**Fall 2017**

**HIS 235 London 1500-1900**

**Notes for week 3**

**Business**

First question set due next week . . .

Questions about the reading?

**A bit of review**

Thinking like a historian

Continuities and change

Subjectivity and provisionality

Density of evidence

A taxonomy of history

Scales

Subdisciplines

Periodization

Peculiarities of urban history

What is a city?

The importance of transportation and exchange

Permanent and temporary conditions

Peculiarities of business history

Staples and luxuries

Structures and practices

Longterm trends

Expanding scale

Globalization

Technological sophistication

Expansion of credit

Consumerism

1500-1700: from a late medieval to an early capitalist economy

1500: religion, stability & uniformity rule, operations are small, supply is local

1700: increasing scale and risk, secular institutions on the rise, social mobility, internationalism, consumerism, profit

From cathedral, monastery, parish, guild

To Exchange, Bank, chartered company, coffee house

**So in 1500, what was London like?**

A typical Western European urban economy

Guilds, markets, fairs, cries

The literal and figurative centrality of the Church

The Staple and the Pool

Aliens

Basic geography

City, Westminster, Borough, In-fill and fringe

Key Buildings

Tower, St Paul’s, Palace of Westminster, Abbey,

Monasteries, Bishop’s Palaces, Churches

Guildhall and guildhalls

Steelyard, Lombard St &c

Legacies: the Black Death, the Wars of the Roses

Mentality

The central role of the Church

Dominates cultural and social life

Links England with all of Christendom

Hierarchy, deference, status

Great Chain of Being

Sumptuary laws

Shakespeare on ambition

Looking back not forward

Fall from Grace

Reverence for ancient wisdom

Nostalgia for imperial stability and unity

Microcosms and macrocosms

Clouds on the horizon

Expanding Ottomans

New linkages: Da Gama and Columbus

Aggressive Catholicism of Spain

Gutenberg revolutionizes information

Luther splits the Church

**Tudor Transformations**

An end to the Wars of the Roses

A new king with foreign ideas

A new, stable state apparatus

The king as focus and emblem of the nation

The king as promoter of national prosperity

The slow death of the Royal Progress

Elizabeth vs Duncan

The accumulation of suburban palaces: Greenwich, Richmond &c

The establishment of a London government bureaucracy

The rise of the security state

Treason against the crown

Secret police and spy networks

Transforming the royal finances

Separating national from personal royal expenditure

Restructuring revenue collection

The king or queen as emblem and heart of nation

Royal portraits

Educational patronage

Eton and King's

Place-names: from Richmond to Virginia

The slow decline of the king as battlefield commander

Royal support for the arts and luxury industries

Henry VIII and English tapestry

The first national theatre

Shakespeare's histories

Macbeth

Royal alliance with City businessmen

Sponsored voyages

Chartered companies

Royal Navy and privateers

Industrial and research sponsorship:

The Tower Liberty

The Royal Ordnance

**The English Reformation**

Some background

England has long been heterodox

Henry II and Beckett

Wycliffe and Lollards

Western Christendom increasingly divided

Corruption and church government

Who controls the Papacy?

Access to sacred texts

Translation

Printing

Theology

Henry VIII

Initially enthusiastically Catholic

More’s persecutions

The problems of divorce

Henry’s new Establishment

Preserves episcopal hierarchy

Modifies theology

Eliminates cults of saints and Virgin

Eliminates purgatory

Supports translation of scripture and education of laity

Shuts down monastic institutions

Iconoclasm

Results

A divided nation

A new alignment in foreign policy/perpetual foreign wars

A new fear of Ireland

Monastic resources freed for secular use

Buildings can be used for other purposes, eg playhouses

London can expand

The collapse of

London’s social safety nets

London’s art and music schools

New emphasis on literacy

**Shakespeare the entrepreneur**

The new business of playmaking

The medieval background: mummers, mysteries, fairs, great houses

The rise of inn entertainment

Puritan unease about role-playing

Actors as vagabonds

Theatres on the fringe: Bankside/Shoreditch

Theatres need patrons

The people

Burbage family as early theatrical entrepreneurs

University wits and others

Shakespeare

The market

Art for the semi-literate

A conduit for propaganda

An opportunity for public patronage

Part of Bankside entertainment district

The product

Not just a play

Something for everyone: clowning, sex, philosophy

Part of Tudor national branding exercise