

War and Politics

Social and Economic Themes



c. 407

Gradual withdrawal of Roman authority

Faversham Stone Chapel: Roman Mausoleum re-used as a medieval chapel

Source: English Heritage: photograph © Mat Elliott, postcode: ME13 8RX

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c. 449

'The Kingdom of Kent is founded'

This is the traditional date for the arrival of Angles, Saxons, and Jutes in Kent led by the probably legendary Hengist and Horsa but immigration patterns in Kent were complex and patchy in the fifth and sixth centuries.

Hengist and Horsa arrive at Ebbsfleet, R. Verstegan, *A Restitution of Decayed Intelligence in Antiquities Concerning the Most Noble and Renowned English Nation* (London: 1655)

Social and Economic Themes

c. 550



Faversham 'settlement of the smiths'

There is a strong case for early Anglo-Saxon Faversham producing high status goods such as glassware and jewellery. Its place-name comes from 'faber' (Latin for a 'maker' or 'smith') and 'ham' (Old English for settlement).

A. Richardson, 'The Kingdom of Kent to 800' in S. Sweetinburgh, ed., *Early Medieval Kent* (2016), p. 34-35
Glass palm bowl and horse harness ornament both sixth century finds in King's Field, now in the British Museum

811



The name of 'Fefresham' is first recorded in a Royal Charter

The charter between King Coenwulf of Mercia and Archbishop Wulfred describes Faversham as '*oppidum regis quod ab incolis ibi Fefresham appellatur*' - the king's town which the inhabitants there call Fefresham.

Charter S. 168 (British Library Cotton Augustus ii 10, ninth century); Coenwulf gold coin from the British Museum

930

King Athelstan holds a 'national council' at Faversham

Athelstan was Alfred the Great's grandson. It was at such councils that King Athelstan's law-codes were issued which were vital instruments of government.

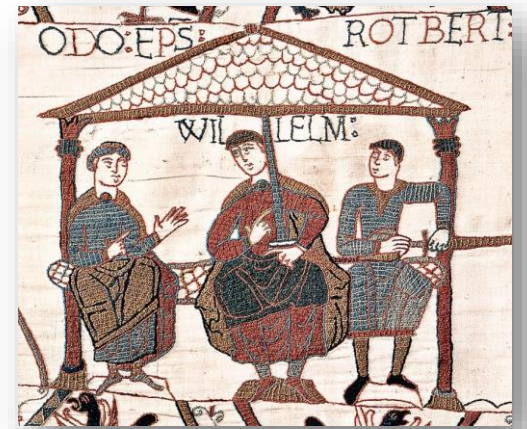
King Athelstan's empty tomb at Malmesbury Abbey (fifteenth century effigy)



1066

William the Conqueror wins the Battle of Hastings

Faversham remains a royal manor.



William with his brothers, Odo and Robert, depicted in the Bayeux Tapestry.

1069

The Faversham area is raided by the Danish fleet

The last Viking raids in Kent.

Barbarian invaders in *The Life of St Edmund*, c. 1130 (New York, Pierpont Morgan M 736, fol. 24)



1070

Grant of Faversham parish church of St Mary

William I grants St Mary's Church, Faversham to St Augustine's Abbey. The Abbey then rebuilds the old Saxon church.



1141



The Manor of Faversham is granted to William of Ypres

William of Ypres was Queen Matilda's kinsman and King Stephen's favourite. He was a man with useful Flemish mercenaries at his command and an essential ally during the Anarchy.

1147-8



- **The royal foundation of Faversham Abbey**
- Building work begins supervised by Queen Matilda and King Stephen. William of Ypres received lands at Milton Regis and Higham in exchange for the manor, which was given to the Abbot of Faversham.

- Depiction of King Stephen holding the abbey in Matthew Paris, *Historia Anglorum* British Library, Royal MS 14 C VII