

0. THE ANGLO-SAXON INVASIONS - Story Preface

1. HADRIAN'S WALL

2. A TRIP TO THE WALL

3. A POWER VACUUM

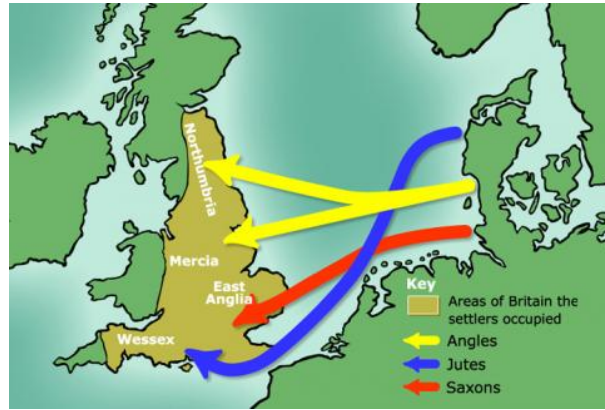
4. INVITING WOLVES INTO THE FOLD

5. THE ANGLO-SAXON INVASIONS

6. ANGLO-SAXON WARS

7. BRITONS FIGHT BACK

8. ARTHUR AND HIS WORLD



After Rome abandoned its province of Britannia, people in Britain needed help to defend themselves. At first Angles, Saxons and Jutes were paid for their assistance. When Brits could no longer compensate these people, the foreign raiders and invaders became settlers. This map, online via the BBC, depicts their origination points.

According to Venerable Bede, the Angles came from "Angulus" - near today's Danish-German border. (The modern northern-German area of Schleswig-Holstein still has a district called Angeln.)

The Saxons came from the coast between the Elbe and Weser River valleys. A third group of foreigners who would soon populate Rome's former province - the Jutes - resided north of the Angles in Jutland (modern Denmark).

At first, the Britons were able to pay their foreign defenders. But as more and more Anglo-Saxons descended on Britain, compensating them became increasingly difficult.

Soon the immigrants "took" what was not theirs. Then, as word about good-land-for-the-taking reached tribesmen still living in their own lands, hordes of uninvited "barbarians" reached Britain's shores.

Their intent was not to help the Britons resist Picts and Scots. Their intent was to settle the land themselves. Some of their early settlements, based on archeological evidence, incorporate towns which are still important today.

Largely undefended, remaining Romans and native Britons fled to modern Wales and Cornwall. It wasn't the first time Saxons had invaded their land. That had happened as early as 409 A.D. But this time, with no Roman legions to protect them, resistance proved extremely difficult.

Saxons attacked the southern part of Britain from northern Germany, as did Angles and Jutes. When so much of the south was occupied by Angles, the area was called Angle-land from which the country - England - later took its name.

The same Celtic tribes (with their very long history in Ireland and the United Kingdom) - who'd caused Britons to seek help in the first place - continued to inhabit the northern part of Britain. Fierce as they were, they remained independent during this time frame.

The Picts (Rome's old nemesis) and the Scots (originally from Ireland) were the two main northern tribes. They ultimately united under one king (Kenneth MacAlpin) to form Scotland (Kingdom of Alba) in 843 A.D., although the islands and highlands were not part of that early country.

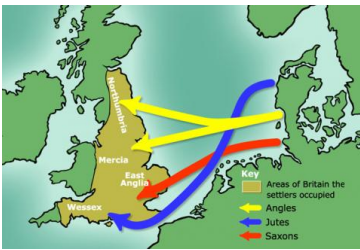
William Shakespeare, parenthetically, later wrote an imaginary tale about a real king of Scotland who reigned at the end of those Dark Ages. His actual name? Macbeth.

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/THE-ANGLO-SAXON-INVASIONS-King-Arthur)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/THE-ANGLO-SAXON-INVASIONS-King-Arthur>

See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/THE-ANGLO-SAXON-INVASIONS-King-Arthur)

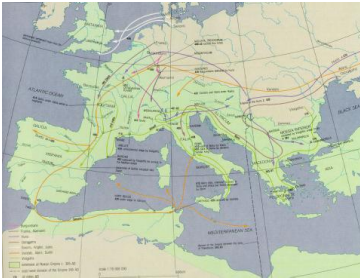
<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/THE-ANGLO-SAXON-INVASIONS-King-Arthur>



Anglo-Saxons and Britain

Map image online via the BBC.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Anglo-Saxons-and-Britain>



Migration Patterns - Roman Times

Image online, courtesy the [University of Florida](#) website.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Migration-Patterns-Roman-Times>



Map Depicting Schleswig-Holstein

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Map-Depicting-Schleswig-Holstein>



Map Depicting Angeln

Image online, courtesy the [dolleruper-schaufenster](#) website.

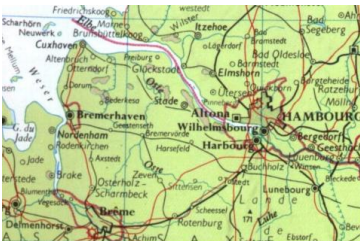
View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Map-Depicting-Angeln>



View of the Elba River

Image online, courtesy the [wehlen](#) website.

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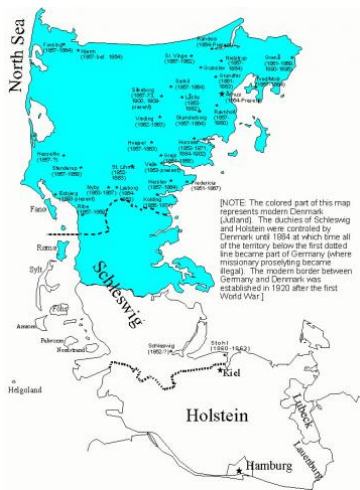


Map Depicting the Weser River

Image online, courtesy the [pamir.chez-alice](#) website.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Map-Depicting-the-Weser-River>



Map Depicting Jutland

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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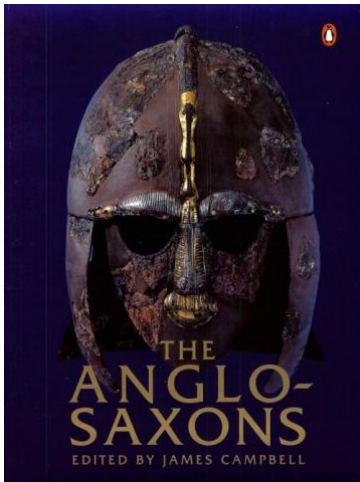


Map Depicting the Elba and Weser Rivers

Image online, courtesy the wkarte website.

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<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Map-Depicting-the-Elba-and-Weser-Rivers>



The Anglo-Saxons - by James Campbell

Image online, courtesy amazon.com website.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/The-Anglo-Saxons-by-James-Campbell>

Anglo-Saxon Settlements in England

After Rome's legions left Briton, the local people (who had relied on Rome's defensive help for centuries) were left to fend for themselves.

They weren't able to do that job very well, so they invited foreigners to help.

According to Venerable Bede, the 8th-century English historian:

- Angles came from "Angulus" (near today's Danish-German border);
- Saxons came from the coast between the Elbe and Weser River valleys; and
- Jutes came from "Jutland" (an area in today's Denmark).

At first, Britons were able to pay these people for their services. When that was no-longer possible, because too many foreign "defenders" were arriving in Briton, the foreigners began to take land for their own settlements.

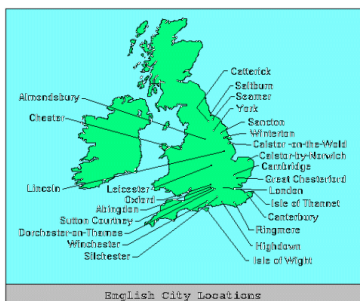
This image depicts areas where Anglo-Saxon-Jutes settled in Briton. The settlements became the basis for many of England's still-existing cities.

Click on the image for a much-better view of the map.

Image online, courtesy Minnesota State University website.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Anglo-Saxon-Settlements-in-England>



Macbeth - The Play and the Story Behind It, Part 1

Clip from *Shakespeare: The Animated Tales* (also known as *The Animated Shakespeare*). Originally broadcast in 1992, each episode of the series is a thirty-minute adaptation of a Shakespeare play.

The producer of this BBC-commissioned series was the Dave Edwards studio in Cardiff, the scripts were authored by Leon Garfield, the academic adviser was Professor Stanley Wells and the animations were created by Russian directors and animators at the Christmas Films Studio in Moscow.

Director:

Nikolai Serebryakov

Macbeth:

Voiced by Brian Cox

Lady MacBeth:

Voiced by Zoë Wanamaker

Narrator:

Alec McCowen

Duncan:

Voiced by Laurence Payne

Banquo:

Voiced by Patrick Brennan

MacDuff:

Voiced by Clive Merrison

Witches:

Voiced by Mary Wimbush, Val Lonsaine and Emma Gregory

Malcolm:

Voiced by David Acton

Donalbain

Voiced by Richard Pearce

Lennox:

Voiced by John Baddeley

Quoted passage from the BBC biography of the historical figure, *King Macbeth*.

Quoted passages from *Macbeth* by A.W. Verity (1901).

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Macbeth-The-Play-and-the-Story-Behind-It-Part-1>



Macbeth - The Play and the Story Behind It, Part 2

Clip from *Shakespeare: The Animated Tales* (also known as *The Animated Shakespeare*). Originally broadcast in 1992, each episode of the series is a thirty-minute adaptation of a Shakespeare play.

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View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Macbeth-The-Play-and-the-Story-Behind-It-Part-2>



Macbeth - The Play and the Story Behind It, Part 3

Clip from *Shakespeare: The Animated Tales* (also known as *The Animated Shakespeare*). Originally broadcast in 1992, each episode of the series is a thirty-minute adaptation of a Shakespeare play.

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