SOME INTERNET RESOURCES FOR MEDIEVAL GENEALOGY: 11

by Chris Phillips[1]

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(1) The Anglo-American Legal Tradition

This website, developed by Professor Robert Palmer, and hosted by the University of Houston at *http://aalt.law.uh.edu/,* now contains around 6 million images of medieval and early-modern records from the UK National Archives, all of which are freely available. Over the last five years the main emphasis has been on the acquisition and hosting of the raw material,[2] but work is now under way to make this vast body of information more accessible.

The compilation of indexes to selected classes of records has begun. So far, indexes are available for ten 16th- and 17th-century rolls and registers in the series CP 40 (plea rolls) and REQ 1 (registers of the Court of Requests):

http://aalt.law.uh.edu/Indices/CP40Indices/CP40_Indices.html

http://aalt.law.uh.edu/Indices/REQ1Indices/REQ1_Indices.html

Volunteers are sought to help with this important work (some familiarity with 16th-17th century hands is required).

Another recent addition is a Wiki section which is intended to assist those using the documents on the AALT website. This is still at an early stage of development, but it already contains searchable abstracts of a number of entries from the records, arranged by place and subject matter. Participation is invited both from those within the academic community and from independent scholars of all varieties (genealogists included!):

http://www.uh.edu/waalt/index.php/Main_Page

Those interested in contributing should contact Professor Palmer at *rpalmer@uh.edu*.

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Chris Phillips is a regular contributor to *Foundations*.
His own website http://medievalgenealogy.org.uk is an invaluable resource for those studying Medieval English Genealogy

2 See the previous article in this series, *Foundations* **2** (4) (2007): 301.

(2) The Paradox of Medieval Scotland, 1093-1286

The paradox in question is that during this period Scotland retained its political independence despite being extensively settled by Anglo-Norman nobility and Anglicising its legal and governmental structures. Fortunately for the genealogist this has motivated an academic collaboration between the universities of Glasgow and Edinburgh and King's College, London, which has produced a biographical database of people active in Scotland during the period, compiled from more than 6000 contemporary charters:

http://www.poms.ac.uk/

(3) CIRCLE: The Irish Chancery Rolls Project, *c.*1244-1509

The surviving medieval Irish chancery rolls were destroyed in 1922 in an explosion at the Four Courts in Dublin. The purpose of this project is to produce an updated version of the calendar of these rolls published by the Irish Record Commission in 1828, incorporating all the surviving transcripts and calendars of the records. The online version of the calendar was due to be launched in June 2011, but as we go to press it is still at the pilot stage with the records from the reign of Richard II:

http://www.irishchancery.net/