

A dramatic sunset or sunrise over a dark sea. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, and a thin line of light is visible on the horizon. The word "Vikings" is overlaid in a white, serif font, centered horizontally and slightly above the middle vertically. The text is reflected in the dark water below.

Vikings

Viking expansion: motivations

- ? agricultural overpopulation
- ? babyboom
- ? shortage of women
- ? technological developments
- ? climate change

- less time-bound: internal tensions

Vikings in England: chronology

- 789 first reported attack (Dorset)
- 793 sacking of Lindisfarne
- 794 raiding in Northumbria (?Jarrow)
- 835–50 widespread raiding, esp. in the south
- 850–1 first winter quarters
- 851 350 ships attack from the Thames
- 865 settle in Kent, accept money for peace;
a micel here (Ivar the boneless) settles in
East Anglia, accepts horses for peace, and
conquers York (Scandinavian-ruled to 954)
- 869 York Vikings take East Anglia, kill Edmund

Vikings in England: chronology

- 871–886 wars for Wessex; Danelaw
- 892–6 resumed wars for Wessex
- 899–924 Edward, Æthelstan, Æthelflæd retake Norse areas
- 924– 939 rule of Æthelstan
- 937 Battle of Brunanburh against Dublin, Scotland, and Strathclyde
- 939–40 Northumbrians elect Olaf, who temporarily captures northeastern Mercia
- 949–54 Northumbria ruled by Scandinavians

Vikings in England: chronology

- 978 Æthelred II comes to power
- 980ff. Viking raiders return
- 991 (Folkestone, Sandwich,) Ipswich raided;
Battle of Maldon; “first tribute” £10,000
- 994 Swein and Olaf raid the south, exact £16,000
Danegeld. Æthelred makes a further
settlement with Olaf, who then leaves
England to seize Norway.
- 997–1002 raiding leads to £24,000 Danegeld
- 1007 £36,000 Danegeld
- 1012 £48,000 Danegeld
- 1013–14 Swein is King of all England

Vikings in England: chronology

1014–16 Æthelred resumes his rule

1016–42 Cnut and his sons rule England

1042 Cnut is succeeded by Edward the Confessor, son of Æthelred and Emma

1066 Battle of Stamford Bridge

991

ASC [A] (under 993):

Her on ðissum geare com Unlaf mid þrim & hundnigontigon scipum to Stane & forhergedon þæt onytan & forða ðanon to Sandwic & swa ðanon to Gipeswic & þæt eall ofereode & swa to Mældune; & him ðær com togeanes Byrhtnoð ealdorman mid his fyrde & him wið gefeaht, & hy þone ealdorman þær ofslogon & wælstowe geweald ahtan. & him man nam syððan frið wið, & hine nam se cing syððan to bisceopes handa.

(Cf. CDEF under 994: Anlaf & Swegen to Lundenbyrig. . . mid III & hundnigontigum scypum.)

?991

Ipswich

Maldon

London

Sandwich

Folkestone

ASC [CDE]:

Her wæs Gypeswic gehegod, & æfter þon swiðe raðe wæs Brihtnoð ealdorman ofslegen æt Mældune; & on þam geare man gerædde þæt man geald ærest gafol denescum mannum for ðam miclan brogan þe hi worhton be ðam særiman; þæt wæs ærest X ðusend punda; þæne ræd gerædde ærest Syric arcebisceop.

ASC [F]:

Her was Brihtnoð ealderman ofslagen at Mældune, & on ðan ylcan geare man gerædde þæt man geald ærost gauel Deniscan mannum for ðan wundræn þe hi worhton be særiman; þæt was ærost tyn þusend punda. Þene ræd gerædde Siric arcebiscop.











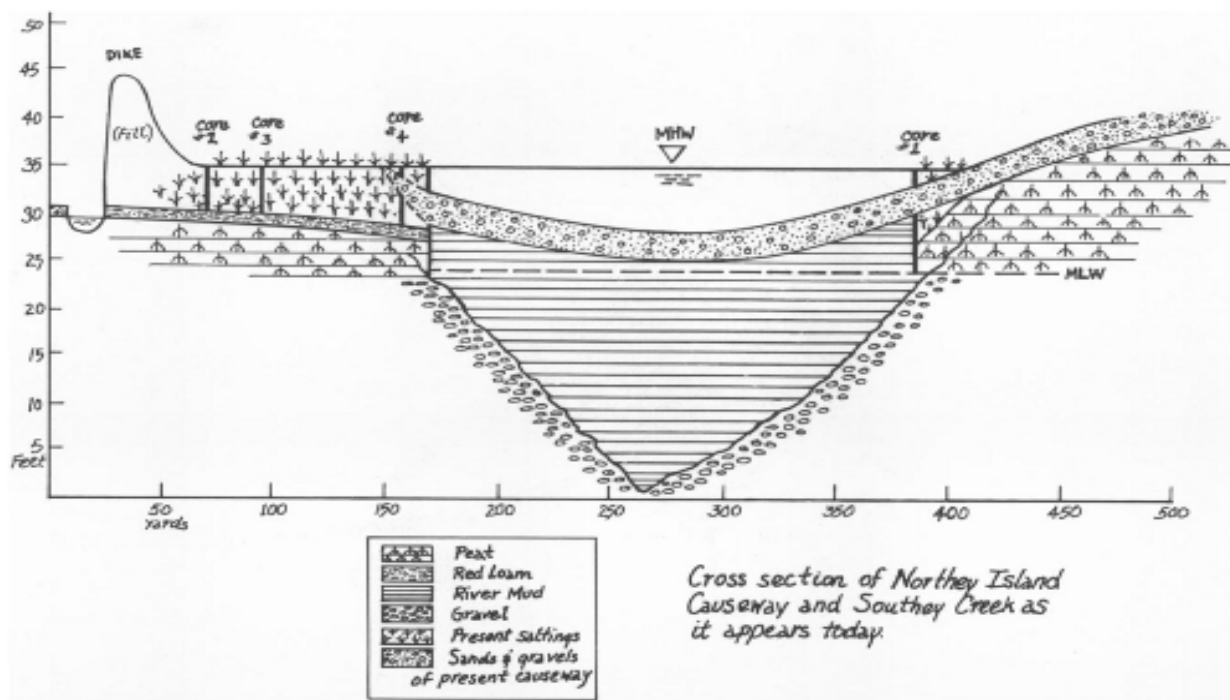


Figure 1

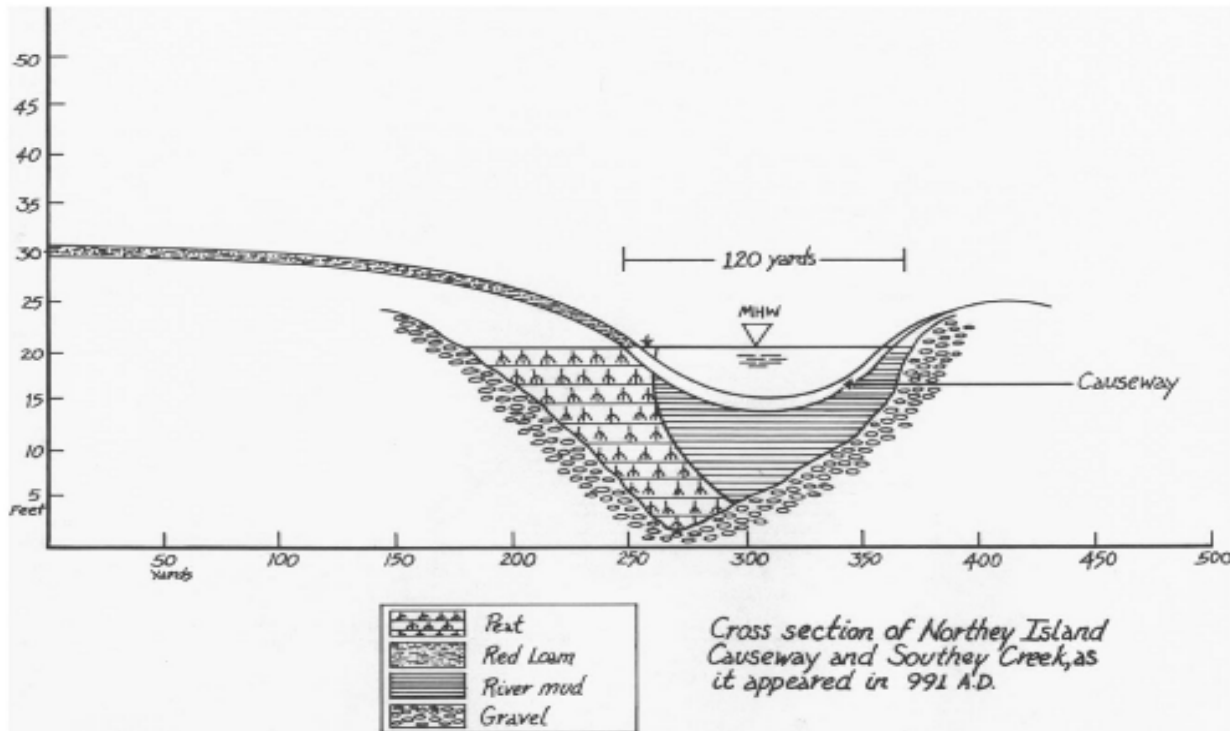


Figure 2

Source: Petty and Petty, "Geology and the Battle of Maldon." *Speculum* 51.3 (July 1976): 435-46.