

## Further Reading (2024)

A review of *The Monks of Cowick* (by Nicholas Orme) appeared in *The Devon Historian* 36 (1988), p.36. [https://www.devonhistorysociety.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Devon\\_Historian/DH-36-text.pdf](https://www.devonhistorysociety.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Devon_Historian/DH-36-text.pdf)

The most useful studies of the economies of the abbeys of Bec and Tavistock are still those of Marjorie Morgan, *The English Lands of the Abbey of Bec* (Oxford, 1946) and H. P. R. Finberg, *Tavistock Abbey* (Cambridge, 1951); for the historical context in which Cowick priory functioned, see also Nicholas Orme, *The Church in Devon 400-1560* (Exeter, 2013).

Nicholas Orme, *The Churches of Medieval Exeter* (Exeter, 2014) includes brief accounts of Cowick priory (pp.89-93); the cemetery chapel of St Michael (p.144); and the chapel of St Thomas by Exe Bridge and the later St Thomas parish church (both pp.169-72).

The medieval Exe Bridge and the chapel of St Thomas at its western end are also discussed in Stewart Brown, *The Medieval Exe Bridge, St Edmund's Church, and Excavation of Waterfront Houses, Exeter* (Exeter, 2019). This book suggests that the chapel may have been located on the northern side of the approach to the bridge, but the prevailing evidence indicates that it was on the southern side (see, e.g., Orme, *Churches of Medieval Exeter*, p.169).

For the location of Cowick priory, see Geoffrey Yeo, 'Where Was Cowick Priory?', *Devon & Cornwall Notes & Queries* 35 (1986), pp.321-6, and C. A. Raleigh Radford, 'Cowick Priory', *Devon & Cornwall Notes & Queries* 35 (1986), pp.383-4.

Archaeological investigations in the early 2000s in Cordery Road near the site of the priory are described in John Allan, Jeremy Austin, and Anthony G. Collings, 'Observations on the Site of Cowick Priory, Exeter', *Devon Archaeological Society Proceedings* 66 (2008), pp.135-40; the archaeologists' work very largely confirmed earlier findings.

The shrine and cult of St Walter are examined in Nicholas Orme, 'St Walter of Cowick', *Analecta Bollandiana* 108 (1990), pp.1-7.

The role of Prior Robert de Rouen in the reconstruction of the chancel roof (and perhaps of the chancel as a whole) at Spreyton is discussed in Julian M. Luxford, *The Art and Architecture of English Benedictine Monasteries, 1300-1540* (Woodbridge, 2005), pp.87-9.

Stuart R. Blaylock, *Bowhill: the Archaeological Study of a Building under Repair in Exeter, Devon, 1977-95* (Swindon, 2004) is a very detailed study of Bowhill House. It argues that the present house was built, not for Richard or Thomas Holand (as a number of earlier historical studies suggested), but for Thomas's son Roger Holand sometime around 1500. Chapter 2 of Blaylock's book reproduces more than twenty pictures of Bowhill dated between 1736 and 1976.

The dating of the house at Cowick Barton is also uncertain. Cowick Barton once had stained glass showing the arms of Edward VI as Prince of Wales, and the presence of this glass (now held in the V&A Museum in London) has often been taken as evidence that the house was built before Edward became king in 1547; see Charles Worthy, *History of the Suburbs of Exeter* (London, 1892), p.159. However, according to Bridget Cherry and Nikolaus Pevsner, *The Buildings of England: Devon* (London, 1989), p.439, the house's two projecting wings are 'probably additions of the late 16th or 17th century'. As yet, no comprehensive study of Cowick Barton has been written.