Brittany and the Atlantic Archipelago, 450–1200

How did Brittany get its name and its British-Celtic language in the centuries after the collapse of the Western Roman Empire? Beginning in the ninth century, scholars have proposed a succession of theories about Breton origins, influenced by the changing relationships between Brittany, its Continental neighbours, and the ‘Atlantic Archipelago’ during and after the Viking age and the Norman Conquest. However, due to limited records, the history of medieval Brittany remains a relatively neglected area of research.

In this new volume, the authors draw on specialised research in the history of language and literature, archaeology, and the cult of saints, to tease apart the layers of myth and historical record. Brittany retained a distinctive character with respect to the typical ‘medieval’ forces of kingship, lordship and ecclesiastical hierarchy. The early history of Brittany is richly fascinating, and this new investigation offers a fresh perspective on the region and early medieval Europe in general.

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Contact, Myth and History

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## Contents

*List of Maps*  
*List of Tables*  
*Preface and Acknowledgements*  
*List of Abbreviations*  

Introduction  
1 Archaeology and the Origins of Brittany  
2 Settlement and Isolation, 450–800  
3 Brittany and Its Insular Past in the Ninth Century  
4 Insular Contact and the Manuscript-Culture of Brittany in the Ninth and Tenth Centuries  
5 From Invasion to Conquest: Brittany and Its History, 919–1066  
6 Saints and Seaways: The Cult of Saints in Brittany and Its Archipelagic Links  
7 Bretons and Britons in the Norman and Angevin Empires, 1066–1203  
Conclusion  

*Bibliography*  
*Index*
Maps

0.1 Brittany in Atlantic Europe (mid-sixth century) xv
0.2 General map of Brittany (places) xvi
I.1 Language zones in Brittany: the two Lignes Loth 19
1.1 Roman Brittany 36
2.1 Brittany: regions 69
3.1 Early medieval Brittany and its connections in Western Europe 101
5.1 Places in Britain and Ireland with early medieval connections to Brittany 181
6.1 Place-names in Plou 247
6.2 Eponymous saints shared by Lîŷn and Brittany, with an inset of South Wales 269
6.3 The cults of Cadog, Illtud and Teilo in Brittany 270
6.4 Cults of four ‘pan-Brittonic’ saints: Carantoc, Congar, Ke and Maugan 275
6.5 Cults of some Breton saints in Cornwall 277
Tables

5.1 Rulers of Cornouaille in the Cartularies of Landévennec and Quimperlé, and in the Lives of St Melor

6.1 Eponyms of Breton *plous*: probably or possibly to be identified with Welsh saints 261

6.2 Eponyms of Breton *plous*: identification with Welsh saints unlikely or mistaken 265

6.3 Hagionyms in *lan*-names in Brittany 272

6.4 Saints of Cornwall from the ‘Vatican’ list with cult-information from Brittany 281
Preface and Acknowledgements

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The maps were devised by Caroline Brett and created by Fiona Edmonds using ArcGIS® software by Esri. ArcGIS® and ArcMap™ are the intellectual property of Esri and are used herein under license. Copyright © Esri. All rights reserved. For more information about Esri software, please visit www.esri.com. The basemap comprises Esri ‘World shaded relief’, www.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=9c5370d0b54f4de1b48a3792d7377ff2, December 2009 (accessed 27 March 2019). Rivers are from DIVA-GIS free spatial data ‘inland water’ based on the Digital Chart of the World: www.diva-gis.org/data (accessed 27 March 2019).

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Abbreviations

Bibliographical Abbreviations

AA SS  Acta Sanctorum quotque toto orbe coluntur, ed. J. Bolland et al. (Antwerp and Brussels, 1643–present)

AB  Annales de Bretagne

ABPO  Annales de Bretagne et des Pays de l’Ouest

AnBoll  Analecta Bollandiana

ANS  Anglo-Norman Studies

ASE  Anglo-Saxon England

BAV  Bibliotheca Apostolica Vaticana

BBCS  Bulletin of the Board of Celtic Studies

BEC  Bibliothèque de l’École des Chartes

BHL  Bibliotheca hagiographica latina antiquae et mediae aetatis, ed. Socii Bollandiani, 3 vols. (Brussels: Via dicta des Ursulines, 1898–1901)

BL  British Library

BM  Bibliothèque municipale

BnF  Bibliothèque nationale de France

BP  Bibliothèque publique

BSAF  Bulletin de la société archéologique du Finistère


CC CM  Corpus Christianorum Continuatio Mediaevasis

CC SL  Corpus Christianorum Series Latina

List of Abbreviations

CCM Cahiers de civilisation médiévale
CMCS Cambridge/Cambrian Medieval Celtic Studies
CQ Cartulary of Quimperlé, ed. L. Maître and P. de Berthou, *Cartulaire de l’abbaye de Sainte-Croix de Quimperlé (Finistère)*, 2nd edn (Rennes: Pléhon et Hommay, 1904)
EC Études Celtiques
EHR English Historical Review
EME Early Medieval Europe
EWGT P. C. Bartrum (ed.), *Early Welsh Genealogical Tracts* (Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 1966)
List of Abbreviations


JMH  Journal of Medieval History

JML  Journal of Medieval Latin

JTS  Journal of Theological Studies


LHD  Gregory of Tours, Libri Historiarum Decem, ed. B. Krusch and W. Levison, MGH SS RM I.1, 2nd edn (Hanover: Hahn, 1951); transl. L. Thorpe, Gregory of Tours: The History of the Franks (Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1974)


MGH  Monumenta Germaniae Historica

MGH AA  Monumenta Germaniae Historica: Auctores antiquissimi

MGH Epp. Sel.  Monumenta Germaniae Historica: Epistolae selectae
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<th>List of Abbreviations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MGH SS RG</td>
<td>Monumenta Germaniae Historica: Scriptores rerum Germanicarum</td>
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<tr>
<td>MGH SS RG in us. schol. s. e.</td>
<td>Monumenta Germaniae Historica: Scriptores rerum Germanicarum in usum scholarum separatim editi</td>
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<td>MGH SS RM</td>
<td>Monumenta Germaniae Historica: Scriptores rerum Merovingicarum</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSHAB</td>
<td>Mémoires de la Société historique et archéologique de Bretagne</td>
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<td>MWG</td>
<td>B. Guy, Medieval Welsh Genealogy: An Introduction and Textual Study (Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2020)</td>
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<tr>
<td>NMS</td>
<td>Nottingham Medieval Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>PBA</td>
<td>Proceedings of the British Academy</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHCC</td>
<td>Proceedings of the Harvard Celtic Colloquium</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUR</td>
<td>Presses universitaires de Rennes</td>
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<tr>
<td>RC</td>
<td>Revue celtique</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB</td>
<td>Stadsbibliotheek</td>
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<td>SC</td>
<td>Studia Celtica</td>
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<td>THSC</td>
<td>Transactions of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion</td>
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<td>UP</td>
<td>University Press</td>
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xiv List of Abbreviations

Geographical Abbreviations

Brych. Brycheiniog (Breconshire)
CA Côtes-d’Armor
Caerf. Caerfyrddin (Carmarthenshire)
Caern. Caernarfon (Caernarvonshire)
Cer. Ceredigion (Cardiganshire)
Dinb. Dinbych (Denbighshire)
F Finistère
Ffl. Flint (Flintshire)
IV Ille-et-Vilaine
LA Loire-Atlantique
M Morbihan
Maesd. Maesyfed (Radnorshire)
Meir. Meirionnydd (Merioneth)
Môn Môn (Anglesey)
Morg. Morgannwg (Glamorgan)
Myn. Mynyw (Monmouthshire)
Penf. Penfro (Pembrokeshire)
Tfn. Trefaldwyn (Montgomeryshire)