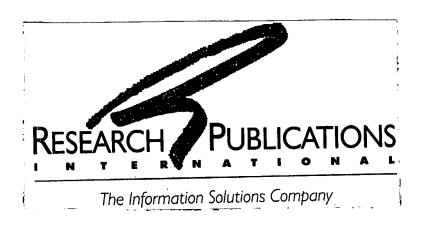
**Justice and Authority** 

in England: County Quarter

Sessions and Related Records

Series One: Part Two Quarter Sessions Files 1571 (Michaelmas) -1603 (Easter)

# **CHESHIRE**



## HARVESTER PRESS MICROFORM PUBLICATIONS LTD

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PART TWO: Quarter Sessions Files 1571 (Michealmas) - 1603 (Easter)

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#### **PUBLISHER'S NOTE**

Harvester Microform are proud to announce the publication of the Cheshire Quarter Session, which are regarded as one of the finest sets of documentation for the study of crime and the administration of justice in the Elizabethan and early Stuart period. It is an indispensable source which will prove invaluable to both the social and economic historian alike.

As a county palatine, Cheshire differed from most counties in that it possessed a certain degree of autonomy with regard to the dispensation of justice and control over local administration. These aspect of its jurisdiction are clearly reflected in this programme as are its links with the Welsh circuits for the purposes of assizes.

Following the publication of Cheshire Order Books, Recognizances, Indictments and Presentments, parts two and three of our programme offer the Quarter Sessions Rolls and Files.

The session files consist of original documents generated by the business of Quarter Sessions and include many major classes of records. Of these, the largest comprises the records of criminal jurisdiction in the court. Insight is offered into the procedure of justice and the structure of authority in the county. At Quarter Sessions, the collective jurisdiction of the justices was at its most extensive and their involvement in all aspects of county and parish administration is clearly portrayed.

Of interest also are those classes of records found on the rolls which derive from jurisdiction of petty sessions. Quarter Sessions heard appeals from and decisions and convictions by petty sessions, some of which referred to issues like the operation of poor law.

# JUSTICE AND AUTHORITY IN ENGLAND COUNTY QUARTER SESSIONS AND RELATED RECORDS

Series One: Cheshire

Part Two: Quarter Sessions Files

1571 (Michaelmas) - 1603 (Easter)

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