



## **Main categories of sources used by the SAHAAS 17<sup>th</sup> Century Research Group**

Researchers investigating the 17<sup>th</sup> century history of St Albans are fortunate as a rich and diverse collection of source material has survived. These are the key sources we have worked with:

- **Corporation records:** The St Albans City Archive contains an extensive set of records from the 17<sup>th</sup> century. We have published a [transcription of the City Archive catalogue](#) indicating where the original collection and copies are held.
- **Hearth Tax:** The 1663 assessment survives showing who was taxed and the number of hearths in their property.
- **Parish records:** registers of baptisms, marriages, and burials as well as Poor Law accounts, parish meetings etc.
- **Probate documents:** wills are an excellent source for establishing family relationships and wealth. Inventories list and value a person's goods at the time of their death and give fascinating insight into how houses were furnished and, in the case of tradespeople, their tools and also the goods they were selling.

- **Protestation Oath returns:** these list those swearing allegiance to the King, namely Charles I in 1642 and William III in 1696. We have [published a transcription](#) of the 1642 returns on our web site.
- **Property and manorial records:** we are fortunate that extensive sets of manorial records for the area have survived.
- **Poll Book for 1690:** we have published a [transcription of the poll book](#) on our web site.
- **Religious non-conformist records:** our project discovered that 17<sup>th</sup> century St Albans had an unexpectedly high level of non-conformity.

For further information about our work or the Society in general visit [www.stalbanshistory.org](http://www.stalbanshistory.org).

Alternatively please email [century17@stalbanhistory.org](mailto:century17@stalbanhistory.org).