

Monday 23 January 2012 – Morning

GCSE HISTORY A (SCHOOLS HISTORY PROJECT)

A952/21 Historical Source Investigation
Developments in British Medicine, 1200–1945

Candidates answer on the Answer Booklet.

OCR supplied materials:

- 8 page Answer Booklet
(sent with general stationery)

Other materials required:

None

Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the spaces provided on the Answer Booklet. Please write clearly and in capital letters.
- Use black ink.
- Answer **all** the questions.
- Read each question carefully. Make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Study the Background Information and the sources carefully. You should spend at least ten minutes doing this.
- Do **not** write in the bar codes.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **50**.
- This document consists of **10** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

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Study the Background Information and the sources carefully. You should spend at least ten minutes doing this.

In answering the questions, you will need to use your knowledge of the topic to interpret and evaluate the sources. When you are asked to use specific sources you must do so, but you may also use any of the other sources if they are relevant.

Answer ALL the questions.

1 Study Source A.

How much can you learn from this source about public health in the Middle Ages? Use details of the source to explain your answer. **[7]**

2 Study Sources B and C.

How far does Source C prove that Source B was wrong? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. **[9]**

3 Study Source D.

Are you surprised by this source? Use details of the source and your knowledge to explain your answer. **[8]**

4 Study Sources E and F.

Which source is more useful as evidence about public health in the Middle Ages? Use details of the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. **[8]**

5 Study Source G.

Why was this source published in 1349? Use details of the source and your knowledge to explain your answer. **[8]**

6 Study **all** the sources, A–H.

‘People in the Middle Ages did not care about public health.’

How far do the sources on this paper support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. Remember to identify the sources you use. **[10]**

Public Health in the Middle Ages

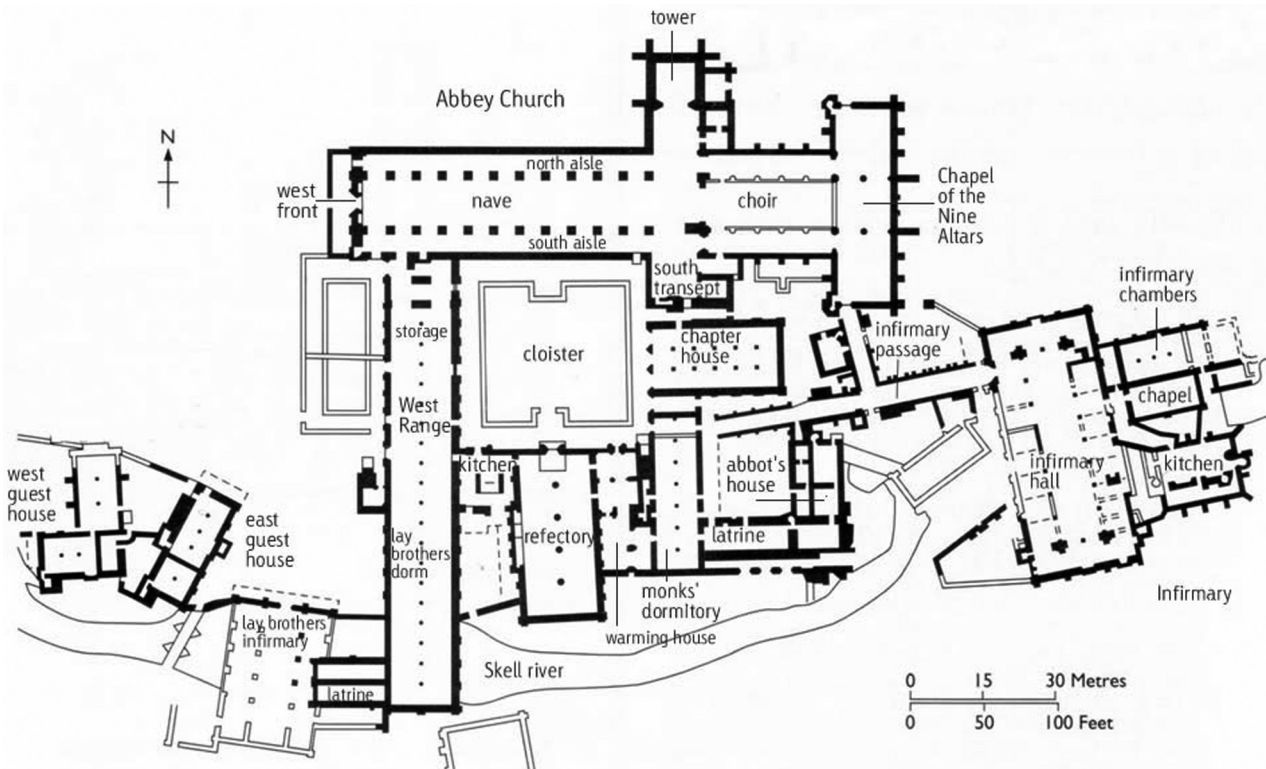
Did people care about public health in the Middle Ages?

Background Information

If people were to stay healthy and avoid certain diseases during the Middle Ages, proper public health provision was needed. However, public health conditions in many places in the Middle Ages were poor.

Did people care about public health in the Middle Ages?

SOURCE A



*A plan of Fountains Abbey in Yorkshire as it was in the Middle Ages.
 'Lay brothers infirmary' = the place where sick monks were looked after.
 'Lay brothers dorm' = the place where monks slept.*

SOURCE B

All the streets are so badly paved that they get wet at the slightest quantity of water. This happens very often owing to the large number of cattle carrying water, as well as the rain, of which there is a great deal in this island. Then a vast amount of evil-smelling mud is formed, which does not disappear quickly but lasts a long time, in fact, nearly the whole year round.

Written by an Italian visitor to London in 1497.

SOURCE C

London in the later Middle Ages was not, after all, such a bad place to live. Standards of cleanliness and hygiene were rising. The City authorities had made efforts to pave and clean the streets. There were public latrines and fresh supplies of water. Despite the impact of the Black Death, the population of London continued to grow during this period.

From a book published in 1976.

SOURCE D

William de Thorneye complains that when he hired workmen to build the cess-pit of a privy in his house, Andrew Aubrey and Joan his wife had the work stopped. They say that the cess-pit is not built in accordance with the custom of the City, since the fence of the cess-pit is not two and a half feet from their wall. After repeated delays the mayor and officials come on Friday 25 June. Having viewed the cess-pit, they find that it is not a nuisance to Andrew, but sufficient and tolerable and according to the custom of the City. The judgement is that William can continue his building in stone without further delay.

*From the records of the London Assize of Nuisance, 1333.
The Assize was a court that dealt with complaints.*

SOURCE E



A modern drawing of a medieval toilet.

SOURCE F

Thomas Kendale and Richard Pykebourne complain that they have a latrine below a chamber. The beams holding the chamber up cannot support the weight and are forced out of position so that the chamber is in danger of collapse. Beneath the latrine is a cess-pit which emits such a smell that the beams of the latrine are rotted. They also complain that their neighbours have windows in their house through which they and their household can hear and see the private business of the privy. Also the neighbours throw filth and rubbish into the privy.

From court records of 1372.

SOURCE G

To the Lord Mayor of London

An order: to cause the human waste and other filth lying in the streets and lanes in the city to be removed with all speed to places far distant. Also to cause the city to be kept clean, as it used to be in the time of previous mayors. This is so no greater cause of death may arise from such smells. The King has learned that the city is so full with the filth from out of the houses by day and night that the air is infected and the city poisoned. This is a danger to men.

An order issued by King Edward III in April 1349.

SOURCE H

During the Middle Ages, there was no public health provision, even though many people in towns and cities lived in confined areas. The rich governors of Britain's towns did not see public health as their responsibility, and they did not provide clean water or sewage disposal facilities. Instead, cess-pits and wells often existed side-by-side, so water-based parasites and germs were common. Butchers and traders dumped waste into the streets and rivers, and streams often became choked with sewage. Cess-pits were often not emptied, but were allowed to run over. Although there was some medical knowledge that this situation was not healthy, little was done until the outbreak of the plague in 1348.

From a 2002 history textbook.

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