

## Index

### A

- abbeys
  - seals used by, 51
  - see also* monasteries
- abbreviations and contractions, 12–13, 140, 142–145
- advowson deeds, 62–63
- Alfred (King of Wessex) period, 31–32
- alphabets, 37–38
- Anglo-Saxon languages
  - alphabets and punctuation, 31, 37–38, 145–146
  - dialects, 30
  - manuscripts, 130
  - references, 129
  - see also* Saxons
- apprenticeship forms, 117–118
- authentication
  - of indentured deeds, 53–54
  - of parish registries, 105, 108, 111
  - with signet-rings, 50
  - using graphology, 27
  - using paper-marks, 46–47, 136

### B

- Biblical language and old English, 8
- bonds, 68
- briefs (licenses to collect for charity), 122–124
- burials, 120–121

### C

- capital letters, 6, 18–19, 49–50, 57, 86–87
- charity accounts, 114–116, 117–119, 122–124
- charters *see* manuscript collections
- chartularies, 37, 41, 86–87, 91–93
- children
  - apprenticeship of, 117–118
  - education, 7, 14
  - rewarded for exterminating vermin, 125
- chronologies of offices, 67, 95–102
- church property alterations, 119–120

- church service books, 93
- churchwardens, 113–114, 119–122, 122–125
- clerks, 2, 109–110
- constables, 113, 116–117
- contractions and abbreviations, 12–13, 140, 142–145
- correspondence, 4, 139–141
- court rolls, 70, 116
  - format and content, 75–78
  - paper used for, 46
  - transcription of, 78–85, 144
- courthand, 10, 57, 60

### D

- dates
  - chronologies of offices, 95–102
  - on monastic charters, 96–102
  - Old Style calendar, 80
  - saints' days, 80–85
  - sovereign year of reign, 68, 77
- deciphering skills *see* transcription skills
- deed-polls, 53
- deed types
  - advowson deeds, 62–63
  - appointments, 63–64, 66–67, 95
  - bonds, 68
  - grants to abbeys, 94–95
  - leases of premises, 59–60
  - mortgages, 60–61, 62
  - property sales, 54–59, 60
  - royal pardons, 67–68
- deeds, 41–52
  - dates on, 68
  - history, 41–44
  - indentured, 53–54
  - paper and parchment, 44, 45
  - seals, 50
  - size and shape, 51–52
  - transcription of, 10, 144
  - used with parish registers, 108
  - see also* legal documents
- diocesan records, 107, 108, 125
- Dissolution, 41–42, 91–93
- doctors engaged by parishes, 124–125

Domesday Book, 42, 130–131, 144, 145  
Durham book, 30

## E

Edward I period, 42–43  
Edward III period, 9, 36  
Elizabeth I period, 107–108  
English language  
    changes in, 8, 26–27, 140  
    word origins, 30–31, 35  
*essonium* (*Esson.*), 77  
excommunications, 120

## F

farms and farming, 71–72, 73–74, 116–117,  
    121–122  
fees accounts, 120–121, 125  
feoffment, 60  
field-names, 38–40  
fines (for violations), 71, 116–117  
fines (form of property sales), 54–55  
fraud detection *see* authentication  
French language, 33, 35–36  
    *see also* Norman-French language  
French miniscule hand, 75

## G

Georgian era  
    legal documents, 37, 57  
    seals used in, 51  
German influences, 5, 139, 140  
graphology  
    for document authentication, 27  
    as test of health and temperament, 3, 16–  
    25

## H

hand-paper, 46  
handwriting  
    courthand, 10, 57, 60  
    evolution of styles, 1–6, 15, 26, 135, 136–  
    139, 140–141, 147  
    French miniscule, 75  
    Italian hand, 2, 18  
    learning, 6–7, 14

in parish registers, 109  
references, 129, 131–132  
*see also* graphology; scribes; transcription  
    skills

Henry VIII period  
    dissolution of monasteries, 41–42, 91  
    German influence in, 139  
    parish registers, 106–107  
    Poor Laws, 114

## I

illiterates' witness marks, 6  
illuminations, 49–50, 86–87  
indentures, 53  
inks and pigments, 48–49  
Italian hand, 2, 18

## J

James I period, 108, 109

## K

key-holdings, 61–62

## L

Latin  
    in court rolls, 75, 78  
    knowledge for transcription, 8–9, 129,  
    143  
    in legal documents, 35–36, 36–37  
    in parish registers, 107, 109  
    used by scholars, 32–33, 36  
Lease and Release, 58–59  
lease of premises, 59–60  
legal documents  
    French in, 35–36  
    Latin in, 8–9  
    paper used for, 46  
    reference books on, 132–133  
    seals on, 50  
    *see also* deeds  
lettering *see* handwriting  
letters and letter-writing, 4, 26, 139–141  
lord and tenant relationships, 71–72  
loss of documents  
    in the Dissolution, 91–93  
    in lawyers' warehouses, 43–44

## M

manor courts, 70–72, 75–78, 85, 116  
manor rolls *see* court rolls  
manorial names, 73  
manors  
    reference books on, 134  
    settlement, division, and tenants, 71–74  
manuscript collections  
    Anglo-Saxon charters, 130  
    Domesday Book, 42, 130–131, 144, 145  
    Durham book, 30  
    Reading Abbey Chartulary, 91–93  
mapmakers' mistakes, 38–39  
Martin, C. T., 131  
military release fees, 121  
minims, 145  
mistakes  
    in comprehending speech, 38, 110  
    made by scribes, 3  
    *see also* spelling variations  
monasteries  
    distribution of charity by, 114  
    documents of, 41, 86–87, 91–102  
    education of scribes in, 4, 5  
    in English history, 87–91, 134  
    parochial appointments, 63–64  
    as seats of learning, 36  
monks  
    foreign, 4, 36  
    *see also* monasteries  
monograms used by illiterates, 6  
mortgage deeds, 60–61, 62

## N

names *see* field-names; manorial names;  
    place-names; surnames  
newspapers and newsletters, 140  
Norman-French era  
    deeds, 9, 42–43, 50  
    handwriting, 5  
    monasteries, 88–90  
Norman-French language  
    dictionaries, 129  
    introduction and demise, 33, 36  
    in legal documents, 35–36  
    manorial names, 73

punctuation, 146  
numerals, 78–80

## O

Old Style calendar, 80  
overseers of the poor, 113, 114, 115–116,  
    117–118

## P

Paleographic Society, 129–130  
paper, 45–46, 47–48, 135–136  
paper-marks *see* water-marks  
parchment, 43–44, 51–52  
parish account books, 116–126  
    Sulhamstead entries, 123–124  
    typical entries, 116–123, 124–125  
    value of, 112, 126  
parish management, 112–126  
    churchwardens, 113–114, 119–122, 122–  
        125  
    constables, 113, 116–117  
    disputes, 125  
    elections, 113, 116  
    overseers of the poor, 113, 114, 115–116,  
        117–118  
parish registers, 103–111  
    access to, 103–105  
    history, 106–108, 109–110  
    reference books on, 111, 133–134  
    searching and cataloguing, 108–109, 111  
paupers, settlement of, 118  
personality in handwriting *see* graphology  
pigments and inks, 49–50  
place-names, 37, 38, 73, 134  
Poor Laws, 114–115, 117–118  
pot paper, 135–136  
priest appointments, 63–64  
printing and typing, 5–6, 140–141  
property rentals, 61–62  
property sales, 54–59, 60  
public events, 119  
punctuation, 145–146

## R

Reading Abbey Chartulary, 91–93  
reference resources, 111, 127–134

rewards for extermination of vermin, 125  
royal pardons, 67–68

## S

saints' days, 80–85  
Sale by Recovery, 55–57  
Saxons  
    language and writing, 28, 31–32, 35, 39–40  
    manorial names, 73  
    prevailing over foreign influence, 4  
    property sales by fine, 55  
    seals and signet-rings, 50  
    *see also* Anglo-Saxon language  
scholarly hand, 2  
scribes, 3, 4, 5–6, 7, 78, 86–87, 135  
seals and sealing-wax, 50–51  
sheriffs, 66–67, 75  
signature styles, 24–25  
signet-rings, 50  
soldiers, 2, 119–120  
sovereign year of reign, 68, 77  
spelling variations, 7–8, 38–39, 110–111, 125–126  
storage of documents  
    during the Dissolution, 91  
    by lawyers, 43–44  
    parish registers, 103–104  
Sulhamstead parish book, 123–125  
surnames, 110, 145

## T

tax accounts, 120–121  
tenant and lord relationships, 71–72  
transcription skills, 9–11, 104–105, 107–108, 111, 141, 142–147  
typing and printing, 5–6, 140–141

## V

vellum, 44

## W

water-marks, 45–48, 135–136  
witnesses  
    marks, 6, 50–51  
    on monastic charters, 96–102

word origins, 30–31, 35, 39–40, 134

## Y

yeomen, 74–75