In 1996, Lamarcq and Rogge published a book called ‘De taalgrens: van de oude tot de nieuwe Belgen’. While the scholarly framework has changed in these past 20 years, their interdisciplinary approach of combining toponymical, literary and material sources to study sociocultural change proved very successful. In their work, early Germanic speaking people already emerged in the Late Iron Age in northern Gaul, but received more attention as 3rd century disruptive raiders, transforming into submissive laeti, peaceful immigrant-settlers, opportunistic mercenaries or serviceable auxiliarii for the 4th and 5th centuries. These Germanic communities are believed to have shaped the basis for the following Frankish culture and Merovingian kingdom. This historical narrative indicates that there are plenty of Germanic speaking groups present in the Gallo-Roman north, yet it falls to archaeology (and historical linguistics) to find tangible traces left behind by these people. Material markers provide us with some indication of Germanic hotspots in the Late Roman period, or can show us how their integration into the Gallo-Roman society took place and their subsequent social mobility to the top of the ranks in the Roman Empire. The complex hybridization and regional reorientation of the 4th and 5th centuries form an interesting transformation period in northern Gaul, one of which the effects are still visible in the present-day.