Early Theatre

2025 Prize for Best Article in Theatre History, Volumes 26–27 Honourable Mention

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'Early English Drama Records and other Manuscripts from Coventry Destroyed Before and During the Second World War' *Early Theatre* 26.2 (2023), 33–55 https://doi.org/10.12745/et.26.2.5367

As this article confirms, Coventry is one of our most important sites for early theatre. Importantly, Milne's essay shows that in connection with such performances, 'fewer historical manuscripts were destroyed in 1940 than was once feared'. This essay provides an excellent overview of manuscripts that have been lost, have been edited, or have survived in transcriptions and in fragments: theatre historians now know exactly where we are in terms of available source materials. Milne's astute examination of these findings provides a particularly valuable focus on one of the most important civic theatre occasions in our field.