

Cutlers in Late Medieval London: Their Relationships with Others

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This research aimed to collect the essential sources for my PhD thesis, which focuses on craftspeople's relationships with others in late medieval London. One of the main subjects is cutlers, who were engaged in knife-making.

Two kinds of sources were collected; sixty-eight wills and other will-related sources of sixty-two London cutlers in the 14th, 15th and 16th centuries, and twenty-seven 15th century petitions involving cutlers which were submitted to the Court of Chancery. These sources suggest that cutlers created and made use of various relationships with others both inside and outside their craft, and that the relationships sometimes became so troublesome that they needed to petition the Court.