Paper 2 British History 380-1100
Political and Constitutional

Supplementary Bibliography:
Celtic Britain and Ireland

For a full bibliography on Anglo-Saxon England, see Professor S. Keynes, Anglo-Saxon England: a bibliographical handbook for students of Anglo-Saxon history (available at https://www.asnc.cam.ac.uk/resources/ASHistBib06.pdf)

For bibliography on British history after the Norman Conquest, see the Bibliography for Part I Paper 3 (British History 1050-1509 Political and Constitutional).

Last revised: Summer 2019
Please send comments, additions and corrections to Dr David Pratt, Downing College (drp14@cam.ac.uk)
Historical Tripos, Part I, Paper 2 British History 380-1100: Supplementary Bibliography: Celtic Britain and Ireland

This is a select bibliography of books and articles to enable students to place certain aspects of their study of political developments in Anglo-Saxon England within a wider Insular (British and Irish) context. More detailed bibliographies may be circulated as the lectures on the early medieval history of Ireland, Scotland, Wales and Cornwall provided by Dr Fiona Edmonds, as part of the Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic Tripos (listed in the Lecture List issue of The Reporter). History students who have a special interest in the early medieval history of the Celtic-speaking parts of Britain and Ireland are very welcome to attend these lectures. See also, D Ó Corráin, ‘A Hand-List of Publications in Early Irish History’, Historical Studies [Irish Conference of Historians] 10 (1976) 172-203 [ASNC library only]

Note: Some of the items listed are available only in the ASNC (Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic) library which forms part of the English Faculty Library. You are free to consult books and journals in situ, but in order to borrow books, you will need your supervisor to sign a form provided by the ASNC library. A few items are only available in the University Library (CUL); these cannot be borrowed.

A. General
E James, Britain in the First Millennium (2001)
R R Davies, ‘Presidential address: The Peoples of Britain and Ireland 1100-1400, i. Identities’, Transactions of the Royal Historical Society, 6th ser. 4 (1994), 1-20
Short Oxford History of the British Isles:
  The Roman Era, ed. P. Salwey (2002)
  From the Vikings to the Normans, ed. W. Davies (2003)

Atlases:
An Historical Atlas of Scotland c.400-c.1600, ed. P McNeill and R Nicholson (1975) [ASNC library]

1. Ireland
D Ó Corráin, Ireland before the Normans (1972) [ASNC library]
D Ó Cróinín, Early Medieval Ireland 400-1200 (1995)
E Bhreathnach, Ireland 400–1000: Landscape, Kingship and Religion (2014)
S Duffy, Brian Boru and the Battle of Clontarf (2013)
D Ó Cróinín, ed., A New History of Ireland: Prehistoric and Early Ireland (2005)

2. Wales
W Davies, Wales in the Early Middle Ages (1982) [ASNC library]
W Davies, Patterns of Power in Early Wales (1990) [ASNC library]
D Walker, Medieval Wales (1990)

3. Scotland
A D M Barrell, Medieval Scotland (2000)
G W S Barrow, The Kingdom of the Scots (1973) [essays]
A A M Duncan, Scotland: the making of the kingdom (1975)
J Fraser, From Caledonia to Pictland: Scotland to 795 (2009)
R Oram, Domination and Lordship: Scotland, 1070 - 1230 (2011)
T Clarkson, Men of the North: the Britons of Southern Scotland (2010)

B. Sources and general guides to the sources
1. Ireland and North Britain
J R Kenney, Sources for the Early History of Ireland: ecclesiastical, rev. edn by L Bieler (1966) [ASNC library]
K Hughes, Early Christian Ireland: introduction to the sources (1972)
Instructions of Cormac mac Airt, ed. and trans. K Meyer, Royal Irish Academy Tod Lecture 15 (1909) (vernacular legal tract) [?CUL]
D McCarthy, The Irish Annals: Their Genesis, Evolution and History (Dublin, 2008) [ASNC library]
N Evans, The Present and the Past in Medieval Irish Chronicles (Woodbridge, 2010) [ASNC library]
Early Sources of Scottish History 500-1286, 2 vols, trans A O Anderson (1922), including Mìnìugud senchasa fher nAlban ‘An Explanation for the Genealogy of the Men of Alba’(vol. 1, cl-cli:ii)
A Woolf, ed., Beyond the Gododdin: Dark Age Scotland in Medieval Wales (2013)

2. Wales and South-West Britain
E Okasha, Corpus of Early Christian Inscribed Stones of South-West Britain (1993) [ASNC library]
Early Welsh Genealogical Tracts, ed. P C Bartrum (1966) [ASNC library]

Historia Brittonum (compiled in Wales 829/830, formerly attributed incorrectly to Nennius, relates mainly to Wales and north Britain); Nennius; British History and the Welsh Annals, ed. and trans. J Morris (1980)


D N Dumville, ‘”Nennius” and the Historia Brittonum’, Studia Celtica 10/11 (1975/6), 78-95 [ASNC library]

Annales Cambriae: trans A W Wade-Edwards, Nennius’s “History of the Britons” (1938) [ASNC library]; for Latin, see the repr. of E Phillimore’s edn in J Morris, Arthurian Sources, 5 (1995), 24-41


The Llandaff Charters, trans. W Davies (1979) [ASNC library] (a 12th-century compilation of charters purportedly dating from the 6th-12th centuries; some, perhaps all, are 12th-century concoctions: see review by P. Sims-Williams, Journal of Ecclesiastical History 33 (1982), 124-9, repr. in his Britain and Early Christian Europe: studies in early medieval history and culture (1995))

J R Davies, The Book of Llandaf and the Norman Church in Wales (2003) [ASNC library]

Armes Prydein: The Prophecy of Britain, ed. and trans. I Williams and R Bromwich (1972) [ASNC library]

V E Nash Williams, The Early Christian Monuments of Wales (1950)


Celtic Inscribed Stones Project (online database, UCL)

http://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/cisp/database/

C. Themes

1. Early Medieval Kingship and Political Organisation
2. The Vikings in Northern and Western Britain
3. The Emergence of the Kingdom of Alba
4. The Norman Dimension in Britain

NB For all of these themes, refer also to the general bibliography and sources (Sections A and B) above.

C.1. Early medieval kingship and political organization

a. The Late-Roman and Sub-Roman Background

The End of Roman Britain, ed. P J Casey (1979)


K Dark, Civitas to Kingdom: British Political Continuity 300-800 (1994) [ASNC library]

K R Dark, Britain and the End of the Roman Empire (2000) [ASNC library]


M E Jones, The End of Roman Britain (1996) [ASNC library]


C A Snyder, An Age of Tyrants: Britain and the Britons AD 400-600 (1998) [ASNC library]

b. Comparative studies


D A Binchy, Celtic and Anglo-Saxon Kingship (1970) [ASNC library]

T M Charles-Edwards, Early Irish and Welsh Kinship (1993) [ASNC library]


J Graham-Campbell and M Ryan, eds., Anglo-Saxon/Irish Relations before the Vikings (2009)

c. Ireland
F J Byrne, The Rise of the Úí Néill and the High Kingship of Ireland (O’Donnell Lecture, Dublin 1969) [pamphlet] [ASNC library]
F J Byrne, Irish Kings and High Kings (1973) [ASNC library]
E Fitzpatrick, Royal Inauguration in Gaelic Ireland c. 1100-1600: a cultural landscape study (2004) [ASNC library]
B Jaski, Early Irish Kingship and Succession (2000) [ASNC library]
K Simms, From Kings to Warlords (1987)
M. Ní Mhaonaigh, Brian Boru: Ireland’s Greatest King (2008)

d. Wales
W Davies, An Early Welsh Microcosm: studies in the Llandaff charters (1978), 98-107
D Thornton, ‘Maredudd ab Owain (d. 999), the Most Famous King of the Welsh’, *Welsh History Review* 18 (1996/7), 567-91

**C.2. The Vikings in Northern and Western Britain and Ireland**
A P Smyth, *Scandinavian Kings in the British Isles* 850-880 (1977) (but note that chapters depend upon the arguably dubious evidence of late-medieval sagas)
*Medieval Dublin*, 1- (1999- ) [vol. 1 in Seeley, other volumes in ASNC]
M A Valante, *The Vikings in Ireland: Settlement, Trade and Urbanization* (Dublin, 2008) [ASNC library]
J Sheehan and D Ó Corráin (eds.), *The Viking Age: Ireland and the West* (Dublin, 2010) [ASNC library; see especially essays by Abrams, Clarke, Etchingham, Hurley]
H Loyn, *The Vikings in Wales* (1976) [pamphlet] [ASNC library]; repr. in his *Society and Peoples* (1992), 200-23
B E Crawford, *Scandinavian Scotland* (1987) [ASNC library] [for the archaeological and philological chapters; on the historical chapters, see review in *Saga-book* 22 (1986-9) 463-8; CUL P592.c.21]


A Woolf (ed.), *Scandinavian Scotland: Twenty Years After* (St Andrews, 2009) [ASNC library]


C Downham, *Viking Kings of Britain and Ireland* (2007)


T Clarkson, *Strathclyde and the Anglo-Saxons in the Viking Age* (Edinburgh, 2014)

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**C.3. The emergence of the kingdom of Alba**


Alba: Celtic Scotland in the Middle Ages, ed. E J Cowan and R A McDonald (2000) [ASNC library]


D Broun, ‘The Birth of Scottish History’, *Scottish Historical Review* 76 (1997), 4-22


The St Andrews Sarcophagus: a Pictish masterpiece and its international connections, ed. S M Foster (1998) [CUL 486:15.b.95.10; Architecture and History of Art library 56]

M Miller, ‘The Last Century of Pictish Succession’, *Scottish Studies* 23 (1979) 39-67 [CUL P486.c.31]
J. E. Fraser, *From Caledonia to Pictland: Scotland to 795* (2009) [ASNC library; important for Picts, Dál Riata and the North Britons]


M O Anderson, ‘Dalriada and the Creation of the Kingdom of the Scots’, *Ireland in Early Mediaeval Europe*, ed. D. Whitelock et al. (1982), 106-32


J Fraser, ‘The Iona Chronicle, the Descendents of Áedán mac Gabráin, and the “Principal Kindred of Dál Riata”’, *Northern Studies* 38 (2004), 77-96 [ASNC library]


J Fraser, ‘The Iona Chronicle, the Descendents of Áedán mac Gabráin, and the “Principal Kindred of Dál Riata”’, *Northern Studies* 38 (2004), 77-96 [ASNC library]


For the impact of the Vikings, see above, section C.2

On the kingdom of Strathclyde:


**C.4. The Norman Dimension**


British Isles 1100-1500: comparison, contrasts and connections, ed. R R Davies (1988) [ASNC library]

R R Davies, *Domination and Conquest: the experience of Ireland, Scotland and Wales 1100-1300* (1990)
C N L Brooke, *The Church and the Welsh Border in the Central Middle Ages* (1986)
R R Davies, *Conquest, Coexistence and Change: Wales 1063-1415* (1987); repr. as *The Age of Conquest*
R R Davies, ‘Kings, Lords and Liberties in the March of Wales, 1066-1272’, *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society*, 5th ser. 29 (1979), 41-61
R Ritchie, *The Normans in Scotland* (1954) [CUL 911.01.c.10.4]
A O Anderson, ‘Anglo-Scottish Relations from Constantine II to William’, *Scottish Historical Review* 41 (1963), 1-20