

FREDERIK BUYLAERT

STATE

Lordship and the Rise
of States in Western
Europe, 1300-1600

PROJECT HYPOTHESIS

State Formation 1300-1600

Military power

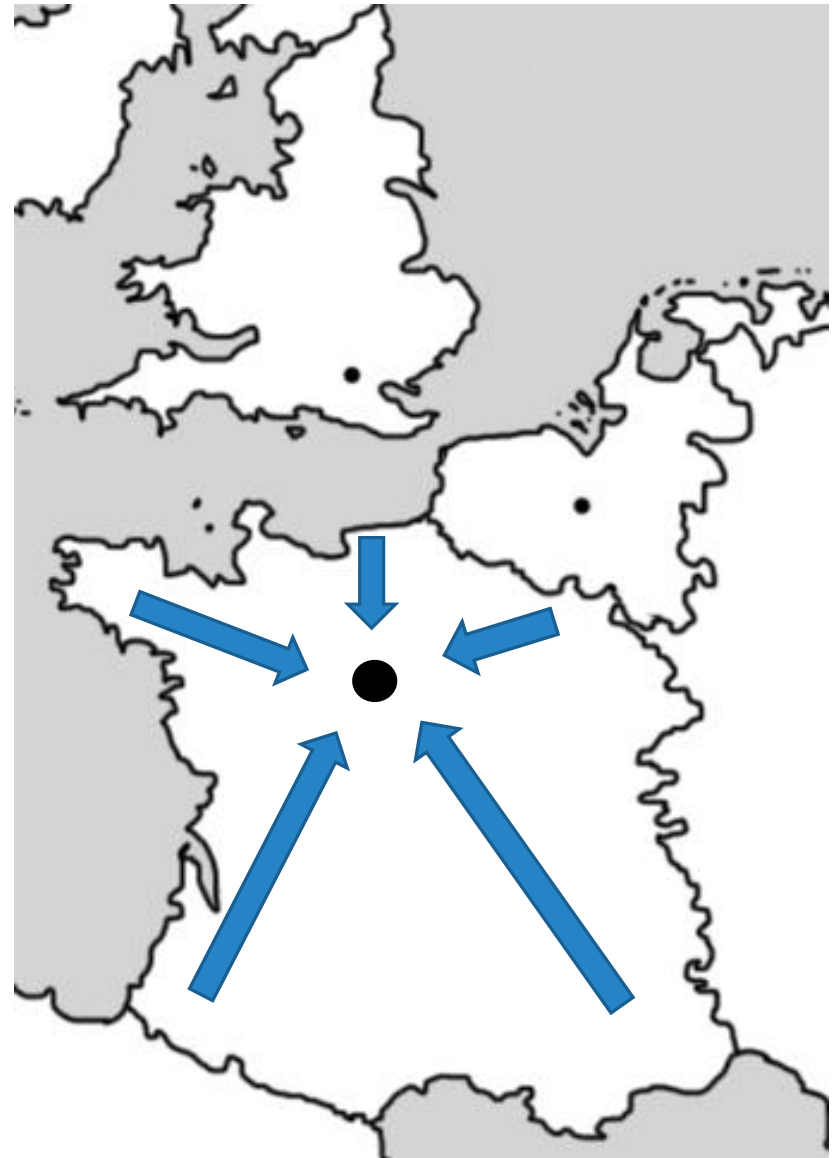
- Centralization

Fiscal power

- Centralization

Governance

- Centralization



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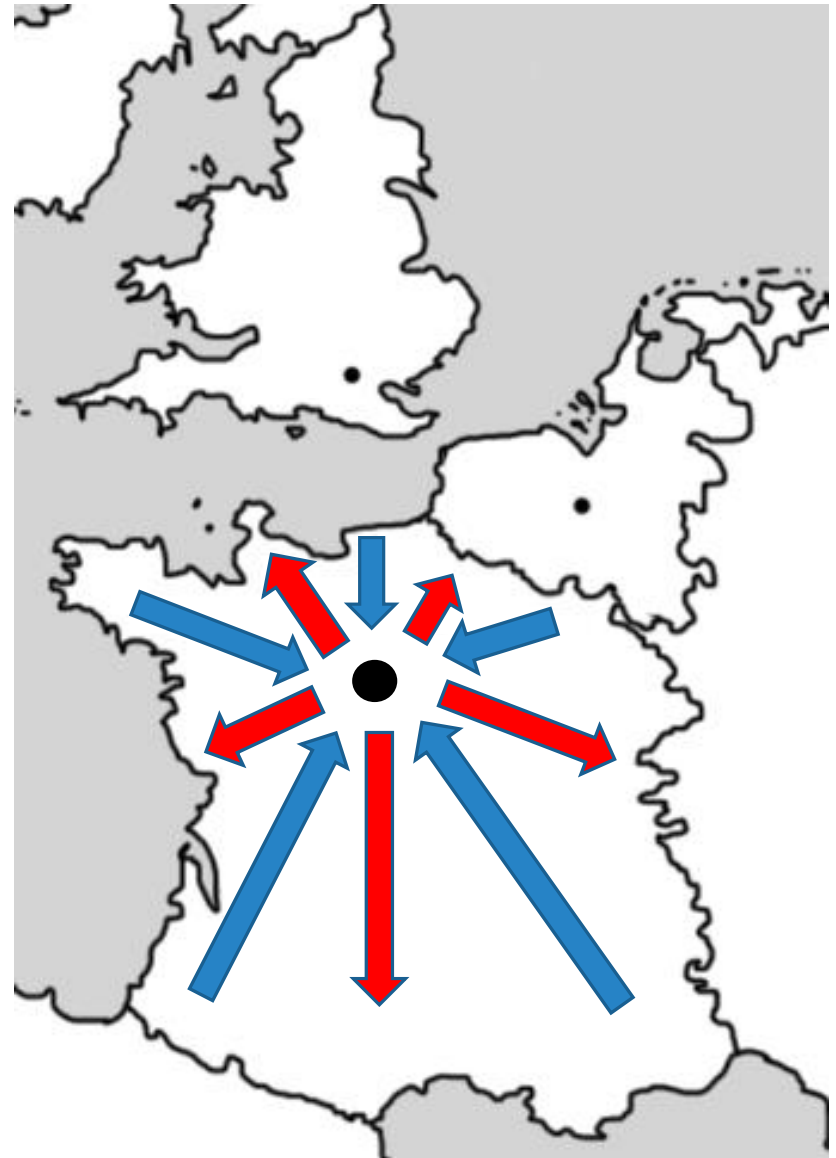
- Centralization

Fiscal power

- Centralization

Governance

- Centralization
- Decentralization through **Lordship**



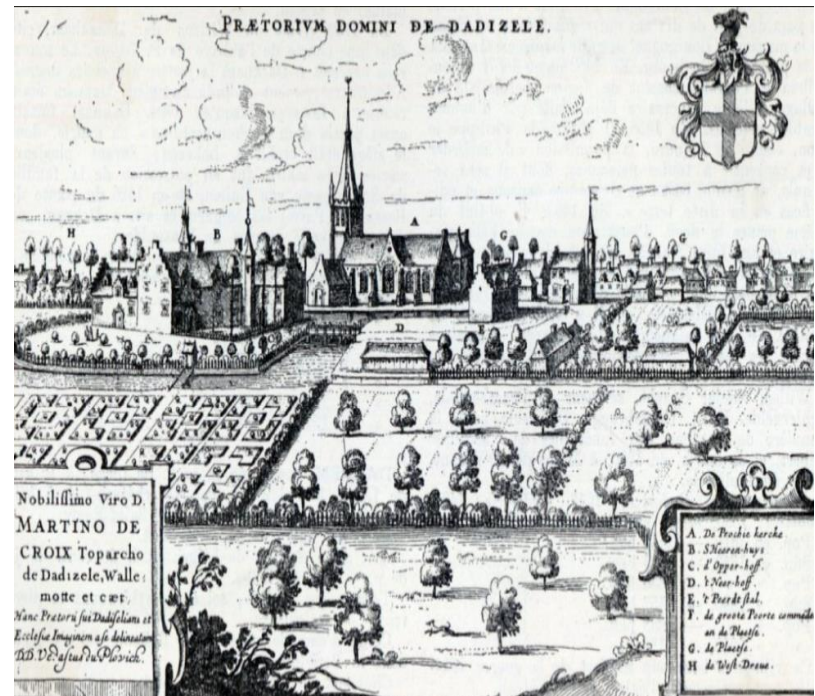
STATE-BACKED LORDSHIP: AN EXAMPLE

Enclaves of Private Power

“I, Roger of Halewyn, Lord of Hansbeke, have recently sentenced a commoner in my aforesaid village of Hansbeke to be burned at the stake for the sin of sodomy” (1462)

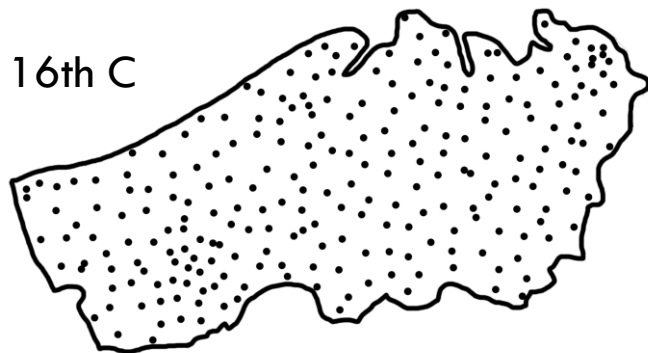
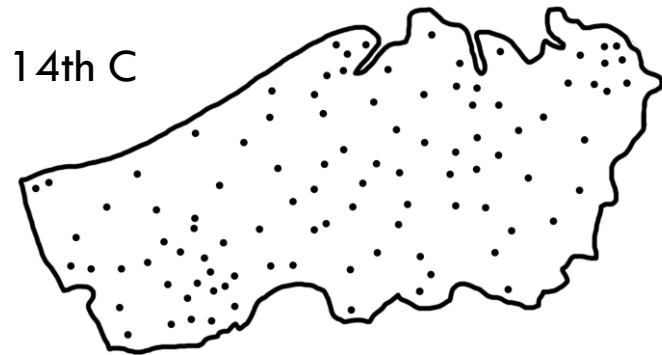
Excerpt from a missive of the lord to the state administration (source: ARCHIVES DÉPARTEMENTALES DU NORD (Lille), “Lettres reçues et dépechées” B 17690)

The representation of Lordship: the seigneurie of Dadisele (17th C.)

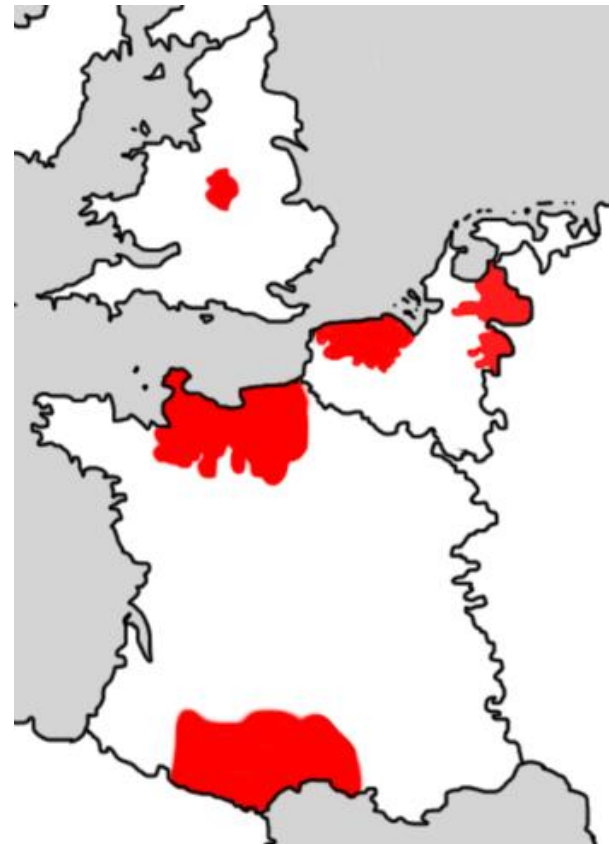


PRELIMINARY TESTCASE

Evolution of Lordship in Flanders (13th-16th C.)



The five case studies explored in the project



(*) Preliminary representation of key data that pertain to “high” and “middling” seigneuries (work in progress!)

METHODOLOGY & SOURCES: QUANTITATIVE

Step 1: Three surveys of lordships, the owners and their interactions with the state (ca. 1350 – 1450 – 1550)

Step 2: Comparative analysis of case studies

	State Type	Urban Type	Rural Type	Key sources
Warwicks.	Old		Weak peasants	Manorial records
Languedoc	Medium	Coercion-oriented		Parliament of Paris Charter collections
Normandy	Medium		Strong peasants	Parliament of Paris Seigneurial records
Flanders	Young	Market-oriented		Council of Accounts Feudal surveys
Guelders	Young		Weak peasants	Charter collections Feudal surveys

METHODOLOGY & SOURCES: QUALITATIVE

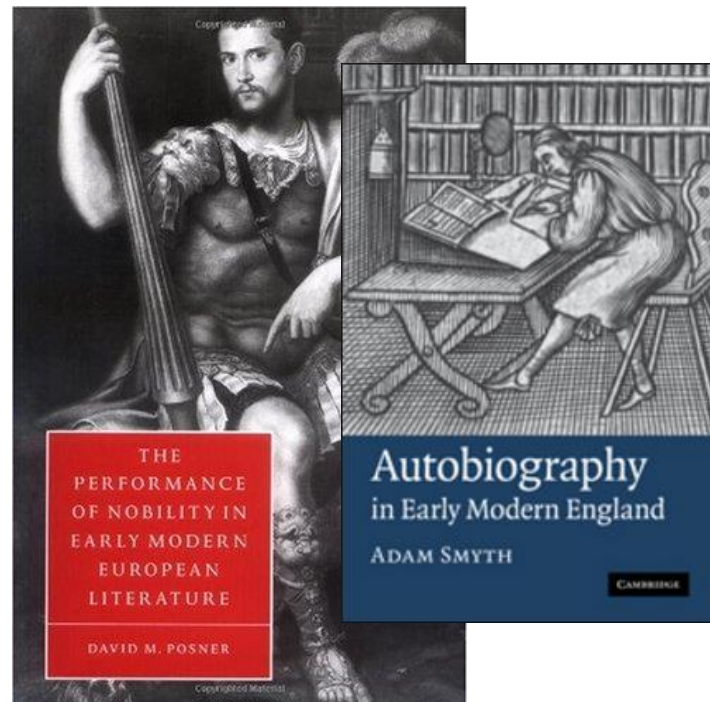
Projects of Self-Fashioning: Lordship, Nobility & Chivalry

Preliminary test of comparative framework and exploration of cultural performance of lordship

Comparative analysis of Netherlandish, English, and French textual projects

Sources: Ms Dadizele (Low Countries, ca. 1480); Ms Woodford (England, ca. 1450) and Ms Murol (France, ca. 1400)

Connecting Literary Studies and Social/Political History

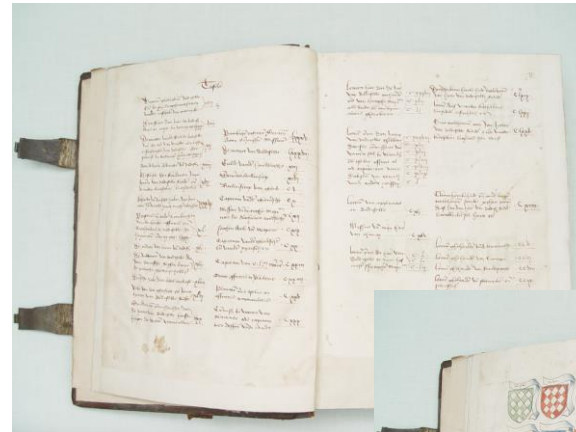


AN EXAMPLE: MS DADIZELE

The author: John, Lord of Dadizele (+ 1481)



The manuscript as a composite of texts



Preliminary Publication: 'Record Keeping and Status Performance in the Early Modern Low Countries', in: L. Corens, K. Peters & A. Walsham (eds.) *The Social History of the Archive : Record-Keeping in Early Modern Europe* (Past & Present Supplement 11) (Oxford, 2016), 131-50

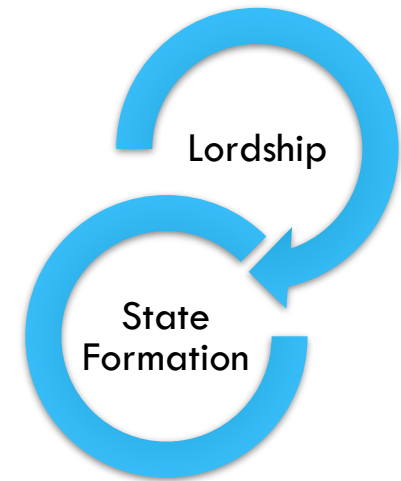
STAKES AND FORMAT

Reconceptualization of State Formation

Centralization *and* Decentralization

Explains social support for state formation

Highlights local impact of state formation



Team composition and expected output

PI, Co-PI (St Andrews), 2 Postdocs, 3 predocs (one sponsored by FWO)

Database, dissertations, articles, preliminary monograph, synthesis