

Background on Franks

- Germanic people
- lived along the Rhine River
- loyal to kin, not king
- Clovis converted to Christianity- 481

Charlamange's Accomplishments

- created large empire made of self-sufficient manors
- courts kept order in kingdom
- collected taxes to pay for new learning center in Aachen - Charlemagne brought scholars

Division of the Frankish Empire

- kingdom divided into three parts after Charlamange's death
- Viking attacks plunge Europe into chaos

STEP 1

- Converted Germans to Christianity through war

STEP 2

- Prevented Muslims from expanding into Europe

STEP 3

- Put down a Saxon revolt by cutting off heads of leaders

Who Were the Vikings?

- Lived in present-day Norway + Denmark
 - Lifestyle based on sea and war
- Viking= Pirate
- Education was not important
- Married women were more respected than single ones
 - Could own land, get a divorce, participate in gov't
 - Women seen as village doctors
- Worshiped many gods- dragons displayed on ships
- Vikings did not wear horned helmets

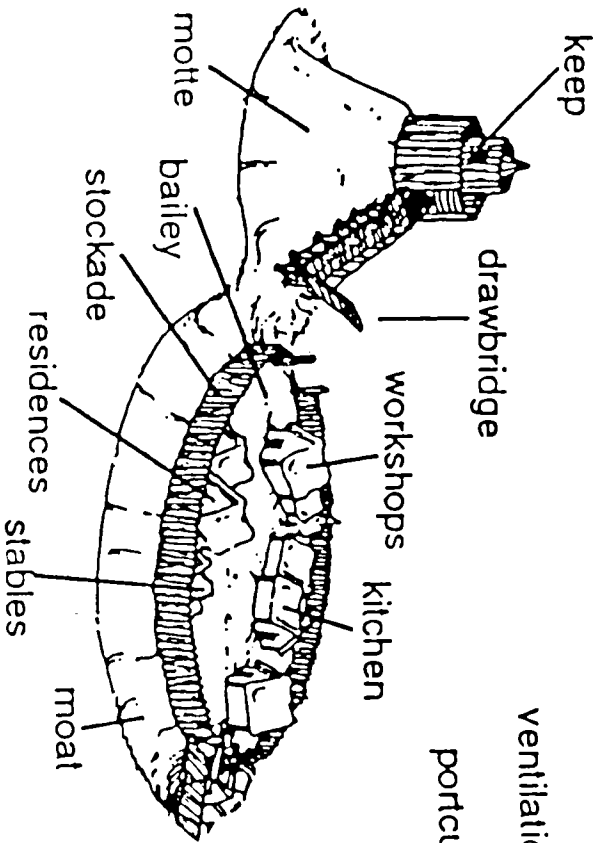
Where did they raid and why?

- Raided villages throughout Europe because their own land was useless
- Vikings were experienced sailors, traders, and explorers

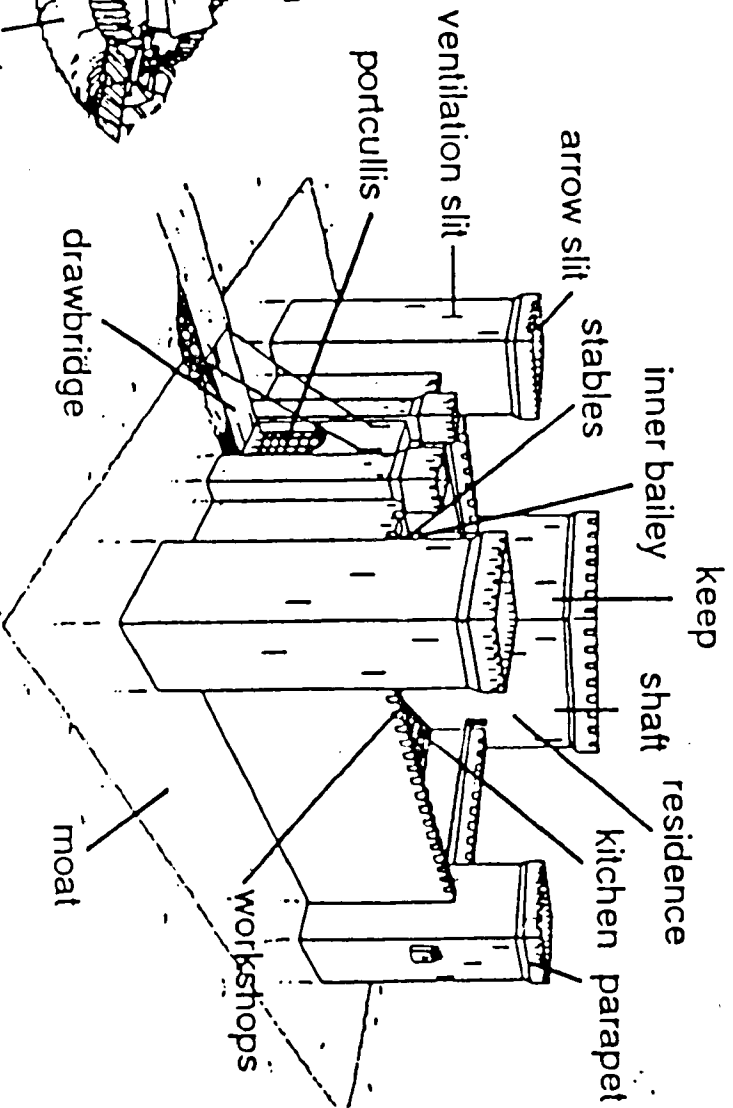
What was their impact on Europe?

- Feudalism started to protect Europeans from Vikings
- Compass created by Vikings to navigate Atlantic Ocean
- In 986, Leif Ericson discovered North America
 - First European discovery

Slide 3.2C: Medieval Castles



Motte and Bailey Castle



13th-Century Castle

Monarchs

- Lost their power after Charlamange died
- Had all the money/education

Lords and Nobles

- lived on manors in castles
- spent time hunting, defending land, watching the workers, and settling arguments

Knights

- trained warriors taught from the age of 7
- followed code of chivalry (ethics)
 - obey the lord; respect noblewomen
 - help people in trouble; fight fairly
- exchanged loyalty for land

Peasants

- 2 kinds- freemen and serfs
- freemen paid Lord for land/could move around
- serfs were prisoners of the manor
- couldn't own property or marry w/o lord's permission
- many tried to escape

Death of Edward

- King Edward of England dies w/o any children to succeed him
- before he died, Edward promised his cousin William the throne

Harold's Claim

- before meeting, Harold promises to give William throne if assembly selects Harold
- assembly selects Edward's brother-in-law b/ they don't like William
- Harold breaks promise to give William the throne

Hardrada's Claim

- King Hardrada of Normandy threatens war

Battle of Stamford

- English vs. Normans- England wins

Battle of Hastings

- England unprepared for next battle
- had to march 250 miles in 2 days
- During battle, William's army pretended to retreat, then swung around to win ("feigned withdrawal")

Importance

- Normans changed English traditions
- Introduced better castles, churches/ways to improve weaving
- William added English traditions to Norman culture

Magna Carta

- “The Great Charter”
- Limited power of the king
 - couldn't imprison without trial
 - couldn't raise taxes without permission
 - couldn't interfere with church
- kept monarchy in check for 600 years

King John

- cruel/unpopular king
- got throne after death of Richard
- call “Jackland” b/c inherited no land from father/no \$ to pay for defense of land
- raised taxes
- forced subjects to buy goods at higher prices
- ordered people to buy goods at high prices
- poor military leader
- very unpopular w/Pope-
EXCOMMUNICATED
- was forced to give control of land to lords/English people
- died one year after signing Magna Carta