

Speinshart was founded around 1145 by the nobleman Adelvolc, initially as a community of secular canons, before its Premonstratensian reformation in 1162/63. In the course of this reform, the founder entrusted Speinshart to the Apostolic See in the fall of 1162. Although the papal privilege issued for this purpose has not survived, we know that Adelvolc von Speinshart certainly addressed his petition to the imperial Pope Victor IV. The Speinshart *Deperditum* is thus the only known privilege of this (anti-)pope for a Premonstratensian monastery from the German-speaking world. In the Barbarossa Diploma D F I. 393 of 13 February 1163, this *Traditio Romana* is referenced with rare clarity: Since all papal monasteries fell automatically under the particular protection and shield of the emperor, Speinshart acquired not only the papal privilege, but also the royal bailiwick which resulted from it. Through this interplay of *Traditio Romana* and royal protection, Speinshart attained the highest possible degree of *libertas ecclesie* – of independence from both local ecclesiastical and secular powers.