ORDERS AND HIERARCHIES IN LATE MEDIEVAL
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ORDERS AND HIERARCHIES IN LATE MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE EUROPE

Edited by

Jeffrey Denton

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EDITOR'S PREFACE

The chapters of this book originated as papers delivered at a series of one-day conferences of the J. K. Hyde Centre for Late Medieval and Renaissance Studies at the University of Manchester. The Centre was established by the late Professor J. K. Hyde to promote interdisciplinary research. Thanks are due to all who attended the conferences and contributed to the wide-ranging discussion on orders and hierarchies. I am especially grateful to Brian Pullan both for his unstinting work on behalf of the J. K. Hyde Centre and for his unfailingly generous assistance in the preparation of this book. For constant forbearance and support, not least in solving the enigmas created by variously processed contributions, my heartfelt thanks go to David Shepherd.

JEFFREY DENTON

NOTES ON THE CONTRIBUTORS

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Paul Binski is Lecturer in the History of Art at the University of Cambridge, and has taught at the Universities of Yale and Manchester. He is the author of *The Painted Chamber at Westminster* (1986) and *Westminster Abbey: Kingship and the Representation of Power 1200–1400* (1995), as well as numerous studies of English royal art patronage. His most recent book is *Medieval Death, Ritual and Representation* (1996).

Antony Black is Professor in the History of Political Thought in the Department of Politics at the University of Dundee. He has written on conciliarism (*Council and Commune*, 1979), on guilds and communes (*Guilds and Civil Society in European Political Thought from the Twelfth Century to the Present* (1984), and *Community in Historical Perspective* (1990), an edition of a translation of selections from Gierke, *Das deutsche Genossenschaftsrecht*, vol. 1) and also a general study *Political Thought in Europe 1250–1450* (1992). He is now working on a history of political thought under Islam with a view to producing a comparative study of the development of political ideas in the Middle East and in Europe.

Michael Bush left the History Department of Manchester University in 1994 to pursue a career in historical research. As a comparative historian, he has written a two-volume work entitled *The European Nobility* (1983, 1988), *The English Aristocracy* (1984), and several articles on

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Jeffrey Denton is Research Professor in Medieval History at the University of Manchester. He is the author of *English Royal Free Chapels 1100–1300* (1970), *Robert Winchelsey and the Crown 1294–1313* (1980), and (with J. P. Dooley) *Representatives of the Lower Clergy in Parliament 1295–1340* (1987), and editor (with R. G. Davies) of *The English Parliament in the Middle Ages* (1981). He is working on a monograph, and new editions of texts, concerning royal/ecclesiastical relations, c.1300, in France and England.

Maurice Keen was educated at Winchester and at Balliol College Oxford, where he read Modern History, graduating in 1957. Since 1961 he has been a Fellow of Balliol and tutor in medieval history there. His many publications include *The Outlaws of Medieval Legend* (1961), *The Laws of War in the Later Middle Ages* (1965), *A History of Medieval Europe* (1967), *England in the Later Middle Ages* (1973), and *Chivalry* (1984).

Spencer Pearce is Lecturer in Italian Studies at the University of Manchester, where he currently teaches courses on Dante and fifteenth-century Italian art. His principal research interest is in the field of Italian Renaissance thought. He has published articles on Dante, modern Italian poetry, and the Renaissance polymath Girolamo Fracastoro.

Brian Pullan has been Professor of Modern History at the University of Manchester since 1973 and is the author of *Rich and Poor in Renaissance Venice* (1971), *The Jews of Europe and the Inquisition of Venice, 1550–1670* (1983) and *Poverty and Charity: Europe, Italy, Venice, 1400–1700* (1994), and the editor of *Crisis and Change in the Economy of Venice in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries* (1968) and (with D. Chambers and J. Fletcher) *Venice: A Documentary History, 1450–1630* (1992). He is currently

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David Rheubottom is Lecturer in Social Anthropology at the University of Manchester. He did anthropological fieldwork on the family and economics in a Macedonian peasant village. More recently he has been working on an anthropological analysis of politics and kinship in late medieval Ragusa (Dubrovnik). He is the author of several studies concerning both Macedonia and Ragusa published since 1976.

Stephen Rigby was educated at the Universities of Sheffield and London and is Reader in Medieval History at the University of Manchester. He is the author of a number of books and articles on social theory and medieval history including *Marxism and History: A Critical Introduction* (1987), *Engels and the Formation of Marxism: History, Dialectics and Revolution* (1992), *Medieval Grimsby: Growth and Decline* (1993), *English Society in the Later Middle Ages: Class, Status and Gender* (1995) and *Chaucer in Context: Society, Allegory and Gender* (1996).