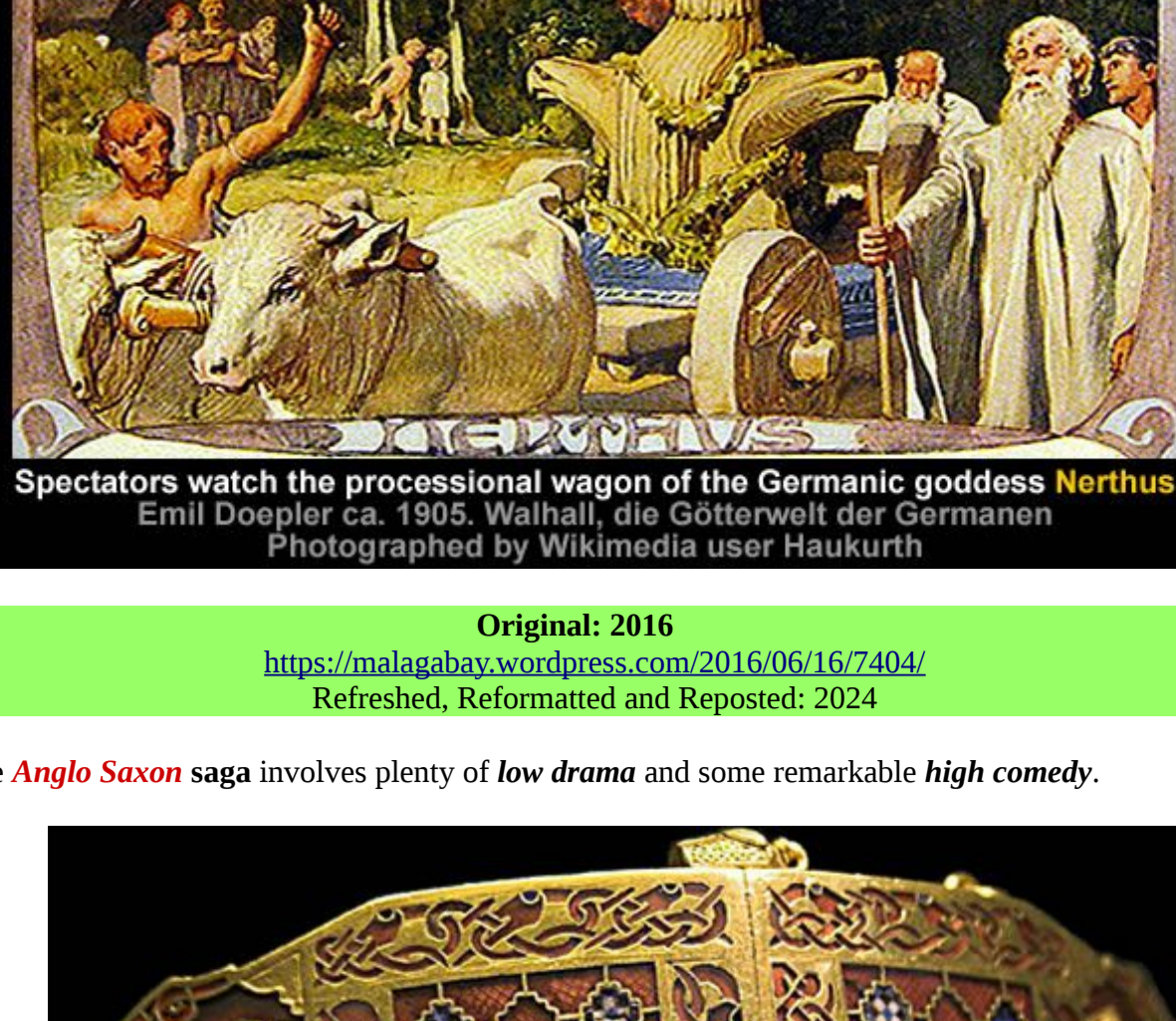


# 03 Catastrophic English Saxon Bull



Spectators watch the processional wagon of the Germanic goddess Nerthus  
Emil Doepler ca. 1905. Waltham, die Götterwelt der Germanen  
Photographed by Wikimedia user Haukurth

Original: 2016  
<https://malagabay.wordpress.com/2016/06/16/7404/>  
 Refreshed, Reformatted and Reposted: 2024

The **Anglo Saxon** saga involves plenty of **low drama** and some remarkable **high comedy**.



Shoulder Clasp - Sutton Hoo ship-burial 1, England - British Museum  
 Rob Roy User:Robroyaus on en.wikipedia.org - www.roblog.com

The **Anglo-Saxons** were a people who inhabited Great Britain from the 5th century.

They comprised **people from Germanic tribes** who migrated to the island from continental Europe, their descendants, and indigenous British groups who adopted some aspects of Anglo-Saxon culture and language.

The **Anglo-Saxon period** denotes ... **British history** between about **450 and 1066** ...

Wikipedia - Anglo-Saxons  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anglo-Saxons>

Old Saxony ... from which ... raids and later colonisations of Britain were mounted.

Wikipedia - Old Saxony  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old\\_Saxony](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_Saxony)

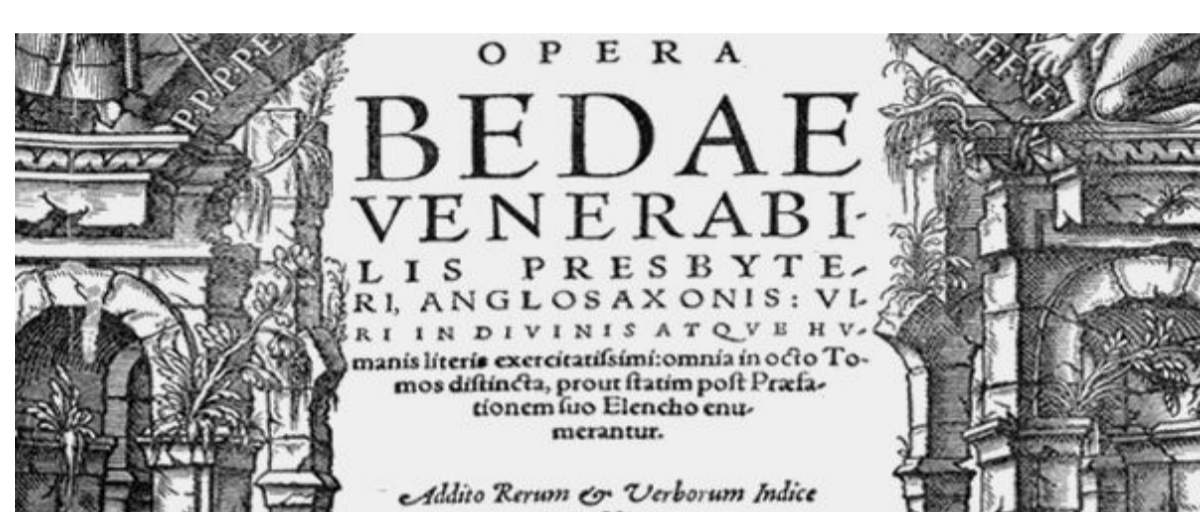
## Anglo-Saxon Britain

The history of Britain after the withdrawal of the Roman troops is **extremely obscure** ...

Anglo-Saxon Britain - Hector Munro Chadwick  
 Encyclopaedia Britannica - Volume 4 - 1911  
[https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/1911\\_Encyclop%C3%A6dia\\_Britannica/Britain/Anglo-Saxon](https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/1911_Encyclop%C3%A6dia_Britannica/Britain/Anglo-Saxon)

## On the one hand:

It's claimed the **Saxons** arrived in **Britain** from **Old Saxony** and became **Anglo-Saxons** because this historical narrative was effectively documented by the **Venerable Bede** in about **731 AD**.



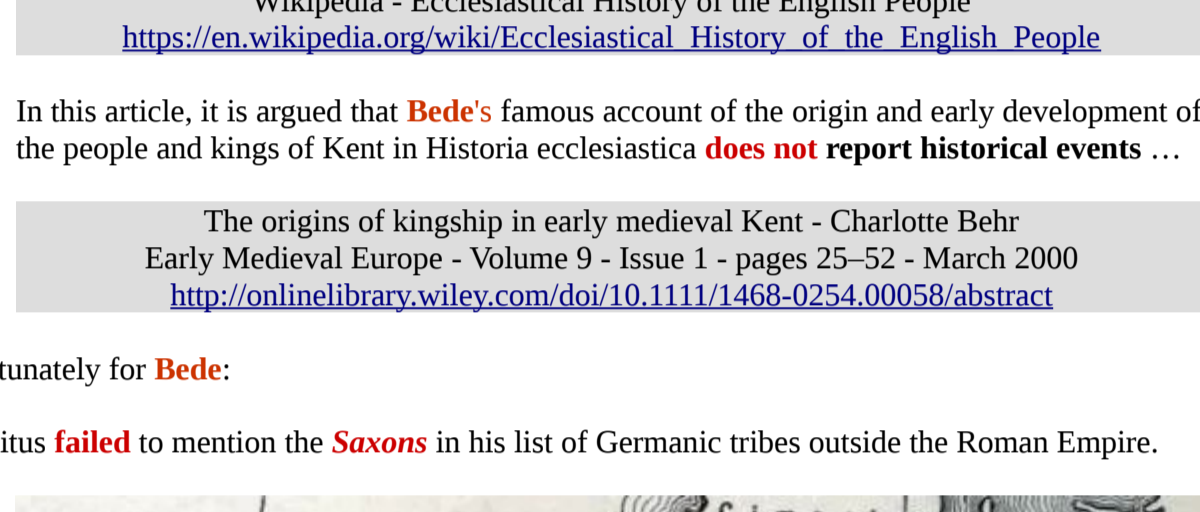
Territory Inhabited by The Ancient Saxons North of the Elbe  
 The History of the Anglo-Saxons - Sharon Turner - Volume 1 - 1820

The History of the Anglo-Saxons - Sharon Turner - Volume 1 - 1820  
<https://archive.org/details/historyofanglosa01turn/page/n25/mode/1up>

The **Anglo-Saxon** writer **Bede** claimed in his work *Historia ecclesiastica gentis Anglorum* (731) that **Old Saxony** was the area between the Elbe, the Weser and the Eider in the north and north west of modern Germany and was ... beyond the borders of the Roman Empire.

Wikipedia - Old Saxony  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old\\_Saxony](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_Saxony)

Whether **Bede** is believed depends upon faith and finely tuned clairvoyancy skills.



Opera Bedae Venerabilis - Bede, Venerabilis  
 Opera Omnia - Volume 3 - Johann Herwagen - 1563

The **first printed** copy of the *Historia Ecclesiastica* appeared from the press of Heinrich Eggstein in Strasbourg, **probably** between 1475 and 1480.

Wikipedia - Ecclesiastical History of the English People  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecclesiastical\\_History\\_of\\_the\\_English\\_People](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecclesiastical_History_of_the_English_People)

Some historians have questioned the reliability of some of **Bede's accounts**. One historian, Charlotte Behr, asserts that the Historia's account of the arrival of the **Germanic invaders in Kent** should be considered as current **myth, not history**.

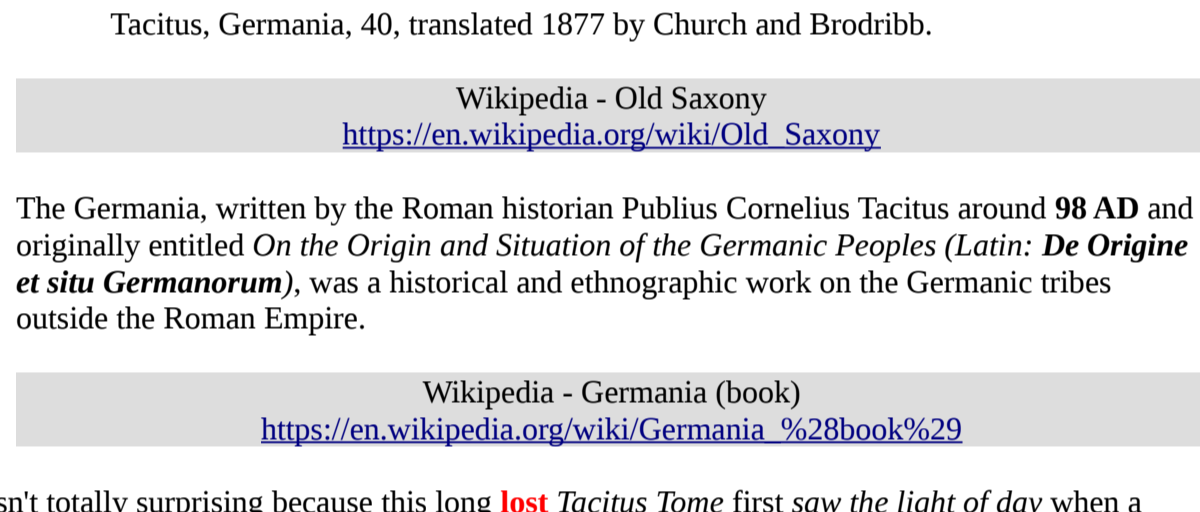
Wikipedia - Ecclesiastical History of the English People  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecclesiastical\\_History\\_of\\_the\\_English\\_People](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecclesiastical_History_of_the_English_People)

In this article, it is argued that **Bede's** famous account of the origin and early development of the people and kings of Kent in *Historia ecclesiastica* **does not report historical events** ...

The origins of kingship in early medieval Kent - Charlotte Behr  
 Early Medieval Europe - Volume 9 - Issue 1 - pages 25-52 - March 2000  
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1468-0254.00058/abstract>

## Unfortunately for Bede:

a) Tacitus **failed** to mention the **Saxons** in his list of Germanic tribes outside the Roman Empire.



Germania - Tacitus - Duane Reed Stuart - 1916  
<https://archive.org/details/germania00tacitof/page/n7/mode/2up>

Tacitus in his 1<sup>st</sup> century work *De Origine et situ Germanorum* ascribes several tribes of Germanic peoples inhabiting the northern seaboard and interior lands later called Old Saxony, viz;

(English translation)  
 "There follow in order the Reudignians, and Aviones, and Angles, and Varinians, and Eudoes, and Suardiones, and Nuithones; all defended by rivers or forests..."

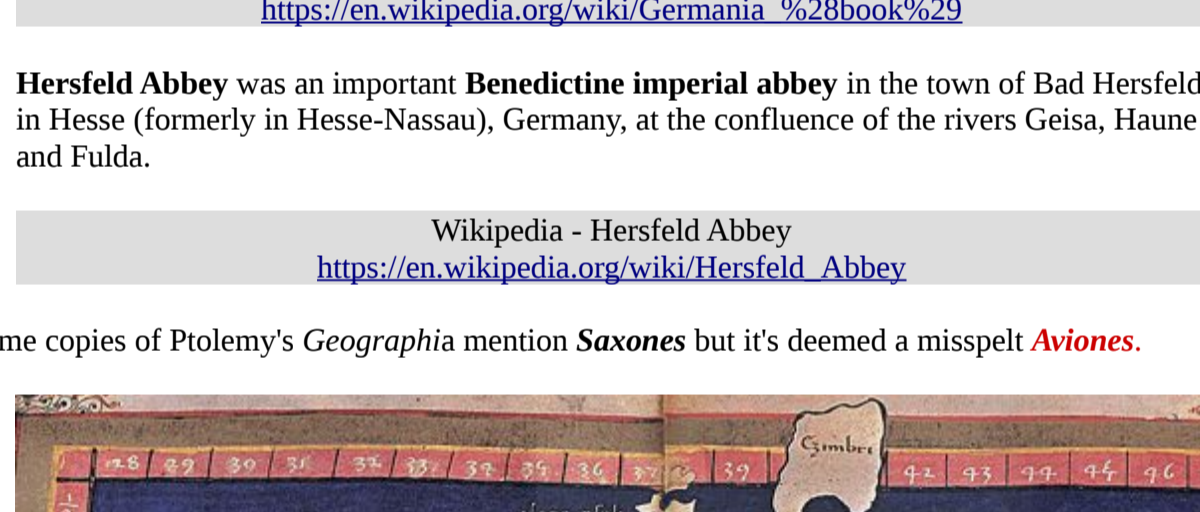
Tacitus, Germania, 40, translated 1877 by Church and Brodrigg.

Wikipedia - Old Saxony  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old\\_Saxony](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_Saxony)

The Germania, written by the Roman historian Publius Cornelius Tacitus around **98 AD** and originally entitled *On the Origin and Situation of the Germanic Peoples* (Latin: *De Origine et situ Germanorum*), was a historical and ethnographic work of the Germanic tribes outside the Roman Empire.

Wikipedia - Germania (book)  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Germania\\_\(book\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Germania_(book))

This isn't totally surprising because this long **lost Tacitus Tome** first saw the **light of day** when a single copy was **"found"** in a "Benedictine library" during **1425 AD**.



Hersfeld Abbey, Bad Hersfeld, Hesse, Germany 2micha at German Wikipedia

All copies of Germania were **lost** during the Middle Ages and the work was forgotten until a single manuscript was **found** in Hersfeld Abbey (Codex Hersfeldensis) in 1425.

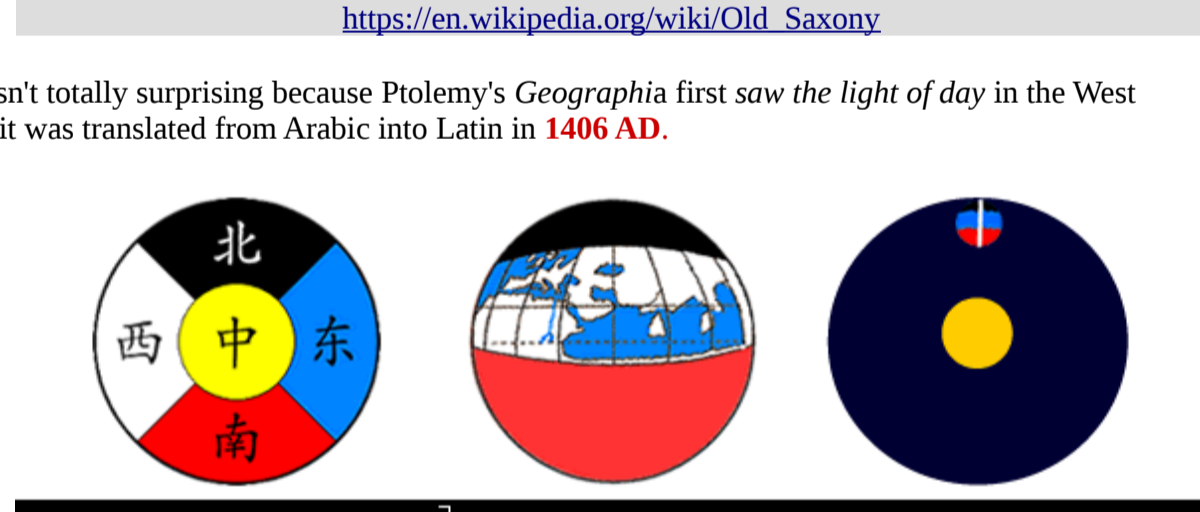
It was then brought to Italy, where Enea Silvio Piccolomini, later **Pope Pius II**, first examined and analyzed the book.

Wikipedia - Germania (book)  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Germania\\_\(book\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Germania_(book))

**Hersfeld Abbey** was an important **Benedictine imperial abbey** in the town of Bad Hersfeld in Hesse (formerly in Hesse-Nassau), Germany, at the confluence of the rivers Geisa, Haune and Fulda.

Wikipedia - Hersfeld Abbey  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hersfeld\\_Abbey](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hersfeld_Abbey)

b) Some copies of Ptolemy's *Geographia* mention **Saxones** but it's deemed a misspelt **Aviones**.



Northern section: Magna Germania  
 Ptolemy's Geography - Nicolaus Germanus - 1486

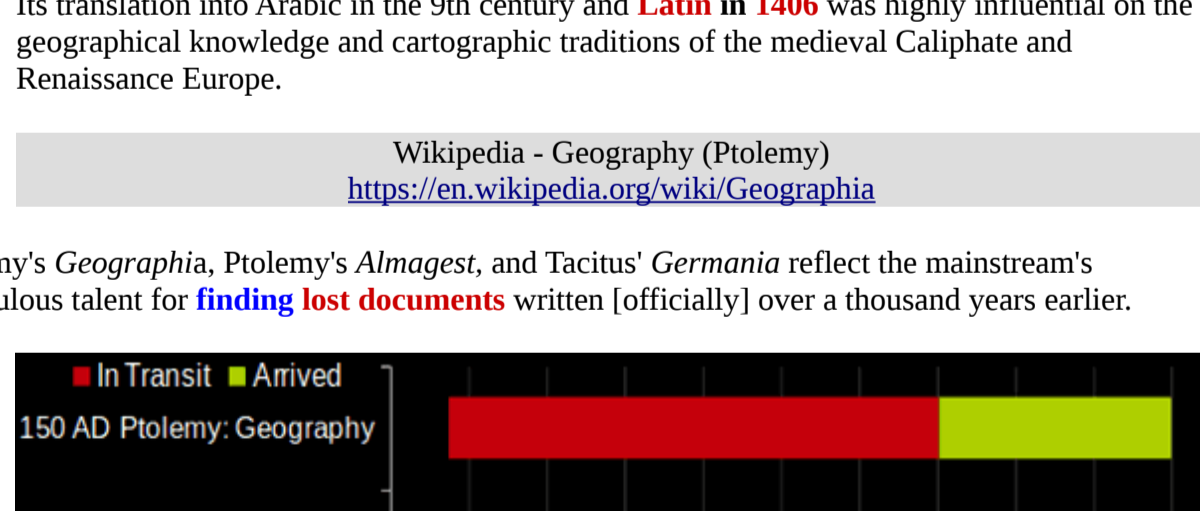
**Ptolemy's Geographia**, written in the 2nd century, is sometimes considered to contain the first mentioning of the Saxons.

**Some copies of this text mention a tribe called Saxones** in the area to the north of the lower River Elbe, thought to derive from the word Sax or stone knife.

However, **other copies call the same tribe Axones**, and it is considered likely that it is a misspelling of the tribe that **Tacitus** in his *Germania* called **Aviones**.

Wikipedia - Old Saxony  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old\\_Saxony](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_Saxony)

This isn't totally surprising because Ptolemy's *Geographia* first saw the **light of day** in the West when it was translated from Arabic into Latin in **1406 AD**.



Malaga Bay - The Claudius Con: Geographia  
<https://malagabay.wordpress.com/2024/01/20/the-claudius-con-geographia/>

The Geographia, also known by its Latin names as the **Geographia** and the **Cosmographia**, is a gazetteer, an atlas, and a treatise on cartography, compiling the geographical knowledge of the 2nd-century Roman Empire.

**Originally written by Ptolemy in Greek** at Alexandria around **AD 150**, the work was a revision of a now-lost atlas by Marinus of Tyre using additional Roman and Persian gazetteers and new principles.

Its translation into Arabic in the 9th century and **Latin** in **1406** was highly influential on the geographical knowledge and cartographic traditions of the medieval Caliphate and Renaissance Europe.

Wikipedia - Geography (Ptolemy)  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geography>

Ptolemy's *Geographia*, Ptolemy's *Almagest*, and Tacitus' *Germania* reflect the mainstream's miraculous talent for **finding lost documents** written [officially] over a thousand years earlier.



In the year **1450** one or two **Greek codices** of the **Almagest** had been **found** in Greece and brought to Rome. The first translation of them was made by Georgius Trapezuntius about 1460, subsequently published at Venice in 1528 ...

Ptolemy's Catalogue of Stars: A revision of the Almagest - 1915  
 Christian Heinrich Friedrich Peters and Edward Ball Knobel  
<https://archive.org/details/cu31924012300491/page/n25/mode/1up>

## One the other hand:

1) Numismatic evidence indicates the contemporary coinage was connected to **France**.



A Catalogue of English Coins in The British Museum  
 Anglo-Saxon Series - 1887 - Volume II  
 Herbert A Gueber and Charles Francis Keary

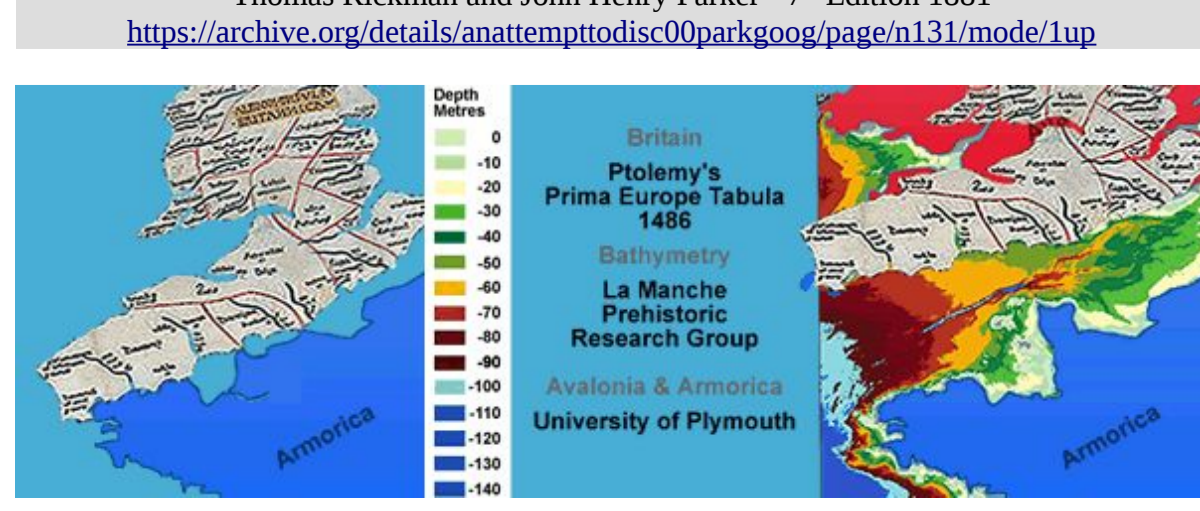
The **first series of English coins** consisted of a few gold and a very considerable number of silver pieces (sceattas), which were no doubt chiefly current **in the districts nearest to the French coast**.

But they evidently **spread through middle England** as far as Northumbria, for we have coins of this series with the name of Mercia and Northumbrian kings.

... South of the Humber, the history of the **English coinage** is affected by the **changes** which took place **in the coinage of Francia**.

A Catalogue of English Coins in The British Museum  
 Anglo-Saxon Series - 1887 - Volume II  
 Herbert A Gueber and Charles Francis Keary  
<https://archive.org/details/catalogueofengl02briv/page/n127/mode/1up>

2) Architectural evidence indicates contemporary building styles were aligned with **France**.



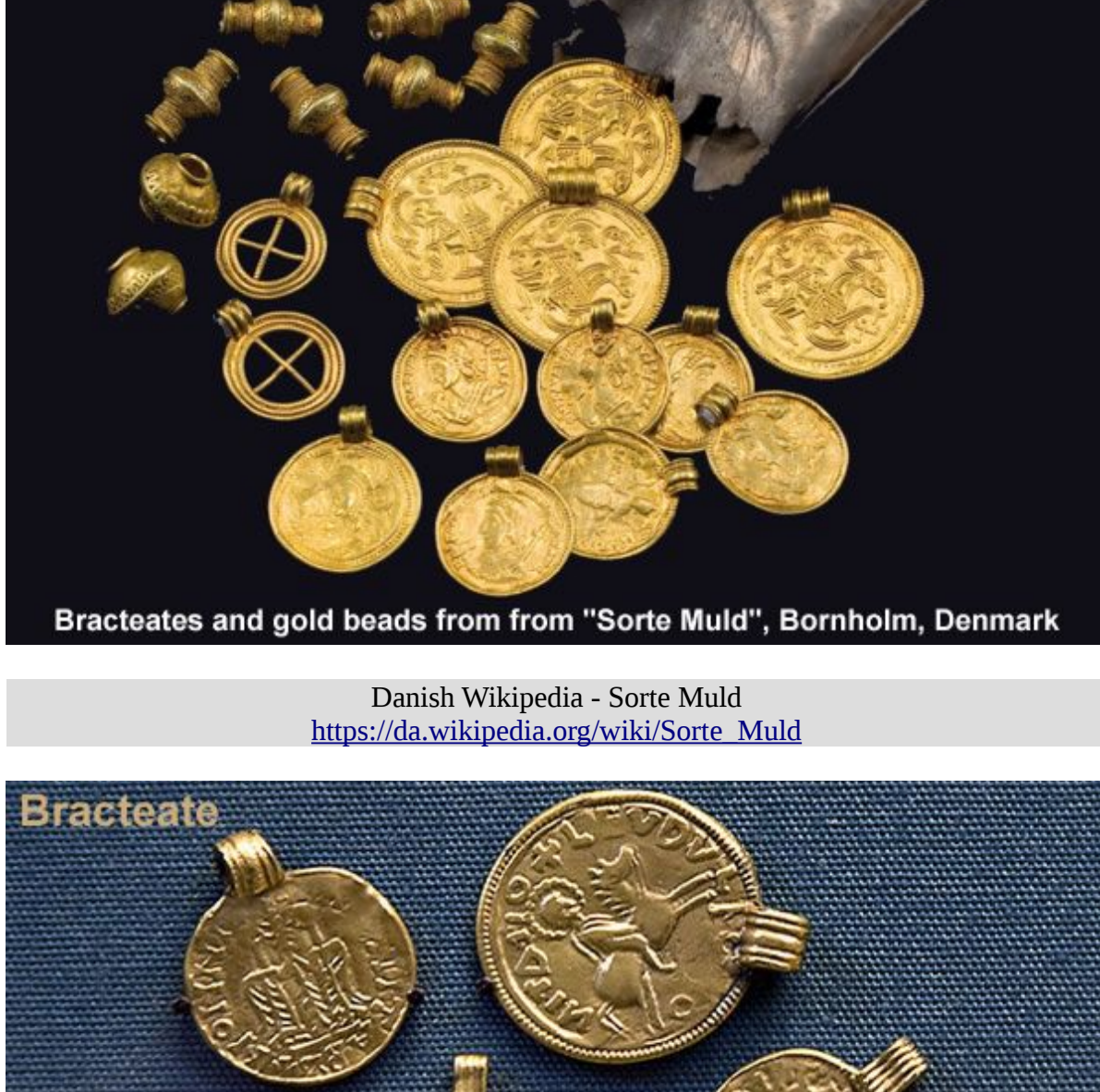
Saxon Doorway Barton-Upon-Humber  
 Geograph.org.uk - Richard Croft

The style which we in England properly call the **Norman style**, and which our fathers called the **Saxon style**, is called by the **French antiquaries**, with equal propriety, **Anglo-Norman**, and there is scarcely any distinction in style until after the time of **Henry II [1154-1189]**.

An Attempt To Discriminate The Styles of English Architecture  
 Thomas Rickman and John Henry Parker - 7th Edition 1881  
<https://archive.org/details/atantempttodisc00parkgoog/page/n131/mode/1up>

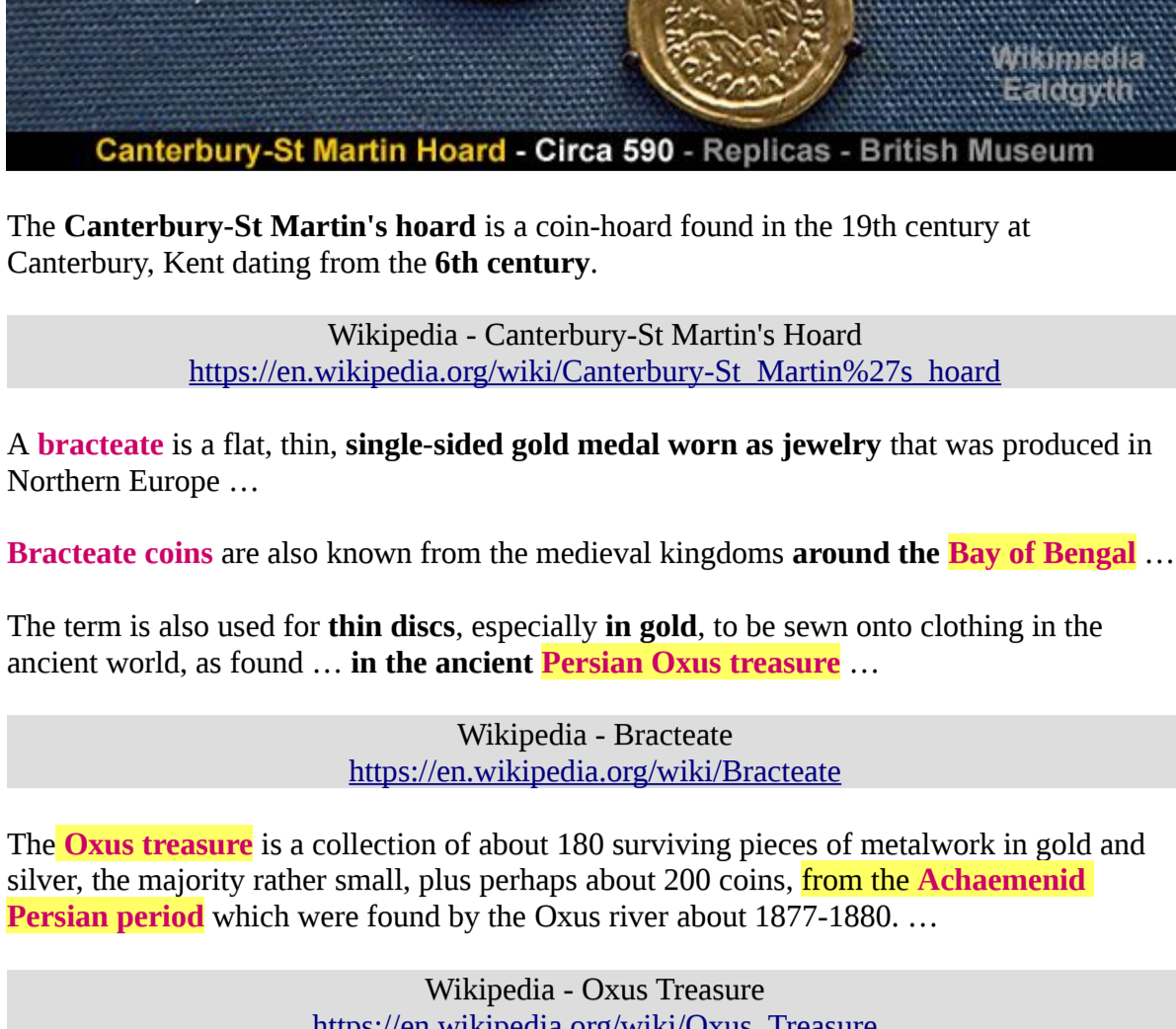


3) **Bracteate** evidence suggests the **Germanic tribes** were of **Persian** and/or **Indian** descent.



Bracteates and gold beads from from "Sorte Muld", Bornholm, Denmark

Danish Wikipedia - Sorte Muld  
[https://da.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sorte\\_Muld](https://da.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sorte_Muld)



Canterbury-St Martin Hoard - Circa 590 - Replicas - British Museum

The **Canterbury-St Martin's hoard** is a coin-hoard found in the 19th century at Canterbury, Kent dating from the **6th century**.

Wikipedia - Canterbury-St Martin's Hoard  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canterbury-St\\_Martin%27s\\_hoard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canterbury-St_Martin%27s_hoard)

A **bracteate** is a flat, thin, **single-sided gold medal** worn as jewelry that was produced in Northern Europe ...

**Bracteate coins** are also known from the medieval kingdoms around the **Bay of Bengal** ...

The term is also used for **thin discs**, especially in **gold**, to be sewn onto clothing in the ancient world, as found ... in the ancient **Persian Oxus treasure** ...

Wikipedia - Bracteate  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bracteate>

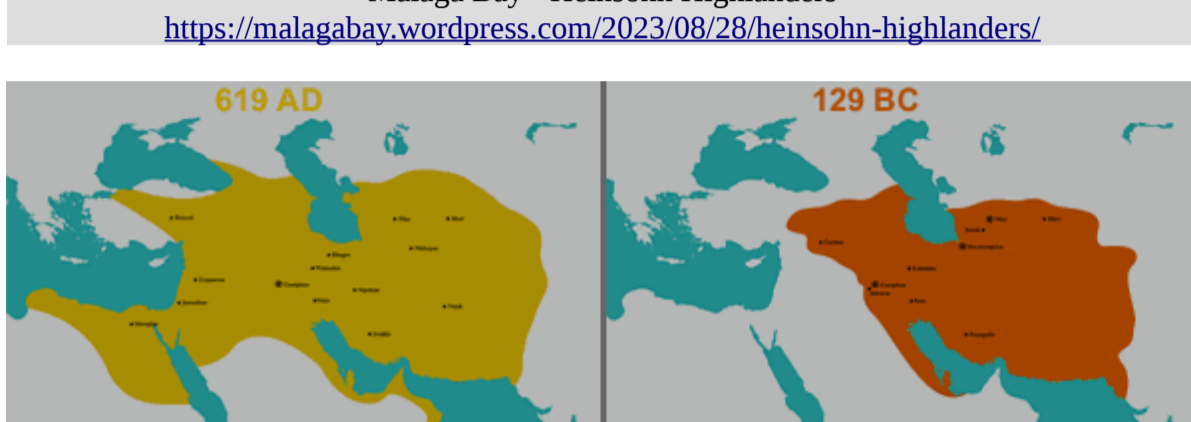
The **Oxus treasure** is a collection of about 180 surviving pieces of metalwork in gold and silver, the majority rather small, plus perhaps about 200 coins, from the **Achaemenid Persian period** which were found by the Oxus river about 1877-1880. ...

Wikipedia - Oxus Treasure  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oxus\\_Treasure](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oxus_Treasure)

The **Achaemenid Empire (c. 550-330 BC)** ... was an empire based in Western Asia, founded by Cyrus the Great, notable for including various civilizations and becoming the largest empire of ancient history, spanning at its maximum extent from the **Balkans and Eastern Europe** proper in the west, to the **Indus Valley** in the east.

Wikipedia - Achaemenid Empire  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Achaemenid>

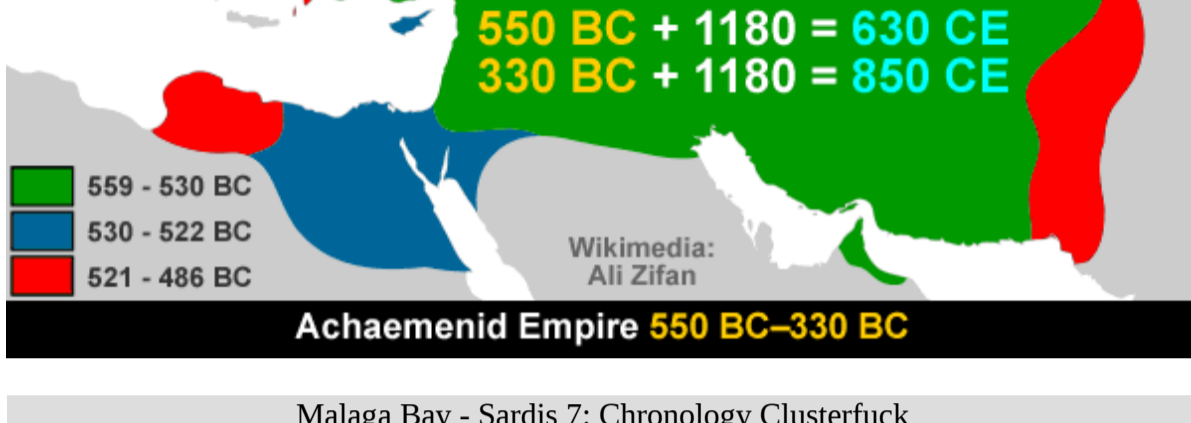
Chronological support for the **Anglo Saxons** being of **Persian** and/or **Indian** descent is provided by applying the **Early Roman Adjustment** of +1,180 years to the **Achaemenid Empire** period.



Malaga Bay - Heinsohn Highlanders  
<https://malagabay.wordpress.com/2023/08/28/heinsohn-highlanders/>

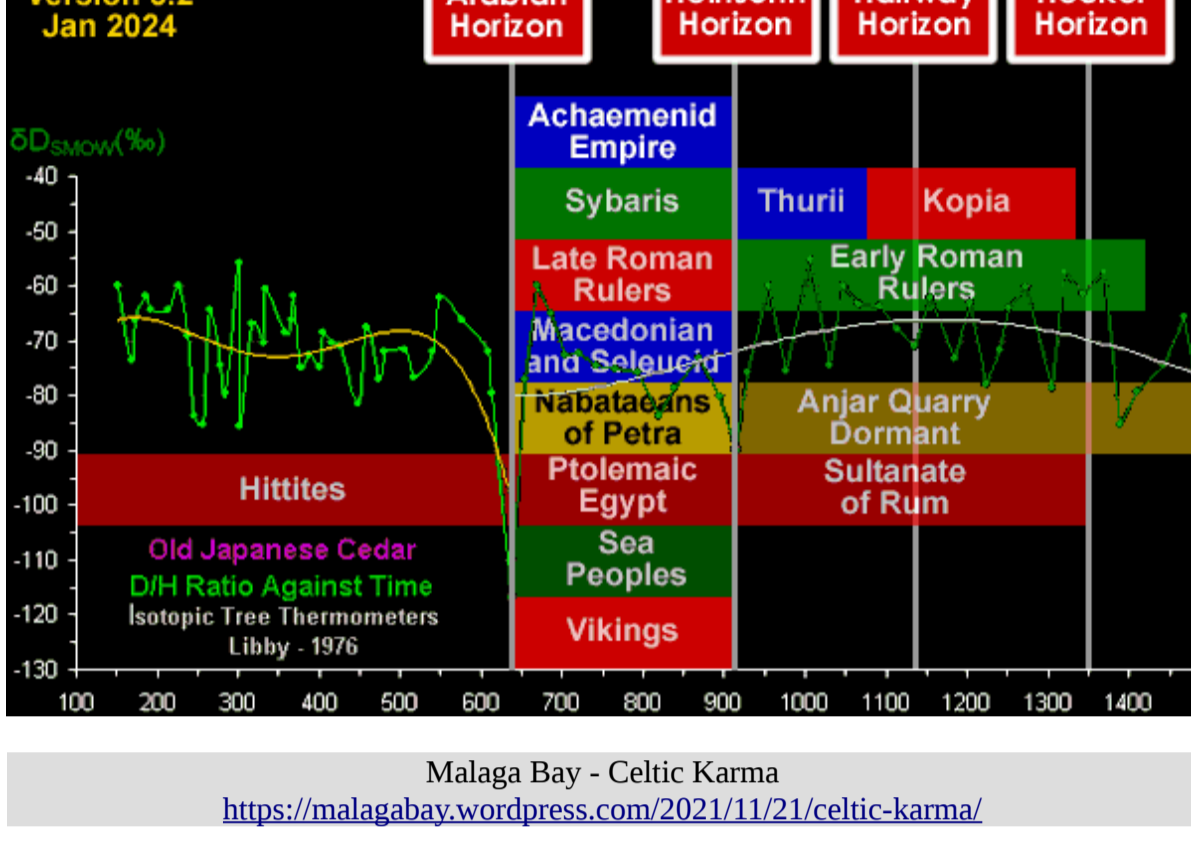


Sasanian Empire 224AD - 651AD Parthian Empire 247BC - 224AD



Achaemenid Empire 550 BC-330 BC

Malaga Bay - Sardis 7: Chronology Clusterfuck  
<https://malagabay.wordpress.com/2021/09/27/sardis-7-chronology-clusterfuck/>



Malaga Bay - Celtic Karma  
<https://malagabay.wordpress.com/2021/11/21/celtic-karma/>

It's this **East→West** civilizational flow the mainstream tries to **shroud, suppress, and stonewall**.



Krishna playing the flute to a dancing Radha, two holy cows stand behind  
 Chromolithograph - 1897  
 Wellcome Images - Wellcome Trust

Mosaic floor ca. 150-200 AD  
 Archaeological Museum of Ancient Corinth  
 Flickr: Carole Raddato from Frankfurt

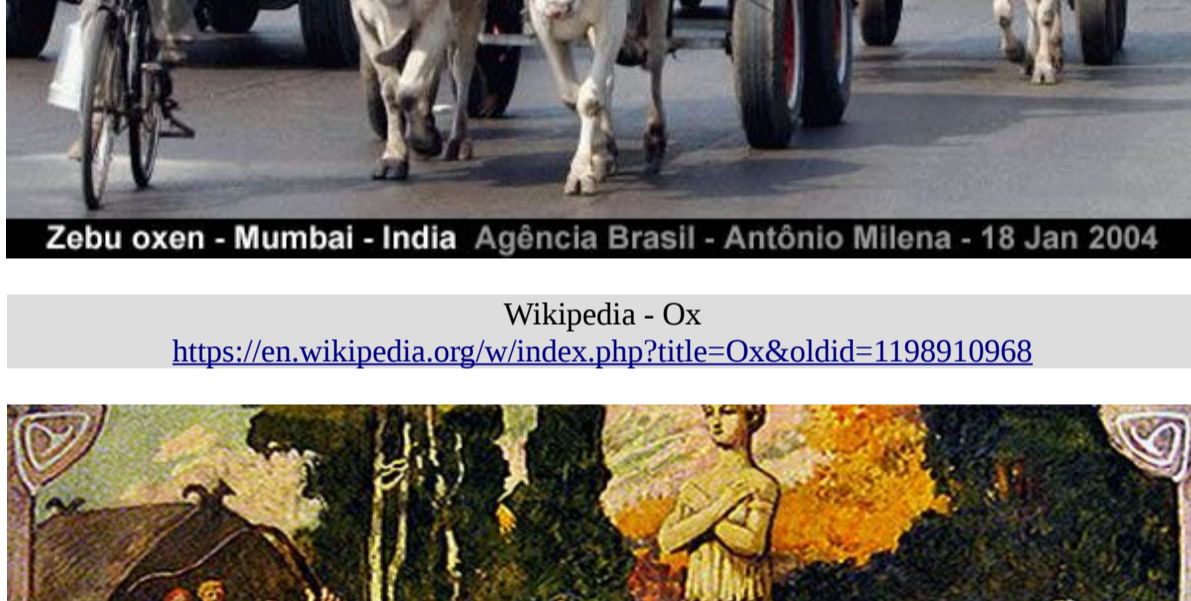
Mosaic Floor from a Roman villa - Chronology: A.D. 150-200  
 Archaeological Museum of Ancient Corinth  
<https://www.corinth-museum.gr/en/collection-item/mosaic-floor-from-a-roman-villa/>

Krishna playing the flute to a dancing Radha, two holy cows stand behind.  
 Chromolithograph - 1897 - Wellcome Collection  
<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/ygkzjmf>



Zebu oxen - Mumbai - India Agência Brasil - Antônio Milena - 18 Jan 2004

Wikipedia - Ox  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Ox&oldid=1198910968>



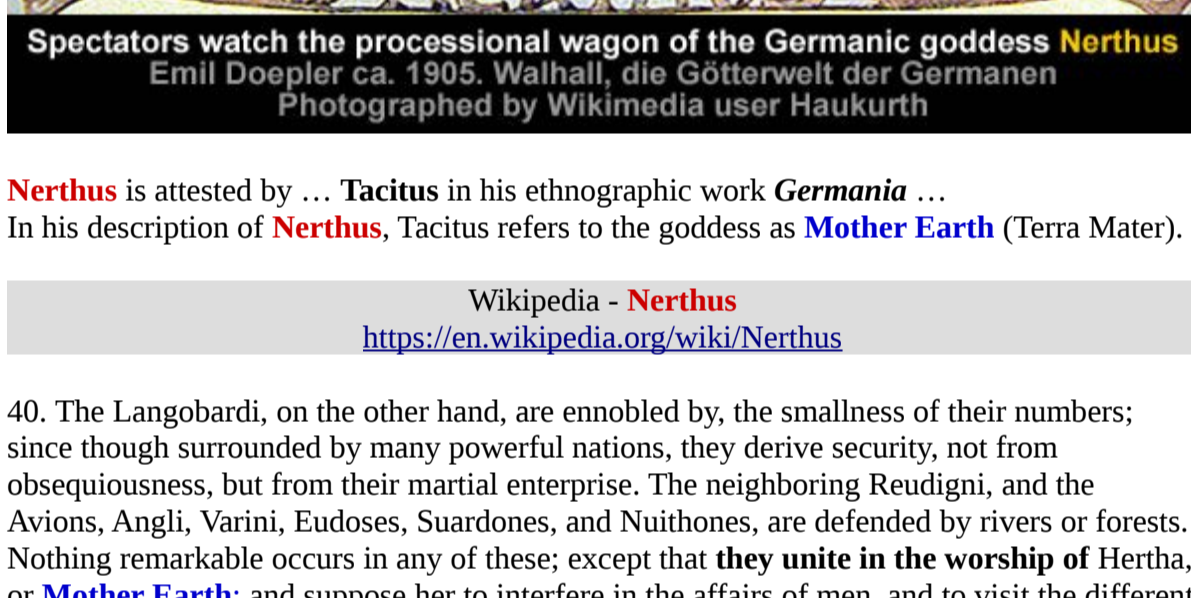
Spectators watch the processional wagon of the Germanic goddess Nerthus  
 Emil Doepler ca. 1905. Walnut, die Götterwelt der Germanen  
 Photographed by Wikimédia User Haukurth

**Nerthus** is attested by ... **Tacitus** in his ethnographic work **Germania** ...  
 In his description of **Nerthus**, Tacitus refers to the goddess as **Mother Earth** (Terra Mater).

Wikipedia - Nerthus  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nerthus>

40. The Langobardi, on the other hand, are ennobled by, the smallness of their numbers; since though surrounded by many powerful nations, they derive security, not from obsequiousness, but from their martial enterprise. The neighboring Reudigni, and the Avions, Angli, Varini, Eudoses, Suardones, and Nuithones, are defended by rivers or forests. Nothing remarkable occurs in any of these; except that **they unite in the worship of Hertha, or Mother Earth**; and suppose her to interfere in the affairs of men, and to visit the different nations. In an island of the ocean stands a sacred and unviolated grove, in which is a **consecrated chariot**, covered with a veil, which the priest alone is permitted to touch. He becomes conscious of the entrance of the goddess into this secret recess; and with profound veneration attends the vehicle, **which is drawn by yoked cows**.

The Oxford Translation Revised, with Notes - Commentator: Edward Brooks  
 Project Gutenberg - Release Date: 17 May 2013  
<https://www.gutenberg.org/files/7524/7524-h/7524-h.htm#linknoteref-210>



Prithvi chasing Prithvi in the form of a cow  
 Bhagavata Purana manuscript - About 1740 - Museum of Fine Arts Boston

**Prithvi** "the Vast One" is the Sanskrit name for the **earth** ...  
 As **Pr̥thvi Mātā "Mother Earth"** she contrasts with Dyaus Pita "father sky" ...  
 She is associated with the **cow**.

Wikipedia - Prithvi  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prithvi>

However:

Some supporting evidence is **hard to hide**.

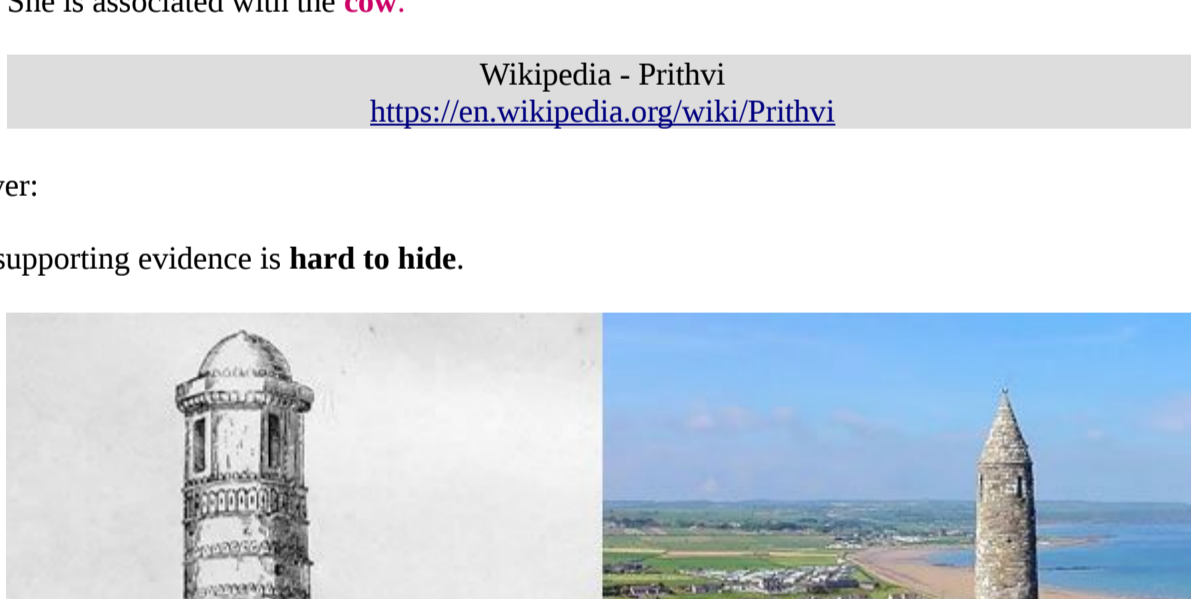


Ancient Towers - Bhaugulpore, Bengal Voyages and Travels - Volume 1 George, Viscount Valentia - 1809

Ardmore Round Tower County Waterford, Ireland  
 Wikimedia: Vadrefjord

**Ardmore**  
 This tower stands in the County of Waterford, on the coast near the entrance of Youghal bay. It is above one hundred feet high, forty-five feet in circumference, fifteen in diameter. It is **divided on the outside by projecting bands into four unequal stories**, with a window in each, except the upper, in which are four opposite to each other. The door is about fifteen feet from the ground. This is the only tower in Ireland (at least I believe so) which has the projecting bands, in which **it resembles much the Indian Towers of Boplioor**.

Etruria-Celtica - William Betham - 1842  
<https://archive.org/details/etruriacelticae02beth/page/211/mode/1up>



Philip Callahan believes a map of the Irish Round Towers [enhanced with some connecting lines] provides a rough star map of the Northern Hemisphere night sky around the December solstice

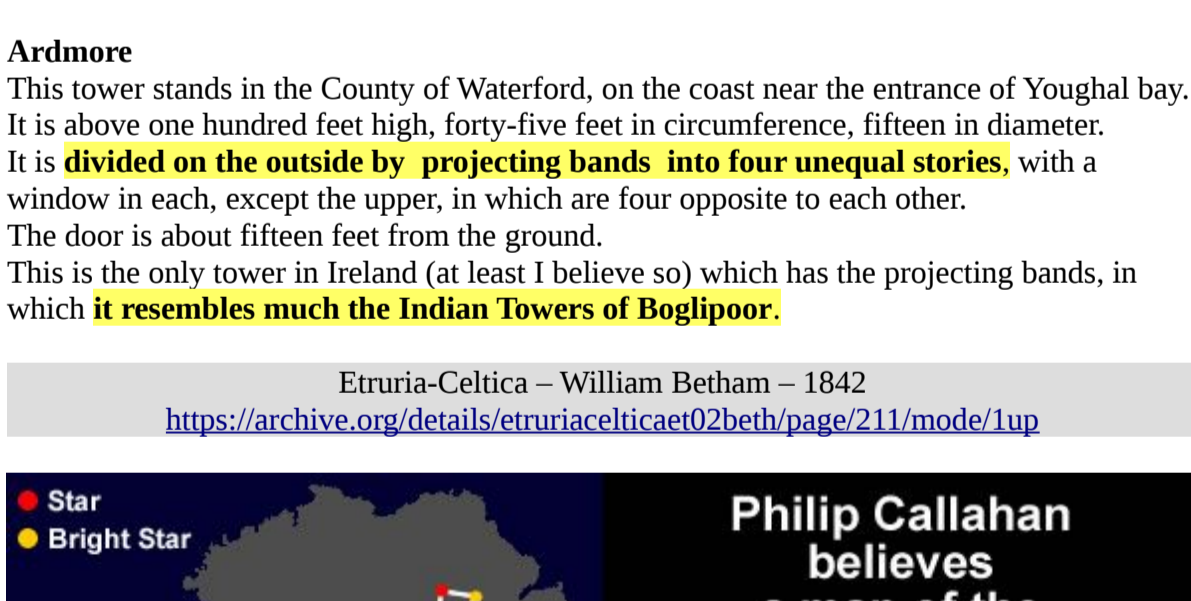
Ancient Mysteries, Modern Visions  
 Philip S Callahan - 2001

Malaga Bay - Philip Callahan and The Round Towers  
<https://malagabay.wordpress.com/2016/03/09/philip-callahan-and-the-round-towers/>

**Irish round towers** ... mainly in Ireland ... two in Scotland ... one on the Isle of Man ... probably built between the **9th and 12th centuries** ... In about 120 examples are thought once to have existed; most are in ruins, while eighteen to twenty are almost perfect.

Wikipedia - Irish Round Tower  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irish\\_round\\_tower](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irish_round_tower)

And it's **hard to hide** the evidence **Mother Earth** was worshipped in **Britain** during **Saxon times**.



St Mary's and St Walstan's Church, Bawburgh, Norfolk

**Bawburgh** is a significant location in the **legend of St Walstan**, the 10th-11th century patron saint of farm labourers. According to legend, Walstan was **born** ... at Bawburgh (or possibly Blythburgh in Suffolk) into a **Saxon noble family circa 970**, but at the age of 12 gave up his privileged life, choosing instead to work as a farm labourer in Taverham ... **Walstan's body was returned to Bawburgh on a cart drawn by two white oxen**.

Wikipedia - Bawburgh  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Bawburgh&oldid=1119079145>

**Round-tower churches** are a type of church found mainly in England, mostly in East Anglia; of **about 185 surviving** examples in the country, 124 are in Norfolk, 38 in Suffolk, six in Essex, three in Sussex and two each in Cambridgeshire and Berkshire.

Wikipedia - Round-Tower Church  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Round-tower\\_church](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Round-tower_church)

But they try. **They really try!**

When a **very old Tower** has had a **new Church grafted on**  
 Then they may cynically deem the **new Church Anglo-Saxon** e.g. All Saints' Brixworth.



All Saints' Brixworth Northamptonshire - England

A leading example of early Anglo-Saxon architecture  
 Wikipedia  
 Wikimedia: Motacilla

All Saints' Church, **Brixworth**, now the parish church of Brixworth, Northamptonshire, England, is a **leading example of early Anglo-Saxon architecture**.

... In 1930 the British architectural historian Sir Alfred Clapham called it "perhaps the most imposing architectural memorial of the **7th century yet surviving north of the Alps**".

... **It is the largest English church that remains substantially as it was in the Anglo-Saxon era**.

... This is one of **four remaining Anglo-Saxon stair turrets** in England ...

Wikipedia - All Saints' Church, Brixworth  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All\\_Saints%27\\_Church,\\_Brixworth](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All_Saints%27_Church,_Brixworth)

The **staircase towers** of Carolingian churches were commonly **circular structures** disposed symmetrically **near the east or west ends of the churches** and unfortunately but few examples have survived in England. The flanking staircase towers of Wulfric's octagon at St. Augustine, Canterbury, are, however, typical examples, and a similar form is preserved in the staircases attached to the major towers at Brixworth, **Brigstock, and North Elmham**.

English Romanesque Architecture Before The Conquest - A W Clapham - 1930  
<https://archive.org/details/englishromanesqu000awcl/page/97/mode/1up>

**I don't know** how these **comedians** keep a straight face.

**But I do know** they make me laugh :-)

As always:

Review the evidence and draw your own conclusions.



Republic of Ireland Republic of India