School of History and Institute for Medieval Studies
Third Postgraduate Monasticism Conference

MONASTIC MYTHS:
ORIGINS, IDENTITIES, LEGACIES
University of Leeds, 16-17 May 2014

PROGRAMME

Friday 17 May

10.00–10.30: Registration and Coffee

10.30–10.45: Welcome

10.45–12.15: SESSION 1: Exploring Monastic Foundations through Origin Stories

Robert Briggs (University of Nottingham)
Ignoble treatment of a noble lady? A Provisional Reassessment of the Foundation story of the Priory of St Mary Overy, Southwark

Marco Muresu (University of Cagliari)
Mount Athos from Legend to Present: Origin Stories, Archaeology, Architecture

Isabella Bolognese (University of Leeds)
Bickering Brothers, Squabbling Sisters: Communities in Conflict at the Foundation Stage in Twelfth-Century Monasteries

12.15–1.30: Lunch

1.30–2.30: KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Dr Marie-Luise Ehrenschwendtner (University of Aberdeen)
Literacy ‘under the Lock’: Education, Spirituality and Enclosure in Dominican Reform Convents

2.30–2.50: Break

2.50–3.50: SESSION 2: The Forming of Religious Identities through Origin Stories

Hannah Shepherd (University of Edinburgh)
Holy Women in the Household: Women, Space and the Clerical Construction of Lay Monasticism in the Early Thirteenth-Century Low Countries

Catalin Taranu (University of Leeds)
‘A New Heaven and a New Earth’: The Making of the Cistercian Desert

3:50-4:10: Break

4:10-5:10: Roundtable (wine reception to follow)

6.30: Informal dinner (delegates to pay; place to be confirmed)
Saturday 18 May

10.00–11.00: SESSION 3: The Use (and Abuse) of Anglo-Norman Origin Stories

Rebecca Browett (Institute for Historical Research, London)

The Legend of St Æthelwold: Protecting Winchester Cathedral Priory

Berenice Wilson (University of Leeds)

Edith Forne and the Myth of the Fallen Female Foundress

11.00–11.20: Break

11:20-12:20: KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Dr Hugh Willmott

‘Century of Excavation: Challenging Some Myths of Monastic Archaeology in the 21st Century

12.20–1.35: Lunch

1:35-3:05: SESSION 4: Religious Experience through the Visual and Non-Visual

Christian Nikolaus Opitz (University of Vienna)

‘…scribere et depingere genealogiam fundatorum monasterii’: Word and Image in Cistercian Foundation Narratives from Fourteenth-Century Austria

Malcolm McNeill (University of London)

Speaking for Icons: Inscriptions on Buddhas and Patriarchs in the Discourse Record of Yanqi Guangwen (1189-1263)

Petre Maican (University of Aberdeen)

The Monastic Myth of the Non-Visual Experience of God

3:05-3:25: Break

3:25-4:30: Roundtable Discussion