Saints, Pilgrims and the Development of Medieval Dunfermline

London, British Library: Lansdowne 204, fo. 226v: John Hardyng, map of Scotland, c.1440-1450

St Margaret

Source: Edinburgh, National Library of Scotland: MS10271 (Prayer book of Robert Blackadder, late 15th century), fo. 101.

Miracle No. 7

- ‘I beg you, lady, to tell me who you are and who are these armoured knights.’ The queen replied, ‘I am Margaret, queen of Scots. This knight I am leading by the hand is was my husband, king Malcolm by name. The three following are my three sons, kings who lie with me in this church.’ ‘Where are you going, lady? said the knight. ‘I am hurrying with them to Largs, ‘ said the holy queen, ‘to bring victory over the tyrant who is attempting to subject my kingdom to his power. For I have accepted this kingdom from God, and it is entrusted to me and my heirs forever.’

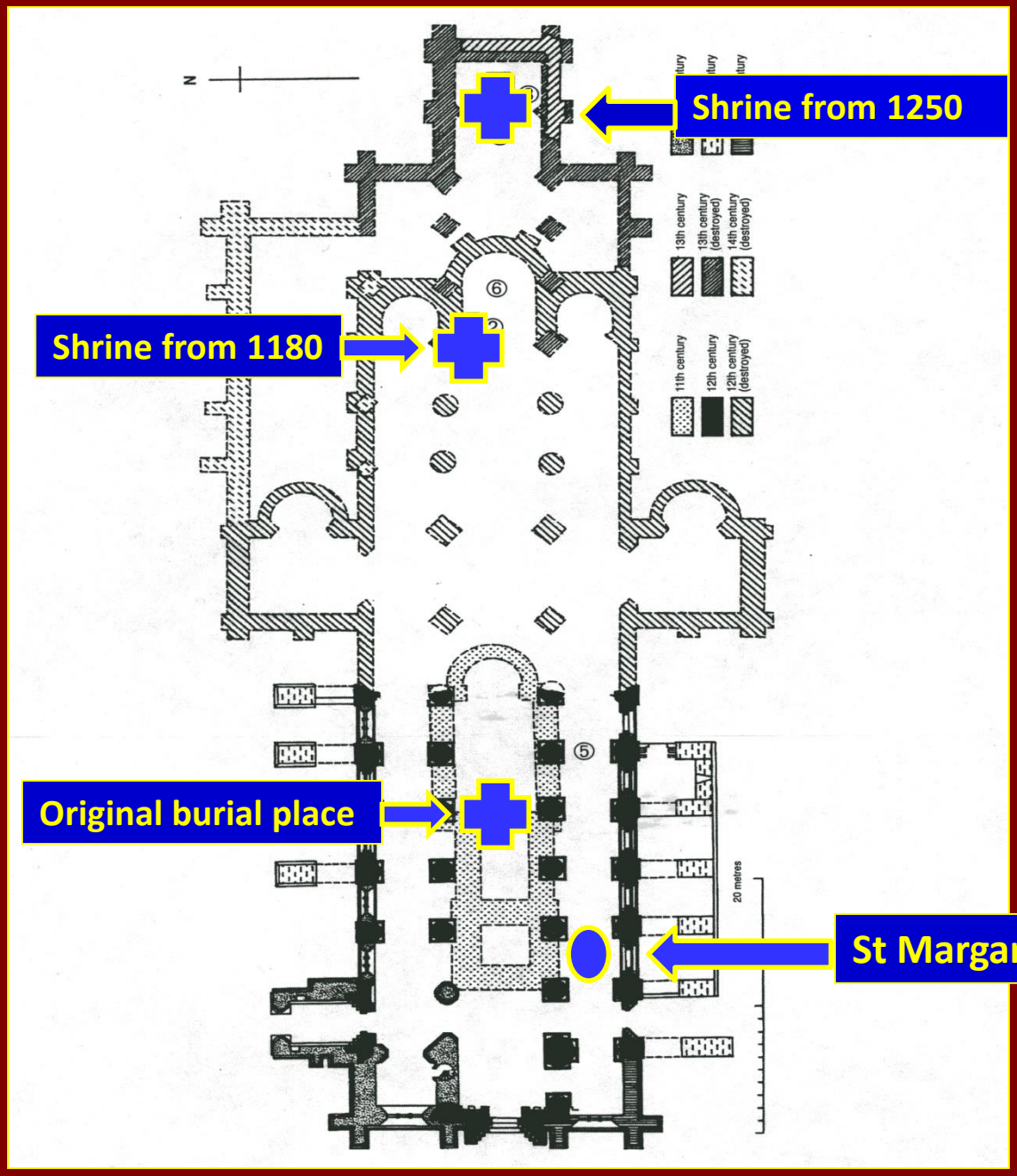
Source: ***The Miracles of Saint Æbbe of Coldingham and Saint Margaret of Scotland*****, ed. R. Bartlett (Oxford, 2003)**

Royal Cults

- **England:**
  Edward the Confessor (d.1066; canonised 1161)
- **Norway:**
  Olaf (d.1030; cult by 1139; canonised 1888)
- **Sweden:**
  Erik (d.1160; cult 12th C; never canonised)
- **France:**
  Louis IX (d.1270; canonised 1297)

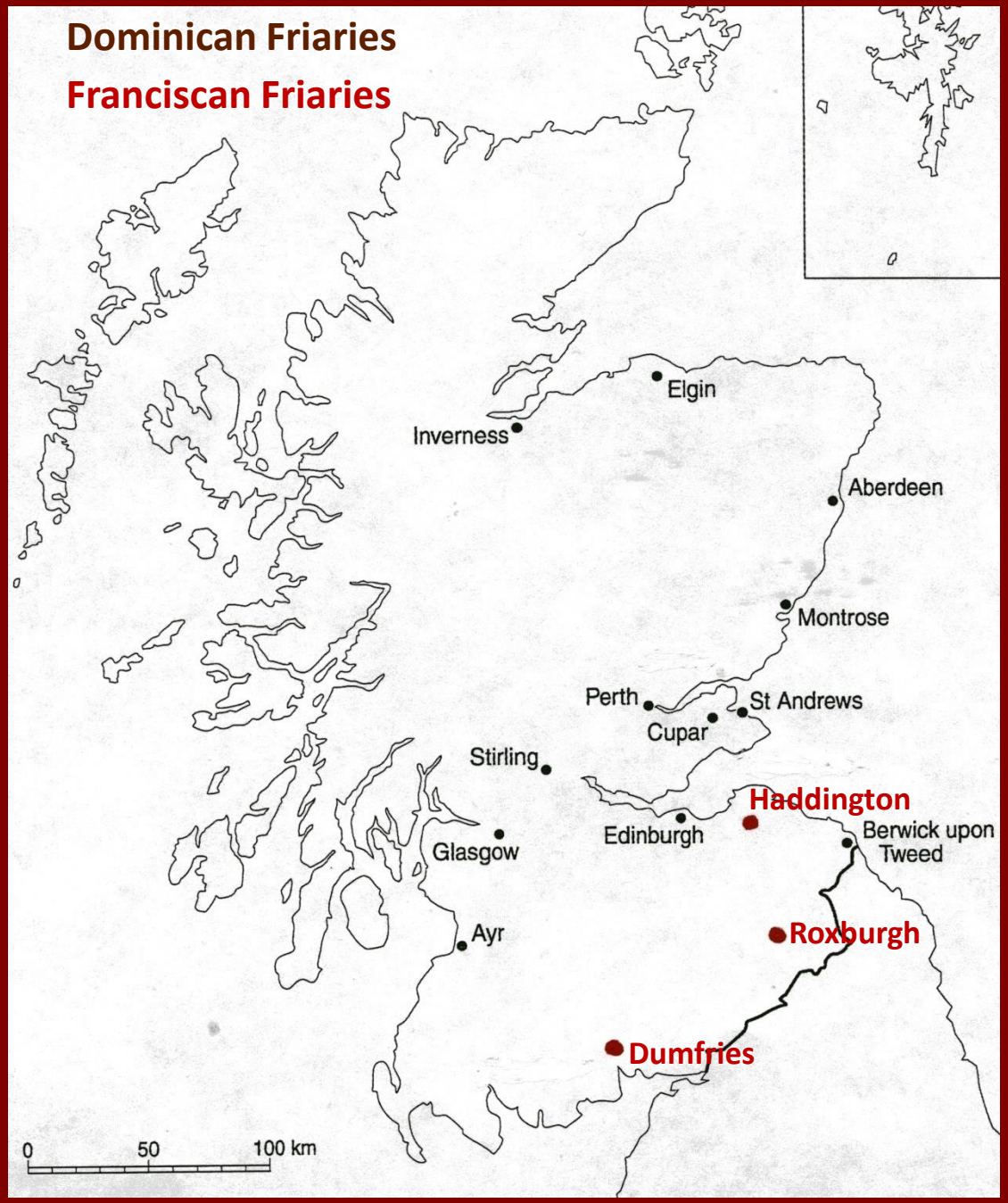
Trondheim Cathedral, Norway: St Olaf (centre)

Dunfermline Abbey



Adapted from rom Peter Yeoman, 'St Margaret's shrine at Dunfermline abbey', in *Royal Dunfermline*, ed R. Fawcett

Below: Dunfermline Abbey, north Nave aisle, depictions of various saints;
Right, Ystad, Sweden: church of St Mary, shrine of St Dorothea



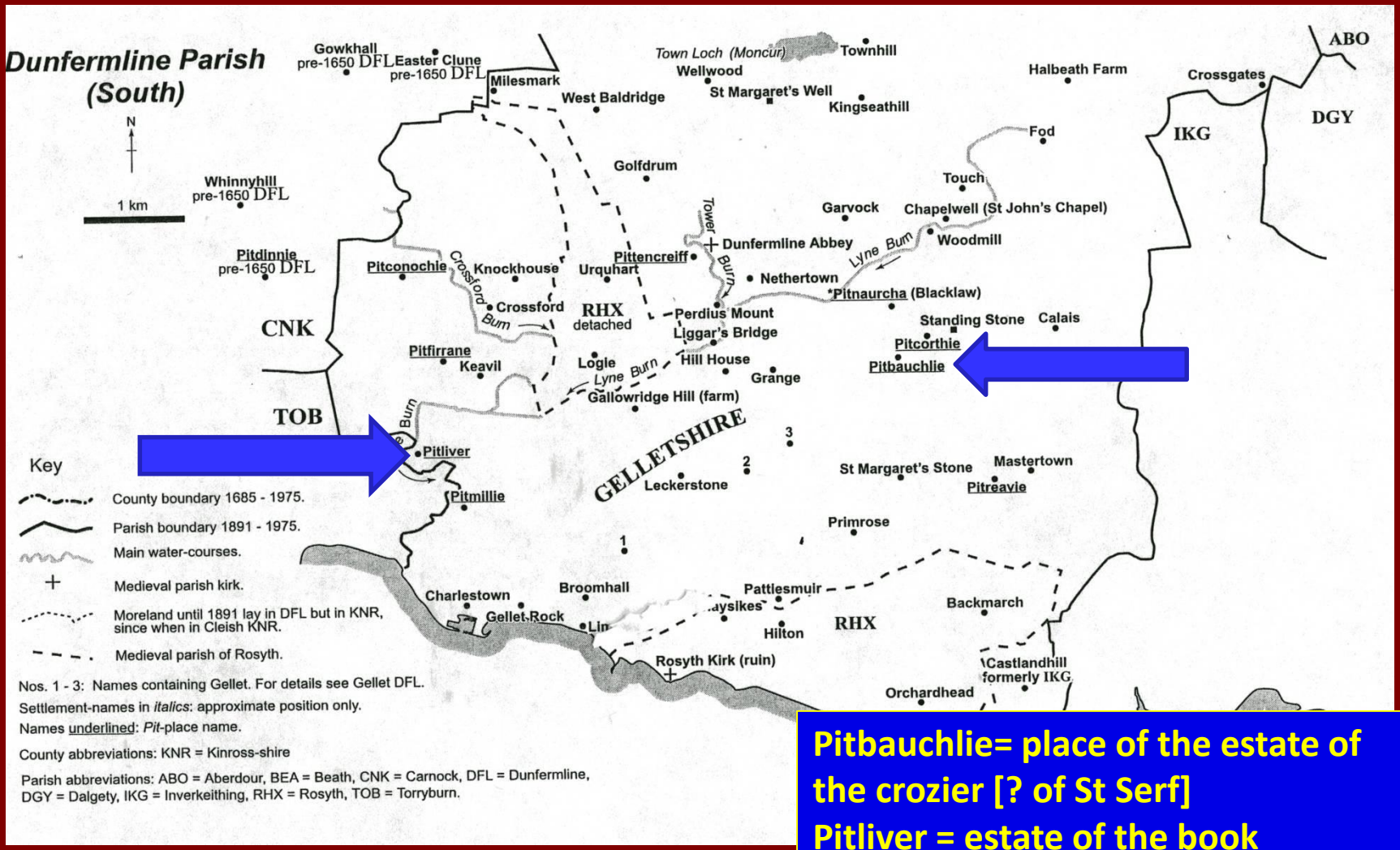
Dominican and Franciscan friaries, established by the mid thirteenth century

Place-dates of royal charters, 1214-49

Edinburgh: 59
Stirling: 27
Forfar: 24
Scone: 18
Selkirk: 18
Roxburgh: 12

Dunfermline: 2

Celtic cults?

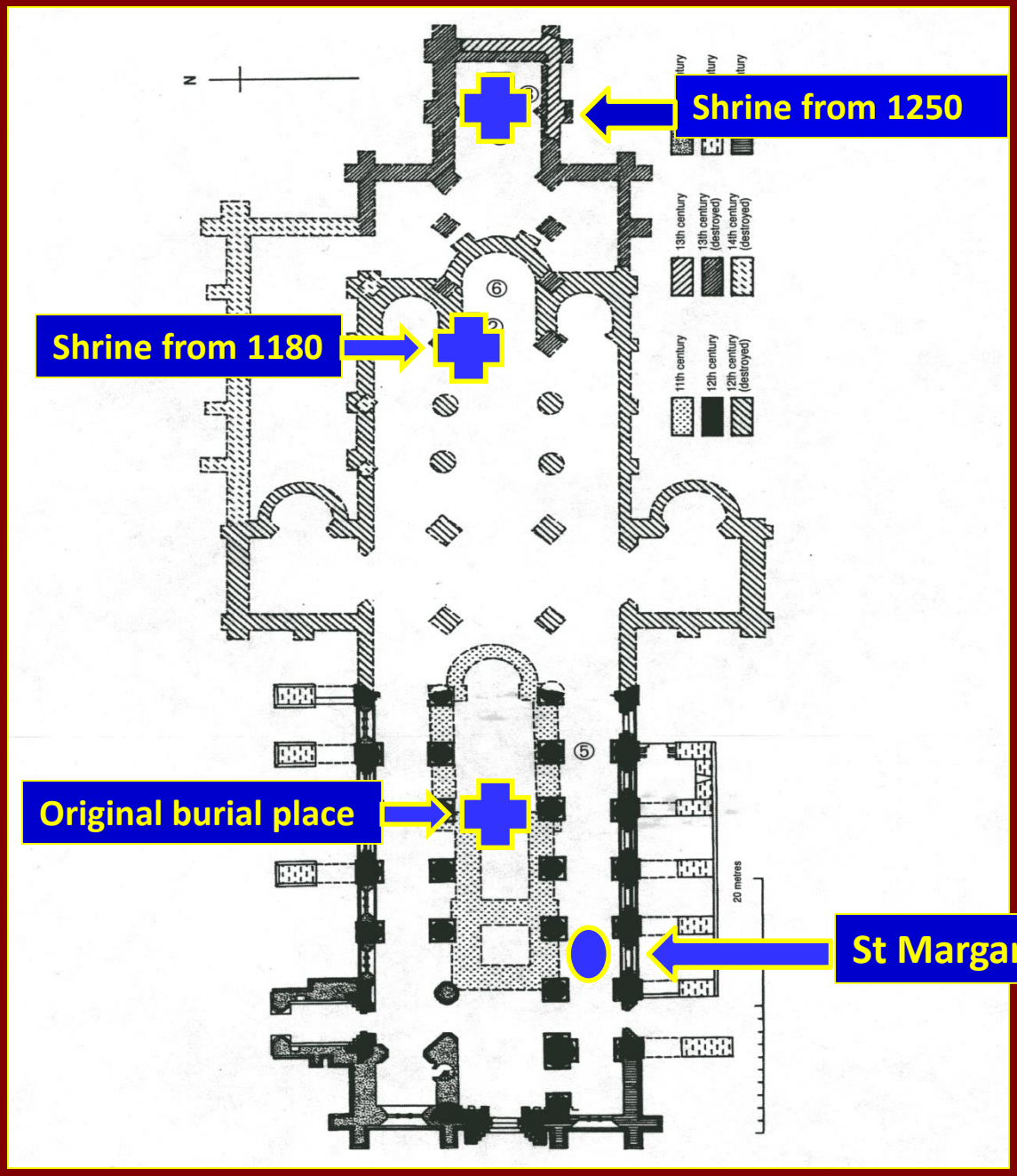


Pitbauchlie= place of the estate of the crozier [? of St Serf]
Pitliver = estate of the book

Pilgrim conduct at Shrines

Source: St Gallen, Switzerland: Stiftsbibliothek, Cod. Sang. 602, fos. 139, 262

Dunfermline Abbey



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Source: St Gallen, Switzerland: Stiftsbibliothek, Cod. Sang. 602, fo. 134

Margaret's Miracles

Ailments	
Paralysis/strokes	24%
Insanity	22%
Dumbness	13%
Swellings	9%
Toothache	7%
Moral miracles	7%
Swallowing lizards	4%
Blindness	4%
Other [e.g. burns, dropsy, elephantiasis, fever, flux, missing finger nails; safety from falls and from shipwreck]	22%

Gender	
Men	27 (61%)
Women	17 (39%)

St Margaret of Antioch

Three great female martyr saints: Catherine of Alexandria, Margaret of Antioch, Barbara and St Gertrude

‘I also ask, Lord, whoever builds a basilica in my name or from his labour furnishes a manuscript of my passion, fill him with your Holy Spirit … and in his home let there not be born an infant lame or blind or dumb.’

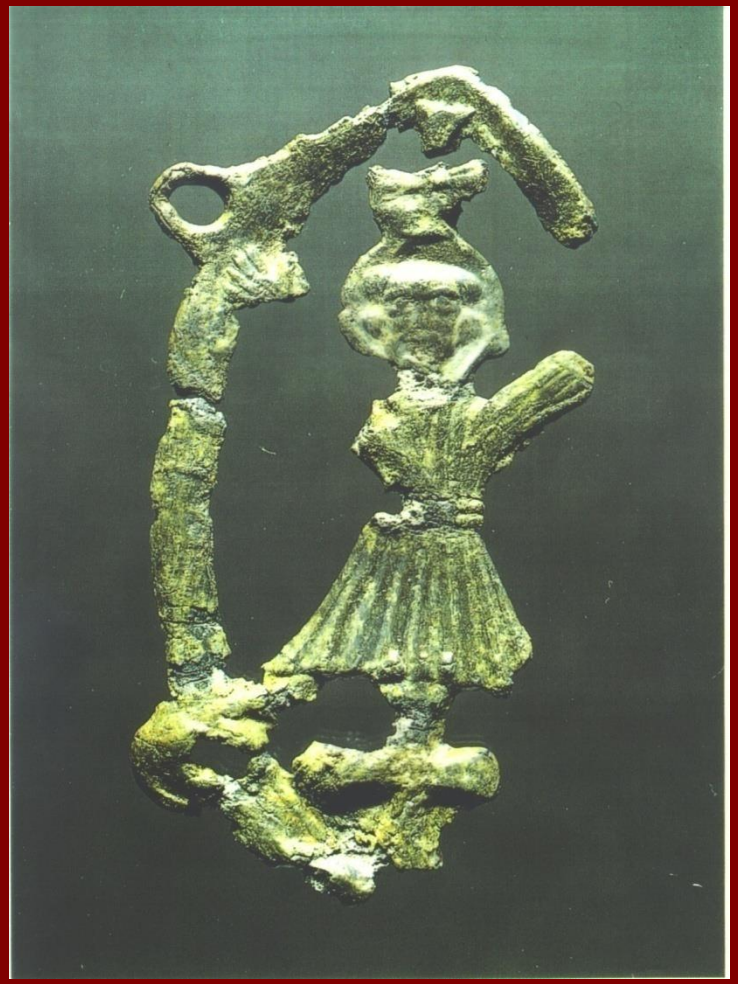
Source: ‘The Passion of St Margaret martyr’, in *The Old English Lives of St Margaret*, edd M. Clayton and H. Magennis

Miracle No. 8

- ‘A large body of ordinary faithful folk assembled and, perhaps because they had the same name, many of those present believed the prescious martyr who bore the same name to be our Margaret. O what devout error, that is not denied grace! The faith of those who devoutly believed that is not made void nor are they denied their petition. There is no disunity between those who reign jointly in the heavenly place. The two Margarets are dissimilar in essence, but we believe they are alike in mind and work…’

Source: *The Miracles of Saint Æbbe of Coldingham and Saint Margaret of Scotland*, ed. R. Bartlett (Oxford, 2003)

Pilgrimage Badges



Left: Pilgrimage badge from St Andrews; right pilgrimage badge from Canterbury