THE NEW MIDDLE AGES

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   by Jeremy Goldberg
COMMUNAL DISCORD, CHILD ABDUCTION, AND RAPE IN THE LATER MIDDLE AGES

Jeremy Goldberg
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BI</td>
<td>Borthwick Institute for Archives, University of York, Heslington, York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCR</td>
<td>Calendar of Close Rolls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP.E.89/26</td>
<td>BI call number: CP = cause paper, E = fourteenth century, 89 = file number, 26 = item number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPR</td>
<td>Calendar of Patent Rolls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drake, Eboracum</td>
<td>F. Drake, <em>Eboracum: or, The History and Antiquities of the City of York, from its Original to the Present times. Together with the history of the Cathedral Church, and the lives of the Archbishops of the See ... Collected from Authentick Manuscripts, Publick Records, Ancient Chronicles, and Modern Historians</em> (London, 1736)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TNA</td>
<td>The National Archives (formerly the Public Records Office)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YML</td>
<td>York Minster Library</td>
</tr>
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**Genealogical Table 1**  Genealogy of the de Rouclifs of Rawcliffe

*Source:* YML, Cartulary of St Mary’s Abbey, XVI A.1, 2; BI, C.P.E.89; F. Collins, ed., *Register of the Freemen of the City of York, 1272–1588*, Surtees Society, 96 (1896); YML, Dean and Chapter probate register 1, L2(4); BI, Prob. Reg. 1.

*Notes:* Names in **bold** represent deponents or persons otherwise noticed in the case. Names **underlined** represent line of descent of the family property. The symbol ≈ represents a nonmarital relationship.

- a. Thomas is noted as the son and heir to William de Rouclif, aka William Belle, in 1313, but is not noticed again thereafter.
- b. Margery is unlikely to be the same person as Mariota since Mariota is recorded as issuing a deed in her own name in 1309 and thus must have been born by c. 1294.
- c. Gervase is first noticed as a witness to a charter in 1311. This suggests he may have been born c. 1290. The first recorded deed in his name is dated 1324.
- d. Robert de Rouclif, who died childless, named Master John de Rouclif, who was married to Margaret, as his heir. John had a younger brother, also called John and likewise married to a Margaret. No relationship between Robert and Master John is specified.
- e. Dom. William Marrays was abbot of St Mary’s between 1359 and 1382.
- f. John Marrays was still living in 1395.
Genealogical Table 2  Genealogy of the armigerous family of de Rouclif of Rawcliffe

Source: C.B. Norcliffe, ed., *The Visitation of Yorkshire in the Years 1563 and 1564 made by William Flower, Esquire*, Harleian Society, 91 (1881), pp. 265–6; BI, CP.E.89; YML, Dean and Chapter probate register 1, L2(4); Baildon, ed., *Feet of Fines for the County of York, from 1347 to 1377*, p. 102; TNA, Prob/11/1.

Notes: Names **in bold** represent deponents or persons otherwise noticed in the case.

a. Flower does not identify John de Rouclif’s wife, but she can be so identified from a land transaction: Baildon, ed., *Feet of Fines for the County of York, from 1347 to 1377*, p. 102.

b. Sir Robert was buried at Scarborough:YML, Dean and Chapter probate register 1, L2(4), fol. 73. It appears that the main Rawcliffe inheritance of the family passed from Sir Richard to Sir John and so to Sir Brian.

c. Guy de Rouclif was a clerk in the Privy Seal Office and Thomas Hoccleve’s superior at the beginning of Hoccleve’s own clerical career. In addition to his late parents and brother, his will mentions two of his Fairfax kin by marriage, viz. his sister-in-law Elizabeth and his nephew Thomas: TNA, Prob/11/1.
Map 1  York and its environs
Map 2  South and East Yorkshire