CUP Online Appendix 1: Explanation of methodology used to enter information into an SPSS database of hospitals and almshouses and to create the graphs and other appendices[1]

1 SOURCES

This project draws upon information from certain specific sources, intended to provide the most uniform possible coverage of the country: (1) the listing of institutions in David Knowles and R. N. Hadcock, *Medieval Religious Houses, England and Wales*, 311–409, which relies heavily on Rotha Mary Clay, *The Medieval Hospitals of England*, plus some additional information Clay provided for their study; (2) all volumes of the Victoria County Histories as published through early 2009; and (3) the thirty-two *Reports of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales*, published in forty-four volumes as part of the Parliamentary Papers between 1819 and 1842, arranged by county, hundred, and place, which attempted to document all previous and current charities, including ones that had long since died out. The database does not include institutions for which testators left founding instructions in their wills, but we have no confirmation that they were ever actually set up. To avoid distortion in favor of those counties whose institutions have been examined in greater detail, the database does not include additional information from local studies. The latter usually identify more houses than are listed in the sources above (due to use of wills and inclusion of houses that were intended but not founded). The institutions included here therefore constitute a subset of the full number.

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[1] SPSS = Statistical Package for the Social Sciences.

2 DATES OF FOUNDING OR FIRST REFERENCE

1. For each institution, a variable was entered for "date of foundation" together with a qualifier.
2. Each institution was then placed within a decade based upon the date and qualifier.

Qualifier	Decade to which assigned
Exact date	The decade within which the date fell. (For example, "founded in 1427" was assigned to the 1420s.)
Approximate date	The decade within which the date fell, unless it was only "some time in a given century," in which case a special designation was used. (For example, "founded around 1427" was assigned to the 1420s, but "founded in the fifteenth century" was coded as 140.)
Date of first reference	The decade before the stated date, unless it was in a century only, in which case a special designation was used. (For example, "first mentioned in 1427" was assigned to the 1410s, but "first mentioned in the fifteenth century" was coded usually as 140, unless further information suggested that it had been founded in an earlier century, in which case it was coded as 110, 120, or 130.)
Founded before this date	The decade before the stated date, unless it was in a century only, in which case a special designation was used for the previous century. (For example, "founded before 1427" was assigned to the 1410s, but "founded before the fifteenth century" was coded as 130.)
Founded after this date	The decade after the stated date, unless it was in a century only, in which case a special designation was used for the following century. (For example, "founded after 1427" was assigned to the 1430s, but "founded after the fifteenth century" was coded as 150.)

3. For those foundings described only in terms of a century, not a specific date or decade, "ascribed numbers" were used for the graphs of the number of foundings per decade and number of houses in existence. (See section 4 below.)
4. The dates for many of the houses that had already closed by 1350 are even more uncertain than for houses that continued later.

3 DATES OF CLOSING OR LAST REFERENCE

1. For each institution, a variable was entered for "date of closing" together with a qualifier.
2. Each institution was then placed within a decade based upon the date and qualifier.

Qualifier	Decade to which assigned
Exact date	The decade within which the date fell. (For example, "closed in 1552" was assigned to the 1550s.)
Approximate date	The decade within which the date fell, unless it was only "some time in a given century," in which case a special designation was used. (For example, "closed around 1552" was assigned to the 1550s, but "closed in the sixteenth century" was coded as 150.)
Date of last reference	The decade after the stated date, unless it was in a century only, in which case a special designation was used. (For example, "last mentioned in 1552" was assigned to the 1560s, but "last mentioned in the sixteenth century" was coded as continuing beyond 1599.)
Closed before this date	The decade before the stated date, unless it was in a century only, in which case a special designation was used for the previous century. (For example, "closed before 1552" was assigned to the 1540s, but "closed before the sixteenth century" was coded as 140.)
Closed after this date	The decade after the stated date, unless it was in a century only, in which case a special designation was used for the following century. (For example, "closed after 1552" was assigned to the 1560s, but "closed after the sixteenth century" was coded as continuing beyond 1599.)
No longer functioning as a hospital or almshouse	The decade within which the date fell.

3. For those closings described only in terms of a century, not a specific date or decade, "ascribed numbers" were used for the graphs on number of closings per decade and number of houses in existence. (See below.)

4 "ASCRIBED NUMBERS"

In calculating the number of institutions founded, closed, and in operation by decade, a decision had to be made about how to handle: (a) dates that were given only as within a given century; and (b) a cluster of hospitals in Devon and Cornwall.

1. Foundings and closings, "century only" dates

The following method was used to distribute within the decades of a given century those houses described in century terms only, so that the "ascribed numbers" reflect the same proportions over time as the number of houses with more definite dates assigned to each decade in accordance with the rules described above.

   a. The number of foundings and closings per decade based upon more specific dates were calculated as a percentage of the total number founded and closed in that century.

b. The percentages per decade were then used to distribute the number of houses said to have been founded or closed only some times within that century.

For example, nine houses were said to have been founded at unspecified times during the fifteenth century and hence needed "ascribed dates." The twenty-one houses founded during the 1420s constituted 13 percent of the total of 166 institutions with specific dates founded during the fifteenth century. The 1420s were therefore assigned 13 percent of the nine undated houses (= one additional house) as "ascribed century foundings."

For example, fifty houses were said to have been closed at unspecified times during the sixteenth century. The forty-seven houses closed during the 1550s constituted 14 percent of the 332 houses with specific dates closed during the sixteenth century. The 1550s were therefore assigned 14 percent of the fifty undated houses (= seven additional houses) as "ascribed century closings."

The ascribed numbers are listed separately on the decadal table in CUP Online App. 2, distinguished from those with more specific dates (designated as "OK or approximate").

2. Twenty-nine hospitals in Devon and Cornwall are listed by Knowles and Hadcock only as having been founded some time before 1307, with no later mention. To avoid an artificial bulge of foundings in the 1290s and closings in the 1310s (according to the rules described above), those hospitals have been entered as follows:

For founding dates, they are shown in CUP Online App. 2 and App. B (with text of book) as ascribed numbers distributed between the decades 1200s and 1290s.

For closing dates, they are shown in CUP Online App. 2 and App. C (with text of book) as ascribed numbers distributed between the decades 1310s and 1340s. The hospitals are assumed to have ceased operation by 1350 in subsequent appendices and on App. D (with text of book).

3. Number of houses in existence per decade

When calculating the number of houses that existed during each decade, an unspecific century date was in some cases adequate. Thus, when counting houses in existence during the fifteenth century, a house founded before 1400 that closed some time in the sixteenth century posed no problems; nor did an institution founded some time in the fifteenth century and still active in 1599 when counting houses in operation during the sixteenth century.

If, however, it was necessary to use ascribed dates when counting the number of houses in operation, the resulting numbers are listed

separately in CUP Online App. 2, under "Changes when ascribed nos. are added or subtracted." These figures are the cumulative total of all ascribed foundings and closings in that and previous decades. They indicate the amount by which the number of houses in existence based upon more specific dates for each decade must be adjusted upwards or downwards to reflect houses whose founding and/or closing dates were ascribed.

5 EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN EARLY HOSPITALS

The appendices and graphs exclude hospitals closed before 1350 in unidentified places and those with no date at all for both founding and closing. App. B (with text of book but not CUP Online App. 2) also excludes five institutions said to have been founded prior to 1050 that Orme and Webster argue were not yet independent, free-standing hospitals.

6 TYPE OF COMMUNITY

Communities were divided into four categories, defined as follows:

City = six places with populations of around 6,000 people or more (Bristol, Exeter, London, Newcastle upon Tyne, Norwich, and York)

Town = the next thirty-two wealthiest or most populous places, with populations generally of 3,000 to 6,000 people, plus all county towns = thirty-nine in total

Market centers = around 715 places with a market in the sixteenth century but not classified as a town, with populations generally of less than 3,000

Villages = the many thousand smaller communities with no market

For a fuller description of these categories, see McIntosh, *Controlling Misbehavior*, 219 and 241–2.

7 NUMBER OF RESIDENTS

In the case of references that give only the number of rooms or dwellings within a given institution, not the number of residents, the number of housing units has been multiplied by 1.25 to obtain an estimated number of inmates, as most units had only a single occupant until at least the later sixteenth century. Nineteen such references occur between 1350 and 1539; twenty-five after 1540.