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0521520053 - Lordship, Knighthood and Locality: A Study in English Society c.
1180 - c. 1280

Peter Coss

Frontmatter

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This book is a study in the evolution of English society between c. 1180 and c. 1280. It deliberately avoids over-concentration upon the county, arguing that this approach tends towards anachronism and distortion. It emphasises instead the locality, bearing in mind that the presence of a territorial lordship and an honour court might help to shape local identity.

The book proceeds by means of a detailed analysis of the honour and locality of Coventry, concentrating upon the nature of lordship and upon the social and economic fortunes of knights, free tenants and local administrators, and the relationships between them. A further dimension is added by the existence of an important seignorial borough at the centre of the locality. The book therefore not only explores the role of the town in the evolution of the knightly class, but also examines more broadly the relationship between town and country in this period. Following this analysis the book turns to a broader consideration of the fortunes of the knightly class in Warwickshire and to the issues surrounding the evolution of knighthood in general. Thus it makes a significant contribution towards our understanding of the origins of the English gentry.

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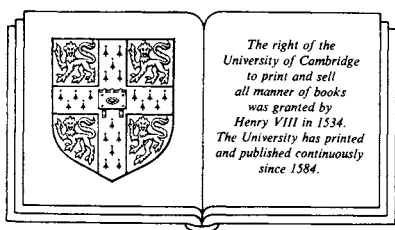
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Lordship, knighthood and locality

*A study in English society
c. 1180 – c. 1280*

PETER COSS

*Principal Lecturer in History,
Newcastle upon Tyne Polytechnic*



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To the memory of my father, THOMAS COSS (1904–1978),
who loved life, and Coventry

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Caludon account, 1257–8 (PRO SC1094/11 m20;
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Abbreviations

<i>Annales Cestrienses</i>	<i>Annales Cestrienses</i> , ed. R. C. Christie, The Record Society of Lancashire and Cheshire (1886)
Barraclough, 'Some Charters of the Earls of Chester'	Barraclough, G., 'Some Charters of the Earls of Chester', in <i>A Medieval Miscellany for Doris Mary Stenton</i> , Pipe Roll Society, 86 (1962)
BIHR	<i>Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research</i>
BL	British Library
<i>Book of Fees</i>	<i>Liber feodorum. The Book of Fees commonly called Testa de Nevill</i> , 3 vols. (London, 1920–31)
<i>Book of Seals</i>	<i>Sir Christopher Hatton's Book of Seals</i> , ed. L. C. Loyd and D. M. Stenton (Oxford, 1950)
'Bracton'	Woodbine, G. E. (ed.), trans. (with revision and notes) Samuel E. Thorne, 'Bracton' (<i>Bracton de legibus et consuetudinibus Angliae: Bracton on the Laws and Customs of England</i>), 4 vols. (Oxford, 1968–77)
CAD	<i>Calendar of Ancient Deeds</i>
CCR	<i>Calendar of Close Rolls</i>
CChR	<i>Calendar of Charter Rolls</i>
CFR	<i>Calendar of Fine Rolls</i>
CIPM	<i>Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem</i>
CLR	<i>Calendar of Liberate Rolls</i>
CPR	<i>Calendar of Patent Rolls</i>

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<i>Cal. Inq. Misc.</i>	<i>Calendar of Inquisitions Miscellaneous</i>
<i>Cal. Papal Regs.</i>	<i>Calendar of Papal Registers</i>
<i>Chartulary of St Werburgh</i> , ed. Tait	<i>The Chartulary or Register of the Abbey of St Werburgh, Chester</i> , 2 vols. ed. J. Tait, Chetham Society, n.s., 79, 82 (1920, 1923)
<i>Close Rolls</i>	<i>Close Rolls of the Reign of Henry III Preserved in the Public Record Office</i> , 1227–72, 14 vols. (London, 1902–38)
CRO	Coventry Record Office
CRR	<i>Curia Regis Rolls</i>
DB	<i>Domesday Book</i> , ed. A. Farley, Record Commission (London, 1783)
<i>DB Staffs.</i>	<i>Domesday Book, Staffordshire</i> , ed. John Morris (Chichester, 1976)
<i>DB Warwick.</i>	<i>Domesday Book, Warwickshire</i> , ed. John Morris (Chichester, 1976)
DNB	<i>Dictionary of National Biography</i>
Dugdale	Dugdale, W., <i>The Antiquities of Warwickshire</i> (London, 1656), rev. W. Thomas, 1730
<i>Early Records</i>	<i>The Early Records of Medieval Coventry</i> , ed. P. R. Coss, British Academy Records of Social and Economic History, n.s., 11 (Oxford, 1986)
<i>Econ. Hist. Rev.</i>	<i>Economic History Review</i>
EHR	<i>English Historical Review</i>
1221 Eyre	<i>Eyre Rolls of Lincolnshire and Worcestershire</i> , ed. D. M. Stenton, Selden Society, 53 (1934)
Farrer, HKF	Farrer, W., <i>Honors and Knights' Fees</i> , 3 vols. (London, 1923–5)
<i>FF Lincs.</i>	<i>Feet of Fines for the County of Lincoln 1199–1215</i> , ed. M. S. Walker, Pipe Roll Society, n.s., 29 (1954)
<i>FF Warwick.</i>	<i>Warwickshire Feet of Fines</i> , i and ii, ed. Ethel Stokes <i>et al.</i> , Dugdale Society Main Series, 11, 15 (1932, 1939)

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|--|---|
| <i>Feudal Aids</i> | <i>Inquisitions and Assessments relating to Feudal Aids</i> , 6 vols. (1899–1920) |
| Fuller Deeds | Deeds of the Fuller Collection, University of London Library |
| <i>GEC</i> | <i>Complete Peerage</i> , ed. G. E. Cokayne, revised by V. Gibb and others (London, 1910–57) |
| <i>Glanvill</i> , ed. Hall | <i>The Treatise on the Laws and Customs of England commonly called Glanvill</i> , ed. G. D. G. Hall (Oxford, 1965) |
| Hundred Rolls, Exchequer | Warwickshire Hundred Rolls of 1279, PRO E164/15 |
| Hundred Rolls, SBT | Warwickshire Hundred Rolls of 1279/80, Leigh MS, Stratford-upon-Avon |
| Just 1 | Eyre Rolls, PRO |
| <i>Langley Cartulary</i> | <i>The Langley Cartulary</i> , ed. P. R. Coss, Dugdale Society Main Series, 32 (Oxford, 1980) |
| <i>Lincs. Final Concords</i> | <i>Lincolnshire Final Concords</i> , i, ed. W. O. Massingberd (London, 1896); ii, ed. C. W. Foster, Lincolnshire Record Society, 17 (1920) |
| Middleton Deeds | Middleton Deeds, University of Nottingham Library |
| <i>Monasticon Anglicanum</i> | <i>Monasticon Anglicanum</i> , ed. W. Dugdale, new ed. Caley, Ellis and Bandinel, 6 vols. (London, 1817–30, rpt 1846) |
| Ormerod, <i>Cheshire</i> | Ormerod, G., <i>The History of the County Palatine and City of Chester</i> , 3 vols. ed. T. Holsby, 2nd edn (London, 1882) |
| <i>Pipe Roll</i> (followed by regnal year) | <i>Pipe Roll 31 Henry I</i> , ed. J. Hunter (1833) <i>Pipe Rolls of the reigns of Henry II, Richard I, John and Henry III</i> , Pipe Roll Society (1884–1987) |
| <i>Placita de Quo Warranto</i> | <i>Placita de Quo Warranto temp. Edward I, II and III</i> , Record Commission (London, 1818) |

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<i>Placitorum Abbreviatio</i>	<i>Placitorum Abbreviatio</i> , Record Commission (London, 1811)
PRO	Public Record Office
RBE	<i>The Red Book of the Exchequer</i> , ed. H. Hall, 3 vols. (London, 1896)
<i>Rot. Cur. R.</i>	<i>Rotuli Curiae Regis</i> , ed. F. Palgrave, 2 vols., Record Commission (London, 1835)
<i>Rotuli Hundredorum</i>	<i>Rotuli Hundredorum</i> , ed. W. Illingworth, 2 vols., Record Commission (London, 1812–18)
<i>Rot. Litt. Claus.</i>	<i>Rotuli Litterarum Clausarum in Turri Londinensi asservati</i> , ed. T. Duffus Hardy, 2 vols., Record Commission (London, 1833–4)
SBT	Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, Stratford-upon-Avon
<i>Statutes of the Realm</i>	<i>Statutes of the Realm</i> , 11 vols. (London, 1810–28, rpt 1963)
<i>Supplementary Close Rolls</i>	<i>Close Rolls (Supplementary) of the Reign of Henry III, 1244–1266</i> , ed. A. Morton (London, 1975)
<i>Taxatio Ecclesiastica</i>	<i>Taxatio Ecclesiastica Angliae et Walliae auctoritate P. Nicholai IV circa AD 1291</i> , ed. T. Astle, S. Ayscough and J. Caley, Record Commission (London, 1801)
TRHS	<i>Transactions of the Royal Historical Society</i>
VCH (followed by volume number)	<i>Victoria County History of Warwickshire</i> , 8 vols.
VCH Bucks., Northants., Staffs.	<i>Victoria County Histories of Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire, Staffordshire</i>
WRO	Warwick County Record Office
William Salt Society	<i>Collections for a History of Staffordshire</i> , William Salt Archaeological Society, (1881–5)