinking of the Anglo-Saxon world that draws on the latest archaeological

discoveries This beautifully illustrated book draws on the latest archaeological discoveries to present a radical reappraisal of the Anglo-Saxon built environment and its inhabitants. John Blair, one of the world's leading experts on this transformative era in England's early history, explains the origins of towns, manor houses, and castles in a completely new way, and sheds new light on the important functions of buildings and settlements in shaping people's lives during the age of the Venerable Bede and King Alfred. *Building Anglo-Saxon England* demonstrates how hundreds of recent excavations enable us to grasp for the first time how regionally diverse the built environment of the Anglo-Saxons truly was. Blair identifies a zone of eastern England with access to the North Sea whose economy, prosperity, and timber buildings had more in common with the Low Countries and Scandinavia than the rest of England. The origins of villages and their field systems emerge with a new clarity, as does the royal administrative organization of the kingdom of Mercia, which dominated central England for two centuries. Featuring a wealth of color illustrations throughout, *Building Anglo-Saxon England* explores how the natural landscape was modified to accommodate human activity, and how many settlements--secular and religious--were laid out with geometrical precision by specialist surveyors. The book also shows how the Anglo-Saxon love of elegant and intricate decoration is reflected in the construction of the living environment, which in some ways was more sophisticated than it would become after the Norman Conquest.

Anglo-Saxon Deviant Burial Customs is the first detailed consideration of the ways in which Anglo-Saxon society dealt with social outcasts. Beginning with the period following Roman rule and ending in the century following the Norman Conquest, it surveys a period of fundamental social change, which included the conversion to Christianity, the emergence of the late Saxon state, and the development of the landscape of the Domesday Book. While an impressive body of written evidence for the period survives in the form of charters and law-codes, archaeology is uniquely placed to investigate the earliest period of post-Roman society - the fifth to seventh centuries - for which documents are lacking. For later centuries, archaeological evidence can provide us with an independent assessment of the realities of capital punishment and the status of outcasts. Andrew Reynolds argues that outcast burials show a clear pattern of development in this period. In the pre-Christian centuries, 'deviant' burial remains are found only in community cemeteries, but the growth of kingship and the consolidation of territories during the seventh century witnessed the emergence of capital punishment and places of execution in the

English landscape. Locally determined rites, such as crossroads burial, now existed alongside more formal execution cemeteries. Gallows were located on major boundaries, often next to highways, always in highly visible places. The findings of this pioneering national study thus have important consequences on our understanding of Anglo-Saxon society. Overall, Reynolds concludes, organized judicial behaviour was a feature of the earliest Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, rather than just the two centuries prior to the Norman Conquest.

The very first collection of essays written about the role of trees in early medieval England, bringing together established specialists and new voices to present an interdisciplinary insight into the complex relationship between the early English and their woodlands.

The first study of Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-Norman canals and waterways, this book is based on new evidence surrounding the nature of water transport in the period. England is naturally well-endowed with a network of navigable rivers, especially the easterly systems draining into the Thames, Wash and Humber. The central middle ages saw innovative and extensive development of this network, including the digging of canals bypassing difficult stretches of rivers, or linking rivers to important production centres. The eleventh and twelfth centuries seem to have been the high point for this dynamic approach to water-transport: after 1200, the improvement of roads and bridges increasingly diverted resources away from the canals, many of which stagnated with the reassertion of natural drainage patterns. The new perspective presented in this study has an important bearing on the economy, landscape, settlement patterns and inter-regional contacts of medieval England. Essays from economic historians, geographers, geomorphologists, archaeologists, and place-name scholars unearth this neglected but important aspect of medieval engineering and economic growth.

Landscape and Settlement in Britain, AD 400-1066

Anglo-Saxon Landscapes of the West Midlands

The Landscape of Anglo-Saxon England

Hydronymic Terms in the Anglo-Saxon Landscape

Essays in Cultural Geography

Trees and Timber in the Anglo-Saxon World