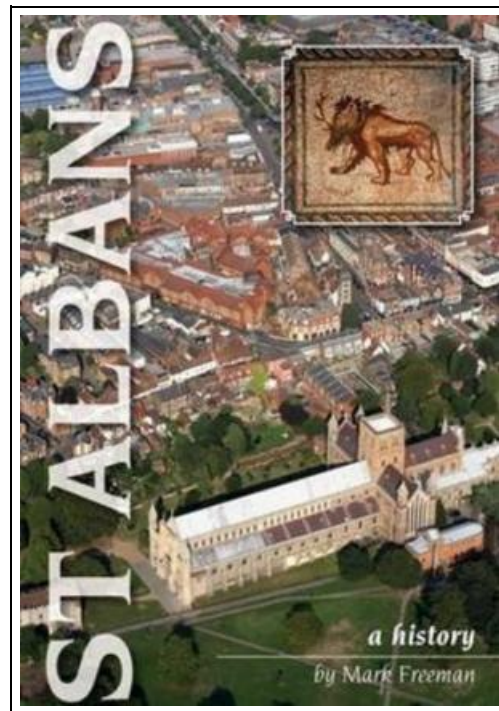


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Carnegie Publishing Ltd. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, St Albans: A History, Mark Freeman, This book covers more than 2,000 years of history. St Albans - or Verulamium - was one of the largest and most important towns in Roman Britain, and the site of Britain's first Christian martyrdom. After the fall of the Roman town, a small community of Christians remained, and out of the dark ages emerged St Albans abbey, one of the most significant religious houses of medieval England. However, the history of later medieval St Albans was dominated by conflict between the abbey and the civic authorities. The monks repeatedly thwarted the ambitions of the townspeople, and it was only after the dissolution of the abbey that St Albans was able to secure self-government. This book traces the evolution of urban government in St Albans, and the people's experiences of the political upheavals that beset England in this period. Like many other towns, St Albans was touched by the wars of the Roses, the civil war, and many lesser conflicts. In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, the economic importance of St Albans as a 'thoroughfare town', on a main road north from London, grew. St Albans also became a centre of straw-plaiting, while at the other end of the social scale, the town was known as a centre of political bribery and corruption. In modern times St Albans has grown substantially, along with other towns in the commuter belt. Extended suburban housing development was made possible by the railway, which arrived in 1858, and the spread of car ownership. St Albans - which became a city in 1877 - has been described as 'a terribly smug place', but has much to recommend it, not least the long and varied history which has itself remained an important theme...



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