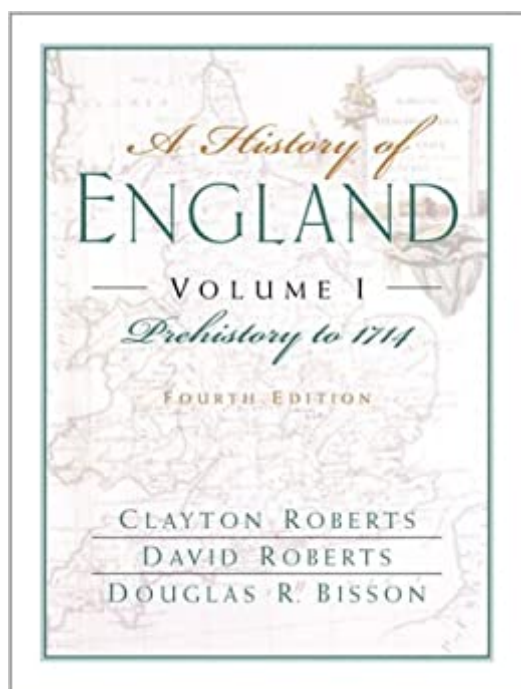


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# A History Of England, Volume I: Prehistory To 1714 (Chapters 1-16)



## Synopsis

The first volume in a two-volume set, this book provides a broad, narrative account of English history from the first settlers in the Paleolithic Age to the 1714. It draws on the most up-to-date primary and secondary research to illuminate the full range of England's social, economic, cultural, and political past, and focuses on how and why events occurred. It stresses dominant themes in English history without espousing any single interpretation, and considers events in Scotland, Wales, and Ireland as they affected developments in England. KEY TOPICS: The Land And The People; Roman Britain: 55 B.C.-450 A.D.19; Anglo-Saxon England: 450-1066; Norman England; The Angevins; The Thirteenth Century: 1216-1307; War And Crisis: 1307-1399; Lancaster And York: 1399-1485; The Reign Of Henry Vii: 1485-1509; War And Reformation: 1509-1547; Protestant And Catholic: 1547-1558; Elizabethan England: 1558-1603; Early Stuart England: 1603-1640; The English Revolution: 1640-1660; Restoration And Revolution: 1660-1689; War And Society. MARKET: For anyone interested in the History of England.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A History of England, Volume I: Prehistory to 1714 incorporates recent scholarship into a master narrative that encompasses England's social, economic, cultural, intellectual, and political history. This account traces how and why critical events occurred. Other significant features: stresses dominant themes in English history; the coming of Christianity, the creation of the English monarchy, the impact of the Norman conquest and much more. discusses events in Scotland, Wales, and Ireland as they affect developments in England. offers section headings, genealogical

charts, a list of kings and queens, and improved maps. includes new material on the cultural effects of the bubonic plague of the fourteenth century. provides suggested Further Reading at the end of each chapter, focusing on the most important books on each era (updated to include recent publications).

Ten years have passed since the third edition of this book appeared. The last decade has been an eventful one for the peoples of the British Isles: The longest serving prime minister of the century was removed from power by her own colleagues; a moribund Labor Party, out of office for almost two decades, revived to score its greatest electoral triumph under the youngest man to serve as prime minister since 1812; after 30 years of sectarian conflict in Northern Ireland, hopes for a lasting peace blossomed on a rainy Easter Sunday; the Channel Tunnel, the fear and folly of an earlier age when France and Britain were enemies, was completed by the joint effort of the two nations; the tragic death of Diana, Princess of Wales, was greeted with such an outpouring of public grief that age-old stereotypes about British reserve vanished in a fortnight. The narrative of recent developments will constitute part of any new edition. But history is about continuities as well as new departures. This is true not only in the making of history but in the writing of it. It is in that spirit that I carry on the work of Clayton and David Roberts. Their work has succeeded in providing a master narrative of the key events of England's history while not neglecting the impact that these events have had on Scotland, Wales, and Ireland. This narrative has not ignored the interpretive dimension at the core of the historical enterprise but has incorporated the fresh perspective and methods that recent scholarship has brought to the study of England's past. Their graceful prose, trenchant analysis, and unobtrusive learning are virtues I can only hope to emulate. I wish to thank the editorial staff of Prentice Hall for their cheerfully rendered assistance. I owe a special debt to Emsal Hasan, whose encouraging words have blessed the project. My Belmont colleague, Richard Fallis, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, has supported this project in every way a college administrator can. Finally, I wish to thank my wife, Cynthia Story Bisson. Although a historian of France, she has endured my Anglophilia for more than 20 years. For her love, patience, and gentle criticism I am especially grateful. Douglas Bisson

I'm about halfway through this volume, and I'm delighted. If you want to get a real feel for the overall history of Britain, this is an excellent choice. I do understand a previous remark about things being told out-of-sequence on occasion, but I think the organizational problems of a general history are insurmountable. It takes time to discuss certain topics (such as trade) in separate chapters

spanning several hundred years. The index is very helpful in this regard. I think the writing is excellent and clear. I understand a lot of things that have always puzzled me and that are, indeed, nearly incomprehensible, such as how the various degrees of nobility came into existence and what they were intended to do, or exactly what sheriffs and reeves were and how the term changed over time. Also, this is not a history you can skim, as it packs in a lot. As for "dryness", I have found it very easy to read and with sufficient detail to flesh out the main characters and movements. I have enjoyed reading it immensely. No, you cannot write a complete history of Britain in 1000 pages and give the kind of details that Schama or the Durants manage, but if you want to be able to really be able to set the events of British history in context without just getting the barebone facts, this is your book.

This was the textbook for one of my history classes. As a history teacher now, I still have this book on my shelf, close at hand. The author does a great job detailing the circumstances behind each part of early England. Love this book!

Since I already have volume 2 and really enjoyed it, I decided to buy volume 1. The historical research in volume 1 is also as insightful as volume 2, and I recommend both volumes. The History of England by Clayton Roberts et al. is worth reading.

This book peaked and satisfied my interest in the British Royal family. From the inception to the purpose and reason for the monarch.

I had to use this book for my History of England class, and while I did not expect it to be an entertaining read, I at least expected it to be properly edited. Sometimes the writing is so bad that I have to get out my red pen just to get through it. The author(s) jump around in time which can be confusing. The authors definitely know their material, but just because someone knows a lot about a subject does not make him a writer. Plus, if you are going to charge this much for a book, invest in a decent editing and critiquing service.

I am giving this text 4 stars because it can tend to be a little dry. But it is a textbook, and not really pleasure reading, (unless you like that sort of thing.) I felt that it left out some pertinent information, but overall, it is pretty easy reading. It is great to read after a lecture to help congeal the things the instructor talked about. I will not sell back this book, because I am a history major- and it has a really

good index, so it is easy to look things up quickly.

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