

memo

Friday, August 22, 2003

To: Egg

From: Shell

Re: From the set of books *A Historical Personages, vol. I, Aaam to Gitnest*

Erik the Off-White: (late 10th c.) One of 500 people to sail with Eric the Red on a colonizing venture to Greenland.

Erik, having believed Eric the Red's advertising (Greenland is anything but green, but what better way to get hundreds of people to pool their money and resources and travel thousands of dangerous miles to colonize an unknown land?), landed with the fleet near what was to become the settlement of Osterbygd, and is reported to have said, "Hey! This isn't green at all! It's more of an off-white, whitish-gray color! We've been had!"

After getting the settlement up and running (which probably took months, if not years), he mounted a campaign to have the name of the mostly inhospitable land changed from Greenland, to Off-Whitish-Grayland (*Øvwhytgröland*).

The other settlers merely laughed at him, and dubbed him Erik the Off-White. He was eventually stoned to death by a group of children.