
HISTORICAL BLUNDER DUE TO SPELLING MISTAKE

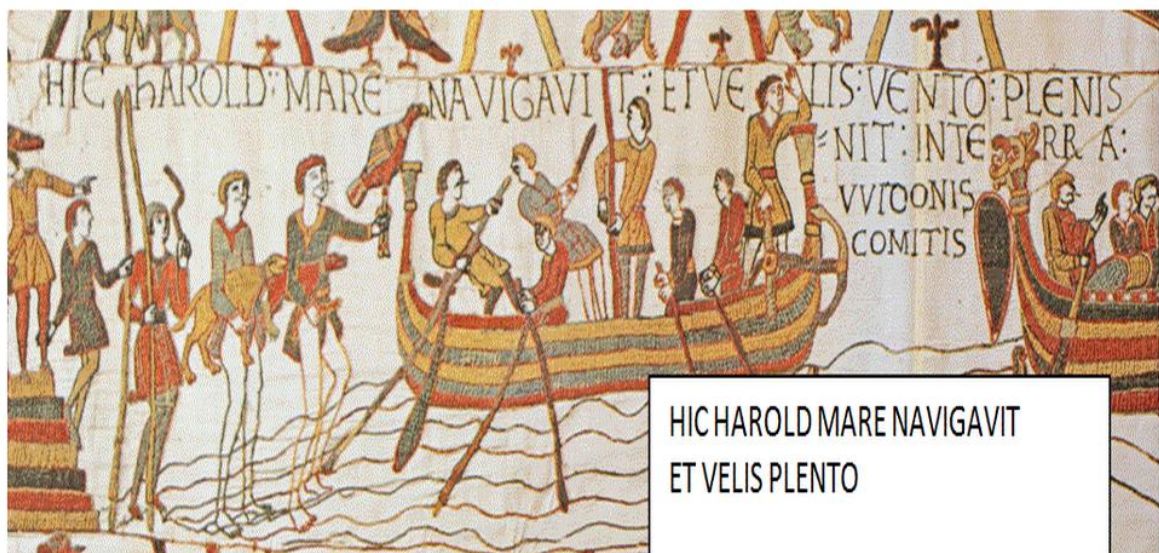
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It was long believed that the so-called Bayeux Tapestry shows the events leading up to the Battle of Hastings in 1066, and that a picture towards the end of the tapestry shows King Harold being struck in the eye by an arrow. However, it is known that repairs have been made to the tapestry at different times, and needle holes in the linen at precisely this place suggest that what looks like an arrow may be a change to the original.

In general, it has of course also long been clear that the historical accuracy of the story was distorted due to political emphasis and propaganda, and especially by the point of view – English versus French – from which the story is told. There is now evidence that the original showed an English expeditionary force, which was fed up with the poor quality of English food – especially white sliced bread – and which set out to bring back the much better food for which France, even in those days, was famous. Several pictures in the tapestry show the soldiers having a barbecue, eating and drinking, and transporting wine barrels back to England.

Some illustrations of these events are shown below with their Latin explanations.

The English leave for France.



HIC HAROLD MARE NAVIGAVIT
ET VENTIS PLENIS

Here Harold sets sail with a full belly.

They have their first picnic on French soil.



HIC COQUITUR CARO
Here they have a barbecue.

HIC FERUNT PRANDIUM
Here they have lunch.



They set off home with French goodies.



HIC TRAHUNT CARRUM CUM VINO
Here they pull a cart with wine.

The notorious picture of Harold, showing the place where the baguette was later changed into an arrow.



A growing consensus amongst historians is that the picture originally showed him triumphantly holding aloft a French baguette.

The muddle probably originates in a spelling mistake by an uneducated monolingual English scribe.

What is traditionally known as the "Tapisserie de Bayeux" should in fact be the "Patisserie de Bayeux".