



Postgraduate/Distance Learning Assignment coversheet & feedback form

**THIS SHEET MUST BE THE FIRST PAGE OF THE ASSIGNMENT YOU ARE
SUBMITTING (DO NOT SEND AS A SEPARATE FILE)**

For completion by the student:		
Student Name: Emma Bowey		
Module code: AHHI7001 Module title: Research Methodology	Student ID number: 1704037	Educational support needs: No
Module tutor: Janet Burton		
Assignment due date: 24/05/2018		
If your module has multiple submissions please indicate which piece of work this is. 1 st ☐ 2 nd ☒ 3 rd ☐ 4 th ☐ 5 th ☐ 6 th ☐		
I confirm that this is my original work and that I have adhered to the University policy on plagiarism. Signed: E. J. Bowey Email submission: if you are submitting this form via email, please tick this box X (as a substitute for your signature) to confirm that you agree to the above declaration.		

Assignment Mark	
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Comments:

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External Examiner's comments (if relevant)

External Examiner's Signature:	Date:
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Assignment 2: Archival Exercise

The aim of the archival exercise is to explore and reconstruct the context of both (1) events and (2) places. The report provides resources obtained by different archives regarding the two topics. The purpose to have a greater understanding of the events of significance which determined the history. To achieve this, the report will begin by exploring firstly 'Ely during the Peasants Revolt in 1381'. Ely was an important hub during the Peasants Revolt, so much so, that after the events it was one of the places which was not pardoned. Secondly, 'Berwick Castle during the medieval period' was an important seat of political and social conflict. The Anglo-Scottish Wars made it vulnerable to attacks, yet it was an important castle as a centre for English power under the rule of Edward I.

People and Events:

(2) (A) The Peasants' Revolt of 1381

The report will attempt to reconstruct the Peasant Revolt of 1381, examining the events at Ely in Cambridgeshire. The research for this report requires online resources such as digital library archives, online publications, and internet resources. The research of the archives includes The National Archives, Cambridge University Archives, British Library, and Ely Cathedral Archives. The research has provided a limited volume of information on scoping the event around Ely. Many of the resources are petitions to the Bishop of Ely. The petitions are important as they provide a background to the aftermath of the Revolt. The Petition communicate the rights of the Bishop of Ely suggesting conflicts related directly to the

forfeitures of the Bishop of Ely's lands. The documents revealing the Bishop requesting all the lands, tenancies of condemned men to be given to him, at this time it had been confiscated by the King.

1. Copy letters patent of Richard II withdrawing all grants made to the rebels during the Peasants Revolt, and commanding the Sheriff and other officers to proclaim the same, (1381), BOR B/A1/6, *Bedfordshire Archives & Records Service*
2. 'The Bishop of Ely Petitions his Rights of Forfeiture', Petitioners: John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster; Thomas Arundel, Bishop of Ely, (1381), SC 8/109/5411, *The National Archives, Kew [TNA]*
3. 'Competing Claims of Forfeiture', Petitioners: Thomas Arundel, Bishop of Ely.
Name(s): Arundel, Thomas (1381), SC 8/109/5416, *The National Archives, Kew [TNA]*
4. 'Earlier Stage of Proceeding in Competing Claims of Forfeiture', Petitioners: Thomas Arundel, Bishop of Ely, (1381), SC 8/109/5414, *The National Archives, Kew [TNA]*
5. 'The Bishop, Prior and Convent of Ely request that they might receive all the lands, tenements, goods and chattels of men in their franchises who have been condemned to death for their part in the Peasants' Revolt', (1383), SC 8/ 183/ 9108, *The National Archives, Kew [TNA]*

The account of the events regarding the Peasant Revolt in Cambridge includes a manuscript held at Cambridge University Library. The significance of this resource reveals the events as understood from the individuals involved. There are few resources on the events at Ely, therefore this text is important as it provides an insight into the context of this time.

6. Tanner. T, 'Account of Cambridge Incidents During the Peasants Revolt' in
Collections on the History of Cambridge, (1720), GBR/0012/M.S Add. 3824 (fo.103v),
Cambridge University Library

A further resource which locates some important information on Ely is the online resource *medievalgenealogy.org.uk*, which provides a vast database of resources, archives, publications. The online edition of the text is important as it reveals how the University and landlords at Cambridge were the cause of 'ill-will towards the King'. So much that they were exempt from the general pardon in November 1381.

7. 'A History of the County of Cambridge and the Isle of Ely: Volume 3, the City and University of Cambridge'. *Victoria County History*, London, (1959) Available at:
<www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/cambs/vol3/pp2-15> [Accessed on 26th April 2018]

Ely during the Peasant Revolt provides a perspective on the events during this period. However, the information provided by archives is minimal. Much of the more in-depth information is found from Eighteenth and Nineteenth century resources, which explore the accounts related to the events. The events and people at Ely would require further scope. For example, information found in the National Biography, which may provide further insight. The next stage would require accessing the documents from the relevant archives to direct the research further. Contacting the local libraries, societies, and records office in Cambridge would allow to explore the history in more depth, and to expand on the greater context of Ely.

Places and Institutions

(2) (B) Medieval Castle: Berwick Castle, Northumberland

The report will attempt to explore the medieval history of Berwick Castle. As a major political seat during the Anglo-Scottish Wars the aim is to reconstruct the history from its early charters, to its place of military importance. Many of the resources available on the early foundations of the castle are obscure and resources in the Northumberland area are difficult to locate. Many of the archives available at Berwick-upon Tweed and the Woodhorn Trust focus on the later period, from 1800 and onwards. Therefore, the report needed to consider other locations which would provide resources to successfully understand the medieval history. The National Archives provided Charters, Ragman Rolls, meetings from the late thirteenth century. The importance of the Ragman Rolls reveals both the location and importance of Berwick. But, also the listing of all the names who paid fealty to Edward I, providing a greater scope on the role of Berwick during the Anglo-Scottish Wars. Other documents tell us a great deal about the structural history of Berwick. Also, the people who were custodians of the Castle during the medieval period. Therefore, allowing historians to record the history of the castle, through its occupants.

1. 'Similar oath by the burghs of Roxburgh and Edinburgh, Berwick', Ragman Roll (1296 Aug. 28), Exchequer: Treasury of Receipt: Scottish Documents, E 39/93/19, *The National Archives, Kew [TNA]*
2. 'Memorandum of documents found in Edinburgh Castle and transferred to Berwick', (1291), E 39/3/58, *The National Archives, Kew [TNA]*

3. 'Particulars of the account of the executors of Henry de Percy, keeper of Berwick castle, and of Henry de Percy his son, also keeper of Berwick castle. 42-45 Edw III', (1368), E 101/29/27, *The National Archives, Kew [TNA]*

4. 'Scottish Marches: Particulars of the expenses of Robert de Tughale for repairs at Berwick castle. 36 Edw III', (1362), E 101/482/28, *The National Archives, Kew [TNA]*

The next step of the research was to consult Scottish records. The *Scottish Parliamentary Records archive* [<http://www.rps.ac.uk/>] managed by the University of St Andrews, is an important archive. The website provides a Latin and English translation of the charters relating to the relevant king. The English occupation of Berwick Castle during the Scottish Wars of Independence (1296–1328) as a hub of parliamentary activity, means that many of the documents concerning Scottish lords are provided through the Scottish National Archives.

5. 'Edward I, king of England, held a number of parliaments within Scotland between 1291 and 1305, which he saw as a distinct assembly from his English parliaments, and were held by authority of his overlordship of Scotland', (12 July 1291 - 13 October 1292), A1292/6/1, *Scottish Parliamentary Records* [Accessed on 10 April 2018]

6. 'Terminology used by Edward I with regard to the assemblies that constituted the fora for the Great Cause', (1292), A1292/6/1, *Scottish Parliamentary Records*, [Accessed 5 April 2018]

7. 'Non-parliamentary record: extract from the Ragman Roll' (1296), A1296/8/1, *Scottish Parliamentary Records*, [Accessed: 5 April 2018]
8. 'Ordering the representatives of the town of Berwick to attend an undated parliament held by Edward I's lieutenant at Scone', (1305), A1305/1, *Scottish Parliamentary Records*, [Accessed: 5 April 2018]
9. 'Letters: by William, earl of Ross, recording his act of homage to Robert I before an assembly of prelates and nobles', *The Records of the Parliaments of Scotland*, (1308), A1308/1. 10, [Accessed on 15 April 2018]
10. 'to Edward III, of the castle, town and earldom of Berwick upon Tweed', *The Records of the Parliaments of Scotland*, (1334), A1334/4. [Accessed: 25 April 2018]
11. 'Robert the Steward grants full power to the ambassadors appointed to negotiate at Berwick', *The Records of the Parliaments of Scotland*, (1357) A1357/9/1. [Accessed: 5 April 2018]
12. 'Exchequer Rolls of Scotland, Vol VII AD 1469-69', (1884), *H.M. General Register House, Edinburgh*, Available at:
<<https://ia802704.us.archive.org/16/items/rotuliscaccariir07scot/rotuliscaccariir07scot.pdf>> [Accessed 15 April 2018], p145

Although much of the early history of Berwick Castle is obscure, and little information is available in the early charters regarding Berwick. The foundations of Berwick Castle are difficult to source. Consulting the early Charters of King David I, provides no reference to its

foundations. The next stage would be to consult early plans and mapping of the castle.

Historic England Archives in Swindon and Helmsley, Yorkshire would potentially provide the relevant information regarding the archaeology of the castle. This could provide information such as original plans or early drawings of the castle. Another potential archive is the Northumberland Estates at Alnwick Castle. There is a potential collection relating to the life of the early Percy's of the Thirteenth century.