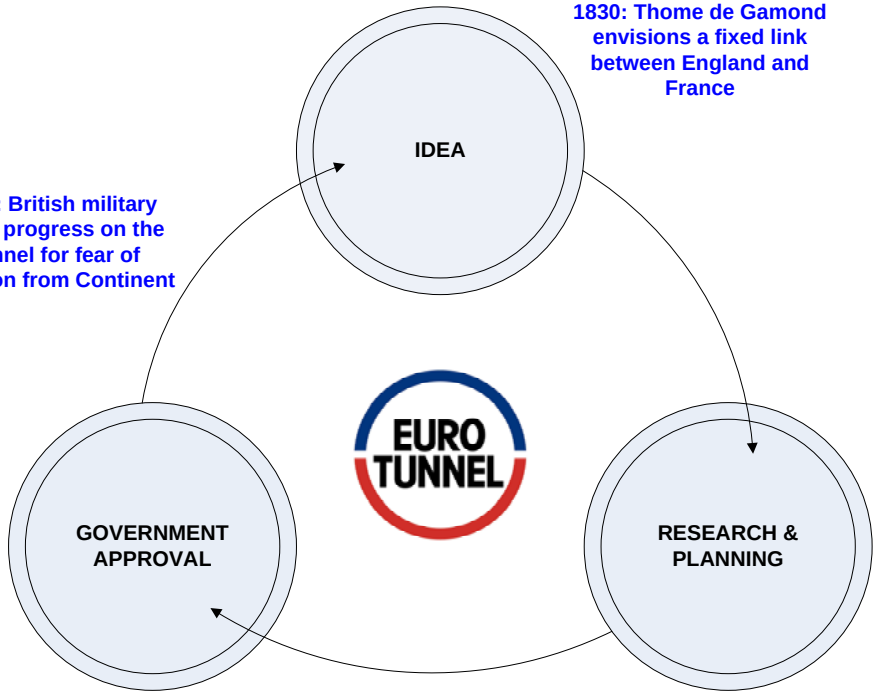


1830: Thome de Gamond envisions a fixed link between England and France

1957: Channel Study Group assembled

1985: Invitation to Promoters by British Minister of Transport encourages submission of design ideas to British and French governments

1882: British military stops progress on the Tunnel for fear of invasion from Continent

1975: British legislation delay, tripling costs because of high speed rail anger public: project abandoned

1988: Construction begins, project is finished in 1994

1830-1870: De Gamond performs geological and hydrological surveys, plans for a twin-bored railway tunnel

1960: Channel Study Group conducts survey work, produces twin bored tunnel scheme

1985: Channel Tunnel Group & France Manche join forces to produce twin bored rail tunnel with service tunnel scheme

Other engineers and financiers (from England & France) back de Gamond's plan

1971: British Channel Tunnel Company and the Societe Francaise du Tunnel Sous la Manche sign agreement on risk capital and guaranteed loans

1986: CTG/France-Manche show project can rely only on private funding

1875: British Parliament and French Assembly approve feasibility studies, construction under government supervision

1973: PM Edward Heath and President Georges Pompidou sign treaty

1987: PM Margaret Thatcher and President Francois Mitterrand sign treaty