LEVERHULME TRUST

Research Fellowship

Applicant: Dr Paul Oldfield		ID/Ref: ▮▮▮▮▮▮	
Project Title: Hidden Histories: Documenting the Past in Medieval Puglia (1130-1250)			
Submission Date: 29 October 2019		Total Requested: ▮▮▮▮▮	

Applicant Details

Title	Dr	**Address**	Department of History
Forename(s)	Paul		Samuel Alexander Building
			History
Surname	Oldfield		Manchester
Honours			
			United Kingdom (England)
Institution	University of Manchester		M13 9PL
Department	History		
Telephone No.	▮▮▮▮▮▮	**Email Address**	paul.oldfield@manchester.ac.uk

Career

Are you self-employed?	No

Current Position	Senior Lecturer in Medieval History

Employment History

From	To	Position	Organisation
09/2016	-	Senior Lecturer in Medieval History	University of Manchester
09/2012	08/2016	Lecturer in Medieval History	University of Manchester
06/2006	08/2012	Lecturer and then Senior Lecturer in Medieval History	Manchester Metropolitan University

Education

Degrees

From	To	Degree	Subject	Class	Institution
09/1998	07/2001	BA	BA Honours Degree – History	1st class	University of Leeds
09/2002	08/2003	MRes	MA by Research (History)	Minor corrections	University of Leeds

Doctoral Degrees

From	To	Degree	Subject	Institution	Supervisor
09/2003	09/2006	PhD	'Urban society and communal independence in twelfth-century Southern Italy'	University of Leeds	Professor G. A. Loud

Research Details

Title of research proposal	Hidden Histories: Documenting the Past in Medieval Puglia (1130-1250)
Main/sub field of study	History

Abstract

This project explores the apparent disappearance of historical memory and 'traditional' historical writing which occurred in the region of Puglia after it was subsumed within the new Kingdom of Sicily in 1130. Through an extensive analysis of Pugliese charters and correspondence it reveals the existence of 'hidden histories' in documents and thus the vibrant, ongoing production of local historical narratives and memories. The major output of the project will be a monograph which proposes a new model for understanding how locally subordinate memories and identities could survive in a creative dialogue with a more dominant, over-arching set of institutional memories.

Places where you will carry out the proposed research

The majority of the research will be complete by the time the award commences, and I will have obtained all the sources/documents required. Thus I will be writing up the monograph and article primarily at Manchester. If I do need to consult additional literature, by that point, I will be able to use the resources at the John Rylands Library, University of Manchester, and also most likely the Bodleian Library, Oxford.

Relevant experience/skills/training

I read in several languages - Italian, Medieval Italian, Latin, French, Spanish and German. I am experienced in palaeography and codicology. In addition to producing numerous articles and my role as co-editor on two projects, I have published three monographs (two with Cambridge University Press, one with Oxford University Press) which demonstrates my ability to successfully accomplish significant, long-term, independent research projects. Much of my research has involved charter analysis which is at the heart of this current project.

Research and Publications

Detailed statement of proposed research

The creation of the Kingdom of Sicily in 1130 generated profound social and cultural transformation across southern Italy. Diverse regional identities were gradually subsumed under the centralising umbrella of a new monarchy. In several regions, royal-centred historical writing seemingly displaced the textual recording of local historical memory. This transition was particularly apparent in the region of Puglia where earlier local traditions of annalistic and chronicle writing disappeared under the monarchy. This project, however, revises the perception of Puglia's lost historical voices and proposes a new model for how regionally subordinate memories and identities could survive when in creative dialogue with a more dominant set of (in this case, royal and papal) institutional memories. It does so through an extensive examination of an evidence-type yet to be utilised for this purpose: charters and correspondence. It will ask the following key research questions:

•   What sort of historical memories were preserved in charters within Puglia?

•   Why did documents become integral receptacles for historical memory within the new monarchy?

•   What was the role of 'central agents' (papacy, monarchy) in producing local historical memory?

•   What does this process of documenting the past in Puglia reveal about centre-periphery inter-relationships within medieval polities?

Closely analysing (over 1,000) Pugliese charters and correspondence reveals the existence of embedded 'hidden histories' and thus the vibrant, ongoing production of local historical narratives and memories claimed by monastic, episcopal, professional, urban, and familial communities. The major outputs will be a monograph (to be submitted for consideration to Oxford University Press) and associated article (exploring a largely unknown fragmentary Pugliese cartulary-chronicle), to be submitted to a peer-review journal (such as *Al-Masaq* or *Mediterranean Studies*). The monograph will examine the following themes. Chapter 1 surveys annalistic, chronicle and hagiographic writing in Puglia both before and after 1130. Chapter 2 then problematizes the project's main corpus of evidence, exploring how communities manipulated and interacted with documentation and how documentary authenticity, the charter's materiality (as a 'monument' for memory), and circulation of information in a public arena crystallised local historical memory. Chapters 3 and 4 examine two developments which catalysed the documentary recording of historical memories within Puglia after 1130. Chapter 3 examines how increased papal intervention in dispute resolution stimulated, via charters, the sharing and shaping of historical information between Rome and Pugliese communities/institutions. Chapter 4 assesses how royal

government intensified the documentary recording of historical memory in Puglia, particularly in the aftermath of partial governmental collapse (c.1190-c.1220). The post-1220 revival of royal authority consequently required deeper investigation of records on Puglia's past and led to a rise in royal-led 'inquisitions' recording numerous lay and clerical testimonies which preserved and manipulated memory. In both contexts, papal and royal intervention, Pugliese communities inhabited a crucial 'middle space', mediating information which flowed vertically between a legitimised centre and locality. Thus, a multitude of significant remembrances were recorded: longstanding disputes over episcopal primacy, contested customary payments and visitations, royal mandates read publically, churches destroyed and city walls dismantled. Chapter 5 then examines the periodisation of memory and how the past was chronologically framed around notions of good governance and office-holding. Finally, chapter 6 offers case-studies on the polyvocal historical discourses evident within three cities (Bari, Brindisi, Troia).

This project builds on ground-breaking work (see Geary, Wickham, Fiore) on medieval memory and charters which demonstrates the inter-relationship between judicial records, inquests and historical memory, and identifies overlooked local historical narratives embedded within charters. However, these approaches have not yet been applied directly to one of medieval Europe's most sophisticated monarchies, the Kingdom of Sicily, nor to its inter-relationship with one of its most important regions, Puglia. Indeed, Martin's monumental study of Puglia overlooks the production of historical memory. Pugliese charters and correspondence have yet to be used therefore in ways that fully reflect one of their most important contemporary functions: articulating and preserving local historical memory within a wider 'intertextual system' that extends to Palermo (the royal centre) and Rome (the papal centre). The Pugliese model demonstrates that historical memory was constructed through processes of top-down/bottom-up collaboration and consensus between centre and periphery, and thus largely dependent on locally reconfigured inter-relationships with vertical authority (papacy, monarchy). This model thus suggests the potential to re-consider how constructing local historical memory in other polities – Capetian France, England, Byzantium – can reflect the reach or absence of central authority and its perceived legitimacy.

The project's main body of evidence is charters and correspondence either produced by or for Pugliese individuals/communities. The *Società di Storia Patria per la Puglia* has, since the late-nineteenth century, published over 30 volumes of edited charters; many are utilised in this study. In addition, independent volumes of edited charters exist for other Pugliese cities such as Lecce, Taranto and Trani. The archives of the South Italian monasteries of La Cava dei Tirreni and Montevergine contain some potentially relevant unpublished charters which can be obtained in digital format. Furthermore, papal and royal registers have been consulted to identify further relevant documents.

By the start of the award I will have obtained and analysed all the documents, have fully drafted the Introduction and Chapter 1, and partially drafted Chapter 2. In September I will produce the article for submission. In October and December I will complete the draft of Chapter 2. From January to April I will complete the drafts of chapters 3 and 4. From May to July I will complete chapters 5 and 6. In August, I will draft the conclusion and copy-edit the manuscript with the aim of submitting the monograph in October 2021.

Indicative Bibliography:

Enrico Faini, 'Alle origini della memoria comunale', *Quellen und Forschungen aus italienischen Archiven und Bibliotheken* 88 (2008), 61-81.

James Fentress and Chris Wickham, *Social Memory* (Oxford, 1992).

Alessio Fiore, 'Refiguring Local Power and Legitimacy in the Kingdom of Italy, c.900-c.1150', *Past and Present* 241 (2018), 33-67.

Patrick Geary, 'Land, Language and Memory in Europe', *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society*, 6th series, 9 (1999), 169-84.

Jean-Marie Martin, *La Pouille du VI au XII siècle* (Rome, 1993).

Major publications

Single-Authored Books:
- *Urban Panegyric and the Transformation of the Medieval City, 1100-1300* [Oxford Studies in Medieval European History Series] (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019)
- *Sanctity and Pilgrimage in Medieval Southern Italy, 1000-1200* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014)
- *City and Community in Norman Italy* [Cambridge Studies in Medieval Life and Thought: Fourth Series.

72], (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009) [paperback edition published in 2011]

Co-Edited Books:

- *Crusading and Pilgrimage in the Norman World*, co-edited with Kathryn Hurlock (Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2015).
- *Rethinking Norman Italy: Studies in Honour of Graham A. Loud*, co-edited with Joanna H. Drell (Manchester University Press, forthcoming 2021).

Journal Articles:

- 'Alexander of Telese's Encomium of Capua and the Formation of the Kingdom of Sicily', *History* 102 (2017), 183-200.
- 'Autonomy and Identity in the Cities of Norman Italy, c.1050-c.1200', *History Compass* 14 (2016), 370-79.
- 'The Bari Charter of Privileges of 1132: articulating the culture of a new Norman monarchy', *Historical Research* 88 (2015), 577-98.
- 'The Medieval Cult of St Agatha of Catania and the consolidation of Christian Sicily', *Journal of Ecclesiastical History* 62, no. 3 (2011), 439-456.
- 'Otto IV and Southern Italy', *Archivio Normanno-Svevo* 1 (2009), 9-30.
- 'The Kingdom of Sicily and the early University Movement', *Viator* 40, no. 2 (2009), 135-150.
- 'An Internal Frontier? The Relationship between Mainland Southern Italy and Sicily in the 'Norman' Kingdom', *Haskins Society Journal* 20 (2009), 161-174.
- 'St Nicholas the Pilgrim and the city of Trani between Greeks and Normans, c.1090-c.1140', *Anglo-Norman Studies* 30 (2008), 168-181.
- 'The Iberian imprint on Medieval Southern Italy', *History* 93, no. 311 (2008), 312-327.
- 'Urban government in Southern Italy c.1085-c.1127', *English Historical Review* 122, no. 497 (2007), 579-608.
- 'Citizenship and community in Southern Italy c.1100-c.1220', *Papers of the British School at Rome* 74 (2006), 323-338.
- 'Rural settlement and economic development in Southern Italy: Troia and its contado, c.1020 – c.1230', *Journal of Medieval History* 31 (2005), 327-345.

Book chapters:

- 'Hagiography and Urban Life: Evidence from Southern Italy', in *Hagiography and the History of Latin Christendom, 500-1500*, ed. S. Kahn Herrick (Brill: forthcoming, 2019), 314-32.
- 'To Destroy a City so Great and Remarkable': Lamentation, Panegyric and the Idea of the Medieval City', in *Italy and Early Medieval Europe. Papers for Chris Wickham*, ed. R. Balzaretti, J. Barrow and P. Skinner (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018), 291-302.
- 'Representations of the City in the Chronicles of the Norman Conquest of Southern Italy', in *Quei Maledetti Normanni. Studi offerti a Errico Cuozzo,* ed., J-M. Martin and R. Alaggio (Ariano Irpino: Centro europeo di studi normanni, 2016), Vol. 2, 705-718.
- 'Problems and Patterns in Medieval Migration: the case of southern Italy (1000-1200)', in *Journeying Along Medieval Routes*, ed. Marianne O'Doherty et al (Turnhout, 2016), 89-113.
- 'The Use and Abuse of Pilgrims in Norman Italy', in *Crusading and Pilgrimage in the Norman World*, ed. Kathryn Hurlock and Paul Oldfield (Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2015), 139-58.
- 'Urban Communities and the Normans in Southern Italy', in *Norman Expansion: Connections, Continuities and Contrasts*, ed. Keith J. Stringer and Andrew Jotischky (Farnham: Ashgate, 2013), 187-206.

Any other matters you wish to bring to the attention of the Committee

Duration and Timing

Duration of whole project

The fellowship wll last for 12 months from 1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021. It will represent the final stage of a longer-term research project which commenced in 2017 with an initial cycle identifying and examining the souce-base and the proposed research model drawn from this evidence. The majority of research having been accomplished by September 2020, the 12 months of the Fellowship will primarily provide crucial time to draw together all the complex material to write up a monograph and associated peer-reviewed journal article.

| Duration of Fellowship (3-24 months) | 12 |

Proposed start date	September 2020
Percentage of time to be spent on the project during the fellowship	100

Details of other research projects and commitments during the Fellowship

I will have no other research projects which will overlap with the duration of the Fellowship, aside from some potential minor/final editorial work on a co-edited volume (*Rethinking Norman Italy*); a full manuscript will have been submitted to the publishers in January 2020, so it will ony require small editorial input by the time the Fellowship commences. I will also be on the supervision team for four PhD students, two of which are scheduled to complete during the period of the Fellowship.

Referees

Referee 1	Professor Chris Wickham
Department : Institution	All Souls College : University of Oxford
Position	Emeritus Fellow
Email	▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓

Referee 2	Professor Adam Kosto
Department : Institution	History : Columbia University
Position	Professor
Email	▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓

Referee 3	Professor Graham Loud
Department : Institution	History : University of Leeds
Position	Professor Emeritus
Email	▓▓▓▓▓▓▓

Previous and Current Applications

Previous Leverhulme awards or pending applications to the Trust

None

Other awards received in the last 3 years related to this research

None

Applications you have made or intend to make to other bodies related to this research proposal

None

Where did you hear about this Leverhulme scheme?	University

Finance

Replacement costs or loss of earnings

Type
Replacement costs (salary)

Number of months (3-24)
12

Percentage (%)
100

Justification if applying for a temporary replacement
N/A

	Year 1	Total
Scale Point	■	
Basic Salary	■	■
London allowance	■	■
National Insurance	■	■
Superannuation	■	■
Total	■	■

Research Expenses
No Research Expenses costs have been requested

Budget Summary

	Year 1 (£)	Total (£)
Replacement costs/Loss of earnings	■	■
Research Expenses	■	■
Total	■	■

Study Leave Details

Your institution's policy for paid or unpaid study leave

1 semester of institutional leave after every 6 semesters

Amount of paid study leave in the last 4 years

In the 2015-16 academic year I received leave for the first semester as institutional research leave, and the second semester as part of a 6 month British Academy Mid-Career Fellowship (for my Oxford University Press monograph *Urban Panegyric*).

I received institutional research leave in semester 2 of the 2018-19 academic year.

Amount of unpaid study leave in the last 4 years

None

Study leave eligibility in the next 3 years

I should be eligible to apply for institutional research leave next in the 2022-2023 academic year.

Details of teaching and/or administrative activities to be replaced

The Fellowship would replace me from a full teaching and administrative load. I teach undergraduate at every level (1, 2, 3) which involves lecturing/tutoring on team-taught courses, running a Level 3 special subject, supervising Level 2 independent projects (approx. 10 students) and Level 3 dissertation projects (approx. 5-7 students on average), and serving as academic advisor to approximately 30 undergraduate students. I also teach some seminars on our MA modules. The Fellowship would also replace me from my current role as History Research Co-ordinator, which is one of the most significant administrative positions within the department.

Institutional Approver

I confirm on behalf of the applicant's head of department/school and this institution:

- That this institution will grant the application the period and proportion of time requested for the Fellowship
- That if replacement costs are requested the applicant will be in receipt of his/her normal salary during tenure of the award, and that the institution will accept the sum requested to provide such cover as requested in the Budget section;
- That if research expenses are requested, this request has the support of the head of department/school and institution.

Name	Christy Rodgers
Position	Research Support Officer
Email	christy.rodgers@manchester.ac.uk