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PETER LAKE

Lecturer in History, Bedford College, London

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

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LONDON NEW YORK NEW ROCHELLE

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PUBLISHED BY THE PRESS SYNDICATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge, United Kingdom

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK
40 West 20th Street, New York NY 10011-4211, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
Ruiz de Alarcón 13, 28014 Madrid, Spain
Dock House, The Waterfront, Cape Town 8001, South Africa

<http://www.cambridge.org>

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First published 1982
First paperback edition 2004

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Library of Congress catalogue card number: 81-17052

ISBN 0 521 24010 7 hardback
ISBN 0 521 61187 3 paperback

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FOR JOY AND ANN

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Preface

During the protracted preparation of this book I have incurred many debts. Of these the greatest is to Professor Gordon Rupp who first suggested moderate puritanism as a subject and who supervised my Ph.D. thesis. Without his kindness and encouragement my research would never have even started. Professor Geoffrey Elton has also been an unfailing source of help and encouragement. Professor Patrick Collinson has always shown remarkable patience and kindness in the face of the persistent queries of a novice in a field of which he is the undoubted master. I owe a great deal to the members of the Tudor seminar at the Institute of Historical Research who first taught me what a friendly place the scholarly world can be. Professor Conrad Russell was a source of great encouragement when it was most needed, as were Ann Hughes, Richard Cust, Gerry Bowler, John Nichols, Ron Fritze, Patricia Croot, David Hebb, David Thomas and Alan Thomas. I am extremely grateful to all of them. I have also had the benefit of discussions with Dr H. C. Porter, who stood in as my supervisor when Professor Rupp was on sabbatical, and Dr N. R. N. Tyacke. Latterly, Andrew Foster, Simon Adams and Bill Sheils have all provided stimulation and advice. I owe a debt to two books which no amount of citation in notes can properly convey. Professor Collinson's *The Elizabethan puritan movement* and Dr Porter's *Reformation and reaction in Tudor Cambridge* provided the starting point and constant guidelines for my research. This study stands in the relation of an extended footnote to these two seminal works. I should also like to thank my parents for putting up with the oldest student in Ilford. My research was first financed by a three-year studentship from the D.E.S. and then by a research fellowship at Clare College, Cam-

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bridge. I should like to thank the Master and Fellows of Clare for thus allowing me to finish my thesis and complete the reworked and rewritten version which has become this book. I have used material in Emmanuel College, Cambridge; Trinity College, Cambridge; and Pembroke College, Cambridge; Lambeth Palace Library; the Chetham Library; the North Yorkshire Record Office; the British Library; the Public Record Office, and Cambridge University Library. I should like to thank those concerned for permission to use the material discussed below and to acknowledge the unfailing courtesy and helpfulness of the staff in all those libraries as well as the Institute of Historical Research. My colleagues at Bedford College have been a source of great encouragement in providing so congenial an atmosphere in which to work and I should like to acknowledge a special debt to the patience and kindness of Miss Sheelagh Taylor who typed the final version of the manuscript with exemplary accuracy and care. I will conclude by thanking Kevin Watson, Richard Cust and Ann Hughes whose friendship and support were of crucial importance at a most difficult time.

In what follows the dates are in the old style, with the year taken to begin on 1 January. Extended passages of Latin have been paraphrased or translated. The translations are my own except where otherwise stated.