

Rachel McColm - Battle of Agincourt

by Rachel McColm

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WAS THE
LONGBOW THE
DECISIVE
WEAPON AT THE
BATTLE OF
AGINCOURT?

Rachel McColm

CONTENTS

King Henry V

100 Years War

Siege of Harfleur

Battle of Agincourt

CONTENTS

Contributing Factors that led to an English Victory

- English Strategy
- Terrain of the Battleground
- Crowd Behaviours
- The Longbow and Bodkin Arrow

Was the Longbow the Decisive Factor at the Battle of Agincourt?

Questions

KING HENRY V

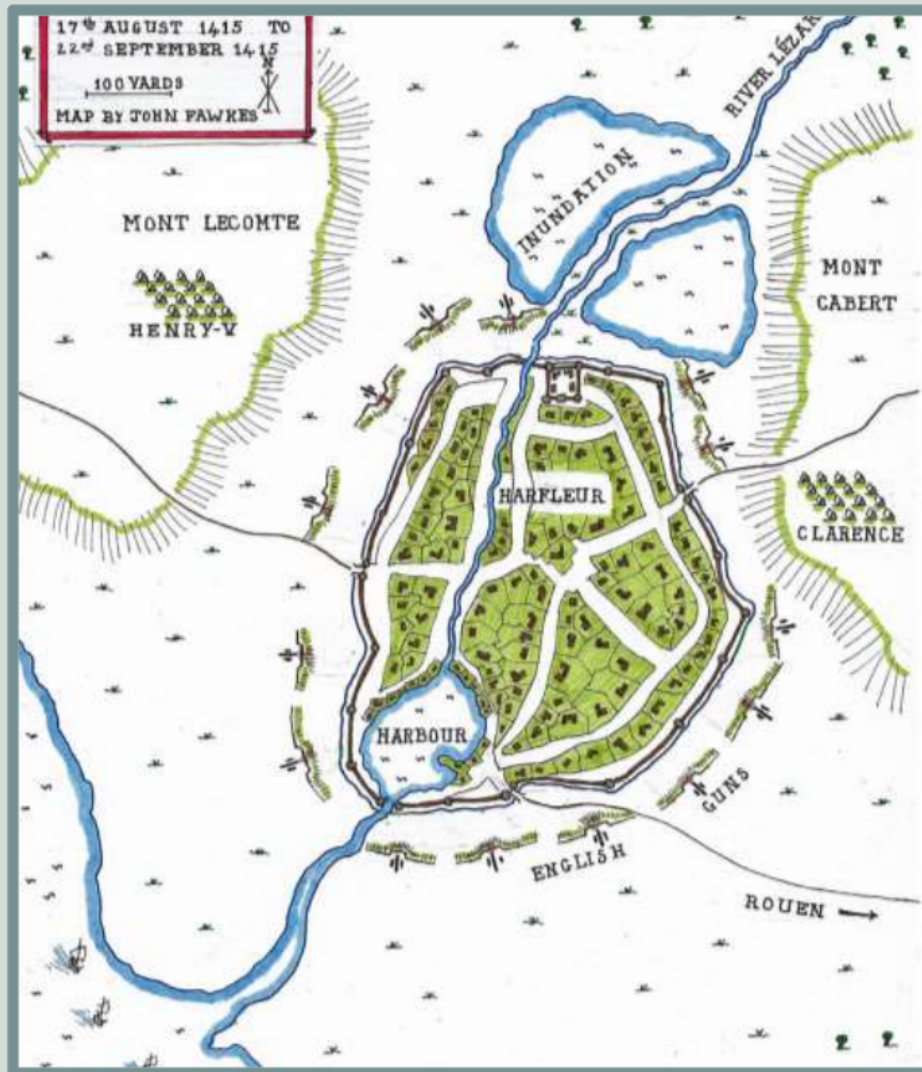
- 1413 Henry became a 26-year-old King
- Married Princess Catherine
- They had a son who would become Henry VI
- Died in 1422 of battle dysentery



100 YEARS WAR

1337-1453





SIEGE OF HARFLEUR

- 11300 English Soldiers:
 - 2300 men at arms
 - 9000 archers
- Population 5000
- Garrison of 250 troops
- Harfleur would concede to Henry V in September 1415

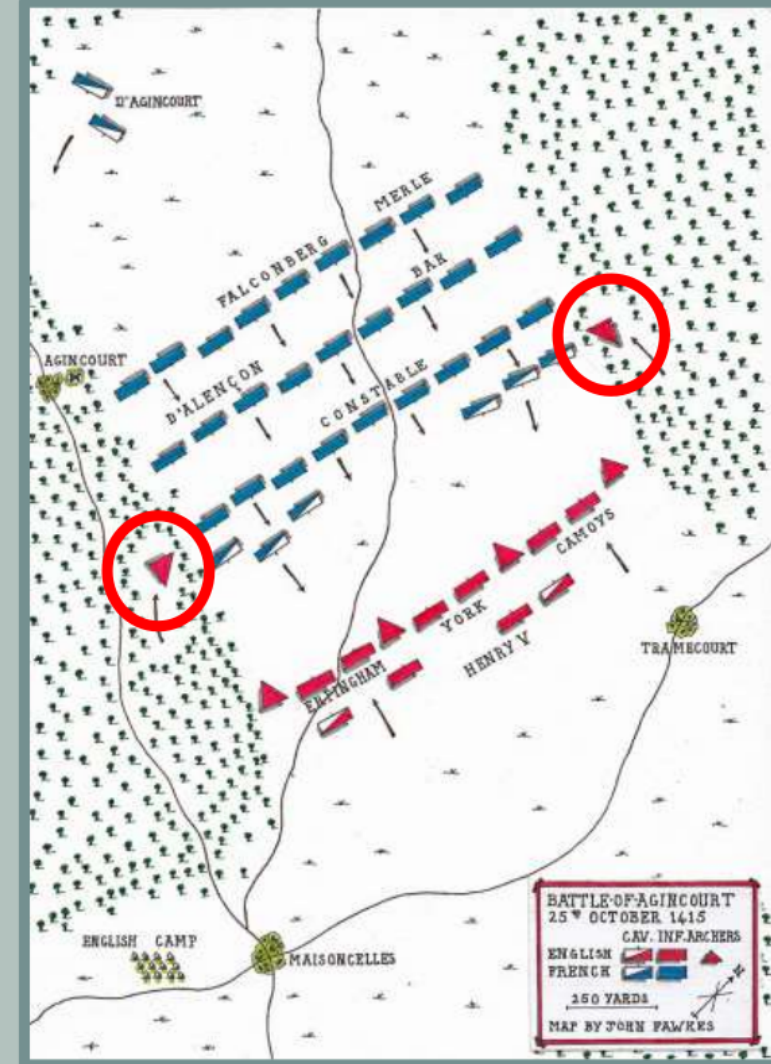
BATTLE OF AGINCOURT

- English Army of around 6000 men
- French Army of around 12000 men
- Men at arms were outnumbered 6:1 by the French



ENGLISH STRATEGY

- Englishmen mostly unarmored
- Provoking French into a narrowing battlefield
- Hidden archers
- Taking advantage of muddy terrain

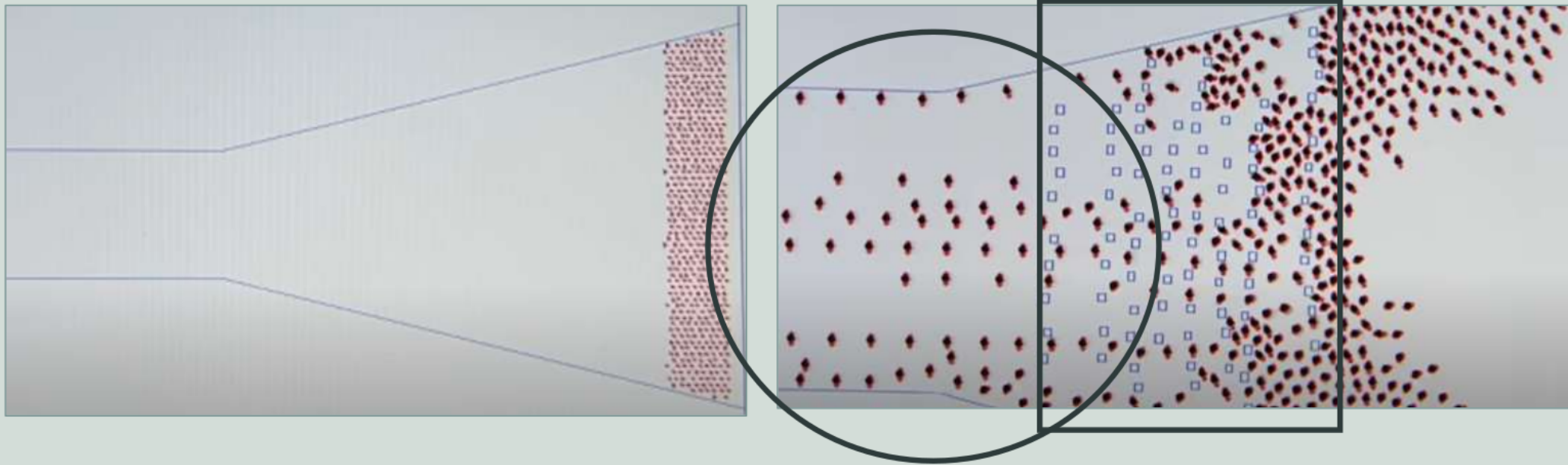


TERRAIN OF THE BATTLEGROUND

- Muddy Conditions
- Heavy armor
- Narrow Battlefield



CROWD BEHAVIOURS



THE LONGBOW AND BODKIN ARROW

- Longbow made from Yew tree
 - Range of up to 300m
- 4 times as fast to reload as other weapons of the time
- Capable of firing around 8-12 arrows per minute





NEEDLE BODKIN ARROW

WAS THE LONGBOW THE DECISIVE
FACTOR AT THE BATTLE OF
AGINCOURT?

QUESTIONS



IMAGE REFERENCES

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- [The English Soldier in the Campaign of Agincourt on JSTOR](#)
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GRADEMARK REPORT

FINAL GRADE

35/50

GENERAL COMMENTS

Very good introduction to the topic, with just the right balance on historical background. Out for comfort zone but did not show it all, standing steady and speaking from notes and slides. Spoke with confidence and humour. Maintained eye contact and engaged in conversation. Images on slides were clear and well presented. Useful builds and legends. Also used 'zoom' to focus in on precise detail. I learned a lot about Harfleur importance and why it was such an important strategic point for Henry V. Focused on morale, attitudes, terrain, manoeuvre and geographical constraints as other factors. All were explained clearly. Research was good, even down to simulations of crowd behaviours, with detailed explanation. Longbow section was focused on an OME system in comparison to other bowed weapons and its impact on 2mm mild steel. Penetration was not possible. Overall opinion was that it played an integral part in the defeat of the French, but other factors such as terrain were more significant. Longbow harassed and inflicted injury. Psychological. Included physics, penetration mechanics, history all in one set. Pace good. 15 minutes.

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