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The Transformations of Charter Writing from the Twelfth through the Thirteenth Centuries (ES)

EDAD MEDIA. Rev. Hist., 16 (2015), pp. 33-53.

ABSTRACT: In high medieval Europe, documentary writing gained a new meaning, with the 'practical turn' it took around 1200. From then onwards, the production of written material increased growingly and new types of documents appeared, inspired by a sort of 'final-balance spirit'. The administration of lordships, that of the nascent States and Italian cities, provided a scenario for such transformations; their ultimate expression is to be found in registers, fiscal and accounts ledgers, as well as sources of law and jurisprudence. Commercial and household records were a late development, although they had been within the competence of notaries for a long time. Our study concludes with an appraisal of the social reach of instruction, the goals of that new writing culture, and its archive systems.

KEYWORDS: Middle Ages. Cultural History. Documentary Writing. Regal Power. Cities.

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Chancery and Royal Power in the European West during the Long Twelfth Century (ES)

EDAD MEDIA. Rev. Hist., 16 (2015), pp. 55-70.

ABSTRACT: In the long twelfth century, most kingdoms in Western Europe extended their territories and enhanced their means of exercising power. This paper aims to explain the link between this process and the development of royal writing offices. As these kingdoms expanded, there was an increase in the need for larger numbers of charters to be issued: transmitting the king's will and keeping an account of his revenues depended upon such writs. That is why the title of Chancellor would eventually disappear and be replaced by the activity of increasingly hierarchized notaries and anonymous clerks. Those chanceries were responsible for the issuing and validation of royal charters in the period. The growing importance of seals as signs of authenticity attests an interest in conferring public value to charters. The rise in the number of registers in royal chanceries reveals a generalised intent to preserve the memory of royal actions.

KEYWORDS: Diplomats. Chancery. Bureaucracy. Seals. Registers. Literacy. Kingship.

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The Authors of the Twelfth-century Charters of the Abbey of Baupre, Diocese of Beauvais (FR) EDAD MEDIA. Rev. Hist., 16 (2015), pp. 71-88.

ABSTRACT: The electronic reproduction of the unedited charters of the Cistercian Abbey of Baupre, Diocese of Beauvais, allows for the study of their diplomatic features and, more particularly, offers the possibility of answering this question: To whom would the abbey apply for the confirmation of donations received? It was mainly from the bishops of Beauvais from whom the Abbey of Baupre would request such documents, rather than from the too distant pope or the absent king. Save for a number of exceptions, not until the last decade of the century would the lay donors act as disposers of such deeds; prior to that, whenever they conferred a donation under reserve of payment of a yearly census, they would receive and retain a copy of the chirograph, readily produced for the occasion.

KEYWORDS: Diplomatics. Cistercians. Beaupré (Abbey of). Charters

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The Construction of Written Memory in the Ecclesiastical Archives in Ribagorza, from the Eleventh to the Thirteenth Century (ES)

EDAD MEDIA. Rev. Hist., 16 (2015), pp. 89-105.

ABSTRACT: During the eleventh century, the main ecclesiastical institutions in Ribagorza and surrounding areas underwent a deep transformation and growth, through the intervention of monarchs and bishops. Starting then and up to 1150, the earlier archival materials were selected, compiled and modified; indeed, few documents survived that had not been made part of the resulting documentary products which will be analysed in this article. Within that context, there was a constant dialogue between the churchmen's present and their immediate and distant past, which led to the construction of a coherent narrative of their history, intended to legitimize their present and secure their own interests.

KEYWORDS: Writing. Archives. Cartulary. Memory. Church. Early Middle Ages. Aragon.

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Archives, Government and Urban Communities in Southern France: The Case of Montpellier (ES)

EDAD MEDIA. Rev. Hist., 16 (2015), pp. 107-123.

ABSTRACT: This article deals with the medieval history of the urban archives of the city of Montpellier. In a first part, it offers the long history of these collections by tracing the important moments in the transmission and transformation of medieval documentation produced within the institutional framework of the Consulate established in 1204-1205. In a

second part, the article examines the transformations that affected urban archival memory from the beginning of the thirteenth to the mid-fourteenth century and links these to changes in methods of governing the urban *universitas*. Two periods are singled out: the first spans through the 1250s and 1260s and is a first move towards the empowerment of the urban administrative sphere, with the compilation of landmark books and the turning of a part of the city's archives into a Treasury. The second period runs through the mid-fourteenth century, when a thorough reorganization of the classification system of the *archivum* that will facilitate the consultation of documents takes place, as does an unprecedented increase in the control exercised by urban administrations over the production and conservation of urban records.

KEYWORDS: Archives. France. Montpellier. Government. Memory.

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Monastic Infirmarys: Healing Spaces for Monk Communities in the High Middle Ages (ES)
EDAD MEDIA. Rev. Hist., 16 (2015), pp. 127-147.

ABSTRACT: Despite its great importance during the Middle Ages, the monks' infirmary is among the less well known extra-claustral monastic spaces. This paper aims to clarify its functions and rules of procedure, as well as to define the type of patients it sheltered. Additionally, it deals with the study of its management by an infirmary brother and takes into account the role played by the physicians in the treatments accorded to the ill monks. Finally, the article is concerned with certain aspects related to the location of the monks' infirmary within the monastic complex and its architectural features, and seeks to trace the origins of the common solutions that are to be found throughout the European medieval monastic world.

KEYWORDS: Medieval Monastic Infirmarys. Extra-claustral Monastic Buildings. Medieval Medicine. Medieval Health Care Systems.

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Urban Space and Society in Late Medieval Oviedo: A Method Proposal (ES)
EDAD MEDIA. Rev. Hist., 16 (2015), pp. 149-174.

ABSTRACT: The aim of our paper is to offer a methodological model for the study of the relation between space and society in late medieval Spanish towns, a model framed within the elaborations of the so-called 'Social Topography', concerned with the social distribution of urban space, or, in other words, the study of spatial patterns as a reflection and stimulus for the social, political and economic relations that are established in the town; in short, a reciprocal conditioning between urban fabric and social structure, between "the town of stone and the town of men". Drawing on the case of Oviedo as an example, the use of certain analytical categories has helped us identify both the settlement patterns of the different social groups and the social features of the town's main streets and neighbourhoods. In addition, the evidence showed that in some cases local elites left their physical imprint within the town by locating

their family estates in certain specific streets, with the aim of communicating through the buildings their privileged status among the local society. The best example of such ‘display of power’, sought after by the urban patriciate of Oviedo, is the Rua Palace.

KEYWORDS: Urbanism. Sociotopography. Elites. Heritage. Oviedo. *Rúa*.

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Post-mortem preservation techniques applied to the members of medieval hispanic royalty (ES)

EDAD MEDIA. Rev. Hist., 16 (2015), pp. 175-198.

ABSTRACT: In this paper we try to show the kind of *post-mortem* preservation techniques that may have been applied to the members of the medieval Spanish royalty from the end of the thirteenth to the middle of the sixteenth century. For this, we have availed ourselves in particular of the information given by the historiographical witnesses and by some medical texts. From the information that has reached us, we can infer that the practice of embalming corpses was not generalized in the Iberian Peninsula during the high and late Middle Ages and did not, therefore, properly belong to the funeral ritual of the royalty.

KEYWORDS: Embalming Techniques. Medieval Spanish Royalty. Thirteenth-Sixteenth Centuries.

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The Studium of Juan Arias Dávila, Bishop of Segovia (ES)

EDAD MEDIA. Rev. Hist., 16 (2015), pp. 199-224.

ABSTRACT: Diego de Colmenares’s seventeenth-century *Historia de la insigne ciudad de Segovia* records how, around 1466, Henry IV of Castile granted a 38,000-maravedi privilege to set up a studium in Segovia, where Philosophy, Grammar and Rhetoric should be taught. Nonetheless, no research study has yet yielded any news as to the structure, regulations and finance of the Segovia studium. This article tries to trace its origins, curricular plan and sources of income, in an attempt to bring to the fore this late-medieval institution of higher learning, so different from the others existing at the time.

KEYWORDS: Medieval Universities. Segovia. Juan Arias Dávila. Incunabula. Johannes Parix of Heidelberg. Henry IV of Castile.

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The Making of an Aristocratic Social Group: The Elite of the Lesser Nobility in Aragon, 1250-1350 (ES)

EDAD MEDIA. Rev. Hist., 16 (2015), pp. 225-251.

ABSTRACT: The goal of this paper is to describe the factors intervening in the rise of an aristocratic elite among the Aragonese lesser nobility between the mid-thirteenth and mid-fourteenth centuries, as well as their ascent into the ruling circles of the Aragonese feudal state. For this purpose, this work has been organized in two parts. The first part explains the characteristics common to the whole lesser nobility in the kingdom and the ones proper to those enjoying higher status, notably, military leadership and service to the king, the possession of seigneurial dominions and the preservation of a domestic network of affinities and alliances. The second part analyzes two of the means of power in the hands of this elite: the institutions linked to the monarchy and their sitting in the courts of Aragon. Two Annexes have been appended listing those Aragonese lesser nobles summoned by the king himself for five different offensive campaigns and five court assemblies, without interruption between 1300 and 1350.

KEYWORDS: Aragon. Late Middle Ages. Social History. Lesser Nobility. Power.

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The fiel, a Minor Character? Leasing, fieldad and Business in Fifteenth-century Castile (ES)

EDAD MEDIA. Rev. Hist., 16 (2015), pp. 253-274

ABSTRACT: The goal of this paper is to make known a tax-collection system that was as widely used in fifteenth-century Castile as is little known today: the *fieldad*. Among other things, in this essay I will be presenting the *fieldad* as a common, unexceptional system that is an integral part of leasing (as opposed to an independent or parallel method) and describing its core role in the fiscal business.

KEYWORDS: Lessors. Income. Castile. Granada. Royal Taxation. Fifteenth Century. *Fielad. Fieles.*