



Locational Lives: Medieval Experience In Town and Country



Invitation to join the Graduate Centre of Medieval Studies at Reading on Thursday, 16th April 2026, for a postgraduate forum and discussion on understanding medieval life from the perspective of those in Town and those in the Country. Four sessions of 20-minute presentations followed by discussion on each topic area.

Hybrid event in person and online – please register with Eventbrite – see details below.

10:00 -17:00 (Registration from 9:30; Lunch break 13:00 -14:00)

Session 1: The Impact of the Church on the Rural

- ◆ The Templar estates in Gloucestershire, c.1308-1310
- ◆ Hyde Abbey's management of its estates in the localities around Winchester
- ◆ The Network of Bishop Birinus: Religious Influence in the Upper Thames Valley

Session 2: The Rurality of Italy

- ◆ The countryside and its changes during the Middle Ages in the Italian Peninsula
- ◆ The emergence of rural communes in the Florentine hinterland
- ◆ Regulating Transhumant Pastoralism in *The Liber Augustalis*

Session 3: Cities, Towns and Links with Wider Populations

- ◆ Religious Fraternities dedicated to St Christopher in Town and Country
- ◆ From Country to City: the London Artisan and the Art of Assimilation 1300-1520
- ◆ Experiential Anthropogenic(ity): Locational Identities in Chaucer's *Wife of Bath's Tale*

Session 4: The Urban as seen in Manuscripts

- ◆ Architecture: Representing the Urban Cathedral in Late Medieval French Manuscript Tradition
- ◆ The visual representation of the ancient Russian 'grad' (city, fortress) in manuscript miniatures

TICKETS FOR BOTH IN PERSON AND ONLINE ATTENDEES AVAILABLE VIA EVENTBRITE:

Please search 'GCMS Eventbrite', or use this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/locational-lives-medieval-experience-in-town-and-country-hybrid-event-tickets-1981046117265?aff=oddtcreator>

