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Richard Finn
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This is an accessible account of the history of the Order from 1221 until 2021 and one that should attract a great deal of interest from readers. Richard Finn nimbly makes his way through the early history of the English Province, incorporating many of the sources published in the last seventy years. He then significantly expands knowledge of the Order as it strove to deal with the political constraints of the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and brings the history of the English Dominicans into the new millennium and lifetime of the author. Finn adopts an even-handed approach to the multiple sources, and is content to let the records speak for themselves. His book offers a very worthy commemoration of the eighth centenary of the Friars' arrival in England.

– Michael J. P. Robson, Emeritus Fellow, St Edmund's College, Cambridge, author of *The Franciscans in the Middle Ages* (2006)

While the Dominicans in medieval England have received various degrees of attention over the past decades, this book does a particular service in attending to the less remembered history of the Order from the Reformation onwards. Notably, it also covers the activities of the Province beyond the geographical boundaries of England proper, which includes not only Scotland, Ireland and Wales but also its “homeless” period in the Netherlands and its emergence within various British colonial territories. The scholarship is of a consistently high quality and the research is impressively comprehensive. There is also a welcome determination to bypass flowery narratives of the Order's past in favour of more complicated and occasionally less-harmonious accounts.

– Steven Watts, Assistant Professor of History, Crandall University, author of ‘Master Jordan of Saxony and Early Dominican Preaching in England (1229–1230)’, in *A Companion to the English Dominican Province* (2021)

THE DOMINICANS IN THE BRITISH ISLES AND BEYOND

The history of the Dominicans in the British Isles is a rich and fascinating one. Eight centuries have passed since the Friars Preachers landed on England's shores. Yet no book charting the history of the English Province has appeared for close on a hundred years. Richard Finn now sets right this neglect. He guides the reader engagingly and authoritatively through the medieval, early modern and contemporary periods: from the arrival of the first Black Friars – and the Province's 1221 foundation by Gilbert de Fresney – to Dominican missions to the Caribbean and Southern Africa, and to seismic changes in church and society after Vatican II. He discusses the Province's medieval resilience and sudden Reformation collapse; attempts in the 1650s to restore it; its Babylonian Exile in the Low Countries; its virtual disappearance in the nineteenth century; and its unlikely modern revival. This is an essential work for medievalists, theologians, and historians alike.

RICHARD FINN, OP, joined the Dominicans in 1985. He served as Regent of Studies for the English Province from 2004 to 2012, and as Novice Master from 2012 to 2016. Author of *Almsgiving in the Later Roman Empire* (Oxford University Press, 2006) and *Asceticism in the Graeco-Roman World* (Cambridge University Press, 2009), he is also Director of the Las Casas Institute for Social Justice and the Order's Provincial Archivist in Blackfriars, Oxford.

THE DOMINICANS IN THE BRITISH ISLES AND BEYOND

A New History of the English Province of the Friars Preachers

RICHARD FINN

Blackfriars, Oxford



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For my brethren

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I hope this book will be of value to various readers including Church historians, as well as a wider readership of those interested in the changing nature of religious life. I hope the book will be of especial value to my fellow Dominicans. The better our understanding of the past, the better we may hand on the torch.

Abbreviations

AAW	Archives of the Archdiocese of Westminster
ACIPA 1918	<i>Acta congregationis intermediae Provinciae Angliae Novocastrensi, . . . celebratae</i> , 1918 (Hawkesyard: 1918).
ACEDP	Eleanor J. Giraud and J. Cornelia Linde (eds.), <i>A Companion to the English Dominican Province from Its Beginnings to the Reformation</i> (Leiden: Brill, 2021).
ACP	Raymund Palmer OP (ed.), <i>Acta Capitulum Provincialium Provinciae Angliae Ord. Praed. 1730–1916</i> (London: Westminster Press, 1918).
ACPPA 1920	<i>Acta Capituli Provincialis Provinciae Angliae apud Hawkesyard diebus 28 Junii – 3 Julii celebrati 1920</i> (Hawkesyard, 1920)
ACPPA 1924	<i>Acta Capituli Provincialis Provinciae Angliae Londini diebus 17–25 Novembris celebrati 1924</i> (Ditchling: St Dominic's Press, 1924).
ACPPA 1932	<i>Acta Capituli Provincialis Provinciae Angliae Hawkesyard diebus 5 Septembris et seq. celebrati 1932</i> (Oxford: 1932).
ACPPA 1936	<i>Acta Capituli Provincialis Provinciae Angliae Londini diebus 4 Maii et seq. in conventu S.P.N. Dominici celebrati 1936</i> (Oxford: 1936).
ACCPA 1942	<i>Acta Capituli Provincialis Provinciae Angliae Ordinis Praedicatorum Woodchester diebus 27 Aprilis et seq. in Conventu sanctae Mariae Annunciatae celebrati 1942</i> (Oxford, 1942).
ACPPA 1946	<i>Acta Capituli Provincialis Provinciae Angliae Hawkesyard diebus 2 Decembris et seq. in conventu S. Thomae celebrati 1946</i> (Oxford, 1946).

- ACPPA* 1950 *Acta Capituli Provincialis Provinciae Angliae Oxonii diebus 2 Maii et seq. in ven. conventu S. Spiritus celebrati 1950* (Bristol, 1950).
- APC* 1966 *The Acts of the Provincial Chapter held at St Thomas' Priory Hawkesyard, on 2nd May and the following days, 1966* (Oxford, 1966).
- APC* 1970 *The Acts of the Provincial Chapter held at St Dominic's Priory Newcastle, on 27th April and the following days, 1970* (1970).
- APC* 1974 *The Acts of the Provincial Chapter held at St Dominic's Priory Newcastle upon Tyne, 1974* (1974).¹
- APC* 1978 *The Acts of the Provincial Chapter of the English Province held at St Thomas' Priory Hawkesyard 1978* (1978).
- APC* 1988 *The Acts of the Provincial Chapter of the English Province held at All Saints Pastoral Centre London Colney 1988* (1988).
- APC* 1992 *The Acts of the Provincial Chapter of the English Province held at All Saints' Pastoral Centre London Colney Hertfordshire on 22nd September 1992* (1992).
- APC* 1996 *The Acts of the Provincial Chapter of the English Province held at All Saints' Pastoral Centre London Colney Hertfordshire on 15 April 1996* (1996).
- APC* 2000 *The Acts of the Provincial Chapter of the English Province of the Order of Preachers, Priory of the Holy Spirit, Oxford, 2000* (2000).
- APC* 2004 *The Acts of the Provincial Chapter of the English Province of the Order of Preachers, Priory of the Holy Spirit, Oxford, 2004* (2004).
- AD* Charles Raymund Palmer OP, *Anglia Dominicana*, 9 vols. (1862–1891), unpublished papers with transcripts of documents related to English Dominican history. References to this work are by part, volume, and article number, except for II.2 and III.3 where references are by part, volume, and page number. EDA.
- afl. Affiliated to the English province.
- AFP* *Archivum Fratrum Predicatorum*

¹ The Chapter was in fact held at Hawkesyard, but the *Acta* were given the wrong title by the printer.

List of Abbreviations

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- AGOP Archivum Generale Ordinis Praedicatorum (Central archives of the Dominican Order at S. Sabina in Rome)
- AM Henry Richards Luard (ed.), *Annales monastici*, 5 vols. (London 1864–1869).
- BAC *A Booke of Authentike Copys Concerning the Concession, Donation, Fundation, Rents, and Revenues of the English Cloyster of the Dominicans at Bornhem*, EDA, MS.
- Bliss L William Henry Bliss et al. (eds.), *Calendar of entries in the Papal registers relating to Great Britain and Ireland: Papal Letters*, vols. (London, 1893–)
- Bliss P William Henry Bliss (ed.), *Calendar of entries in the Papal registers relating to Great Britain and Ireland. Petitions to the Pope, 1342–1419* (London, 1896)
- BDB1 Day-book listing expenses of the Bornhem convent from 1 January 1757, MS IIb, EDA, III, B 4.
- BDB2 Day-book listing expenses of the Bornhem convent, 1773–1790, MSII d, EDA, III, B 4.
- BOP Thomas Ripoll, *Bullarium Ordinis Fratrum Praedicatorum*, 8 vols. (Rome, 1719–1740).
- BPB *Registrum anni diei mensis ac hominum fratrum Praedicatorum Anglicanae nationis indutorum ac professorum pro Conventu Bornhemiensis; ab anno Domini Incarnationis 1658 quando primum eiusdem Ordinis conventus esse incepit*, MS EDA, III, B 6.
- BSB1 Bornhem School Book, 1767–1780, EDA, III, B 7.
- BSB2 Bornhem School Book, 1780–1788, EDA, III, B 7.
- Cal. Charter *Calendar of the Charter Rolls preserved in the Public Record Office*, 6 vols. (London: HMSO, 1903–1927)
- R *Calendar of documents relating to Ireland: preserved in Her Majesty's Public Record Office*, 5 vols. (London, 1875–1886).
- CCA Cambridgeshire County Archives
- cl. clothed in the habit
- CLRH3 *Calendar of the Liberate Rolls preserved in the Public Record Office, Henry III*, 6 vols. (London: HMSO, 1916–1964)
- CPRE1 *Calendar of the Patent Rolls of the Reign of Edward I preserved in the Public Record Office*
- CPRE3 *Calendar of the Patent Rolls of the Reign of Edward III preserved in the Public Record Office*,

<i>CPRH</i> ₃	<i>Calendar of the Patent Rolls of the Reign of Henry III preserved in the Public Record Office</i> , 6 vols. (London, 1901–1913)
<i>CPRR</i> ₂	<i>Calendar of the Patent Rolls of the Reign of Richard II</i>
<i>CPRH</i> ₄	<i>Calendar of the Patent Rolls of the Reign of Henry IV</i>
<i>CRE</i> ₁	<i>Close Rolls of the Reign of Edward I</i>
<i>CRE</i> ₂	<i>Close Rolls of the Reign of Edward II</i>
<i>CRE</i> ₃	<i>Calendar of the Close Rolls of Edward III Preserved in the Public Record Office</i> , 14 vols. (London, 1896–1913)
<i>CRH</i> ₃	<i>Close Rolls of the Reign of Henry III preserved in the Public Record Office</i> , 14 vols. (London: HMSO, 1902–1938)
<i>CRH</i> ₄	<i>Calendar of the Close Rolls of Henry IV</i>
CRS	Publications of the Catholic Record Society
DFSA	Philippe Denis O.P., <i>The Dominican Friars in Southern Africa, A Social History (1577–1990)</i> (Leiden: Brill, 1998).
DNB	<i>Oxford Dictionary of National Biography</i>
DOM	Bede Jarrett OP (ed.), <i>Dominicana</i> , CRS 25 (London, 1925),
EDA	English Dominican archives (held at Douai Abbey)
EEFP	William A. Hinnebusch O.P., <i>The Early English Friars Preachers</i> (Rome: Santa Sabina, 1951).
ERO	Essex Record Office
EX	A. G. Little and R. C. Easterling, ‘The Franciscans and Dominicans of Exeter’, <i>History of Exeter Research Group</i> , No. 3 (Exeter, 1927).
FCP	Four Courts Press
FD	Hyacinth Coomans OP, <i>A Formal Description of the Lands and Woods that the English Dominicans at Bornhem have to their Use</i> , MS EDA III, B 3.
G	Walter Gumbley O.P., <i>Obituary Notices of the English Dominicans from 1555 to 1952</i> (London: Aquin Press, 1955).
HBC	E. B. Fryde, D. E. Greenway, S. Porter, and I. Roy (eds.), <i>Handbook of British Chronology</i> , 3rd ed. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996).
HSC	Hawkesyard Studentate Chronicle

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HNDA	Hexham and Newcastle Diocesan Archives
<i>IDP</i>	Hugh Fenning OP, <i>The Irish Dominican Province, 1698–1797</i> (Dublin: Dominican Publications, 1990).
IWM	Imperial war Museum
<i>JAT</i>	Antoninus Thompson OP <i>Journal</i> , transcribed by Rev. W. Vincent Smith, Ushaw College Library, Stonecroft MSS.
JM ₁	John Martin OP, Obituaries and Biographies of English Dominican Friars, LEDA, II/3/2.
JM ₂	John Martin OP, An unpublished history of the English and Irish Dominicans, 1651–1750, LEDA, II/13/2.
<i>LBJ</i>	Bede Bailey, Aiden Bellenger, and Simon Tugwell (eds.), <i>Letters of Bede Jarrett</i> (Bath and Oxford: Downside Abbey and Blackfriars, 1989).
LDA	Leeds Diocesan Archives
LEDA	Library of the English Dominican Archives
Lee	Paul Lee, <i>Nunneries, Learning and Spirituality in Late Medieval English Society: The Dominican Priory of Dartford</i> (Woodbridge: York Medieval Press, 2001).
LHC	London House Chronicle, 1894–1997, EDA, III, Lo 27.
<i>LPH8</i>	<i>Letters and Papers, foreign and domestic, of the reign of Henry VIII: preserved in the Public Record Office, the British Museum, and elsewhere in England</i> , ed. J. S. Brewer, J. Gairdner, and R. H. Brodie, 21 vols. and 2 <i>addenda</i> (London: Longman, Green, Roberts and Green 1862–1932).
LRO	Leicestershire Record Office
Mem	<i>Memoriale Fratrum Praedicatorum Anglorum Conventus Sanctae Crucis in Bornhem 1748</i> , EDA, II, B 2; ed. Bede Jarrett OP, <i>Dominicana</i> CRS 25 (London 1925), 154–64.
<i>MOPH</i>	<i>Monumenta Ordinis Fratrum Praedicatorum Historica</i>
<i>MRHI</i>	A. Gwynn and R. N. Hadcock, <i>Medieval Religious Houses: Ireland</i> (London: Longman, 1970).
<i>NB</i>	<i>New Blackfriars</i>
NPB	Profession book of the English Dominican Nuns at Vilvoorde and Brussels, EDA, VI, Br 1.

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ODNB	Oxford Dictionary of National Biography
OEEM	John Orlebar Payne, <i>Old English Catholic Missions</i> (London: Thomas Baker, 1900).
Paris	Matthew Paris, <i>Chronicon</i> , in Henry Richards Luard (ed.), <i>Chronica majora and Gesta abbatum</i> , 7 vols. (London: Longman, 1872–1883).
PCB 1882–1911	Provincial Council Book, 1882–1911, EDA, II, 56.
PCB 1911–1948	Provincial Council Book, 1911–1948, EDA, V, BJ 12.
PCB 1948–1987	Provincial Council Book, 1948–1987, EDA, II, 55.
pr.	professed
PRH3	<i>Patent Rolls of the Reign of Henry III Preserved in the Public Record Office</i>
ROCSA	H. Playford and J. Caley (eds.), <i>Rotulorum originalium in Curia Scacarii Abbreviatio</i> , 2 vols. (London, 1805 and 1810).
ThMem	<i>Memoriale fratrum praedicatorum Anglorum conventus Bornhemensis</i> MS EDA, III, B 2, ed. Bede Jarrett OP, <i>Dominicana</i> CRS 25 (London 1925), 137–54.
TFI	Colmán Ó Clabaigh, <i>The Friars in Ireland 1224–1540</i> (Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2012).
TNA	The National Archives
trfl.	transfliated to another province of the Order
TWS	Silvester Humphries OP and Sebastian Bullough OP (eds.), ‘The Woodchester Story’, EDA, III, W 10.
VCH	Victoria County History
WA	Thomas Worthington OP, <i>Annales Fratrum Predicatorum Provinciae Anglicanae</i> , LEDA II/2/8.
WBA	Thomas Worthington OP, <i>A Brief Account of the English Province</i> , EDA, V, ‘Thomas Worthington’.
WD	Woodchester House Diary, 1890–1938, EDA, III, W 4.
WJ	Thomas Worthington OP, <i>Journal</i> , MS EDA, V. ‘Thomas Worthington’.
WL1a	Thomas Worthington OP, Letter to the Master of the Order, 1 July 1745 to the Master General, AGOP, XIII, II, 4.

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| WL1b | Thomas Worthington OP, Copy of his letter to the Master of the Order, 1 July 1745 to the Master General, EDA, V. 'Thomas Worthington'. |
| WM | Thomas Worthington OP, <i>Memoriale of Bishop Williams</i> , EDA, IV, 'Missions'. |
| WPB | Woodchester Profession Book (1852–1865), EDA, III, W 11. |