

SUBJECT: History

UNIT: Y11 Norman England-Control



Key dates - Rebellions

25 December 1066 – William is crowned King of England after he receives an oath of loyalty from Edgar, Edwin and Morcar.

March 1067 – William returned to Normandy and there was unrest in Herefordshire and Wales. Edric the Wild gained the support of the Welsh princes and stole property along the Welsh border.

December 1067 – William returns to England and distributes land in area of potential rebellion to loyal barons (The Feudal System).

William leads his forces personally and defeats the rebel Edric the Wild.

1068 – Rebellions in the south west lead to the siege of Exeter by William. The city of Exeter rebelled against William's rule. The city fell after 18 days. Earls Edwin and Morcar and Edgar the Atheling flee to the north. They gain Malcom King of Scotland as an ally who had just married William's sister.

January 1069 – Rebels burn down Norman Earl Robert of Commines to death in Durham. Rebellions spread to York. The Vikings invade England with 290 ships and join up with the English earls and Edgar. William paid the Vikings to leave.

1070 – The Harrying of the North. William laid waste to vast amount of land around York. He burnt and salted the land. He killed the livestock. This led to starvation in the north and migration to the south.

Hereward the Wake led a rebellion with the English earls. They set up a base on the Isle of Ely. They launched guerrilla style attacks and looted the abbey in Peterborough. William besieged Ely and tried to build a rampart across the marshland. This failed and the rebels were betrayed by monks who told them about a secret passage. The rebels surrender and Hereward disappears.

1072 – Scotland invades Norman England

1075 – The Revolt of the Norman earls. The Norman earls were unhappy that they did not have the same power as their fathers. They were supported by the king of France who wanted to reduce Normandy's power. The rebellion was dealt with by the king's regents Lanfranc and Odo.

The rebels were forced to retreat and tried to make peace with William, but they were beheaded or murdered.

1076 – The last English earl, Waltheof is killed by beheading. The Scottish raid in Northumbria.

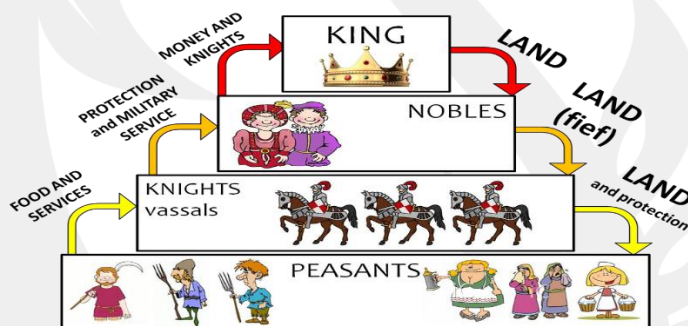
Once William was King, he needed to ensure that he kept the Anglo-Saxons (Nobles and peasants) under control. He did this by various methods including: Building castles, adapting the feudal system and commissioning the Domesday Survey.

Motte and Bailey Castles

What was the purpose of Norman castles?

Bases for offensive patrols, to attack angry Anglo-Saxons and to protect Normans from hostile locals.

Where were Norman castles built? Areas of potential rebellion/near existing towns/ on high ground/near river crossing or on the coast.



Feudal Pyramid of Power

The Domesday Survey

Why was it commissioned?



In 1085, William faced invasion from Danish Vikings. He called together a war council in Gloucester. He needed to enforce a geld to pay for his army. However, the invasion never happened. Soon after, William ordered an inventory to be drawn up for him to collect tax.

How was the information collected?



It is said that all major landowners had to send in lists of their manors and tenants, which were compared to existing tax records. Commissioners were then sent out to assess the situation on the ground, questioning local juries in detail.

What is important about the survey?

Domesday allowed William to ensure that he got as much money as possible from taxes. It also would ensure that William's barons did not get too powerful. The Domesday Book is important as it tells us a lot about life in England. It sheds light on population and wealth that people did or didn't have. It estimates the value of land under Edward the Confessor and King William and how this changed over the years.