

Maps and Notes to Supplement Churchill's *A History of the
English-Speaking Peoples*

Thomas E. Vaughan

September 2, 2014

Preface

Winston Churchill's *A History of the English-Speaking Peoples* is an excellent history, but, at least in its abridgment for the American audience, the book lacks maps. A reader like me, lacking proper knowledge of geography and of the evolution of place names over time, will have some difficulty in visualizing the location of one or another event. The present work is an effort to provide a visual reference for Churchill's book.

Unless indicated otherwise by the text in the present work, every page number refers to Churchill's book, and every quotation comes from Churchill's book. The source for each map is given in its caption.

Chapter 1

Britannia

On Page 1 is a reference to Gaul, which Julius Caesar had conquered by 55 BC. Figure 1.1 depicts the Roman view of Gaul at the time. Gaul covered the territory now covered by France, Luxembourg, Belgium, part of the Netherlands, and part of Germany. After conquering Gaul, Caesar turned his attention to Britannia, whose people were of the same Celtic culture as those in Gaul. “The Islanders had helped the local tribes in the late campaigns along the northern coast of Gaul. . . . British volunteers had shared the defeat of the Veneti on the coasts of Brittany in the previous year.” The location of the Veneti is indicated in Figure 1.1, and Brittany is located in Figure 1.2.

On Page 2 is a reference to Caesar’s timber bridge across the Rhine above Coblenz, whose location can be found in Figure 1.1. A magnified view is provided in Figure 1.3. The bridge is regarded as a marvel of military engineering. After the bridge was destroyed, Caesar marched his troops westward to the shore somewhere between Boulogne and Calais. The location of Boulogne can be found in Figure 1.1. The location of Calais can be found in Figure 1.4.

“Late in August 55 B.C. Caesar sailed with eighty transports and two legions at midnight, and with the morning light saw the white cliffs of Dover crowned with armed men.” The location of Dover, just opposite the English Channel from Calais, is depicted in Figure 1.4. “He judged the place ‘quite unsuitable for landing’, since it was possible to throw missiles from the cliffs on to the shore. He therefore anchored till the turn of the tide, sailed seven miles farther, and descended upon Albion on the low, shelving beach be-



Figure 1.1: Gaul as viewed by the Romans in the First Century BC. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gauls>

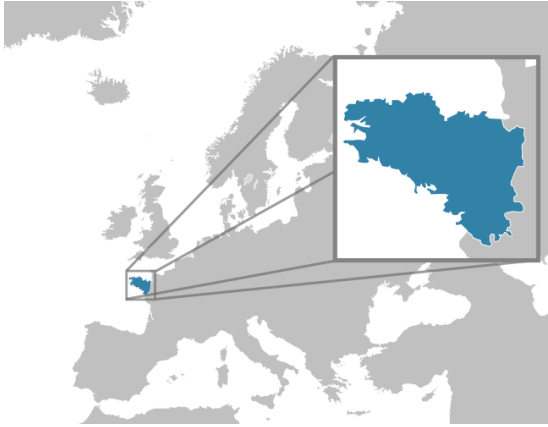


Figure 1.2: Brittany's location in northwest France.
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brittany>



Figure 1.4: Location of Calais. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calais>

tween Deal and Walmer.” The relationships among Dover, Deal, and Walmer can be seen in Figure 1.5.



Figure 1.3: Location of Caesar's Rhine crossing. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caesar's_Rhine_bridges

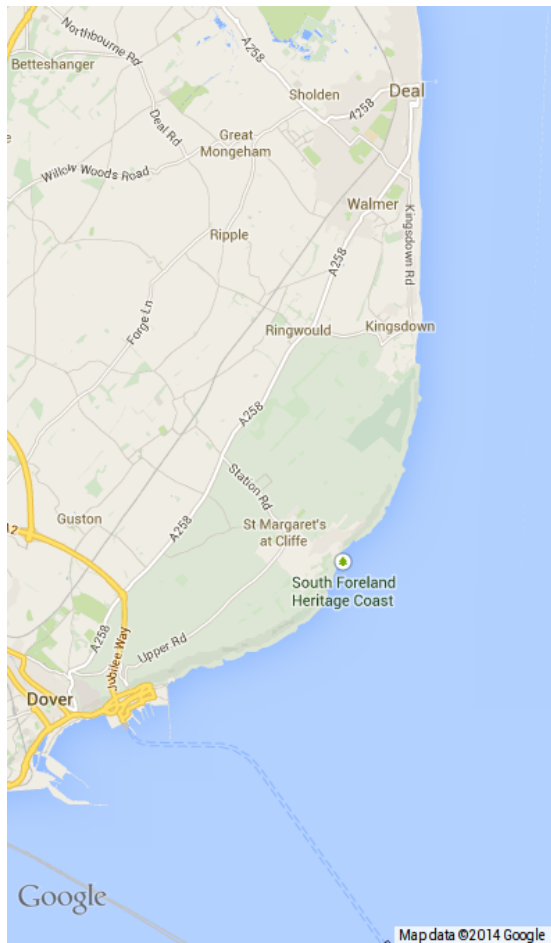


Figure 1.5: Location of Deal and Walmer.
<https://www.google.com/maps/@51.179681,1.303917,12z>

