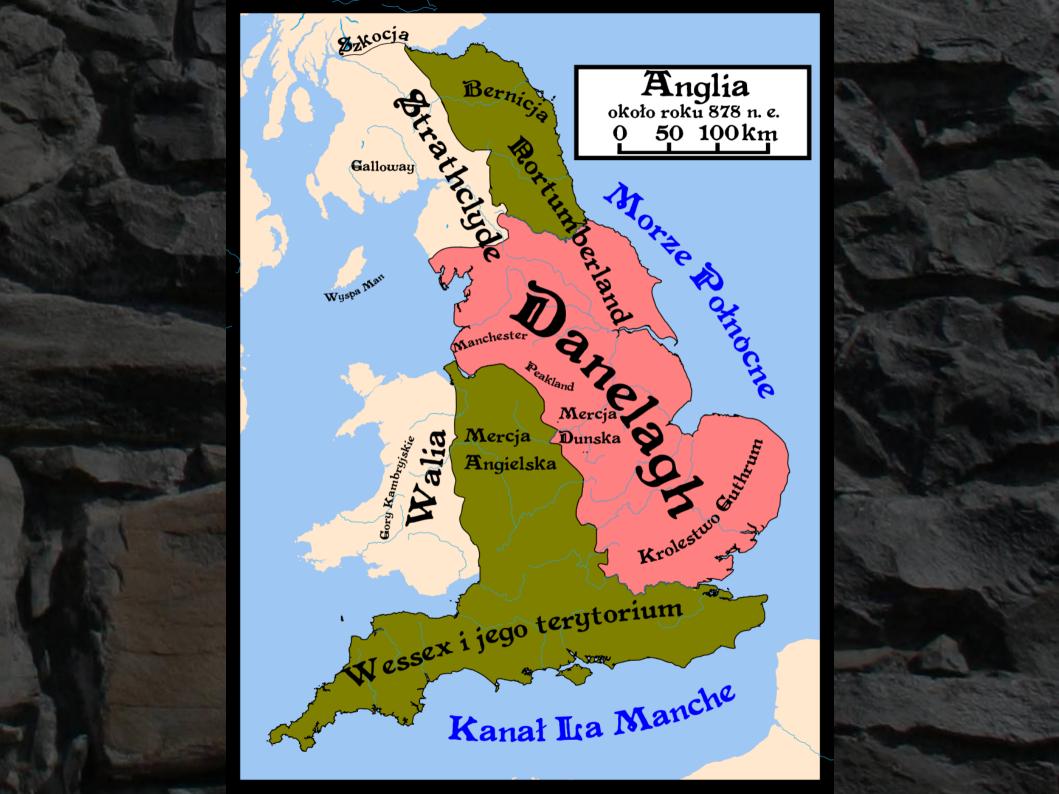
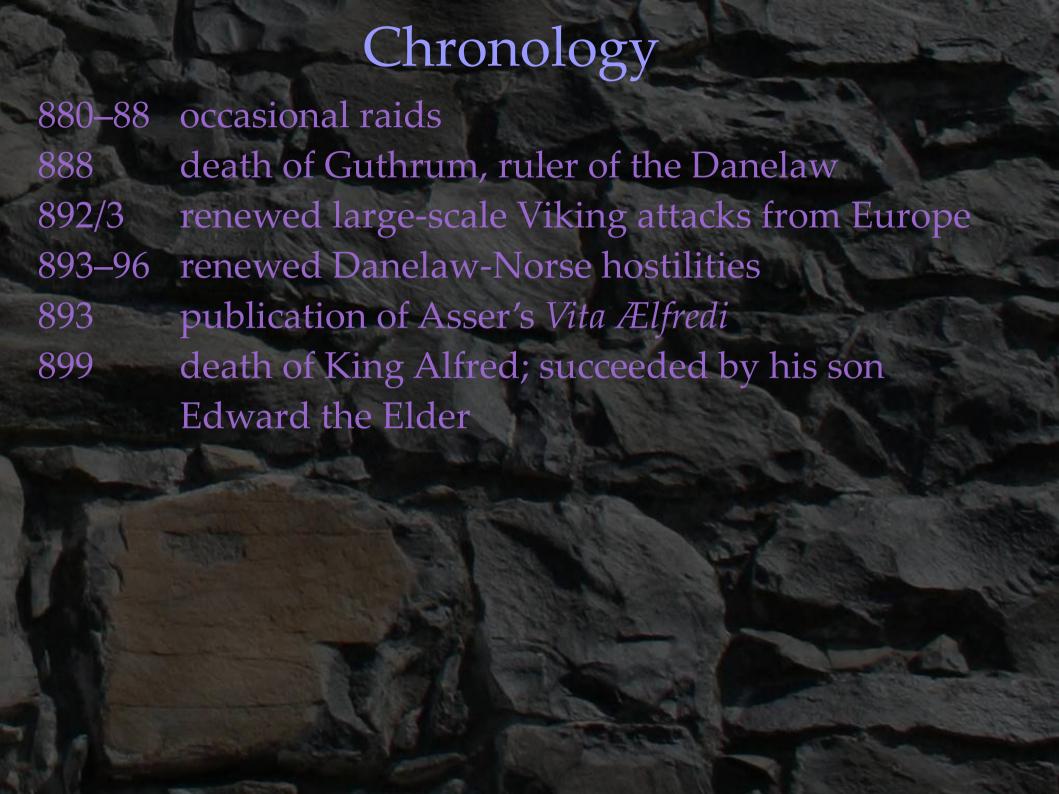




Chronology

835–50	widespread raiding, especially in the south
849	birth of Alfred of Wessex
851	first Viking winter quarters
851	350 ships attack from the Thames
865	Vikings settle in Kent, East Anglia; conquer York
866	Æthelred succeeds to the throne of Wessex
868	Æthelred and Alfred help defend Mercia
869	the York Vikings take East Anglia, killing Edmund
870–71	Æthelred and Alfred fight nine battles;
(de	Æthelred killed, Alfred becomes King of Wessex
871	Alfred presumably pays off the Vikings
876	hostilities resume
878	his army decimated, Alfred mobilizes the
	population and defeats the Vikings





Innovations

- military (after 878)
 - construction of burhs
 - rotation of agricultural and military duty
 - expansion of hidal draft: military (1/5), burgal (1/1)
 - new ship-design
- educational/cultural (880s)
 - translation and distribution of essential texts
 - call to teach all freeborn men to read English
 - legal innovations
 - foundation of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle (892)

Translation

- religious
 - "Handboc"
 - Gregory the Great, Dialogues
 - Gregory the Great, Pastoral Care
 - Augustine, Soliloquies
 - Psalms 1–50
 - Orosius, Histories Against the Pagans
 - Bede, Ecclesiastical History of the English People
 - ? Martyrology
- secular
 - Consolation of Philosophy
 - ? Leechbook

lost commissioned by Alfred Alfred's own...?

The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle

- probable year of first publication
- 893–96 first continuation of common stock
- 897–914 second continuation
- 915–20 third continuation

Surviving redactions:

- A (Parker): 60 BCE–1093 CE
- B: 60 BCE–977 CE
- C: 60 BCE-1066 CE
- D: 60 BCE-1080 CE
- E (Peterborough): 60 BCE-1154 CE
- F: 60 BCE-1202 CE
- G: fragmentary, 270 CE-1001 CE (based on A)
- H: fragmentary, 1113 CE-1114 CE

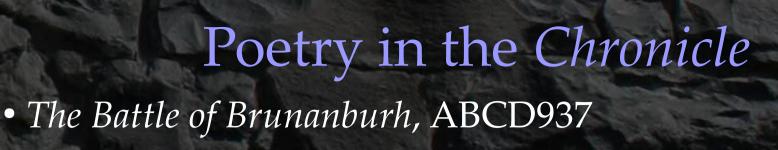
<northern Chronicle (York)

The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle

- A721 Her Daniel ferde to Rome, & þy ilcan geare Ine ofslog Cynewulf.
- A722 Her Ęþelburg cuen towearp Tantun & Ine ær timbrede; & Aldbryht wręccea gewat on Suþrige & on Suþseaxe, & Ine gefeaht wiþ Suþseaxum.
- A725 Her Wihtręd Cantwara cyning forþferde, þæs cyn is beforan, & Eadberht feng to Centrice, & Ine feaht wiþ Suþseaxan & þær ofslog Aldbryht.
- A728 Her Ine ferde to Rome & þær his feorh gesealde, & feng Eþelheard to Wesseaxna rice & heold XIIII gear. & þy geare gefuhton Eþelheard & Oswald se eþeling; & se Oswald was Eþelbalding, Eþelbald Cynebalding, Cynebald Cuþwining, Cuþwine Ceaulining.

The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle

A871 [...] & þæs ofer Eastron gefor Eþered cyning, & he ricsode V gear, & his lic lib æt Winburnan. Þa feng Elfred Ebelwulfing his brobur to Wesseaxna rice, & bæs ymb anne monab gefeaht Elfred cyning wib alne bone here lytle werede æt Wiltune & hine longe on dæg gefliemde, & þa Deniscan ahton welstowe gewald. & bæs geares wurdon VIIII folcgefeoht gefohten wib bone here on by cynerice be suban Temese, & butan þam þe him Elfred þæs cyninges brobur & anlipig aldormon & cyninges begnas oft rade on ridon be mon na ne rimde, & bæs geares wærun ofslægene VIIII eorlas & an cyning; & by geare namon Westseaxe frib wib bone here. [...]



- The Capture of the Five Boroughs, ABCD942
- The Coronation of King Edgar, ABC973
- The Death of King Edgar, ABCDE975
- The Death of Alfred, 1036
- The Death of King Edward, CD1065
- various entries with metric/alliterative qualities

Context and Purpose of the Chronicle

- begun in context of Alfred's educational programme (cf. ideology of Alfred's translated histories)
- begun at time of renewed Norse hostilities
- initial focus on house of Wessex:
 - opens with Alfred's (partly mythical) genealogy
 - Alfred's military trials and triumphs
 - Alfred's military reforms
- later entries focus on respective areas of composition

