

# The Danish Camp - Wie aus einem Traum ernst wurde



In Bedfordshire, in der Nähe von Bedford City, liegt das „Danish Camp“ gleich an den Ufern des Flusses Ouse. Es handelt sich hierbei um die Verwirklichung eines Traums

zweier „moderner“ englischer Wikinger: einmal ein eigenes Langhaus besitzen, ein Schiff dazu, vielleicht soll eine Festung daraus entstehen, die mit Wikingern und Sachsen bemannt ist. In dieser Festung wird dann eine Halle stehen, das Zentrum eines jeden Kriegers, wo gefeiert wird und die alten Sagas wieder lebendig werden.

Aus dem Traum wurde ernst, und heute ist das ganze schon beachtlich fortgeschritten. Doch lassen wir den Schöpfer der Idee einmal selbst zu Worte kommen, denn was er zu erzählen hat, klingt beinahe wie ein Stück aus einer der alten Wikingersagas – und eigentlich ist es das ja auch:

*Few men now remember how, in ages past, the Vikings overran nearly all the land of England, so that all Northumbria, East*

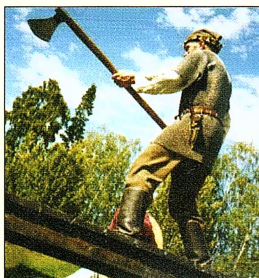


*Anglia and Mercia were theirs, and only Ælfred, King of the West Saxons, still opposed the Pagans' might.*

*Today they talk of the Danelaw as of a place far away from the sweet south-lands of England, yet in Ælfred's time, it extended south to London, and all the land north and east of the Lea was lost. And Bedford, too, back then, bowed to the barbarian and then there was built a place now known as the Danish Camp.*

*Returning over the whales' way from the land of the Jamts, my*

*friend and shield-companion dreamed a dream: that he would hew out a hall of Viking type in some part of our homeland.*



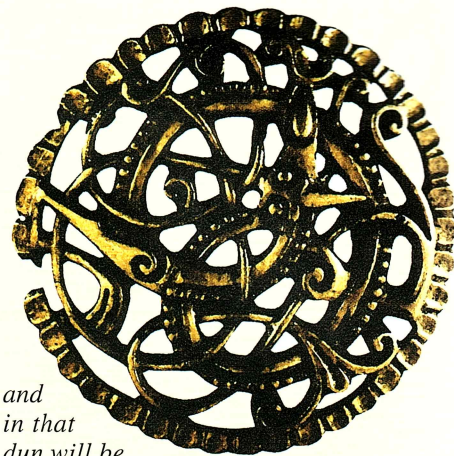
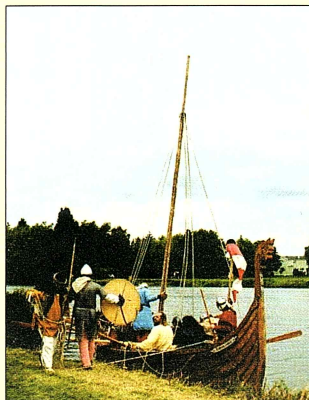
*And so I said I would seek a site where such a thing might be, never thinking that God might be so good as to give us every part of that*

*place he dreamed of; a dun on the river's side, built in time long-past by the Vikings themselves and dug about with a ditch or dike that stands still on that strand to this day. We made ourselves known to the owners and were received as friends for, as Fate would have it, they too had dreamed the dream of bringing back to life the long-forgotten Longhall of the Danes.*

*And I myself, for serving the dreams of others, am rewarded with my own, for now, we mean to make a Longship, too, like the leaping wave-courser that carried those who constructed that camp so long ago.*

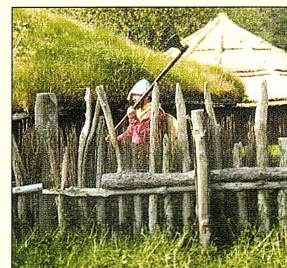
*The Danish Camp's in Bedfordshire, by famous Bedford City. The River Great Ouse, deep and wide, washes its walls on the northern side and, when begins this ditty, it is held by Roy and Gail Lee who run a restaurant*

*there, wide-famed for its food and the welcome that goes with it. There, in that Norwegian lodge, we have begun to tell the tale of the beginnings of the place and soon we plan to people it with Viking and Saxon re-enactors who will bring to life that bloody time when first the Danes came there. So shall it grow again as it did before, first, with the coming of the Longship and then with the building of the dun*



*and in that dun will be a hall, the hall of my friend's dream.*

*Forgive an old scop's desire to turn his tale into a saga. In fine, we have agreed with Gail and Roy that we will try to rebuild the Danish Camp as it might have been in its days of glory. Our first event was a re-enactment of Saxon and Viking life and warfare.*



*This took place on April the 18th and 19th, this year (Good Friday and Easter Saturday). We then plan to join other re-enactors at West Stowe Anglo-Saxon Village in Suffolk for the remainder of the Easter Weekend. We are now considering a second show at Danish Camp on Midsummer's Day (21st June).*

*Come and see our shows (or take part in them), Danish Camp*



*and the Gesithas will welcome you to live our dream with us. As we say in the Gesithas, "Why watch the soaps, when you can live the Sagas?"* ♪allen

Mehr Infos gibt es unter [www.danish-camp.20m.com/index.html](http://www.danish-camp.20m.com/index.html). Wer das Danish Camp einmal besuchen möchte, findet es hier:  
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Mehr Adressen von Wikingergruppen, -projekten, -händlern und Veranstaltern von Wikingerevents finden Sie im großen Mittelalteradressbuch A-Z