



Border, what border?

How did “The Borders” come about?



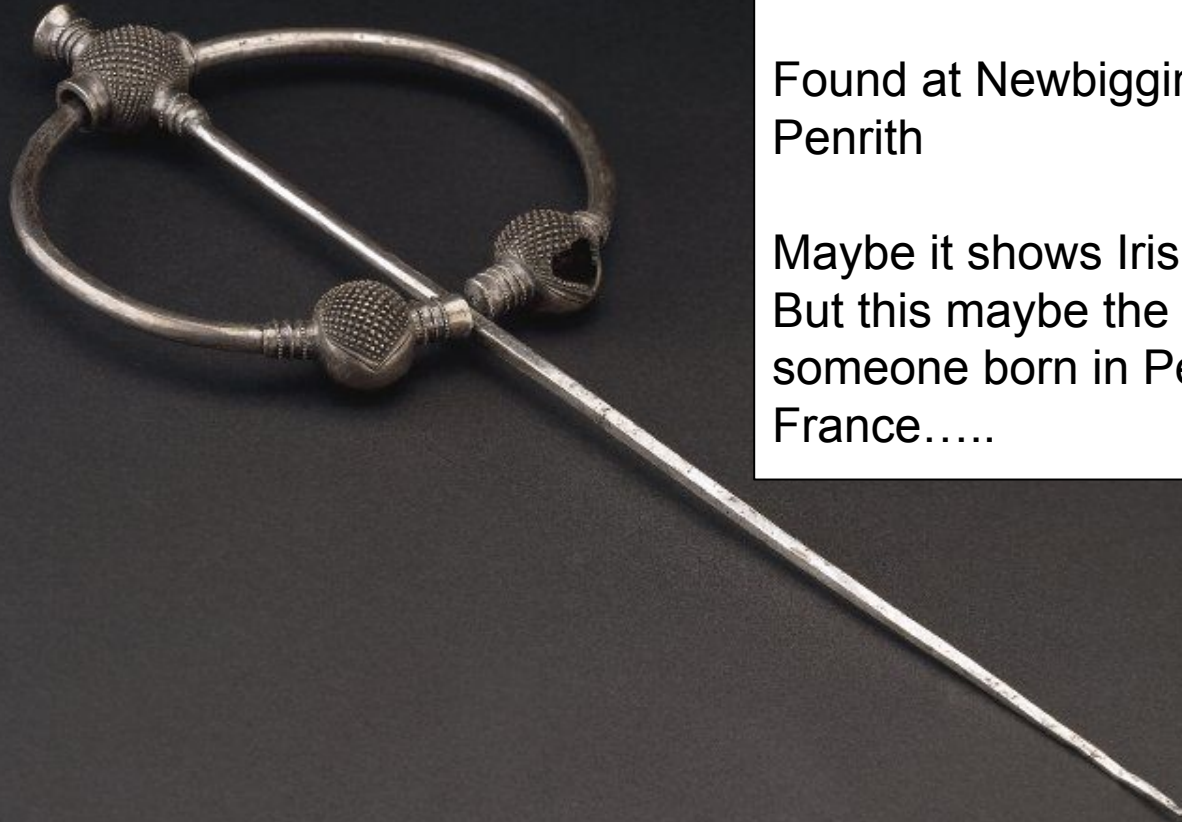
Past borders were seldom 'hard lines'

Even the Roman borders

Most past land borders followed natural features eg ranges of hills / mountains, rivers and estuaries

Modern borders affect archaeology - modern senses of identity impinge on understanding the past

Types of artefacts *may* define areas of cultural influence, *but* there are many human variables



An Irish Viking fashion of the 900s

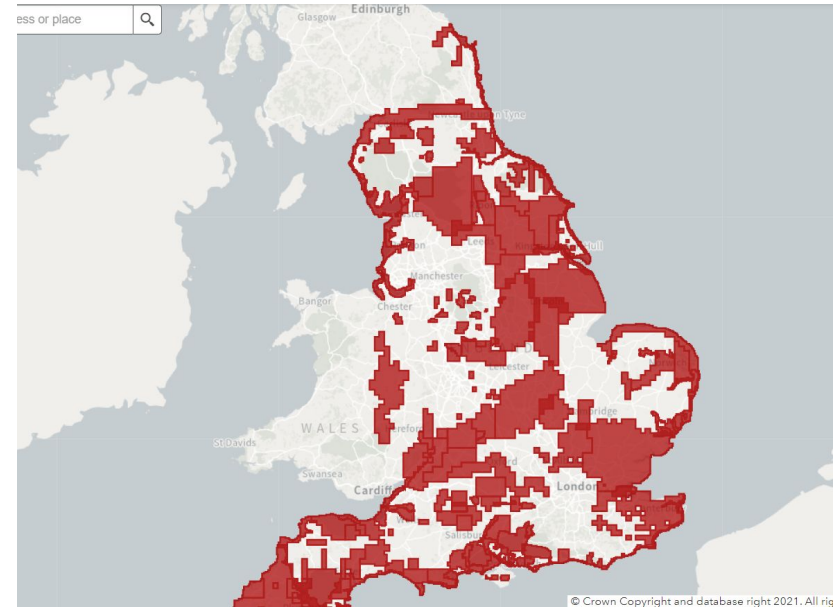
Found at Newbiggin, between Dacre and Penrith

Maybe it shows Irish Vikings lived nearby
But this maybe the fashion appealed to
someone born in Penrith, or Denmark, or
France.....

Research programmes often do not cross modern borders



Scotland's **Canmore website**



England's **Archaeology Explorer map**

Anything pre-Roman has depended on classical writers' mentions
Often went unchallenged in past studies



Celtic Tribes of the Britis...
inosaursandbarbarians.com



5 Tribes of Celtic Britain Ada...
researchgate.net



History / Europe
pinterest.com



Edinburgh Geological Soc...
edinburgeolsoc.org



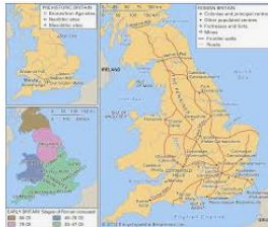
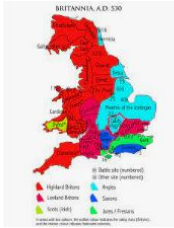
Who Were The Celts? Why Hist...
discover.hubpages.com



Map of the British Isles in AD 43 ...
worldhistory.org



Ancient Britain map request ...
forums.civfanatics.com



The Celtic Tribes - history of ...
englishmonarchs.co.uk



Map of Pre-Roman Britain
historyfiles.co.uk



Iron Age tribes in Britain - Wikipedia
en.wikipedia.org

https://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/british_prehistory/iron_01.shtml

We tend to forget how important natural borders were

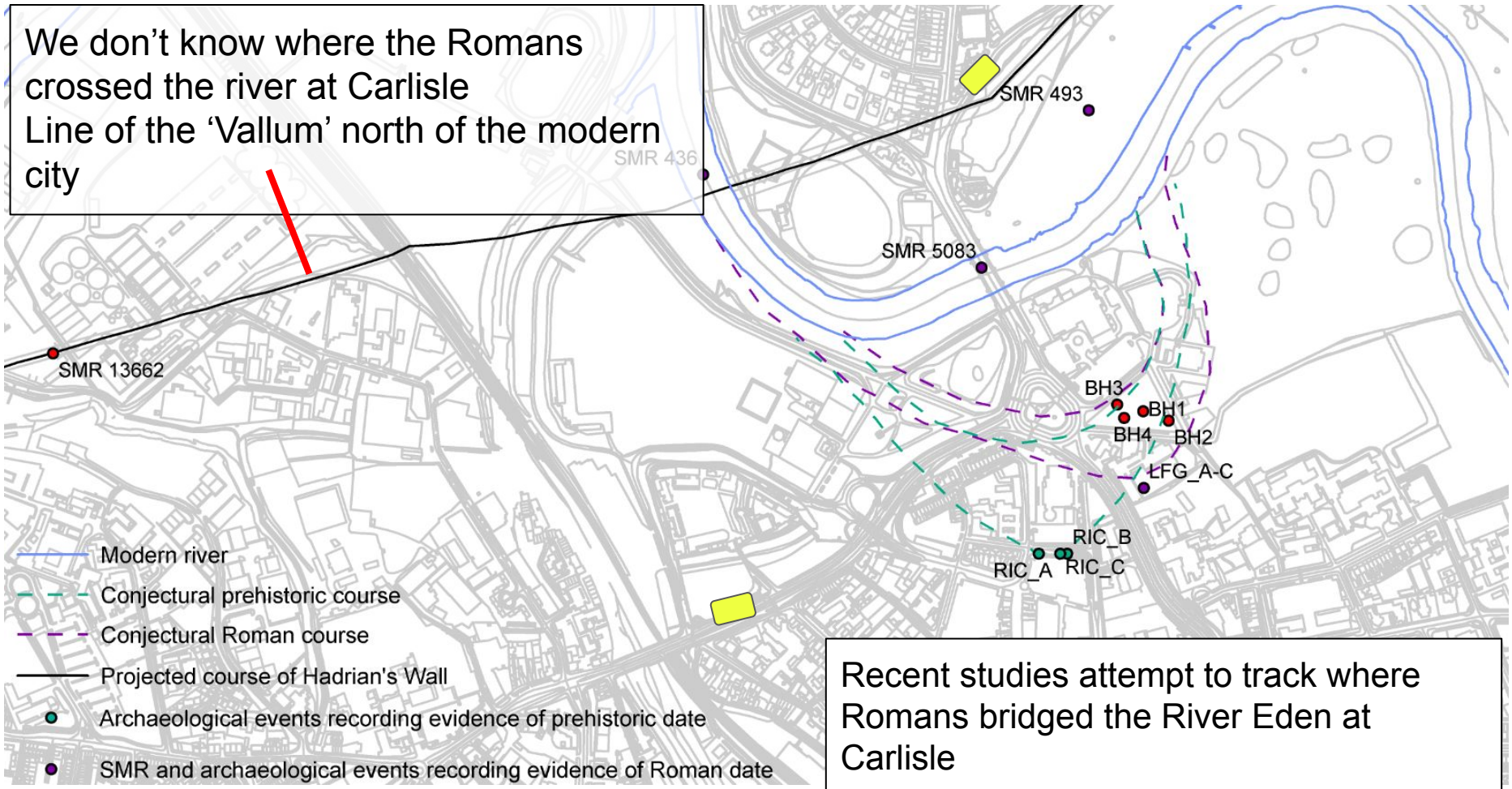
Large rivers - written records show numerous accidental drownings

Building and upkeep of roads and bridges was / is resource-hungry, so land routes over difficult terrain tended to be hit and miss

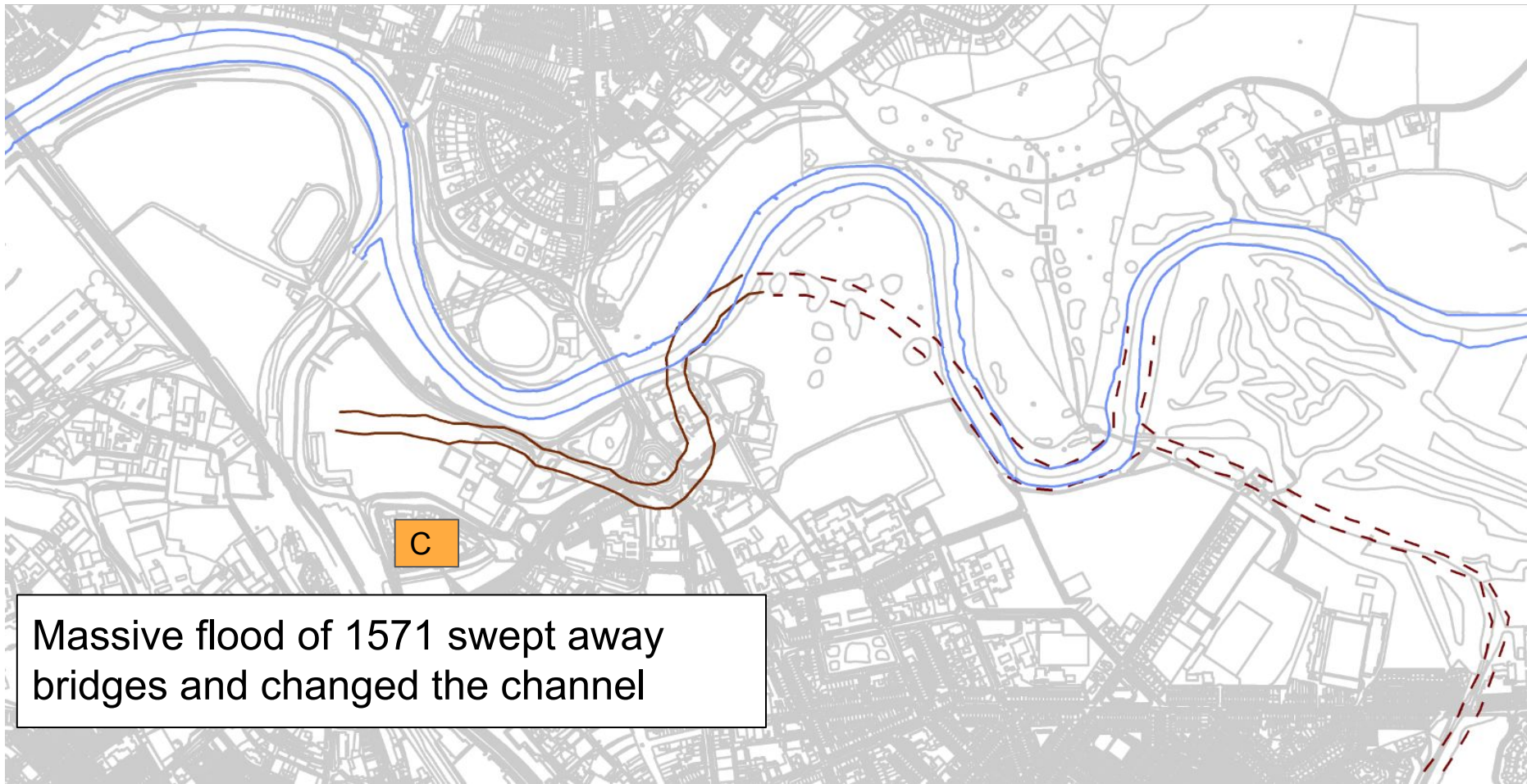
Bad weather / winter weather made higher ranges of hills very dangerous for travellers (still very daunting in a warm dry car on M6 Shap Fell)

Carlisle occupies a natural low hilltop overlooking rivers, marshes and land routes
<https://www.google.com/maps/@54.9320462,-3.0716575,32725m/data=!3m1!1e3>

We don't know where the Romans crossed the river at Carlisle
Line of the 'Vallum' north of the modern city



Recent studies attempt to track where Romans bridged the River Eden at Carlisle



Massive flood of 1571 swept away bridges and changed the channel

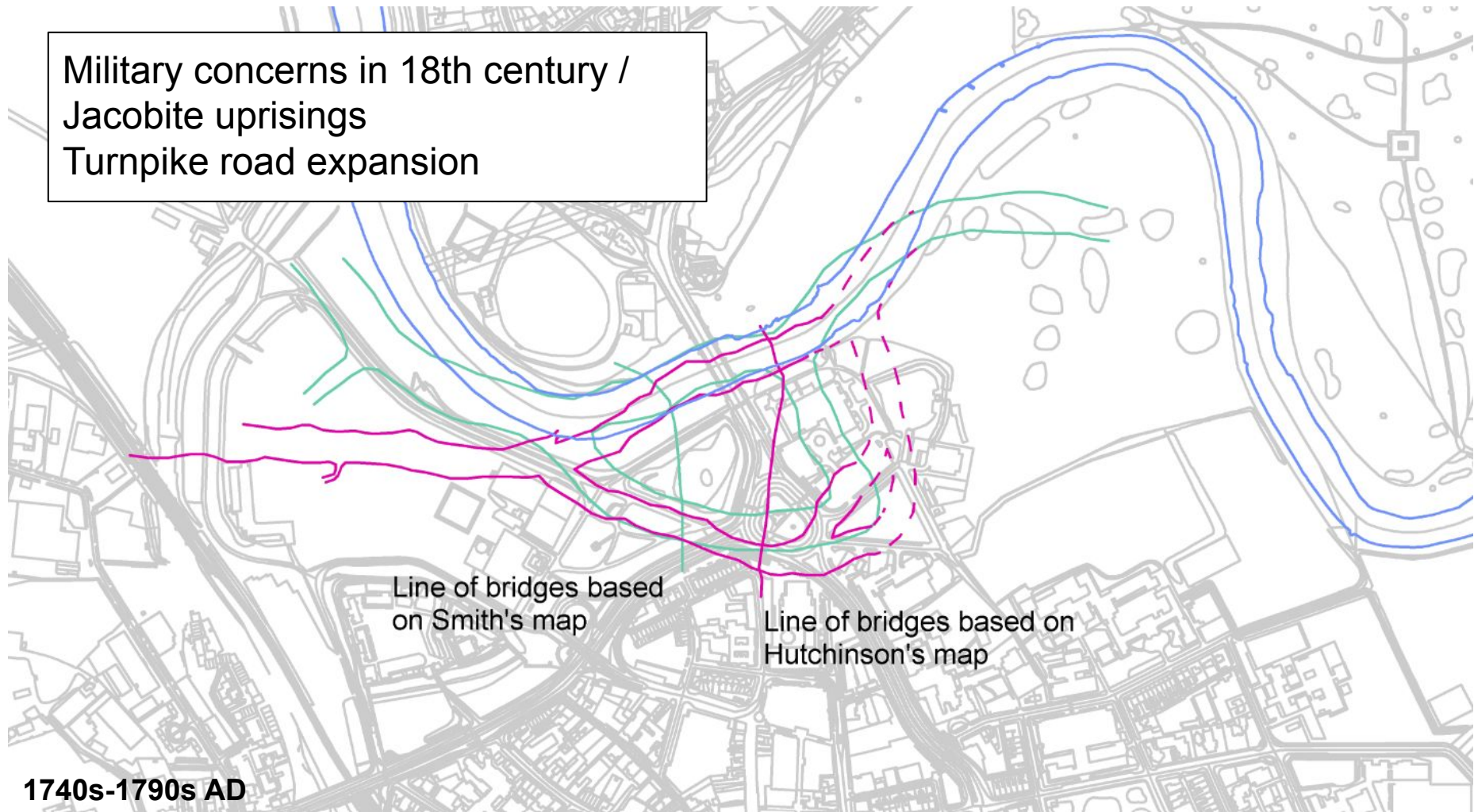
1500s-1600s AD

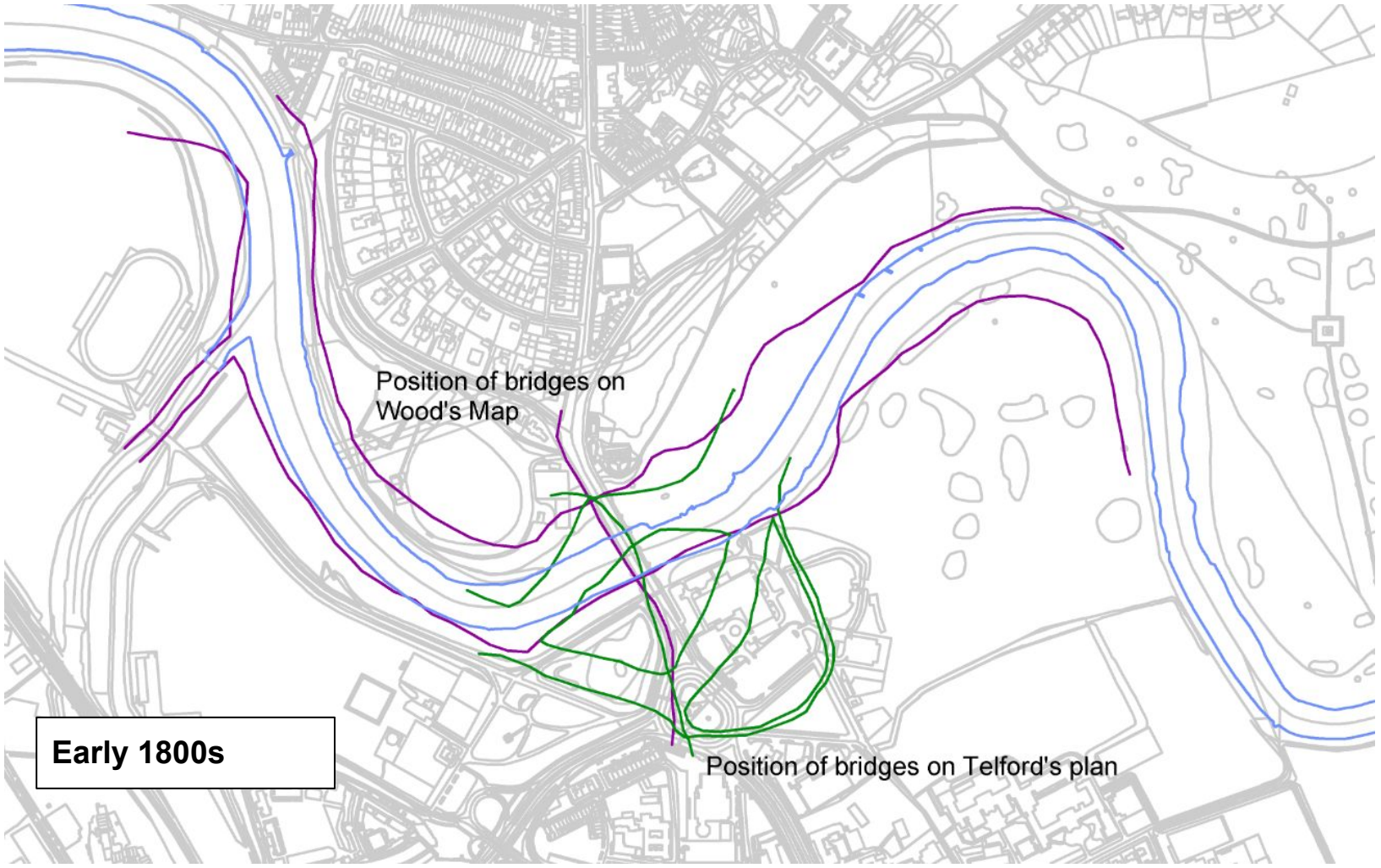
Military concerns in 18th century /
Jacobite uprisings
Turnpike road expansion

Line of bridges based
on Smith's map

Line of bridges based on
Hutchinson's map

1740s-1790s AD





Position of bridges on Wood's Map

Position of bridges on Telford's plan

Early 1800s

Other borders we know about



Rheged: about 450-600 CE did a sub-Roman kingdom exist the Solway Firth?

Northumbria 600s-800s CE: Carlisle was an important admin centre

References suggest that even around the time Bede (d.735) was writing, there were visible / used remains of the Roman city

Border with Kingdom of Strathclyde to north of present Dumfries and Galloway

Vikings and Norse settlers: the detail gets fuzzy, mid 800s onwards



The Five Boroughs of Danel...
historic-uk.com



Danelaw - Wikipedia
en.wikipedia.org



Danelaw and England 902-...
themaprchive.com



Danelaw - Wikipedia
en.wikipedia.org



What was the Danelaw? - L...
imagininghistory.co.uk



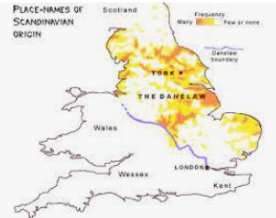
Daneland - Almost History
vaguelyinteresting.co.uk



What is Danelaw? Danelaw is the region ...
curriculumvisions.com



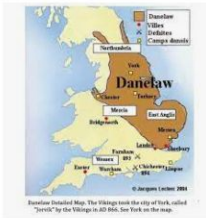
Danelaw - Wikipedia
en.wikipedia.org



England and The Danelaw
viking.no



Map of England in the late ninth ...
researchgate.net



Danelaw | Anglo saxon histo...
pinterest.com



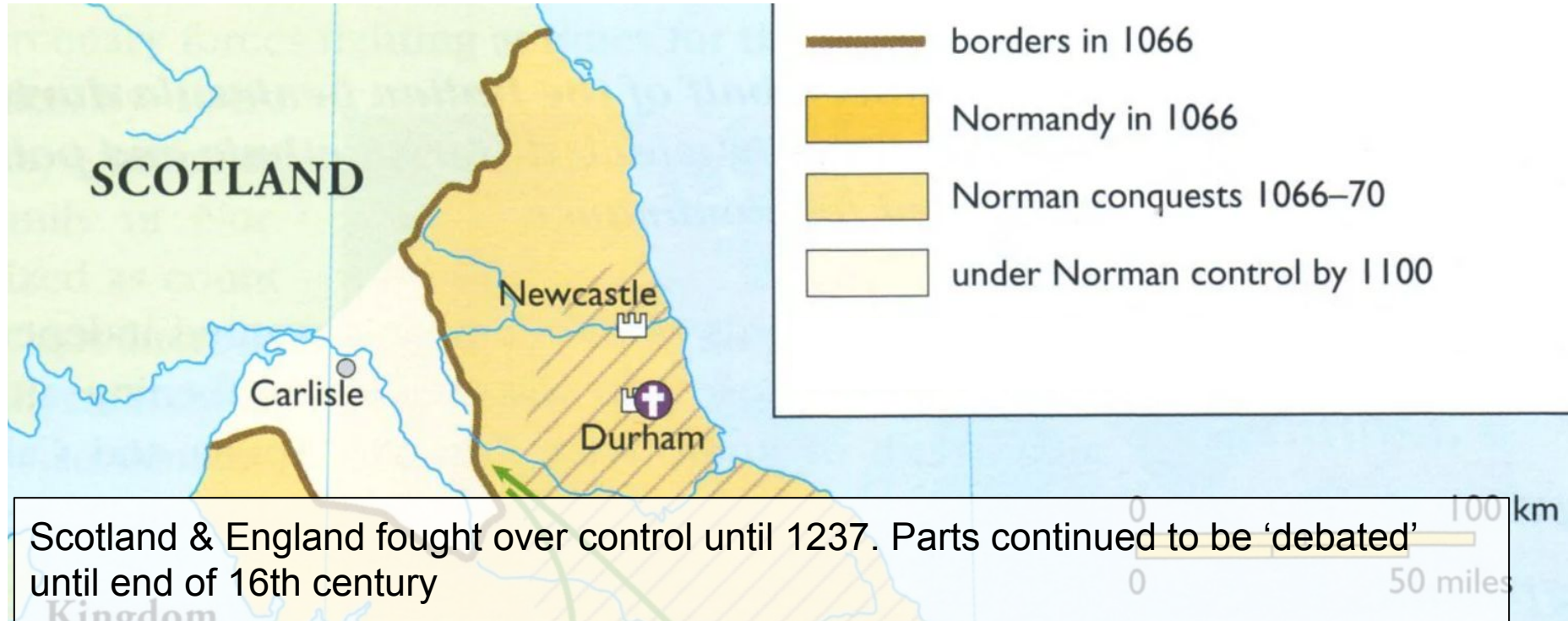
The Danelaw [5701x6778] : r...
reddit.com



The Danelaw and Anglo Saxon Kingdoms ...
twinkl.co.uk



Normans overlords did not have a firm grip here



Border Reivers 1200s-1600s

No centralised law enforces /
horseback armed gangs terrorised
wide areas around borders

Defended farmstead buildings were
created - 'peel' or 'pele' towers in
western areas but also other names
eg bastle houses

Thick walls and stone build intended
to be difficult to set alight



Prior's Tower Carlisle Cathedral