

## Map of Britain, c. 536 AD

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Map for use in the in-development PBeM game "Tyranni Britanniae"

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### Description

This map is my attempt to historically depict the political and cultural situation of Britain c. 536 AD. In constructing this map, I assume that Arthur did indeed live in the early 500s, that much of southern Britain supported him, and that he retained some affinity for Roman ways and law. Further, I assume that he died c. 536 AD, which is the midpoint of the range 534-538 AD estimated for the Battle of Camlann in the "Welsh Annals" (*Annales Cambriae*) by Morris (1973:149).

I have designed the map in the style of "Risk" or "Diplomacy." That is, the map is organized into territories of political and economic influence, with each territory typically based on one or two principal settlements. I take this approach to allow for changes of possession and borders between player-kingdoms. Each territory is named after a principal settlement. If there is no major settlement, then a name based on geography is used. I did not label the territories with the names of historical kingdoms (e.g., Powys or Pouis, Suth Seaxe, Votadini or Guotodin, etc.), because these kingdoms would typically cover multiple territories, and player-kingdoms may very well alter the historical boundaries.

The locations of settlements and major forests and fens were taken from the sources listed below. Much effort went into deriving plausible names of the settlements at 536 AD. This involved postulating five major linguistic regions of Britain: Latin dominated, Anglo-Saxon emergent, British emergent, Pictish, and Old Irish. The rest of this document explains these five regions and the rationale behind the names appearing on the map.

### Sources used

#### Settlements and terrain

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#### Language and linguistics

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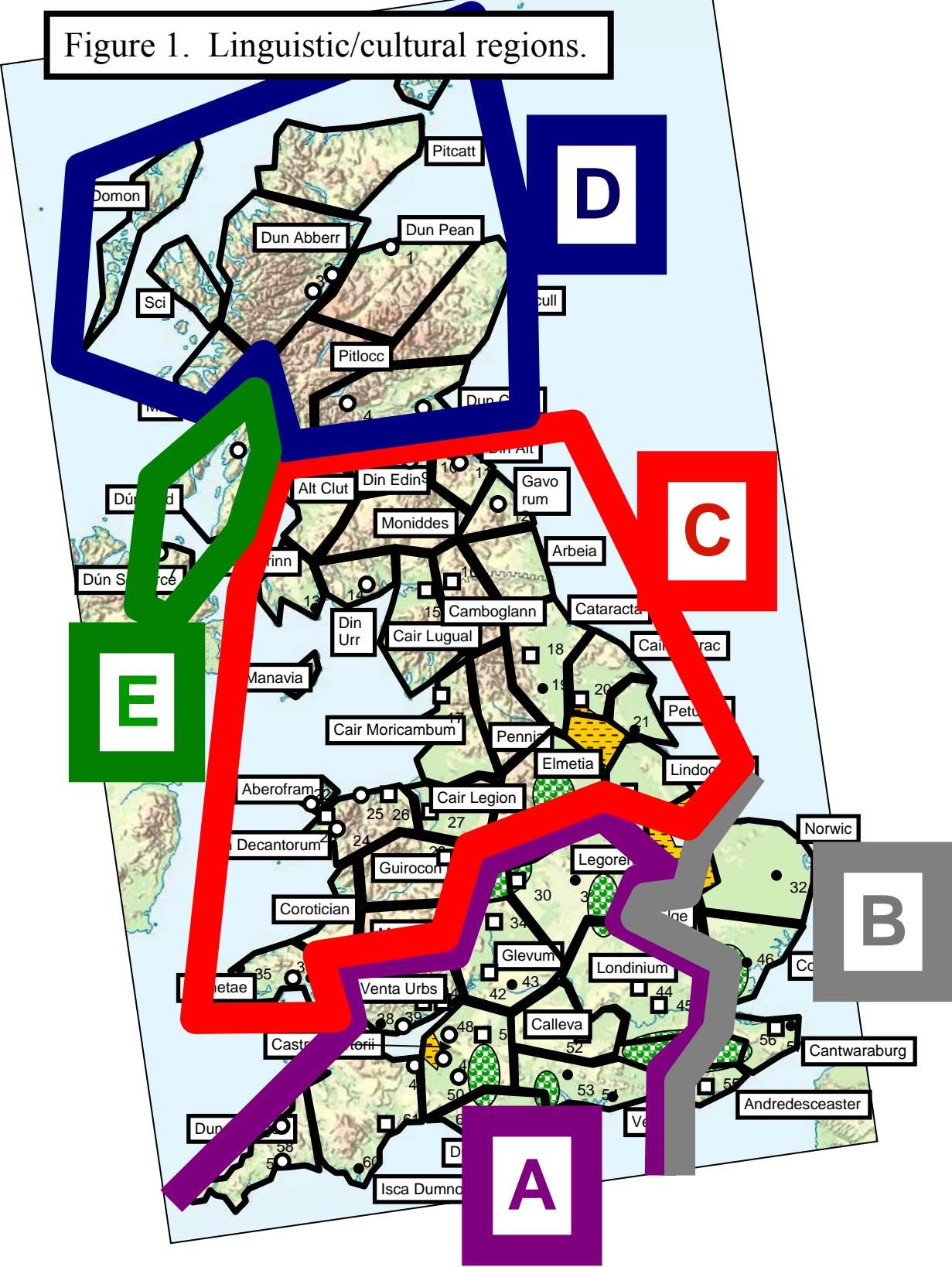
#### **Abbreviations**

- \* Reconstructed word.
- > Derived from (i.e., older word > more recent word).
- AS. Anglo-Saxon
- Brit. British (from earliest linguistic evidence in Greek documents to c. 550 AD)
- Lat. Latin
- MW. Middle Welsh (from second half of 1100s AD to 1300s-1400s AD)
- Mod.W. Modern Welsh (from 1300s/1400s AD to present)
- OI. Old Irish (from early 700s AD to c. 950 AD)
- OSDA Ordnance Survey, *Britain in the Dark Ages*
- OSRB Ordnance Survey, *Map of Roman Britain*
- OW. Old Welsh (from late 700s AD to second half of 1100s AD)
- Pict. Pictish
- Pr.Cumb. Primitive Cumbric (from c. 550 AD to its extinction)
- Pr.W. Primitive Welsh (from c. 550 AD to late 700s AD)

#### **Linguistic/cultural regions**

Figure 1 presents the postulated five major linguistic/cultural regions of Britain c. 536 AD.

Figure 1. Linguistic/cultural regions.



### Region A: Latin dominated

I assume that, through the efforts of Ambrosius Aurelianus, Uther (Uter), and Arthur (Artorius), southwestern Wales and much of southern England was held together by a government grounded on Roman traditions during 466-536 AD. The Roman names of cities and towns were retained, and Arthur's "Camelot", South Cadbury fort, was christened *Castrum Artorii* ("fort of Artorius"). A slight exception is the fringe area of modern Cornwall and Devonshire. Here, native British elements are surfacing, reflected in the change of the Latinized *dunum* ("hillfort") to *dunon*. In deference to strong literary tradition of Jutish occupation, the Isle of Wight has been renamed "Weoht."

### Region B: Anglo-Saxon emergent

By 536 AD, Anglo-Saxons (*Engle* and *Seaxe*) are entrenched in southeastern England. They have established kingdoms in Kent and East Anglia (Morris 1973), and the Old English names of the settlements reflect this political domination. Although archaeology and genealogical tradition indicate Germanic presence farther to the west (Dorset, Gloucestershire) and north (Lincolnshire) by this time (e.g., Morris 1973, Falkus and Gillingham 1981, Gilbert 1993, Higham 2002), the Germanic bands presumably did not exert enough influence to rename long-standing settlements.

### Region C: British emergent

I assume that the more unruly parts of Roman Britain -- much of Wales and the stretch from northern England to the Firth of Forth -- have slipped from *Romanitas*. In these areas, British heroic culture and language are emergent. Depicting the British language c. 536 AD is difficult, but Jackson (1953) provides guidance. He posits a common "British" ancestral language to Welsh, Cornish, Cumbric, and Breton. This language had final syllables, much like Latin, that were lost by 550-600 AD (e.g., British *Totavalos* became Old Welsh *Tutagual*, then Modern Welsh *Tudwal*). Thus, the native British language is presumably in flux in 536. I reflect this transitional stage by dropping many of the final syllables in the settlements' names. I use *din*, not *dunum* or *dunon*, for "fort", as well as *cair* ("castle", presumably derived from the Latin *castrum*), which is thought to date from Primitive Welsh (i.e., from 550 AD to late 700s).

### Region D: Pictish

The Picts hold sway over much of Scotland. They call themselves *Albani*, while Latin writers use *Picti*, Irish writers use *Cruithne*, and the Britons to the south most likely use *Priteni* (Morris 1973; Snyder 2000). The Pictish language is poorly understood, but some words have been given meanings, such as *pean* ("head") and *pit* or *pett* ("piece; parcel"). From this meager vocabulary, I have looked to likely cognates in Old Irish and British for Pictish place names, doubling consonants to mimic the names found in Pictish king lists.

### Region E: Old Irish

The Irish (Scotti) have established a kingdom in Argyll, while maintaining ties to their Ulster homeland. Their language is Old Irish.

## Territories (alphabetical order)

<u>Map name</u>	<u>Modern name</u>	<u>Rationale for map name</u>
Aberofram	Is. Anglesey	See site #22.
Alt Clut	Dumbarton	See site #8.
Andredesceaster	Pevensey	See site #55.
Arbeia	South Shields	OSRB.
Cair Eburac	York	See site #20.
Cair Legion	Chester	See site #27.
Cair Lugal	Carlisle	See site #15.
Cair Moricambum	Lancaster	See site #17.
Calleva	Silchester	See site #52.
Camboglann	Birdoswald	See site #16.
Cantwaraburg	Canterbury	See site #56.
Castrum Artorii	South Cadbury	See site #50.
Cataracta	Catterick	See site #18.
Colceaster	Colchester	See site #46.
Corotician	Cardigan	Lat. <i>Coriticiana regio</i> > W. <i>Ceredigion</i> (Jackson 1953:611).
Demetae	---	Historical kingdom/region name.
Din Alt	Doon Hill	See site #11.
Din Decantorum	Degannwy	See site #25.
Din Edin	Edinburgh	See site #9.
Din Urr	Mote of Mark	See site #14.
Domon	Outer Hebrides	OSDA.
Dun Abberr	Craig Phadraig	See site #2.
Dún Add	Dunadd	See site #6.
Dun Cluce	Clatchard Craig	See site #5.
Dun Pean	Burghead	See site #1.
Dún Sobairce	Dunseverick	See site #7.
Dunon Tagell	Tintagel	See site #58.
Durnovaria	Dorchester	See site #62.
Elge	Ely	<i>Elge</i> ("eel district") (OSDA; City of Ely, "British History Online", <a href="http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.asp?compid=21883">www.british-history.ac.uk/report.asp?compid=21883</a> )
Elmetia	---	Historical kingdom/region name.
Gavorum	Yeavinger	See site #12.
Glevum	Gloucester	See site #42.
Guiron	Wroxeter	See site #29.
Inissi Orce	Orkney Is.	Brit. <i>*inissi</i> ("island") (Jackson 1953:666) + <i>Orc</i> (OSDA).
Isca Dumnoniae	Exeter	See site #61.
Legorensis	Leicester	See site #31.
Lindocolina	Lincoln	See site #28.
Londinium	London	See site #45.
Magnis	Kenchester	See site #33.

Mall	Is. Mull	<i>Malaius</i> (OSRB).
Manavia	Is. Man	* <i>Manavia</i> or * <i>Manava</i> > later Welsh <i>Manaw</i> (Jackson 1953:376).
Moniddes	Southern Uplands	Late Brit. * <i>moniddo-</i> > early Pr.W. * <i>munidd</i> > Mod.W. <i>mynyddoedd</i> ("mountains") (Jackson 1953:273).
Norwic	Norwich	See site #32.
Pennia	---	Pennine region (Brit. * <i>penno-</i> "head").
Pennorinn	Galloway	Brit * <i>pennorindo-</i> > <i>Penryn Rionyt</i> ; Mod.W. <i>penrhyn</i> ("cape") (Jackson 1953:472; Koch 1995).
Petuarua	Brough	See site #21.
Pitcatt	Caithness	My hypothesized Pict. * <i>pit</i> + <i>Cait</i> (OSDA).
Pitcull	---	My hypothesized Pict. * <i>pit</i> + Brit. * <i>culo-</i> ("corner") (Jackson 1953:303).
Pitlocc	---	My hypothesized Pict. * <i>pit</i> + IE. * <i>loku-</i> or * <i>laku-</i> ("lake") (MacBain 1982).
Sci	Is. Skye	OSDA.
Venta	Winchester	See site #53.
Venta Urbs	Caerwent	See site #41.
Weoht	Is. Wight	Early AS. form (Jackson 1953:409).

### Settlements and sites

<u>Map name</u>	<u>Modern name</u>	<u>Rationale for map name</u>
1. Dun Pean	Burghead	Pict. * <i>pean</i> ("head").
2. Dun Abberr	Craig Phadraig	Brit * <i>abbero-</i> ("estuary") (Jackson 1953:427).
3. Air Chartdan	Urquhart Castle	OSDA.
4. Dun Durn	Dundurn	Poss. related to OI. <i>dorn</i> ("fist") (MacBain 1982).
5. Dun Clucc	Clatchard Craig	Clatchard prob. means "stone" + "high." Cf. OI. <i>cloch</i> and modern Scottish Gaelic <i>clach</i> ("stone"); OI. and modern Scottish Gaelic <i>ard</i> ("high").
6. Dún Add	Dunadd	Poss. OI form.
7. Dún Sobairce	Dunseverick	OI. form.
8. Alt Clut	Dumbarton	Brit. * <i>alt</i> ("joint; hill") + Brit. * <i>Clouta</i> > Pr.W. * <i>Chud</i> (Jackson 1953:309,400; MacBain 1982).
9. Din Edin	Edinburgh	From OSDA.
10. Din Prens	Traprain Law	Earlier form * <i>prens</i> ("Ancient Lothian" <a href="http://www.cyberscotia.com/ancient-lothian/index.html">www.cyberscotia.com/ancient-lothian/index.html</a> ).
11. Din Alt	Doon Hill	Brit. * <i>alt</i> ("joint; hill") (Jackson 1953:400; MacBain 1982).
12. Gavorum	Yeavering	<i>Gefrin</i> (OSDA), poss. from Brit. * <i>gabro-</i> ("goat") > Mod.W. <i>gafr</i> (MacBain 1982).

13. Candida Casa	Whithorn	OSDA.
14. Din Urr	Mote of Mark	My derivation from Urr River.
15. Cair Lugual	Carlisle	Pr.Cumb. * <i>Cair Læowel</i> (Jackson 1953:688).
16. Camboglann	Birdoswald	Prob. Pr.W. * <i>Camboglann</i> or * <i>Camglann</i> (Jackson 1953:436).
17. Cair Moricambum	Lancaster	Roman bay name <i>Moricambe</i> (OSRB), prob. related to Brit. * <i>mori-</i> ("sea") + * <i>cambo-</i> ("bent, curve").
18. Cataracta	Catterick	Lat. <i>Cataractone</i> or <i>Cataractoni</i> , Brit * <i>Cataraxta</i> or * <i>Catarraxta</i> > Pr.W. <i>Catrayt</i> (Jackson 1953:409,564).
19. Isurium	Aldborough	OSRB.
20. Cair Eburac	York	From OSRB.
21. Petuaria	Brough	OSRB.
22. Aberofram	Aberffraw	Brit. * <i>abbero-</i> + Brit. * <i>Frama</i> (Jackson 1953:416,427).
23. Cair Segont	Caernarvon	Brit * <i>Segontion</i> > OW. <i>Segeint</i> (Jackson 1953:513).
24. Din Ambros	Dinas Emrys	From Lat. <i>Ambrosius</i> .
25. Din Decanorum	Degannwy	Prob. Brit. * <i>Decantouion</i> > <i>Arx Decanorum</i> (Jackson 1953:39).
26. Din Orbogen	Dinorben	Poss. Brit * <i>Orbogenos</i> > OW. <i>Urbgen</i> > MW. <i>Urien</i> (Jackson 1953:439).
27. Cair Legion	Chester	OSDA.
28. Lindocolina	Lincoln	Poss. Brit. * <i>Lindogolunia</i> > Pr.W. * <i>Lindgolun</i> , early AS. * <i>Lind(o)colin</i> (Jackson 1953:258).
29. Guirocon	Wroxeter	From Lat. <i>Viroconium</i> , OW. <i>Guricon</i> (OSRB, OSDA).
30. Letocetum	Wall	Romano-British <i>Letocetum</i> , Brit. * <i>Letocaiton</i> (Jackson 1953:327,332).
31. Legorensis	Leicester	Post-Roman period Lat. <i>Legorensis</i> (OSDA). Alternatively, this can be <i>Ligoraceaster</i> (Jackson 1953:459) to reflect a stronger Anglo-Saxon presence.
32. Norwic	Norwich	OSDA.
33. Magnis	Kenchester	OSRB.
34. Vigora	Worcester	Brit * <i>Uigora</i> > Post-Roman period Lat. <i>Wigorna civitas</i> (Jackson 1953:459).
35. Menevia	St. David's	OSDA.
36. Dún Cuas	Coygan Camp	OI. <i>cuas</i> ("cave"); hillfort and cave at this site.
37. Caisel Mora	Carmarthen	OI. for <i>Moridunum</i> ("sea" + "fort"; OSRB), OI. <i>caisel</i> ("castle, fort") + OI. <i>mora</i> ("of the sea").
38. Lanna Iltuti	Llanilltud; Llantwit Major	Brit. * <i>lanna</i> ("enclosure, church") + Lat. <i>Iltutus</i> (Jackson 1953:307,508).
39. Dunum Claudii	Dinas Powys	<i>Claudius</i> is Latinized <i>Glywys</i> .
40. Isca	Caerleon	OSRB.
41. Venta Urbs	Caerwent	OSRB. "Urbs" taken from post-Roman <i>Guentionia</i>

		<i>Urbs</i> (OSDA), and used to distinguish from Venta (#53).
42. Glevum	Gloucester	OSRB.
43. Corinium	Cirencester	OSRB.
44. Verulamium	St. Albans	OSRB.
45. Londinium	London	OSRB.
46. Colceaster	Colchester	OSDA.
47. Cantium	Cannington	My hypothesized name from Gaulish <i>*cantus</i> ("rim").
48. Cadium	Cadbury-Congresbury	My hypothesized name from late Brit. <i>*cadus</i> ("battle") (Jackson 1953:178).
49. Collis Sanctis	Glastonbury	My hypothesized name from Lat. "hill" + "sacred."
50. Castrum Artorii	South Cadbury	My hypothesized name from Lat. "fort" + "of Artorius."
51. Aquae	Bath	OSRB.
52. Calleva	Silchester	OSRB.
53. Venta	Winchester	OSRB. Alternatively, this can be <i>Wintanceaster</i> to reflect a stronger Anglo-Saxon presence (OSDA).
54. Noviomagus	Chichester	OSRB. Alternatively, this can be <i>Cissaceaster</i> to reflect a stronger Anglo-Saxon presence.
55. Andredeceaster	Pevensy	OSDA.
56. Cantwaraburg	Canterbury	OSDA.
57. Reptaceaster	Richborough	Jackson (1953:40-41,661).
58. Dunon Tagell	Tintagel	<i>dunon</i> + <i>Tagell</i> (OSDA).
59. Dunon Dobra	Castle Dore	Late Brit. <i>*Dobra</i> (Jackson 1953:418).
60. Portus Litus	Bantham	My hypothesized name from Lat. "port" + "beach."
61. Isca Dumnoniae	Exeter	Modified from OSRB.
62. Durnovaria	Dorchester	OSRB.
63. Portus Lapidum	Wareham	My hypothesized name from Lat. "port" + "of the stones."