

Historical and Outline Maps

British Isles

The British Isles were known of by Greek navigators as far back as 220 B.C., but they were not explored and settled by the Ancients until the Roman conquest in the first century A.D. The original inhabitants were Celts, and Gaelic languages were still spoken in parts of Scotland, Ireland, and Wales up until the 19th century. The Southern portion of Great Britain, better known as England, was not inhabited by English-speaking settlers until the 6th century.

Geography Terms

Islands:

Great Britain:	Largest British Isle, composed of England, Scotland, and Wales.
Ireland:	(Roman Hibernia) Large Island to the west of Great Britain.
Isle of Wight	(Roman Vectis) Island off south England, near Portsmouth harbor.
Isle of Mann:	Island between Scotland and North Ireland.
Isle of Anglesey:	Island off the North coast of Wales.

Regions:

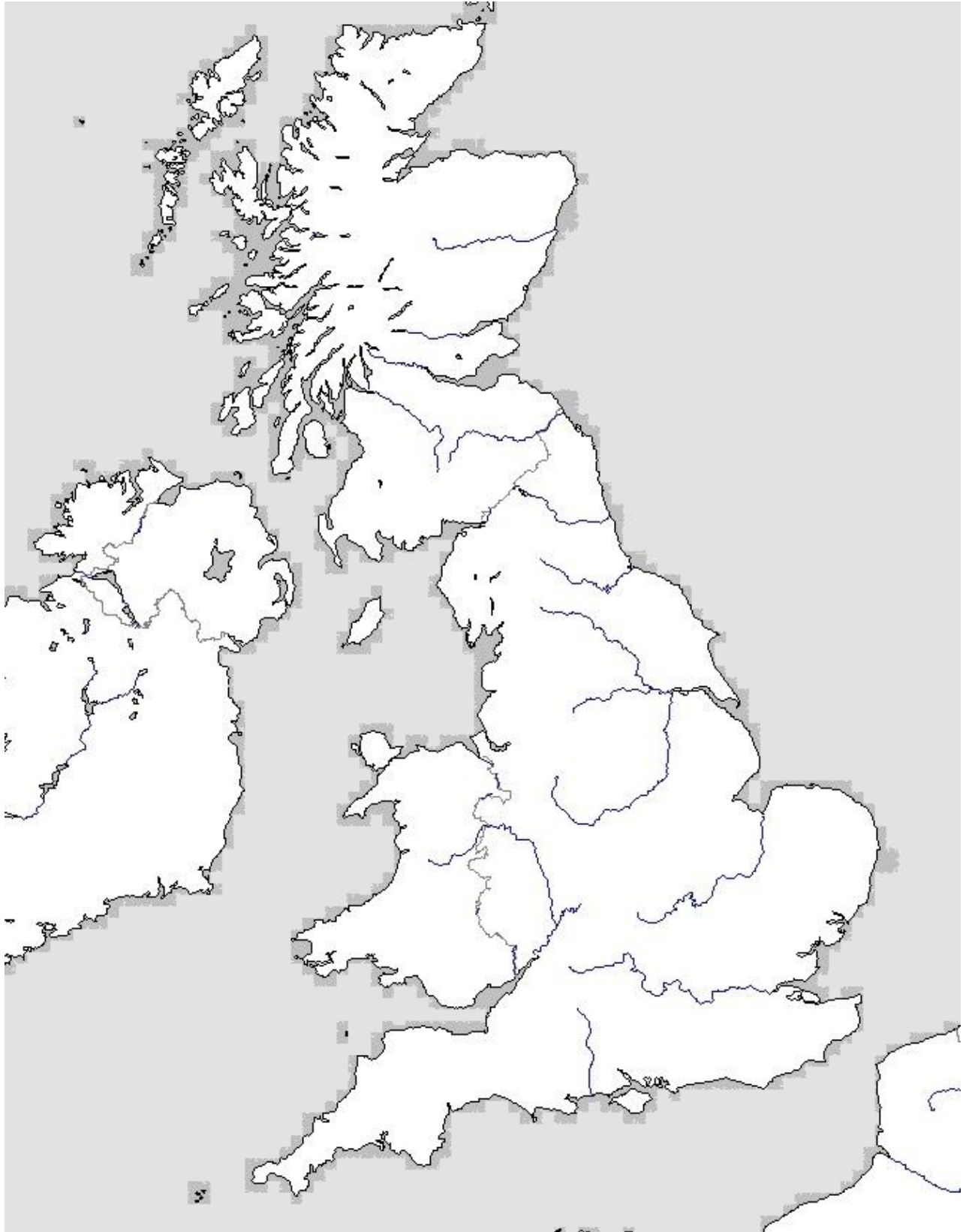
Scotland:	Northern region of Great Britain, home to the Celtic Scots, Picts.
England:	Southern region of Great Britain, home of the Anglo-Saxon English.
Wales:	Western region of Great Britain; home of the Celtic Welsh.
Ireland:	Western Island, a.k.a. Erin, Eire, Scotia, Hibernia,

Water Bodies:

English Channel, Strait of Dover, North Sea, Irish Sea
St. Georges Channel, The Wash, Bristol Channel

Maps:

British Isles—Outline Map
British Isles—Physical Map
Norman Conquest, 1070.



England

England is the south-eastern section of Great Britain that was inhabited by Anglo-Saxon, English speaking settlers from Northern Germany. The region was settled and civilized by the Romans, who built many roads and much infrastructure. It has always been the most populated and prosperous region of the British Isles because of its close proximity to the rest of Europe. The British Isles were dominated by England during most of the Middle Ages and early modern periods.

Geographical Terms

Rivers:

Thames	Major river through southern England. Site of London.
Tyne	River traditionally marking the border of England and Scotland.
Humber, Trent, Ouse	East flowing river system that drains central England.
Great Ouse	Major river that borders East Anglia and drains into “The Wash”.
Severn	River draining the Cambrian mountains of Wales into Bristol Channel.
Avon	River flowing from Bath to Bristol, of Shakespearean fame.

Forests and Marshes:

New Forest	Forest in the South of England, hunting grounds of Norman kings.
Sherwood Forest	Central forest near Trent River, haunt of Robin Hood.
Forest of Arden	Forest in the geographic center of England.
The Fens	Marshy area around Great Ouse River.

Saxon Kingdoms

Northumbria	Kingdom on Eastern coast of England, North of Humber River.
Mercia	Central kingdom centered around the Trent River.
East Anglia	Eastern Kingdom, east of the Great Ouse River.
Kent	Early Saxon Kingdom immediately across Strait of Dover.
Sussex	Kingdom of the Southern Saxons, South of Kent.
Essex	Kingdom of the Eastern Saxons, North of Thames.
Wessex	Kingdom of the Western Saxons, West of London.
Middlesex	Middle Saxon Kingdom centered around the Thames.

Cities

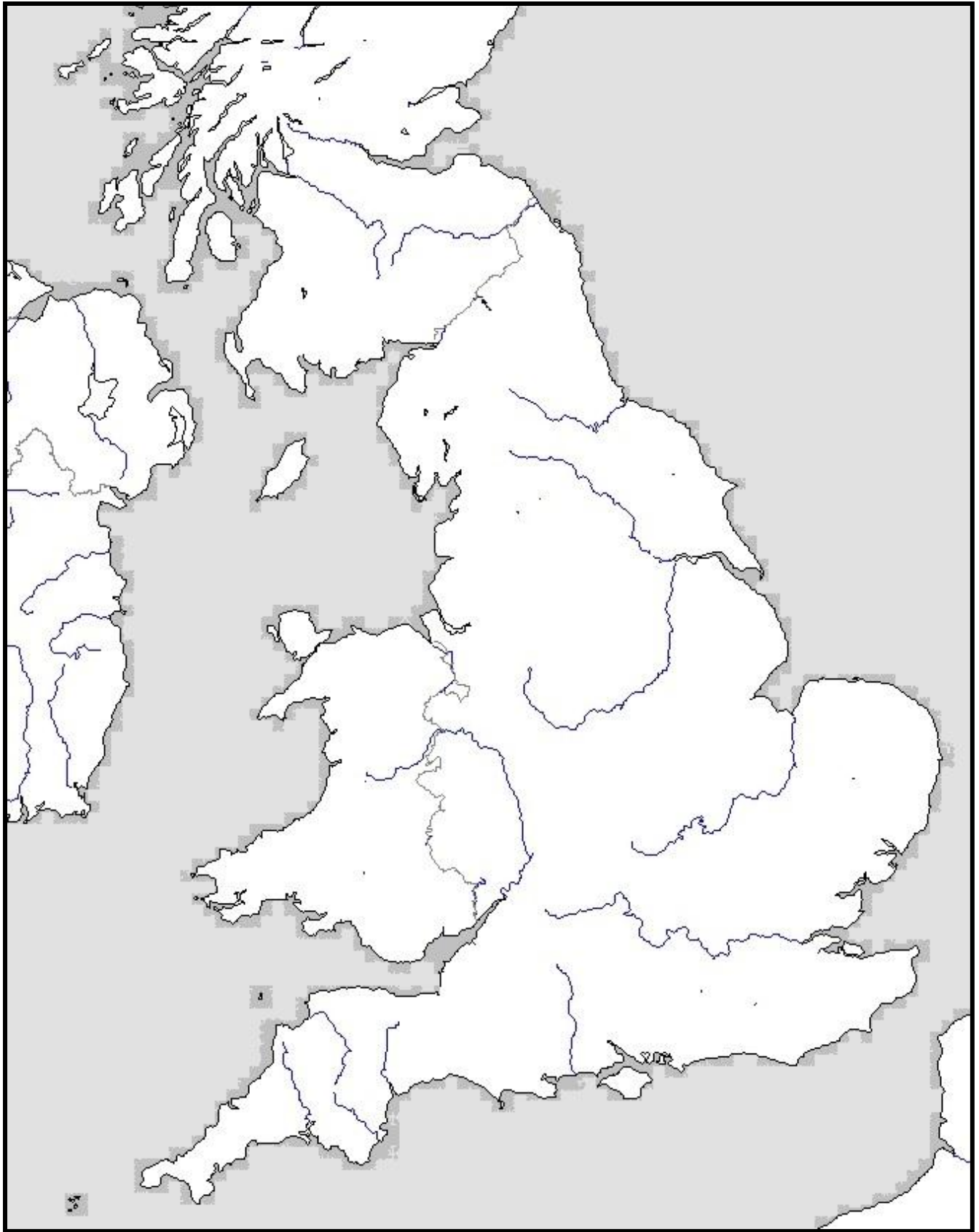
London, Winchester, Exeter, Lincoln, York, Canterbury
Salisbury, Gloucester, Worcester, Nottingham, Hastings, Reading, Oxford
Norwich, Bristol, Chester

Monasteries and Abbeys

Jarrow Monastery in North England, home of Venerable Bede.
Lindisfarne Celtic Monastery founded by Cuthbert, raided by Vikings in 793 A.D.
Crowland Mediaeval Abbey destroyed by the Danes in 870 A. D.
Canterbury First See in Saxon England, founded by Augustine of Kent in 600 A.D.
Westminster Abbey near London. Coronation and burial place of English kings.

Maps

- **Outline Map: England**
- **Roman England: 300 A. D.**
- **Saxon England: 626 A. D.**
- **Tudor England: 1500 A. D. (Ecclesiastical)**
- **English Civil War: 1660 A. D.**



Plantagenet Empire

The Normans, who conquered England in 1066 were originally rulers of Normandy, a Duchy in the North of France. For three generations, the Normans held both England and Normandy. When the throne fell to Henry Plantagenet, he married Eleanor of Aquitaine, heir to Aquitaine and Gascony, two of the most prosperous provinces in Southern France. For many years, therefore, the Plantagenets rule both England and much of France. This led to many wars between England and France, culminating in the Hundred Years War between 1337 and 1453. By end of the Plantagenet reign, almost all holdings in France were lost to the Empire.

Plantagenet Holdings in France

- Normandy** Dukedom in Northern France controlled by Normans.
- Aquitaine, Gascony** Provinces in Southwest France bequeathed to Plantagenets by Eleanor of Aquitaine, wife of Henry II.
- Anjou** French province south of Normandy, home of Margaret of Anjou, leader of the Lancaster faction and wife of Henry VI.
- Maine** Province south of Normandy, sometimes controlled by the Normans.
- Flanders** Burgundian Province directly across the Strait of Dover. Site of Calais.

Hundred Years War Battles

- Sluys**—1340 Important English naval victory over France.
- Crecy**—1346 Decisive victory for England. English longbows defeated French knights.
- Calais**—1346 English conquer French port town directly across the Strait of Dover.
- Poitiers**—1356 Major English victory, Black Prince captures the King of France.
- Agincourt**—1415 Henry V leads English to a dramatic victory over French.
- Oleans**—1429 Joan of Arc relieves Orleans and makes great gains for France.

French Rivers

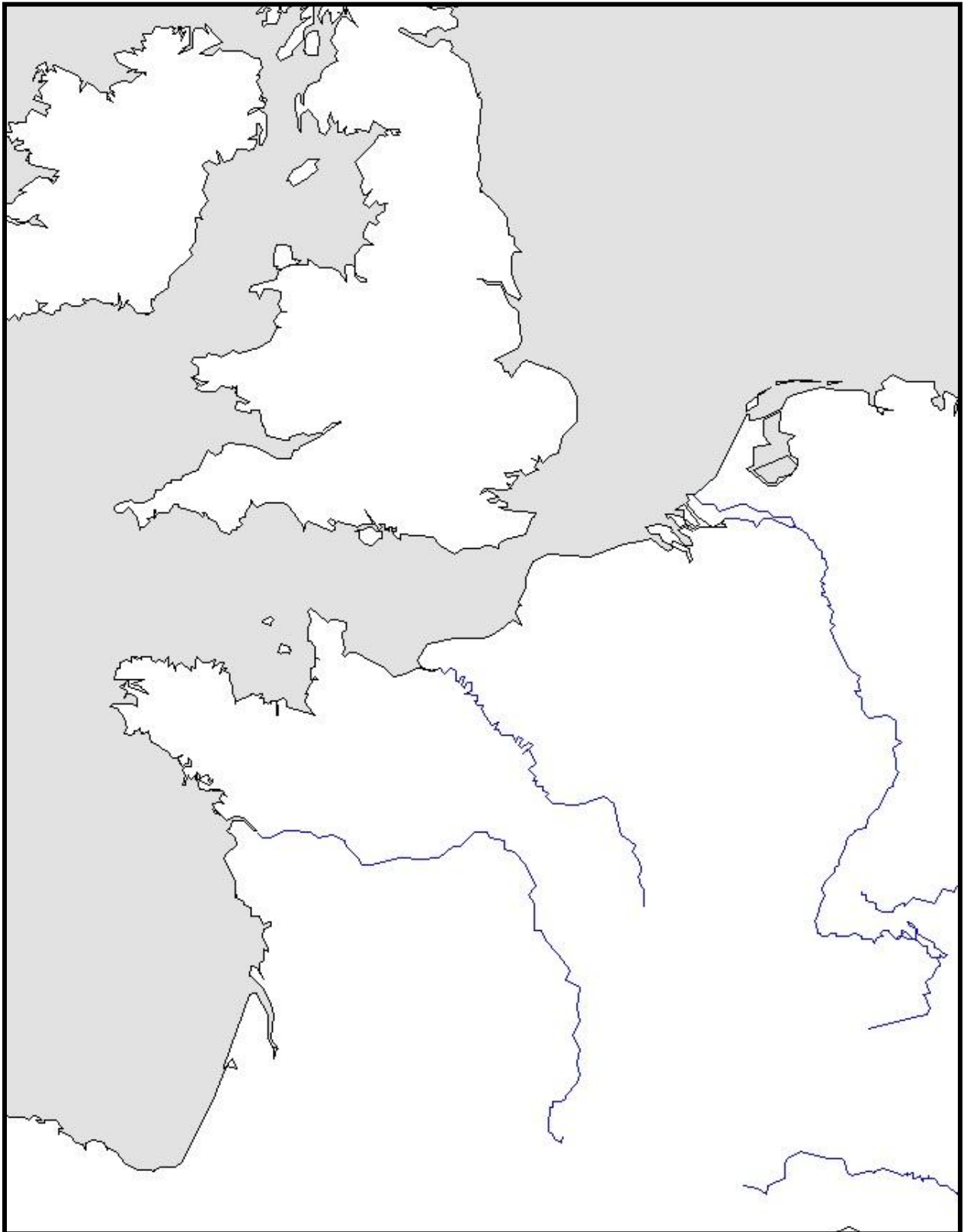
- Seine**—Major French river, site of Paris, Rouen.
- Loire**—Major French river, site of Orleans, Tours,

French Cities

- Bayeux**—Major city on the coast of Normandy. Famed for its Tapestry.
- Rouen**—Capital of Normandy.
- Paris**—Capital of France.

Maps:

- **Outline Map: Plantagenet Empire**
- **Angevin Empire, 1100 A. D.**
- **England and France, 1250 A. D.**



Scotland

Even in Roman times, “Caledonia”, the northern region of Great Britain, was considered “unconquerable”. The reputation of the Scots for ferocious independence lasted well beyond the Middle Ages. The traditional border between England and Scotland—going back to Roman times—is the Tyne River and Solway Frith.

Water Bodies

Firth of Forth, Firth of Clyde, Firth of Tay, Moray Firth, Solway Firth
Loch Ness, Loch Lomand,

Islands

The Hebrides, Orkney, Islay, Iona

Mountains

Grampian Mountains: Maintain Range dividing Scotland into Highlands and Lowlands.

Cheviot Hills: Rolling hills along the England/Scotland border.

Highlands: Rural, regions of Scotland, Northwest of the Grampian Mountains

Lowlands Highly populated regions around Firth of Forth.

Scottish Cities

Edinburgh, Glasgow, Scone, Inverness, Perth, Scone, St. Andrews, Melrose, Glasgow

Celtic Monasteries

Iona: Celtic monastery founded by Saint Columba.

Lindisfarne: Celtic monastery founded by St. Aiden in 650 A.D.

Battle Sites

Stirling

Falkirk

Bannockburn

Neville’s Cross

Culloden

Maps:

- Outline Map: Scotland
- Physical Geography of Scotland
- Border Region

