

August 15, 1999

Geoffrey Wheeler

London ~~UK~~ UK

Dear Geoffrey:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning my Grey Friars article in the American branch's REG. It is always assuring to receive feedback about something one has written. Ordinarily it signals that someone has given it a thoughtful read.

In response, a few observations from me. First, there were at least three reasons I did not make more use of the UK library sources you mentioned. One is that however willing some may be to lend the materials "across the sea," this is not an easy task to achieve from this end of the pipeline. Second, I have found some available resource material to be vague, unhelpful, or erroneous. Third, a secondary goal of the article was to see whether the *Internet* could assist in gathering basic material for the article and the question it addressed. (I for one confess being more than a little tired of the dismissive manner with which one or another doyen has taken to replying to inquiries with two-line letters, saying basically such unhelpful things as "Consult the original source material." If I readily could have, I would have. I visit the UK about twice a year, but it was not convenient at this particular time.)

Next, my article addressed only one question: Where was Grey Friars located? I was only tangentially concerned—if at all—with the issues of where Richard III was buried or the final disposition of his remains. I mainly wanted to know where Grey Friars was located and, if possible, something about changes in land use over time. If one goes back to those old maps and examines them carefully, it is possible to discern something about changes in human activities, as gardens gave way to housing, precisely where the monastery's main building was located, changes in street names, et cetera.

It was riveting to conduct the research for the article and in the process of it I made a few new acquaintances in England. I didn't mind going back to the old maps. It seemed necessary to start from basic things. And by so doing I made the acquaintance of a couple of academics, a few clerics, and a civil servant or two.

Thank you for sending to me copies of the audio-visual materials, books and other reference material. I'm glad to have them at the ready for the next time I'm captured by a research question.

Regards,

David Treybig

David Treybig, Ph.D.

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USA

MAY NOT BE AT THIS  
ADDRESS NOW -  
(SPLIT FROM  
Lyndotreybig.)

Last heard Cambridge  
Medieval Franch?

AS FAR AS I CAN RECALL I WROTE TO HIM SAYING LIKE OTHER USA  
RESEARCHERS HE SEEMED TO BE GOING ABOUT THINGS THE 'MAYO WAY' BY NOT  
CONSULTING THE BARTON LIBRARY PAPERS COLLECTION FOR UNPUBLISHED FIRST-  
(AVAILABLE TO OVERSEAS MEMBERS- AND MARIE B. WILL CHECK FOR SOURCE  
MATERIAL AS WELL) I ALSO SENT HIM WHAT MODERN MAPS I HAD OF  
LEICESTER. WITH THE 'HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION' MARKED, - PROBABLY 'CASTLE PARK'  
LCC (NOT DATED BUT AFTER STATURE WAS MOVED) 'CASTLE GARDENS' (NO DATE-DATED)  
'DISTRICT MAIL LEAFLET 1985, 'LEICESTER TOURIST INFORMATION LEAFLET (1987)  
'AA' TOWN TOURS OF BRITAIN' MAP & ROAD VIEW (1990)

NEVER INTEND TO FIND  
CIF.

A 'Legal'