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Lewis E 201 Chronicle of the History of the World from Creation to Woden

In this issue:

A Labor of Love: The Edward IV Roll Digital Mappa Project, Part Four
International Congress on Medieval Studies

Inside Cover
Not printed

Contents	
A Labor of Love: The Edward IV Roll Digital Mappa Project—Part Four	2
Illustrious Connections	2
Transcription & Translation to remaining bloodlines (Secs 6&7 of MS)	11
ILLUSTRIOUS CONNECTION: THE PERCY FAMILY	11
ILLUSTRIOUS CONNECTION: THE CLIFFORD FAMILY	12
ILLUSTRIOUS CONNECTION: THE STAFFORD FAMILY	13
ILLUSTRIOUS CONNECTION: THE BOURCHER FAMILY	14
ANNOTATIONS TO BANNERS, HERALDRY, AND BADGES	15
International Congress on Medieval Studies	39
Reviews	41
Upcoming Events and 2026 General Membership Meeting	45
Article Submission Guidelines	53
Ricardian Register Ad Policy and Submission Guidelines	53
Board, Staff, and Chapter Contacts	54
Membership Application & Renewal Form	55

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A Labor of Love: The Edward IV Roll Digital Mappa Project—Part Four

Illustrious Connections

By Susan Troxell

Part Four in this series provides a transcription and translation of the family bloodlines in Lewis E201 that were collateral to Edward IV's own right to succession, as well as annotations to the heraldic images in the roll's bottom half. These families were connected to Edward IV by their marriage into the House of Mortimer, their proximity to the royal succession, or their marriage into the House of York. Some are shown to be participants in fulfilling Edward IV's destiny as foretold by ancient prophecies, even if they played the part of antagonists in that narrative.

The heraldic shields, banners and badges pay homage to England's ancient origins, its founding fathers, mythic heroes, patron saints, and the titles held by the English crown. They also draw significantly from the House of Mortimer's associations to the great noble families in the land, leading some historians to believe that Lewis E201 was consciously modeled on an earlier chronicle or genealogical roll celebrating the Mortimers' illustrious connections.

The wealth of symbols, the blending of legendary and factual history, and the clever use of religious and secular themes reveal that E201 adopts a multi-pronged approach to justify the House of York's accession and the House of Lancaster's deposition. While the roll's central theme is legitimacy, it takes different viewpoints of what constitutes "legitimacy", enabling its use in a wide variety of circumstances. The richness of the narrative, the illustrations, and the dazzling use of color, make Lewis E201 one of the most remarkable of all objects from the Wars of the Roses period.

The Mortimer Family's Connection to the Percy and Clifford Families

The collateral bloodlines highlight the Percy, Clifford, Stafford, and Bouchier families and their relationship to the House of York. Two of these families are shown to spring from Lionel of Antwerp's only child, Philippa, through her marriage to Edmund Mortimer. Their eldest daughter, Elizabeth, first married Henry "Hotspur" Percy and bore him the future heir to his earldom in Northumberland as well as a daughter named Elizabeth. Daughter Elizabeth married John Lord Clifford and bore him the future heir to the Clifford barony as well as other children. Lewis E201 incorrectly calls both Elizabeth Mortimer and Elizabeth Percy by the name "Alianore" (Eleanor) and shows them to be one and the same person. Of particular interest is the use of certain symbols and words, namely the crescent and word "luna" (moon) in the Percy family tree (figure 1), and the white rose and words "taurus, draco" (bull, dragon) in the Clifford bloodline (figure 3).

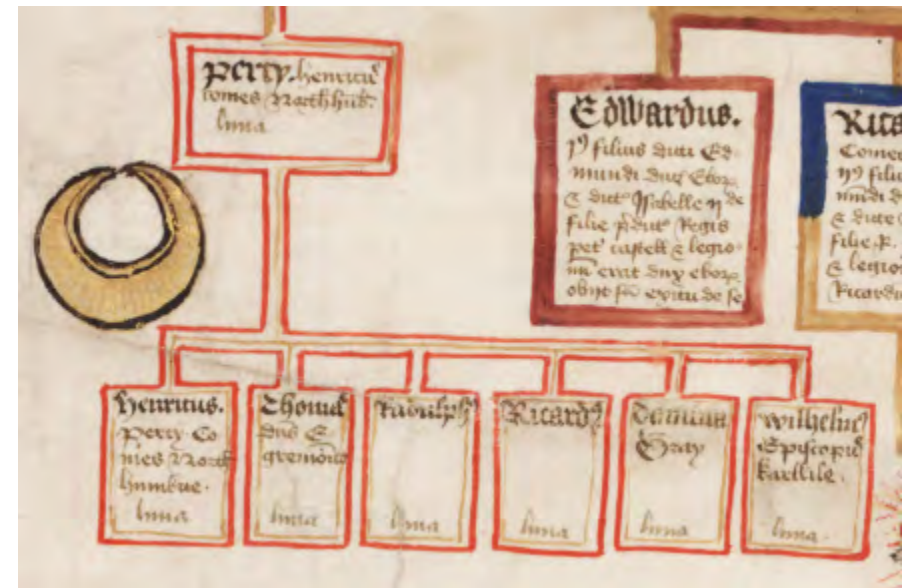


Figure 1. Collateral branch of Mortimer family - the Percies of Northumberland, with their crescent-shaped badge prominently displayed on the left and the word "luna" (moon) appearing in each entry.

Various explanations have been offered for why the crescent symbol and the word "luna" appear in the Percy bloodline. The crescent could very well be a reference to a heraldic badge used by Henry Percy, fourth earl of Northumberland (1449-89), a practice that seems to have been adopted by his son who used crescents on his battle standard (figure 2).¹

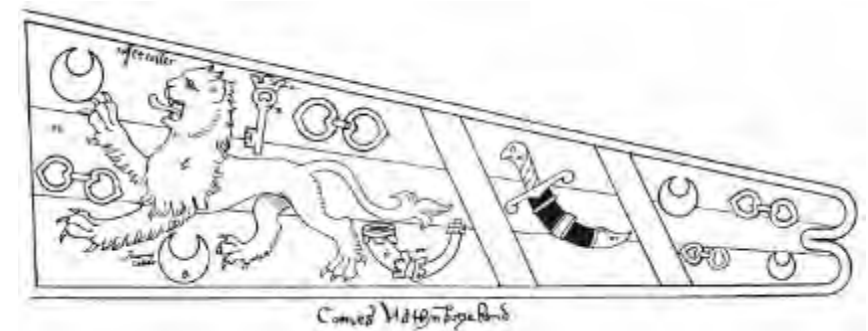


Figure 2. Battle standard of Henry Percy, fifth earl of Northumberland (1477-1527), showing numerous crescents as well as fetterlocks, a lion, and other badges of the house of Percy. From *Banners, Standards, and Badges*, De Walden Library, 1904.

¹ A.W. Vivian-Neal, *Livery Badges and Personal Badges in Early Tudor Work at Cheddon Fitzpaine and Staple Fitzpaine*, available online at <https://sanhs.org/wp-content/uploads/10-A-W-Vivan-Neal.pdf> [accessed 17 July 2024].

There is evidence that the Percy earls adopted the crescent badge very early in the fifteenth century. A certain William Stowe, who was a retainer of the earl of Northumberland, left in his will of 1430 a “silver livery, a crescent, to the shrine of St Wilfred”. What could be that type of silver livery badge does survive in the collection of the duke of Northumberland. It is a crescent with a collar-like decoration of alternating chains or shacklebolts, letter P’s and crescents. There was also a far less splendid pewter badge of the crescent & shacklebolts that was recovered from fifteenth century spoil at Butler’s Wharf in London. An earlier source, quoted by Michael Siddons, gives the constable of Bamburgh writing to the king in 1404 to complain that William Clifford, guardian to Hotspur’s son, had assembled a large force wearing the crescent. There are other references to armed bands of Percy supporters wearing the crescent on their sleeves around that time.²

Another explanation is that the crescent badge and the word “luna” were intended to remind the viewer that the Percy family, while originally supporting the deposition of Richard II in favor of Bolingbroke, soon switched sides and supported the Mortimer claim. Hotspur died at the Battle of Shrewsbury in 1403, leading an uprising intended to throw Henry IV off the throne and to restore the Mortimer line to the crown. It was said that a lunar eclipse appeared on the morning of the 1403 battle, and this was interpreted as the fulfillment of a popular fifteenth-century prophecy called *Asinus coronatus*, a predominantly Yorkist production circulated in support of Edward IV. As described by Paul Strohm, a version of this prophecy in British Museum MS Faustina B.xi says that a crowned ass (representing Richard II) misrules his land and is supplanted by a fox (Henry IV) who has returned home after being exiled. The prophecy foretells that one will rise against the fox who has been given the name “Luna” for his brightness. Strohm says this was almost certainly interpreted by Yorkists as referring to Hotspur and the Battle of Shrewsbury. The crescent doubly referred to Percy’s badge and a lunar eclipse occurring at the battle.³

Lewis E201 similarly uses a badge and symbolic words to highlight the portion of the family tree where the Mortimer collateral line marries into the Clifford family, as shown in figure 3 with the marriage of Hotspur’s daughter Elizabeth to John Clifford (“Domino Cliffordi”).

² This information was kindly provided to me by Colin Torode, an expert in English medieval badges, who works for English Heritage.

³ P. Strohm, *England’s Empty Throne* (New Haven, 1998) note 42, pp 218-19.



Figure 3. Collateral branch of Mortimer family - the Cliffords of Westmorland, with the Yorkist white rose badge prominently displayed on the left and the words “taurus, draco” (bull, dragon) appearing in each entry. The silver gilt of the white rose badge has tarnished to dark grey.

The Clifford family was closely associated with their feudal castles in Skipton (Yorkshire) and Appleby (Westmorland), both of which are still intact today. But the baronry itself goes back to the thirteenth century when King Edward I created it for Robert de Clifford, whose chief feudal seat was Clifford Castle in Herefordshire on the Welsh border. This castle eventually became a Mortimer possession in 1330 and there is a theory that the Yorkist white rose badge originated as a badge used at Clifford Castle and was later adopted by the House of York when Anne Mortimer married Richard, earl of Cambridge. The House of York acquired possession of Clifford castle in 1425, after the male Mortimer line died out.⁴ Like the use of the word “luna” to describe the Percy family, the words “taurus, draco” appearing in the Clifford bloodline most likely refer to

⁴ J. L. Laynesmith, “Anne Mortimer’s Legacy to the House of York,” in *The Mortimers of Wigmore 1066-1485: Dynasty of Destiny*, eds. P. Dryburgh and P. Hume (Eardisley, 2023).

certain prophecies or political tracts using animals, symbols or other poetic devices that were later interpreted in the fifteenth century to refer to actual people in the Wars of the Roses.

It is very interesting that Lewis E201 should highlight the Percy and Clifford families, given that they had no loyalty to the Yorkist king, were staunchly opposed to the deposition of Henry VI, and were oftentimes in violent conflict with Edward IV's allies in the Neville family. Henry Percy and Thomas Clifford, both descendants of Elizabeth Mortimer as shown in Lewis E201, were killed at the first Battle of St Albans in 1455 opposing pro-Yorkist forces. Clifford's son, John, would never reconcile with the Yorkist regime, and the Percy family took years to abandon their Lancastrian loyalties and come into line under Edward IV. After Edward IV's final definitive victory over the House of Lancaster at the Battle of Tewkesbury in 1471, the Percies apparently found themselves in enough favor with the Yorkist king - and safe from any recriminations from a future Lancastrian monarch - that they were comfortable celebrating their Mortimer ancestry. This can be seen in the Percy Roll (Bodleian Library MS Bodl. Rolls 5), where their family tree proudly notes the intermarriage of the Percy and Mortimer families.⁵

Descendants of Thomas of Woodstock

The next two collateral bloodlines spring from Edward III's youngest son, Thomas of Woodstock, whose titles included being first earl of Buckingham and first duke of Gloucester. Woodstock's sole surviving heir, Anne of Gloucester, married into the Stafford and Bouchier families (see figures 4 and 5). As a young girl aged 7-9, Anne was originally promised in marriage to the much older Thomas, third earl of Stafford, but he died a few years later at age 24 and she then married his younger brother, Edmund.



Figure 4. This part of the roll shows how Thomas of Woodstock's sole surviving heir, Anne, first married into the Stafford family. The "Stafford knot" is prominently displayed on the lower right.

Anne's husband Edmund, who is mistakenly called "Humphrey" in Lewis E201, would eventually become the fifth earl of Stafford. By Stafford, she bore a son Humphrey as well as a daughter, also called Anne. Along with his father's title to the earldom of Stafford, Humphrey would inherit his mother's title to the earldom of Buckingham, which was raised to a dukedom in 1444. Their daughter Anne Stafford married Edmund Mortimer, fifth earl of March, but the marriage produced no children. After Mortimer's death, Anne Stafford married John Holland, second duke of Exeter, and bore him the next Holland heir to the Exeter dukedom as well as a daughter (also called Anne) who married John Lord Neville, grandson of Ralph Neville first earl of Westmorland. The "Stafford knot" shown in figure 4 was a badge used by Humphrey, sixth earl of Stafford; the badge had worked its way into the Stafford family through the second earl's marriage to Joan Holland, Lady Wake, in 1392, when the knot was called the "Wake knot".⁶

Woodstock's daughter, Anne of Gloucester, would remarry after her Stafford husband died, this time to Sir William Bouchier (figures 5, 6). Bouchier served Henry V at Agincourt and in the conquest of

⁵ J. Hughes, *Arthurian Myths and Alchemy: the Kingship of Edward IV* (Stroud 2002), 230.

⁶ T. Pape, "The Stafford Knot", *Transactions and Annual Report of the North Staffordshire Field Club*. LIII. J. & C. Mort, Limited: pp 31-33 (1918).



Figures 5 & 6: Anne, Woodstock's sole heir, takes William Bourchier as her second husband, and their four boys and daughter are identified. Their eldest son, Henry, married Isabel, daughter of Richard, earl of Cambridge, the "Bourchier knot" appearing above their union, and their children are all identified with the prophetic word "aquila."

Normandy, for which he received the French title of count of Eu. Before his death in France, he and Anne of Gloucester had four boys and a girl. The eldest boy, Henry, married Isabel, daughter of Richard earl of Cambridge – bringing Yorkist and royal connections to the Bourchier family. The "Bourchier knot" is displayed above this union (figure 6). Like his father, Henry diligently served the English king in France. In 1461, Edward IV gave Henry Bourchier the title of earl of Essex. Lewis E201 notes that the junior Bourchier children – John, Thomas, William, and Eleanor – would become Lord Fitzwarin, archbishop of Canterbury (who crowned Edward IV at his coronation), Lord Berner, and duchess of Norfolk, respectively. Each is assigned the word "aquila" (eagle) in their genealogical boxes.⁷

Like the Percy and Clifford families, it is curious that Lewis E201 displays out these genealogical lines. Henry Stafford, first duke of Buckingham, was a loyal military leader under Lancastrian kings in France, and was a lead negotiator for Henry VI during the Wars of the Roses. His wealth and status as a peer was second only to Richard, third duke of York. He remained loyal to the Lancastrian dynasty until he died in 1460, his five-year old grandson and heir Humphrey later becoming a ward of Edward IV. The Yorkists evidently wanted to convert the House of Stafford to their cause, and perhaps Lewis E201 is an attempt to use their family connections as a basis for reconciliation. Similarly, the Bourchier family's patriarch was a prominent leader of English forces in France under Henry V,

⁷ The use of "aquila" (eagle) could be referring to Geoffrey of Monmouth's *Prophecy of the Eagle*, another popular narrative that was interpreted by Edward IV and the Yorkists (including Richard III) to show that their rise to power fulfilled ancient prophecy. J. Hughes, *Arthurian Myths and Alchemy: The Kingship of Edward IV* (Stroud 2002), 146, 292-3.

and his son would follow him in military service in France for which he would be made a Viscount and a Garter knight by Henry VI. His loyalties changed to the Yorkist cause after he married the daughter of Richard, earl of Cambridge, making him the brother-in-law of the third duke of York.

Conclusion

It is possible to see E201's incorporation of the Percy, Stafford, Clifford, and Bourchier families as a straightforward matter of trying to persuade them to the Yorkist side. However, that is probably far too simplistic. Lord Clifford was well beyond reconciliation and was a mortal enemy of the Kingmaker and the Nevilles of Raby who were the real power behind Edward IV; advancing Clifford would have offended Edward IV's political base. (It is not a coincidence that Edward IV waited until he neutralized the Kingmaker and the Nevilles in 1471 before he reversed the attainder on Lord Clifford and allowed his son to come out of hiding to claim his inheritance.) Similarly, Humphrey Stafford was only five years old when Edward IV was crowned and wielded no real power during his youth, but he did stand at the top of a large affinity that covered much of Wales and its marches, while the Percy and Clifford families had huge affinities that covered much of England's north.

In my opinion, I believe it is more likely that these families were included to celebrate the depth of illustrious English connections enjoyed by the Houses of York and Mortimer, giving them a leg up on the descendants of John of Gaunt who tended to marry into European royal houses. As so astutely observed by John Watts, in the uncertain times of the Wars of the Roses, it was imperative that contenders for the English crown showed that they had a better chance at wielding power that was more broadly seen as legitimate and worthy.⁸ Lewis E201 makes the case not only for Edward IV's genealogical legitimacy but also for his prophetic legitimacy and his family's connections to the eminent ruling families of England, showing that he could potentially tap a broader base of support than the usurping House of Lancaster.

Readers can now access Lewis E201, its digital mapping and extensive annotations, by going to Penn Library's website here: <https://www.library.upenn.edu/exhibits/chronicle-world>

Acknowledgments: This project was funded in part by a grant of \$10,000 from the Richard III Society-American Branch's Special Projects Fund, and a generous gift of \$1,000 from Laura Blanchard.

⁸ J. Watts, *The Wars of the Roses: A Medieval Civil War* (Cambridge, 2025).

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Transcription & Translation to remaining bloodlines (Secs 6&7 of MS)

ILLUSTRIOUS CONNECTION: THE PERCY FAMILY



The full bloodline of Lionel of Antwerp shows illustrious connections. Lionel's only child Philippa married Edmund Mortimer, and their eldest child Elizabeth (1371-1417) married Henry "Hotspur" Percy - the famous rebel of Henry IV. Here she is misidentified as "Alionora" (Eleanor). Elizabeth bore Hotspur a daughter also called Elizabeth (1390-1437) who married John Lord Clifford in 1404.

Collateral offspring of Edmund Mortimer and Philippa of Clarence:

Alionora nuptata fuit Henrico Percy & postea maritata domino Cliffordi.

Percy Henricus, comes Northumberlandi. Luna.

These are Hotspur's grandchildren through his heir, Henry second Earl of Northumberland:

Henricus Percy, comes Northumbrie. Luna.

Thomas, dominus Egremontis. Luna.

Radulphus. luna.

Ricardus. luna.

Domina Gray. luna.

Wilhelmus, episcopus Karllile. luna.

Eleanor was married to Henry Percy and later married to Lord Clifford [sic]**.

Henry Percy, earl of Northumberland. Moon.



Henry Percy, earl of Northumbria. Moon.

Thomas, lord Egremont. Moon.

Ralph. Moon.

Richard. Moon

Lady Gray. Moon.

William, bishop of Carlisle. Moon.

***Scribal error. Elizabeth, daughter of Philippa and Mortimer, married Thomas Lord Camboys. The scribe is confusing her with her daughter, Elizabeth, who had married Thomas Lord Clifford.*

ILLUSTRIOUS CONNECTION: THE CLIFFORD FAMILY



The full bloodline of Lionel of Antwerp from his eldest granddaughter Elizabeth includes the Clifford family of Westmorland, a powerful northern affinity that controlled the western border of Scotland. The scribe created 4 boxes for Clifford's children by Elizabeth but 3 are empty, except for the words "taurus" and "draco".

Alionora nuptata fuit Henrico Percy & postea maritata domino Cliffordi.

Clifford Thomas, dominus Clifford, obiit in bello in villa Sancti Albani. taurus, draco.



Johannes. taurus, draco.

Three empty boxes are labeled with no names but with the words "taurus" and "draco" - evidently the scribe did not complete these.

Eleanor was married to Henry Percy and later married to Lord Clifford.**

Thomas Clifford, lord of Clifford. Died in battle in the town of Saint Albans. Bull, dragon.

Four boxes are provided for the children of Clifford and "Alionora":

John. Bull, dragon.

***Scribal error. She actually married Thomas Lord Camboys. The scribe is confusing her with her daughter, Elizabeth, who had married Thomas Lord Clifford.*

ILLUSTRIOUS CONNECTION: THE STAFFORD FAMILY



Descendants of Edward III's youngest son, Thomas, duke of Gloucester. His daughter and heir Anne married into the Stafford and then the Bouchier families.

The "Staffordshire knot" symbolizes the Stafford family.

Thomas, dux Gloucestri, septimus filius dicti Edwardi tertii, procreavit Annam, primo maritata Staffordo & postea Burgch.

Anna (1), filia et heres predicti ducis Gloucestre, maritata fuit primo Humfrido Staffordi & postea Burghech.

Stafford Humfridus (1), comes Stafford.

Their children are listed as follows:

Humfridus (2), predicti Humfridi filius, postea comitem Staffordi & ducem Bokingham.

Anna (2), filia dicti Humfri, maritata comiti Marchi & postea Johanni, duci Exonie.

The children of Humphrey (2) are given:

Humfridus (3)
Henricus
Johannes
Dominus Vere
Dominus Bardolf
Domina Shrowsbery

The children of Humphrey (3) are given:

Humfridus (4)
Johannes

The children of Anna (2) by her second husband John Holland are listed:

Henricus, dux Exon.
Anna (3), maritata Johanni, domino Nevyle Westmorlandi.

Thomas, Duke of Gloucester, seventh son of the aforementioned Edward III, fathered Anna, first married to Stafford and afterwards Bouchier.

Anne (1), daughter and heiress of the aforesaid duke of Gloucester, was first married to **Humphrey Stafford**** and later to Bouchier.

Humphrey Stafford (1), Earl of Stafford.

Humphrey (2), son of the aforementioned Humphrey, later Earl of Stafford and Duke of Buckingham.

Anne (2), daughter of the aforementioned Humphrey, was married to the Earl of March and later to John, Duke of Exeter.

Humphrey (3)
Henry
John
Lord Vere
Lord Bardolf
Lady Shrewsbury

Humphrey (4)
John

Henry, duke of Exeter.
Anne (3), married

ILLUSTRIOUS CONNECTION: THE BOURCHER FAMILY



Anna, filia et heres predicti ducis Gloucestre, maritata fuit primo Humfrido Staffordi & postea Burghech.

Anna, daughter and heiress of the aforesaid duke of Gloucester, was first married to Humphrey **Stafford** and later to Bouchier.

Burghech, Wilhelmus Burghech, miles. Duxit in uxore Anna filia dux Gloucestre.

Bouchier, **William Bouchier**, knight. Led Anna, daughter of the duke of Gloucester, in marriage

Their children are listed as:

Henricus, comes Essex, filius predicti Wilhemi et Anne filia Thomas ducis de Gloucestre, procreavit:

Henry, Earl of Essex, son of the aforesaid William and Anna daughter of Thomas duke of Gloucester, and they bore:

Thomas, Archiepiscopi Cantuariensis

Thomas, Archbishop of Canterbury

Wilhelmus, dominus fitzwarren

William, Lord Fitzwarin

Johannes, dominus de Berners

John, Lord Berners

Alionora, ducessa Northfolca

Eleanor, Duchess of Norfolk.

Anne, sole surviving heir of Thomas of Woodstock, took William Bouchier as her second husband and their eldest son would marry Isabel, the daughter of Richard earl of Cambridge.



The "Bouchier knot"

Isabella, filia dicti Ricardi, comitis Cantebriggie, & dicte Anne, maritata fuit Henrico, comiti Essexie.

Isabelle, daughter of the aforementioned Richard, Earl of Cambridge and the aforementioned Anne. Married to Henry, Earl of Essex.

aquila
Henricus, comes Essexie, filius predicti Wilhelmi et Anne, filie Thomae, ducis Gloucestrie, procreavit etc.

Eagle.
Henry, Earl of Essex, son of the aforementioned William and Anne, the daughter of Thomas, Duke of Gloucester. Fathered etc.

Wilhelmus, aquila.
Henricus, aquila.
Humfredis, aquila.
Thomas, aquila.
Johannes, aquila.
Edwardus, aquila.

William, eagle.
Henry, eagle.
Humphrey, eagle.
Thomas, eagle.
John, eagle.
Edward, eagle.

ANNOTATIONS TO BANNERS, HERALDRY, AND BADGES



Arthuri miraculo III / King Arthur

These are the attributed arms of King Arthur, an important figure in medieval English history and literature. He receives prominent coverage in Geoffrey of Monmouth's history of Britain; is featured as one of the Nine Worthies (along with Charlemagne and Godfrey of Bouillon); and is the subject of much literature, serving as an exemplar of chivalry, justice, and kingly power. In this manuscript, Arthur's genealogical box carries his name in much larger letters than its neighbors – signaling his importance and making it easier to find on the manuscript. The first line of text notes that he fought against the Saxons – and, significantly, the only lineage the manuscript ascribes to the Lancastrian kings is Saxon.

This is one of two banners on this roll carrying his attributed arms. The source for this particular design comes from early chronicles. For instance, the ninth-century *Historia Brittonum* states: "The eighth battle fought by Arthur was near Gurnion castle, where *Arthur bore the image of the Holy Virgin, mother of God, upon his shoulders*, and through the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the holy Mary, put the Saxons to flight, and pursued them the whole day with great slaughter (italics added)." Project Gutenberg, [History of the Britons \(Historia Brittonum\)](#), by Nennius, trans. J.A. Giles [accessed January 13, 2025]. In the twelfth-century history written by Geoffrey of Monmouth, it is stated that Arthur bore the Virgin's image not on his shoulders but on his shield. Later medieval writers such as Wace and Matthew Paris call the shield Arthur's "Pridwen" or some variation of that word.



Arthuri melitissimi / The most gallant Arthur

King Arthur was commonly assigned arms consisting of three gold crowns on an azure field, as seen in the [Nine Worthies tapestry](#) of the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Cloisters Museum. This banner is labeled Arthur, but the field is gules, not azure. This Section of the roll also includes another banner with a different design attributed to Arthur, containing an image of the Virgin.



Ducat[us] Cornubie.... / Duchy of Cornwall

This shield is labeled as that of the dukes or duchy of Cornwall, but it is not the one traditionally assigned and appearing in Section 2. The duchy was created in 1337 by Edward III for his eldest son and heir, Prince Edward. A charter ruled that each future Duke of Cornwall would be the eldest surviving son of the monarch and the heir to the throne. Read more at the [Duchy of Cornwall website](#)



Ducat[us] Norm[andi]... / Duchy of Normandy

Attributed arms of the dukes of Normandy. The Norman line in this genealogy becomes the English royal line, an important element in Edward IV's claim to the throne as he was descended from Edward III through two of his sons. Another connection to Normandy is one held by the Mortimers, Edward IV's relatives through his paternal grandmother Anne Mortimer. The genealogical box for Hugh Mortimer, second in the Mortimer line on this roll, says he married Matilda, a daughter of William Longsword. This roll contains a line of genealogical boxes for the Norman lords, beginning with Rollo, bordered in red and beginning in Section 4. The red Norman line eventually peters out in Section 5 with the accession of William the Conqueror to England's throne.



Regis S[ancti] Oswaldo/ Sainted King Oswald

These are the attributed arms of Saint Oswald. Oswald (c.604-641/42) was king of Northumbria from 634 until his death. Taking refuge in Iona early in life, and converting to Christianity, he invited St. Aidan to lead a group of monks from Iona to found a monastery at Lindisfarne. He was noted for his piety and generosity and, according to Bede, gained ascendancy over all England.

His death in battle occurred near the current town of Oswestry in Shropshire, a site of continuous border wars between England and Wales in the middle ages. Some time after his death, his "incorrupted" arm was spirited away to Peterborough Abbey, where it remained until the dissolution of the monarchy. This story is told in Bede's *Ecclesiastical History of the English People*, Book 3, chapter 6.



Regis uncti Alvredi / Anointed King Alfred

Traditionally, the attributed arms of King Alfred were similar to those of Edward the Confessor's (azure field, charged with a gold cross patonce and 5 gold birds). Here, however, the banner has a gold cross patonce on a field of azure and gules.

The compilers of the roll describe King Alfred in the Saxon succession: "Alvred, otherwise known as Alfred, was the first sole ruler of England and was crowned King of England at Rome by Saint Leo, the Pope, in the year of our Lord 872. He was the first sole king in England, and before him the kings in England did not hold the diadem. Then he was again crowned at Winchester."



Ducat[us] Aquitani / Duchy of Aquitaine

The Plantagenet dynasty ruled as Lords of Aquitaine from 1152 until 1345, and then intermittently, until Henry VI lost the dukedom to the Valois kings of France who awarded the title to the Dauphin.

The House of Plantagenet claimed the title of Duke of Aquitaine ever since Henry II married Eleanor of Aquitaine. By Edward I's time, a hot dispute had started about its status as a vassal to the French crown. Edward III ultimately claimed title to the French crown, saying he descended from the senior French royal line (Capet), whereas Philip VI and his descendants came from the junior Valois line, labeled "closed and disagreeable" in this roll. The succession dispute fed into the Hundred Years War. In MS Lewis E201, Edward IV is staking these titles for himself, based on his descent from a senior son of Edward III.



Domini Hibernie / Lords of Ireland

This puzzling shield is labeled *Domini hibernie* (lord of Ireland) but does not appear to be any known coat of arms for the Lords of Ireland. Section 4 of this roll also has a banner labeled *Domini hibernie* which shows a gold harp on a red field. The coat of arms of the Lords of Ireland at the time of Edward IV was three golden crowns ordered vertically on a blue background with a white border.

It should be noted that the Mortimers had links to the Ulster and Clare lordships in Ireland. Additionally, Edward IV's father, Richard, third duke of York, had a particularly warm relationship with Ireland.



Edgari Pacific[i] / Edgar the Peaceful

The label on this banner appears to say *Edgari pacifici* which probably refers to Edgar the Peaceful, son of Edmund I and great-grandson of Alfred the Great. Edgar ruled England from 944 to 975. His reign was seen as peaceful because it occurred in a lull between Viking invasions. Edgar was a great patron of the Benedictine Order and was buried at Glastonbury Abbey. He later became canonized as a saint, along with his son Edward the Martyr and grandson Edward the Confessor, the latter becoming one of England's early patron saints. Edgar appears in the Saxon (yellow) line of succession on this manuscript.



Co[n]stantini S[enior]r[i]/ Constantine the Elder

These are the attributed arms of Constantine III, also known as Constantine II of Britain, who was said by medieval chroniclers to have descended from Brutus and to have been an ancestor to King Arthur through Uther Pendragon. He appears in this manuscript in the British (green) line of succession, where it describes him as the grandson of King Coel, and son of Constantius and Saint Helen. William of Malmesbury, Henry of Huntingdon, and Geoffrey of Monmouth were three of the earliest medieval British chroniclers to narrate the history of the “British Constantine”, a pseudo-historical figure whose status as an ancestor to King Arthur was highlighted as well as his Christian faith. The historical Constantine was declared emperor of Roman Britain in 407 CE and co-emperor of the Roman Empire in 409-411 CE, and spent much of his time on the European continent fighting off incursions from Germanic tribes. Perhaps this explains what appears to be the well-known device of the Holy Roman Emperor (two-headed black eagle) in the upper left and lower right quarters.



Ricardi duci sine timor / Duke Richard the Fearless

Richard The Fearless (982-996), is the grandson of the famous Rollo of Normandy, who begins the Norman line of descent (red genealogical boxes to the far right) in Section 4 of the roll, and the son of William Longsword. The compilers of the roll include this remarkable summary in his genealogical box: “Richard the Fearless, Duke of Normandy. He conquered the devil in person, fighting with him and laying him low, and binding his hands behind his back. He was victorious and left the devil perplexed.”



Mortimer d[o]m[in]i Radulphi / Ralph Lord Mortimer

The Mortimer family’s connections and relationship to Edward IV feature prominently in this roll. This shield may refer to Radulphus (Ralph) Mortimer, founder of the line in England (before 1070-1137) and/or to Radulphus (Ralph) Mortimer, whose marriage to Gwladus Ddu in c.1230 brought the Romano-British royal lineage into the Mortimer family tree. Its placement near the relevant genealogical box for the junior Ralph and the roundels containing the Red and White dragons suggests the latter. The dragons allude to Merlin’s prophecy of the Red and White Dragons, which foretold that the British line would some day reconquer England and drive out the Saxons.

By his marriage with Gwladus Ddu, Ralph Mortimer fathered Roger Mortimer, first Baron Mortimer of Wigmore (c.1231-82), who married Maud de Braose (d. 1301), heiress to important Marcher lordships. Interestingly, Maud is referred to as *prima rose*, or first rose, in Roger’s genealogical box. This might provide a possible clue on the origin of the Yorkist rose badge, or it could allude to something else, as this roll often designates certain individuals using symbols and words of popular political prophecies. Alison Allan, Jonathan Hughes and J.L. Laynesmith have studied these prophecies in depth in the context of this roll and other genealogies. A. Allan, “Yorkist Propaganda: Pedigree, Prophecy and the ‘British History’ in the Reign of Edward IV”, in *Patronage, Pedigree and Power in Later Medieval England*, ed. C. Ross (Gloucester 1979), 171-92. J. Hughes, *Arthurian Myths and Alchemy: the Kingship of Edward IV* (Stroud 2002); J.L. Laynesmith, “Anne Mortimer’s Legacy to the House of York”, in *The Mortimers of Wigmore 1066-1485: Dynasty of Destiny*, ed. P. Dryburgh and P. Hume (Eardisley 2023).



Sancti Regis Edmu[n]d / Holy King Edmund

These are the attributed arms of Saint Edmund (d. 869), a pre-conquest king of East Anglia who later became a patron saint of the English nation along with Edward the Confessor and Saint George. In the fifteenth century, his image often appeared with the Confessor's and he was venerated by many Plantagenet kings, including Edward I (who visited his shrine several times and even had his banner touched by the saint's relics), Henry II, Henry III, and Richard II (who appears alongside a full-length portrait of Saint Edmund in the Wilton Diptych). Henry VI made a famous visit to this saint's shrine at Bury St Edmunds Abbey in 1433-34. This suggests that the cult of Saint Edmund had a high level of royal interest and gave legitimacy through association with other English monarchs.

The historical Edmund was killed, or martyred, by Danish invaders in the ninth century and he was thus seen as an early defender of the island. This manuscript, at Section 3 (paragraph describing the origins of East Anglia, the fifth kingdom of the Heptarchy) notes that Edmund's martyrdom occurred precisely fifty years before this kingdom was annexed to Wessex by King Alfred's son, Edward the Elder. Stephanie Kathryn Collinson, "Shaping the Nation before the Reformation: English National Identity up to 1530", Ph.D. thesis, 2015, University of Leeds, [Shaping the Nation before the Reformation: English National Identity up to 1530](#) (pages 175-182) [accessed 12 August 2024].



Regis Ethelredi / King Ethelred

These are the attributed arms of King Ethelred "the Unready" (966-1016), described in this manuscript as the son of King Edgar and brother of Edward the Martyr - all of whom are represented in the Saxon (yellow) line of descent and/or by their heraldic coat of arms in the series of banners running the length of this roll. Ethelred had the longest reign of the Saxon kings of England, but it was dominated by the Danish invasions, and he ultimately had to pay homage to their leader. It is odd that this manuscript should memorialize Ethelred given the allegation that his partisans killed his brother Edward in order to advance his claim to the throne, but one English chronicler from the twelfth century described him as "elegant in his manners, handsome in visage, glorious in appearance" (an observation that would equally fit Edward IV) - while an thirteenth century Icelandic text described him as a war-swift king and a good prince. *The Chronicle of John of Worcester*, eds. R.R. Darlington & P. McGurk, Vol. 2 (Oxford, 1995) pp. 430-31; [Gunnlaugs saga Ormstungu: The Saga of Gunnlaug Wormtongue \(PDF\)](#), tr. R. Quirke (London, 1957), 15. Ethelred was also important as he was the father of England's national patron saint, Edward the Confessor.



Com[es] Ulstere / Earls of Ulster

These are the arms of the De Burgh earls of Ulster in Ireland. The first time the earldom is mentioned in this genealogy is in Section 5, in the white line of succession which represents the ancestry of Lionel of Antwerp's wife, Elizabeth de Burgh, the fourth countess of Ulster. Interestingly, this line of succession appears directly above the origins of the House of Mortimer on this roll, and it is ultimately connected to the Mortimer (red) lineage in Section 6 with Elizabeth de Burgh's marriage to Lionel, Edward III's second surviving son. With Lionel, she produced one heir, Philippa, who married Edmund Mortimer. At this time, the earldom of Ulster could pass through female heirs, so Philippa was the fifth countess and could pass the Ulster title onto her children by Mortimer. Indeed, the Mortimer family viewed themselves as very significant lords in Ireland, as they had earlier married into other families having lands and lordships there. See, for instance, "The Mortimers and Medieval Ireland: Summary of a Talk by Dr Brendan Smith, Reader of History at University of Bristol, Mortimer History Society Conference, Spring 2014," <https://mortimerhistorysociety.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Mortimers/Articles/The-Mortimers-and-Medieval-Ireland.pdf> (accessed 13 August 2024).

The inclusion of this line of descent in this genealogical roll may have helped to emphasize the legitimacy of the Yorkists' claim to the English throne, which also hinged on allowing females to pass titles to their children. Edward IV's grandmother, Anne Mortimer, was the last surviving Mortimer heir and passed the Ulster title to her son, Richard, third duke of York - Edward IV's father. The Ulster earldom then merged with the English crown when Edward IV became king.



Ducat[us] Gloucestr[ie] / [De Clare] Earldom of Gloucester

These are the arms associated with the De Clare earls of Gloucester, a prominent Marcher lord family with Irish, Welsh, and Mortimer connections. The first appearance in this genealogy is Gilbert de Clare, described as count of Gloucester and of Hertford in Section 5, in the white line of succession representing the ancestry of Lionel of Antwerp's wife, Elizabeth de Burgh. A few generations after Gilbert's death, the heiress of the De Clare patrimony married into the De Burgh family, the latter bringing the earldom of Ulster into the family fold, and ultimately, the heiress to the both the De Clare and De Burgh patrimony - the aforesaid Elizabeth - married Lionel of Antwerp, duke of Clarence and second surviving son of Edward III. Lionel's sole heir, Philippa, married Edmund Mortimer. Through this ancestry, Edward IV could trace his pedigree to the De Clare earls of Gloucester, and he could employ the Bull of Clare as a family insignia. According to Jonathan Hughes, the Bull of Clare was "significant for Edward's links with [King] Arthur because it was the intermarriage of the Clare and Mortimer lines that allowed Edward to claim to be the upholder of the British heritage of Brutus, Arthur and Cadwallader." J. Hughes, *Arthurian Myths and Alchemy: the Kingship of Edward IV* (Stroud, 2002), 166-8.



Sancti Edwardi/Saint Edward [the Confessor]

These are the well-known attributed arms of the English patron saint, Edward the Confessor (c.1003-66), the last Saxon king from the House of Wessex. Richard II was especially devoted to this saint: he impaled the Confessor's arms with the English royal arms, and adopted them as his own. He is unique amongst English kings for doing so. Richard II's arms, as well as those seen here, are displayed in the famous Wilton Diptych. *Making and Meaning: The Wilton Diptych*, National Gallery Publications, 1993.

Devotion to the Confessor was observed by the first two dukes of York. According to Richard Marks, the arms occur on Edmund of Langley's tomb at King's Langley (Herts.), and his son, Duke Edward, left all his chapel plate for the veneration of St Edward the Confessor and others at Fotheringhay. R. Marks, "The Glazing of Fotheringhay Church and College," *Journal of the British Archaeological Association*, 41:1 (1978), 79-109.

In this genealogy, Edward IV is shown to be the senior legitimate successor to Richard II, with the Lancastrian kings being cast as usurpers who only came to the throne through the incarceration and violent deposition of Richard II. The Confessor's arms could thus allude to the martyrdom of Richard II.



Sancti Lodowici / Saint Louis

Louis IX (1214–70), king of France. Born at Poissy, the son of Louis VIII and the half-English Blanche of Castile, Louis reigned from his father's death in 1226, but his mother was regent during his minority. In 1234 he married Margaret of Provence and thus became brother-in-law to King Henry III of England. In many respects Louis was a model Christian king, but his lively biographer, the Sieur de Joinville (a soldier, not a cleric), portrays him as a human being with faults as well as virtues. His long reign was not an unqualified success: his crusading expeditions were both disastrous, while his arbitrations between Henry III and his barons were not always efficacious. But he ruled France at a time of great cultural achievement, revealed by the building of Gothic cathedrals and the development of universities. Thomas Aquinas and other friars were guests at his table; the founder of the Sorbonne was a personal friend. Louis was also prominent in almsgiving, in founding a hospital for the poor and blind, called Quinze-Vingts (for 300 inmates), while his justice was famous for its impartiality. He also forbade private wars of feudal lords and was well known for keeping his word in treaties and other undertakings. The most famous church he founded was the Sainte-Chapelle at Paris, built to house what was believed to be the relic of Christ's Crown of Thorns, a present from Baldwin, the crusading Latin emperor at Constantinople. His monastic foundations included Royaumont, Vauvert, and Maubuisson. Taken from: <https://www.oxfordreference.com/display/10.1093/oi/authority.20110803100115888> [accessed August 13, 2024]

A century after the death of Louis IX, the line of French succession was taken over by the "closed and disagreeable line" of the Valois kings, as the compilers of MS Lewis E201 have labeled it. He is cited in many of the earlier pedigrees of Henry VI. The Yorkists had their reasons for labeling the Valois a disagreeable line, as the Lancastrian Henry VI was himself a Valois via his mother.



Herfordie / [Bohun earls of] Hereford

The De Bohuns were a prominent family of Marcher lords who lived near the chaotic border between England and Wales. Humphrey de Bohun, fourth Earl of Hereford, constable of England, was married to Elizabeth, daughter of King Edward I. He was instrumental in the first efforts to reform the government of Edward II and, after its failure, joined with Roger Mortimer to attack Hugh le Despenser. He was slain in the battle of Boroughbridge in 1322.

The title became extinct in 1373 but was revived as a dukedom in 1397 for Henry Bolingbroke (afterwards Henry IV), who married the daughter and co-heir of the last earl.



Jenevile / [De] Geneville

These are the arms associated with Geoffrey de Geneville, first Baron Geneville aka Baron Joinville. A prominent supporter of Henry III, he was appointed justiciar of Ireland, and held many other posts for that king. He held many lands in Ireland and in Wales, including the lordship of Ludlow Castle which would later become a principal Yorkist residence. He married Maud de Lacy, the family arms of which also appear in this manuscript, and she brought him the lordship of Meath. In his old age, he received permission from Edward II to transfer possession of most of his lands in Ireland to his eldest granddaughter, Joan, who would thereafter style herself Joan Baroness Genneville. Joan was married to Roger Mortimer, first earl of March, whose arms also feature in this genealogical roll. Ronan Mackay, "Geneville (Joinville), Geoffrey de", *Dictionary of Irish Biography*, 2009. This connection appears in the genealogical box for Lord Roger March, reinforcing the Mortimers' strength among the great families of Wales and the Marches.



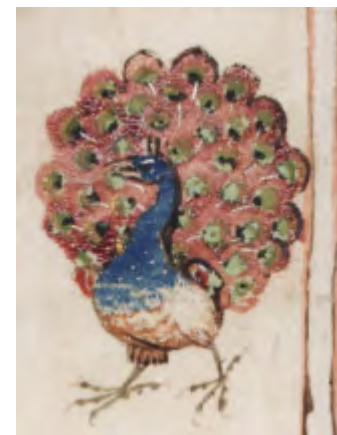
The Falcon, Rose, Fetterlock, and Cross

This image blends several Yorkist badges in one: the falcon and fetterlock favored by Edward IV's father Richard, third duke of York; Edward's own white rose; and the Cross of St George (also a reminder of the Order of the Garter).

Note: the rose was originally silver gilt, but has tarnished to a darker color.



The portraits of the "Seven progenitors" in Section 4 show the unique style of crowns associated with the titles Edward IV was asserting in 1461. The closed crown suggests the superiority of the English sovereign over the others. English kings had claimed an imperial jurisdiction and were shown wearing a closed imperial crown since the reign of Henry V. Dale Hoak, "The iconography of the crown imperial" in *Tudor Political Culture* (Cambridge, 2002).



The peacock, widely used in medieval iconography as a symbol of eternal life, is in keeping with the manuscript's overarching theme of divine intervention and approbation in the accession of Edward IV. But the peacock also carried the negative connotations of pride and evil, and was associated with the serpent in the Fall of Man when it was drawn with a "topknot" on its head. The placement of a peacock near the senior Capet French line could be a reminder about the everlastingness of the Capet line over the usurping Valois line.



Wilhelmi conquestori / William the Conqueror

William I (c. 1028 -1087), known as the Conqueror, defeated King Harold at the Battle of Hastings in 1066. He became the first Norman king of England, reshaping the country, and remained king until his death.

Although this shield is labeled "William the Conqueror," the usual coat of arms for the Norman kings had two lions. The third lion was added by the Angevin kings of England and would have been the coat familiar to the compilers of the roll. William's genealogical box is listed among the Saxon succession.



R[ex] Castelle [et] Legion[um]/ King of Castile and Leon [Spain]

The shields and banners at the end of the roll can be considered as a concluding argument for Edward IV's various claims to kingship. These arms refer to the kingdom of Castile & Leon. By displaying the arms of Castile & Leon, Edward IV was asserting that he was king there too. The claim was part of a long-running dispute between the Houses of York and Lancaster, which came about because Duke John of Lancaster (d. 1399) and Duke Edmund of York (d. 1402) had married the daughters of Pedro I by his mistress Maria de Padilla. Duke John

initially claimed title to the kingdom through his wife Constance as she was the older daughter of Pedro, but later assigned the claim to Juan I in the Treaty of Bayonne. The dukes of York protested on the basis that the treaty was made without regard to the rights of Pedro's other daughter Isabella, wife of Duke Edmund. Richard, third duke of York, also inclined to dynastic ambition abroad, apparently speculated about how he might exploit his claim in 1444. The genealogy laid out in this manuscript states: In regno Hispanie, cum rex Petrus ad senectutem pervenit, quidam Henricus, frater eius bastardus, de regno illo ipsum Petrum deforciavit, a quo tempore omnes qui regnarunt ibidem coronam illam usurpant iniuste (In the kingdom of Spain, when King Peter [Pedro] reached old age, a certain Henry [Enrique], his bastard brother, forced Peter from the kingdom. From this time forward, all who have reigned there have held the throne unjustly, as usurpers). Edward IV's title to Castile & Leon was recalled in verses and genealogies early in his reign, but in 1466-67 he made a final settlement conferring the title on Enrique IV. Doing so, King Edward created close relations between England and Castile & Leon, and alienated France from its long-standing alliance with that kingdom. A. Goodman & D. Morgan, "The Yorkist claim to the throne of Castile", *Journal of Medieval History* 11:1 (1985), 61-69, DOI: [10.1016/S0304-4181\(85\)80004-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0304-4181(85)80004-X) [accessed June 1, 2024]. For more on the claim to Castile see L. Visser-Fuchs, "'Honour is the Reward of Virtue': The Claudian Translation made for Richard



Unlabeled shield / De Braose

The De Braose family held significant estates in the Welsh marches. They entered the Mortimer line via the marriage of Maude de Braose (1224-c.1301) to Roger de Mortimer (c.1232-1282), first Baron of Wigmore. During the Second Barons' War, Maude devised a plan to rescue prince Edward (later Edward I) and her husband from the rebel Simon de Montfort. After Mortimer defeated De Montfort in single combat at the Battle of Evesham, Maude was sent De Montfort's severed head, which she reputedly displayed at a celebratory banquet. The inclusion of the De Braose line may be a reminder that Fortune (or God) eventually favors the rightful heir, as well as another reminder of the importance of the Mortimer line. The genealogical box for Roger Mortimer describes Maude as *prima rosa* (the first rose). This might provide a possible clue on the origin of the Yorkist rose badge, or it could allude to something else, as this roll often designates certain individuals using symbols and words of popular political prophecies. Alison Allan, Jonathan Hughes and J.L. Laynesmith have studied these prophecies in depth in the context of this roll and other genealogies. A. Allan, "Yorkist Propaganda: Pedigree, Prophecy and the 'British History' in the Reign of Edward IV", in *Patronage, Pedigree and Power in Later Medieval England*, ed. C. Ross (Gloucester 1979), 171-92. J. Hughes, *Arthurian Myths and Alchemy: the Kingship of Edward IV* (Stroud 2002); J.L. Laynesmith, "Anne Mortimer's Legacy to the House of York", in *The Mortimers of Wigmore 1066-1485: Dynasty of Destiny*, ed. P. Dryburgh and P. Hume (Eardisley 2023).



Hampto[u]n / [Southampton]

These are the civic arms of the city of Southampton. It is the site of the "Southampton Plot" for which Edward IV's grandfather, Richard earl of Cambridge, was executed in 1415. In 1462 the hospital of St Julian in Southampton was made a grant to pray for Edward IV, his successor, his father, and his grandfather Earl Richard, who was buried in the hospital's precinct. At this time, hospitals were religious institutions and were patronized by England's elite.



R[egis] Edwardi IIII p[rimus] / King Edward IV

Standard: Edward IV with quartered arms of England, France, and Castile & Leon, with central shield in escutcheon bearing the attributed arms of Brutus. This banner is identical to the heraldry on the horse trapper on the equestrian portrait in Section 1 that begins the manuscript, and provides a capsule summary of Edward IV's claim to the throne by right of descent from the ruling houses of England, France, and Castile & Leon. As demonstrated in the roll's genealogical lines, Edward IV claims to be descended from Brutus, King Arthur, and Cadwallader through his paternal grandmother Anne Mortimer. The standard is held by the white lion of March (Mortimer), reinforcing the superiority of Edward's claim via the Mortimer line.



R[ex] Anglie et Franc[ie]/ King of England and France

The royal standard with the quartered arms of England and France is held by Richard II's white hart, reinforcing Edward IV's status as the true legitimate heir of Richard II via the English, French, and Mortimer lineages.



The Stafford Knot

The single (pretzel-shaped) knot was adopted as the badge of Humphrey Stafford, earl of Stafford and first duke of Buckingham. His feud with Richard "the Kingmaker" Neville caused him to align with the Lancastrians and he was in fact killed defending Henry VI at the Battle of Northampton in 1460. Nevertheless, the Staffords were cousins to Edward IV and Humphrey's grandson Henry, second duke of Buckingham, was a potential future supporter.



The Bouchier Knot

The Bouchier family was close to the English royal family through the marriage of Edward III's grand-daughter, Anne of Gloucester, to William Bouchier, first count of Eu (1375-1420). William's eldest son, Henry, married Isabel, daughter of Richard earl of Cambridge, and became earl of Essex. William's fourth son, Thomas, became archbishop of Canterbury and cardinal, and briefly served as chancellor to Henry VI during the period in 1455 when Richard, third duke of York, was acting as Lord Protector during the king's incapacity. Archbishop Bouchier presided over the coronations of Edward IV and Richard III, crowning them both.



The Percy Crescent

The crescent appears next to the genealogical box for Henry Percy, second earl of Northumberland (1393-1455), son of the famous rebel “Hotspur”. Hotspur and others had taken to the battlefield to defeat Henry IV, the first Lancastrian king, at the Battle of Shrewsbury in 1403. Hotspur’s wife was Elizabeth Mortimer, daughter of Edmund, third earl of March. Hotspur’s heir, Henry, would later be restored to the earldom, reconciled with the Lancastrian regime, and killed at the Battle of St Alban’s in 1455. The Percy family had mixed loyalties throughout the Wars of the Roses, but after Edward IV secured his throne with the definitive defeat of the Lancastrians in 1471, they would also embrace their Mortimer connections as seen in the Percy Roll (Bodleian Library MS Bodl. Rolls 5), where their family tree proudly notes the intermarriage of the Percy with the Mortimer families. J. Hughes, *Arthurian Myths and Alchemy: the Kingship of Edward IV* (Stroud 2002), 230.

In the early Tudor period, the fourth earl of Northumberland (c. 1449-89) was said to have used a crescent as a badge, a tradition that continued by later Percy earls. A.W. Vivian-Neal, *Livery Badges and Personal Badges in Early Tudor Work at Cheddon Fitzpaine and Staple Fitzpaine*, available online at <https://sanhs.org/wp-content/uploads/10-A-W-Vivian-Neal.pdf> [accessed 17 July 2024].

There is evidence that the Percy earls adopted the crescent badge very early in the 15th century. According to Colin Torode, an expert in medieval badges, a certain William Stowe, who was a retainer of the Earl of Northumberland, left in his will of 1430 a “silver livery, a crescent, to the shrine of St Wilfred”. What could be that type of silver livery badge does survive in the collection of the Duke of Northumberland. It is a crescent with a collar-like decoration of alternating chains or shacklebolts, letter P’s & crescents. There’s also a far less splendid pewter badge of the crescent & shacklebolts that was recovered from 15th century spoil at Butler’s



The Symbols of Kingship

All the colors representing Edward IV’s lines of descent are blended in a culminating interlaced square surrounding a text affirming Edward’s claim to the throne, with one set of colored lines representing the English, French, and Spanish royal lines and the other set representing the British, Mortimer, and Clare-De Burgh lines. This square is surrounded by a complex iconographic program – the three crowns and sceptres of England, France, and Castile & Leon; the Yorkist sun, rose, and fetterlock badges alternating with the ostrich plumes of the prince of Wales [silver tarnished to black]; the three English coronation swords of temporal justice, spiritual justice, and mercy; and six blue garters carrying the text ‘honi soit qui mal y pense’ signifying that Edward IV was the sixth king since the Order of the Garter was established.

Two biblical texts are written within the garters. The three on the left carry the text ‘A domino factus est istud’ (this was done by the Lord) from Vulgate Psalm 117:23: ‘A domino factum est istud, et est mirabile in oculis nostris’ (This was done by the Lord, and it is marvellous to our eyes). The three on the right carry the text ‘Firmum concilium faciat d[eu]s’. Assuming ‘concilium’ is a scribal error for ‘consilium,’ this may be from Vulgate Judith 3:18: ‘Ita quod facere disposui probate si ex Deo est et

orate ut firmum faciat consilium meum Deus' (So that which I intend to do prove ye if it be of God, and pray that God may strengthen my design).

The four texts in blue at the cardinal points of the interlaced square say '*Omnipotens deus / conservet & confirmet / Eum / In seculum seculi*' (May Almighty God preserve and strengthen him forever and ever).

The text in red at the upper right of the interlaced square says '*Justicia Dominum manet in eternum*' (The justice of the Lord endures forever).

The text in red at the bottom left says 'Coumfort et Lyesse' (comfort and joy) - Edward IV's earliest known motto.

The closed crown of England represents England's sovereignty, not beholden to any secular power, and its lordship over France, Castile & Leon, and Wales. English kings had claimed an imperial jurisdiction and were shown wearing a closed imperial crown since the reign of Henry V. Dale Hoak, 'The iconography of the crown imperial' in *Tudor Political Culture* (Cambridge, 2002).

Although not stated explicitly, this roll also gave Edward IV precedents to assert sovereignty over Scotland, as it alludes to a number of events when Scottish kings gave obeisance to the English kings Henry III, Edward I, and Edward III.

International Congress on Medieval Studies

By Compton Reeves

The 61st International Congress on Medieval Studies met in May 2026. As with previous every Congress over the years, it was the impressive efforts of The Medieval Institute at Western Michigan University that brought the Congress into being. Medievalists with many particular interests—history, art history, music, manuscript studies, law, literature, language, medieval computer games, and more-- came to Kalamazoo to share their knowledge with colleagues from far and wide. Also to be found in attendance were interested individuals from beyond academia and, should anyone be interested in attending in person or through some of the Zoom sessions, inquiry can be made through wmich.edu/medieval.

Missing in 2026 was as great a presence of papers on fifteenth-century England as had been the case in 2025 when the Yorkist History Trust sponsored two sessions of papers. At the same time, in 2026 this historian did present a paper on the interdependence of the clergy of the secular cathedrals of England with the lay populations of the cities where the cathedrals were located. For reference, there were nineteen cathedral churches in England during the late medieval period, nine of which were known as secular cathedrals and were organized like most cathedrals in Western Europe with a dean and chapter of canons as the leading clergy: Chichester, Exeter, Hereford, Lichfield, Lincoln, St Paul's, Salisbury, Wells, and York. There were also ten regular cathedrals organized with a monastic community as the cathedral's management: Bath, Canterbury, Carlisle, Coventry, Durham, Ely, Norwich, Rochester, Winchester, and Worcester. It should be mentioned that the four secular cathedrals of Wales—Bangor, Llandaff, St Asaph, and St Davids—were within the Province of Canterbury.

In discussing the dynamic interdependence of the cathedral clergy and their layfolk neighbors, I dealt with the economic impact of interdependency, not only with the buying and selling of food, but also with hiring the services of groundskeepers, glaziers, stonemasons, blacksmiths, painters, carpenters, launderers, tailors, and others with skills required. So far as can be determined, most of the cathedral clergy came from the general region of the cathedral city where they resided, and it is a frustration that precious little information survives about the relationships of cathedral clergy with their families of origin. Every secular cathedral was also a center of education, maintaining a song school for the training of the locally recruited boys who became choristers. The choristers in song schools learned to read and pronounce the words of a song correctly and to sing plainsong, but to learn the meaning of the Latin words

they memorized and sang required grammar school instruction. Cathedrals had grammar schools, and students were typically drawn from the local population.

Another instance when cathedral clergy and layfolk might find themselves in contact was through ecclesiastical courts. Bishops exercised canon law jurisdiction in their dioceses, and the consistory courts of bishops, normally presided over by professional judges, met regularly in the cathedral of the diocese. The dean and chapter of each cathedral also had a court of canon law with jurisdiction over cases arising from within the cathedral precincts and from lands and churches included in the endowment of the chapter as well as from lands and churches included in currently vacant prebends and the endowments of vacant cathedral dignitaries. Maintaining adherence to the provisions of canon law, often accompanied by managing a property portfolio, brought clergy and layfolk into contact.

In a less worldly instance, it is notable that only Exeter of the nine secular cathedrals did not contain a pilgrim-attracting shrine to a saint, although not all saints' shrines in cathedrals were equally popular. The existence of a cathedral shrine required the attention of the cathedral clergy to maintain order and security at the shrine, and for the layfolk of the cathedral city a cathedral shrine meant visitors and customers for food and lodging. Towns and villages along the routes travelled by pilgrims also benefited from a cathedral shrine. Hereford offers a curious example of the interaction between cathedral and city. The parish community of St John in Hereford had an altar in the cathedral. That meant that the worship of St John's parishioners took place within the cathedral, and it must certainly have required scheduling coordination between the parish priest and cathedral authorities.

Charitable foundations by cathedral clergy are another instance of interaction between the clerical and lay communities in a cathedral city. Around 1225 Canon Elias of Bristol founded St Ethelbert's Hospital in Hereford to provide care for the infirm and poor of the community. The dean and chapter of Hereford had control and management of the hospital, as they had of the hospital of St Katherine at Ledbury founded by Bishop Hugh Foliot (d. 1234). In York, Dean Robert Pickering in the second decade of the fourteenth century founded the impressive hospital of St Mary in Bootham. Expressions of care for the community might also extend to the provision of burial places. St Paul's had more than one cemetery in the cathedral precinct, and one was for lay people. Indigent persons who died near St Paul's were buried in the churchyard. Many of the parish churches in London had cemeteries, but in the city of Exeter the cathedral cemetery enjoyed a monopoly of burials.

Another instance in which laity and cathedral clergy could find themselves in contact was the use of the cathedral for events other than for religious services. St Paul's can serve as a representative example. The cathedral of London, and certainly in other cathedral cities, was the largest space under a roof in the city, and therefore a grand place for trading, business meetings, and gatherings of other kinds. The proximity of St Paul's to the seat of royal government at Westminster naturally affected the place of St Paul's in civic and royal events, but other cathedrals also had their place in local civic events.

The central function of a cathedral, it must be remembered, was the ongoing celebration of the Opus Dei, for which the cathedral clergy were responsible. No congregation of the faithful was necessary for that prime function to be fulfilled. Nonetheless, as I have been suggesting, there were many instances where the secular cathedral clergy and the lay residents of their locality intermingled in a dynamic interdependence.

Reviews

Myrna Smith, Pauline Calkin

***Loyalty*—Matthew Lewis, CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2012**

In light of the current effort to bring this novel to the screen, I thought I would give it a re-read. *Loyalty* was Matthew Lewis's first writing venture, a fictional account of Richard III's life beginning with his first appearance on the field of battle at Barnet. It is not a sweeping epic like Penman's *The Sunne in Splendour*, which weaves a colorful tapestry of events and people; rather this is a rendition that focuses on Richard's character and his most important relationships, those with his brother Edward IV and his wife Anne Neville. His relationship with the former is complex, with Edward wondering how much he can trust Richard, and Richard never sure how he can convince his brother of his loyalty. Affection is evident in Edward's feelings towards his younger brother, but not so much on Richard's part, perhaps because he is so uncertain on where he stands with his brother and king.

The crowning achievement is the depiction of Richard's relationship with Anne. Richard does not show his feelings towards her in the beginning. Is he solely interested in the wealth she can bring him, or is there something more—affection, or even love? Whatever his feelings, he is the swashbuckling embodiment of a knight in shining armor when he rescues her from the cook shop

where his brother George has put her. If Richard wasn't head over heels in love with Anne at the beginning, he soon is, and not only that, he relies on her advice above all others'. But when their son dies, their marriage reaches a breaking point, which is portrayed in a heart wrenching scene.

As Duke of Gloucester and the king's brother, Richard's position might seem secure, but he and Anne know it is not. The queen and her family have great influence on Edward, an influence that could well be used to undermine or even destroy Richard. Thus, when Edward dies, we feel the real fear and uncertainty that must have informed Richard's decisions during that time.

The author has Sir Thomas More tell Richard's true story to Holbein, the painter.

If you are aware of the author's fascination with the Leslau theory, you shouldn't be surprised when the son of one of the Princes in the Tower makes an appearance in the novel. But it comes at the end, and even if you are somewhat skeptical about the theory, it doesn't detract from the novel's merits.—P.C.

***Honour*—Matthew Lewis, Kindle Edition, 2026**

As this sequel to *Loyalty* opens, we find Francis Lovell fleeing from Bosworth field and taking sanctuary at Colchester Abbey. He is immediately confronted with the task of protecting Richard III's young nephews—all three of them, since Clarence's son, Edward of Warwick, has joined Edward IV's sons there. Tudor spies soon learn King Edward's sons are in Colchester, forcing Lovell to play a high-stakes poker game with Bishop Morton to preserve the boys' lives. What Morton tells him about certain matters—about Catesby and about the precontract, for example—cause him to question the truth behind recent events. In the end, however, he relies on the integrity of his deceased friend, King Richard, to guide his actions.

The story adopts the same structure as in *Loyalty*, alternating between accounts of Hans Holbein on his return to England in 1532 and the events following Bosworth through the battle of Stoke. Henry VIII and Cromwell commission paintings from Holbein, but they know that on his previous visit, Holbein learned through Sir Thomas More the secret of the survival of Edward IV's son. They threaten him if he has any further contact with More, but, of course, he does. Holbein finds himself in a situation that mirrors Lovell's, one in which the parties are acting at cross purposes with hidden motives.

Both storylines are complex and filled with intrigue. What I found particularly satisfying is that the author makes the "minor" characters and episodes as interesting as the protagonists. Just some of the noteworthy examples are the touching scenes between the Stafford

brothers; Bishops Morton and Rotherham assessing Henry VII and Richard III; the astute Margaret of Clarence fiercely protecting her brother's interests. The author is very clever in incorporating many of the theories about the fate of the princes into this fictional story. Even if one is skeptical about some theories, especially in light of recent discoveries, this is still a worthwhile read.—P.C.

***Red Rose, White Rose*—Joanna Hickson, Harper, 2014**

This novel about Cecily Neville is told from her point of view and that of a half-brother, Cuthbert, or "Cubby." This story stumbles out of the gate by wasting the first 100 pages or so with some romantic nonsense in which Cecily is abducted and has an affair with a nephew. No, not that nephew, but one from the branch of the family descended from her father's first wife. Her abductor shows her the injustice suffered by his, the Lancastrian branch of the family. In true romantic novel fashion, she spends the rest of the novel obsessing about this guy.

Cecily marries Richard, Duke of York soon after this interlude, and they seem to enjoy a good, loving relationship for years, until they become estranged when Richard forces their daughter Anne to marry the openly hostile Henry Holland. From that point forward, Richard can't seem to do anything right in Cecily's eyes—and that includes his refusal to knight their son Edward (her favorite, of course) before his first battle. So Cecily gets her nephew—this time, it is *that* one—the Earl of Warwick—to perform the dubbing.

There were some entertaining parts of the novel—the odious Henry Holland being frog marched to the altar to marry his bride of York, for example. Also well done was the relationship between Cecily and her timid, ugly duckling daughter Anne. However, I thought the novel was long and boring overall, and, frankly, I just didn't care for the portrayals of Cecily or her husband. She comes across as a bit of nag, whose allegiance to York never overcame her Lancastrian upbringing. In the end she favored neither the white rose or red rose (yes, I could go on about her persistent use of the red rose as the symbol of Lancaster) but a pink/rose rose. York was depicted as competent and fair-minded but a bit stuffy. Cuthbert thought he was admirable but not attractive; Cuthbert served him, but his allegiance was never to York but to Cicely. If you want to read a novel about Cecily Neville, give this one a pass. Annie Garthwaite's *Cecily and The King's Mother* or Eleanor Fairburn's four novels are much better.—P.C.

***Candles and White Roses*—Rebekah Fanning, Kindle Edition, 2024**

The year is 1454 and tensions between York and Lancaster are high. Bethany Mortimer of Stratford Mortimer, plagued by deteriorating eyesight, embarks on a pilgrimage to Walsingham. Her pilgrimage is apparently made under the protection of the Duke of York, and Bethany is disconcerted when she overhears remarks that she is a traitor. The author's knowledge about pilgrimages undertaken by the upper classes during this era is evident in Bethany's descriptions of the sacred sites she visited, such as Bury St. Edmunds. Her account of her mystical experiences, leading to a miraculous improvement in her eyesight, adds an interesting layer to the story. However, the detailed descriptions of *every single meal* that the pilgrims were served along the way became tedious. This journey could have been dubbed "The Duke of York's Luxury Pilgrimage for Foodies."

The author makes no effort to develop a plot. There is always some hint of danger, but the nature and source is not explained. At one point, a man, apparently a retainer of the Duke, suddenly appears out of the mist with a warning that there is danger ahead in Newmarket. The situation, whatever it is, becomes even more perilous, so that a Yorkist knight, Pip, appears and takes charge. A specific threat from two pilgrims takes all of three paragraphs to emerge and be resolved. Indeed, the author doesn't bother with explanations. I think two of the pilgrims disappeared without a mention midway through the journey. And at a climactic point, Bethany is surprised when Roger appears. Who's Roger? He has never been mentioned before, and it is not until the sequel, *Blood and White Roses*, that it is explained that she knew Roger (aka the Duke of York) because he used to visit her family.

While there are some moderately entertaining stock characters, there is no effort to develop Bethany's character. She is passive and is protected by the Yorkist retainers. The knight, Pip, announces that things are so dangerous that he must sleep in her room. Does Bethany have any reaction to this? Is she scandalized, embarrassed? No, nothing, nada. Is she attracted to him? Again, nothing—and she ends up marrying him without ever expressing a thought about him. As a journal of Bethany's visit to religious sites, the novel is adequate: as a story with a developed plot and characters, it fails.—P.C.

***Blood and White Roses*, Rebekah Fanning, Kindle Edition, 2026**

More than six years have passed since the events in *Candle and White Roses*. While the Duke of York tragically died at Wakefield, his son has just triumphed over the Lancastrians at Towton, becoming the glorious Edward IV. This novel, unlike *Candles and White Roses*, has a semblance of a plot. Despite Edward's triumph, there are plots to overthrow and kill him, as well as his two young brothers. Bethany, now Lady Harscyk due to her marriage to Pip, is tasked with thwarting these plots against the two boys. Similar to the previous book, she makes several stops along the way to Warwick Castle, accompanied by the same crew of retainers who served as guides during her pilgrimage. There is a bit more action here, including a wild scene where Lady Stanley (Eleanor Neville) attacks her. However, Bethany remains a passive figure who doesn't contribute much to uncovering the plotters. She does recover an incriminating note from Lady Eleanor Butler (!), but her team had already discovered the same information from other sources. It's a pity that the author doesn't allow Bethany to play a more significant role in figuring things out. However, I must admit to a weakness for stories involving Richard as a young boy (as long as he isn't shown tearing limbs off bunnies). So, when we are told that Richard likes to be called Dickon, as that was his father's name for him, I suspended all critical judgment.—P.C.

Upcoming Events

Unless otherwise stated, events are free and for paying members only. To register, send an email to membership@r3.org.

American Branch Movie Club

October 11, 2026, 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm EDT, Zoom

What do you get when you combine popcorn, Andrew Garfield (ok, Wat Tyler), and the Peasant's Revolt?

The Movie Club of the American Branch!

Join us for our first Zoom open-discussion group, focusing on movies and television shows that feature our favorite period of time and our favorite personalities from the past. Our first movie to be discussed is the new Paul Greengrass movie, "The Uprising", starring Andrew Garfield, to be released in US theaters September 11th, and later on streaming platforms.

Everyone is welcome to participate, but you'll need to register your email in order to get the Zoom link.

Margaret of York: Medieval Powerbroker

October 18, 2026, 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm EDT, Zoom

Dr Lacey Bonar Hull, popular podcaster and educator at The History Desk substack, will speak about Richard III's sister, Margaret, the Duchess of Burgundy and a stalwart enemy of Henry Tudor. Despite being a woman, Margaret fearlessly blazed her own destiny as well as that of the Burgundian state.



2026 General Membership Meeting

October 30 – November 1, 2026

New Haven, Connecticut

The NY Tri-Borough Chapter along with the Board of Directors of the Richard III Society–American Branch are very pleased to announce that the 2026 General Membership Meeting (GMM) will include distinguished speakers Dr Jessica Brantley, Dr Agnieszka Rec and a very special appearance by Matt Lewis.

We welcome all members of the Richard III Society, any of its overseas and local branches, chapters and groups, as well as members of the public (non-members cannot vote during the business meeting).



KEYNOTE SPEAKER: MATT LEWIS

Topic: "The Kingmaker's Gambit"

Few families had a greater impact on the politics of late medieval England than the Neville family. The story of this old northern clan's rise to national prominence reaches a peak with Richard Neville, 16th Earl of Warwick and his daughters, Isabel and Anne. What was Warwick really hoping to achieve? Portrait of Matt Lewis How close did he come? What role did Isabel and Anne play in the family's plans? Matt Lewis will consider what allowed the family to reach such heights and what might have contributed to their downfall, as well as asking whether Warwick really deserves his epithet of "the Kingmaker." Matt Lewis is a former Chair of the UK Richard III Society, and an author and historian of the medieval period, with a focus on the Wars of the Roses and Richard III. He has written biographies of Richard III, his father Richard, Duke of York, and of Henry II and Eleanor of Aquitaine, as well as Henry III. His other books include accounts of the Anarchy, the Wars of the Roses, and the Survival of the Princes in the Tower. Matt works at History

Hit, where he hosts the *Echoes of History* podcast, co-hosts the *Gone Medieval* podcast, and presents documentaries across the network.

Note: Matt's talk will be recorded and available to anyone purchasing a GMM Zoom or In-Person Ticket. See Schedule of Events for the date/time of this presentation.



GUEST SPEAKER: DR JESSICA BRANTLEY

Topic: "Richard III's Book of Hours"

Professor Brantley's research examines the cultures of medieval reading as they are preserved in manuscripts, and she has a special expertise with medieval books of hours like the one owned by Richard III. Her first book, *Reading in the Wilderness: Private Devotion and Public Performance in Late Medieval England* (Chicago, 2007), shows that the format of a late-medieval miscellany reveals surprising connections between the private reading of a meditative lyric and the public performance of civic drama. More recently, *Medieval English Manuscripts and Literary Forms* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2022) offers a method for manuscript study based inductively on a dozen case studies. She is currently working on a monograph provisionally entitled *The Book of Hours in English Literary History*. Professor Brantley is a specialist in Old and Middle English literature and has been Chair of the English Department at Yale since 2019, alongside her ongoing teaching and research in medieval manuscript studies.

Note: Professor Brantley's talk will be recorded and available to anyone purchasing a GMM Zoom or In-Person Ticket. See Schedule of Events for the date/time of this presentation.



SPECIAL EXCURSION: DR AGNIESKA REC AT BEINECKE LIBRARY

We have a special treat lined up, a personal, curated tour of the medieval manuscript collections at the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library at Yale University, one of the world's largest libraries devoted entirely to rare books, manuscripts, and special collections. Opened in 1963, it is renowned for its

iconic, modernist building featuring translucent marble panels and a central glass tower holding over 1 million volumes. Dr Agnieszka Rec will be leading us through the collection and will have several manuscripts on hand for us to peruse and discuss. Dr Rec earned her doctorate in medieval history from Yale and her B.S., also from Yale, in mathematics and humanities. She returned to Beinecke as an early materials cataloger in 2021. Rec has pursued a consciously cross-disciplinary path through cultural heritage collections exploring the scientific materials at the Chemical Heritage Foundation, the Indigenous manuscripts recovered at the Massachusetts Historical Society (MHS), and the wide-ranging scholarship published by the Medieval Academy of America and *Speculum: A Journal of Medieval Studies*. She brings broad expertise at the intersections of medieval studies, the history of science, and material history, especially in the paleography and codicology of early books and manuscripts.

Note: Shuttle van transportation to the Beinecke Library will be provided as part of the GMM Saturday ticket at no extra cost to attendees. Guests are required to leave bags, coats, etc., at the coat check, which is accessible only by a staircase. We will have volunteers prepared to assist anyone who is unable to take the stairs or needs assistance with leaving their coats/bags in coat Check. Sorry, we are unable to record or make this presentation available for our GMM Zoom attendees.



SCREENING OF A TASTE OF LOYALTY MOVIE AND Q&A WITH MATT LEWIS

After Saturday's Banquet, attendees will be privileged to have a special, private screening of a movie-in-the-making by Matt Lewis and actor Thomas Dennis.

A Taste of Loyalty is an ambitious short film that will serve as a proof of concept for the full-length feature film *Loyalty*—based on the novel of the same name by Matthew Lewis and adapted for the screen by Thomas Dennis.

Loyalty is about King Richard III of England—retold, for the first time, exploring the humanity of his story. Whether you believe him a hero or villain, he was a real man who shaped England's history. Where *Gladiator* meets Richard Harris's *Cromwell*, the team are committed to creating a new medieval epic, one to rival the greats. This project will not only be inspired by history, it will be guided by new evidence to challenge the Shakespearean narrative. The history is complex and

exciting and hosts a wide array of fascinating characters.

Our short film is set on Easter Sunday, 14 April 1471. Our characters have arrived at Barnet, just north of London. The kingdom is in the grips of a civil war. King Edward IV, driven from his realm the previous year, has returned to reclaim his crown. His youngest brother, Richard, Duke of Gloucester, at 18 years of age prepares for his first taste of battle. Through the mist, he knows the mighty Earl of Warwick awaits them. Forced to decide between his brother and his mentor, Richard has made his choice. He has chosen loyalty... but at what cost?

Note: A recording of this presentation will be available to GMM and In-Person Zoom ticket holders. See Schedule of Events for the date/time of this presentation.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, October 30th:

- 4 p.m.: Hotel check in starts
- 6 p.m.: GMM Registration opens
- 7 p/m.: Welcome “pizza party” and Social Meetup (Activity TBA)

Saturday, October 31st:

- 9-10:30 a.m.: Professor Jessica Brantley on “Richard III's Book of Hours”**
- 10:45 a.m.-1 p.m.: GMM Business Meeting & Luncheon (boxed lunch included)
- 1:30-2 p.m.: Shuttle transport to Beinecke Library
- 2-4 p.m.: Presentation at Beinecke Library
- 4-4:30 p.m.: Shuttle transport back to Hotel
- 4-6:30 p.m.: Free time
- 6:30-8 p.m.: Dinner Banquet with Awards Presentation*
- 8-9:30 p.m.: Screening of *Loyalty* and Q&A with Matt Lewis**

Sunday November 1st:

- 9-10:30 a.m.: Matt Lewis Keynote Talk on “The Kingmaker's Gambit”**
- 10:30-11 a.m.: Raffle prizes awarded
- 12:30 p.m.: Hotel check-out

* Please submit your Saturday Banquet entree selection no later than October 25, as we must report final food counts to the hotel on October 26.

**We plan to record the Matt Lewis, Jessica Brantley, and “Loyalty” presentations and make links to the recordings available to holders of GMM Zoom and In-Person tickets.

Breakfast is not included in our program. For an extra \$25 per night, you can add breakfast as an option when you book your guest room at the OMNI.

Information about “What to See and Do” in the New Haven area will be provided at a later date.

VENUE & GROUP DISCOUNT ON GUEST ROOMS

Unless otherwise stated, all GMM events will take place at the **Omni Hotel at Yale, 155 Temple Street, New Haven, Connecticut 06510**. This is on the edge of the Yale campus and is 0.5 miles from the Beinecke Library.

We have reserved a block of discounted guestrooms at the Omni, offered to our members at \$189 (single/double), \$209 (triple), and \$229 (quad) per night. Additional nights before and after the GMM can be secured using this discount. **The last day to secure a discounted rate is September 29, subject to availability.** We recommend booking your room as soon as possible.

To secure the room discount, telephone the Omni at **1-800-THE-OMNI** and tell them the name of our group and event (Richard III Society/General Membership Meeting). Or, click on [this link](#) to make your reservations online.

If you need personal assistance with your hotel booking or reservations, our contact at the Omni is Ashley Tucker, Convention Services Manager, (203) 974-6727, ashley.tucker@omnihotels.com

The hotel offers a breakfast package for \$25 per night, which we recommend if you wish to eat on-site. Breakfast is not included with GMM tickets.

Parking at the Omni Hotel at Yale is primarily available via on-site valet (\$30 per night) or the attached Chapel Square Garage (155 Temple St) for \$25 per night. The garage offers covered self-parking with 24/7 access, while valet provides unlimited in/out privileges. Charging stations are available for electric cars.

Omni Hotel at Yale is located near the following airports:

- About 4 miles (15 minutes) from Tweed New Haven Airport (HNV)

- About 38 miles (45 minutes) from Hartford-Brainard Airport in Hartford, CT (HFD)
- About 80 miles (1 hour and 30 minutes) from Laguardia Airport (LGA)
- About 80 miles (1 hour and 40 minutes) from John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK)
- About 90 miles (2 hours) from Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR)

The Amtrak Northeast Regional and Amtrak Highspeed Acela trains both stop at [New Haven's Union Station](#), and have daily service. New Haven's Union Station is less than 1 mile from the Omni Hotel at Yale, or a 5 minute taxi ride or 20 minute walk.

To Register, use [this form](#) and forward to our GMM registrar Maria Elena Torres at ejbronte@gmail.com.

To Register online using a credit card or Paypal, go to the 2026 GMM Eventbrite ticket site at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/richard-iii-society-american-branch-2026-gmm-registration-1980567354272>.

Author Anne Easter Smith

February 21, 2027, 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm EST, Zoom

Anne Easter Smith has been a member of the American Branch for a number of years, and we are excited to announce she will be giving our members an exclusive talk about her work as historical fiction author. Her 2019 novel, *This Son of York*, has been rated in the Top 20 of the Best Ricardian Reads of All Time (Fiction). Anne was interviewed by BBC/NPR Radio in 2012, following the discovery of Richard's remains, and she is a frequent panelist in author conferences.

More details to come – stay tuned!



Was It a Love Match?

April 18, 2027, 12:00 pm EDT

Longtime member and popular speaker Sally Keil explores the idea that the marriage of Richard Duke of Gloucester and Anne Neville was a love match. Numerous authors—especially in the historical fiction genre—have suggested as such, but by careful study of the timelines of their lives



other conclusions can be reached. Sally will also review the role played by financial considerations in their marriage and the financial implications of marriage in general among the peerage of medieval England.

The image here is from the Salisbury Roll of Arms (British Library, catalogued as Add MS 45133) and depicts Richard III and Queen Anne at their coronation.

Article Submission Guidelines

Keep it simple. Please use a standard 12-point font—such as the default font of the word processor.

Use italics for book titles, article titles, publication titles, and foreign language.

If the document has images, please submit them separately, marking their place in the document like this: <file name such as Fig1>

Do not resize your images. I can always make them smaller to fit, but can't make them larger. Images 300 dots per inch size, so if the image is 1" by 2" in the article, then it has to be 300 dots (or pixels) by 600 dots for the correct size.

Image file format should be jpg, png, tif, or pdf. Most cameras will produce jpg images.

Preferred document file formats are doc, docx, odt, or rtf. I can accept PDF files, but they do not always transcribe well. Tables or databases should use Microsoft Excel or CSV. Additionally, provide a PDF conversion so I can see what it should look like.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at info@r3.org if you have any questions on something that you want to submit.

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The American Branch of the Ricard III Society will accept ads that are of Ricardian interest including events, tours, music, books, art, and other merchandise.

Ad fees:

There are no fees for ads by members of any branch of the Richard III Society.

Ad fees of \$50 USD apply to ads by a member in behalf of a company they are affiliated with, or by non-members for ads that are still within the parameters of Ricardian interest.

All other types of ads are not accepted and the American Branch reserves the right to reject any ad.

Discounts:

Ad discounts will be offered in return for a benefit to the Society or its members—for example to recognize a discount on a product or service being offered to members.

Some advertisements may be carried free—for example if this is an event being run by the Society or if it is to support a charity or other good cause; or as part of a mutual arrangement with an equivalent body;

Ricardian Chronicle schedule:

Submit ad by May 1st for inclusion in the June issue.

Submit ad by November 1st for inclusion in the December issue.

(Note: To allow for publishing and distribution delays, the ad should not be for events and tours that are to happen on a day in the first half of publication month.)

Technical Guidelines:

Fonts: The publication will use only one standard font throughout. If you need to have a special font, convert it to an image.

File types: doc, docx, odt, rtf, or pdf.

Images: must be at least at 300 dpi (dots per inch) resolution.

Ad size: ads exceed 5" by 5" will be resized to 5" x 5"

If the ad submission is fully formatted, submit it as an image or pdf.

Once the advertisement is published, the advertiser and their customers are acting at their own risk.

If you have any questions, please contact me at info@r3.org.

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If you do not see a chapter near you and you would like to reach out to other Ricardians in your area, please contact the Chapter Coordinator at chapters@r3.org. She will circulate your email address to members in your area.

If you do not see your chapter listed here, please contact the Membership Chair at membership@r3.org and provide the current contact information.

Membership Application & Renewal Form

Regular Membership Levels

Individual, digital only (digital copies of magazines and journals): \$60.00 \$_____

Individual (print copies of magazines and journals): \$75.00 \$_____

Family (2 or more people in the same household): \$80.00 \$_____

Please list members at the same address (other than yourself) who are re-joining: _____

For non-U.S. mailing address, to cover postage please add: \$15.00 \$_____

Contributing and Sponsoring Membership Levels

Honorary Fotheringhay Member: \$100.00 \$_____

Honorary Middleham Member: \$180.00 \$_____

Honorary Bosworth Member: \$300.00 \$_____

Plantagenet Angel : \$500.00 \$_____

Donations*

General Fund \$_____

Schallek Special Projects Fund \$_____

Total enclosed \$_____

*The Richard III Society, Inc., is a not-for-profit corporation with 501c3 designation. All contributions over the basic \$75 membership are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Circle One: Mr. - Mrs. - Miss - Ms. - Other: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Country (if outside of U.S.): _____

Residence Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

___ New ___ Renewal ___ Please check if new address ___

Date of birth to register with Parent Branch of the Richard III Society _____

Note: Registration is required for receipt of the UK publications including the Ricardian Journal and Bulletin. If you are renewing your membership and have registered, then you do not have to reregister.

___ Please check if you wish to OPT OUT of registering.

If this is a gift membership, please place the following message on the gift acknowledgement email:

Make checks payable to: THE RICHARD III SOCIETY, INC. (U.S. Funds only, please.)

Mail to:

Richard III Society Membership Dept.

c/o Wayne Ingalls

704 NW Euclid Ave.

Lawton, OK 73507

For instructions on how to join or renew online, go to r3.org/join/

Mail to:
Richard III Society, American Branch
C/O Wayne Ingalls
704 NW Euclid Ave.
Lawton, OK 73507

Inside Cover

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Front cover: Lewis E 201 Chronicle of the History of the World from Creation to Woden, with a Genealogy of Edward IV--Section 1

Richard III Society American Branch Logo

Created by Emily Newton

Richard III Forever

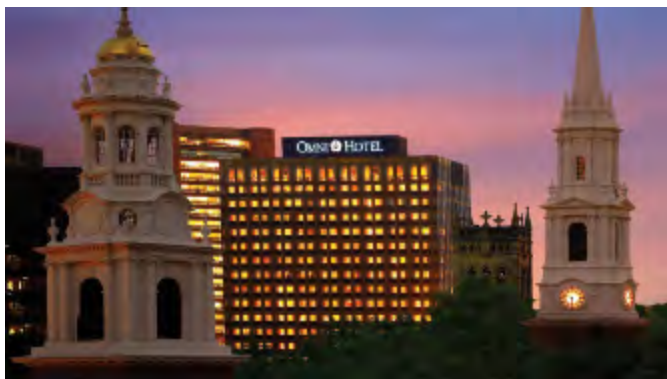


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Save the Date: 2026 GMM
October 30 – November 1, 2026

New Haven, Connecticut

The Richard III Society's General Members Meeting (GMM) is on the horizon! Join fellow Ricardians for three days of discovery, discussion, and connection as we delve into the enduring legacy of Richard III and his legacy. See page 46 for details.



The Omni Hotel in New Haven.