Sarah Means

Development of a Statistical Study of the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database:
Evolution of Occupational Names or Titles
Development of a Statistical Study of the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database: Evolution of Occupational Names or Titles

An Honors Thesis (HONORS 499)

By

Sarah M. Means

Thesis Advisors
Dr. Frederick Suppe
Dr. C. Ann Blakey

Ball State University
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Abstract

This study involves the development of a statistical analysis for the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls and the database based upon them. In addition, there is an analysis of the data, and historical context placed on that data. This study is concerned with the occupational surnames (and variations of) Baker, Brewer, Smith and Weaver and the resulting economic, demographic, social, and legal conclusions associated with these occupations in fourteenth century Wales.
Acknowledgements

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-I want to thank Dr. Frederick Suppe for advising me through this project. He introduced me to the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database, which was the catalyst of this project. He also provided me with a great deal of guidance in the historical context of my statistical findings. His historical point of view helped guide my paper towards something that is understandable and relevant to both mathematical and historical audiences.

-I would also like to thank Dr. C. Ann Blakey for helping me develop a scientific structure for my paper that presents information logically and efficiently. She guided and inspired me as she continually asked that I rethink my statistical structure. She also pushed me towards refining my wording in an effort to most clearly and effectively convey my ideas. Her alternative perspective on statistics proved to act as the final polish of my ideas.
## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acknowledgements</th>
<th>iii</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>List of Figures and Tables</td>
<td>vi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter One: Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Objectives</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Assumptions</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significance</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Two: Background</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information on Ruthin, Wales Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court System in Wales in the Fourteenth Century</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>System of Naming in Wales</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Population</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Three: Materials and Methods</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Collection Method</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Questions</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question 1: Occupations</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question 2: Gender</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question 3: Court Roles</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question 4: Social Stigma</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Four: Results</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of Occupations</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Trends Over Time</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender within Occupations</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender Trends Over Time</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupation Involvement in Court Roles</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupation Involvement Trends Over Time</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bakers</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brewers</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smiths</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weavers</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational Social Stigma</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational Social Stigma Trends Over Time</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bakers</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brewers</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smiths</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weavers</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter Five: Discussion ............................................................................. 62
Occupation Populations and Occupational Trends Over Time .................. 62
  Historical Context of each Occupation .................................................. 62
Occupational Population Trends Over Time ............................................ 63
  Overall Statistical Analysis of Occupations .......................................... 63
Gender within Occupations and Gender Trends Over Time ...................... 64
  Historical Context of Gender within Occupations ............................... 64
Gender Trends Over Time ......................................................................... 65
  Overall Statistical Analysis of Gender within Occupations .................. 65
Occupational Involvement in Court Roles and Involvement Trends ............ 66
  Historical Context of Occupational Involvement in Court Roles ............. 66
Occupational Involvement Trends Over Time ........................................... 67
  Overall Statistical Analysis of Occupational Involvement in Court Roles ... 67
Occupational Social Stigma and Occupational Social Stigma Trends ......... 67
  Historical Context of Occupational Social Stigma ............................... 67
Occupational Social Stigma Trends Over Time ........................................ 68
  Overall Statistical Analysis of Occupational Social Stigma ................... 68
Chapter Six: Conclusion ........................................................................... 70
Conclusion .................................................................................................. 70
Bibliography ............................................................................................... 72
LIST OF FIGURES AND TABLES

Table 1: A variety of spellings for Baker, Brewer, Smith, and Weaver were used in this study in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376. 14

Figure 1: Those individuals considered for this study include all individuals found in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 with one of the four occupational names or titles. 16

Table 2: The three time samples taken for this study include 1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376. Samples were taken from specific rolls within the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database referred to as Courts of Llannerch 1, Great Courts 1, Fourties, Courts of Llannerch 4, and Great Courts 4. 18

Table 3: (A) Number of court appearances of Bakers, Brewers, Smiths, and Weavers in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376. (B) Proportion of Occupational appearances relative to the total number of appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 by the four occupations. 28

Figure 2: The proportions of appearances for each Occupation relative to the total number of appearances of all four Occupations in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376. 29

Table 4: (A) The number of appearances of Bakers, Brewers, Smiths and Weavers in each of the three time samples in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 is given, as well as the total number of appearances by the Occupations for each time sample. (B) The proportion of appearances of each Occupation relative to the total number of appearances by all four Occupations in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376. 30

Figure 3: Linear representations of the trends in the proportion of appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each Occupation across the time span of the study. 30
Table 5: (A) The number of appearances of males and females within the Occupations of Baker, Brewer, Smith, and Weaver is given, as well as the total number of appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls within each Occupation from 1294-1376. (B) The proportion of male vs. female appearances within an Occupation in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376.

Figure 4: The proportion of male vs. female appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 within the Occupations of Baker, Brewer, Smith and Weaver.

Table 6: (A) The number of female appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 within each Occupation. (B) The proportion of female appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 within each occupation, relative to appearances in that time sample for that Occupation. (C) The number of male appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 within each Occupation. (D) The proportion of male appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 within each occupation, relative to appearances in that time sample for that Occupation.

Figure 5: Linear representations of the trends in the proportion of female appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each Occupation across the time span of the study.

Figure 6: Linear representations of the trends in the proportion of male appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each Occupation across the time span of the study.

Figure 7: Proportion of male vs. female Baker appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 relative to the total number of Baker appearances for each time sample (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).
Figure 8: Proportion of male vs. female Brewer appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 relative to the total number of Brewer appearances for each time sample (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Figure 9: Proportion of male vs. female Smith appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 relative to the total number of Smith appearances for each time sample (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Figure 10: Proportion of male vs. female Weaver appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 relative to the total number of Weaver appearances for each time sample (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Table 7: The number of appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each occupation is broken down over the number of appearances the occupation made for each of the court roles: witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant. In addition, the proportion of appearances in a particular court role for a particular Occupation relative to the appearances of that Occupation in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376.

Figure 11: The proportions of appearances of each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) compared across occupations. Proportions are calculated as the proportion of appearances in a particular court role for a particular Occupation relative to the appearances of that Occupation in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376.
Figure 12: Here, the court role of defendant is excluded to allow for a closer look at the proportions of the remaining court roles. The proportions of appearances of each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, and juror) compared across occupations. Proportions are calculated as the proportion of appearances in a particular court role for a particular Occupation relative to the appearances of that Occupation in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376.

Figure 13: The proportions of Baker appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) relative to the total appearances by Bakers.

Figure 14: The proportions of Brewer appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) relative to the total appearances by Brewers.

Figure 15: The proportions of Smith appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) relative to the total appearances by Smiths.

Figure 16: The proportions of Weaver appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) relative to the total appearances by Weavers.

Table 8: The proportion of Baker appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 in each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).
Figure 17: The proportion of Baker appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 in each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Table 9: The proportion of Brewer appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 in each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Figure 18: The proportion of Brewer appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 in each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Table 10: The proportion of Smith appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 in each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Figure 19: The proportion of Smith appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 in each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Table 11: The proportion of Weaver appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 in each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).
Figure 20: The proportion of Weaver appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 in each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Table 12: Court roles were given a social stigma (positive: pledge, essoiner, and juror; negative: defendant; neutral: witness, plaintiff, landowner, and petitioner/requester). Above is the proportion of court appearances of each social stigma for each Occupation (Baker, Brewer, Smith, Weaver) relative to the total number of court appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for that Occupation.

Figure 21: Court roles were given a social stigma (positive: pledge, essoiner, and juror; negative: defendant; neutral: witness, plaintiff, landowner, and petitioner/requester). Above is the proportion of court appearances of each social stigma for each Occupation (Baker, Brewer, Smith, Weaver) relative to the total number of court appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for that Occupation.

Table 13: Court roles were given a social stigma (positive: pledge, essoiner, and juror; negative: defendant; neutral: witness, plaintiff, landowner, and petitioner/requester). Above, the proportion of Baker appearances of each social stigma in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Figure 22: Court roles were given a social stigma (positive: pledge, essoiner, and juror; negative: defendant; neutral: witness, plaintiff, landowner, and petitioner/requester). Above, a linear representation of trends in Baker appearances of each social stigma in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).
Table 14: Court roles were given a social stigma (positive: pledge, essoiner, and juror; negative: defendant; neutral: witness, plaintiff, landowner, and petitioner/requester). Above, the proportion of Brewer appearances of each social stigma in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Figure 23: Court roles were given a social stigma (positive: pledge, essoiner, and juror; negative: defendant; neutral: witness, plaintiff, landowner, and petitioner/requester). Above, a linear representation of trends in Brewer appearances of each social stigma in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Table 16: Court roles were given a social stigma (positive: pledge, essoiner, and juror; negative: defendant; neutral: witness, plaintiff, landowner, and petitioner/requester). Above, the proportion of Smith appearances of each social stigma in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Figure 24: Court roles were given a social stigma (positive: pledge, essoiner, and juror; negative: defendant; neutral: witness, plaintiff, landowner, and petitioner/requester). Above, a linear representation of trends in Smith appearances of each social stigma in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Table 17: Court roles were given a social stigma (positive: pledge, essoiner, and juror; negative: defendant; neutral: witness, plaintiff, landowner, and petitioner/requester). Above, the proportion of Weaver appearances of each social stigma in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).
Figure 25: Court roles were given a social stigma (positive: pledge, essoiner, and juror; negative: defendant; neutral: witness, plaintiff, landowner, and petitioner/requester). Above, a linear representation of trends in Weaver appearances of each social stigma in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).
CHAPTER ONE

Introduction

In this investigation, the following question will be explored: given an individual with a particular occupational name or title, what conclusions can be drawn using the person’s legal role in a court case, the person’s gender, and the time frame under which the sample is taken? The sample will be taken from the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database. The Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database is a compilation of court rolls from court cases in Dyffryn Clwyd, the area around the town of Ruthin in north-east Wales, during the years 1294-1422. Cases involve a large sample of residents of the area, as well as a number of travelers and people from nearby areas. The rolls have been put on a data base that is searchable by terms. To begin this investigation, a structure was developed for the study that included considerations of imperfections in records, and careful definition of terminology of the study. Throughout this thesis, the general term “Occupations” mentioned above refers to groupings of the various spellings and origins for four specific sets of occupational names or titles (of individuals) as found in the database within three specific time periods examined in this study. The various spellings of these four specific Occupations were then used as search terms within the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database. These sets of terms were used to examine pre-selected time periods, based on their chronological occurrence relative to the Black Death. Statistical analyses were performed on the data to answer questions of interest relative time period, occupation, gender, and legal role within the court system.
Study Objectives

To answer the larger question posed previously, it is useful to ask more specific questions based on the criteria considered for the data.

Objective 1: Of those individuals with a particular Occupation relative to those four Occupations studied, what was the proportion of people with that Occupation across the time span of the study, and was there a change in the proportion of people that have that Occupation from one time period to the next within the study?

Objective 2: Of those individuals with a particular Occupation relative to those Occupations studied, what was the proportion of males versus females across the time span of the study, and was there a change in the proportion of males versus females from one time period to the next within the study?

Objective 3: Of those individuals with a particular Occupation relative to those Occupations studied, what court role (for example, defendant, plaintiff, witness) was found to be most common for an Occupation, and was there a change in the proportion of each Occupation's participation in a particular court role from one time period to the next within the study?

Objective 4: Of the individuals with a particular Occupation relative to those Occupations studied, was there a social stigma associated with an individual's role in the court cases which can be correlated to their Occupation?
Study Assumptions

For all questions in this study the following assumptions were made. The proportion of individuals with a particular Occupation was constant over the years represented by a particular time period. It is understood that there is variation within each time period. The midpoint in a given time period is used to show change in occupational name or title relative to any other time period.

Significance

This project has specific and general applications that are anthropologically, linguistically, historically, and economically valuable. This study will reveal specific information about a particular medieval society and its economic status, providing a clearer and deeper understanding of this time period. Surnames are often considered a key aspect of civilization, but there is limited knowledge about its development. The spelling of these surnames is something that was very varied and only after the standardization of language did European civilizations settle on surnames for the general public. Furthermore, the particular surnames of this study, being occupational in nature, also became descriptive words of economic function in the English language. This study's consideration for time structure relative to the Black Death can be generalized and applied to understanding the effects of large scale disasters on societies throughout history. By understanding specific changes to occupations, gender roles, etc, scholars can provide better evidentially supported findings.

Another important application of this study is found in the statistical structure that has been developed. There is an on-going scholarly discussion going back as far as the
early 1900's about the use of manorial court rolls in performing demographic analyses on Medieval societies. Some of the areas of research that have already been explored include: "the agricultural system, the peasant's landholdings and legal status, the village community, the distribution of land and power in village society, the land market, inheritance customs and the family, and the disintegration of the manorial system based on serfdom." Many scholars agree that the criteria for deciding on a set of court rolls to study is that the rolls be nearly complete and cover a long period of time. The Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls meet these criteria with their impressive preservation and time span of over a century. Much work has been done to develop statistical structures that can be applied to any set of court rolls that meets the previously mentioned criteria. One such study was performed by Zvi Razi on the demographic, specifically life expectancy, as reflected in Halesowen borough court rolls, but the statistical structure could not be successfully applied to other sets of court rolls. In addition to the inability to apply the structure to other studies, the statistical structures of Razi and others have received a great deal of criticism due to the assumptions they make. Razi's assumption was that the life span (young adult to death) of all villagers could be traced by their appearance in the court rolls. However, Razi does state that he understands that most of his observations are not valid for lower-status groups and he acknowledges that this is a confounding variable that prevents him from extending his findings across the entire population.

CHAPTER TWO

Background

Information on Ruthin, Wales Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries

This study focuses largely on Wales in the fourteenth century. At this time, Wales had a strong English presence. This is evident in the English influence on the court systems, and the use of the English model on manors (Transactions). The area of Dyffryn Clwyd was a Marcher lordship, which, like other Marcher lordships, was a frontier society that was a blend of English and Welsh peoples, cultures, laws, customs, languages, and social and economic formations. In many marches, this blend of cultures was found in the distinction between Englishries and Welshries (separate areas in which people of each ethnicity lived), which often had separate courts, separate traditions, etc. The Dyffryn Clwyd lordship was composed of a main town of Ruthin, with about 60 rural vills surrounding Ruthin. The River Clwyd flowed along the west side of Ruthin, with the St. Peter’s church to the north and the castle to the south.

The development of this Marcher lordship began in the thirteenth century, when Ruthin experienced some exchanges of power. The result was King Edward I of England regaining the territory in 1277, and putting the lordship in Welsh control under Dafydd, brother of the Welsh ruler Llywelyn ap Gruffudd. Soon after this transaction, construction began on Ruthin Castle. However, in 1282, Dafydd led a rebellion against

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the English, which ultimately landed Dyffryn Clwyd under English control. This remained the political status throughout the timeframe of this study.

After Ruthin Castle was completed, work began on developing the borough, which was laid out in the heart of the existing Welsh community. This commonly resulted in a dispersion of the Welsh community, but in Ruthin, the Welsh simply reorganized according to burghal lines. This compromise in boundaries may also have been due to the English population at this time being relatively small because the district had been recently acquired by the English and there were few English settlers. Although Dyffryn Clwyd was not an extremely wealthy lordship, Ruthin experienced a great deal of growth due to their cloth industry closely tied to Ruthin’s guild of fullers and weavers. This growth is reflected in a population of 209 burgesses or citizens in 1496, which was double that of 1324.

Although the Black Death began spreading in the early 1340’s, it was not until 1349 that we find evidence of the Black Death in Wales, and particularly in Ruthin. The Black Death had a drastic impact on the population of Wales. For example, in many of the hamlets of Wales, on average, one third of the rents were unable to be collected due to a lack of tenants. This drop in tenants was not solely due to deaths from the Black Death; rather it is a combination of deaths and those who evacuated. The Black Death did not infect all parts of Wales equally. Thus for this study, it is helpful to

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understand the particular effect of the Black Death on the lordship of Ruthin. This task is facilitated by the well preserved Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls. Specifically, we can trace the first outbreaks of the Black Death in Ruthin to the second week in June of 1349, when court cases mention 7 deaths at this time in the Court of Aberchwiler; a significant increase in the death rate. According to the court rolls, the Black Death lasted from the second week of June until late in the winter of 1349-1350. Ruthin experienced a revival of the epidemic in the winter of 1361-1362, but this “Second Pestilence” was milder than the first.14

**Court System in Wales in the Fourteenth Century**

Prior to the Black Death, English Law was developed and altered according to legal considerations. However, afterwards, English law began to take social trauma into account as well. The court systems of this study are largely based on the decisions of court cases which set precedent and therefore establish laws, with little influence from society.15 The court system of this time is based on common law, which was developed in England beginning in the mid twelfth century and was a fairly new convention for this time period. Common law is a method of developing legislation based on court decisions. Common law courts consist of many of the same elements as modern courts; a judge, and often a jury, hearing a case while a Chancellor or scribe, kept records.16 English Law at this time clearly reflects a society that is largely agrarian, with some

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sophisticated civilization, as seen in the topics of interest for law making: regulating the church, recovering movables, trespassing, builders, doctors, cloth workers, laborers, farriers, vicious dogs, innkeepers, jailers, fires, cattle, dikes, franchises, and counterfeiting. In Dyffryn Clwyd, the town and commotal (local rural district) courts met every three or four weeks, hearing a variety of cases for criminal and seigneurial crimes, and the Great Courts in Ruthin met twice a year for cases that involved multiple jurisdictions.

In this study, the modern meanings of plaintiff and defendant still apply; specifically, a plaintiff was an individual in civil cases who had a grievance against another individual, namely the defendant. A person was categorized as witness not only when he/she acted in the traditional sense. This is because of another committable crime of the time period. If a person failed to prosecute another of a crime, this in itself was a crime in medieval times. In these cases, the would-be defendant now functions as a witness in the court case. Essoiners were important in medieval courts when someone failed to show up to court. In these cases, the essoiner, would be sent by the absent person to deliver an essoin or excuse for nonappearance in court. A valid essoin included “absence overseas, service for one’s king or lord, sickness, and impossible travel conditions.” Medieval courts were often used in legal documentation, and thus, there are also instances of landowners and requesters/petitioners in the database. A person is considered a requester/petitioner when he asks permission and

documentation for something. Individuals in this study categorized as jurors, were clearly labeled as such. This is because a group of jurors would be employed to hear a number of cases in a single sitting, and the first roll of the day would be used to record their names. It is of interest to the study to note that people selected for jury duty in this time period were of high moral and societal standing. Jurors knew the reputation of everyone in the community, and would use this knowledge in making their decisions. Jurors of this time were also trusted to be honest; the phrase “pillar of the community” would likely apply to medieval jurors. In fact, the word “juror” is based on the French word “jureor”- to take a formal oath to tell the truth. The final legal role considered is that of a pledge. Many crimes were punishable by a fine, and a medieval pledge is a person who personally ‘pledged’ that another person would pay said fine. In the event that the person did not pay the fine, the pledge was then liable for the fine. Therefore a pledge had to own enough wealth to be able to pay the fine.

The Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database

The Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database was chosen as the sample source for this study for a number of reasons. First, it fulfilled the time frame and population size needs of the study. The Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database includes cases before, during, and after the Black Death. There is even an entire file in the database dedicated to the 1340’s, which is when the Black Death was in this area of Europe. Largely due to the preservation of these rolls, the number of units in the database is remarkable (62,731), providing for sufficiently sized samples to be taken in the three time windows. Second,

21 Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database.
the cases within these court rolls involve a large variety of citizens, which gives the study a sample that is representative of the population. This is a special characteristic of these court rolls caused by the way the Lordship of Dyffryn Clwyd was governed; total judicial control of the lords provides a wider scope of cases than the traditional private court records of England. Third, this database is of exceptional quality. The original court rolls of the Marcher Lordship of Dyffryn Clwyd were remarkably well preserved, and after painstaking work by Professor R. R. Davies, and Dr. Llínos Beverley Smith, directors of the project, and research assistants Dr. A. D. M. Barrell, Dr. O. J. Padel, and Dr. M. H. Brown, the database is an accessible window into the lives of fourteenth century Welsh citizens. The development of the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database was funded by grants from the Economic and Social Research Council and was accomplished in two projects over 4.75 years by a team of researchers at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth. The database is available for use only by scholarly license, but as Ball State University faculty member Dr. Frederick Suppe is a leading Welsh historian in the United States, Ball State students can utilize the database with his supervision. The last reason for choosing the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database is that it has yet to be statistically analyzed in the United States, which posed an interesting challenge to the researcher.

**System of Naming in Wales (1294-1376)**

Onomastics, the study of names, is one area of application of this study. The current system of first and last names that people use to differentiate between one another has only been established in the last 500 years or so. In understanding the
origins of surnames, we must remember that such names began, not as "family names" but rather, were unique to an individual. The modern convention of surnames was gaining popularity within Noble families\textsuperscript{22} at the time of this study, but for the general population surnames were applied as descriptors of the individual. The question then arises, how can you identify a person based on his/her descriptor? There were descriptors related to a variety of characteristics such as one's physical appearance (Short, Red), occupation (Baker, Smith), relationship to another person (daughter of David, e.g. Ferch Dafydd; son of Madog e.g. ap Madog), and location (Wood, Brooks).\textsuperscript{23} For the Welsh, the most common method of identification was through ancestry. This usually was limited to the father's Christian name, but sometimes included grandfather, and great-grandfather on the pattern A ap B ap C ap D) etc. to provide adequate distinction.\textsuperscript{24} However, the Welsh also used the other descriptive and/or occupational surnames.\textsuperscript{25} This difference in naming for the English and Welsh was further complicated by intermarriage. In Dyffryn Clwyd, and some other Marcher lordships, it was common for first or second generation English settlers to marry the native Welsh women. The children were often given Welsh names, which makes it difficult to discern nationality within the court rolls.\textsuperscript{26} During the development of surnames, Western Europe also experienced the Black Death, which had a devastating impact on society,

and specifically the economy. Thus, occupational surnames were chosen for this study due to their strong correlation to the economy.

A particular issue with the system of naming at this time is found in the myriad of spellings that are used. Other scholars have encountered this same issue in dealing with extracting information from manorial court rolls. Many have concerns that the variety of spellings are not due to differences in scribes but rather intending to record two or more distinct surnames. Another concern is the possibility of multiple individuals having the same name. Conversely, complications in identification could arise if one individual had different surnames in different settings. A further complication to these concerns is the inclusion of a Welsh population. In many court cases, the scribe had little concern for the culture and language of the individual. As a result, many Welsh surnames, particularly of occupational nature, occur in court rolls in English, French, and Latin, in addition to Welsh. Although these concerns are useful in understanding the naming system, they are not applicable to this study, as individuals with identical full names did not affect the study. However, it is important to this study that every variation of spelling be searched for each of the four Occupations. Conveniently, within the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database, all of the variations in spelling of surnames have been collected and placed in the file “Surnames.”

Study Population

In establishing the population to be used for this investigation, the variety of surnames was narrowed down to occupational surnames. This is a sizable population to investigate as there are nearly four hundred different surnames that appear in the court rolls in a given year. However, this was too large of a group analysis during the time frame available to perform this study. Thus, the occupational surnames were narrowed down further to four occupations of baker, brewer, smith, and weaver as these occupations provided large enough populations for observation, and were necessary to every town. In this analysis, people are categorized into the occupations of baker, brewer, smith or weaver according to the individual's occupational name or title [see Table 1 on pp 14].
Table 1: A variety of spellings for Baker, Brewer, Smith, and Weaver were used in this study in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376.

Bakers have a strong presence in the court rolls due to the prosecutions involving quality control of food. In many villages, there was a limited number of people with an oven, which resulted in the creation the occupation of baker. Brewing

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was also monitored by the law, as breaking the assize of ale was a crime. Despite this potential for court roll appearances, brewing was also commonly a household economy, so the number of individuals that would be found with the name Brewer was uncertain. Smiths are extremely valuable to every community at this time because of the strong need people had for iron goods to be made or repaired by blacksmiths. It was hoped that this would reap a large population of smiths to observe for this study. The large textile guild in Ruthin is likely to supply a large number of weavers for this study.

When any of these four occupational terms was used as the search term, the result is a set of individuals based upon the occurrence of the occupational name or title as the search term qualifier. To be valid for inclusion in this study, the occupational name or title must start with a capital letter and therefore be a formal name for inclusion, rather than simply be another term that appears in the database record. However, a person could have the occupational title or formal name associated with a particular occupation that meets this criterion, but not necessarily be directly or indirectly involved in that occupation. For example, a female could be included in the Occupation grouping “Smith” because she was either a smith herself, the daughter of a smith, or married to a smith. No estimation is made with regards to the sizes of the three populations represented by the two overlapping sets, namely those individuals with the occupational name or title, and those who hold the occupation without the occupational name or title. The three populations are those who have the occupational name or title but do not perform the occupation, those who perform the occupation but do not have the occupational name or title, and those who have both occupational name or title and perform the occupation (see Figure 1 on page 17). The individuals considered for this
study include those who have the occupational name or title but do not perform the occupation and those who have both occupational name or title and perform the occupation.

Figure 1: Those individuals considered for this study include all individuals found in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 with one of the four occupational names or titles.
CHAPTER THREE

Materials and Methods

Materials

For this study, observations were taken from the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database using Idealist software. The database contains a total of 62,731 items, of which 1,216 were used in this study. Observations were obtained at Ball State University, using a computer from the History Department that was equipped with Idealist software and the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database.31

Data Collection Method

Data collection from the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database, utilized the search terms, Baker, Brewer, Smith, and Weaver, and known variant spellings of those occupational names or titles. Three time frames were then selected in line with the specific time spans covered by the database. The time frames (Time 1: 1294-1339, Time 2: 1340-1349, Time 3: 1364-1376) were selected as representative samples before, during and after the Black Death of 1349-1350. The specific court roll database files used to investigate the time frames of the study corresponded to: 1) Courts of Llannerch 1 (Llan1) and Great Court 1 (GC1); 2) Courts for the whole lordship in 1340’s (Forties); 3) Courts of Llannerch 4 (Llan4) and Great Court 4 (G4) [see Table 2 on p 17].

31 Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Study time frame</th>
<th>Court Roll Dates</th>
<th>Name of Court Roll</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1294-1339</td>
<td>1296-1339</td>
<td>Courts of Llannerch 1 (Llan 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1294-1338</td>
<td>Great Courts 1 (GC1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1340-1349</td>
<td>1340-1349</td>
<td>Fourties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1364-1376</td>
<td>1364-1376</td>
<td>Courts of Llannerch 4 (Llan 4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1364-1376</td>
<td>Great Courts 4 (GC4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: The three time samples taken for this study include 1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376. Samples were taken from specific rolls within the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Roll Database referred to as Courts of Llannerch 1, Great Courts 1, Fourties, Courts of Llannerch 4, and Great Courts 4.

For a particular time period, court roll files were examined for individuals with a specific occupational name or title. These records were then evaluated as to the gender, and legal role in a court case. Upon encountering unfamiliar (specifically Welsh) names, Dr. Frederick C. Suppe was consulted as to the gender associated to the name in question, such as lowerth (male) or Angharad (female). It should be noted that gender neutral names do not exist in the Welsh naming system; names are either strictly masculine or feminine.\(^\text{32}\) The legal roles that were examined in this study included: witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant. In each case, a person’s Occupation was categorized and filed on a spreadsheet according to first the time window and search term, then gender, and legal role in the case.

Study Questions

To answer the larger question posed previously, it is useful to ask more specific questions based on the criteria considered for the data. The following list of questions, assumptions, and hypotheses were used for this study.

Question 1: Of those individuals with a particular Occupation relative to those Occupations studied, what was the proportion of people with that Occupation across the time span of the study, and was there a change in the proportion of people that have that Occupation from one time period to the next within the study?

Assumptions for Question 1:

1.) The general term for each occupational name or title represents the entire collection of terms varying in spelling and origin for a given occupation found on the data base during a specific time period.

2.) The number of individuals with a particular occupational name or title was constant within a time window. It is understood that there is variation within each time period.

3.) The midpoint in a given time period is used to show change in occupational name or title relative to any other time period.

Hypotheses to Test for Question 1:

H_A: Of those individuals with a particular occupational name or title, the proportion of people named [occupational name or title], relative to the Occupations in this study, changed (increased or decreased).

\[ P_{t1} < P_{t2} < P_{t3} \]
H₀: Of those individuals with a particular occupational name or title, the population of people named [occupational name or title], relative to the Occupations in this study, remained constant.

\[ P_{t1} = P_{t2} = P_{t3} \]

**Question 2:** Of those individuals with a particular Occupation relative to those Occupations studied, a) what was the proportion of males versus females across the time span of the study, and b) was there a change in the proportion of males versus females over time?

**Assumptions for Question 2:**

1) The general term for each occupational name or title represents the entire collection of terms varying in spelling and origin for a given occupation found on the data base during a specific time period.

2) The number of individuals with a particular occupational name or title was constant within a time window. It is understood that there is variation within each time period.

3) The midpoint in a given time period is used to show change in occupational name or title relative to any other time period.

4) A person with a traditionally “female” name is a female, and conversely, a person with a traditionally “male” name is a male.
Hypotheses to Test for Question 2:

Question 2: part a

$H_A$: Of those individuals with a particular occupational name or title, was one gender more associated with the occupational name or title than the other?

$P_m < P_f$ or $P_f < P_m$

$H_0$: Of those individuals with a particular occupational name or title, the proportion of females and males is equal.

$P_m = P_f$

Question 2: part b

$H_A$: Of those individuals with a particular occupational name or title, the proportion of females and males changes over time.

$P_{t1} \neq P_{t2} \neq P_{t3}$ (check for both males and females)

$H_0$: Of those individuals with a particular occupational name or title, the proportion of females and males remains constant.

$P_{t1} = P_{t2} = P_{t3}$

Question 3:

Of those individuals with a particular Occupation relative to those Occupations studied, a) what court role was found to be most common for an Occupation, and b) was there a change in the proportion of each Occupation's participation in a particular court role from one time period to the next within the study?
Assumptions for Question 3:

1) The general term for each occupational name or title represents the entire collection of terms varying in spelling and origin for a given occupation found on the database during a specific time period.

2) The number of individuals with a particular occupational name or title was constant within a time window. It is understood that there is variation within each time period.

3) The midpoint in a given time period is used to show change in occupational name or title relative to any other time period.

4) An individual with a traditionally "female" name is a female, and conversely, a person with a traditionally "male" name is a male.

Hypotheses to Test for Question 3:

Question 3: part a Of those individuals with a particular Occupation relative to those Occupations studied, a) what court role was found to be most common for an Occupation

$H_A$: Of those individuals with a particular occupational name or title, the proportion of individuals participating as [court role] was greater than the proportion of individuals participating in other court roles.

$P_{r1} > P_r$

$H_0$: Of those individuals with a particular occupational name or title, the proportion of individuals participating as [court role] was less than or equal to the proportion of individuals participating in other court roles.

$P_{r1} \leq P_r$
Question 3: part b

Hₐ: Of those individuals with a particular Occupation, the proportion of individuals participating in a particular court role changes over time.

\[ P_{t1} \neq P_{t2} \neq P_{t3} \] (check for each court role)

H₀: Of those individuals with a particular Occupation, the proportion of individuals participating in a particular court role remains constant.

\[ P_{t1} = P_{t2} = P_{t3} \]

Question 4: Of the individuals with a particular Occupation relative to those Occupations studied, was there a social stigma associated with an individual's role in the court cases which can be correlated to their Occupation?

Assumptions for Question 4:

1) The general term for each occupational name or title represents the entire collection of terms varying in spelling and origin for a given occupation found on the data base during a specific time period.

2) The number of individuals with a particular occupational name or title was constant within a time window. It is understood that there is variation within each time period.

3) The midpoint in a given time period is used to show change in occupational name or title relative to any other time period.

4) An individual with a traditionally “female” name is a female, and conversely, a person with a traditionally “male” name is a male.

5) The following roles were considered positive for the listed reasons:
a. Jurors- were not selected at random in medieval times; rather they were chosen for their trustworthiness, and knowledge of reputations of citizens. An official would appoint jurors based on these qualities. It is assumed that these are positive qualities, and thus this role is considered a positive reflection of character.

b. Pledges- have a good reputation in the community regarding their character and wealth, and thus this role reflects a positive social stigma.

c. Essoiner- although appointed and sent by a defendant, essoiners were chosen for their trustworthiness. The defendant needed his essoin to be delivered by a believable messenger in order for the essoin to be accepted. Thus, it is a positive reflection of character to be appointed as an essoiner.

6) The following role was considered negative for the listed reasons:

Defendant- as in modern courts, these were individuals being accused of a crime. Although defendants were not always found guilty, they were in many instances within in this study. Regardless of guilt or innocence, a negative social stigma would be associated with these individuals. In addition to the general crimes to be accused of, medieval jurisdiction includes laws referring to the assize of bread and ale. Being charged with this crime was not as detrimental to an individual's reputation, but it is assumed that there is still some level of negative social stigma regardless of which crime the individual was being accused.
7) The following roles were considered neutral or inconclusive for the listed reasons:

a. Witness- We cannot conclude a positive or negative association for individuals acting as witnesses because a witness can play a neutral, positive, or negative role. A witness could be considered positive when he was called upon for professional information to educate the jurors on specifics or technicalities of their particular area. A negative association could be placed on a witness when a person failed to persecute another. In this situation, the person who should have been a defendant was categorized as witness for the purposes of this study. It was inconclusive from the roll if the “witness” would have been guilty or not. Thus, a witness can play either a positive or negative role.

b. Plaintiffs- in a civil case, rather than a criminal case, plaintiffs were those individuals who had a grievance against a defendant. It was not known whether the grievance was justifiable or not until the trial has concluded. Thus, the trial outcome would determine potential positive or negative social stigma associated with that individual. Because this study did not include this information, we could not conclude positive or negative character association.

c. Landowner- ownership of land reflects on wealth but not moral character. It is neither a positive nor negative reflection of character to be a landowner, thus this role is neutral.
d. Petitioner/Requester- is making use of the legal system to achieve some ends, but regardless of the means, it is neither a positive nor a negative reflection of character to request or petition the court, and thus this role is neutral.

Hypotheses to Test for Question 4:

Positive Role

Hₐ: Of the population of individuals with a particular occupational name or title, and/or gender, the population of [occupational name or title and/or gender] was involved in a larger proportion of positive roles that negative ones in court cases.

Pₚ > Pₙ

H₀: Of the population of individuals with a particular occupational name or title, and/or gender, the population of [occupational name or title and/or gender] was not involved in a larger proportion of positive roles in court cases.

Pₚ < Pₙ

Negative Role

Hₐ: Of the population of individuals with a particular occupational name or title, and/or gender, the population of [occupational name or title and/or gender] was involved in a larger proportion of negative roles in court cases.

Pₙ > Pₚ

H₀: Of the population of individuals with a particular occupational name or title, and/or gender, the population of [occupational name or title and/or gender] was not involved in a larger proportion of negative roles in court cases.

Pₙ < Pₚ
Neutral Role

$H_A$: Of the population of individuals with a particular occupational name or title, and/or gender, the population of [occupational name or title and/or gender] was not involved in a larger proportion of positive or negative roles in court cases.

$P_n = P_p$

$H_0$: Of the population of individuals with a particular occupational name or title, and/or gender, the population of [occupational name or title and/or gender] was involved in a larger proportion of positive or negative roles in court cases.
CHAPTER FOUR

Results

Of those individuals with a particular Occupation relative to those Occupations studied, what was the proportion of people with that Occupation across the time span of the study, and was there a change in the proportion of people that have that Occupation from one time period to the next within the study?

Proportion of Occupations

Of the four Occupations observed for this study from 1293-1376, Smiths had the most appearances in the court rolls across the time span of the study, with 768 of the 1216 appearances by all Occupations. Smiths made about 63% of the total appearances made by the four occupations studied while bakers made 21% (261 appearances), brewers made 3% (36 appearances), and weavers made 12% (151 appearances) of the appearances in court rolls.

| (A) Raw Numbers- Proportions |
|---|---|
| Number of individuals (Relative to all Occupations in the study) |
| bakers | 261 |
| brewers | 36 |
| smiths | 768 |
| weavers | 151 |
| total | 1216 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(B)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proportions (Relative to all Occupations in the study)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bakers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brewers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>smiths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>weavers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3: (A) Number of court appearances of Bakers, Brewers, Smiths, and Weavers in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376. (B) Proportion of Occupational appearances relative to the total number of appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 by the four occupations.
Population Trends Over Time

Between 1294 and 1376, the proportions of appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls of the four Occupations studied changed. The number of court appearances for Smiths decreased at a fairly consistent rate, from 70% of the 1,216 appearances observed during Time 1, to 63% of the appearances during Time 2, to 47% of the appearances during Time 3. Brewers, a small proportion of the group, decreased, from 8% of the 1216 appearances, to less than 1% of the appearances, and have no appearances in the last time sample. Bakers and Weavers, on the other hand, are both increasing. Bakers have doubled their proportion of appearances, and the Weavers have more than quadrupled their proportion of appearances across this time span. Bakers have increased from 16% of the 1216 appearances, to 21% of appearances, to
30% of appearances. Weavers have increased from 4% of the 1216 appearances, to 14% of the appearances, to 22% of the appearances.

(A) 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>1239-1339</th>
<th>1340-1349</th>
<th>1364-1376</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bakers</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brewers</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smiths</td>
<td>276</td>
<td>406</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weavers</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>388</td>
<td>648</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4: (A) The number of appearances of Bakers, Brewers, Smiths and Weavers in each of the three time samples in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 is given, as well as the total number of appearances by the Occupations for each time sample. (B) The proportion of appearances of each Occupation relative to the total number of appearances by all four Occupations in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376.

(B) 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>1239-1339</th>
<th>1340-1349</th>
<th>1364-1376</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bakers</td>
<td>0.167526</td>
<td>0.219136</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brewers</td>
<td>0.085052</td>
<td>0.00463</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smiths</td>
<td>0.71134</td>
<td>0.626543</td>
<td>0.477778</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weavers</td>
<td>0.036082</td>
<td>0.149691</td>
<td>0.222222</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 3: Linear representations of the trends in the proportion of appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each Occupation across the time span of the study.
Of those individuals with a particular Occupation relative to those Occupations studied, what was the proportion of males versus females across the time span of the study, and was there a change in the proportion of males versus females from one time period to the next within the study?

**Gender within Occupations**

The proportion of female Bakers appearing in court was smaller than that of male Bakers (females: 18.0% of Baker appearances; males: 82.0% of Baker appearances). The proportion of female Brewers appearing in court was larger than that of male Brewers (females: 86.1% of Brewer appearances; males: 13.9% of Brewer appearances). The proportion of female Smiths appearing in court was smaller than that of male Smiths (females: 18.0% of Smith appearances; males: 82.0% of Smith appearances). The proportion of female Weavers appearing in court was smaller than that of male Weavers (females: 18.0% of Weaver appearances; males: 82.0% of Weaver appearances).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>Females</th>
<th>Total Individuals in Occupation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bakers</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brewers</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>smiths</td>
<td>637</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>weavers</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 5:** (A) The number of appearances of males and females within the Occupations of Baker, Brewer, Smith, and Weaver is given, as well as the total number of appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls within each Occupation from 1294-1376. (B) The proportion of male vs. female appearances within an Occupation in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376.
Gender Trends Over Time

Across the time span of this study, there are some changes in the proportion of males verses females within the four Occupations. Female Brewers decreased drastically (91.0% of Brewer appearances in time 1, 33.3% of Brewer appearances in time 2, no appearances of female Brewers in time 3), while the proportion of female Weavers fell more slowly (28.5% of Weaver appearances in time 1, 26.8% of Weaver appearances in time 2, 15% of Weaver appearances in time 3). Female Bakers remained constant between the first two time periods, and then rose in the third time period (15.4% of Baker appearances in time 1, 14.1% of Baker appearances in time 2, 31.4% of Baker appearances in time 3). Female Smiths experienced a drop in the middle time period, but returned to a proportion similar to...
that of the first time period (33.3% of Smiths appearances in time 1, 5.2% of Smiths appearances in time 2, 20.1% of Smiths appearances in time 3). Male Brewers and Smiths both experienced spikes in the proportion of appearances for the Occupation (9.1% of Brewer appearances in time 1, 33.3% of Brewer appearances in time 2, no appearances of female Brewers in time 3, 66.7% of Smith appearances in time 1, 94.9% of Smith appearances in time 2, 79.1% of Smith appearances in time 3). However, the total number of Brewer appearances during the spike in time three was 3, so the spike does not tell us much about gender trends for Brewers. Male Bakers remained fairly constant between the first two time periods, and then dropped in the third time period (84.6% of Baker appearances in time 1, 85.9% of Baker appearances in time 2, 68.5% of Baker appearances in time 3). Male Weavers were fairly constant in the first two periods, but increased in the third time period (71.4% of Weaver appearances in time 1, 73.1% of Weaver appearances in time 2, 85% of Weaver appearances in time 3).
Table 6: (A) The number of female appearances in the Oyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 within each Occupation. (B) The proportion of female appearances in the Oyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 within each occupation, relative to appearances in that time sample for that Occupation. (C) The number of male appearances in the Oyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 within each Occupation. (D) The proportion of male appearances in the Oyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 within each occupation, relative to appearances in that time sample for that Occupation.
Figure 5: Linear representations of the trends in the proportion of female appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each Occupation across the time span of the study.

Figure 6: Linear representations of the trends in the proportion of male appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each Occupation across the time span of the study.
Figure 7: Proportion of male vs. female Baker appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 relative to the total number of Baker appearances for each time sample (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Figure 8: Proportion of male vs. female Brewer appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 relative to the total number of Brewer appearances for each time sample (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).
Figure 9: Proportion of male vs. female Smith appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 relative to the total number of Smith appearances for each time sample (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Figure 10: Proportion of male vs. female Weaver appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 relative to the total number of Weaver appearances for each time sample (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).
Of those individuals with a particular Occupation relative to those Occupations studied, what court role was found to be most common for an Occupation, and was there a change in the proportion of each Occupation's participation in a particular court role from one time period to the next within the study?

**Occupation Involvement in Court Roles**

For all occupations, the court role with the largest proportion of appearances was defendant with 61% of Bakers (161 of 261 appearances), 89% of Brewers (32 of 36 appearances), 64% of Smiths (495 of 768 appearances), and 72% of Weavers (109 of 151 appearances) acting as defendant in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls. Although with much smaller proportions, the court role with the second largest proportion of appearances was plaintiff with 24% of Bakers (65 of 261 appearances), 8% of Brewers (3 of 36 appearances), 14% of Smiths (110 of 768 appearances), and 10% of Weavers (15 of 151 appearances) acting as plaintiff. Pledge was the only other court role that all four Occupations participated in with 6% of Bakers (15 of 261 appearances), 2% of Brewers (1 of 36 appearances), 8% of Smiths (65 of 768 appearances), and 1% of Weavers (2 of 151 appearances) acting as pledge. Of the four Occupations in this study, only Weavers did not act as witnesses, with 3% of Bakers (7 of 261 appearances), 3% of Smiths (22 of 768 appearances), and 3% of Weavers (5 of 151 appearances) acting as witness. Only two of the four Occupations studied acted in the remaining court roles: .5% of Smiths (4 of 768 appearances) and 2% of Bakers (6 of 261 appearances) acted as essoiners, 12% of Weavers (19 of 151 appearances) and 4% of Smiths (29 of 768 appearances) as landowners, 5% of Smiths (42 of 768 appearances) and 3% of Bakers (7 of 261 appearances).
appearances) as jurors, and .1% of Smiths (1 of 768 appearances) and .6% of Weavers (1 of 151 appearances) as petitioner/requesters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Appearances of each Occupation in each Court Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bakers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Witness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plaintiff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essoiner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landowner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petitioner/Requester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juror</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defendant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTALS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proportion of each Occupation in each Court Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Witness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plaintiff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essoiner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landowner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petitioner/Requester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juror</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defendant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 7: The number of appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each occupation is broken down over the number of appearances the occupation made for each of the court roles: witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant. In addition, the proportion of appearances in a particular court role for a particular Occupation relative to the appearances of that Occupation in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376.
Figure 11: The proportions of appearances of each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) compared across occupations. Proportions are calculated as the proportion of appearances in a particular court role for a particular Occupation relative to the appearances of that Occupation in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376.
Figure 12: Here, the court role of defendant is excluded to allow for a closer look at the proportions of the remaining court roles. The proportions of appearances of each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, and juror) compared across occupations. Proportions are calculated as the proportion of appearances in a particular court role for a particular Occupation relative to the appearances of that Occupation in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376.
Figure 13: The proportions of Baker appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) relative to the total appearances by Bakers.

Figure 14: The proportions of Brewer appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) relative to the total appearances by Brewers.
Figure 15: The proportions of Smith appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) relative to the total appearances by Smiths.

Figure 16: The proportions of Weaver appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) relative to the total appearances by Weavers.
Occupation Involvement Trends Over Time

Bakers

The court roles that Bakers acted in from 1294 to 1376 were witness, plaintiff, essoiner, pledge, juror, and defendant; however, we can only observe a trend for those roles that have appearances of Bakers in all three time periods. Therefore, Bakers acting as essoiners (1294-1339: 2% of Baker appearances, 1340-1349: 4% of Baker appearances, no appearances from 1364-1376), pledges (1294-1339: 13% of Baker appearances, no appearances from 1340-1349, 1364-1376: 11% of Baker appearances), and jurors (no appearances 1294-1339 or 1340-1349, 1364-1376: 13% of Baker appearances) in the court roles, provides inconclusive data for the question of trends in Bakers acting in those particular court roles. There were no instances of Bakers acting as landowners or petitioners/requesters in this study. Although a small proportion of Baker appearances overall, the proportion of Bakers who acted as witnesses in court cases decreased, (1294-1339: 3.1% of Baker appearances; 1340-1349: 2.8% of Baker appearances; 1364-1376: 1.9% of Baker appearances). The proportion of Bakers who acted as plaintiffs in court cases spiked during the 1340's but was rather small before and after (1294-1339: 4.6% of Baker appearances; 1340-1349: 41.5% of Baker appearances; 1364-1376: 5.6% of Baker appearances). The proportion of Bakers who acted as defendants in court cases fell during the 1340's but somewhat recovered in the third time sample from 1364 to 1376 (1294-1339: 76.9% of Baker appearances; 1340-1349: 52.1% of Baker appearances; 1364-1376: 68.5% of Baker appearances).
Table 8: The proportion of Baker appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 in each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proportion of Bakers</th>
<th>1294-1339</th>
<th>1340-1349</th>
<th>1364-1376</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Witness</td>
<td>0.030769231</td>
<td>0.028169014</td>
<td>0.018518519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plaintiff</td>
<td>0.046153846</td>
<td>0.415492958</td>
<td>0.055555556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essoiner</td>
<td>0.015384615</td>
<td>0.035211268</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landowner</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petitioner/Requester</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pledge</td>
<td>0.138461538</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.111111111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juror</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.12962963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defendant</td>
<td>0.769230769</td>
<td>0.521126761</td>
<td>0.685185185</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 17: The proportion of Baker appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 in each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).
Brewers

In this study, Brewers were a small population, and only had appearances for three different court roles: plaintiff, pledge, and defendant. There were no appearances of Brewers in the final time sample (1364-1376). The proportion of plaintiffs is increasing across the first two time samples (1294-1339: 6.1% of Brewer appearances; 1340-1349: 33% of Brewer appearances). The proportion of defendants is decreasing across the first two time samples (1294-1339: 90.1% of Brewer appearances; 1340-1349: 66.7% of Brewer appearances). However, because there were only three court roll appearances of Brewers for 1340-1349, these proportions are unreliable due to the small sample size. There was only one time sample during which Brewers acted as pledges: from 1294 to 1339, with 3.0% of Brewer appearances as pledges.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proportion of Brewers</th>
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<th>1340-1349</th>
<th>1364-1376</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Witness</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plaintiff</td>
<td>0.060606061</td>
<td>0.333333333</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essoiner</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landowner</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petitioner/Requester</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pledge</td>
<td>0.03030303</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juror</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defendant</td>
<td>0.909090909</td>
<td>0.666666667</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 9: The proportion of Brewer appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 in each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).
Figure 18: The proportion of Brewer appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 in each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

**Smiths**

Smiths are the only Occupation in this study that acted in every court role. However, for the purpose of looking at trends over time, Smiths’ activity in the roles of essoiner, and petitioner/requester cannot be used, because Smiths only had appearances in one time sample. Smiths appeared as essoiners and petitioners/requesters only between 1340 and 1349 with 1.0% and 0.2% of Smith appearances, respectively. The proportion of Smiths appearing as witnesses was
experiencing a negligible increase (1294-1339: 2.9% of Smith appearances; 1340-1349: 3.4% of Smith appearances) but there were no appearances of Smiths from 1364 to 1376, so this data is inconclusive. The proportion of Smiths appearing as jurors decreased rather dramatically, with 14% of Smith appearances for 1294-1339, 0.7% of Smith appearances for 1340-1349, and no appearances for 1364-1376. The proportion of Smiths appearing as plaintiffs experienced a spike during the 1340’s, but was fairly low in the earlier and later time samples (1294-1339: 6.5% of Smith appearances; 1340-1349: 22.4% of Smith appearances; and 1364-1376: 1.2% of Smith appearances). The proportion of Smiths appearing as landowners was fairly constant, with a small increase from the first to the second time samples, followed by a slight decrease from the second to the third time samples (1294-1339: 1.1% of Smith appearances; 1340-1349: 5.4% of Smith appearances; and 1364-1376: 4.2% of Smith appearances). The proportion of Smiths appearing as pledges was decreasing (1294-1339: 15.2% of Smith appearances; 1340-1349: 5.1% of Smith appearances; and 1364-1376: 2.3% of Smith appearances). The proportion of Smiths appearing as defendants was fairly constant in the first two time samples, but there was a big increase in the third time sample (1294-1339: 60.1% of Smith appearances; 1340-1349: 61.5% of Smith appearances; and 1364-1376: 91.9% of Smith appearances).
Table 10: The proportion of Smith appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 in each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Figure 19: The proportion of Smith appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 in each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner,
petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Weavers

Despite their small proportion relative to the other Occupations studied, Weavers appeared in a wide variety of court roles, and only had two roles in which they did not appear at all: essoiner and juror. In considering trends for Weavers acting in various court roles, the roles of petitioner/requester and pledge cannot be considered, as Weavers only appeared in these roles in one time sample, the 1340's. The proportion of Weavers appearing as witnesses was decreasing (1294-1339: 7.1% of Weaver appearances; 1340-1349: 3.1% of Weaver appearances; and 1364-1376: 2.5% of Weaver appearances). The proportion of Weavers appearing as plaintiff was fairly constant during the first two time periods, then there was a sudden drop, with no appearances in the third time sample (1294-1339: 14.3% of Weaver appearances; 1340-1349: 13.4% of Weaver appearances; and 1364-1376: no appearances). The proportion of Weavers appearing as landowner was fairly constant during the first two time periods, but then there was a drop in the third time sample (1294-1339: 14.3% of Weaver appearances; 1340-1349: 15.5% of Weaver appearances; and 1364-1376: 5% of Weaver appearances). The proportion of Weavers appearing as defendant was fairly constant at first, and then there was a jump in the third time sample (1294-1339: 64.3% of Weaver appearances; 1340-1349: 65.0% of Weaver appearances; and 1364-1376: 92.5% of Weaver appearances).
Proportion of Weavers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Court Role</th>
<th>1294-1339</th>
<th>1340-1349</th>
<th>1364-1376</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Witness</td>
<td>0.071428571</td>
<td>0.030927835</td>
<td>0.025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plaintiff</td>
<td>0.142857143</td>
<td>0.134020619</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essoiner</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landowner</td>
<td>0.142857143</td>
<td>0.154639175</td>
<td>0.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petitioner/Requester</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.010309278</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pledge</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.020618557</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juror</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defendant</td>
<td>0.642857143</td>
<td>0.649484536</td>
<td>0.925</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 11: The proportion of Weaver appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 in each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Figure 20: The proportion of Weaver appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 in each court role (witness, plaintiff, essoiner, landowner, petitioner/requester, pledge, juror, and defendant) for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).
Of the individuals with a particular Occupation relative to those Occupations studied, was there a social stigma associated with an individual's role in the court cases which can be correlated to their Occupation?

**Occupation Social Stigma**

For all of the Occupations, the largest proportion of their court appearances would have a negative social stigma, as defined by this study (Bakers: 61.7% of appearances, Brewers: 88.9% of appearances, Smiths: 64.5% of appearances, and Weavers: 72.2% of appearances). The second largest proportion of socially stigmatized court roles is the same for all Occupations: neutral (Bakers: 27.6% of appearances, Brewers: 8.3% of appearances, Smiths: 21.1% of appearances, and Weavers: 26.5% of appearances). The proportion of Occupations acting in positively socially characterized roles was the lowest for all four Occupations (Bakers: 10.7% of appearances, Brewers: 2.8% of appearances, Smiths: 14.5% of appearances, and Weavers: 1.3% of appearances). Weavers have the lowest proportion of positive court roles, and the second highest proportion of negative court roles. Smiths have the highest proportion of positive roles, and the second lowest proportion of negative court roles.
Table 12: Court roles were given a social stigma (positive: pledge, essoiner, and juror; negative: defendant; neutral: witness, plaintiff, landowner, and petitioner/requester). Above is the proportion of court appearances of each social stigma for each Occupation (Baker, Brewer, Smith, Weaver) relative to the total number of court appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for that Occupation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Positive</th>
<th>Negative</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bakers</td>
<td>0.107279693</td>
<td>0.6168582</td>
<td>0.27586207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brewers</td>
<td>0.027777778</td>
<td>0.8888889</td>
<td>0.08333333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smiths</td>
<td>0.14453125</td>
<td>0.6445313</td>
<td>0.2109375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weavers</td>
<td>0.013245033</td>
<td>0.7218543</td>
<td>0.26490066</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 21: Court roles were given a social stigma (positive: pledge, essoiner, and juror; negative: defendant; neutral: witness, plaintiff, landowner, and petitioner/requester). Above is the proportion of court appearances of each social stigma for each Occupation (Baker, Brewer, Smith, Weaver) relative to the total number of court appearances in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for that Occupation.
Occupation Social Stigma Trends Over Time

Bakers

Of the four Occupations in this study, Bakers experienced the most peaks and falls in the social stigma attached to court roles. The proportion of Bakers acting in negative court roles experienced a drop during the 1340's, but increased again in the third time sample (1294-1339: 76.9% of Baker appearances; 1340-1349: 52.1% of Baker appearances; and 1364-1376: 68.5% of Baker appearances). The proportion of Bakers acting in neutral court roles experienced a peak during the 1340's, but decreased again in the third time sample (1294-1339: 7.7% of Baker appearances; 1340-1349: 44.3% of Baker appearances; and 1364-1376: 7.4% of Baker appearances). The proportion of Bakers acting in positive court roles experienced a peak during the 1340's, but decreased again in the third time sample (1294-1339: 15.4% of Baker appearances; 1340-1349: 3.5% of Baker appearances; and 1364-1376: 24.1% of Baker appearances).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bakers Social Stigma (Proportions)</th>
<th>1293-1339</th>
<th>1340-1349</th>
<th>1364-1376</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>0.153846</td>
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<td>0.240741</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
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<td>0.521127</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>0.076923</td>
<td>0.443662</td>
<td>0.074074</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 13: Court roles were given a social stigma (positive: pledge, essoiner, and juror; negative: defendant; neutral: witness, plaintiff, landowner, and petitioner/requester). Above, the proportion of Baker appearances of each social stigma in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).
Figur 22: Court roles were given a social stigma (positive: pledge, essoiner, and juror; negative: defendant; neutral: witness, plaintiff, landowner, and petitioner/requester). Above, a linear representation of trends in Baker appearances of each social stigma in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Brewers

There were no appearances of Brewers in the third time sample, and thus trends are based on the time samples of 1294-1339 and 1340-1349. The proportion of Brewers with neutral appearances in court increased, from 6% of appearances, to 33.3% of appearances, but this was really only a change from one positive appearance to three positive appearances. The proportion of Brewers with negative
appearances in court decreased, from 91.0% of appearances, to 66.7% of appearances. The only time Brewers appeared in court in a positive role was in the first time sample 1204-1339, with 3.0% of Brewer appearances. However, there are only three appearances in the third time period, and thus analyzing social stigma of brewers in this study is not reliable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brewers Social Stigma (Proportions)</th>
<th>1294-1339</th>
<th>1340-1349</th>
<th>1364-1376</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>0.030303</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>0.909091</td>
<td>0.666667</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>0.060606</td>
<td>0.333333</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 14: Court roles were given a social stigma (positive: pledge, essoiner, and juror; negative: defendant; neutral: witness, plaintiff, landowner, and petitioner/requester). Above, the proportion of Brewer appearances of each social stigma in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).
Social Stigma of Brewers Involved in Court Cases: 1293-1376

Figure 23: Court roles were given a social stigma (positive: pledge, essoiner, and juror; negative: defendant; neutral: witness, plaintiff, landowner, and petitioner/requester). Above, a linear representation of trends in Brewer appearances of each social stigma in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

**Smiths**

The Smiths experienced an exchange in the order, according to proportion size, of positive and neutral roles between the first and second time samples. The proportion of positive court roles decreased (1294-1339: 29.3% of Smith appearances; 1340-1349: 6.9% of Smith appearances; and 1364-1376: 2.3% of Smith appearances). The proportion of negative court roles was fairly constant for the first and second time samples, but had an increase in the third time sample.
(1294-1339: 60.1% of Smith appearances; 1340-1349: 61.6% of Smith appearances; and 1364-1376: 91.9% of Smith appearances). The proportion of neutral court roles had a spike during the 1340's, but was relatively low in the earlier and later time samples (1294-1339: 10.5% of Smith appearances; 1340-1349: 31.5% of Smith appearances; and 1364-1376: 5.8% of Smith appearances).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Smiths Social Stigma (Proportions)</th>
<th>1293-1339</th>
<th>1340-1349</th>
<th>1364-1376</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>0.293478</td>
<td>0.068966</td>
<td>0.023256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>0.601449</td>
<td>0.615764</td>
<td>0.918605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>0.105072</td>
<td>0.315271</td>
<td>0.05814</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 16: Court roles were given a social stigma (positive: pledge, essoiner, and juror; negative: defendant; neutral: witness, plaintiff, landowner, and petitioner/requester). Above, the proportion of Smith appearances of each social stigma in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).
Figure 24: Court roles were given a social stigma (positive: pledge, essoiner, and juror; negative: defendant; neutral: witness, plaintiff, landowner, and petitioner/requester). Above, a linear representation of trends in Smith appearances of each social stigma in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).

Weavers

The proportion of positive court roles was fairly constant, but very small (1294-1339: no appearances of Weavers; 1340-1349: 2.1% of Weavers appearances; and 1364-1376: no appearances of Weavers). The proportion of neutral court roles was fairly constant, but then had a decrease into the third time period (1294-1339: no appearances of Weavers; 1340-1349: 2.1% of Weavers
appearances; and 1364-1376: no appearances of Weavers). The proportion of negative court roles was fairly constant, but had an increase into the third time period (1294-1339: 64.3% of Weaver appearances; 1340-1349: 64.9% of Weaver appearances; and 1364-1376: 92.5% of Weaver appearances).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weavers Social Stigma (Proportions)</th>
<th>1293-1339</th>
<th>1340-1349</th>
<th>1364-1376</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.020619</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>0.642857</td>
<td>0.649485</td>
<td>0.925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>0.357143</td>
<td>0.329897</td>
<td>0.075</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 17: Court roles were given a social stigma (positive: pledge, essoiner, and juror; negative: defendant; neutral: witness, plaintiff, landowner, and petitioner/requester). Above, the proportion of Weaver appearances of each social stigma in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).
Figure 25: Court roles were given a social stigma (positive: pledge, essoiner, and juror; negative: defendant; neutral: witness, plaintiff, landowner, and petitioner/requester). Above, a linear representation of trends in Weaver appearances of each social stigma in the Dyffryn Clwyd Court Rolls from 1294-1376 for each of the three time samples (1294-1339, 1340-1349, and 1364-1376).
CHAPTER FIVE

Discussion

Occupation Populations and Occupation Trends Over Time
Of those individuals with a particular Occupation relative to those Occupations studied, what was the proportion of people with that Occupation across the time span of the study, and was there a change in the proportion of people that have that Occupation from one time period to the next within the study?

Historical Context of each Occupation

When we consider the relatively high proportion of Bakers involved in court cases, it is important to consider one of the major contributors to their involvement.

The legal system in Wales at this time included a law considering the assize of bread and various other consumable goods. Artisans such as Bakers could be fined for breaking the assize of bread, through quality or price of their product. In addition, this law also served as a means of collecting a fee for licensing of a sort from artisans. Thus, it was not surprising to see Bakers making numerous appearances in court.

Brewers were the smallest population in this study, likely due to the fact that brewing was not traditionally a large industry at this time. Most brewing would be done in the home, with the task of brewing passing from one neighbor to another.\(^\text{33}\) It is then less likely that Brewer would have been used as an occupational name, and this would explain the small number of appearances of the Occupation in court.

Although each community had a great need for Smiths, there has not been enough research to understand why this study found there to be such a large population of Smiths appearing in court, relative to the other occupations. The time

span of this study includes a large increase in the weaving industry of Ruthin. Thus it is not surprising that this study found a sizeable population of weavers.

**Occupation Population Trends Over Time**

Within the time span of this study, the Black Death afflicted the Dyffryn Clwyd Area in 1349-1350 and again in 1361-1362. The Black Death does not seem to have a strong effect on the Occupational trends occurring within this study. The Brewers and the Smiths both decreased across the time span of the study, although both decreased at a steeper rate after the Black Death. The Bakers and Weavers were increasing before and after the Black Death. However, the proportion of Bakers is growing more rapidly than the proportion of Weavers after the Black Death. Ruthin experienced a significant increase in their cloth industry in 1330, which supports the increase we see in Weavers across this study. Further research is needed to fully analyze the trends of the other Occupations.

**Overall Statistical Analysis of Occupations**

Given that there are four Occupations involved in this study, it is expected that each occupation would account for roughly 25% of the total study population. Bakers and Weavers followed this expectation but, the Smiths and Brewers did not by a substantial amount. Although this study cannot conclude the reason for this disparity, it is a notable observation worthy of further research. These Occupations are all part of the artisan class, and involve both edible and non-perishable goods. It is interesting that the population trends of these occupations seem largely

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unaffected by the Black Death. It is also notable that the Weavers continued to increase, despite a decrease in population in the community. This increase in Weavers, despite decreased customers, seems to indicate that Weavers of Ruthin were finding customers outside of the Marches in order to continue growth of the industry.

Gender within Occupations and Gender Trends Over Time

Of those individuals with a particular Occupation relative to those Occupations studied, what was the proportion of males versus females across the time span of the study, and was there a change in the proportion of males versus females from one time period to the next within the study?

Historical Context of Gender within Occupations

Bakers, Smiths and Weavers are traditionally male occupations, so it is not surprising to see a large proportion of each of these Occupations being male. As mentioned before, brewing at this time was commonly a female's household task, but it was often passed from one neighbor to the next to distribute the work load. The large proportion of female brewers in this study supports the idea that the few brewing establishments at this time in Ruthin were run by females.

Gender Trends Over Time

Although the Black Death did not have a strong effect on the populations of Occupations in this study, it did have a notable effect on gender proportions within the Occupations. Bakers continued to be a male dominated occupation, but after the Black Death, there was a significant increase in the proportion of female bakers. Due to the small population size of Brewers, there is no basis for conclusions about historical relevance to gender trends across time for Brewers. Up until the Black Death, there was a decrease in the number of court appearances of female Smiths, but there was an increase in female Smiths after the Black Death. This indicates that the Black Death had an effect on the male Smith population. Weavers were not drastically affected by the Black Death. Although there was a small decrease in the proportion of female Weavers after the Black Death, it was not large enough to indicate that the Black Death had an effect on the female Weavers.

Overall Statistical Analysis of Gender within Occupations

Most of the Occupations in this study are male dominated, and thus many of the conclusions are only applicable to males within a particular occupation. In addition, the individuals with the occupational name, who had that occupation, were commonly male, and Occupational names of females were often in the form: [female's first name] wife of [husband's first name] [Occupation]. For this reason, we cannot make conclusions about the level of female involvement (if any) in an Occupation. Our conclusions about females within an Occupation are, and must be,
directly connected to their appearances in court, and cannot extend into the economics of the region.

**Occupation Involvement in Court Roles and Involvement Trends Over Time**

Of those individuals with a particular Occupation relative to those Occupations studied, what court role was found to be most common for an Occupation, and was there a change in the proportion of each Occupation's participation in a particular court role from one time period to the next within the study?

**Historical Context of Occupation Involvement in Court Roles**

The Common Law system of jurisdiction of this time, by nature, has a great number of cases with defendants resulting in a large proportion of each Occupation being involved in the role of defendant. For Brewers and Bakers, this can be explained by the assize laws for bread and ale of this time. By breaking the assize of bread or ale, an individual was considered a defendant in this study. Weavers and Smiths were also found to be involved in brewing and baking, and also had a large involvement in court as defendants. For the other court roles, it was often a question of availability, and means of participating in that capacity. For instance, serving on a jury would take up a lot of time, so Occupations such as Brewers who had to keep a constant eye on their work, could not readily serve as jurors. Those with money would be able to own their own land, and act as landowners in court. In this study, the only Occupations to act as landowners were the non-perishable goods artisans: Smiths and Weavers. In addition, Smiths were the largest proportion of pledges, and Weavers were third largest. This study seems to indicate that the ability of Weavers and Smiths to afford land and act as pledges was connected to their vocation.
Occupation Involvement Trends Over Time

The increase in Weavers who were landowners in the 1340's occurs in conjunction with the increase in the cloth industry. This study indicates that the increase in the cloth industry allowed Weavers to purchase more land. To understand the other court roles of Weavers and the court roles of the other Occupations, further research is necessary.

Overall Statistical Analysis of Occupation Involvement in Court Roles

An interesting overlap in occupations was observed in this study between Smiths and Brewers. Although the data collection process used for this study does not reflect it, several cases were found in which several Smiths were charged with breaking the assize of ale. Further research would need to be done to fully understand this observation, but it seems that the equipment necessary for brewing could be easily made by Smiths. The financial success of Smiths was noticed in their role as landowner and pledge, but this “second job” of brewing may have further enabled the Smiths to become financially successful.

Occupation Social Stigma and Occupation Social Stigma Trends Over Time

Of the individuals with a particular Occupation relative to those Occupations studied, was there a social stigma associated with an individual's role in the court cases which can be correlated to their Occupation?

Historical Context of Occupation Social Stigma

By an overwhelming percentage, all Occupations of this study were involved in negative court roles. However, many of the instances of defendant would not have
had the negative connotation that it would in today's society. One major contributor of defendants in this study was the population of those who broke the assize or ale or bread. In medieval society, this did not reflect that badly on a person. In fact, breaking the assize of ale was often used as a primitive version of collecting fees for licensing. Medieval society valued the quality and price of products, particularly bread and ale, but society also knew that being called to court for breaking assize did not necessarily mean a person had a poor quality or over priced product. Of the four Occupations, Smiths were seen in the largest proportion of positive roles.

**Occupation Social Stigma Trends Over Time**

The Black Death seems to have greatly affected the social stigma trends of the four Occupations in this study. After experiencing a large decrease in negative court appearances before the Black Death, Bakers significantly increased in the number of negative court appearances. Negative court appearances in this study were strictly composed of defendant roles and because Bakers commonly acted as defendant due to breaking the assize of bread, it seems that the baking industry was being affected by the Black Death. Like Bakers, Smiths and Weavers also experienced a large increase after the Black Death, but further research is necessary to understand the cause(s) of these trends.

**Overall Statistical Analysis of Occupational Social Stigma**

Due to the emphasis on quality and price control of bread and ale through assize laws in medieval courts, much of the social stigma in this study was unexpectedly skewed. The involvement in court cases for breaking the assize of ale
or bread makes it difficult to sort out the true social stigma (if any) associated with court roles. It is also important to note that only certain classes of people were involved in what historians refer to as "written history." This means that many of the people, usually poor and/or unemployed, who committed the majority of the crimes with a truly negative social stigma (murder, robbery etc.), are not included in this study or the court rolls in general. The lack of these crimes in this study seems to indicate that those with Occupational names were not involved in crimes of an extremely negative social stigma.
CHAPTER SIX

Conclusion

The results of this study provide additional information on the trends associated with the development of surnames, social stigma associated with specific occupations, economics of specific time periods and the effects of the Black Death on a rural society. This study found an increase in Baker court appearances, specifically defendant appearances, that indicates an increased emphasis on quality and price of bread. The sample size of the Brewers was not large enough for strong conclusions to be made. Smiths in this study played a large role, particularly due to the large sample size. Smiths were involved in diverse court roles, and among those, a number of positive court roles, including pledges and jurors. In addition, Smiths made many appearances as pledges and landowners. In addition, Smiths came across as entrepreneurs, as a general observation, through their involvement in the brewing industry as indicated by their appearances in court for breaking the assize of ale. All of these ideas point toward the reliability and financial security of the occupation of smith. This study also provides additional numeric support to findings connected to the weaving industry in Ruthin. In this study, Weavers were found to increase their court appearances at the same time that the weaving industry was known to have increased. This is probably not due to the same population making more appearances. Rather it likely means that there are more people involved in the weaving industry, and thus more people named Weaver to make appearances in court.
This study is a specific example of how statistics can be applied to historical data. A method for the examination of specific sets of related documents, in this case a legal court roll database, using a sound statistical approach has been created. This approach can now be applied to historical research in other time periods to provide a more evidence-based analysis of historically relevant events. Although many of the conclusions for this study are applicable to the male population, there are a number of further explorations to be done with this data, or with additional data, analyzing female roles in court cases. Some of these investigations include: court roles of women, female involvement in court, or female involvement in occupations.
Bibliography


