MEDIEVAL CARTULARIES OF GREAT BRITAIN:
AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS TO THE DAVIS CATALOGUE

Introduction

Dr Godfrey Davis’ *Medieval Cartularies of Great Britain: a Short Catalogue* (Longmans, 1958) has proved to be an invaluable resource for medieval historians. However, it is nearly forty years since its publication, and inevitably it is no longer completely up-to-date. Since 1958 a number of cartularies have been published, either as full editions or in calendar form. Others have been moved to different repositories. Some of those cartularies which Davis described as lost have fortunately since been rediscovered, and a very few new ones have come to light since the publication of the original catalogue. This short list seeks to remedy some of these problems, providing a list of these changes. The distinction drawn in Davis between ecclesiastical and secular cartularies has been preserved and where possible Davis’ order has also been kept. Each cartulary’s reference number in Davis, where this exists, is also given. Those other monastic books which Davis describes as too numerous to include have not been mentioned, unless they had already appeared in the original catalogue. Where no cartulary exists, collections of charters of a monastic house edited after 1958 have been included. There will, of course, be developments of which I am unaware, and I would be most grateful for any additional information which could be made known in a subsequent issue of this Bulletin. For a current project relating to Scottish cartularies see *Monastic Research Bulletin 1* (1995), p.11.

Much of the information here has been gathered from published and typescript library and repository catalogues. Such a task is of course collaborative and I am very grateful to all those archivists and academics who have added to it. I am also particularly grateful to Professor David Smith, who kindly made available his own annotated copy of this catalogue. Without him this work would have been a great deal less complete than it is.

In addition to the specific publications there have been general articles on the subject such as David Walker, ‘The organization of material in medieval cartularies’ in D.A. Bullough and R.L. Storey eds., *The Study of Medieval

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ECCLESIASTICAL CARTULARIES

Abingdon (Davis 5 & 6) Now pd: Two Cartularies of Abingdon Abbey ed C.F. Slade & G. Lambrick (Oxford Historical Society, n.s. 32, 1990). Charters up to and including 1216 pd. in full, those after this date cal.

Aynho Hospital (not in Davis) Thirteenth-century charter roll. Oxford, Magdalen College, Estate Records 137/1.


Beauchief (Davis 39) Now in Sheffield City Archives, MD3414.

Beaulieu (Davis 40) Now pd: The Beaulieu Cartulary ed. S.F. Hockey (Southampton Record Series 17, 1974).


Bermondsey (Davis 46) Extracts Bodl. Bodsworth ms 102 fo.97, not Dodsworth ms 53.

Blythburgh (Davis 60) Now pd: *Blythburgh Priory Cartulary* ed. C. Harper-Bill 2 vols (Suffolk Record Society, Suffolk Charters 2-3, 1980-81). Charters up to 1250 pd. in full, those after this date cal.

Bolton (Davis 61) Bolton Coucher Book, 185 fos., at Chatsworth, no reference. Produced after the dissolution from the fourteenth-century cartulary, now lost. Antiquarian material in Oxford, Bodleian Library, Dodsworth mss 8, 144.

Boxgrove (Davis 63) Now pd: *Chartulary of Boxgrove Priory* ed. Lindsay Fleming (Sussex Record Society 59, 1960). In translation.


Brinkburn (Davis 76) Extracts Bodl. ms Top Gen. c.120, fos.36v-40.

Bristol (Davis 77) Extracts Bodl. ms Top Glouc c.10 fos.172-187.

Bristol, St Mark's Hospital, Billeswick (Davis 78) Now pd: *Cartulary of St Mark's Hospital, Bristol* ed. C.D. Ross (Bristol Record Society, 1959). In translation with some documents pd. in the original Latin.

Bruton (Davis 83) Now BL Egerton ms 3772.

Bullington (Davis 88) Antiquarian copies of priory charters BL Add ms 6118, fos.375r-440r.


Burton Lazars (Davis 90) Briefly cal: *The Burton Lazars Cartulary: a medieval Leicestershire estate* ed. T. Bourne & D. Markham (University of Nottingham Centre for Local History, Record Series 6, 1987).

Bury St Edmunds, Benedictine abbey (Davis 95) For details see: *The Archives of the Abbey of Bury St Edmunds*, R.M. Thomson (Suffolk Record Society 21, 1980). Descriptive.

Bury St Edmunds, St John's Hospital (Davis 135) Now pd: *Charters of the Medieval Hospitals of Bury St Edmunds* ed. C. Harper-Bill (Suffolk Record Society, Suffolk Charters 14, 1994). Charters up to 1250 pd. in full, those after this date cal.
**Bury St Edmunds, St Saviour's Hospital** (Davis 136) Now pd: *Charters of the Medieval Hospitals of Bury St Edmunds* ed. C. Harper-Bill (Suffolk Record Society, Suffolk Charters 14, 1994). Charters up to 1250 pd. in full, those after this date cal.

**Canonsleigh** (Davis 158) Now cal: *The Cartulary of Canonsleigh Abbey: Harleian ms 3660 a calendar* ed. V.C.M. London (Devon & Cornwall Record Society n.s. 8, 1965).


**Chertsey** (Davis 225) Rest now pd: *Chertsey Abbey Cartularies* ed. Patricia M. Barnes vol. 2 part ii (Surrey Record Society 12, 1963).


**Clare** (Davis 261) Now pd: *The Cartulary of the Augustinian Priory of Clare* ed. C. Harper-Bill (Suffolk Record Society, Suffolk Charters 11, 1991). Charters up to 1250 pd. in full, those after this date cal.

**Colchester** (Davis 267) Now in Essex Record Office, Colchester and North East Essex Branch, Colchester, Acc.C.38.

**Combwell** (not in Davis) Fragment CUL ms Dd 3.88.

**Coxford** (Davis 281) Extracts Bodl Dugdale ms 39, fos.101ff.


**Crich** (Davis 289) Now pd: *The Cartulary of the Wakebridge Chantries at Crich* ed. A. Saltman (Derbyshire Archaeological Society, Record Series 6, 1976).


Flaxley (Davis 407) BL Add ms 49996.


Gloucester (Davis 455, part) fos.82-178 cal: D. Walker, 'A Register of the Churches of the Monastery of St Peter, Gloucester.' An Ecclesiastical Miscellany (Bristol & Gloucestershire Archaeological Society Record Section 7, 1976), pp.1-58.

Haughmond (Davis 475)1851 transcript Shrewsbury Public Library, ms 1040: (Davis 476) Now pd: Cartulary of Haughmond Abbey ed. U.Rees (Shropshire Archaeological Society & University of Wales Press, 1985). Charters up to 1200 pd. in full, those after this date cal. Also (not in Davis) Sixteenth/seventeenth century fragment. Shrewsbury RO, Dudmaston ms 2922 Add.

Hoxne (Davis 496) Fourteenth century. Suffolk RO, HD 1538/265 (temporary reference).

Ipswich (Davis 500) Now Suffolk RO.


Launcesto (Davis 542) Now cal: The Cartulary of Launceston Priory (Lambeth Palace ms 719): a calendar ed. P.L. Hull (Devon & Cornwall Record Society, n.s. 30, 1987)

Leicester (Davis 548) in J. Nichols Hist Leic i part II, not ii part I

Leiston (Davis 550) Now pd: Leiston Abbey Cartulary and Butley Priory Charters ed. R. Mortimer (Suffolk Record Society, Suffolk Charters 1, 1979). Charters up to 1250 pd. in full, those after this date cal.


Lilleshall (Davis 577) Now BL Add ms 50121.


London, St Botolph (Davis 625) Now cal: Parish Fraternity Register: fraternity of the Holy Trinity and SS Fabian & Sebastian in the parish of St Botolph without Aldersgate ed. P. Basing (London Record Society 18, 1982).

Mottisfont (Davis 681A) Now Hampshire RO 13M63/1.
(Davis 681B) Now Hampshire RO 13M63/2.
Muchelney (Davis 685) Now BL Add ms 56488.
Newminster (Davis 691) Extracts Bodl ms Top Gen c.120 fos.26-34.
Norwich Cathedral (Davis 708) Now pd: The Charters of Norwich Cathedral Priory ed. B Dodwell 2 vols (Pipe Roll Series, n.s. 40, 46, 1974-85). Based on Davis 708, noting copies in Davis 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 709, 710, 711, 712 and including some additional charters from these cartularies and original charters
Nostell (not in Davis) Act Book Leeds District Archives NP/ C1.
(not in Davis) Coucher Book Leeds District Archives NP/C3.
Nuneaton (Davis 727) BL Add Roll 47398.
Otterton (Davis 737) Now in Devon Record Office, Exeter.
Pentney (Davis 751) Now Norfolk RO NRS 27262.
Peterborough (Davis 757 & 758) Now Cambridge UL.

**Plympton** *(Davis 780)* Extracts in Oxford, Bodleian Library, Tanner ms 342, fos.177r-178v.

**Pontefract** *(Davis 782)* Now BL Add ms 50754.

**Reading** *(Davis 801-801)* Now pd & cal: *Reading Abbey Cartularies* ed. B.R Kemp 2 vols (Camden Society 4th Series 31 & 32, 1986-87). Charters pd. in full up to and including 1216. those after this date cal.

**Richmond, Archdeacon of** *(not in Davis)*. Cartulary, York Minster Archives, ms M2/3a, fos.17-24.


**St Michael’s Mount** *(Davis 858)* Now pd: *The Cartulary of St Michaels' Mount (Hatfield House ms no.315)* ed P.L. Hull (Devon & Cornwall Record Society, n.s. 5, 1962).


**Sibton** *(Davis 897-99)* Now pd: *Sibton Abbey Cartularies and Charters* ed P. Brown 4 vols (Suffolk Record Society, Suffolk Charters 7-10, 1985-88). Charters up to 1250 pd. in full, those after this date cal.
Southampton, Priory of St Denys (Davis 906) Now pd: *The Cartulary of the Priory of St Denys near Southampton* ed E.O. Blake 2 vols (Southampton Record Society 24-5, 1981).


Southwark (not in Davis) Abbreviated transcripts from lost cartulary. London College of Arms, ms Vincent 46. Seventeenth century.


Stoke by Clare (Davis 933) Now pd: *The Stoke by Clare Cartulary* ed. C. Harper-Bill & R. Mortimer 3 vols (Suffolk Record Society, Suffolk Charters 4-6, 1982-84). Charters up to 1250 pd. in full, those after this date cal.


Studley (Davis 941) Now Oxfordshire RO ms dd Henderson c.9.


Taunton (not in Davis) Truro, Cornwall RO, ARB/150/1483 (temporary reference). Fourteenth-century fragment.


Thelsford (Davis 960) Abstract now Bodl Phillips Robinson ms e.77.


Thurgarton (Davis 969) Now pd: *The Thurgarton Cartulary* ed. T. Foulds (Stamford, 1994).

Trentham (Davis 980a) F. Parker *Cartulary of the Austin Priory of Trentham* (William Salt Arch. Coll., xi, 1890) - an artificial compilation of deeds from various sources.


Wenlock (Davis 1009) Extracts in Bodl Phillips Robinson ms e.77 fos.21-36.

Westminster abbey (Davis 1010-1022) Original charters in the archive, some of which are also in cartularies pd: Westminster Abbey Charters 1066-c.1214 ed. E. Mason, Jennifer Bray, Desmond J. Murphy (London Record Society 25, 1988).

Winchcombe (Davis 1037, 1038) Extracts Bodl ms Top Glouc c.10, fos.148-151, 138-147.


Wooton Wawen (not in Davis) Two fifteenth-century cartularies. Cambridge, Kings College, WOW 231 & WOW 586.


Worksop (Davis 1080) Extracts in Nottingham RO DD 930 fos.82-90.


Ludham Chantry (not in Davis) mid thirteenth-century charter roll of Ludham Chantry. York Minster Library P1/1/9.

York, St Leonard's Hospital (not in Davis) extracts from lost cartulary: Oxford, Bodleian Library, Dodsworth ms 120B fos.49r-104v. See D.E. Greenway, 'A lost cartulary of St Leonard's Hospital, York' in Yorkshire Archaeological Journal 42 (1968), pp.178-80.

York, St Mary (not in Davis) Fragment (22 fos) of register of abbot Edmund Thornton 1507-14. York Minster Library M2/6a.

(not in Davis) Charter roll. Northamptonshire RO Finch Hatton ms 453.

**Secular Cartularies**

Beauchamp (Davis 1191) Now pd: The Beauchamp Cartulary: Charters 1100 - 1268 ed. E. Mason (Pipe Roll Society, n.s. 43, 1980).


Hungerford (Davis 1257) Now pd: The Hungerford Cartulary ed. J.L. Kirby (Wiltshire Record Society 49, 1994).


Richmond (Davis 1312) Bodl Lyell ms 22 (second half of fifteenth century).


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THE ABBEY OF ST ALBANS IN THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY

The great Benedictine abbey of St Albans has been seen as a model of faithful observance in a century not noted as a great monastic period. I came to the subject expecting my work to concentrate on the second half of the century when the famous chronicler Thomas Walsingham was in residence and the abbot Thomas de la Mare was revered as one of the greatest Benedictines of his time. However, I soon discovered that whilst the period from 1349 has been well covered by historians, the efforts of the four abbots who ruled during the earlier period, while just as interesting and almost as well documented, have been largely overlooked. This was a difficult time for the older, well-established monastic orders. However, examination of the sources for St Albans soon revealed the extent to which this earlier period (c. 1300-1350) can be seen as a period of restoration of discipline after one of stagnation and decline. In fact, my research shows that in many ways Thomas de la Mare was building on the achievements and reform of the earlier abbots of his century.

In looking at this reform I have highlighted certain aspects of abbey life. These include most particularly the abbey's role as a spiritual community of regular monks both in the mother-house and in the nine satellite priories. The
efforts to restore financial probity are given attention as is the role of the abbey in the town, the monastic borough and the wider community. The fourteenth-century monks carried on the strongly-established tradition at St Albans of caring for religious communities of women. The nunneries of Sopwell and St Mary de Pré, situated close to the abbey, were drawn into the programme of reform. The abbey's role as a giver of charity is also considered. The part played by pensioners and corrodians within the abbey was particularly important at this time. Just outside the abbey grounds, the monks dispensed charity at two important institutions, the abbey school and the leper hospital of St Julian. Regulations were drawn up for both lepers and pupils at his time.

On a wider scale I am also considering the place of the abbey within the Benedictine Order. A succession of twelfth-century popes recognized, confirmed and enhanced the status of St Albans as the first among all the abbeys of England. The abbey fought hard to secure its independence from the diocesan and, at the beginning of the fourteenth century, its exempt status on the occasion of a vacancy. The fourteenth-century abbots of St Albans were often called upon to act as President of the Triennial General Chapters of English Black Monks. I shall argue that the way in which the house flourished at the end of the fourteenth century was preceded by an equally significant and interesting revival in the earlier half of the century.

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CHERTSEY ABBEY

I am making a study of the lands and economic administration of Chertsey Abbey. This was a sizable and important Benedictine house in North Surrey which held lands in Surrey, London, South Berkshire, Hampshire and a satellite cell in South Wales. Nothing now remains of the abbey buildings aside from the traces of fish ponds and some masonry incorporated within local barns. A comprehensive archaeological survey was completed in 1985.
I intend to research the manorial accounts, rentals and court rolls of the abbey’s lands in order to gain an overall picture of how they were administered and of the changes in agricultural and social practices from the start of the thirteenth century. North Surrey is an interesting area as it has very poor soils and therefore developed very late and may be particularly susceptible to social, economic or climatic changes. The manors also border Windsor Forest which was at times exploited and also hindered some aspects of natural development.

Several cartularies and an abstract of some court rolls produced by the abbey have been published by the Surrey Records Society and my intention is to put these onto a database together with unpublished court rolls, rentals, accounts, clerical and secular taxes etc. I would therefore be particularly interested in hearing from anyone who has been looking at the uses of computer databases with medieval records as well as anyone looking at Benedictine houses or later medieval records.

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THE PRIORY AND PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARGARET,
KING’S LYNN

For the past few years we have been researching the history and in particular the lost ground plan of the small Benedictine foundation, cell to Norwich Cathedral Priory, formerly attached to St Margaret’s Church, King’s Lynn. We are aiming for at least an interim paper to be ready in time for the 900th anniversary of its foundation in or around 1101. Any information on the following points would greatly assist our research.

1. There is a distinct possibility that the vanished cloister complex was attached to the eastern arm of the church rather than to the nave; we know that this was the case at our sister house formerly attached to St Nicholas’ Church, Great Yarmouth. The geographical limitations probably prompting the layout there may quite possibly have been the case in Lynn also. Although this
cloister position is not unknown in friaries, we have found so far no other instances of it in a monastic context. We would be grateful to hear of any other examples.

2. Much valuable information has been derived from an inventory of St Margaret’s Priory made in 1454. Leads to follow up on other surviving monastic inventories would be very useful for comparison.

3. Although a matter relating to the priory church rather than to the monastic complex itself, we would be interested to know of examples elsewhere in this country of a circular east window. This appears to be an unusual feature in an eastern position and indeed in any position outside the greater churches. There is reason to think that our east wall, abutting the former main road into the town from London, was designed to make a clear statement in terms of power politics, again for reasons relating to the geography of the site, and the use of a rather “up-market” design may be part of this. Outside the cathedrals of Durham, Elgin and the former Old St Paul’s, the only example traced so far is the parish church of New Shoreham in Sussex, where the window is smaller and lights the roof space only.

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INTELLECTUAL LIFE AT THE ABBEY OF
ST ALBANS AND THE NATURE OF MONASTIC LEARNING IN
ENGLAND

c.1350-c.1440

The aim of this study is to reassess the monastic contribution to intellectual life in late medieval England, through a detailed study of the surviving writings of a group of monks at the abbey of St Albans. The period between 1340 and
1440 has long been depicted as transitional in English intellectual life. A general decline in the influence of the universities, and in particular of the Friars, leaves many historians uncertain as to where to locate the intellectual balance of power - with the religious orders, with secular scholars, or with the increasingly literate laity? In the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries St Albans was England's premier Benedictine community, the epitome of monastic privilege. Its abbots were at the centre of initiatives to reform monastic life in England through the implementation of the papal constitutions Summi magistri which, amongst other changes, attempted to give monastic studies a more conventional, academic character, requiring a proportion of monks to attend the universities, and a programme of elementary instruction and preaching to be established in the home community.

In recent work it has been suggested that Summi magistri brought little substantial change to the intellectual life of English monastic communities, which was already set in a terminal decline. Much of this work however has been based on administrative sources; obedientary rolls, accounts and other records. Whilst recognising the value of these sources, my own work has focused on the surviving books from St Albans and other communities and the - largely unprinted - treatises, commentaries and other texts written by the monks. What emerges is a strikingly different picture of monastic learning.

At St Albans the monks produced independent - and often innovative - work in areas of traditional monastic interest; history, astronomy, poetry and classical literature. The message of Summi magistri was well received but older attitudes to learning persisted. In particular when it came to the application of university training - in teaching and preaching - the monks were naturally conservative, preferring to leave doctrinal instruction as part of individual private study. The surviving manuscripts copied at St Albans suggest the abbey itself developed in this period as a centre for the production and publication of texts, and at the same time the monks were increasingly receptive to new and non-monastic influences; their experience of the university led them into studies beyond the formal curriculum in literature, poetry and dictamen, and their work on classical literature, in particular their interests in poetry and rhetoric, drew them towards Italian humanist scholars working nearby in London.
The work of the well-known historian Thomas Walsingham (c. 1340 - c. 1422) was shaped by this environment. Although a traditionalist, he developed a distinctive approach to classical literature and history based on the abbey’s privileged access to new material. Using an early copy of the *Ouidius Moralizatus* of Pierre Bersuire he produced a comprehensive commentary on the *Metamorphoses*. He constructed a history of the Trojan War using a vast range of literary sources, the *Ilias Latina*, Lactantius, Ovid, Statius, Seneca, with the extremely rare *Ephemeris belli Troiani* of Dictys the Cretan as his main text. As a moralist, historian and a classical commentator his work is comparable to some notable scholars of mainland Europe, and in particular to the work of the early French humanist Jean de Montreuil. The work of John Whethamstede (c. 1390 - 1465) - usually discussed in terms of Italian humanism - is also seen more clearly in the context of the extraordinary contacts and resources available at St Albans.

Other monks were at the centre of renewed interests in classical rhetoric. The relationship between the prior Simon Southerey (died c. 1425) and the metrist John Seward (died c. 1435) reveals links not only with early Italian humanism, through connections with Mantuan scholars, but also with centres of vernacular writing in and around London. The range of these interests did not fragment the community, as historians have often suggested, and the monks continued to confront current ecclesiastical and political debates with a sense of corporate identity.

It is concluded that much of the vitality of English learning in this period lay in institutions outside the university and its formal curriculum, and that the monasteries remained a focus of intellectual exchanges - including some from European scholars - for much of the fifteenth century. Monastic learning underwent something of a revival; the monks did not regain the ground they had lost in theological studies, but they increased their involvement in areas not traditionally associated with monastic study. A new monastic culture could be said to have emerged shaped not by the precepts of *Summi magistri*, but by the wider contacts and more open conditions of English monastic life. The thesis will be submitted in Michaelmas Term 1996.

James G. Clark
My primary aim is to calendar the cartulary of Godsfield and Baddesley, a preceptory of the Order of the Knights of St John of Jerusalem (Hospitallers) in Hampshire (BL Add MS 70511). This cartulary was compiled by the preceptor William Hulles in 1397-8 and consists of 211 documents issued between the twelfth and fourteenth centuries. At the end of the manuscript are five rentals and customals dating from the fifteenth century. This material will be compared with the main Hospitaller cartulary (BL Cotton MS Nero E vi) and with other local cartularies compiled by Hulles at the same date. I will be using the cartulary to investigate the holdings of the Hospitallers in Hampshire, to identify their patrons where possible and to examine the organisation of the Order at a local level.

There are other cartularies of religious houses in Hampshire which have been published and I intend to explore the relationship between the Hospitallers and other religious houses in the locality with special regard to their patrons and holdings.

It is hoped to publish the calendar eventually in the Hampshire Record Series. This study will make available a major source for the study of local landholding and patronage while illuminating further the organisation of the Hospitallers in England.

I am working part-time and have completed stage 1, the transcription of the cartulary, and am now proceeding to the editing and calendaring of the documents.
THE BUILDINGS OF CROXDEN ABBEY, STAFFORDSHIRE

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Work on this part-time thesis started one year ago, and will study every aspect of the buildings of this Cistercian house. Though popular with antiquarian scholars, modern academic work on this house has been slight. The buildings are interesting both because they are all largely 13th century (unlike most other Cistercian houses) and because they will add significantly to our knowledge of West Midlands monastic architecture, which in general has not survived well.

Work has started with a detailed analysis of all the material evidence for the appearance and history of the abbey, using for data the extant remains, the extensive architectural stone collection and earlier excavation reports and antiquarian notes on the buildings. Following this, a start will be made on the extremely knotty problem of the exact date of the buildings, on which all other conclusions must turn.

The work is being carried out in conjunction with a research project for English Heritage, Historic Properties Midlands and East Anglia.

Jackie Hall

RELIGIOUS AND INTELLECTUAL INTEREST AT ST EDMUNDS ABBEY AT BURY AND THE NATURE OF ENGLISH BENEDICTINISM c.1350-1450

This work was an attempt to examine monastic self-understanding in the later middle ages - and to get behind some of the misconceptions of contemporaries and of modern commentators. I used sources mainly from the abbey at Bury, and in particular a series of original treatises by monks of the community there about monastic discipline and the nature of the Rule. Most of these texts can be found in a large manual for the instruction of novices, compiled in the 1370s at Bury and now MS Bodley 240 in the Bodleian Library.

These sources indicate the extent of debate within the Benedictine houses, sharpened by the deliberations of the General Chapter, on the nature of monastic reform.

A survey of spiritual and theological material from the monastery has shown the maintenance into the 14th century and beyond of a distinctly monastic religious tradition in England, parallel with, responsive to, but not subsumed into other traditions of prayer and learning (the 'mystics'; the universities) - and it is argued that the monastic sources reflect a continuing tradition which was still marked by vitality.

The thesis is now to be prepared for publication - and it is my hope to include a greater amount of comparative material from some of the other larger Benedictine monasteries in order to show that their quiet vitality was much more widespread, at least in the bigger houses, than has been recognised.

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A PROJECT ON THE HISTORY OF MENDICANT HOUSES IN LONDON (c.1221-1539)

London, as one of the major urban centres of medieval western Europe, attracted all major mendicant orders as well as a number of smaller ones at an early stage in their respective histories. Their large and impressive precincts helped to shape the city's topography but this was no more than the outward sign of the friars' effect on the medieval city. Other aspects of their role are
not so obvious and need close investigation, a difficult task since the archives of the house have disappeared.

One of the main tasks will be to establish how the relations between the friars and the population of the city developed. The mendicants' impact on late medieval spirituality is commonly taken for granted but it remains to be seen whether this applied in this particular case. This is just one of the aspects forming part of an almost standardised pattern of questions applied in previous studies on mendicant houses in the urban context. The friars' relations with the town authorities, with other religious institutions and with each other are obvious points to be added. Another central question is how the economic survival of so many religious houses of a similar nature over such a long period of time was achieved. Given London's importance as the centre for the royal administration, an important diocese and the kingdom's trading capital it remains to be seen to what extent these factors had an influence on the friaries' history.

The aim is to establish how the London friaries developed during the almost three centuries of their existence, the extent to which they remained independent members of international organisations or became part of the city's religious establishment.

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CARMELITE RESEARCH

The Carmelite Institute in Rome consists of a small group of Carmelite friars who are engaged in studying the history and spiritual tradition of the Order. Its principal aims are the publication of original research and a journal *Carmelus* with its annual bibliography, and the organisation of seminars etc. In addition, as might be expected, the Institute responds to requests for information on the Carmelite Order from a variety of sources and collaborates
with the editors of dictionaries and other reference works in supplying entries on appropriate Carmelite topics.

The individual members of the Institute specialise in different areas of research and my own field is the development of the Carmelite Order in England and Scotland. During the past year, my energies seemed to have been directed largely at writing entries for dictionaries in England, France and Germany but, in essence, I am collecting material for a history of the Carmelite Order in England up to the Reformation. The first part of this preparatory work, a biographical register of Carmelites in the medieval English province, is approaching completion and this year's issue of Carmelus contains a listing of all the surviving pre-Reformation writings by Carmelites in England. [A bibliography of published material on the province and an article on the visit of the prior general in 1504-5 were printed in Carmel in Britain, ed. P. Fitzgerald-Lombard, (Rome: Institutum Carmelitanum, 1992) vol. i]. My next project is the preparation of some articles on the organisation and development of the province as a whole.

An essential source for any study of medieval Carmelite history are the unpublished notebooks of John Bale and these have been familiar companions for some years. Initially, for personal use and in order to gain some idea of Bale’s method of working, I began making a transcription of them and most of the notebooks are now in preliminary draft. Recently, the Institute here has been encouraging me to prepare them for publication and it is a venture which I am considering seriously, but with some trepidation.

If anyone is engaged in research on or linked with Carmelite topics, then the Institute here in Rome would be very interested to hear from them. We do have a fairly unique library and archive collection and we are always delighted to collaborate and share whatever information we possess.

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CISTERCIAN STUDIES MAIL LIST

E. Rozanne Elder, Director of the Institute of Cistercian Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo (e-mail: elder@wmich.edu) reports the launching of the Institute’s experiment in cyberspace, the creation of a Cistercian Studies mail list. If you are interested in participating, the process is simple. Address a message to cistercian-studies-request@listserv.cc.wmich.edu. The message should be subscribe cistercian-studies firstname surname. If everything works as it should, a welcome message should come up on your screen, giving you yet more information. It is hoped that this network will give scholars doing Cistercian research a forum for sharing information and getting into contact, particularly with postgraduates just beginning their work. Beyond that, it will provide a vehicle for sharing bibliographies and opinions on recent publications, alerting researchers as to who else is working in the same area, and perhaps even getting questions answered.

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CISTERCIAN MONKS AND NUNS IN ENGLAND AND WALES

Professor Dena M. Janson (James P. Adams Library, Rhode Island College, 600 Mount Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI 02908, USA: e-mail djanson@grog.ric.edu) has been for the past few years compiling a selectively annotated bibliography on Cistercian monks and nuns in England and Wales through the period of the Dissolution. It currently consists of 2100 citations
covering the areas of archaeology, architecture, economics, and history. She would welcome any suggestions, comments, or additions.

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WESTMINSTER MONKS AND LONDON FRATERNITIES IN THE FIFTEENTH AND EARLY SIXTEENTH CENTURIES

Westminster Abbey, with its superb surviving collection of records, has inspired a number of scholars to reconstruct the communal life of the monks, the economy of the abbey's estates and the place of this Benedictine house in the history of the nation. Recently, however, the focus of research has begun to shift in order to place the monks of Westminster against the background of metropolitan history. Gervase Rosser has set the community firmly within the context of the town of Westminster.  

Barbara Harvey’s recent work, while concentrating on the domestic life of the monks and their life cycle, has also pointed to the connections between them and the wider urban community. In particular, she has drawn attention to the links between individual monks and the City of London although much of the evidence gathered hitherto is unspecific.

Our own work in editing the Bede Roll of the Fraternity of St Nicholas, the guild of the parish clerks of London, suggests that such an avenue of research into these links may indeed prove fruitful. The Bede Roll of the parish clerks, now deposited in the Museum of London, is a significant biographical source for the metropolis, including as it does entries for some 800 clerks and some 6,000 other Londoners from its first compilation in 1449 until the last extant

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entries for 1521-2. Among the names of the parish clerks, priests and laity on the Roll there are about 120 religious, of whom nearly 40 are identifiable as monks of Westminster. The incomes of monks within the community clearly enabled them to subscribe to membership of the Fraternity of St Nicholas on an individual basis. It has long been recognised that several of them similarly became members of the Assumption Guild at St Margaret’s Westminster, although the surviving accounts for the latter are fragmentary.\(^3\) Subscription to such fraternities provided one very understandable outlet for the considerable wages of the monks. Entry fines were not, however, always demanded of them.

The following provisional table of the Westminster monks whom we have identified among the membership of fraternities within the metropolis during the fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries is offered as an incentive to more extensive research into the wider links which they enjoyed, and the ways in which they apparently sought to accumulate spiritual benefits for themselves. Further investigation may reveal whether they are part of family groupings to be found within the Fraternity of St Nicholas in particular, and if so, to document more closely the suspected origin of many of the monks among families domiciled within the City of London.

The dates of death given in the first column are usually those derived by E.H. Pearce from the series of accounts at Westminster, where the accounting year began at Michaelmas. He was, however, often able to use the interlocking accounts of different monastic office-holders to specify a calendar date of death for individual monks. Calendar years are only given in the table where these are certain rather than probable, as they are in many other instances. In some cases more precise dates can be given through the recent investigations of Miss Barbara Harvey. We are most grateful to her for assistance. Dates for the admission of each monk to the Fraternity of St Nicholas are also given, together with the years in which individual deaths are recorded. It should be noted that the year of record used on the Bede Roll ran from Ascension Day

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noted that the year of record used on the Bede Roll ran from Ascension Day in each calendar year, the day on which the masters of the parish clerks were elected. Deaths of individuals are often recorded on the Bede Roll in the year following their actual date of death where this can be verified from other sources. The taylors' accounts from which most of the references to the admission of Westminster monks to their Fraternity of St John the Baptist are taken ran from St Bartholomew's Day for the years 1399-1445.

N.W. James
V.A. James
9 College St, St Albans, Herts. AL3 4PW
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amersham, John (d 1481-2)</th>
<th>PARISH CLERKS' FRATERNITY (ST NICHOLAS)</th>
<th>TAYLORS' FRATERNITY (ST JOHN BAPTIST)</th>
<th>SKINNERS' FRATERNITY (CORPUS CHRISTI)</th>
<th>ASSUMPTION GUILD OF PARISH OF ST MARGARET WESTMINSTER</th>
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<tr>
<td>Arundel, Thomas (d 1495-6)</td>
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<td>Ashby, Nicholas (d 1458), prior 1435-41, Bishop of Llandaff</td>
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<td>Ashford, John (d 1473-4)</td>
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<td>PARISH CLERKS' FRATERNITY (ST NICHOLAS)</td>
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<td>Brewod, William (d 1514-15)</td>
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<td>Browne, Thomas</td>
<td>Adm. 1506-7, deaths for 1514-15</td>
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<td>Caxton, Richard</td>
<td>Adm. 1497-8, deaths for 1504-5</td>
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<td>Charying, Richard</td>
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<td>Chatsay alias Chirchsey, William</td>
<td>Adm. by 1448-9 deaths for 1488-9</td>
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<td>Chynnor, William</td>
<td>Adm. 1469-70, deaths for 1481-2</td>
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<td>Colchester, William</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
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<td>Taylors' Fraternity (St John Baptist)</td>
<td>Skinners' Fraternity (Corpus Christi)</td>
<td>Assumption Guild of Parish of St Margaret Westminster</td>
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<td>Cornych, John</td>
<td>Adm. 1507-8</td>
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<td>Davers, Robert</td>
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<td>Downys, Robert</td>
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<td>Drope, John</td>
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<td>Ely, Thomas (d 1503-4)</td>
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<td>Fasset or Fascet, John (d 1500), Abbot</td>
<td>Adm. 1488-9, deaths for 1501-2</td>
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<td>Flete, John (d 1465-6)</td>
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<td>Freston, Thomas (last mentioned 1444-5)</td>
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<td>Harwden or Hawarden, Richard (d ?1441), Abbot</td>
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<td>Hilstone, John, Prior of Hurley c. 1487-97</td>
<td>Adm. 1470-1</td>
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<td>Name</td>
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<td>Taylors' Fraternity (St John Baptist)</td>
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<td>Islip, John (d 1532), Abbot</td>
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<td>Jay or Jaye, Thomas (living 1535-6)</td>
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<td>Knoll, John (d 1529-30)</td>
<td>Adm. 1503-4</td>
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<td>Knoll Thomas (last mentioned 1461-2)</td>
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<td>Kirton or Kyrton, Edmond (d 1466), Abbot</td>
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<td>Name</td>
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<td>Marshall, John (last mentioned 1520-1)</td>
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<td>Millyng, Thomas (d 1492), Abbot, Bishop of Hereford</td>
<td>Adm. 1466-7, deaths for 1492-3</td>
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<td>Norwich, George (d 1469), Abbot</td>
<td>Adm. by 1448-9, deaths for 1470-1</td>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>ASSUMPTION GUILD OF PARISH OF ST MARGARET WESTMINSTER</th>
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<td>Adm. 1436-7</td>
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<td>Petworth <em>alias</em> Selly, Richard (d 1461)&lt;sup&gt;4&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Adm. 1454-5, deaths for ?1460-1</td>
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<td>Ruston, Thomas, Prior of Hurley 1468-80</td>
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<td>Name</td>
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<td>Stanley, Robert (d 1507-8)</td>
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<td>Tedyngton, Richard (d 1487)</td>
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<td>Venour, John (d 1440)</td>
<td>Adm. 1435-6 [no entry fine paid]</td>
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<td>Walsingham, Robert (d 1457-8)</td>
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</table>
Communication from Barbara Harvey. The Westminster infirmer’s accounts fix the calendar year in which he died.

Membership assumed from references to the obit of Master Browne’s mother in the accounts for 1505-8.

Thomas Millyng was admitted to the skinners’ fraternity only after his elevation to the episcopate, but this reference has been included for the sake of completeness.

Communication from Barbara Harvey, based on her examination of the infirmer’s accounts.
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Rochais, H.


Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales

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Scott, I.R.


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<tr>
<th>Author</th>
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