

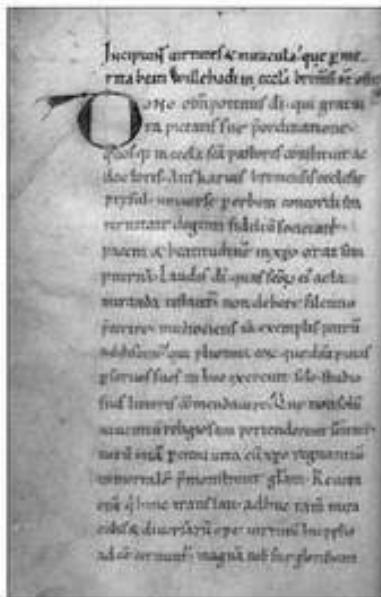
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Ansgar, Rimbert and the Forged Foundations of Hamburg-Bremen (Church, Faith and Culture in the Medieval West)

By Eric Knibbs

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Ansgar, Rimbert and the Forged Foundations of Hamburg-Bremen



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Ansgar, Rimbert and the Forged Foundations of Hamburg-Bremen (Church, Faith and Culture in the Medieval West):

Ansgar and Rimbert ninth century bishops and missionaries to Denmark and Sweden are fixtures of medieval ecclesiastical history. Rare is the survey that does not pause to mention their work among the pagan peoples of the North and their foundation of an archdiocese centered at Hamburg and Bremen. But Ansgar and Rimbert were also clever forgers who wove a complex tapestry of myths and half truths about themselves and their mission. They worked with the tacit approval if there has remained a general acceptance of the narrative presented by Rimbert's Life of Ansgar. What has hindered many scholars who would pursue a more skeptical line has been the daunting task of grappling with the diplomatic evidence. Eric Knibbs has no

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