

Gunnar Heinsohn (Gdańsk/Danzig, March 2014)

## ***CHARLEMAGNE'S CORRECT PLACE IN HISTORY***

### **Thesis**

For nearly a quarter century, Charlemagne's very existence has been called into doubt by the Illig-school of chronology criticism. This challenge to Charlemagne's historicity is based on the fact that archaeological strata for his Franks, as well as for their Saxon arch-enemies, are extremely difficult to locate. Therefore, mainstream historians cannot present convincing archaeological proof for keeping Charlemagne in the history books. Neither, however, can the experts rule out Europe's most famous monarch because hard evidence in the form of coins does exist. These coins are sometimes surprising because they may be found lumped together with Roman coins that are 700 years older. The coins also show Germanic rulers crowned with Roman imperial diadems. The dissidents who deny Charlemagne's existence and the mainstream historians who defend it are therefore locked in a stalemate. Because, beyond all their disagreements, they share two profound convictions: (1) One must not search for Charlemagne within the Roman period. (2) The classical Roman period precedes the events of the Ottonian period of the later 10th century by a lengthy expanse of time. Yet, immediately beneath strata of the mid-10<sup>th</sup> c. stratigraphy shows the Roman period coming to a catastrophic end. It is in that Roman period of the 8th-10th c., currently dated to the 1st-3rd c. or to the 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> CE, where hard evidence of Carolingians, Franks, Saxons etc. is plentiful and where their Roman iconography and art makes sense. Charlemagne blossoms in the later 9<sup>th</sup> c. and dies at the beginning of the 10<sup>th</sup> c. CE in a millennium of whose 1000 years only some 300 - at any individual site - can provide building strata in the ground.<sup>1</sup>

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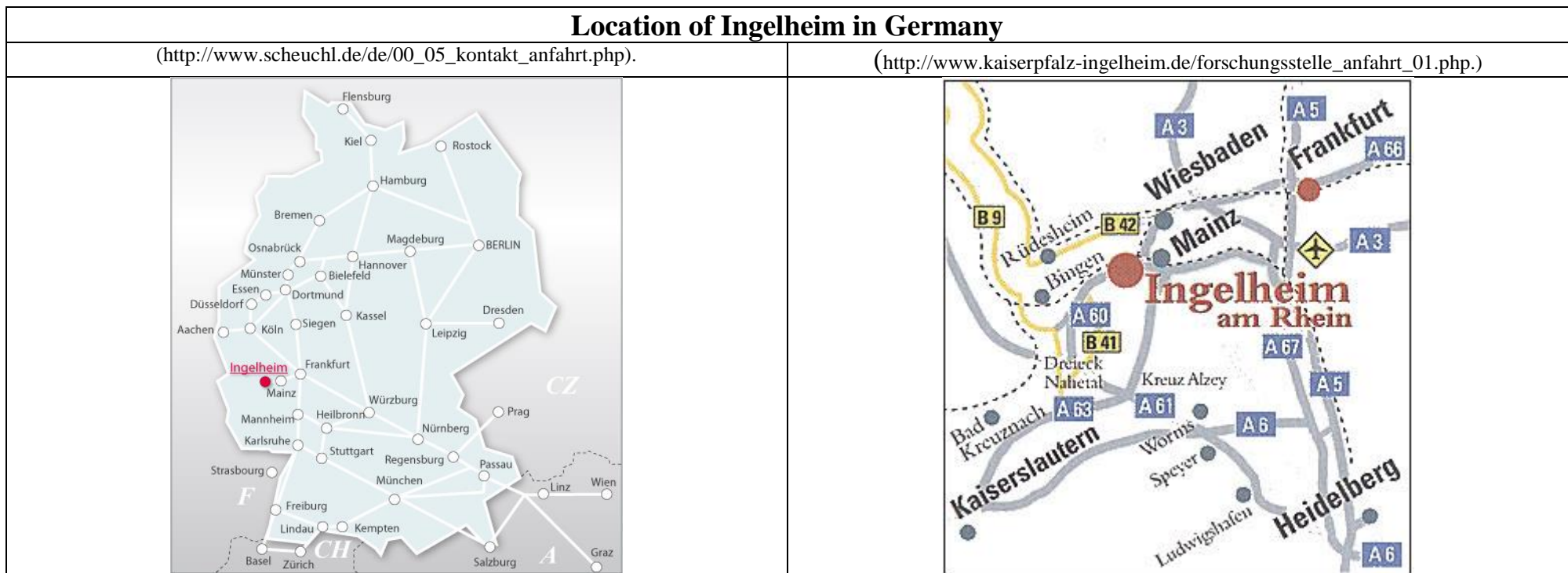
<sup>1</sup> Thanks for editorial help go to Clark Whelton (New York). Suggestions also came from Jan Beaufort (Bielefeld), Forrest Bishop (Seattle), Ewald Ernst (Horn), Peter Mikolasch (Wien), Frank Wallace (Toronto), and Peter Winzeler (Bern/Biel).

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## ***CHARLEMAGNE'S CORRECT PLACE IN HISTORY***

### **I Charlemagne's Residence at Ingelheim of the 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> c. CE in Roman Design of the 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> c. CE.**

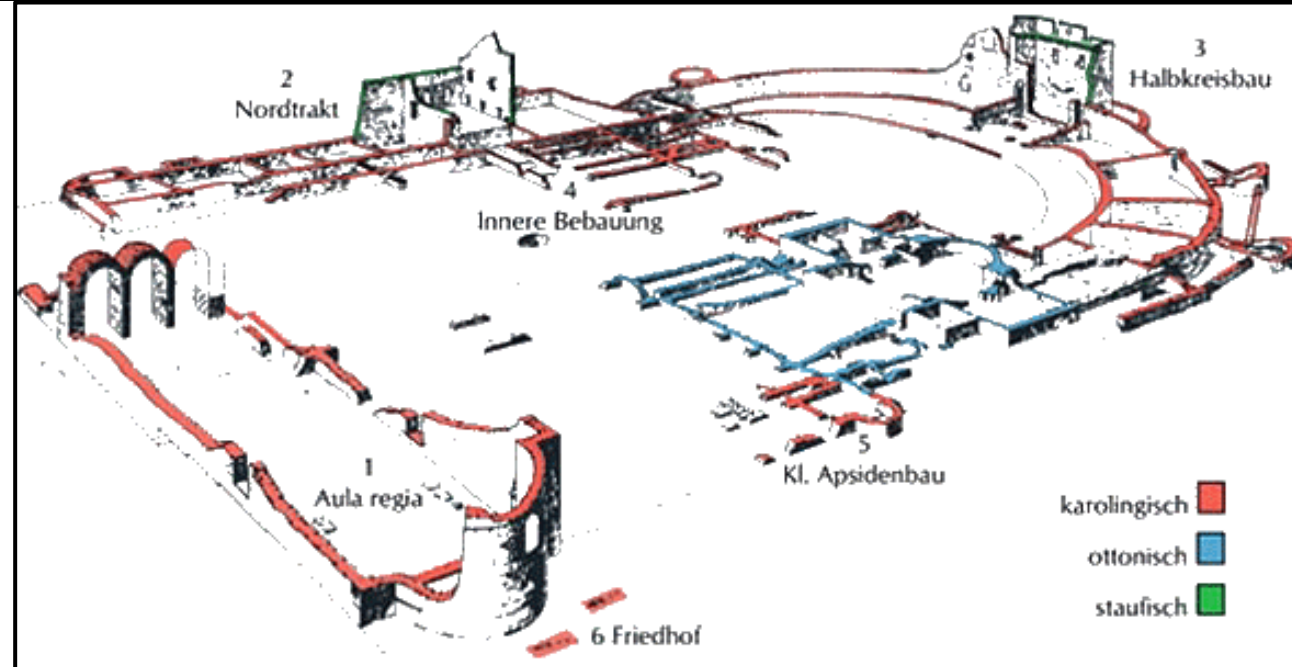
Charlemagne ("768-814" CE) is the most towering and intensively researched figure in all of European history. Yet, even today he still surprises even the most erudite scholars of history and archaeology. Historians are convinced that he was made *Imperator Augustus* on Christmas day in "800" CE. Archaeologists would not dare to deviate from that sanctified number by even one week.



However, in the most comprehensive excavations of a Carolingian residence, the palace at Ingelheim (occupied from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> c. CE), they are staggered by a building complex that – down to the water supply, and up to the roofing – was “based on antique designs” (Research 2009), and, therefore, appears to be a reincarnation of 700-year-old Roman outlines from the 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE.

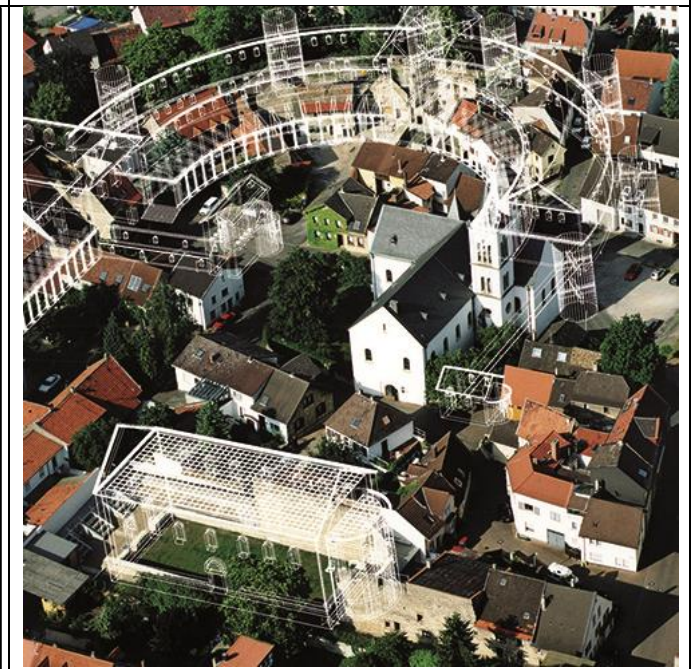
**Confirmed Carolingian parts (red) of the Ingelheim complex (145 x 110 m) of 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> c. CE built in the style of a Roman villa of the 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE. The 10<sup>th</sup> c. Ottonian church, built after damage had been inflicted on the Carolingian residence, is shown in blue.**

([http://www.kaiserpfalz-ingelheim.de/archaeologie\\_pfalz\\_der\\_karolinger\\_02.php](http://www.kaiserpfalz-ingelheim.de/archaeologie_pfalz_der_karolinger_02.php).)



**Roman style Ingelheim building complex projected on the modern town.**

(<http://www.tribur.de/blog/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/ingelheim.jpg>.)



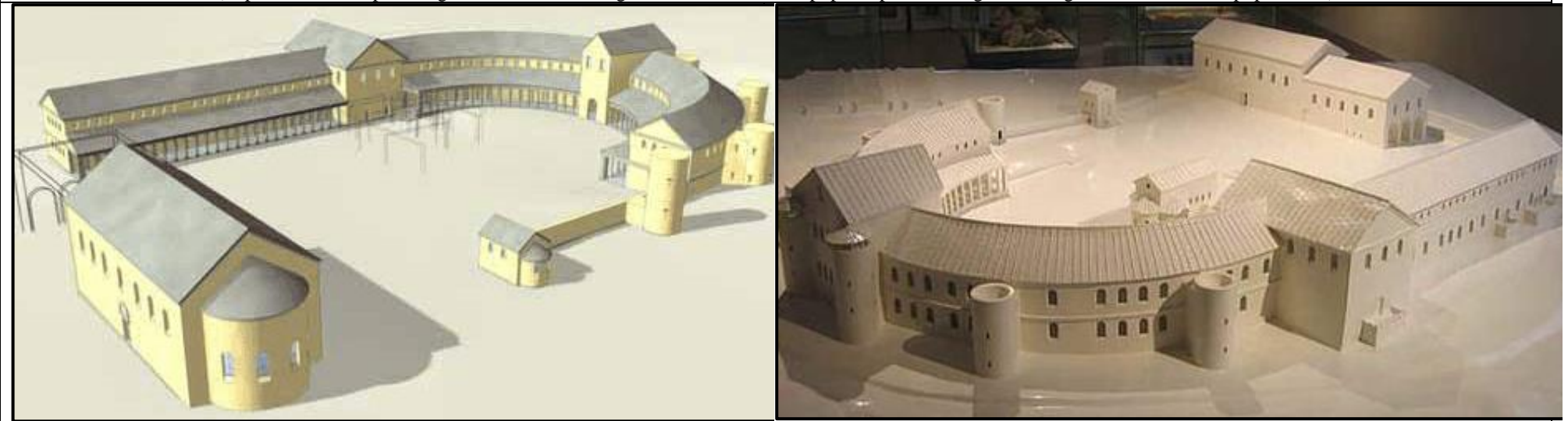
The archaeological team active at Ingelheim's Carolingian palace (dated to the 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c. CE) is stunned by this re-creation of a 700 year earlier Roman design. Its general layout, as reconstructed by the excavators, and the juxtaposition of the buildings, are similar

to Roman villa and palace architecture. It is “typified by a semicircular building and a royal hall built on the model of antique basilicas. [...] A 7-kilometre-long water channel built in the Roman style served to supply the water. [...] The architecture and architectural sculpture show the influence of antique predecessors” (see Early Middle Ages 2009).

Charlemagne “began **two palaces of beautiful workmanship - one near his manor called Ingelheim, not far from Mayence; the other at Nimeguen, on the Waal**“ (Einhard, *The Life of Charlemagne*. (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/basis/einhard.asp#Public Works>.)

**Reconstructions (after the most recent excavations) of the Ingelheim villa (8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c.CE) in 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE Roman style.**

([http://www.kaiserpfalz-ingelheim.de/archaeologie\\_rekonstruktion\\_01.php](http://www.kaiserpfalz-ingelheim.de/archaeologie_rekonstruktion_01.php) / <http://www.ingelheimer-geschichte.de/index.php?id=69>.)



No less Roman in appearance than the general complex, Ingelheim’s basilica was even adorned with Egyptian porphyry marble:

“The Aula regia is a large, rectangular single-nave building [6.5 m x 40.5 m; GH] / Of the precious furnishings 3,000 fragments of painted plaster from the walls have been discovered, as well as marble and porphyry floor slabs, which once were part of a geometrically shaped and decorative floor (Opus sectile). [...] [This] throne hall in Ingelheim is in the



tradition of antique and late antique palatial aula (Aula regia 2009). Its roof was covered with “tiles formed in the ancient Roman way” (Geißler 2014).

**A reconstruction of Ingelheim’s Roman style *Aula regia*, regarded as a sensation for being the only such building of the 800s CE (apart from Aachen, see next page).**

([http://www.kaiserpfalz-ingelheim.de/denkmaltourismus\\_bildergalerie\\_01.php](http://www.kaiserpfalz-ingelheim.de/denkmaltourismus_bildergalerie_01.php).)



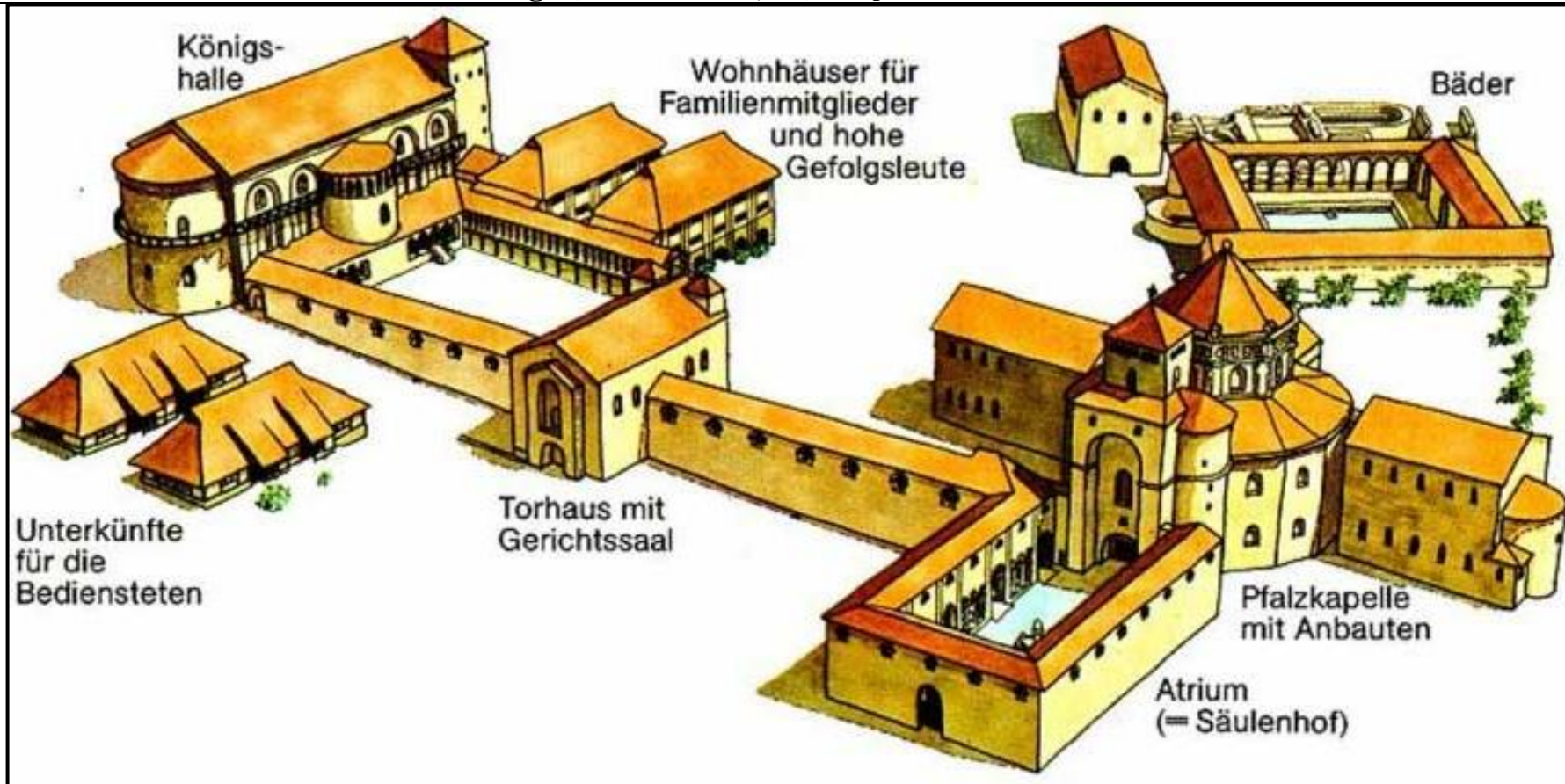
**Reconstruction of the apsis in Ingelheim’s Roman style *Aula regia***

([http://www.kaiserpfalz-ingelheim.de/denkmaltourismus\\_bildergalerie\\_01.php](http://www.kaiserpfalz-ingelheim.de/denkmaltourismus_bildergalerie_01.php).)



Ingelheim’s most sensational Roman building, of course, is the 89m-wide exedra: “The semicircular building clearly shows the significance of antique models for the Carolingian building plan. This building by Charlemagne is the only one of its kind in medieval architecture” (Semicircular 2009).

Reconstructon of Charlemagne's Aachen residence (outline resembles a 2<sup>nd</sup> c. Roman villa succeeding a slightly earlier building stage) with an equally Roman style *Aula regia* ("Königshalle") of the Ingelheim type. Like the Ingelheim residence, the Aachen residence, too, puts Charlemagne in a Roman context. Like in Ingelheim, the church ("Pfalzkapelle") is a post-catastrophic building because it cuts across a Roman ruin underneath. The chapel was probably built by Theudebert I [533ff.=post-930s] with the gold funds received from Justinian, as well as from his Gothic foes, Heinsohn 2012a). It sits on the ruins of a Roman bath that (again like Ingelheim's Roman style residence) had suffered serious damage (Schaub 2010, 28). (<http://www.reisdit.no/12/aachen/>.)





**Octagon at Aachen (dark grey) cuts across the ruins of one of the Roman baths of *Aquis grana*. The massive parts of the Roman foundations underneath the octagon have been partly repaired to stabilize the new floor. There is no doubt that the octagon chapel is later than the villa compound. The author has suggested Theudebert I (533-547), ruling after the Carolingians, as the chapel's paymaster (Heinsohn 2012a). Aachen's buildings of the Roman period, therefore, provide the only possible living space for Charlemagne. Underneath the Octagon Frankish tombs were found indicating too that Aachen's Roman period provides the only option for accomodating the Carolingian period.**

***Herberge* = Guest haus (*mansio*). *Münsterthermen* = Roman hotbath of unknown name under Octagon.**

(<http://www.archaeologie-aachen.de/DE/Geschichte/Epochen/Roemerzeit/index.html>.)



The interior of the Ingelheim exedra was partitioned into six halls. Six towers adorned the exterior. On the inside “was a colonnade with antique and antique-like decoration” (Semicircular 2009). How could an antique hall be built in the 9th c. CE? Moreover, how could Charlemagne dare to leave all this splendour unprotected? Like a Roman villa really dating from the 2<sup>nd</sup> and not from the 9<sup>th</sup> c. CE, the “Carolingian building of the Kaiserpfalz in Ingelheim was not fortified. Nor was it built on a naturally protected site, which was usually necessary and customary when building castles” (Fortifications 2009). It was as if Charlemagne

**Reconstruction of Roman style *Exedra* (semi-circular building measuring 89 m across), regarded as a sensation for being the only such building of the 800s CE.** ([http://www.kaiserpfalz-ingelheim.de/archaeologie\\_pfalz\\_der\\_karolinger\\_02.php](http://www.kaiserpfalz-ingelheim.de/archaeologie_pfalz_der_karolinger_02.php).)

**Reconstruction of the Ingelheim building complex with the Exedra’s exterior.**

([https://www.google.pl/search?q=ingelheim&espv=210&es\\_sm=93&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ei=62QXU6jYNcmAywOj5YHwDQ&ved=0CAoQ\\_AUoAg&biw=1366&bih=667#q=ingelheim+exedra&tbm](https://www.google.pl/search?q=ingelheim&espv=210&es_sm=93&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ei=62QXU6jYNcmAywOj5YHwDQ&ved=0CAoQ_AUoAg&biw=1366&bih=667#q=ingelheim+exedra&tbm).)





did not understand the vagaries of his own period, and was behaving like a senator still living in the Roman Empire. He insisted on Roman rooftiles but forgot the defenses. Was he not just great but also insane?

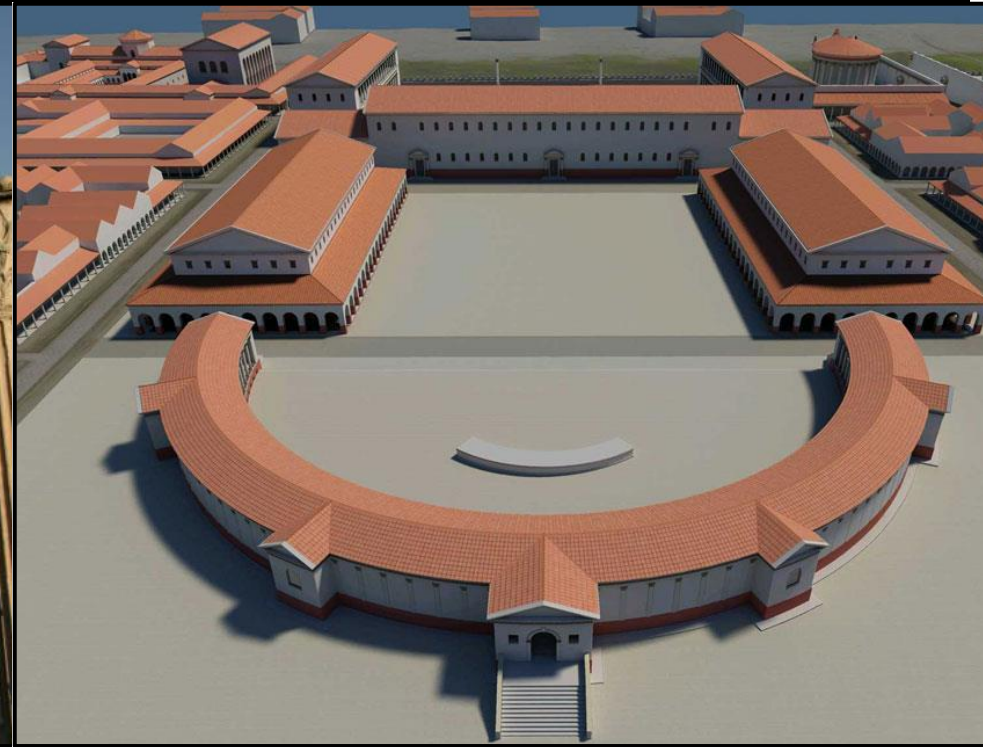
Emperor Nero (54-68 CE) had many exedrae incorporated in his *Domus Aurea* complex. No wonder an exedra of Emperor Traianus (98-117) at his famous Roman market was seen as the inspiration for Charlemagne's exedra some 700 years later (Rauch 1960, 9). Closer to Ingelheim, of course, is the exedra (135m wide as opposed to Ingelheim's 89 m wide) in Cologne's 2<sup>nd</sup> c. Roman period. It, too, was proposed (Schütte 2000, 204) as an inspiration for Charlemagne's complex with the aula opposite the exedra.

**Exedra of Traianus market (98-117) seen as inspiration for Charlemagne's exedra 700 years later.**

( <http://www.rome-roma.net/antica1.html>.)

**Exedra on Cologne's Roman period forum [2<sup>nd</sup> c. CE].**

(<http://www.smartphone-daily.de/aid,664751/Roemisches-Koeln-steht-in-3D-Simulation-wieder-auf/Hardware/News/bildergalerie/?iid=926996&volland>.)

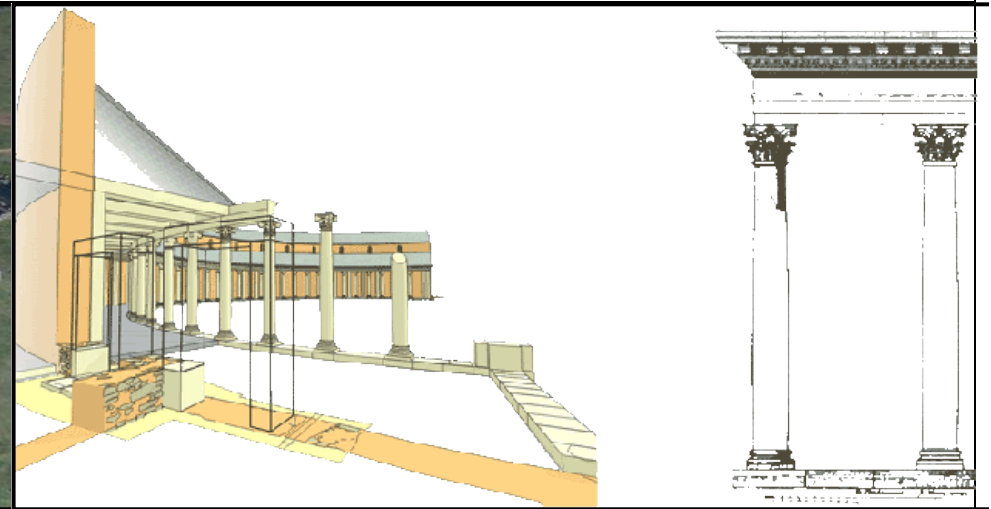


What fits perfectly into 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> c. CE centers of major Roman cities or, on a smaller scale, villas of the wealthy in the Roman countryside (see *Villa dei Quintili* below), does look completely out of place in the 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> c. of the barbarian Middle Ages 700 years later.

***Villa dei Quintili* of the 150s/160s CE (expropriated by Commodus in 182 CE). Ruins with exedra (front).**

(google.earth.)

**Arrangement of columns in Ingelheim's exedra that are dated 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> but also 2<sup>nd</sup> c. CE.** ([http://www.kaiserpfalz-ingelheim.de/archaeologie\\_ausgrabungen\\_02.php](http://www.kaiserpfalz-ingelheim.de/archaeologie_ausgrabungen_02.php).)



Yet, the confusion does not end there. Ingelheim's excavators not only believe that a classical design was adopted 700 years later, they also see genuine 700-year-old Roman columns, capitals, floor slabs, architravs etc. from the 2nd c. re-used by Charlemagne. (Grewe 1999a, 100 ff.). That's why they report "antique and antique-like decoration" (Semicircular 2009).

It is time to ask why the Ingelheim complex is not dated right away to the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE? "The historical sources describe the venue as a 'villa', whereas the document from 807 confirmed the status as '... Inghilinhaim palatio nostro'. The itinerary of Louis the Pious shows that he stayed there 10 times between 817 and 840, including five imperial assemblies and four receptions for



envoys” (Early Middle Ages 2009). It is true that written sources are sometimes untrustworthy. But why would someone mention Ingelheim together with Charlemagne or Louis the Pious if they had no relation with that place? Therefore, a Charlemagne gold coin found in 1996 was seen as a welcome confirmation of the written material. Yet, it also caused surprise by the imperial diadem worn by Charles making him look like a junior partner of Rome.

**D(ominus) N(oster) KARLUS IMP(erator)  
AUG(ustus) REX F(rancorum) ET  
L(angobardorum).  
GOLD-SOLIDUS found 1996 at Ingelheim.**

([http://www.kaiserpfalz-ingelheim.de/denkmaltourismus\\_bildergalerie\\_kaiserpfalz-ingelheim-goldmuenze-karl-der-grosse.php](http://www.kaiserpfalz-ingelheim.de/denkmaltourismus_bildergalerie_kaiserpfalz-ingelheim-goldmuenze-karl-der-grosse.php).)



**ARELATO  
(Mint ARLES)**

([http://www.kaiserpfalz-ingelheim.de/denkmaltourismus\\_bildergalerie\\_kaiserpfalz-ingelheim-goldmuenze-karl-der-grosse.php](http://www.kaiserpfalz-ingelheim.de/denkmaltourismus_bildergalerie_kaiserpfalz-ingelheim-goldmuenze-karl-der-grosse.php).)





Although Ingelheim's gold solidus is – so far – the single piece of its kind, nobody doubts the minting of Carolingian coins in Arelato (Arles).



More important than the Carolingian coins from Arles (Arelato) found at Ingelheim and elsewhere is the uncontested continuation of the Ingelheim villa by Ottonians, the regnal successors of the Carolingians, in the 10th century. If they did not hesitate to use a Roman-looking Ingelheim as a residence, why should their predecessors – chronologically even closer to ancient Rome – have rejected it?

It is true that some destruction must have happened in the early 10th c. CE when the Carolingian dynasty came to an end. Thus the continuation follows after some serious event that is not mentioned in the sources. That conflagration required extensive repairs

that were accompanied by the erection of a new church: “Numerous findings indicate renovation to and extension of the Pfalz buildings in the 10th century. Dendochronical tests show that the felling date of the wooden scaffolding in the king’s hall was in the second half of the 10th century, probably 986.6 To the east of the king’s hall a single-nave church was built – now the Saalkirche” (see Early Middle Ages 2009).

To summarize, the archaeologists agree that Ingelheim gives the appearance of a Roman villa of the first centuries CE that actually belongs to the last centuries of the first millennium CE. Can it get more complicated? One only has to look at the man-made tunnel (6.800 m long; discovered 1847) that has supplied Ingelheim with water (details see Haupt 2007). This

**Section of Ingelheim’s subterranean water tunnel  
(discovered in 1847; 6.8 km; 1.1 m interior height)  
dug out in 1906.**

(<http://www.ingelheimer-geschichte.de/index.php?id=79>.)



**Recent cut through Ingelheim’s subterranean water  
tunnel made waterproof by hydraulic Roman mortar,  
*opus signinum*.**

(<http://www.regionalgeschichte.net/rheinessen/aktive-in-der-region/verein-heimatmuseum-burg-windeck/karlsquelle-und-wasserleitung.html>.)



subterranean vaulted structure is 150-170 cm high (interior: 110 cm), and was made waterproof by *opus signinum*, a special Roman hydraulic mortar of 5 to 20 mm thickness (Haupt 2007). Because of Ingelheim's sophisticated mortar the author has identified it as a Roman structure early on (Heinsohn 2001a; confirmed also by Illig/Lelarge 2001).

Whereas the villa is seen as an 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> building modeled after a 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. Roman design, its water supply was even attributed to three different periods – Antiquity (Saalwächter 1966, 65 ff.), Late Antiquity (Rauch 1976, 8f.), and Early Middle Ages (C14-dated; Haupt 2007, 188 f.): “This watering system in Ingelheim is a unique technical monument, impressively confirming the traditional engineering feats from the days of ancient Romans to the early Middle Ages“ (Water 2007). Since this marvellous “hydro-technical installation was obviously built in Roman technique, until most recently it was believed that it dates to that period but was later used in the Carolingian period too” (Faul 2010; *da die hydrotechnische Anlage augenfällig in römischer Bauweise errichtet wurde, nahm man bis in die jüngere Zeit irrig an, sie müsse aus eben dieser Epoche stammen, eine, die man in karolingischer Zeit weiter benutzt*).

**Three dates for just one Roman style water tunnel leading to Ingelheim's villa.**

<b>1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE Roman Antiquity.</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> c. CE Roman Late Antiquity used again Early Middle Ages of 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c. CE.</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c. CE Early Middle Ages employing ancient Roman techniques.</b>
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Ingelheim's water tunnel makes three periods appear like just one. Though that may sound bizarre, very learned scholars – by assigning those three periods to the marvellous hydraulic structure – have demonstrated that it is very difficult to tell these three periods apart. In the end it was not C14 dating alone that settled the case for the 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c. CE. It was the simple absence of any earlier villa – be it 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE or 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> c. CE – to which the tunnel could have transported water (Geißler 2012).

Once the excavators were convinced that the Ingelheim villa was not a Roman villa but a villa that only imitated the design, technologies and materials of Roman villas, they had to come up with an explanation of Charlemagne's strange passion for impressing his contemporaries, who were barely surviving in harsh medieval dwellings, as a second coming of Traianus. That emperor – 700 years earlier – had turned today's Nijmegen into *Ulpia Noviomago* where another Charlemagne residence, his



second most important secular building, was erected, although in all of Nijmegen's 1st millennium CE only Roman period structures have been found so far.

The Ingelheim experts certainly are aware of the absence of any non-Roman material attributable to Charlemagne. They also know that Nijmegen's Roman structures are dated to the beginning and not the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium CE. Yet, they do not budge. They stand by the paradox that they have a genuine Roman villa that only existed in the 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> c. CE. If, they could add, you want to keep Charlemagne and his Ingelheim residence in the history books you must let him keep his non-medieval but very Roman villa.

The “significance of antique models for the Carolingian building plan“ is seen as an outflow of Charlemagne's outstanding admiration for the Roman Empire and his determination to recreate it. Because it was the empire's largest extension in the early 2<sup>nd</sup> c. CE that he had idealized the most, he could not allow fortifications for his villa. After all, the wealthy villas 700 years earlier also could manage without walls. However, the Ingelheim excavators know very well that their own location does not exhibit earlier (lower) strata with 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE Roman structures that experience a second coming higher up in the stratigraphy. Actually, there is not a single site anywhere that provides a sequence that would lend credibility to the concept of a renaissance. It would have to look as follows:

<b>Stratigraphy - neither found at Ingelheim or at any other individual site – required to lend credibility to the concept of a rebirth (renaissance or second coming) of 700 year older classical Roman forms</b>	
<b>8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c. CE</b>	<b>Second coming</b> (or renaissance) of a strata sequence with classical Roman buildings.
<b>4<sup>th</sup>- 7<sup>th</sup> c. CE</b>	Strata sequence <b>without</b> classical Roman buildings of 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> c. style.
<b>1<sup>st</sup>- 3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE</b>	Strata sequence with <b>first period</b> of classical Roman buildings.

Of course, there are numerous sites that have strata with classical Roman buildings of the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE. There are sites where such structures are attributed to the 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> c. CE. Moreover, there is one site alone, Ingelheim, where such structures are dated 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c. CE. Yet, nowhere was ever found a site that exhibits two, not to mention three, periods of some three centuries of which the later would reincarnate the styles of the former (see already Heinsohn 2013 a).

Still, Ingelheim is the most extreme case of a Roman residence started as late as the 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> c. CE. The excavators know about that exalted state. They are not necessarily happy about it because they cannot find, in the same 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c. period, the *villae rusticae* (agricultural estates) required for producing food for Charlemagne and his entourage. *Villae rusticae*, however, are quite plentiful around Ingelheim (Geißler 2011) – nearly all of them buried under the earth. Yet, they are either dated to the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. or to the 4<sup>th</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> c. CE period. Therefore, it is not really clear how the legendary appetite of the Frankish nobles was satisfied in 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c. Ingelheim. To solve that problem, one would have to show that lots of lesser aristocrats were inspired by Charlemagne's daring re-creation of 700 year old techniques. Of course, one would expect some progress in estate building and food production. However, as an *homage* by proud conservatives to an empire long deceased, Charlemagne would have been pleased by such like-minded folk. Technical progress would have to be foregone. Yet, who would have cared as long as such exquisite traditionalism secured meat for the table.

**II Three Questions: Is it correct to Claim that Charlemagne Never Existed? Does Charlemagne's Residence at Ingelheim Belong in the 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> c. or 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> c. CE? Or is it a Building of the Roman Period that, Everywhere, Must be Dated 700 Years Later?**

Not everybody compliments Ingelheim's excavators for their unique claim that a 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. Roman-style building was re-created by 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c. Carolingians. Heribert Illig – the most prominent opponent of Charlemagne's historicity – claims that Ingelheim not only *looks* Roman but *is* Roman – although not from the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> but from the 4th-7th c. CE. Illig thereby leaves no stratum to accommodate Charlemagne in the 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> c. CE (Illig/Niemitz 1991, Illig 1996; 2011). For Illig, this nearly super-human ruler, along with all Carolingians of the 8th and 9th c. and the timespan of roughly 600-900 CE, are phantoms. The sources referring to Carolingian families and their wars, as well as to their residences at Ingelheim and Nijmegen, are mere fairy tales. Illig will only admit that so far it is not understood for what purpose these stories have been concocted. Yet, there are the coins.

<p><b>Obverse: CARLUS REX ET LAN ET F</b>  <b>(CARLUS REX LANGOBARDORUM ET FRANCORUM)</b>  <a href="https://www.britishmuseum.org/explore/highlights/highlight_image.aspx?image=k146213.jpg&amp;retpage=17396.">https://www.britishmuseum.org/explore/highlights/highlight_image.aspx?image=k146213.jpg&amp;retpage=17396.</a></p>	<p><b>Reverse.</b>  <a href="https://www.britishmuseum.org/explore/highlights/highlight_image.aspx?image=k146213.jpg&amp;retpage=17396.">https://www.britishmuseum.org/explore/highlights/highlight_image.aspx?image=k146213.jpg&amp;retpage=17396.</a></p>
	



**Dominus Noster Karlus Imperator Augustus Rex Francorum et Langobardorum.**

([www.smb.museum/ikmk/object.php?id=18202746&size=0&content=0&side=1](http://www.smb.museum/ikmk/object.php?id=18202746&size=0&content=0&side=1))

Obverse

**D N KARLVS IMP AVG REX F ET L**  
**[Dominus Noster Karlus Imperator Augustus**  
**Rex Francorum et Langobardorum].**

Reverse

**XPICTIANA RELIGIO**  
**[Christiana Religio].**



Of course, one may call all these coins falsifications. Yet, Illig (1996, 152) himself does not negate them all but only terms them “very, very rare“. His most ardent defenders, too, stop short of denial. They may suspect one or two items (one example is shown on next page) as fakes (Zeising 1999). Yet, nobody has dared to label the entire collection of more than 15.000 Carolingian coins, dated between 750 and 924 CE (Depeyrot 1998, 84), as forgeries. The treasure of Fécamp alone, discovered in 1963, contained some 1400 Carolingian pieces (Oberhofer 2013). And even doubts concerning a few pieces have won no serious followers.

**KAROLUS IMP AUG.**

(<http://freepages.family.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mcgee411/GHTOUT/Charlemagne-bio.html>).

Claims of falsification of this item (Zeising 1999) have not convinced numismatic specialists.

**KAROLUS IMP AUG.**

(<http://static-numista.com/catalogue/photos/france/g3660.jpg>.)



Mainstream scholars demand that Illig and his defenders provide reasonable explanations for thousands of Carolingian coins found from Norway (Kaupang; Blackburn 2005) or Poland (Truso; Bogucki 2012) down to France. Give us proof for a conspiracy among







hundreds of archaeologists who are not even in contact with each other. Who could have hidden numerous coins in settlements, the majority of which had disappeared under soil to be forgotten up to the 19th and 20th centuries? Why would such secretive conspirators forge coins depicting medieval rulers that show portraits of Carolingians in the outfits of Roman emperors with laurel wreaths and imperial togas?

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>KARLUS IMP AUG</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(<a href="http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=karl+der+Grosse+m%c3%bcnzen&amp;FORM=HDRSC2#view=detail&amp;id=B04C46B048EA09D4388D5F190DABDEAE72E8909C&amp;selectedIndex=18; 35 examples known.">http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=karl+der+Grosse+m%c3%bcnzen&amp;FORM=HDRSC2#view=detail&amp;id=B04C46B048EA09D4388D5F190DABDEAE72E8909C&amp;selectedIndex=18; 35 examples known.</a>)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>XPICTIANA RELIGIO</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(<a href="http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=karl+der+Grosse+m%c3%bcnzen&amp;FORM=HDRSC2#view=detail&amp;id=B04C46B048EA09D4388D5F190DABDEAE72E8909C&amp;selectedIndex=18; 35 examples known.">http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=karl+der+Grosse+m%c3%bcnzen&amp;FORM=HDRSC2#view=detail&amp;id=B04C46B048EA09D4388D5F190DABDEAE72E8909C&amp;selectedIndex=18; 35 examples known.</a>)</p>
	

To answer such questions, Illig's defenders usually refer to an article written by this author (Heinsohn 2001b) in which he assigned all Carolus coins to the last 18 years of Charles the Simple (879-929), i.e. after Illig's phantom period from 614-911 CE. The author claimed this last imperial Carolingian as the undisputably genuine ruler after whose deeds all the stories about larger than life Carolus emperors were modelled. Shielding themselves with that theory, the scholars on Illig's side, then, turn on mainstream scholars with the demand that they show at least one medieval Carolingian castle with dungeon and belfry tower before they would even consider the existence of Carolingians. Here, mainstream, is cornered and cannot provide a satisfactory answer.



<p><b>KAROLUS IMP AUG.</b>  (<a href="http://history3210sum12.wikispaces.com/file/view/charlemagne%20coins.gif/341595184/charlemagne%20coins.gif">http://history3210sum12.wikispaces.com/file/view/charlemagne%20coins.gif/341595184/charlemagne%20coins.gif</a>.)</p>	<p><b>KAROLUS IMP AUG.</b>  (<a href="http://worthopedia.s3.amazonaws.com/images/thumbnails2/1/0411/30/1_f8a35721f7ac3c54118407d063f4fd4e.jpg">http://worthopedia.s3.amazonaws.com/images/thumbnails2/1/0411/30/1_f8a35721f7ac3c54118407d063f4fd4e.jpg</a>.)</p>
	

<p><b>KAROLUS IMP AUG.</b>  (<a href="http://www.foederales-programm.de/smb/muenzen-medailen-hundert-numismatische-portraets/images/numispor_03_gr.jpg">http://www.foederales-programm.de/smb/muenzen-medailen-hundert-numismatische-portraets/images/numispor_03_gr.jpg</a>.)</p>	<p>Attributed to <b>CHARLES THE FAT</b> (878-888). Seal image hardly distinguishable from Charlemagne pieces.  (<a href="http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/ec/Sceau_de_Charles_le_gros.jpg">http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/ec/Sceau_de_Charles_le_gros.jpg</a>.)</p>
	

However, this author, correcting flaws in his 2011 article, must come to the defense of mainstream scholars by pointing out that even for Charles the Simple nobody – including Illig and his defenders – can anywhere show a medieval castle with dungeon and belfry, although his huge realm with coins minted from Barcelona (Catalonia) to Bonn (Germany) could have accommodated thousands of such residences. Moreover, why would a 10<sup>th</sup> c. CE Carolingian ruler present himself in the disguise of a 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. Roman emperor with diadem and imperial toga? Thus, any attempt to negate the uncontested pro-Carolingian evidence in the form of thousands of Carolingian coins by attributing them to another Charles would automatically turn that ruler, too, into a figure as impressive as Charlemagne requiring his own residences (well seen by Winzeler 2009).

To keep a new towering Charles in the textbooks just to purge them of Charlemagne would end in the same type of joke that Shakespeare's works were written by a completely different, albeit as yet unknown, person using the same name. Such a doppelgaenger too would require all the material essentials of an uncontested reality. How can one, because of the absence of architecture attributable to him, eliminate Charlemagne but keep Charles the Simple, who suffers the same shortcomings?

And yet the author has to come to the defense of Illig, too. Of course, there is no way to deny the Carolingian coins or to neutralize them by pushing them all into the pockets of another Charles. But the circumstances in which Carolingian coins are found tell a story that does fit well with the identification of Ingelheim as a Roman, and not a medieval, residence. Carolingian 9<sup>th</sup> c. coins are, e.g. at Truso (Poland), lumped together with Roman coins 700 years older, and with 700 year older Roman millefiori glass beads (Jagodzinski 2010, 102).

Coins of Charlemagne's son, Louis the Pious (814-840), turned into amulets because of the cross symbol (Jagodzinski 2010, 101, 164), are found at Truso with 2<sup>nd</sup> c. CE Roman coins of Antoninus Pius (emperor 138-161) and Commodus [emperor 180-192] (Bogucki 2012, 62; see Heinsohn 2014). While at Ingelheim a Roman residence has revealed a Charlemagne coin together with Roman coins (Geißler n y; Mendelssohn 2011), Truso has a Carolingian Louis the Pious coin combined with Roman coins, too. Of course, Roman buildings in the design of the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE cannot be expected east of the Vistula River. However, Roman stone objects of that period have been found at Truso (Szydłowski 2012, 267) together with Roman as well as Carolingian coinage dated some 700 years apart.

**Coins of Louis the Pious (778-840), son of Charlemagne.**

**Gold solidus**

([http://www.staatliche-muenzsammlung.de/highlights\\_08.html](http://www.staatliche-muenzsammlung.de/highlights_08.html).)



**XPISTIANA RELIGIO denier, silver, found at Truso (Poland).**

(<http://www.nigdziekolwiek.com/?tag=artefakty&lang=en>.)

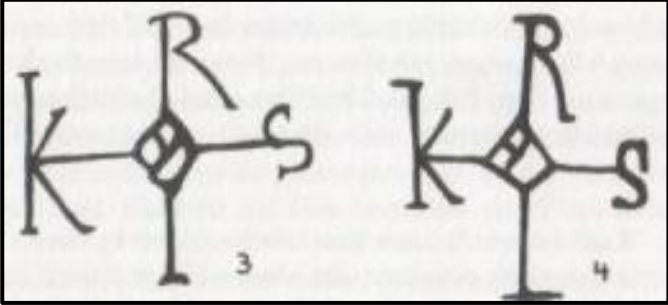

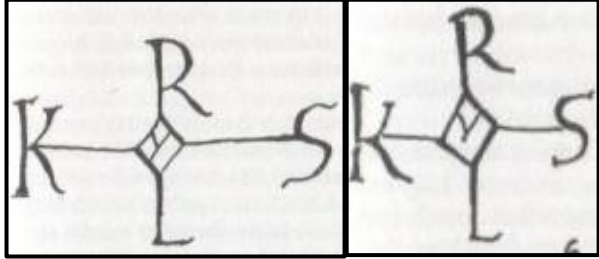


Thus, Charles the “Imperial” has plenty of “Romanness” to him. It is highly ironic that the otherwise utterly antagonistic pro-Charlemagne and contra-Charlemagne scholars agree that, whatever the outcome of their controversy, Carolingians do not belong to the Roman period. They may call the Ingelheim residence an 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c. copy of a 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. Roman design (mainstream) or a 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> c. Roman original (dissidents). Yet, they will neither look for Carolingians in the imperial epoch of 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. nor in the period that is called Late Antiquity and dated to 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> c. CE. They can only see a non-Roman 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c. or nothing at all. A Roman 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> century or a Charlemagne living in the Roman period remain absolutely unimaginable.



The obvious Romanness of Carolingian IMP AUG coin portraits remains a stumbling block that neither mainstream nor the Illig dissidents can handle. Of course, mainstream will throw in the famous *Restitutio Imperii* as the Carolingian rationale. Yet, the other side would justifiably neutralize that view by pointing out that the sudden 9<sup>th</sup> c. rebirth of 2<sup>nd</sup> c. Roman high tech sounds deeply implausible since – after that brief flash – one has to wait to the 11th/12th c. Romanesque period or much longer (for cement, hydraulic mortar etc.) to see such innovative features again. They would see their claim confirmed that the architectural splendor of Charelmagne’s 9<sup>th</sup> c. Ingelheim is Roman through and through, i.e., that there is a phantom period (614-911) between their Late Antiquity’s 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> c. and the 10<sup>th</sup> c. of the Ottonians.



### Signatures of IMP AUG Carolus personae (Heinsohn 2001b).

<p>Two signatures of <b>Charlemagne</b>. (Baumann et al. 1965-1968 ; cover ; Hägermann 2000 ; cover)</p>	<p>Coin signature of <b>Charles the Bald</b> (left); <b>Charles the Fat</b> (right). (<a href="https://www.numisbids.com/n.php?p=sale&amp;sid=355">https://www.numisbids.com/n.php?p=sale&amp;sid=355</a>; <a href="http://www.poinsignon-numismatique.com/coins_r5/carolingians_c20/charles-the-fat-885-887_p168/charles-le-gros-885-887-denier-bourges_article_81246.html">http://www.poinsignon-numismatique.com/coins_r5/carolingians_c20/charles-the-fat-885-887_p168/charles-le-gros-885-887-denier-bourges_article_81246.html</a>.)</p>	<p>Two signatures of <b>Charles the Simple</b> (Lauer 1949, table III.)</p>
		

A Carolingian Charles in his IMPERATOR AUGUSTUS persona – if he is called Great, Bald, Fat, or Simple – definitely stands for an extraordinary and powerful Carolus. The signatures and coins of the different personae are indistinguishable. Charles the Simple, is therefore, painted as a shamelessly cheap imitator, and, even, an impostor, for claiming Charlemagne’s achievements as his own. In actual fact, one has divided the material belonging to just one person among different rulers, turning them into

lookalikes. Therefore, this author still defends his identification of Charles the Simple as one of the *alter egos* of the one and only IMPERATOR AUGUSTUS, who ruled under the name of Carolus. After all, most of the Carolus emperors supposedly ruling from Rome to the borders of Scandinavia have not left a single image – either on seals or on coins.

<b>Major Carolus rulers that have left not a single image, not to speak of a castle in medieval design.</b>			
<b>CHARLES MARTEL</b> (714-741; Charles of Herstal; Charles the Hammer).	<b>CARLOMAN</b> (741-747; Son of Charles Martel)	<b>CHARLES THE YOUNGER</b> (788-811; son of Charlemagne).	<b>CAROLUS SIMPLEX (898-929)</b> <b>CHARLES THE SIMPLE</b> <b>(THE STRAIGHTFORWARD).</b>
<b>So far no image found or even attributed.</b>	<b>So far no image found or even attributed.</b>	<b>So far no image found or even attributed.</b>	<b>So far no image found or even attributed.</b>

<p><b>CARLUS RE (=Charles King).</b> Attributed to <b>CHARLES THE BALD</b> (843-877). Coin only bears „re“ (rex), i.e. no emperor, title that would also go with a young Charlemagne. (<a href="http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c5/Charles_le_Chauve_denier_Bourges_after_848.jpg">http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c5/Charles_le_Chauve_denier_Bourges_after_848.jpg</a>).</p>	<p><b>CARLUS RE (=Charles King).</b> Attributed to <b>CHARLES THE BALD</b> (843-877). Coin only bears „re“ (rex) title that would also go with a young Charlemagne. (<a href="http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a6/Denier_de_Charles_le_chauve_frapp%C3%A9_%C3%A0_Bourges.jpg">http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a6/Denier_de_Charles_le_chauve_frapp%C3%A9_%C3%A0_Bourges.jpg</a>)</p>
	

The remaining images assigned to Carolus rulers other than Charlemagne may still be challenged and assigned to him, too. Yet, the author has not come to a final view on how many Carolingian Carolus rulers have to be retained. This essay is focused on the general time span of the Carolingians to establish their environment out of which a detailed historiography can follow. One must not forget that even for the greatest Charles, Charlemagne, we have – apart from Aachen – only one tangible residence. It is the Ingelheim villa that looks like a Roman villa of the first centuries CE, although the excavators insist on a 700 year older copy.

**GLORIA SIT XPO REGI VICTORIA  
CARLO.**

Seal attributed to **CHARLES THE BALD** (843-877) that might also fit Charlemagne.

([http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/3e/Sceau\\_de\\_Charles\\_le\\_chaue\\_empereur\\_des\\_romains.jpg](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/3e/Sceau_de_Charles_le_chaue_empereur_des_romains.jpg).)



**KAROLUS GRATIA DEI REX.**

Seal attributed to **CHARLES THE BALD** (843-877; (text remade) would also fit Charlemagne.

([http://www.culture.gouv.fr/Wave/image/archim/0001/dafanch02\\_pc35000566\\_p.jpg](http://www.culture.gouv.fr/Wave/image/archim/0001/dafanch02_pc35000566_p.jpg).)



**Portrait of a prince (center) from an illumination on parchment dated to 870 but resembling styles of a century later. It was attributed to Charlemagne but is currently believed to show Charles the Bald.**

(<http://www.sacra-moneta.com/Sites-personnels/Monnaies-Carolingiennes-la-collection-de-Henri-Garnier.html>.)





The years 825/850 to 930/950 are, if it comes to buildings, even darker than earlier stretches of Carolingian history, as observed long ago by Gregorovius (1988) or Panofsky (1960). It is in that dubious period that the only extant painted portrait (illumination on parchment) of an imperial Charles is dated (to ca. 870 CE). For a long time it was attributed to Charlemagne. Momentarily it is assigned to Charles the Bald. (“Autrefois identifié à Charlemagne. Aujourd'hui identifié généralement plutôt à Charles le Chauve“; [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Couronnement\\_d%27un\\_prince\\_-\\_Sacramentaire\\_de\\_Charles\\_le\\_Chauve\\_Lat1141\\_f2v.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Couronnement_d%27un_prince_-_Sacramentaire_de_Charles_le_Chauve_Lat1141_f2v.jpg)). Many art historians (see prominent examples in Illig 1996, 281-301) have always seen that so-called Carolingian book illuminations are indistinguishable from Ottonian ones beginning, at the earliest, around the 950s CE.

For any of the non-Charlemagne, Carolus Carolingians, nobody even claims the erection of a palace in Roman design, not to speak of a medieval castle with dungeon and belfry. Thus, the more Carolus emperors we want to keep in our history books the more imperial residences we would have to present. We already know that they cannot be found in medieval strata. On the other hand, it is not very probable that they did not command appropriate habitats. The question is where to look for them. Could the netherworld provide an additional clue?

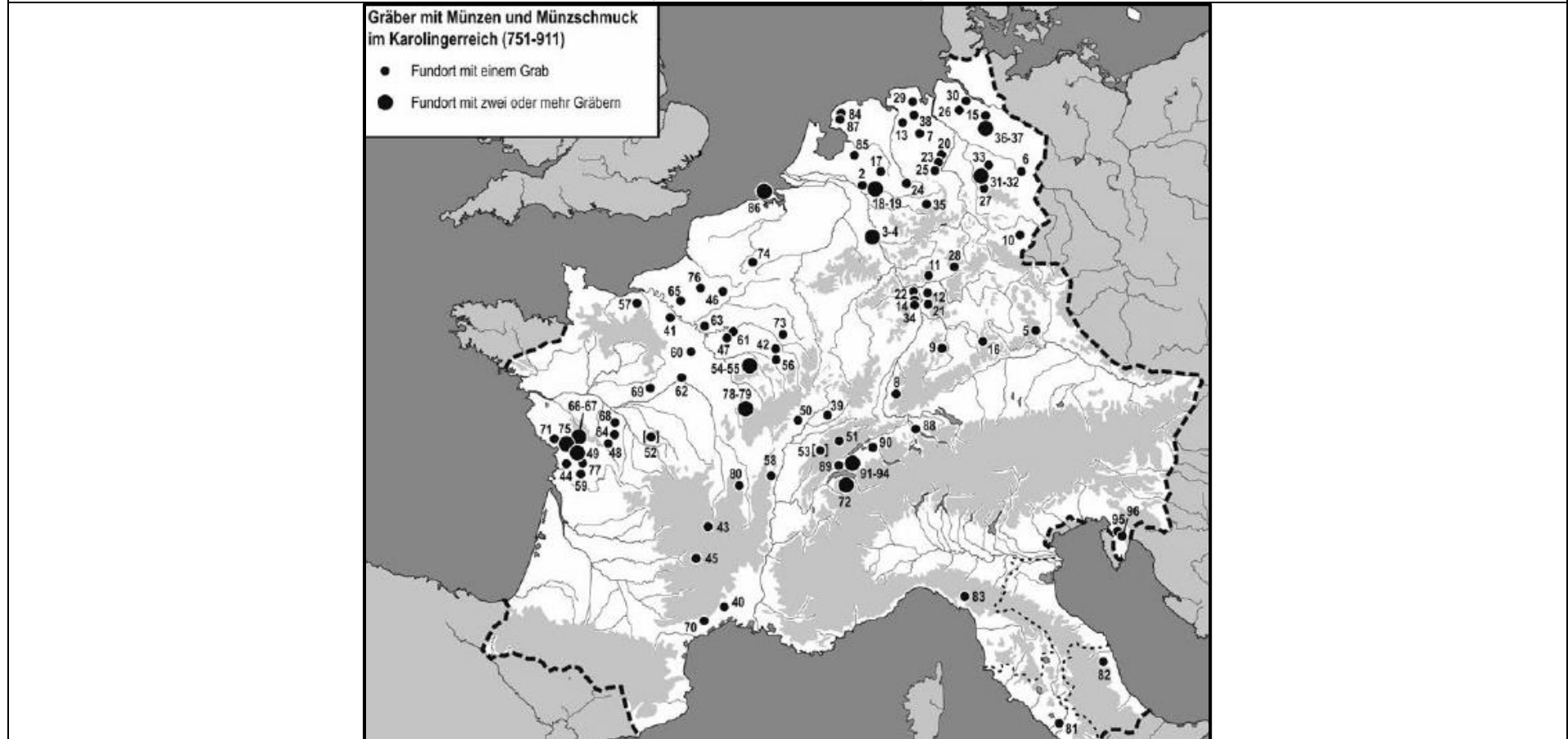
The Franks of the 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> c. are regarded as thoroughly christianised because – after Salian Franks had converted already before 384 CE – King Chlodwig (466-511) adopted Catholicism in 496 CE. Therefore, excavators recently analysing the contents of 96 Carolingian burials from 86 different locations (dated 751-911, but mostly from the time of Charlemagne and Louis the Pious), were shocked by an extremely widespread practice resembling Charon's obol. That payment was used as a means of bribing the legendary ferryman for passage across the Styx, the river that divided the world of the living from the world of the dead:

“From the majority of the researched graves in the Carolingian Empire comes only one silver coin, which – if properly recorded – was placed either in the mouth or close to the head or at the hand, and, therefore close to the upper thigh. These single coins were thus found in the typical position of the so-called Charon's obol that, from antiquity to the late Roman period and may be even into Merovingian times, so that they could pay on their journey to the underworld, Charon the ferryman for the trip across the Styx ” (Schulze-Dörrlamm 2012; see also Beaufort 2014).



**Extension of Carolingian burials (751-911) containing silver deniers resembling Charon's obol, and/or small sums of many for the afterlife, both practices as pagan, i.e., non-Christian.**

(Schulze-Dörrlamm 2012, 343.)



The presence of such a pagan praxis is difficult to accept. The researchers, therefore, postulate that it merely resembles an archaic cult but must not be confused with it because most of the Carolingian coins used for that purpose carry Greek cross symbols.

Of course, cross or no cross, the practice would easily fit the Roman period. Yet there are simply too many centuries between the Carolingians and that distant past. However, scholars are surprised to find ancient Roman bronze coins many centuries later in 8th c. graves excavated in Romania (Schulze-Dörrlamm 2012, 339, footnote 2). Again, nothing can be made of such precious evidence because the placement of Carolingians and their contemporaries into the Roman period just sounds too bizarre to enter anybody's mind. Who could blame mainstream when, for once, even the dissidents go along?

A sober look at the evidence, however, reveals Roman-style palaces in the Carolingian period. Supposedly, they were copied 700 years later with the clearcut intention of demonstrating a determination to re-create the Roman empire (*Restitutio Imperii*). The no less archaic Roman burial rites, however, shall not be seen as an expression of admiration for the splendour that had passed so many centuries earlier. Pagan architecture yes, pagan burial practices no. Scholars are confused. On the face of it, Carolingians lived like residents of the Roman period and died like residents of the Roman period. Is there more evidence that they shared the same era? Can Charlemagne's father, Pepin, provide additional clues to the Romanness of the Carolingians?

### III Did Pepin Infect his Son, Charlemagne, with his Passion for Everything Roman? Did Pepin Even Live in the Roman Era?

There have been, so we are told, two Frankish lords by the name of Pepin in the territory of *Civitas Tungrorum* (roughly the diocese of Liège). Each had a son named Charles. One was Charles Martel, the other Charlemagne. Each Charles waged one war against the Saracens on the French-Spanish border, and ten wars against the Saxons. Only Charlemagne's ten Saxon wars are dated yearwise (772 [2x], 773, 775, 782 [2x], 783, 789, 792, 804). This author sees both Pepins, as well as both Charles', as *alter egos*.

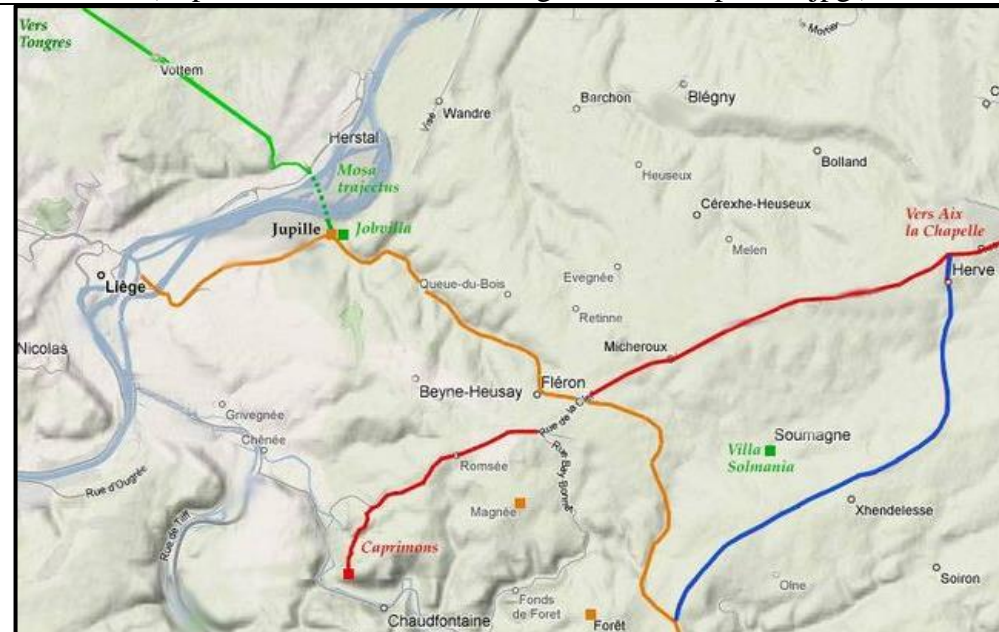
***Civitas Tungrorum/Toxandria (Taxandria, Toxiandria etc.): Heartland of Pepin, Lord of Herstal and father of Charlemagne.***

**Frankish Duchy (919 CE ff.) of Toxandria with Herstal and Jupille (northeast of Liège).**

([http://nds.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bild:Toxandria\\_919-1125.jpg](http://nds.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bild:Toxandria_919-1125.jpg))





**Herstal (northeast of Liège), estate of Pepin, connected in Roman times up to the 230s CE by a stone bridge to Jupille.**

(<http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Jupille02.jpg>)





Eleven times, between 770 and 784, Charlemagne took residence at Herstal. Against the view of dissidents, this author claims that the existence of at least one Carolingian Pepin as well as at least one Carolingian Charles (Martel/Magne) residing at Herstal is beyond doubt. The two were real, and so were their coins. Yet, the Illig school, with all due right, insists that at least one brick or column must be attributable to at least one Pepin building at Herstal or elsewhere else.

<b>Father, Pepin of Herstal:</b> <b>R [EX] P [IPINUS]</b> <b>R [EX] F [RANCORUM]</b> ( <a href="http://www.la-detection.com/dp/images/27541R0.jpg">http://www.la-detection.com/dp/images/27541R0.jpg</a> )			<b>Son, Charlemagne:</b> <b>CAROLUS R [EX] F [RANCORUM]</b> ( <a href="http://media-cache-ec0.pinimg.com/736x/f0/96/20/f09620bb284401fbf7eb365b3e1630d2.jpg">http://media-cache-ec0.pinimg.com/736x/f0/96/20/f09620bb284401fbf7eb365b3e1630d2.jpg</a> )		
					
					

The search for habitats of the Pepins' (if there were two such kings) and their sons named Charles (if there were two of them) around Herstal has been extensive. After all, already in the 7th century the name of Herstal (also Héristal) had been bestowed upon Pepin, making him *Pippinus*, Lord of Héristal. He is believed to have served as *maior domus* (mayor of the palace) under the Merovingian Frankish king Theuderic (counted as the third king of that name and dated 675-691). Pepin had chosen the Herstal site

as his family's main residence because it was strategically located between cities that had been of major importance since Roman times, Tongeren (*Atuatuca Tungrorum*), Maastricht (*Mosae Traiectum*), and Liège (*Leodicum*).

The result of all the research, however, disappointed everybody:

“The royal as well as the imperial presence at Herstal has not left a single uncontested trace” (Joris 1973; *la présence royale et impériale à Herstal n'a laissé aucune trace matérielle indubitable*).

Therefore, Jupille-sur-Meuse, an even larger estate on the other side of the river, has (since the 19th c.) been very carefully explored too. The result was no less devastating:

“Sources dating from the eighth century indicate the presence of a residence of Carolingian monarchs [at Jupille]. It should be noted that to date, although the Roman remains are evident, one still has not discovered any significant traces of a Frankish presence, be it Merovingian or Carolingian. A [Carolingian] palace should have existed at Jupille in the 8<sup>th</sup> c. CE. where Pepin II [635/45-714; father of Charles Martel], called Lord of Herstal, spent his life, and where, according to some sources, died in 714 CE Pepin III, the Short (714-768; father of Charlemagne). Charlemagne stayed there in 759 or 760. This palace / was – a contested view – the birthplace of Charlemagne” (Jupille 2013; see also Beaufort 2014).

Yet, a majestic Roman *villa rustica* was discovered at a commanding position at Jupilles. No sources indicating its ownership have ever been found. The villa was heavily damaged and abandoned at the beginning of the 3rd. c. CE.

Jupille's “Roman villa was located on a hill overlooking the river Meuse at the meeting point between the river and the important Roman road Tongre-Trier still called ‘Way of Ardennes’. The next closest ford was at Maastricht (*Mosae Traiectum*) on the Roman main road Tongeren - Aix-la-Chapelle [Aachen] - Cologne. The first excavations in 1872 have uncovered remains of a Gallo-Roman villa dating probably from the first and second century CE. The coins found are of Domitian (81-96), Antoninus Pius (138-161), Septimius Severus (193-211), and Maximinus Thrax (235-238)” (Jupilles 2013).

The situation is a paradox. The villa at Ingelheim is accepted as a residence of Charlemagne. It is seen as a building of Roman design and Roman technology of the first three centuries of the 1st millennium CE, apparently built -- for sentimental reasons -- in the last three centuries of the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium CE. At Jupilles we have a Roman villa that cannot be accepted as Carolingian although

**Roman *Civitas Tongrorum* and *Toxandria* in the period of the Franks (4<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c. CE) who, strangely, still employed the Roman name *Toxandria*, and, even more of a surprise, have left no dwellings or palaces on top of the Roman towns and *villae rusticae* that were ruined at the beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE. (Ingelheim is located close to Mogontiacum/Mainz.)**

(<http://rosamondpress.wordpress.com/2012/01/05/the-rosemonds-of-toxandria/#jp-carousel-4223>.)



it, too, was built in 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. Roman style. It fails the Carolingian test because it is not a 700 year later copy in an 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. style but an original of the very same 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE period. It is easier to accept a copy whose realization must be considered a technological miracle than an original that may be a masterpiece but which lacks the miraculous touch of being 700 years out of synch.

Okay, the reader may think, but that is a villa at Jupilles. Pepin was the Lord of Herstal. It is understood that there, too, nothing was found resembling a Carolingian medieval castle with dungeon and belfry. Yet, they must have come up with something. And they did. Two Roman *villae rusticae* were found at Herstal. They were huge *latifundiae* that required a lot of workers to keep them



going. Because well-cut stones from a Roman bridge had been re-used in the churches of Herstal and Jupilles, it is believed that, up to the 3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE, the entire area on both sides of the river must have formed one connected property of a very wealthy clan.

The Carolingians, capable of copying a Roman villa at Ingelheim, did not have the technology to repair the Roman bridge between Herstal and Jupilles. Thus, in their very heartland they appear to have lived under the open sky. Moreover, between October and May they could not cross the river because the water over the ford was too deep. That illustrates a strangely passive fate for powerful rulers like Pepin, and Charlemagne who had lived in Herstal for some 15 years.

The enigma of empty spaces in Carolingian heartlands grows even bigger when the entire territory of Roman *Toxandria* is taken into account. As late as in the 7th/8th century, Franks have left no traces of settlement there, even though so-called Salian Franks had already been invited as *foederati* in the 4th century under Emperor Julianus (361-363), as reported by Ammianus Marcellinus.

These Salian Franks with no archaeological traces became Christians under Saint Servatius (+384). In 448, Aetius (from 433-454, the empire's strongman in the West) called upon the Salian Franks from *Toxiandria* to provide troops against the Goths and Huns. These 5<sup>th</sup> c. Franks left just as few traces as their 4th c. predecessors and their 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c. successors. Toxandria's 1st millennium CE falls short by some 700 out of the 1,000 years expected for it.

The idea that Franks lived at *Toxandria* between the 4<sup>th</sup> and the 10<sup>th</sup> c. CE is not derived from stratigraphy but from an unquestioned chronology. Because of the adherence to the common dating scheme, bewildering lacunae and missing synchronisms arise even between Frankish sites as close to each other as Ingelheim and Herstal/Jupille.

1 <sup>st</sup> mill. CE stratigraphy and chronology of Ingelheim.	1 <sup>st</sup> mill. CE stratigraphy and chronology of Herstal/Jupille.
Villa in <b>1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE Roman</b> style during the 8 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> c. CE ends in <b>destruction</b> .	<b>Seven centuries missing</b> between the 3 <sup>rd</sup> and the 10 <sup>th</sup> c. CE.
<b>Seven centuries missing</b> between the 1 <sup>st</sup> and the 8 <sup>th</sup> c. CE.	<b>1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE Roman</b> period <i>villae rusticae</i> ends in <b>destruction</b>

Yet, there are not only buildings of 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. Roman style in the 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> c. *a là* Ingelheim. There are also Roman cities, like *Bagacum* (modern Bavay), flourishing in the first centuries of the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium CE, where, under the debris that had buried the ancient forum, archaeologists made “the discovery of ceramics from the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> centuries” (Bavay 2014, pointed out by J. Beaufort).

**Ruins and reconstruction of 2<sup>nd</sup> c. forum of *Bagacum* (Bavay) where 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> c. pottery was excavated.**

(<http://ba-ve-fr.weebly.com/site-de-bavay.html>.)

(<http://ba-ve-fr.weebly.com/site-de-bavay.html>.)



Yet, there are no buildings for Carolingians in the 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> c. period at *Bagacum*. The archaeologists cannot make sense of this most awkward situation: “The history of the town during this [Carolingian] period is unclear” (Bavay 2014). If they still want to accommodate Carolingians at *Bagacum* they have to house them in the Roman strata that – like the forgotten Roman roads re-discovered by modern aerial reconnaissance – were buried under soil early in the 3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE.

**View of Roman ruins at Bavay catastrophically buried under mud later turned into soil.** <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Bagacum.jpg>.



**Early Roman roads in Frankish territory.**

([http://espadana.cluster002.ovh.net/name/page\\_start.php?key1=gback/strabo.php&key2=First%20Roman%20roads&key6=gal.](http://espadana.cluster002.ovh.net/name/page_start.php?key1=gback/strabo.php&key2=First%20Roman%20roads&key6=gal.))



And yet, “the area bordering the *Civitas Tungrorum* on the east, also along the Rhine, became the territory of the Ripuarian [Eastern] Franks. Eventually, the whole of the area of the old *civitas* became the central area of occupation of the Salian Franks. It was from here that their Merovingian and Carolingian dynasties proceeded to conquer a large part of Western Europe“ (Civitas 2013). How could they have achieved such results with no dwellings to live in and no roads to march on?

To put the question differently, if Roman period strata provide the only possible location for Carolingian residences and coins, how can we identify the time-spans, slots, and events in Roman history where the Franks can be slipped in? Frankish tribes known as Ampsivarii, Bructeri, Chamavi, Chattuarii, or Sugambri go to war against the Romans from the times of Augustus (31 BCE-14 CE) to the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> c. CE when, it is assumed, they disappear from the earth: “The Sugambri, e.g., at the beginning of the 1st c. CE, disappeared out of history for good because of Roman interventions” (Goetz/Welwei 1995, I, 10). Yet, some three centuries later, at the beginning of the 4th c. CE, under Constantine the Great (306-337 CE), the Frankish Sugambri are back in full armour (mentioned as such in the *Panegyricus Nazarii dictus Constantino imperatori*; cf. in detail Heinsohn 2013c, ch. XIa). The researchers are unable to make sense of that unexpected rebirth out of nothing. They solve the riddle by recognizing 1<sup>st</sup> c. Sugambri



as real whereas the 4<sup>th</sup> c. Sugmabri have their Frankishness denied by turning them into a mere “literary topos“ (Heinrichs 2005, 127).

There are numerous examples of tribal disappearances during Rome’s early imperial period (ca. 1-230), and reappearances some 300 years later in Late Antiquity (ca. 290-520). Eventually they have a third run – characterized by similar events – in the Early Middle Ages (ca. 610-840 or ca. 700-930). The author has tried to show how these three blocks of time have left – in any individual site – just one block of strata covering some 230 years that were employed to give the 1st millennium CE a thousand years (Heinsohn 2013a; 2013b; 2014). Matching chronology to stratigraphy (*versus* the other way round) deletes the 700 years that mysteriously separate Charlemagne’s 9<sup>th</sup> c. residences at Aachen or Ingelheim from their 2<sup>nd</sup> c. Roman design. Whenever the Romans existed the Franks have been alive and active too. The idea that the “Franks were not part of the early Germanic nations“ (Becher 2011, 23) is burnt into the minds of historians. Yet, it is derived by moving the sources pertaining to Franks 300 or even 700 years away from where they belong. Thus, the three parallel time-blocks now found in our history books in a chronological sequence must be brought back to their stratigraphical position.

<b>Proposed contemporaneity of the three periods — now stretched over 700 years — that all end in massive <b>damage</b> [230s; 530s; 930s]. They are found at the same stratigraphic depth, and must, therefore, end simultaneously in the 230s CE (being also the 520s and 930s; [dates rounded]).</b>		
<b>Roman WEST: 1 to 230s.</b> (fights Sugambrian <b>Franks</b> , ends in 230s Empire catastrophe with dark earth plus Pelusium Plague, and is succeeded by <b>baptistries</b> for mass conversion to Christianity).	<b>Roman EAST: 290s [=1] to 520s[=230s].</b> (fights Sugambrian <b>Franks</b> , ends under Justinian’s comet, Allah’s elephant stones plus a Pelusium Plague, and is succeeded by <b>baptistries</b> for Christianisation).	<b>NORTH and EAST: 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> c.[=1] to 930s[=230s]</b> (ends, e.g., in the wiping out of Slavic tribal centers, also resulting in <b>damages at Charlemagne’s Roman villas at Ingelheim and Aachen</b> , and is succeeded by <b>baptistries</b> ( at Aachen by Theudebert’s (530s=930s) Octagon) for Christianisation in Slavic and Scandinavian territories).

By parallelizing the first two time blocks (1-230s; 290-520s), after removing an artificial separation of 284 years between the Diocletian-period and Octavian (Beaufort 2013), events and time slots fitting Roman period Carolingians become visible (marked in **green**). Yet, this table is still work in progress. Its underlying assumption that at least the time-span of 1-230s CE contains reliable history may have to be debated, too. The author, for the time being, works with the 230-year sequence. Yet, he is well aware that it contains intriguing parallels, too (e.g., between the crisis during the time of Marcus Aurelius/Commodus (161-192) and the circumstances of the Third-Century-Crisis). Yet, whatever the details of the packing, there always remains only one

package of Roman history with millefiori glass and porphyry. There is no second (Late Antiquity), and also no third coming (Early Middle Ages) of Roman marble splendour.

<b>Early Medieval 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c. Carolingian events and time slots (Saxon items in brown) after re-establishing the contemporaneity of 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> c. Late Antiquity and 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. Antiquity. Selected contemporary rulers now dated some 284 years apart. (Late Antiquity emperors in bold letters; Heinsohn 2012b; 2013c; Beaufort 2013; 2014)</b>			
<b>Rulers residing in Rome.</b>		<b>Rulers residing outside Rome (Treves, Mediolanum, Sirmium, Nikomedia, Antiochia etc.; Barnes 1982).</b>	
<b>STRATIGRAPHICALLY AFTER 930s CE [with FIMBULWINTER CATASTROPHE (Gunn 2000)]</b>		Justinian (after 530s; Hagia Sophia) + Merovingian partners. <b>THEUDEBERT I (533-547=post930s) BUILDS AACHEN'S OCTAGON.</b>	
Severus Alexander	<b>230s crisis of Empire+plague</b>	222-235	<b>Justinian [527-530s]. Comet+plague+Allah's elephant rocks</b>
Elagabal	<b>last emperor residing on Palatine</b>	218-222	<b>Justin (518-527) FRANKS DEFEND EMPIRE AGAINST SAXONS.</b>
Caracalla	<b>last emperor buried in Rome</b>	211-217	<b>Anastasios (491-518) CLOVIS I, SALIAN FRANK, TAKES <i>Atuatuca Tungorum</i>.</b>
<b>RHINE-FRANK LOUIS THE PIOUS</b>			
Septimus Severus		193-211	<b>Zenon (474-491)</b> <b>Iulius Nepos (474-480)</b>
<b>STRATIGRAPHICALLY 10<sup>th</sup> CENTURY CE</b>			
Commodus		180-192	<b>Leo I (457-474)</b>
<b>RHINE-FRANK MARTEL=CHARLEMAGNE (POPE LEO) MARCUS AURELIUS [PLAGUE; COSMIC OMENS] NEEDS SETTLERS AND HELP AGAINST MOORS MARCHING ON FRANCE AFTER THE CONQUEST OF SPAIN &gt; PEPIN.</b>		161-180	<b>Maiorian (457-461) LEO (440-461) ROME'S BISHOP. AETIUS (433-454; EMPIRE'S STRONGMAN CALLS SALIAN FRANKS 448=164 TO HELP AGAINST GOTHs AND HUNS.</b> <b>Marcian (450-457)</b>
<b>ASIAN IAZYGES + GERMANIC QUADI INVADE.</b>			<b>HUNS+GOTHs INVADE.</b>
Antoninus Pius		138-161	<b>Valentinian III (425-455)</b>
<b>HADRIAN [HELPS LONDINIUM]</b>		117-138	<b>Theodosius II (408-450) RHINE-FRANKS SECURE TRIER.</b>
Traian		98-117	<b>HONORIUS (395-423) [ REJECTS HELP FOR LONDINIUM.]</b> <b>Arcadius (395-408) SAXONS FIGHT CELTS.</b>
<b>STRATIGRAPHICALLY 9<sup>th</sup> CENTURY CE</b>			
Nerva		96-98	<b>Theodosius I (379-395) RHINE-FRANKS ADVANCE.</b> <b>Valentinian II (375-392)</b>
Domitian		81-96	<b>Valentian I (364-375)</b> <b>Valens (364-378)</b>
Servius Cornelius Salvidienus	<b>Orfitus</b>		80-94

<b>FRANKS ca. 74 CE AS FOEDERATI IN CIVITAS TONGRORUM (EXPAND INTO TOXANDRIA. SECURE RHINE (AGAINST SAXONS?).</b>	82 office	<b>Orfitus</b> (270-369), <i>praefectus urbi</i> according to <b>AMMIANUS MARCELLINUS WHO ALSO REPORTS JULIAN'S SETTLEMENT OF SALIAN FRANKS AS FOEDERATI IN TOXANDRIA IN 358 CE.</b>	
Titus	69-81	<b>Iovian (363-364)</b>	79-80
Vespasian <b>CRUSHES BATAVIANS, NEEDS NEW FOEDERATI TO SECURE RHINE TERRITORIES.</b>	69-79	<b>Iulian (361-363)</b>	77-79
Nero	54-68	<b>Constantius II (337-361)</b> <b>Constans (337-350)</b> <b>Constantine II (337-340)</b>	53-77 53-66 53-56
<b>SUGAMBRI -FRANKS FIGHT ROME. FRANKS NOT YET FOEDERATI.</b> Claudius ( <b>RETAKES ENGLAND</b> ) Caligula Tiberius <b>Maxentius (306-312; outside Rome)</b>	41-54 37-41 14-37 22-28	<b>Constantine the Great (306-337). RE-BORN SUGAMBRI. TWO FRANKS, MEROGAISUS AND ASCARICUS, THROWN TO THE LIONS IN TREVES ARENA.</b> <b>Licinius (308-324)</b> <b>Maximinus Daia (310-313)</b> <b>Galerius (305-311)</b>	22-53 24-40 26-29 21-27
Gaius Caesar (formerly Octavian) <b>RECEIVES EMBASSIES OF CELTIC BRITON KING CUNEBELINE.</b>	0 -14	<b>Diocletian (284-305) SAXONS COMPETE FOR ENGLAND. 294 FRANKS REPELLED FROM BATAVIA.</b>	0 -21
<b>BRITON CUNEBELINE RECOGNIZED BY ROME</b> <b>Probus (276-282) CRUSHES LONDON'S BONONUS</b>	-8/-2		
Gaius Caesar (formerly Octavian) <b>STRATIGRAPHICALLY 8th CENTURY CE</b>	-12/ 0		
<b>Aurelian (270-275)</b> Gaius Caesar (formerly Octavian; up to taking position of Pontifex Maximus when he disappears from public life)	-14/-9 -30/-12	<b>Postumus (260-269)</b> <b>Odoenathus (263-267)</b> <b>Gallienus (253-268)</b> <b>Valerian (243-260)</b>	-25/-15 -24/-17 -31/-16 -31/-24
Gaius Caesar (formerly Octavian)	-44/-31	<b>Decius (249-251)</b> <b>Philippus Arabs (244-249)</b> Marcus Antonius <b>Marcus Antonius Gordianus (238-44)</b>	-35/-33 -40/-35 -44/-30 -46/-40
Iulius Caesar ( <b>ATTACKS ENGLAND</b> ) Gnaeus Pompeius <b>STRATIGRAPHICALLY 7th CENTURY CE</b>	-59/-44 -69/-48	Crassus <b>RISE OF PRE-JESUS ESSENES / CHRESTIANOI [the "JUST"]</b> . THEIR ANTI-SACRFICE + ANTI-IMPERIAL MILITANCY (WAR SCROLL) PROVOKES PERSECUTIONS.	-69/-53



Frankish Sugambri, at war with Rome in the early first century, have, after subtracting 284 (give or take a few) years, their equivalent in Franks going to war against Constantine the Great, who experiences the mysterious rebirth of the Sugambri. A Frankish leader by the name of Merogaisus, thrown by Constantine to the lions, of course, reminds one of the idolized early Merovingian leader, Merowech (momentarily dated to the mid-5<sup>th</sup> c. CE).

### Frankish realm centered on Roman *Atuatuca Tungorum* (Tongres) inside the Roman Empire since 74=358 CE.

(<http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b7/Germanie-inferieure.jpg>.)



The first Franko-Roman cooperation may be dated to the year 74 CE (if 358-284) when the later (361-363) emperor Julian permitted so-called Salian Franks to settle in Toxandria from where, since 104 CE (if 388-284), they expanded south of the Meuse river to take over *Civitas Tungrorum*. In 74 CE, after the bloody victory (70 CE) against the Batavians, and the chaos of

the Four-Emperors-Year 69 CE, brought to end by Vespasian (69-79), fresh *foederati* are welcomed to stabilize and resettle the territory. Many new castra are erected (against Saxons east of the Rhine?). From 83-85 CE Domitian organizes an operation against Chatti, who become members of the association of Frankish tribes in the 2nd [=5th] c. CE). The Chatti receive help from the Cheruskans led by their king named, in Latin, Chariomerus. That name could be read as CARLO-MER, kind of a Carolingian first (see also Beaufort 2014). *Atuatuca Tungorum* (modern Tongeren), one of the largest Roman cities in the area (136 ha, with walls 4.500 meters long, 6 meters high, and 2 meters wide), serves as the Salian capital of an *Imperium Francorum* within the *Imperium Romanum*. From here the resistance against Frisians and Saxons, Rome's competitors for England, has been coordinated.

East of the Salian Franks, since 104 CE (if 388-284), the Rhine Franks expand. They are also known as *Ripuarians* although ethnically they are not different from Salian Franks. Jordanes, interestingly, calls them *Riparioli*, meaning a corps of auxiliaries. That denomination may rather indicate a Franko-Roman partnership than a hostile antagonism. Much later the Rhine (or Eastern) Franks can secure the eminent Roman city of Treves (Trier; in 151 CE, if 435-284) and, finally, Rome's Rhinish metropolis of Cologne (175 CE; if 459-284). That city becomes a Frankish domain in the crisis-ridden years of Marcus Aurelius (161-180): "Outbreaks of Bubonic Plague, rebellions, and currency devaluations led to a never ending chain of catastrophes. Moreover, the Empire was weakend by wars against the Parthians (161-165), and the serious fallout of the Marcomanni wars (165-175, and 178-180) that could be confirmed archaeologically for the provinces of Noricum, Raetia and Germania superior. Germanic tribes crossed the Alps into Italy" (Kunow 1987, 75). The Germanic movement south in the 5th (= 2nd) c. CE may well have included Frankish advances on the Langobards in Northern Italy's Lombardy. The Rhine-Franks, in modern terminology, would have to be the Carolingians, originally coming from the east of the Rhine (see more detailed in Beaufort 2014).

It is this 2<sup>nd</sup> (=5<sup>th</sup>=8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup>) c. CE that sees the rise of Carolingian estates (Roman in design) from Herstal via Aachen to Ingelheim. Charlemagne, thus, loses his phantom appearance by having blossomed within the Roman realm of the later 2<sup>nd</sup> c. CE that, stratigraphically, is succeeded by the Ottonians in the 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> c. CE. It is this immediate stratigraphic succession from 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. Roman strata to 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> Ottonian strata that turns the 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c. into the correct time-span for Rome's imperial splendour. This reconstruction of Frankish history within the Roman period is summarized in the following overview. The focus is on Charlemagne. The problem of how many Merovingian and Carolingian rulers are duplicates of other rulers by the same name is not the subject of this essay. Yet, Charlemagne should have blossomed in the later 9<sup>th</sup> c., and may have died early in the 10<sup>th</sup> c. CE.

History of Franks as part of the Roman Empire up to the Ottonian strata of the mid 10th c. CE onwards.				
Early 8th c.	Late 8th c.	Early 9th c.	3rd quarter 9th c.	Late 9th/Early 10th.
Franks (Sugambri etc.) attack Rome in the period of Augustus (“31BCE-14CE”). They are punished by Constantine the Great (“306-337”).	Salian Franks become Roman <i>foederati</i> and settlers after Roman elimination of Batavaians (under Vespasian, “69-79”, or Julian; “361-363”).	Rhine-Franks (“Carolingians”) advance in tandem with Salian Franks close to the Rhine. They secure Trier (in the time of Theodosius II, “408-450” when Hadrian [“117-138”] is occupied in England).	Predecessor of villa at Aachen; villas at Herstal(Pepin). Conquest or protection of Cologne when the Empire crashes under Marcus Aurelius (“161-180”) or Aetius (“433-454”). Franks help against Moors/Saracenes attacking France after conquest of Spain.	Roman villas at Ingelheim and Aachen under <b>Charlemagne</b> . Under him and <b>Louis the Pious</b> , a highly autonomous Frankish realm, with relations from Scandinavia to Arab territories, helps to protect the empire (e.g., against Saxons) during its last period (under Severus-Alexander (“193-230s”; or Zenon+Anastasios (“474-518”). The catastrophe ( <i>Fimbulwinter</i> ) that wipes out the empire also damages Ingelheim and Aachen, and crushes Frankish power.  ----- <b>Theuderbert I (533-547=post-930s)</b> , parallel to Ottonians, builds Aachen’s octagonal chapel during Justinian’s work on <i>Hagia Sophia</i> .

By re-combining sources pertaining to just one period (of some 230 years), that are now divided and used to illuminate three such periods, a much richer image of Roman history emerges. The numerous actors from Iceland (with Roman coins; Heinsohn 2013d) to Baghdad (whose 9<sup>th</sup> c. coins are found in the same stratum as 2<sup>nd</sup> c. Roman coins; Heinsohn 2013b) can eventually be drawn together to weave the rich and colourful fabric of that vast space with 2.500 cities, and 85.000 km of roads. The Carolingians, indeed, look meagre to the point of near invisibility, when a few tiny particles of Roman history are borrowed from its vast body to build a Frankish Empire void of buildings, monuments, and roads. Therefore, although dissidents like Illig have erred, they have also exposed massive flaws of the much larger error we carry along as our textbook history of the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium CE.



#### IV Saxons as Arch-Enemies of the Carolingians, Did they Roam in Roman Period Strata, too?

The history of the Saxons from ca. 1-900 CE is divided into three time-blocks that roughly cover three centuries each. Only one of these time-blocks in any of the Saxon territories is tied to material remains of buildings and settlements. In the Saxons' homeland (Northwest Germany), the 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> c. has material remains. Saxon colonies in 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> c. England, surprisingly, have strata assigned to them that, as in West Stow, contain Roman artifacts that are dated some 300 years prior to the arrival of the Saxons.

Schematic overview of Saxons in archaeology and history from the 1 <sup>st</sup> to the 9 <sup>th</sup> /10 <sup>th</sup> c. CE.						
SAXONS	1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> c. CE		4 <sup>th</sup> /5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> /7 <sup>th</sup> c. CE		7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup> /10 <sup>th</sup> c. CE	
	BUILDINGS	HISTORY	BUILDINGS	HISTORY	BUILDINGS	HISTORY
Saxons in German homeland	no	no	<b>YES</b>	yes	no	yes (mostly via Carolingians)
Saxons in their English colonies	<b>YES</b>	no	no	yes <sup>1</sup>	no	yes <sup>1</sup> (partly via Carolingians)

<sup>1</sup> Stories are mostly extracted from so-called annals as well as Bede's writings. These texts have very few contemporary sources. They were mostly created by medieval chroniclers (Gransden 1974, ch. 1).

The confusion of British archaeology/chronology of the 1st millennium CE is due to the division of just one Roman history-block (1-230s) into two sequential histories (1-230s plus 290s-520s). This duplication was caused by dating, via Eutropius/Diocletian, the Saxons to the second, i.e. Late Antiquity, time-block of Roman history. That's why the Saxons – very much like the Franks (Becher 2011, 23) – are not recognized as part of the earliest Germanic nations.

The Saxon Chaukians and Cheruskians mentioned by Eutropius for “285/286” CE in the time of Diocletian (supposedly “284-305”) in actual fact are Saxons of the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> c. BCE and the beginning of the 1<sup>st</sup> c. CE. The stratigraphy-based date for Diocletian does not place him in the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> c. but to ca. 1-20 CE (see overview above, p. 39). “Late Antiquity” (290s-520s CE) runs parallel to

High Antiquity (1-230s CE). Thus, whenever Romans roamed the earth, Saxons have been there, too. None of the so-called Late Antiquity emperors even took residence in Rome. They are responsible for the empire's vast borders and for not allowing devastating civil wars of the kind that had set, from 41 to 30 BCE, Marcus Antonius against Octavianus (Heinsohn 2013c). Therefore the border emperors make it a point not to stir things up in the capital. They simply don't go there.

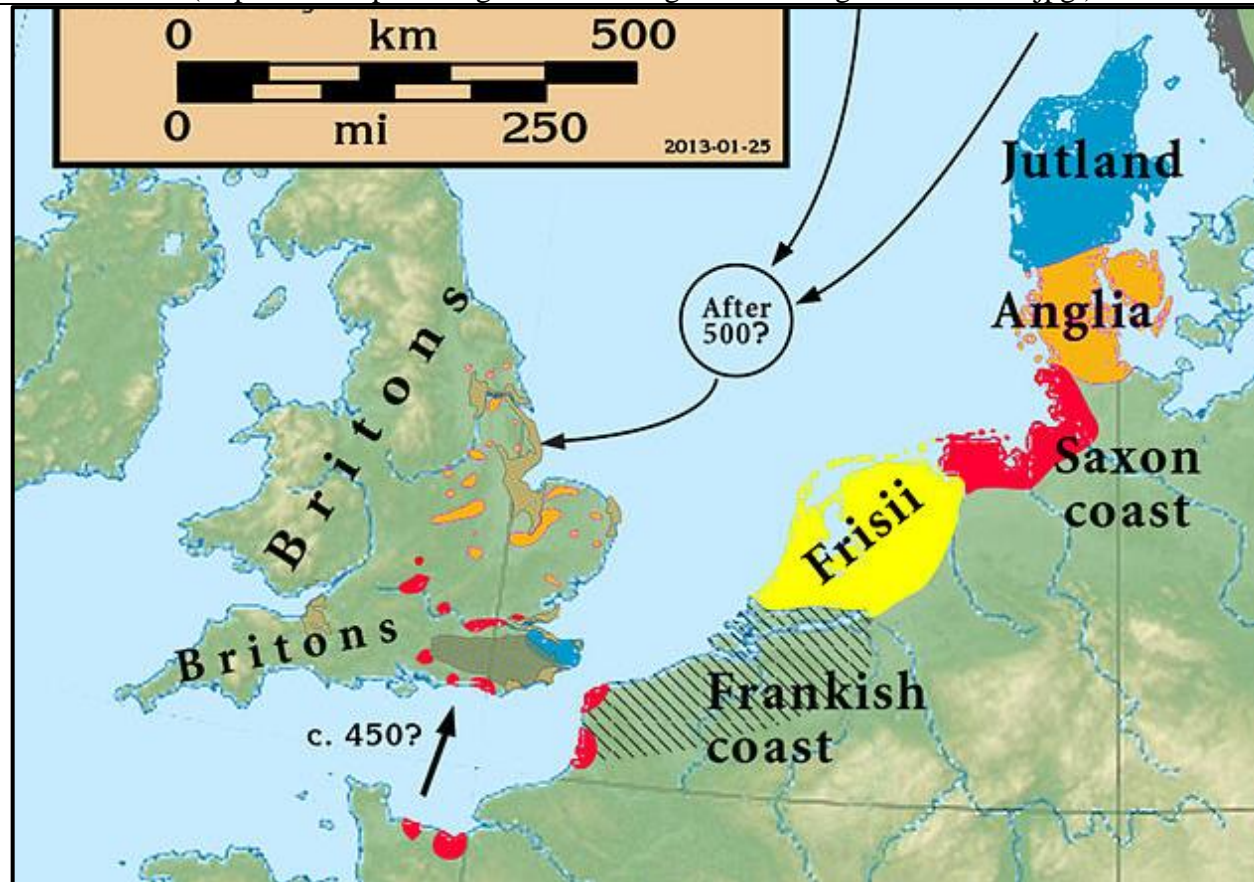
<b>Imperial rulers and residences outside Rome (Heinsohn 2013c after Barnes 1982, 48-87)</b>			
<b>Ruler</b>	<b>Residences (alphabetically)</b>	<b>Travels + military campaigns</b>	<b>Travels to Rome</b>
Diocletian	Antiochia, Nicomedia, Sirmium	84	1 together with Maximinianus
Maximinianus	Aquileia, Milan, Treves	36	1, plus the one with Diocletian, 2 lacking proof
Constantius I. Chlorus	Treves	13	0
Galerius	Antiochia, Serdica, Thessaloniki	28	0
Severus	Milan	4	0
Maximinus	Antiochia, Caesarea, Nicomedia	23	0
Great-Constantine	Arles, Constantinople, Nicomedia, Serdica, Sirmium, Thessaloniki	142	2 out of which 1 with sons Constantinus and Constantius
Licinius	Naissus, Nicomedia, Sirmium	27	0
Crispus	Treves	9	0
Constantinus	Treves	7	1 with father Constantine
Constantius	Antiochia	11	1 with father Constantine
Constans	Milan, Naissus	2	0
Dalmatus	Naissus	1	0
<b>Sum</b>		<b>387</b>	<b>4 proven visits to Rome (1,034%)</b>

Once it is understood that Diocletian tried to stop Saxons from reaching England in the first decade of the 1st c. CE (and not the 4<sup>th</sup>), the reason for this action becomes clear. Since Julius Caesar's invasions in 55/54 BCE, Saxons as well as Franks – they were

not Germanic late-comers but had been around all the time – compete with Romans for the possession of England. In England, Romans and Saxons, who outmanoeuvre the Franks, eventually, settle side by side, sometimes fighting each other, sometimes cooperating (Saxons as Roman mercenaries etc.). On the continent, however, Franks, eventually, are employed by the Romans to protect the empire's northern border against the Saxons. It is this strategic rationale that turns Charlemagne into a Roman ally with Roman- style villas and coinage.

**Germanic tribes competing, since the 1<sup>st</sup> c. BCE, with Romans for England, are dated in textbook history to the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> c. CE at the earliest. In reality – borne out by stratigraphy – Saxons settle side by side with Romans, who dominate the cities.**

(<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Anglo.Saxon.migration.5th.cen.jpg>.)





The Diocletian-derived but incorrect date for the Saxons of the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> c. is, of course, transposed on the Saxons' home turf in Northwestern Germany, too. The result is mindboggling because, now, we cannot know where Saxons were living in the first three centuries CE. All Saxon settlement sites in Germany are, in accordance with Diocletian's date, assigned to fill the 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> centuries CE time span, thus stripping naked the preceding three centuries (see in detail Heinsohn 2013c, ch. XIc.). Germany's history of the Saxons is, therefore, no less confused than England's Saxon history. It is here exemplified by Bremen that provides the Saxon master-stratigraphy for Northwestern Germany.

<b>Stratigraphy of Bremen (best site at suburb Mahndorf) in the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium CE. The strata cover a maximum of 300 years, leaving some 700 years unaccounted for (Brandt 1965, 1978; Last 1978).</b>	
<b>11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> c.</b>	<b>Dome, market and street</b>
900-1000	Hiatus
800-900	Hiatus
700-800	Hiatus
600-700	Hiatus
550-600	Hiatus (apart from the cemetery at Mahndorf with no settlement matching it)
<b>500-550</b>	<b>Spangenhelm found in the Weser River</b>
<b>400-500</b>	<b>Settlement (including cemetery) with Roman period artifacts</b>
<b>300-400</b>	<b>Settlement (including cemetery) with Roman period artifacts</b>
200-300	Hiatus
100-200	Hiatus
50-100	Hiatus
<b>0-50</b>	<b>Traces of settlement (without cemetery) from early imperial period with Roman artifacts.</b>

The famous date of 409/410 CE, with the *Rescript of Honorius* as the date for Rome's retreat from the British Isles, is misplaced, as is the date for Diocletian's Saxons. Honorius ("395-423") actually belongs to the beginning of the 2nd c. CE (see overview above, p. 39). Thus, the *Rescript of Honorius* (possibly not dealing with Britain at all [Esmonde Cleary 1991, 137 f.]) precedes the fall of the Roman Empire (230s = 930s) by one century. In actual fact, Honorius (as a secondary emperor) belongs to the period of the central emperor, Hadrian (117-138). After Honorius fails to send help to beleaguered Romans in *Londinium* (attested to by the city's major fire dated around 130 CE), it falls on Hadrian to keep the indigenous tribes at bay. He tries to cage them in with ramparts and walls. Thus, it is not in the early 400s CE that Roman civilization is wiped out in Britain. The isles were hit by the same conflagration that devastated the empire in the so-called Crisis of the Third Century. Thus, Roman England falls nearly two centuries prior to the conventional date. The traces of that disaster have been shown long ago: "Parts [of London] had been cleared of buildings and were already covered by a horizon of dark silts (often described as 'dark earth') suggesting that land was converted to arable and pastoral use or abandoned entirely. The dark earth may have started forming in the 3rd century" (Schofield 1999).

Only long after dark earth had strangled 3<sup>rd</sup> c. London, the Saxons are supposed, around 410 CE, to have begun their takeover of England. Yet, time and again, archaeologists cannot confirm it. First and foremost, Saxon houses and sacral buildings are missing. One gets the impression that the Saxons have lived in graves, apparently needing no food because remains of their agriculture are also difficult to come by: "Whatever the discussion about the plough in Roman Britain, at least it is a discussion based on surviving models and parts of ploughs, whereas virtually no such evidence exists for the Period A.D. 500-900 in England. [...] In contrast to the field system of the 500 years or so on either side of the beginning of our era, little evidence has survived in the ground for the next half millennium" (Fowler 2002, 28). The year 500, of course, is derived from Late Antiquity's chronology (290s-520s) brought about by duplication of High Antiquity (1-230s). Thus, the statement "500-900" must be read as 3<sup>rd</sup> c.-900.

The shock is not restricted to the absence of agriculture. There is no pottery, either: "The centuries in England that are generally designated Anglo-Saxon have left little or nothing even in this necessary domestic art. Pottery making does appear again in the tenth century" (O'Neill 2009, 228). The awkward lacuna from 500-900 (actually 3<sup>rd</sup> c. -900s) supposedly has housed mega-kings such as Offa and Alfred the Great. What did they eat? From what cups did they drink? Who fed the smiths that forged their




weapons? Where would the people pray? Of Anglo-Saxon churches between 410 and the 930s, “no universally accepted example survives above ground” (Anglo 2013).

<b>Anglo-Saxon glass bowls in imperial Roman style from the 500-900CE period with no ploughs and houses.</b>			
<p><b>Roman glass horn, 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>. c.</b> (<a href="http://www.zum.de/Faecher/G/BW/Landeskunde/rhein/staedte/mittelrhein/koeln/rgm/glas/trinkhorn.htm">http://www.zum.de/Faecher/G/BW/Landeskunde/rhein/staedte/mittelrhein/koeln/rgm/glas/trinkhorn.htm</a>.)</p>	<p><b>Anglo-Saxon glass horn, 7<sup>th</sup> c. at the earliest.</b> (<a href="http://projects.oucs.ox.ac.uk/worldhord/education/daily_%20life/7th%20century%20glass%20drinking%20horn.jpg">http://projects.oucs.ox.ac.uk/worldhord/education/daily_%20life/7th%20century%20glass%20drinking%20horn.jpg</a>.)</p>	<p><b>Roman glass bowl, 1st-3rd. c.</b> (<a href="http://www.pinterest.com/tcatmommy/ancient-glass/">http://www.pinterest.com/tcatmommy/ancient-glass/</a>.)</p>	<p><b>Anglo-Saxon glass bowl, 7<sup>th</sup> c. at the earliest.</b> <a href="http://projects.oucs.ox.ac.uk/worldhord/education/daily_%20life/7th%20century%20glass%20drinking%20horn.jpg">http://projects.oucs.ox.ac.uk/worldhord/education/daily_%20life/7th%20century%20glass%20drinking%20horn.jpg</a>.)</p>
			

And yet, whilst Anglo-Saxons had no serious houses or ploughs, glassware coming from their graves was made in the Roman style of the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE. It easily matched imperial quality. The Anglo-Saxons look non-existent in the real world, but seem to be Roman in the netherworld because Roman period graves have been used to furnish their afterlife, whilst the same strata are rejected when it comes to providing them with living quarters. The reader may already sense that traces of the Saxon rulers, like the remains of the Carolingians, must be looked for in the Roman period, not in post-Roman materials. Their coinage, like Carolingian coinage, is too






numerous to allow any denial of their existence. For the dissidents in the Illig camp, however, Anglo-Saxon coins (with their imperial Roman diadems) prove no less of an embarrassment than the Frankish currency (with the same Roman period diadems).

<b>Coins of Offa (757-796) with imperial (1st-3rd c.) diadem, and with Arianist/Monotheist Credo in Arabic.</b>		
<b>Offa with Roman 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. diadem.</b> ( <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/trail/conquest/wessex_kings/coins_offa_pop_ob.shtml">http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/trail/conquest/wessex_kings/coins_offa_pop_ob.shtml</a> .)	<b>Gold coin: Offa with Roman 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. diadem.</b> [ <a href="http://nayzak.deviantart.com/art/Gold-coin-of-king-Offa-291219688">http://nayzak.deviantart.com/art/Gold-coin-of-king-Offa-291219688</a> .]	<b>Reverse.</b> [ <a href="http://nayzak.deviantart.com/art/Gold-coin-of-king-Offa-291219688">http://nayzak.deviantart.com/art/Gold-coin-of-king-Offa-291219688</a> .]
		
<b>OFFA REX.</b>	<b>OFFA REX (text in center; written upside down).</b>	<b>“There is no deity except Allah, He is the one and only He has no partner.”</b>

Numismatic experts, of course, can recognize the Roman style of coins supposedly to be dated as late as the 8th/9th c. because they have already assigned Charlemagne’s imperial coins to such a late period. They are, however, not taken as an indication that Charlemagne belonged to the Roman period. His imperial diadem is rather seen as an illustration of his determination to re-create the Roman Empire (*Restitutio Imperii*). However, the same Roman diadem shown on coins of Charlemagne’s Anglo-Saxon contemporary, Offa (757-796), or on coins of Alfred the Great (871-899), find the experts at a loss. They cannot claim that Anglo-

Saxons, too, had been working at *Restitutio Imperii*. Thus, they cannot use that comfortable excuse to date, unhesitatingly, Anglo-Saxon coins in Roman design centuries after the Roman period too. Yet, they won't allow a 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Roman date for them either. Therefore, they resort to an as yet unexplained fashion in vogue in the Anglo-Saxon period: "The portrait on this coin shows Offa (above left) in the style of a Roman emperor with an imperial diadem in his hair. This classical imagery greatly appealed to early medieval kings" (historytrails 2006). Yet, post-10<sup>th</sup> history has no more coins showing rulers with the Roman imperial diadem. Ruler with diadem, but yet no crowns, appear to belong to the Roman period.

<b>Anglo-Saxon coins from the 500-900 CE period for which agriculture and pottery is wanting.</b>		
<p><b>REX COENVULF (796-821) with Roman diadem.</b> (<a href="http://www.show.me.uk/site/news/STO1001.html">http://www.show.me.uk/site/news/STO1001.html</a>.)</p>	<p><b>Abassid gold denar, Harun Al-Rashid (786-809), from Charlemagne's and Offa's time.</b> (<a href="http://www.britishmuseum.org/explore/highlights/highlight_image.aspx?image=k146773.jpg&amp;retpage=17359">http://www.britishmuseum.org/explore/highlights/highlight_image.aspx?image=k146773.jpg&amp;retpage=17359</a>.)</p>	<p><b>ALFRED REX (Alfred the Great [871-899] with Roman 1st-3rd c. diadem).</b> (<a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primary/history/anglo_saxons/alfred_the_great/1">http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primary/history/anglo_saxons/alfred_the_great/1</a>.)</p>
		

Yet, the coins of Offa or Alfred are not found high up in a stratigraphy that, in its strata many centuries older and, therefore, much deeper down, exhibits the original Roman pieces after which the Anglo-Saxon coins were fashioned so much later. There is not a

single site anywhere in England with imperial Roman strata plus Roman coins on the bottom, upon which, much higher and later, one finds the strata with buildings of Offa or Alfred, plus their own coins.

The Anglo-Saxon kings resemble Pepin, Charlemagne's father, with a tradition of residences at Herstal where, however, only massive Roman period *villae rusticae* have been dug up. Thus, they are worse off than Charlemagne for whom at least two Roman design villas have been claimed. Still, below the Roman design buildings of Ingelheim and Aachen (not the later churches), too, there are no earlier (i.e., deeper) Roman strata from the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE. Franks and Anglo-Saxons, thus, do miss something in common. They simply do **not** have sites that exhibit stratigraphies as shown in the overview below.

<b>Expected, yet nowhere discovered, stratigraphies for Franks and Anglo-Saxons.</b>		
	<b>Franks like Charlemagne</b>	<b>Anglo-Saxons like Offa or Alfred</b>
<b>8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c.</b> strata with building remains	Frankish coins showing Frankish rulers with <b>copied Roman diadems.</b>	Saxons coins showing Saxon rulers with <b>copied Roman diadems.</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup> century	Building remains for intervening centuries	Building remains for intervening centuries
<b>1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c.</b> strata with building remains	Coins showing Roman rulers with <b>original early Roman diadems.</b>	Coins showing Roman rulers with <b>original early Roman diadems.</b>

Yet, the coins are there. Since they cannot come from the 500-900 period in which even agriculture and pottery are missing, there is only the Roman period in which to look for them. Anglo-Saxons, therefore, are not only contemporaries of the Franks. Like them, they have nowhere else to go but to Roman period strata in England. This, of course, is best demonstrated by England's Saxon master-stratigraphy of West Stow/Suffolk, excavated from 1965-1972, and dated to Late Antiquity (420-650 CE). This Anglo-Saxon village follows an earlier Iron Age settlement (ending in the time of Augustus; 31 BCE-14CE). It is not understood why the site, favoured since the Stone Age, left no strata for the period 1-400 CE. Even more bewildering, the Roman artifacts and coins found at West Stow include nothing datable beyond 350. Thus, West Stow's Roman remains belong to the supposedly empty period of



the village. West Stow was dated by obeying the textbook chronology for Anglo-Saxons. Their Roman artifacts were dated according to the chronology of the Roman Empire. The next time that tangible remains (so-called “later” Anglo-Saxon churches) are found in England’s ground we are already in the 10<sup>th</sup> c. CE. Applying a strictly stratigraphical date to West Stow puts it in the Roman period, and that very Roman period ends the 10<sup>th</sup> c. CE.

West Stow provides more proof that Anglo-Saxons did not arrive after 400. Saxons and Romans had been competing for Britain since the days of Julius Caesar (50s BCE). They have settled Britain at the same time, and were living side by side there up to the 230s catastrophe. That is best illustrated by London. The Saxon settlement of *Lundenwic* was discovered east of Roman *Londinium*. *Lundenwic* supposedly began, like West Stow, around 420 after *Londinium* was finished. Now comes the enigma. One cannot understand why the Saxons of *Lundenwic* do not use right away (in 420) empty *Londinium*’s still impressive walls as a home and shelter for their precarious new beginnings. After all, in the 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> c. CE they do take that most reasonable decision to protect themselves behind *Londinium*’s Roman walls (worn down by half a millennium), and call their new place *Lundenburh* (Hobley 1988). In actual fact, both *Lundenwic* and *Londinium* exist within walking distance of each other during the same pre-230 CE period. Thus, surviving Saxons, living after Offa and Alfred, leave *Lundenwic* to settle in the ruins of Roman *Londinium* very soon after the 230s (=530s=930s). Ploughs and pottery making did not vanish from the earth from 230-930. It is the deletion of these fictitious centuries that makes Saxon history look genuine. If one looks for a location in London for a fragile beginning right after the 930s (=530s=230s), “Lake End Road West” (Maidenhead), now vaguely dated to the 8th century, is an appropriate candidate coming to life in the 940s CE (cf. In detail Heinsohn 2013c, ch. XIc).

A village like West Stow, of course, could not have provided appropriate dwellings for someone like King Offa. Where, then, should we look for him? As with the continental Franks at Herstal (Roman villae of the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c.) or Ingelheim (Roman style villa dated 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c.), we should focus on Roman period sites in England. *Verlamchester/Verulamium* (third largest Roman period town of England) was never rebuilt. Its stones were used as construction material, on the hill above, for St. Albans, whose most famous ruler was Offa. Yet, neither Offa’s villa nor his tomb has been found at St. Albans. Since one cannot doubt his existence, he must have been buried in this impressive Roman city. Alfred the Great, too, has not yet revealed any palaces, churches or mausolea. Yet,

tradition firmly ties him to Winchester. It was called *Venta Belgarum* in Latin, and *Wintanceastre* in Saxon. It is, therefore, the Roman ruins of *Venta Belgarum* where Alfred's capital is hidden. Winchester's earliest post-9<sup>th</sup> church, St. Ruel, is known to have

**Offa's city of *Verlamchester/Verulamium* in the 3<sup>rd</sup> c.  
CE as found under soil.**

(<http://toofatlardies.co.uk/blog/?p=730>.)



**Wall painting in the Roman palace of Alfred's city of *Venta Belgarum* (reconstructed by Sean A. MacKenna [1932-2012]).**

(<http://www.archeurope.com/index.php?page=winchester-palace-roman-wall-paintings>.)



existed at around 1172, at the latest. It sits on top of a Roman building. There are no strata between them and St. Ruel to house the urban jewel expected for Alfred. Yet, the splendour of the Roman period is well attested to. One has confirmed baths and temples. The wealthy had houses with glass windows and mosaic floors. A mysterious palace stands out with its magnificent wall murals. To mainstream researchers looking for Alfred's palace in the void between the Roman stratum and St. Ruel, it may mean nothing at

all. Yet, for those tracking Alfred within the Roman period, the palace may come closer to the habitat of this wearer of a Roman diadem than anything else.

The end of *Venta Belgarum/Wintanceastre* is also dated according to textbook chronology for Honorius, i.e. to the 4th/5th c. (by excavator Julian Richard). Stratigraphically it ends in the 230s. For Venta's pre-230-period nobody doubts the existence of ploughs and pots which means the Saxon kings could definitely make a living. Like the Franks on the Rhine, they were junior partners of the Romans, and, of course, tried in every way – from glass tableware to coinage – to imitate their cultural models as closely as possible: “The real triumph of Rome was to inspire in her subjects the desire to live according to the Roman way of life” (Musset 1993, 229).

That no names of Roman-British estates (*villae rusticae*) have survived in the names of Saxon villages is due to the fact that England's country side was mostly settled by Saxons etc., but not by native Latin speakers from Italy. The appearance of the Anglo-Saxons as a mix of Germanic and Roman cultures was seen long ago (Musset 1993, 106). But how can two groups mix if the first has already completely vanished by the time the second group was slowly starting to arrive?

What to make of Alfred's war against Viking warriors, now dated to the late 9th c. CE? Most probably it took place as a war against Danes trying to invade England after the plague-ridden crisis in the time of Marcus Aurelius (170s CE=870s). Offa of Mercia also fights a war against Vikings (supposedly a century earlier, e.g., at Lindisfarne). Most probably both Viking wars occur in the same late 2nd c. CE period. Because of his dominance in these defensive campaigns, Alfred manages to gain supremacy over Offa's Mercia, too.

How can the two Viking wars boil down to just one? That is due to the triplication of the 1-230s-period to the 290-520s-period as well as to the 700-930s-period. The 600-1000 time span for the last time-block holds one century more than the 1-300, and 300-600 spans. That's why the additional century (600-700) creates datings that tear parallel rulers, like, e.g., Offa and Alfred, some 100 years apart. It is this 600-700 period that is responsible for the darkest part (825/850-930/950) of the medieval dark ages. It also creates the, as yet unexplained, gap between Abbasid and Fatimid coins. The latter's main body of coins reaches its peak with Caliph Al-Ma'mun (786-833): “From 833 to 946, no important changes in calligraphy or style occurred” (Ali 2004, 6). Fatimid



coins become identifiable by individual rulers only after 953, with Caliph Al-Mu'izz (Ali 2004, 10). The period of 833 to 956 provides the hyper-dark age in question. That's why in the overview below Offa and Alfred appear in the same time slot. It shows the author's tentative dates for England's history in the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium on the left, and textbooks dates on the right.

	<b>Anglo-Saxons in a stratigraphy-based chronology.</b>	<b>Anglo-Saxons in textbook chronology.</b>	
<b>10th/11th c.</b>	Completion of England's Christianisation after fear-inflicting disasters with Pope Gregory around 1000 CE.	2nd Christianisation of England with (601) letter of Pope Gregory.	<b>6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> c.</b>
<b>After 930s (= after 230s/530s)</b>	<i>Heptarchy</i> (seven kingdoms) after fall, in the 230s=930s, of Romans and their Anglo-Saxon junior partners.	<i>Heptarchy</i> (seven kingdoms). Saxon kingdoms currently dated after 600 with no traces left.	<b>10<sup>th</sup> c.</b>
<b>930s (=230s=530s)</b>	Conflagration crushing the Roman Empire with disasters and plague with ensuing intensification of Christianity.	- Plague, disastrous fires at Yeavinger - Disappearance of Christianity - Anglo-Saxons lacking houses, ploughs and pottery but have burials with 1 <sup>st</sup> -3rd c. Roman artifacts (West Stow)	<b>-6<sup>th</sup> c. -410 -5<sup>th</sup> c.-900s</b>
<b>9th/10th c. (=2nd/3rd c.)</b>	Offa, Alfred etc. prefer different brands of Christianity (Offa's monotheist/Arianist Arab coin). Viking wars are Danish raids of the crisis under Marc Aurel when attacks from Spain (Moors) to Parthia have to be checked,	Offa, Alfred etc.whose Viking wars are lacking a convincing historical context.	<b>9th c.</b>
<b>870s (=170s)</b>	Christianisation of Saxons and Romans in England after fear-inflicting plague-crisis under Marcus Aurelius.		
<b>850-875 (=150s=450s)</b>	Chauci pirates.	Chauci pirates.	<b>5<sup>th</sup> c.</b>
<b>740s (=40s)</b>	Claudius intervenes in England.	Claudius conquers England.	<b>43</b>
<b>700-720 (=1-20)</b>	Saxons continue to defend themselves against Roman competitors under Diocletian, settle side by side with Romans.	Saxons (Chauci and Cherusci) threaten England under Diocletian.	<b>285/286</b>
<b>650 (=1st c. BCE)</b>	Julius Caesar (55/54 BCE) invades England claimed by Franks and Saxons too.	Julius Caesar (55/54 BCE) invades England.	<b>55/54 BCE</b>

Coins of Umayyads and Abbasids are found together with Carolingian as well as Anglo-Saxon pieces all the way up to Norway (Kaupang). Wherever the Germanic groups move chronologically the Arabs have to follow. If Charlemagne and Offa belong to the Roman period (with its date corrected from the 1st/3rd c. to the 8th/10th c.), Harun Al-Rashid (786-809) has to join them. By doing so, the greatest mystery of Arab and Islamic history finds a solution. Today we do not understand why Arabs from the time of Caesar (1<sup>st</sup> c. BCE) to the 7<sup>th</sup> century CE had no coinage and not a single piece of writing that is attributable to an identifiable person. How had the Arabs managed, since the 8th c. CE, to dominate long distance business from Mesopotamia to Scandinavia after having passed 700 years without being able to issue money or to sign contracts? Why would they imitate Roman art, like millefiori glass, 700 years later? Yet, if Abbasids are Roman period Arabs such questions become obsolete (Heinsohn 2013b).

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Roman millefiori glas bowl of the 1st c. CE.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(<a href="http://www.e-tiquities.com/sites/default/files/imagecache/product/SC21653-2.jpg">http://www.e-tiquities.com/sites/default/files/imagecache/product/SC21653-2.jpg</a>.)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Abassid millefiori glas bowl supposedly copied some 700 years later in the 8th/9th.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(<a href="http://www.christies.com/lotfinder/ZoomImage.aspx?image=http://www.christies.com/lotfinderimages/d56712/d5671208&amp;IntObjectID=5671208">http://www.christies.com/lotfinder/ZoomImage.aspx?image=http://www.christies.com/lotfinderimages/d56712/d5671208&amp;IntObjectID=5671208</a>)</p>
	

After stratigraphically rejoining the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 8<sup>th</sup> c., separated by some 700 years to obey textbook chronology, Arabs become regular people again. They write and mint coins within the Roman period like the Franks and Saxons, too. They no longer sheepishly have to copy Roman millefiori glass bowls some 700 years behind time. The 700 years of assumed Arab/Islamic primitivism are

simply fictitious years (see Heinsohn 2013b). Abbasid building strata, of course, are as rare as Carolingian or Anglo-Saxon strata. They, too, must be located inside the Roman period, but not after it, as is also indicated by millefiori bowls. Where Abbasid structures are found separately, excavators are surprised to find, in the 8th/9th c., the 700 year older Persian style of Ardashir (180-242 CE; Bloom/Blair 2009, 79). Where stratigraphies exist, Fatimid strata of the 10th c. CE onwards are found directly on top of Roman strata dated 300-400 years earlier, to Late Antiquity. Hisn al-Bab/al-Qasr, on the Nile frontier between Egypt and Nubia, provides a famous example: “The fortress housed a Fatimid garrison at one time, and may perhaps have been the base for the Fatimid official in charge of border control. [...] Two separate phases were identified at Hisn al-Bab. The identification of an earlier, Late Roman, fortress of the 6th-7th century was unexpected. This fortress included a large enclosure on the gebel top, walls running down the slope to the river under the later fortress” (ÖAI n.y.).

**Three views Hisn al-Bab/al-Qasr where a Fatimid fortress of the 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> c. CE sits right on top of Roman remains.**

(<http://www.oeai.at/index.php/hisn-al-bab.html>.)

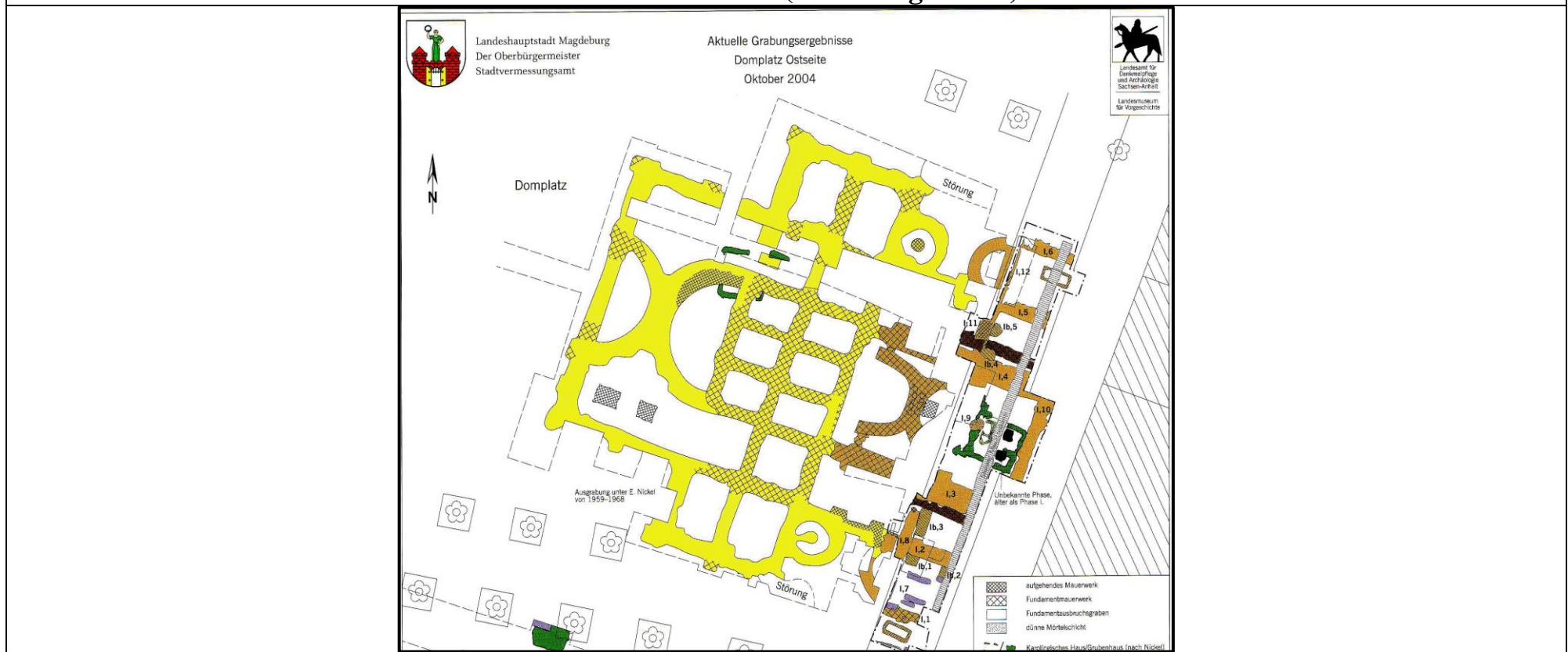


It is not understood why there are no 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. Roman strata at Hisn al-Bab, although Egypt became Roman as early as the 1<sup>st</sup> c. BCE. Only by correctly identifying the strata of High and Late Antiquity as one and the same (nowhere are they found on top of each other) can one comprehend that Hisn al-Bab's 300 of the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. do not represent a barren period but a non-existent one.

Interestingly, Jewish historiography has a strong feeling for the massive time span within the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium CE that is so difficult to support with evidence: “Very few Hebrew manuscripts of the Bible have come down to us from the ‘Silent Period’ – between the 2<sup>nd</sup> century, when the last of the Dead Sea Scrolls were written, and the 10<sup>th</sup> century, when the Aleppo Codex was produced” (Israel Museum 2010).

As in England, and on the continent too, the remains of Saxons must be searched for in the Romand period (1-230s=700-930s). By applying this approach it immediately becomes evident that Magdeburg, the Saxon capital on the river Elbe, follows a pattern

**Groundplan of parts of Magdeburg’s so-called “northern” church in Roman design and technology (41 m wide) that was discovered in 2001 (Archäologie 2005).**





comparable to Ingelheim or Aachen where villas of Roman design were succeeded by non-Roman churches. At Magdeburg there is a new beginning, under Otto I (936-973), with a major church on the southside of the Domplatz. Yet, it remains unclear what dwellings the Saxons had used before the 10<sup>th</sup>. Their history from the 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> c. CE is, indirectly, furnished by the stories about the Frankish wars against them. However, material remains that could support the reports of Saxon power and belligerence are extremely difficult to come by. But, in 2001, Magdeburg made the news all over Germany. New excavations had brought to light foundations of a massive building just north of the Ottonian church.


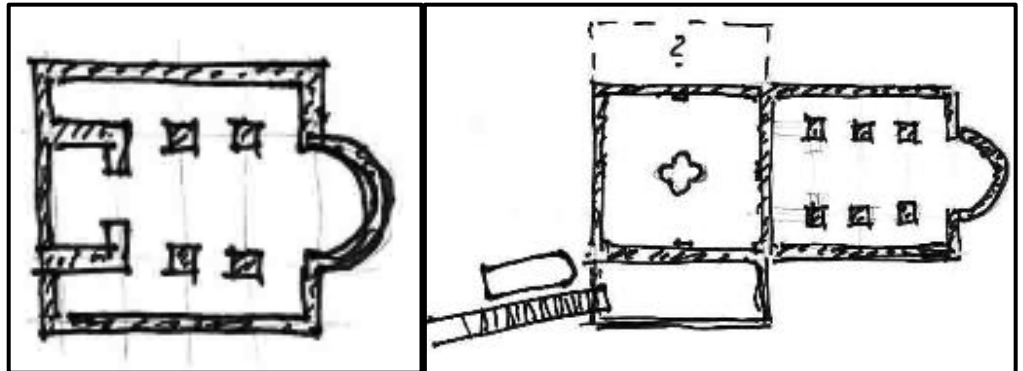
The archaeologists decided to identify the newly discovered building as a church, too. Otto I is now believed to have built, during the 950s CE, *two* domes simultaneously side by side, the medieval southern church (located under the Gothic dome of the early 13<sup>th</sup> c., and still standing today) plus the sensationally Roman-looking “northern” church. It is one of the „largest known sacral buildings north of the Alps in the Ottonian period.” It stunned everybody not only because it was huge (41 m wide; length not yet known). Even more intriguing was the design. It was built in Roman outline with Roman columns, Roman marble, as well as Roman *opus sectile* floors (Archäologie 2005, 55). What to do with a Roman building at such a late date?

There is no positive proof that the building has even served as a church. Graves dug into the structure are taken as an indicator of a sacral function. They could have been dug after the destruction. It is believed that Otto I, in the 950s, had bought all these luxurious materials via an international spolia trade. Yet, it is not understood why this magnificent building was then disrespectfully demolished, and its superb Roman elements turned into spolia for a second time. Many items (column stumps, friezes) are still visible today in secular buildings and churches of the Elbe-Saale territories, as well as in churches of Magdeburg proper. Who could have dared to wipe out such a masterpiece? No records exist for either its erection or its disappearance.

Beyond doubt are the Roman character of the building, as well as its devastating destruction. For mainstream experts, of course, a Roman building in the 10<sup>th</sup> century is not easily digestible. With the author's equation of 230s = 930s the Magdeburg building was brought low in the conflagration that destroyed the Roman Empire and other territories, as well, including Slavic lands east of Magdeburg: “There was a rapid, sometimes catastrophic, collapse of many of the pre-existing tribal centres. These events were

accompanied by the permanent or temporary depopulation of former areas of settlement. Within a short time new centres representative of the Piast state arose on new sites, thus beginning [in 966] the thousand-year history of the Polish nation and state” (Buko 2011, 464; see also Heinsohn 2013a;d).

Pre-930, i.e. Roman period Magdeburg, on the Elbe high bank, comes out of the 230s = 930s cataclysm heavily damaged. It is this event that smashes the “northern” church. As in Anglo-Saxon England, and in the Frankish territories along the Rhine, the Saxons, too, had to be content with poorer beginnings. Otto’s southern (and only) dome in Magdeburg, characterized by much simpler architecture, provides one example.

<p><b>Magdeburg and Quedlinburg in late 10<sup>th</sup> c. Saxony.</b> (<a href="http://meistersaal.files.wordpress.com/2010/08/karte.jpg">http://meistersaal.files.wordpress.com/2010/08/karte.jpg</a>)</p>	<p><b>10<sup>th</sup> c. churches (980-990; 997 CE) on the castle hill of Quedlinburg that were preceded by Roman period artifacts and houses currently dated 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> c. CE.</b></p>
 <p>A map of Saxony and surrounding regions in the late 10th century. The map shows various territories and cities, including Hamburg, Bremen, Magdeburg, Quedlinburg, and Stettin. Major rivers like the Elbe and Rhine are depicted. The North Sea (NORDSEE) is visible to the north. The map also shows neighboring regions like Flandern, Köln, and Mainz.</p>	<p>(<a href="http://www.m-meisegeier.homepage.t-online.de/Quedlinburg.htm">http://www.m-meisegeier.homepage.t-online.de/Quedlinburg.htm</a>.)</p>  <p>Two architectural floor plans of churches in Quedlinburg. The left plan shows a rectangular church with a central cross and a semi-circular apse on the right side. The right plan shows a similar church but with a more complex layout, including a central cross and a semi-circular apse, and a small structure to the left. A question mark is placed above the right plan.</p>

At Quedlinburg, another major Saxon center, the situation is confusing in a different way. Magdeburg has a massive building in the style of the Roman period in the 10<sup>th</sup> c. (pre-930s [=pre-230s] to this author against the assumed late 10<sup>th</sup> c.). It is contingent with Otto's dome after the 950s. Quedlinburg has a settlement with Roman elements in Late Antiquity (4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> c.; Landesamt 2010, 10 ff.) that is – like in Bremen (see above p. 46) – followed by a hiatus right into Otto's 10<sup>th</sup> c. CE: “Under Quedlinburg's castle no medieval ware made earlier than the 10<sup>th</sup> c. has been found. Obviously the castle hill was not settled between the Roman imperial period and the 10<sup>th</sup> c. CE. The first proven construction on the hill, therefore, can hardly have been built before the 10<sup>th</sup> c. CE” (Leopold 2010, 14; reference M. Meisegeier).

Thus, we have three elements to fill Saxony's 1<sup>st</sup> to early 10<sup>th</sup> c. CE: (1) no buildings but Roman artifacts for the 1st-3rd c. CE; (2) buildings plus the same type of Roman artifacts for Late Antiquity (4th/5th c.); (3) neither buildings nor artifacts but stories of Frankish wars against Saxons for the 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> c. CE. There is hard evidence (buildings plus Roman artifacts) only for the second period. The remaining 700 years are empty. Since the Frankish wars against the Saxons belong to Charlemagne's Roman period the third period (8<sup>th</sup>- early 10<sup>th</sup> c. CE) is as Roman as the second one. The first period (no buildings but Roman artifacts) is identical with the second. This leads to the following outline of German Saxon history in the first millennium CE.

<b>Elements for first millennium Saxon Germany (focus on Magdeburg and Quedlinburg).</b>			
<b>8<sup>th</sup> - early 10<sup>th</sup> c. CE</b> equals 4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> as well as 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> c. CE.	<b>Written material:</b> Reports of Frankish wars against Saxons.	<b>Small finds:</b> Roman artifacts from Quedlinburg, Roman <i>opus sectile</i> etc. from Magdeburg's “northern” church.	<b>Buildings:</b> Settlement at Quedlingburg; “northern” church at Magdeburg.

In Jewish historiography there exists a feeling that something serious is missing in the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium CE: “Very few Hebrew manuscripts of the Bible have come down to us from the ‘Silent Period’ – between the 2<sup>nd</sup> century, when the last of the Dead Sea Scrolls were written, and the 10<sup>th</sup> century, when the Aleppo Codex was produced” (Israel Museum 2010).

## V Summary

For nearly a quarter of a century (Illig/Niemitz 1991), the historicity of Charlemagne and the Carolingians has been challenged. The ensuing controversies are still raging unabated. Both sides of the debate present powerful arguments. Mainstream scholars focus on Carolingian coinage found from Scandinavia to Southern Europe.

The dissidents have never found a convincing way to refute that evidence. Instead, they counterattack by pointing out the mysterious rarity of all other varieties of material evidence. Agricultural tools and estates, armour and barracks, sculpture and the arts are either missing or easily attributable to pre- or post-Carolingian periods.

Mainstream archaeologists and historians, time and again, emphasize that Carolingian coinage carries imperial Roman iconography. They take pride in identifying the Roman designs of Charlemagne's villas at Ingelheim and Aachen. Yet, they explain away this clearcut "Romanness" as a sentimentality of the prime Carolingian leader who tries, some 700 years on, to draw strength from the vanished empire.

The dissidents use mainstream's accentuation of Charlemagne's Romanness for a "we-told-you-so." The antique look of Frankish villas does not demonstrate a fashionable design but is proof that the buildings are not Frankish at all but Roman. Therefore, there is not one millimeter of stratigraphy to house Charlemagne or his contemporaries, especially the Saxon arch-enemies in Northern Germany and England.

Yet, mainstream's huge army of learned women and men is not ready to retreat. How can countless numbers of the most erudite scholars be wrong? It cannot be by chance, they stress with all due justification, that the sources, however bloated, warped, and exaggerated, point to Herstal, Ingelheim or Aachen as Carolingian strongholds. It must have been Pepin's or Charles' boundless passion for imperial portraits and marble columns that led to the erection of aulæ, exedras, and thermal baths. The same sources mention hundreds of rural estates of the Carolingian period. Mainstream scholars believe in them. The dissidents have honestly and carefully looked for them (Illig/Anwander 2002). Their overwhelmingly negative results are devastating for mainstream. Yet, the dissidents have only searched post-Roman strata. The numerous Roman period estates buried under soil all over Germany



(and the rest of Europe) were never even considered as candidates for Carolingian sites. Mainstream scholars cannot defend themselves because they, too, would never think of locating Carolingians within Roman strata. The stalemate between both schools of thought is unavoidable because the antagonists have one very strong conviction in common: Carolingians did not belong to the Roman period.

Both sides are so fiercely engaged in defending their dug-in positions (e.g., Gießauf/Lehner/Illig 2013) that they cannot see the obvious. Only the Roman period structures, now dated from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 3<sup>rd</sup> c., lend themselves as habitats for 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c. Franks (at Herstal, Ingelheim etc.), or their Anglo-Saxon counterparts at *Verlamchester/Verulamium* (Offa) or *Venta Belgarum/Wintanceastre* (Alfred). Time and again, the same evidence emphasizes that the Roman period, dated either to the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE or to the 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> c. (Late Antiquity), must belong to 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c. because only there does it have a direct stratigraphical hookup with the succeeding Ottonians of the 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> c. CE in Northern Europe, or, e.g., the Fatimid Arabs in the Near East.

From the late 8th c. (=1<sup>st</sup>=4<sup>th</sup> c.) onwards, Franks are accepted as Roman *foederati*. They become junior partners with Rome, which employs Frankish corps all over Europe. It falls upon the Franks to help keep the Saxons at bay who, since the late 7<sup>th</sup> c. (=1<sup>st</sup> c. BCE), compete with Rome for the possession of England where, in the end, they also cooperate by running many of the estates and the smaller cities. This side by side existence can be formalized as follows.

Post-930s after <i>Fimbulwinter</i> .	Justinian (Hagia Sophia).	Theudebert I (Aachen's Octagon).	Heptarchy ("late" Anglo-Saxon churches).
	<b>Romans</b>	<b>Franks</b>	<b>Anglo-Saxons</b>
8th- early 10th c. CE (equals 1st-3rd, and 4th-6th c.).	Their multi-national empire includes Frankish and Anglo-Saxon realms. The Franks become a strong junior partner.	They are part of the Roman Empire that they help defend against Saxons in the East but also against Moors/Saracenes in Spain that may have earned Charlemagne the IMP AUG-title .	They are part of Roman Britain where they dominate estates and smaller cities. They are crushed by the same conflagration that hit the empire everywhere in the 930s (=530s=230s).

## Summary overview of mainstream, dissident, and this author's chronological evaluation of Carolingian stratigraphy with focus on Charlemagne's Ingelheim's residence.

Mainstream scholars	Dissidents (Illig and followers)	Stratigraphy (this author)
10 <sup>th</sup> c. Ottonians, building a new church, immediately follow Carolingians after damages of Ingelheim's villa (in Roman design) around 930 CE.	10 <sup>th</sup> c. Ottonians do not follow Carolingians because the latter never existed. Ottonians, with a new church, succeed Late Antiquity of the 6 <sup>th</sup> /7 <sup>th</sup> c. CE.	10 <sup>th</sup> c. Ottonians immediately follow Carolingians after catastrophic damages (ca. 930 CE) of Ingelheim's Roman villa followed by a new church..
Carolingian Ingelheim has to be dated long after the Roman period (of either 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> or 4 <sup>th</sup> -to 6 <sup>th</sup> c. CE) to the 8 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> c. CE. Ingelheim only appears to be Roman. <b>Carolingians existed as a copy of 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE. Romans (<i>Restitutio Imperii</i>).</b> Admittedly though, there is no primary 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> c. CE Roman stratum at Ingelheim to be re-incarnated some 700 years later.	Carolingian Ingelheim cannot be dated to the 8 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> c. CE but is a Roman building of the 4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> c. CE. Yet, admittedly, there is no 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> c. Roman Ingelheim because there is no stratum between Ingelheim's 4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> c. and Ottonian 10 <sup>th</sup> century CE. <b>Charlemagne is fictitious. Since the Carolingians' 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c. is a phantom period they never existed.</b>	Carolingian Ingelheim is roughly 8 <sup>th</sup> -early 10 <sup>th</sup> c. with Charlemagne blossoming in the late 9 <sup>th</sup> c. CE. Ingelheim is not the 700 year later copy of a 2 <sup>nd</sup> c. villa but belongs to the Roman period (dated 700 years too early). <b>Carolingians were junior partners of Rome in the Roman period that is incorrectly dated to the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. CE but strata-wise belongs to the 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c CE.</b>
Ingelheim's 8 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> c. CE water tunnel was once dated to the imperial period (1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> c.). Yet, it only appears to be Roman. It is a 700 year later copy.	Ingelheim's Roman water tunnel is definitely Roman of 4 <sup>th</sup> -to 6 <sup>th</sup> c. Late Antiquity was succeeded by some 300 phantom years including phantom Carolingians.	That experts have proposed 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> -to 6 <sup>th</sup> , and 8 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> c. for Ingelheim's (indeed Roman) water tunnel confirms the contemporaneity of all three periods.
Carolingians were real but neither belong to Rome's imperial 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> c. period nor to Late Antiquity (4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> c.). They are dated 8 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> c. CE.	Carolingians belong neither to a Roman or any post-Roman period because Charlemagne and the Carolingian Franks never existed.	Carolingians belong to the Roman period in which Charlemagne's Franks become Roman <i>foederati</i> in the 9 <sup>th</sup> (="2 <sup>nd</sup> " c.) CE.
Carolingian coins are genuine. Yet, their 2 <sup>nd</sup> c. CE Roman imperial portrait style comes 700 years too late. Why 9 <sup>th</sup> c. Carolingian coins (Louis the Pious) are lumped with 2 <sup>nd</sup> c. Roman coins (e.g., Truso/Poland) remains enigmatic.	Carolingian coins from Norway to Spain are seen as either highly dubious, fakes or an embarrassment. It remains an enigma why (and by whom) they were hidden in so many sites - sometimes (e.g., Truso/Poland) together with 700 year older Roman coins.	Carolingian coins are genuine. Their portraits must exhibit a 2 <sup>nd</sup> c. CE Roman imperial style because they belong to that period that is wrongly dated 700 years too early. That is why they are lumped with "2 <sup>nd</sup> c. Roman coins (Truso). "2 <sup>nd</sup> " is actually 9 <sup>th</sup> c. CE.
Saxons as arch enemies of Carolingians are enigmatic because their most famous English site, West Stow, only exhibits 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> Roman period material, not the expected 5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> /7 <sup>th</sup> c. CE of Late Antiquity.	Saxons as arch enemies of Carolingians should be non-existent too though at West Stow their strata exhibit 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> c. Roman material resembling the dissidents' 4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> c. CE for Ingelheim.	Saxons of West Stow with their Roman 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> c. material confirm their contemporaneity with 8 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> c. CE Carolingians exhibiting a 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> c. Roman style too.
There is no explanation for a 2 <sup>nd</sup> coming of Roman 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> c. CE architecture some 700 years later. <b>Although Ingelheim's 1<sup>st</sup> millennium CE has only some 300 years covered by archaeology a full run of 1000 years of history is fiercely defended.</b> Sites with three strata groups on top of each other (1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> c., 4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> /7 <sup>th</sup> c.; 8 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> c. CE) cannot be found anywhere.	A phantom period of some 300 years cuts (600-900) cuts Carolingians out of history. <b>Although Ingelheim's 1<sup>st</sup> millennium CE only has some 300 years covered by archaeology a full run of some 700 years of history is fiercely defended.</b> Sites with two Roman temple strata-groups on top of each other (4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> /7 <sup>th</sup> c. on 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> c.) cannot be found anywhere.	8 <sup>th</sup> to 10 <sup>th</sup> c. Ingelheim is neither (as in mainstream) a copy of 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> c. Roman villas nor (dissident view) a part of Late Antiquity (4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> c.). All three periods form just one ending in the 230s(=530s=930s), and succeeded by mid-10 <sup>th</sup> c. Ottonians. <b>With merely 300 years of archaeology there can only be 300 years of history. The 1st millennium keeps only 300 years.</b>

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