



Saxon

Surrey

AD 410 – 1066

By the Late Roman period, the high cost of maintaining the army had put the economy under a large amount of pressure. In response to the threat of 'barbarian' invaders, Saxon allies were called in to aid the Britons, but eventually rebelled and came to control much of what is now England. As the Saxon settlers who first arrived were pagan – rather than Christian – their burials were either cremations often contained in ceramic urns or inhumations furnished with grave goods. As early structures were built out of timber and not easily found in excavation today, much of the evidence for early Saxon occupation comes from placenames. From about AD 700, the conversion to Christianity also resulted in more written sources.

