

Chapter Title: A NOTE ON CITATION

Book Title: Forgeries and Historical Writing in England, France, and Flanders, 900-1200

Book Author(s): Robert F. Berkhofer <suffix>III</suffix>

Published by: Boydell & Brewer, Boydell Press. (2022)

Stable URL: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctv24tr8rg.6>

JSTOR is a not-for-profit service that helps scholars, researchers, and students discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content in a trusted digital archive. We use information technology and tools to increase productivity and facilitate new forms of scholarship. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Your use of the JSTOR archive indicates your acceptance of the Terms & Conditions of Use, available at <https://about.jstor.org/terms>



JSTOR

Boydell & Brewer, Boydell Press are collaborating with JSTOR to digitize, preserve and extend access to *Forgeries and Historical Writing in England, France, and Flanders, 900-1200*

A NOTE ON CITATION

At times this book may seem critical of previous scholars' attempts to grapple with forgeries but writing it would not have been possible without their many years of devoted research. Of course, all historians rely on previous scholars when they compose their histories, but I rely especially on the technical scholarship of paleographers, diplomatists, codicologists, sigillographers, and others whose work has too often been unappreciated. Without the precise and methodical discipline of these scholars, who make the unreadable into the readable and distinguish forged from genuine, there could be no meaningful synthesis about medieval forgeries. I rely heavily on the work of these specialists, whose collective insight exceeds that of any lone historian. Without their prior detective work, this project would not have been possible.

However, this study is also founded on extensive archival research of my own. Indeed, the handlists, guides, catalogues, editions, facsimiles, and the ever more common databases produced by others have allowed me to examine extant (and reconstruct lost) primary sources for this book with a greater efficiency than was possible in the twentieth century. In consequence, I was able to focus my research on the most critical forgeries. Hundreds of charters and dozens of cartularies were inspected directly, as were many seals, some coins, and a few buildings. This is particularly true for part II, which is based on intensive archival research. However, for more far-flung houses in part III, it was sometimes necessary to consult scholarly editions, which are at least one step (and sometimes more) removed from their medieval sources. Therefore, in order to make the process of research as transparent as possible, I always cite the original manuscript (or object) followed by the relevant edition(s) when I consulted the artifact directly and cite the edition alone if I relied on it. If I believe an edition is misleading, I suggest why in the note. Furthermore, a reader should be cautioned that the "best" edition for a forgery is often one that would normally be regarded as flawed. In other words, an edition which prints the text of a forgery as it was written without "correcting" it against an original is a better version of what the *forgery* contained. Thus, the apparatus for this book is more than usually critical.

