Contents

List of plates xi
List of maps xii
List of figures xiii
List of tables xv
List of contributors xvii
Preface by the General Editor xix
Acknowledgements xxiv
List of abbreviations xxv

PART I INTRODUCTORY

1 INTRODUCTION
D. M. Palliser 3

2 THE ORIGINS OF BRITISH TOWNS
D. M. Palliser 17

PART II THE EARLY MIDDLE AGES 600–1300

3 GENERAL SURVEY 600–1300
Grenville Astill 27

4 POWER AND AUTHORITY 600–1300
James Campbell 51

5 SOCIETY AND POPULATION 600–1300
Richard Holt 79
## Contents

6 **The Economy of British Towns 600–1300** 105  
   *Richard Britnell*

7 **Churches, Education and Literacy in Towns 600–1300** 127  
   *Julia Barrow*

8 **The Topography of Towns 600–1300** 153  
   *D. M. Palliser, T. R. Slater and E. Patricia Dennison*

9 **London from the Post-Roman Period to 1300** 187  
   *Derek Keene*

10 **The Large Towns 600–1300** 217  
   *David A. Hinton*

11 **Small Towns 600–1270** 245  
   *John Blair*

### PART III THE LATER MIDDLE AGES 1300–1540

12 **General Survey 1300–1540** 273  
   *Barrie Dobson*

13 **Government, Power and Authority 1300–1540** 291  
   *S. H. Rigby and Elizabeth Ewan*

14 **The Economy of British Towns 1300–1540** 313  
   *Richard Britnell*

15 **Urban Culture and the Church 1300–1540** 335  
   *Gervase Rosser, with Scottish material by E. Patricia Dennison*

16 **The Built Environment 1300–1540** 371  
   *John Schofield and Geoffrey Stell*

17 **London 1300–1540** 395  
   *Caroline M. Barron*

18 **The Greater Towns 1300–1540** 441  
   *Jennifer Kermode*
Contents

19 PORT TOWNS
   (a) ENGLAND AND WALES 1300–1540  467
      Maryanne Kowaleski
   (b) SCOTLAND 1300–1540  495
      David Ditchburn

20 SMALL TOWNS 1270–1540  505
   Christopher Dyer

PART IV REGIONAL SURVEYS

21 REGIONAL INTRODUCTION (ENGLAND AND WALES)  541
   Derek Keene and D. M. Palliser

22 (a) THE SOUTH-EAST OF ENGLAND  545
    Derek Keene
   (b) THE SOUTH-WEST OF ENGLAND  583
       T. R. Slater
   (c) THE MIDLANDS  609
       Christopher Dyer and T. R. Slater
   (d) EAST ANGLIA  639
       Bärbel Brodt
   (e) NORTHERN TOWNS  657
       Jennifer Kermode
   (f) WALES AND THE MARCHES  681
       Ralph A. Griffiths

23 SCOTLAND  715
   E. Patricia Dennison and Grant G. Simpson

PART V CONCLUSION

24 CONCLUSION  741
   D. M. Palliser

APPENDIX: RANKING LISTS OF ENGLISH MEDIEVAL TOWNS  747
   Alan Dyer

   Introduction  747
   1a Pre-Conquest towns: area within fortifications of Anglo-Saxon burhs  748
1b Pre-Conquest towns: number of surviving coins from each mint 973–1066 750
2 Ranking of Domesday towns 1086 752
3 Ranking of towns in farms, tallages and aids 1154–1312 754
4 Ranking of towns by taxable wealth: the subsidy of 1334 755
5 Ranking of towns by taxpaying population: the 1377 poll tax 758
6 Ranking of towns by taxpaying population: subsidy of 1524–1525 761
7 Ranking of towns by taxable wealth: the subsidy of 1524–1525 765

Ranking summary of the more important towns mentioned in Appendices 768

Select bibliography 771
Index 789