Thomas Tanner
Notitia monastica
Oxford
1695

NOTITIA MONASTICA
OR
A Short History
OF THE
Religious Houses
IN
ENGLAND and WALES.

By THOMAS TANNER B. A.

. . .

. . .

KENT.

1. Canterbury.

Here was an Abby founded by King Æthel=
bert /a A. D. 600. and dedicated by St. Au=
stin the Monk to Christ Jesus. In it were Secular
Priest's till A. D. 1003. at which time Arch-
Bishop Elfric placed Benedictines here. It's
yearly revenues at the Dissolution amounted to
2489 l. 4 s. 9 d. King Henry VIII. turned the
Monks into a Dean and twelve Canons.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 1. p. 18. Angl. Sacr. T. 1.
The Antiquities of Canterbury by Will. Somner.
London. 1640.
Evidentias Eccl. Christi Cant. inter X. Script.
Hist. Angl. edit. Lond. 1652.
Gervasii vitas Pontificum Cantuar. &c. Ibid.
∗ Collectanea MS. Augustini Baker Mon. Ord.
Bened. in Bibl. Coll. Jesu Oxon. Vol. 1.
∗ Registrum sive Martyrologium Ecclesiæ Christi
Cant. In Bibl. Coll. Gresham.
∗ Librum Obitualem Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuar. In
Bibl. Lambeth. fol. 20.
∗ Registrum Benefactorum Ecclesiæ Christi. In Bibl.
Cotton. Galba. F. 2.

2. Rochester.

A. D. 602. King Æthelbert built a Monastery
for Secular Priests, to the honour of St. Andrew.

/a Not King Æthelred as in Speed.

A. D. 1089. Bishop Gundulf introduced Black
Monks; but Secular Canons were brought in
again by King Hen. VIII. It was valued 26. Hen.
VIII. at 486 l. 1 s. 5 d. per an.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 1. p. 27. Angl. Sacr. T. 1.
Textum Roffens. MS. apud Rochester reserv.

penes Dec. & Capit.
Annales Roffenses in Bibl. Cotton. Vitell. E. 14.
∗ Statuta Ecclesiæ Roff. autoritate Hen. VIII.
edita. In Bibl. Bodl. in Musæo. A. 136.

3. Canterbury.

King Æthelbert and St. Austin A. D. 605.
founded another Monastery here, and com=
mended it to the Patronage of St. Peter and St.
Paul. This was afterwards called St. Augustine's
Abby, and was endowed at the Suppression with
1413 l. 4 s. 11 d. ob. per an. It was of the Bene=
dictine Order.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 1. p. 23. Reyner. Apost.
Bened. T. 1. p. 46.
Guil. Thorn de rebus gestis Abbatum S. Aug.
Cantuar. inter X. Script. Lond. 1652.
Et Chronologiam quondam spectantem ad prædictum
Cœnobium. Ibid.
∗ Collectanea MS. Aug. Baker Mon. Ord. S. Bened. in
Anglia Generalis in Bibl. Coll. Jesu Oxon. Vol. 1.
∗ Registra penes Heneage Finch de Ravenston
in Com. Buck. In Scaccario penes Remem. Regis. &
penes W. Howard de Naworth Castro.
∗ Cronicon S. Aug. Cant. ad An. 1220. cum suc=
cessione Abbatum. In Bibl. Lambeth 4to. 95.
∗ MSS. de Historia hujus Cœnobii in Bibl. Cotton.

97

Vitellius. A. 2. E. 4. D. 10. D. 11. Faustina A. 1.
Claudius. D. 10. Julius D. 2. 6.
Historiam MS. de Abbatibus S. Aug. Cant. ad
Hugonem III. in Bibl. publ. Cantab.

4. Folkstone.

An old Nunnery founded by King Eadbald
about A. D. 630. which was destroy'd during
the Danish wars. Nigel de Munewell gave the
Church of St. Mary and St. Eanswith here to
the Abby of Lolley in Normandy, A. D. 1095. to
which it became an Alien-Priory. It was able
to dispend 41 l. 15 s. 10 d. per an. Dugd. 63 l. 7 d. Sp.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 1. p. 85, 560.

5. Liming.

A Nunnery for Benedictines founded by St.
Edburgh or Ethelburg Sister to King Eadbald a=
bout A. D. 640.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 1. p. 85.

6. Reculver.

An Abby of Black Monks built by one Bassa
A. D. 669. It was annexed to Christ-Church in
Canterbury by King Eadred, A. D. 949.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 1. p. 86.

7. Thanet.

A Nunnery founded by Domneva about A. D.
670. and dedicated to St. Mildred. It was
united to the Abby of St. Austin in Canterbury,
A. D. 1033.

98

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 1. p. 83. Reyner. Apost. Be=
nedict. Tr. 1. p. 61.

8. Elflet. Sp.

A Nunnery of Domneva's foundation. Speed.

9. Dover.

A. D. 696. Wictred King of Kent founded a
College of Secular Priests here, who were turn=
ed into Benedictine Monks by Arch-bishop Theo=
bald, A. D. 1139. St. Martin was the Tutelar
Saint of this Monastery, whose yearly revenues
at the Dissolution were worth 170 l. 14 s. 11 d. ob.
Dugd. 232 l. 1 s. 5 d. ob. Speed.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 2. p. 1.
Chronica S. Martini de Dover. in Bibl. Cotton.
Jul. D. 5. Vesp. B. 11.
∗ Catalog. Bibliothecæ Prior. Dovorræ A. D.
1389. compilatum MS. in Bibl. Bodl. Arch. B. 24.
∗ Registrum in armario Archiepiscopi Cantuar.

10. Shepey.

A Monastery for Benedictine Nuns first built
by Sexburg Queen of Kent, about A. D. 710.
but being burned by the Danes, it was reedified
by William Arch-bishop of Canterbury, A. D. 1130.
to the honour of St. Mary and St. Sexburg. It
was rated 26 Hen. VIII. at 129 l. 7 s. 10 d. ob. per an.

Vide Mon. Ang. T. 1. p. 152.

11. Malling.

A Benedictine Monastery founded by King
Edmund A. D. 944. and commended to the Pa=

99

tronage of St. Mary and St. Andrew. It was af=
terwards converted into a Nunnery by Gundulf
Bishop of Rochester, and endowed with 218 l. 4 s.
2 d. ob. per an. Dugd. 245 l. 10 s. 2 d. ob. Speed.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 1. p. 352.

12. Lewesham.

An Alien-Priory of Black Monks to the Abby
of St. Peter at Gant, to which it was given by
King Edward the Confessor A. D. 1044. It was
(after the Suppression of these houses) annexed
by King Hen. V. to Shene Abby.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 1. p. 550. T. 2. p. 890, 902.

13. Canterbury.

A. D. 1084. Lanfranc Arch-bishop of Canter=
bury built here a Priory of Black Canons, to
the honour of St. Gregory. It was valued 26. H.
VIII. at 121 l. 15 s. 1 d. per an. Dugd. 166 l. 4 s. 5 d.
ob. Speed.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 2. p. 373.

14. Herbaldown.

Arch-bishop Lanfranc /b founded a Hospital

here, and annexed it to a Priory of Black Ca=
nons, both which were valued at 266 l. 4 s. 5 d. ob.
per an. Dugd. 109 l. 7 s. 2 d. Speed. It was dedicated
to St. Michael.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 2. p. 418.

/b Joh. Stratford Arch-Bishop of Canterbury was Founder
according to Speed.

15. Canterbury.

A Benedictine Nunnery founded by Arch-bi=
shop Anselm, about A. D. 1100. and dedicated
to St. Sepulcher. It was able to dispend at the
Dissolution 29 l. 12 s. 5 d. ob. per an. Dugd. 38 l. 19 s.
7 d. ob. Speed.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 1. p. 545.

16. Leedes.

A. D. 1119 /c. Rob. de Crevequer Knight, built
a Priory of Black Canons here, to the honour
of St. Nicholas. It was endowed with 362 l. 7 s.
7 d. per an. Speed.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 2. p. 110.

17. Tunbridge.

A Priory of Black Canons erected by Rich. de
Clare Earl of Hertford, (temp. Hen. I.) Its Patro=
ness was St. Mary Magdalene. Its yearly revenues
amounted to 169 l. 10 s. 3 d.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 2. p. 258.

18. Boxley.

A Cistercian Abby founded A. D. 1144. by
Will. de Ipre Earl of Kent, and dedicated to the
blessed Virgin. It was rated 26. Hen. VIII. at
204 l. 4 s. 11 d. per an. Dugd. 218 l. 19 s. 10 d. Speed.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 1. p. 827.

19. Feversham.

A. D. 1148. King Stephen built a Cluniack Ab=

/c A. D. 1137. Chronol. S. Aug. Cant.

by here to the honour of St. Saviour. It was en=
dowed at the Suppression with 286 l. 12 s. d <d>. ob. q.
per an. Speed.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 1. p. 687.
Monasticon Fevershamense, or a Survey of the
Monastery of Feversham, by Tho. Southouse,
London. 1671. 12o.
∗ Reg. penes ...... Diggs fil. & hær. D. Dudl.
Diggs.

20. Bradsole, or St. Radegund's juxta Dover.

A Priory of Præmonstratensian Canons founded
by Hugh I. Abbat of St. Austin's in Canterbury,
(temp. R. Steph.) and commended to the Patro=
nage of St. Radegund. It was rated at 98 l. 9 s. 2 d. ob.
per an. Dugd. 142 l. 8 s. 9 d. Speed.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 2. p. 244. T. 3. P. 1. p. 69.
Regist. penes Will. Pierpoint arm.
∗ Cartularium penes Henr. Hamon de Seling in
Com. Cant. Armig.

21. Heyham.

A Benedictine Nunnery founded by King Ste=
phen. It was Suppressed by Dr. Fisher Bishop of
Rochester's means, and given to St. John's Col=
lege in Cambridge /d.

22. Blakewose.

A Priory of White Canons dedicated to St.
Michael /e, at first a Cell to Lavinden in Bucking=

/d Leland. Itin. Vol. 6. p. 28.   /e MS. Bodl.

hamshire; but afterward annexed to St. Rade=
gunds near Dover.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 3. P. 1. p. 71.

23. Otteham and 24. Beigham /f.

Ralph de Dene (temp. Hen. II.) founded a
Priory for Præmonstratensian Canons at Otteham,
whom Ela de Saukvile his daughter translated to
Begham. St. Laurence was Patron of this Priory.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 2. p. 636. T. 3. P. 1. p. 77.
Registrum in Bibl. Cotton. Otho. A. 2.

25. Horton.

A Cell of Cluniack Monks to the Abby of
Lewes, built by Rob. de Vere (temp. Hen. II.) to
the honour of St. Mary and St. John the Evan=
gelist. It was endowed at the Suppression with
95 l. 12 s. 2 d. per an. Dugd. 111 l. 16 s. 11 d. ob. Speed.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 1. p. 621.
∗ Reg. penes ...... Rooke de eadem.

26. Cumbwell.

Rob. de Turnham (temp. Hen. II.) founded a
Priory of Black Canons here, and dedicated it
to St. Mary Magdalene. It was valued at 80 l.
17 s. 5 d. per an.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 2. p. 270.
∗ Cartas Autographas penes Gul. Campion de
eadem Armig.

27. Newington.

A Nunnery till the time of Henry II. in whose

/f Neither of these places are in Sussex, where they are placed
in the Monasticon and Speed.

reign it was turned into a College for seven
Secular Canons.

Vide Cronica Will. Thorn. col. 1931. inter X.
Scriptores Historiæ Angl. Lond. 1652.

28. Lesnes or Westwood.

A. D. 1178. Rich. de Lucy built a Priory of

Black Canons here, to the honour of St. Thomas the Martyr. It's annual incomes at the Dissolu= tion amounted to 186 l. 9 s. per an.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 2. p. 301.

29. Langdon.

Will. de Aubervill (temp. Rich. I.) built a Priory here for Præmonstratensian Canons, and dedicated it to St. Mary and St. Thomas the Martyr. It was endowed at the Suppression with with 56 l. 6 s. 9 d. per an. Speed.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 2. p. 622. Registr. de Langdon in Scaccario penes Remem. Regis.

30. Patricksborn.

An Alien-Priory to the Abby of Beaulieu in Normandy, to which it was given by John de Pratellis, (temp. R. Joh.)

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 1. p. 576.

31. Daunton.

Fulk de Neweham built a Benedictine Nunnery here, to the honour of St. Mary Magdalene.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 1. p. 501.

104

32. Ulcomb.

A. D. 1220. Stephen Langton Arch-bishop of Canterbury, founded a Collegiate Church here /*.

∗ Vide Cartas penes Franc. Clerk de ead. Armig.

33. Mottinden.

A Priory of the Order of the holy Trinity, founded by Rob. de Rokesly A. D. 1224. It was valued 26 Hen. VIII. at 60 l. 13 s. ob. Speed.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 2. p. 833.

34. Treweleigh.

An Alien Priory.

35. Lille Cherche.

A Priory of Black Monks dedicated to S. Mary /g.

36. Bilsington.

A Priory of Black Canons founded by Joh. Maunsell Provost of Beverley, A. D. 1253. and dedicated to the blessed Virgin. It was valued 26. Hen. VIII. at 81 l. 1 s. 6 d. per an. Speed.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 2. p. 333.

37. Rumney.

An Alien-Priory founded by Joh. Maunsell Provost of Beverley, A. D. 1257.

∗ Vide Munimenta penes Custodem & Socios Coll. Omn. Anim. Oxon.

38. Wingham.

A College for a Rector and six Canons foun=

/* Somner's History of Canterbury p. 253.   /g MS. Bodl.

ded by John Peckham Arch-bishop of Canterbury,
A. D. 1280. and endowed with 84 l. per an.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 3. P. 2. p. 52.

39. Ofpring.

A Preceptory of the Templers.

40. Swingfield.

A Preceptory of the Knights Templers, valued
26. Hen. VIII. at 87 l. 3 s. 3 d. ob. per an.

∗ Vide Mun. penes Tho. Gomeldon Armig.

41. Badlesmere.

A Priory of Black Canons founded by Bar=
tholomew Badlesmere 13. Edw. II.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 2. p. 351.

42. Cobham.

John Lord Cobham A. D. 1362 /h. built a Col=
legiate Church here, to the honour of St. Mary
Magdalene. It's yearly revenues at the Suppres=
sion amounted to 128 <l>. 1 s. 9 d. ob.

Vide Hollinshed's History, Vol. II. p. 1500.
∗ Cartas penes D. D. Jos. Williamson Eq. Aur.

43. Dertford.

A Nunnery of the Order of St. Austin foun=
ded by King Edw. III. A. D. 1373. and commen=
ded to the Patronage of St. Mary and St. Mar=
garet. It was rated 26. Hen. VIII. at 380 l. 9 s. ob.
per an. Dugd. 400 l. 8 s. Speed.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 2. p. 357.

/h Leland. Coll. Vol. 1. p. 84.

∗ Particulas terræ ad Mon. de Dertford spectant.
in Bibl. Arundel 1645. nunc in Bibl. Coll. Gre=
sham. Lond.

44. Bredgare.

A College built by Rob. de Bradgare Clerk,
16. Rich. II. and dedicated to the Holy Trinity.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 3. P. 2. p. 117.

45. Maidstone.

Will. Courtney Arch-bishop of Canterbury, 19.
Rich. II. founded a College here to the honour
of All-Saints. It was endowed with 159 l. 7 s. 10 d.
per an.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 3. P. 2. p. 132.

46. West-Peccam.

A Preceptory of the Templers founded by
Joh. Culpeper 10. Hen. IV. valued 26. Hen. VIII.
at 63 l. 6 s. 8 d. per an.

47. Wye.

A College of Secular Canons built by John
Kemp Arch-bishop of Canterbury, (10. Hen. VI.)
St. Gregory and St. Martin were the Tutelar Pa=
trons of this House, whose yearly revenues were
worth 93 l. 2 s. ob. per an.

Vide Mon. Angl. T. 3. P. 2. p. 191.

48. Ashford.

A College founded (temp. Edw. IV.) by Sir
John Fogg.

<This little book of Tanner's is basically a guide to the contents of
the three vast volumes of the 'Monasticon Anglicanum' (Dugdale
1655–73), incorporating references to other published and some
unpublished sources. As far as Kent is concerned, there are no
surprises among the published sources (though it may be worth
noting that Tanner had access to an uncastrated copy of Holin-
shed (1587)). He does not admit to using Weever (1631), but
some of his mistakes appear to derive from that book. (Bayham
is close to the Kent/Sussex border, but on the Sussex side of it;
Otham is a place in Sussex confused by Weever with a place of
the same name in Kent.) The unpublished sources cited here
are a small, haphazard assortment. (I do not know what the as-
terisks mean: possibly they mark the manuscripts which Tanner
has seen for himself, but he never actually says that, as far as
I can see.) Some twenty years later, when he started work on
a second edition of this book, he was aiming to mention every
single item of evidence, both published and unpublished. That
edition was left unfinished at his death (he died in 1735), but was
eventually completed and seen into print by his brother (Tanner
1744). – C.F. December 2010.>