

WEB RESOURCES

ABOUT THE

EARLY MEDIEVAL ERA:

750 CE TO 1050 CE

As a service to its users, Washington-Centerville Public Library provides links from its Web site to other sites. The Library is not responsible for the content of these external sites, and the inclusion of a link to any site does not constitute the endorsement of that site by the Library.

ARCHITECTURE

Anglo Saxon churches, illustrated:

www.britannia.com/church/saxchurch/index.html

ANGLO SAXONS Also look under Daily Life, General, and History

Details about Anglo-Saxon life:

http://www.britainexpress.com/History/anglo-saxon_life.htm

ARTHUR, KING

Timeline covering events from Roman Britain to early Anglo-Saxon Britain, placing historic King Arthur in 600s:

<http://www-personal.umich.edu/~merrie/Arthur/timetable.html>

King Arthur as defender against Anglo-Saxons and Danes:

<http://www.historyforkids.org/learn/medieval/history/earlymiddle/arthur.htm>

Extensive collection of information relating to King Arthur:

<http://www.britannia.com/history/h12.html>

AGRICULTURE

Three field crop rotation started in 900 C.E. and the heavy plough revolutionized agriculture. Agricultural societies developed:

http://everything2.com/index.pl?node_id=532303&lastnode_id=0

Strip farming, central to the life of medieval rural communities, begins in 9th century:

<http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?HistoryID=ac80&ParagraphID=hqy#hqy>

Medieval farming:

http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/medieval_farming1.htm

Medieval farming and three field crop rotation:

<http://www.mnsu.edu/emuseum/history/middleages/farm.html>

BIBLE

Latin Vulgate

<http://www.hti.umich.edu/r/rheims/>

BIOGRAPHY

Extensive list of people of the Middle Ages:

<http://www.btinternet.com/~timeref/hpra.htm#J639>

Famous barbarians, some real, some fantasy:

<http://www.wizardrealm.com/barbarians/history3.html>

Extensive webliography of People—Famous:

<http://hometown.aol.com/teachernet/Medieval.html#To>

Biography of art historian Francoise Henry, who wrote about Irish art and the Book of Kells:

<http://www.ucd.ie/archives/html/collections/henry-francoise.htm>

BOOK OF KELLS

See separate lists of web resources and print /media resources.

BOOKS, HISTORY OF

Chronological time table:

<http://historymedren.about.com/gi/dynamic/offsite.htm?zi=1/XJ&sdn=historymedren&zu=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.xs4all.nl%2F%7Eknops%2Ftimetab.html>

CALENDAR (AD vs. CE)

Controversy over the use of CE and BCE to identify dates in history:

<http://www.religioustolerance.org/ce.htm>

CELTS

From earlier times:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/wales/celts/>

CHRISTIAN / CHURCH HISTORY

Several page overview and information about all the orders and their histories in Britain. The development of Christian society in early England:

<http://www.britannia.com/church/bond1.html>

CHRONOLOGY

General time line covering key leaders, groups and invasions from 300 CE to 1045 CE:

<http://www.utexas.edu/courses/hafner/medieval/Public/newmedchronA.html>

More detailed, with much international focus. Covers 500 CE to 1509 CE:

<http://eawc.evansville.edu/chronology/mepage.htm>

Chronologies for Britain:

<http://www.earlybritishkingdoms.com/maps/index.html>

400 to 600:

<http://www.vortigernstudies.org.uk/vortigernhomepage.htm>

Chronologies for Ireland, Scotland and Norway shown by decade:

<http://www.travels-in-time.net/e/timeline02.htm>

CHURCH ARCHITECTURE

Saxon churches were usually made of wood and stone. Many had church towers which were used to keep a lookout for attacking Danes, and were where the townspeople gathered for safety in the event of an attack:

<http://www.britainexpress.com/architecture/saxon.htm>

CLOTHING Also look at Needlework

Colors of clothing by rank and group:

<http://www.regia.org/members/basclot7.htm>

Patterns for clothing:

<http://www.regia.org/members/basclot5c.htm>

Patterns for shoes:

<http://www.regia.org/members/basclot5f.htm>

COLUMBA, Saint Columba also known as Colm Cille

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/scottishhistory/earlychurch/features_earlychurch_iona.shtml

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St_Columba

COOKERY

Eight different Medieval and Anglo Saxon Recipes:

<http://www.cs.cmu.edu/People/mjw/recipes/ethnic/historical/med-anglosaxon-coll.html>

Additional recipes:

<http://www.stavacademy.co.uk/mimir/asrecipes.htm>

Extensive list of medieval cooking terms and great recipe translations.

Facts on food and feasting in the middle ages:

<http://www.godecookery.com/godeboke/godeboke.htm>

CROSSES

When Christianity in England was young there were no parish or village churches. Instead, carved crosses were erected at convenient sites for itinerant monks or priests to

preach to the inhabitants. These crosses may have been put up at sites which were already regarded as sacred in pagan worship. Later on, churches were built at the same spots, preserving a continuity of worship:

http://www.britainexpress.com/History/anglo-saxon_remains_churches.htm

Pre-Norman stone crosses in the British Isles:

<http://web.ukonline.co.uk/cj.tolley/ctm/ctm-base.htm>

DAILY LIFE

An outstanding British history group focusing on Anglo-Saxon, Viking, Norman and British Living History with a great website on the times:

<http://www.regia.org/>

Life among the Iron Age Celts (earlier time frame than the Book of Kells era) including what kids did, what they wore, what they ate, etc. Discusses noble, artisans, and peasants. Offers links for games and folktales:

<http://celts.mrdonn.org/dailylife.html>

There is a longstanding myth that no one bathed during the middle ages, which is not true! General information on bathing and washing:

<http://www.castles-of-britain.com/castleze.htm>

Every occupation filled a crucial place in the social system of the Middle Ages. This includes an extensive list of occupations:

<http://www.castles-of-britain.com/castle32.htm>

Another list of occupations with detailed descriptions of the history and specifics of each job:

<http://members.tripod.com/hkcarms/occ.html>

Types of medieval jobs:

<http://web.nickshanks.com/history/medieval/careers>

DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE

Most people lived in simple houses made of wood with a central fire and a hole in the roof to let out the smoke (even kings). Buildings were from 8' x 12' up to 75' x 260'. Most were rectangular or square but some were round. Roofs were made of thatch, turf and even sometimes wood shingles. Windows were not often found, but were covered with animal skins:

<http://www.britainexpress.com/architecture/saxon.htm>

FALCONRY

Falconry—came from the Middle East and Far East, so here's a tie in to other cultures:

<http://www.hawk-conservancy.org/histfalc.shtml>

History of falconry in the early middle ages:

<http://www.r3.org/life/articles/falconry.html>

FOOD

Archaeological finds document Viking food eaten in Dublin, 9th and 10th centuries:

<http://www.cs.vassar.edu/~capriest/vikfood.html>

How to brew mead (Takes two months):

<http://historymedren.about.com/library/howto/htmead.htm>

Anglo-Saxon food stuffs from Britain in the Early Middle Ages:

<http://www.regia.org/food.htm>

Anglo-Saxon recipes:

<http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~mjw/recipes/ethnic/historical/med-anglosaxon-coll.html>

Feasting:

<http://www.regia.org/feasting.htm>

GAMES, INTERACTIVE

"Viking Quest" Game, from the time frame 793 CE:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/vikings/launch_gms_viking_quest.shtml

Games from the Viking and Anglo-Saxon age:

<http://www.regia.org/games.htm>

More about games and pastimes:

<http://www.regia.org/pastimes.htm>

Explanations and directions for some of the popular games for children:

<http://www.medieval.net/games.htm>

GARDENING

Charlemagne did garden development:

<http://www.gardendigest.com/timegl.htm>

Trees were sacred and shamanic in Celtic tradition:

<http://www.resurgence.org/resurgence/articles/bates.htm>

GENERAL INFO ABOUT EARLY MIDDLE AGES Also look under History

General summary is here, but take care not to wander beyond about 1000 or 1050 CE, as you will then be beyond the Early Middle Ages:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Middle_Ages

An encyclopedic compendium of resources for the study of Old English and Anglo-Saxon England compiled by Cathy Ball. Also see the easy-to-read map of England in the tenth century:

http://historymedren.about.com/gi/dynamic/offsite.htm?zi=1/XJ/Ya&sdn=historymedren&cdn=education&tm=53&gps=104_5_796_454&f=00&tt=14&bt=1&bts=1&zu=http%3A//www.georgetown.edu/cball/oe/old_english.html

Extensive site On-line Reference Book for Medieval Studies (ORB) with section and listing of sites on Medieval Celtic Fringe, lands not conquered by Rome:

http://www.the-orb.net/encyclop/early/origins/rom_celt/celtic.html

Outstanding site of primary and secondary documents on Anglo-Saxon Britain—see classification scheme for an orientation of what's in here:

<http://www.wmich.edu/medieval/research/rawl/keynesbib/home.htm>

Narrative history of the period, detailed:

<http://britannia.com/history/narsaxhist.html>

A list of websites on specific topics and people:

http://historymedren.about.com/od/darkagebritain/DarkAge_Britain.htm

GOVERNANCE

Although feudalism develops as early as the 8th century, under the Carolingian dynasty, it does not prevail widely in Europe until the 10th century - by which time virtually the entire continent is Christian. Overview of Irish Governance in early medieval times:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Early_Medieval_Ireland_800-1166

HAIR AND BEARDS

The barbarians who overran Europe in the Middle Ages wore long flowing locks and beards. From the 9th century, nobles on the Continent wore short hair (to the neck) and were clean shaven:

<http://www.queensnewyork.com/history/hair.html>

HISTORY Also look under General

History for kids:

<http://www.historyforkids.org/learn/medieval/history/history.htm>

This site focuses on Britain, Ireland and their offshore islands between 350AD and 850AD and references a number of books for sale on the subjects:

<http://www.postroman.info/index.htm>

Early British kingdoms by century from 400s to 900s:

<http://www.earlybritishkingdoms.com/maps/index.html>

Good overviews of Arthurian Britain, Dark Ages and Church History:

<http://britannia.com/history/>

Key episodes in medieval history:

<http://www.btinternet.com/~timeref/eindex.htm>

Welsh history in the Early Middle Ages:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/wales/history/sites/dark_ages/pages/vikings.shtml

Confederacies, including Franks, Goths, Vandals, etc:

<http://www.fernweb.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk/mf/people.htm>

<http://mahan.wonkwang.ac.kr/link/med/races/darkage.htm>

Germanic tribes (scholarly):

<http://www.duerinck.com/tribes1.html>

Medieval history, including maps and other primary source material, courses, etc:

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/sbook.html>

History of the British Isles:

<http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?groupid=975&HistoryID=aa99>

HOLIDAYS

The origins and traditions of MayDay, a festive day celebrating the first spring planting:

<http://www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/5202/mayday.htm>

Medieval holidays by month:

<http://www.angelfire.com/mo/LandkamerFamily/Holidays.html>

IONA

A brief history and tour of the isle of Iona, where the Book of Kells may have been written:

<http://www.faculty.de.gcsu.edu/%7Edvess/ids/medieval/iona/iona.shtml>

An interesting article about rebuilding the abbey at Iona:

http://www.stonefoundation.org/stonexus/05_issue/10-11.pdf

LANGUAGE

Beginning of the English language in England:

<http://ebbs.english.vt.edu/hel/helmod/oe.html>

Ages of English: From a West Saxon dialect to a global phenomenon, from runes to rap, the development of English follows a fascinating trail (with interactive content):

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/launch_tl_ages_english.shtml

Links to Medieval language sites:

<http://pages.towson.edu/duncan/ml/mllinks.html>

Irish Gaelic:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/voices/multilingual/irish_history.shtml

LAW

Your legal rights in 871:

<http://www.octavia.net/text/alfredlaw.htm>

LITERATURE

Irish literature, mythology, folklore and drama:

<http://www.luminarium.org/mythology/ireland/>

The Internet Medieval Source Book is a collection of public domain and copy-permitted texts related to medieval and Byzantine history, including some full text sources:

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/sbook.html>

MAPS

Maps for 400s through 600s:

<http://www.earlybritishkingdoms.com/maps/index.html>

Eighth Century Maps and Map of Viking routes:

<http://historymedren.about.com/library/atlas/blat07dex.htm>

Map of the British Isles, 800:

http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/historical/shepherd/british_isles_802.jpg

Outline map of British Isles, unlabeled:

http://www.abcteach.com/free/b/british_isles.pdf

MATHEMATICS

History of Medieval math:

<http://www.roma.unisa.edu.au/07305/medmm.htm>

MONASTERIES and MONASTICISM

A gateway to many wonderful sites on Irish monasticism:

<http://www.faculty.de.gcsu.edu/~dvess/ids/medieval/irimon.html>

The origin of monasteries:

<http://www.btinternet.com/~timeref/abbey1.htm>

Monasticism in Britain:

<http://www.britannia.com/church/ch10.html>

MONEY

Value of money in early medieval Britain in Anglo-Saxon times:

<http://www.regia.org/costs.htm>

MUSIC

Gregorian chant home page:

<http://www.music.princeton.edu/chant.html/>

Children in the early Middle Ages made their own musical instruments.

Information about Medieval music and musical instruments. Again be sure to look at those from the Early Middle Ages:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medieval_music

MYTHOLOGY

Celtic pantheon of gods and goddesses:

<http://web.raex.com/~obsidian/CeltPan.html>

NEEDLEWORK

Sources for information on nalbinding, a predecessor to knitting, but done with a single bone sewing needle:

<http://www.regia.org/naalbind.htm>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nalbinding/>

http://homepage.ntlworld.com/shelagh.lewins/shelagh/viking_textiles/nalbinding/sock_construction.htm

PEOPLE see **BIOGRAPHY**

PHOTOS / ILLUSTRATIONS

400 – 600 the ruin and conquest of Britain with illustrations:

<http://www.cit.gu.edu.au/%7Es285238/DECB/DECB.html>

RELIGION, CELTIC

<http://www.eliki.com/ancient/myth/celts/>

SCIENCE

Did the Vikings make a telescope years before the alleged invention in the 16th C?

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/702478.stm>

ST. COLUMBA

Life of St. Columba:

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/basis/columba-e.html>

STORIES TOLD TO CHILDREN

TEACHING TOOLS AND GUIDES

Quests for the Early Middle Ages:

http://www.mtsd-vt.org/WebQuests/SChristensen/webquest-middle_ages.htm

Quiz about the Dark Ages

<http://historymedren.about.com/library/weekly/aadarkagequiz.htm>

TECHNOLOGY

The horse collar and horseshoes were developed in the 900s:

http://everything2.com/index.pl?node_id=532303&lastnode_id=0

Medieval technology timeline:

<http://scholar.chem.nyu.edu/tekpapes/Timeline.html>

Lengthy appendix of all sorts of useful odds and ends of the medieval times:

<http://72.14.203.104/search?q=cache:U3UtFvf5ecJ:members.tripod.com/~whitebard/append.htm+daily+life+Britain+OR+Ireland+%22800+CE%22&hl=en&gl=us&ct=clnk&cd=1>

The history of the plough:

<http://www.ploughmen.co.uk/ploughhistory.htm>

VIKINGS

Extensive access to sites about Vikings, runes, etc:

<http://www.odinscastle.org/odin4.html>

Viking raids in Ireland, late 800s:

<http://www.ncte.ie/viking/vikage.htm>

BBC history of the Vikings:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/vikings/overview_vikings_01.shtml

"Viking Quest" Game, from the time frame 793 CE:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/vikings/launch_gms_viking_quest.shtml

The model shows a Viking Age farm, excavated in the 1970s at Ribbleshead, Yorkshire. Play the panorama to take a virtual tour of the farm:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/vikings/launch_vt_viking_farm.shtml

Vikings as colonists—among other places they colonized and stayed—the City of Dublin:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/vikings/colonists_01.shtml

VILLAGE LIFE Also look under Daily Life, General, and History

Visit a virtual village from the late Anglo-Saxon period:

<http://www.regia.org/village.htm>

See the Manor of Drengam within the village:

www.regia.org/games.htm

WEAPONRY

The development of weaponry during the middle ages:

<http://www.castles-of-britain.com/castle36.htm>

Weapons and armor:

<http://www.regia.org/spear.htm>

Updated February 2008