Digital Mapping and the ‘Pilgrim Libraries’ project
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What are the archival, material, textual remains of pilgrimage?

What was the role of books and other written material before, during, and after the pilgrimage?

How have the textual remains of pilgrimage found their way into archives? Can we assess what has been lost? What is the fate of the institutional archives connected to pilgrimage (e.g. monasteries *en route*)?

How does the trans-national and often ephemeral culture of pilgrimage fit into the ‘nationalist’ and ‘prestige’ imperatives of many archives?

Where were the pilgrims reading and where were they writing? Before, during, and/or after the journey?

Can, or how can, critical bibliography help us better understand ‘actual’ pilgrimage versus ‘mental’ or ‘armchair’ pilgrimage?

Bibliography + ‘literary-mobility’ studies

Outputs: include project blog (http://www.bbk.ac.uk/pilgrimlibraries/), digital mapping, workshops, and future publications.
First attempts: mapping pilgrims’ texts with Google maps: various late medieval English pilgrims’ itineraries
First attempts: mapping pilgrims’ texts with Google maps: Sir Edmund Wighton’s pilgrimage, c. 1470
First attempts: mapping pilgrims’ texts with Google maps: the itinerary in Huntington Library MS EL 26 A 13
The Pilgrimage of Robert Langton, as printed by R. Copland (1522).

https://apbale.carto.com/builder/cd422c30-dbc0-4a29-9c05-5488565dbda2/embed
Weighted map of Rome by length of pardon, after *The Stations of Rome* (c. 1400)

[Link to the map](https://apbale.carto.com/builder/3d63c193-2085-4293-a388-a38d2c1f537d)
Animated pilgrim's route through medieval Rome, according to *The Stations of Rome*, c. 1400

[https://apbale.carto.com/builder/3d63c193-2085-4293-a388-a38d2c1f537d](https://apbale.carto.com/builder/3d63c193-2085-4293-a388-a38d2c1f537d)
Pilgrim Libraries
conclusions from our network meetings:

- Primacy of the pursuit of individual pilgrims through bibliographical research; rejection of heuristic ‘pilgrimage’ narrative.
- Importance of the historiography of our own discipline and in particular problematising instrumentality – carrying books, reading books, lending books, identifying books; surprising research – not what we thought we’d find; mapping helps us to query instrumentality.
- Need for polyglot scholarship and engagement with Byzantine and Arabic materials and scholarship; heraldry, military history, archaeology, print history, and open, global scholarly community to achieve this.
- Importance of specific and correct data about place.
- Importance of learning specifics of using software.