

# Welcome

**Name:** <Joseph Peake>

<add picture here>

**PhD:** <History>

**Thesis Title:** <A cultural, legal and economic history of waste land in late medieval England>

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## Thesis Description:

<My project will study waste land in its legal, economic and cultural context in England, c.1100-1500. It will engage with existing scholarship on agricultural expansion, marginal land, the concept of wilderness in eremitic and monastic discourse, and the 'frontier' of Christian civilisation. Questions I hope to answer include the following:

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**Other Social Media:** <add URL>

- When and why was waste land (*vastum*) brought under cultivation, and at whose instigation?
- How did the meaning of the English word 'waste' change over the course of the Middle Ages?
- How was wasteland utilised by individuals and by institutions in the medieval landscape?
- What, if any, was the role of waste in urban contexts?
- Does the concept of waste land interact with religious discourses on wilderness, specifically wilderness as a place where monks, hermits, and ascetics could escape from the worldly trappings of civilisation?>

## Supervisors and Institution(s):

<Dr Rob Lutton (University of Nottingham)

Dr Miriam Muller (University of Birmingham)

Professor Wendy Scase (University of Birmingham)>

## Publications (please include full details with page nos. or web links):

- <add bulleted list>

## Scholarly / Public Engagement Activities:

year:

- <add bulleted list>

year:

- <add bulleted list>

## Other Research Interests:

- <add bulleted list>