

PETERBOROUGH PSALTER -

The *Peterborough Psalter and Bestiary* dates from c1315.



It contains an illustration of Psalm 96[97] showing an organ with tonsured organist and bellows operator. The ms is now in Brussels (Bibliothèque Royale Albert Ier, Cod. 9961-2 f.66). The organ depicted is similar to that in the **Rutland Psalter** except for the bellows system, which is less voluminous, perhaps hinting at lower wind pressures and neither bells nor other instruments are portrayed in the *PS*. The width of the organ is estimated (**P. Williams 1993**) at 5 to 6 feet (1.5 to 1.8 meters).

There are 35 pipes shown, a double row of 17 pipes and a single **bourdon**, which may have been used as a drone.

This long pipe is depicted next to the organ's shortest pipes, perhaps to create weight balance. The scaling seems

to diminish very slightly as the pipes shorten, but it is questionable whether the artist intended to reflect this degree of detailed accuracy.