



NEWSLETTER OF THE SCONUL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MANUSCRIPTS

No 11

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SCONUL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MANUSCRIPTS

About forty-five members were at the annual meeting, followed by a conference, 'Computer Aids to Manuscript Cataloguing', held on 13 December 1984 at the British Library building, 2 Sheraton Street, London. The speakers were Peter Jones, Department of Manuscripts, British Library, 'Automation: risks and rewards'; C M Woolgar, Archivist, University of Southampton Library, 'A computerized database of the Wellington Papers'; Michael Cook, University Archivist, University of Liverpool, 'The archival description project', and T D Rogers, Assistant Librarian, Department of Western Manuscripts, Bodleian Library, 'The plans for computer-assisted cataloguing in the Bodleian'. It was agreed that a SCONUL working party should be set up to consider computer cataloguing of manuscripts. Members of the committee would include Peter Jones, T D Rogers and C M Woolgar.

The next meeting, on the theme of security in libraries, is expected to be held on 5 July at Warwick University. Those responsible for security in libraries of special collections other than manuscripts or archives will be welcomed, numbers permitting. Further details to be announced in May.

PERSONAL

Miss Joan Gibbs, Sub-Librarian of the University of London Library, took early retirement in September 1984. From 1955, she has been responsible for the Palaeography Room, a centre of manuscript and archive studies in London University.

William Kellaway retired as Secretary and Librarian of the Institute of Historical Research, University of London, in July 1984 and was succeeded by Dr Alice Prochaska in September 1984.

Professor Philip Larkin and Sir Robin Mackworth-Young are now members of the British Library Board. K R Cooper is Chief Executive.

Dr Patrick McGurk, Birkbeck College, has taken early retirement, but will continue some teaching until September 1986.

David Vaisey, Keeper of Western Manuscripts at the Bodleian Library, is in California from January to March this year as a Visiting Professor in the Library School at UCLA.

Noel Blakiston, writer and Principal Assistant Keeper in the Public Record Office until his retirement in 1970, died on 22 December 1984. He catalogued the major part of the charters and documents of Eton College.

Peter Croft, Fellow and Librarian from 1975 of King's College, Cambridge, and formerly of Sotheby's, died on 29 August 1984 at the age of 55. Croft was the author of Autograph Poetry in the English Language (2 vols, London, 1973), and of articles about literary manuscripts.

Professor Lázló Mezey, the Hungarian representative on the Comité Internationale de Paléographie, died as the result of a tragic accident on 14 April 1984. A memorial number of Codices Manuscripti is planned in his honour.

LECTURES

Professor A G Watson gave an inaugural lecture entitled 'Changing Attitudes to Medieval Manuscripts in sixteenth- and seventeenth-century England', at University College, London, on 8 November 1984.

Professor A Momigliano, 'Gregory of Nyssa's Life of St Macrina', King's College, London, 21 January 1985.

Dr Michael Evans, 'The written word as art: on European medieval calligraphy', Wolfson College, Oxford, 12 February 1985.

Miss C Dionisotti, 'The School of Cujas and the study of medieval texts', Warburg Institute, 20 February 1985.

Milly Budney, 'The art of the book in Anglo-Saxon England', British Museum, 26 February 1985.

Professor R H Rouse will give a public lecture 'The University book-trade in 13th-century Paris', at King's College, London, on 12 March 1985.

On 7 May 1985 at King's College, Dr Douglas Farquhar will give a public lecture 'Decorative Formulas in 15th-century Books of Hours'.

LONDON MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS SEMINAR

The following meetings have been arranged:-

Lent Term 1985, 24 January, Dr P McGurk, 'The contents and structure of the late Anglo-Saxon Gospel book'; 7 February, Dr P Saenger, 'England, Fleury and the introduction of word separation into continental manuscripts'; 20 February 1985, Dr R Deshman, 'Benedict, monk and monarch: the religious and royal iconography of Anglo-Saxon monastic reform'.

Summer Term 1985, 9 May, Dr D Farquhar, 'Models in 15th-century manuscript decoration'; Dr W Stevens, date in late May to be announced, 'Students at Reichenau and Fulda'.

Meetings will be at 5.30 pm in the Palaeography Seminar Room, University of London Library.

PARIS: UNIVERSITÉ DE PARIS I (Centre de recherches sur l'histoire de l'occident médiéval)

A seminar 'Manuscrit, livre et société du IXe au XVIIIe siècle' has been meeting since November at the Sorbonne. Subjects have included medieval library catalogues; production and trade in manuscripts and incunables in the 15th century; inventories of medieval libraries.

Information about future meetings:- J-Ph Genet, Centre de recherches sur l'occident médiéval, Université de Paris I, 17 rue de la Sorbonne, 75005, Paris.

CONFERENCES

The British Archaeological Association spring conference 1985 (11th annual conference) will be held at Exeter, 9-13 April 1985, and will include papers about manuscript subjects.

'Terminology of illumination in medieval manuscripts', session at the 20th Congress on medieval studies at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo. Speakers will include L Randall, K Scott, E Kosmer, A Stones (9-12 May 1985).

Warburg Institute, 24-25 May 1985, 'Boethius in the Middle Ages'.

'L'Abbaye de Saint-Sever, son abbatale et son Beatus' Saint-Sever, Landes (25-27 May 1985).

The Institute of Classical Studies will hold a summer school in medieval Latin manuscripts and the transmission of Latin texts, 1-5 July 1985.

'Symposium on fourteenth-century English studies' (University of Evansville at Harlaxton College, Grantham, Lincs, 5-9 July 1985).

The third York Manuscripts Conference will be held at the University of York, 12-14 July 1985, on the topic of the study of 15th-century English manuscripts in relation to the practice of editing and textual criticism.

'African Studies', British Library Reference Division in conjunction with the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) (9-11 January 1985).

'Colloquium on South Asian studies', British Library Reference Division in conjunction with SOAS and others (24-26 April 1985).

WOLFENBÜTTEL

Biennial conference, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft western manuscripts cataloguing programme, Wolfenbüttel, September 1984. Apart from reports on particular projects (including one on the Oettingen-Wallerstein collection, recently bought by the Bavarian government), three general points were discussed. (i) The third, enlarged edition of the Richtlinien Handschriften-katalogisierung, with new sections on indexing medieval manuscript catalogues, illuminated manuscripts and Nachlässe. (ii) Amalgamated index to medieval manuscripts described in 85 post-1945 catalogues from the FDR, produced by computer and available in 25 participating libraries in the FDR in microfiche. (iii) The first catalogue of dated manuscripts in the FDR, for Frankfurt (where as many as 40% are dated), edited by Dr Gerhardt Powitz, due for publication in late 1984.

Copies of Richtlinien, 3rd edition, available from Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, 53 BONN - BAD GODESBERG 1, Kennedyallee 40.

EXHIBITIONS

Great Britain and Ireland

British Library: 'Samuel Johnson' (until 24 February 1985); 'The Golden Age of Anglo-Saxon Art' (joint exhibition with the British Museum, until 6 March 1985); 'Sir Michael Tippett' (4 January-31 March 1985); 'Bach' and 'Handel' (both 8 July-3 November 1985).

Museum of London: 'The Quiet Conquest: the Huguenots, 1685-1985' (14 May-31 October 1985).

Royal Academy: 'Edward Lear' (19 April-30 June 1985).

Tate Gallery: 'St Ives 1939-1964: 25 years of painting, sculpture and pottery' (13 February-14 April 1985). To include a manuscript and archive section.

Edinburgh University Library: 'John Wain', exhibition of literary manuscripts (April-September 1985).

National Library of Scotland: 'Reynolds Stone', 18 January-19 April 1985; 'Handel's "Messiah"', 16 February-10 May 1985.

Bodleian Library, Oxford: 'Wyclif and his followers' (until 27 April 1985); 'Food and drink' (from 18 May 1985).

Trinity College, Dublin: 'The Irish lawyer and his books' (October 1984-March 1985).

Belgium

Brussels, Crédit Communale de Belgique: 'Art and Alchemy' (until 10 March 1985).

Brussels, Royal Library: 'Beatus manuscripts' and 'The Bibliophile Kings of Spain' are the exhibitions on Spanish themes ('Europalia' series, 1985), (3 October-16 November 1985).

Nijmegen, Musée Anthropologique: 'La dévotion moderne: Figures et facettes' (September-November 1984). [Commemoration of the death of Gerard Grote, 1340-1384.]

France

Caen, Bibliothèque municipale: 'Les livres d'heures, manuscrits et imprimés, aux 15e et 16e siècles' (February-March 1985). Includes 30 manuscripts, 17 with miniatures, mainly written for west Norman dioceses (Avranches, Coutances, Bayeux, Lisieux, Sées). A catalogue will be published.

Germany

Cologne, Schnütgen Museum at the Josef-Haubrich-Kunsthalle: 'Ornamenta ecclesiae: Kunst und Künstler der Romanik in Köln' (7 March-9 June 1985).

Brunswick, Burg Dankwarderode: 'Stadt in Wandel: Kunst und Kultur des Burgertums in Nordeutschland' (24 August-24 November 1985. To include the Henry the Lion Gospels).

USA

Baltimore, Walters Art Gallery: 'Illuminated Manuscripts: Masterpieces in Miniature' (Exhibition of 185 western and oriental manuscripts, 21 November 1984-13 January 1985.)

New York, Pierpont Morgan Library: 'Italian manuscript painting, 1300-1500'
(7 December 1984-17 February 1985); 'Austrian Medieval Manuscripts' (26 February-
26 May 1985).

ACCESSIONS

The British Library

The papers of the Spencer family of Althorp, dating from the sixteenth century to 1910, have been acquired with the help of grants from the National Heritage Memorial Fund (£128,398) and the Friends of the National Libraries (£5,000), together with a major allocation from the British Library (purchase to be completed in April 1985). This is a very large collection (an estimated 300 feet of shelving), of both historical and literary importance. The very rich material of the late 17th and early 18th centuries, includes voluminous papers of Sarah, 1st duchess of Marlborough, and papers of George Savile, 1st marquess of Halifax. The literary papers include manuscripts of Garrick, Sheridan and Sterne, among them an episode from Tristram Shandy, and also unpublished letters of John Clare.

India Office Library and Records: European Manuscripts Section

Edward Thompson, typescript with manuscript revisions, and proofs of his novel, Farewell to India (London, 1931).

National Library of Scotland

The most notable accession since September to the Department of Manuscripts of the National Library of Scotland is a Book of Hours of the Use of Sarum, made ca 1500 in the Low Countries. Its interest lies in the fact that it was already in Scotland before the Reformation, and is therefore one of the small number of religious books to have survived the 16th century. In the 1670s it belonged to Robert Kirk, minister of Aberfoyle, a noted Celtic scholar, whose marginal annotations in both Gaelic and Scots add considerably to the importance of the volume.

National Library of Wales

The papers of Gwen John have been bought with the help of grants of £47,500 from the National Heritage Memorial Fund and £2,500 from the Friends of the National Libraries.

Bodleian Library

The papers of William Beckford (1759-1844), the author of Vathek and builder of Fonthill, were given by Blackwell's, in memory of Sir Basil Blackwell.

The 'Fitzwilliam Palladius' was assigned to the Bodleian by the Minister of Arts after being accepted by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue from the Trustees of the Fitzwilliam Chattels Settlement in satisfaction of Capital Transfer Tax. The manuscript contains an English verse translation of Palladius, which was made for Humfrey, duke of Gloucester, probably by his chaplain, Thomas Norton, about 1442-3.

Luton Museum

After being offered for sale at Sotheby's with forty-one other manuscripts from Lord Bute's collection (sale catalogue 13 June 1983, lot 19 was bought in at £80,000), the Luton Guild Book was bought by Luton Museum by private treaty sale with Lord Bute, as a result of a successful appeal for £80,000. The National Heritage Fund contributed £49,000 and the National Art Collections Fund, £10,000.

Modern Records Centre, University of Warwick Library

Papers and publications of Sir Ernest John Pickstone Benn, 2nd Bt (1875-1954), relating to his advocacy of individualism, rather than to his publishing house.

Collection of cuttings-books, 1914-53, thirteen diary binders, 1918-54, a file on the preparation of the biography Ernest Benn: Counsel for Liberty, and some papers relating to Lady Benn's public work (deposit made by the co-operation of the Benn family and Benn Brothers plc, a member of the Extel Group, which retains surviving publishing archives, through the good offices of the Business Archives Council).

Trinity College, Dublin

Red Book of Kildare: early sixteenth-century cartulary relating to family and estates of the earls of Kildare, c 1185-1519; together with calligraphic transcript of the Red Book made in 1633. Both volumes purchased at Sotheby's.

Graves family: correspondence, notebooks and diaries (mainly nineteenth-century); mathematical papers including William Rowan Hamilton material. Purchased from Bertram Rota Ltd.

Michael Davitt (1846-1906), founder of Irish National Land League: further correspondence, photographs, newspaper-cuttings; papers of fenian leader, James Stephens (1825-1901). Presented by Judge Cahir Davitt.

NATIONAL HERITAGE MEMORIAL FUND

In the current financial year, 1984-85, the Fund has again made substantial grants for the conservation and acquisition of manuscripts and archives. Besides the grant to the British Library for the Spencer papers, reported above (£128,398), grants to date are:- Borough of Luton, Luton Guild book (£49,000); Dove Cottage Trust, Wordsworth correspondence, etc, the Sir George Beaumont papers (£21,685); Royal Geographical Society, Sir Clement Markham papers (£16,185); British Architectural Library, Cockerell papers (£11,000); National Maritime Museum, Columbine collection (£45,000); Belfast, Queen's University, Edith Somerville papers (£1,250); the conservation work for the British Theatre Association continues (£548); National Library of Wales, Gwen John papers (£47,500).

RHODES HOUSE LIBRARY, OXFORD: COLONIAL ARCHIVES

Grants by the Overseas Development Administration and the Rhodes Trustees will allow the work of the Oxford Colonial Records Project and the Oxford Development Records Project to continue for at least three more years from July 1984. Work includes the completion of Development Records Project tasks in progress and approaches to the many former colonial officials whose papers have not yet been solicited, even after 21 years of active work. A special project relating to the history of the administration of Hong Kong is also planned. Details from the Administrative Officer, Mrs Ingrid Thomas, Oxford Colonial Archives Project, Rhodes House Library, South Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3RG (0865 55762).

LOCATION REGISTER OF TWENTIETH-CENTURY ENGLISH LITERARY MANUSCRIPTS AND LETTERS

This five-year project (1982-87), at the University of Reading, aims to list in computerized form all twentieth-century literary manuscripts available for public consultation in the British Isles, with provision for eventual publication. The second annual report, 1983-84, has been circulated. Progress to date indicates that

the project's original intentions should be fulfilled by the expected date of September 1987.

WELLCOME INSTITUTE FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

The substantial grant by the National Heritage Fund to the Wellcome Trust for the acquisition of the Medical Society of London Library was reported in Newsletter 10. The manuscripts in this collection number about 200 volumes, 14th-19th century. They are almost all recorded in Warren R Dawson, Materia Medica: a descriptive catalogue of the manuscripts in the library of the Medical Society of London (London, 1932). Grants from other sources for the purchase of the library, which also includes over 10,000 printed books, came from the Wolfson Foundation, the Hayward Foundation, the Pilgrim Trust and the Friends of the National Libraries.

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

Lincoln Cathedral Manuscripts

A new descriptive catalogue of the manuscripts at Lincoln Cathedral is being prepared by Dr R M Thomson of the Department of History, University of Tasmania. The catalogue is to be published for the Cathedral by Oxford University Press and will, it is hoped, appear in 1987 or 1988. As reported in Newsletter 9, the library's collection of medieval manuscripts and early printed books has been moved to Nottingham University Library while the Wren Library at Lincoln Cathedral is repaired.

Yelverton Manuscripts

The Department of Manuscripts, the British Library, is making available in the Students' Room, draft typescript descriptions, as they are compiled, of the Yelverton manuscripts (Add.Mss.48000-48196). These descriptions expand the summary list in the Catalogue of Additions, 1951-55 (1982). The Department would be very grateful for additions to the bibliography and for any other comments.

MANUSCRIPTS IN MICROFORM

Chadwyck-Healey have produced a new microfilm edition of the Draper Manuscripts relating to the 18th-century American frontier from the holdings of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin (123 reels plus calendars, documentaries and bibliography on microfiche, and printed guide; \$6,500). Individual series can be purchased separately. The Wisconsin progressives (366 reels and printed guide; \$16,500) consists of the papers of five major reformers in the 'Progressive era' 1850-1950. The National Inventory of Documentary Sources in the United States, Part 1, Federal Records: The National Archives, Smithsonian Institution Archives and the Presidential Libraries (\$3,950) was expected in November 1984.

Harvester Microform have issued further parts of Church, authority and power in medieval and early modern England: The Episcopal Registers, viz Pt 2, Registers of the Bishops of Lincoln, 1209-1663 (£890); pt 3, ... Coventry and Lichfield, Carlisle, Chester, and Durham ... c 1283-1672 (£550); pt 4, ... Salisbury, 1297-1689 (£500). Their medieval list is strengthened with the announcement of State papers medieval and other records: PRO Class SC1, Ancient correspondence, 1175-1538 (£730). New for the early modern period is Social and political affairs in the age of the Tudors: The Talbot papers from Lambeth Palace Library (£420). Publication continues of Politics and statecraft in early modern England: the main papers of the House of Lords, part 3, 1642-45, and part 4, 1645-48; the Complete State Papers Domestic:

Charles I, parts 7, 1640/42 - 9, 1649/52; and the selections from the Harleian (parts 7 and 8) and Rawlinson (part 3) collections.

Harvester's several new publications for the modern period include Liberty, reform and the politics of opposition: the Papers and correspondence of Charles James Fox, 1749-1806 (£680); Slave trade papers: Papers of Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton ... , 1786-1845, from Rhodes House Library, Oxford (£780); and Intrigue, power and influence in 19th century British politics: the Papers of Sir James Graham ... , parts 1-2 (£940 and £990). Papers of the Prime Ministers of Great Britain continues with Series 3, Lord Liverpool, part 3; and Series 4, The Papers of the Duke of Newcastle, parts 1-3 (£2,310). Publication of Home office papers and records from the PRO continue with Order and authority in England, (HO 42), part 6, 1813-15; and Civil disturbance, chartism, etc. (HO 45) part 2, 1847-76.

Recent additions to Harvester's Unpublished music manuscripts from the great English collections are Series 1, ... Bodleian Library, part 4, ... English music manuscripts before c 1850; Series 4, ... British Library, parts 3-4, English music manuscripts c 1640-c 1714; and Series 5, ... Royal College of Music, parts 3-5, Continental music manuscripts before c 1850, sects A-C.

Library of Congress Photoduplication Service have published a microfilm edition of the Papers of Felix Frankfurter (C-385); 165 reels, price c \$3,795.

University Publications of America, Inc, have begun publication of the Thomas A. Edison papers: a selective microfilm edition. Part 1, 1850-78 (28 reels; price \$1,650) is available now. A printed guide to part 1 will be available in February.

World Microfilms Publications have added the following to their collection of medieval manuscripts on microfilm: Trinity College, Cambridge: Mediaeval Manuscript Collection (£7,395 the set); The Winchester Bible and the Winchester Cathedral Manuscript Collection (together £240). Most recently they have produced Westminster Abbey Library: The Early Manuscript Collection (2 reels colour and 10 reels black and white; £275). They have extended their anti-slavery list with the Rhodes House Library, Oxford: Anti-Slavery Collection of unpublished manuscript material (60 reels; c £1,000).

The British Library Lending Division have issued a useful listing of Microform Research Collections at the BLLD. Of 183 sets held, approximately 45% can be classed as manuscripts or records. The list is available gratis from BLLD.

The Editors thank D J Munro, Institute of Historical Research, who has supplied this list.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

(The editors regret the inconsistent and sometimes incomplete description of titles; these come from a wide variety of sources, and it would have been excessively time-consuming to achieve a greater measure of consistency. Works not entered under the author's name are entered in the sequence alphabetically by title; exhibition catalogues are entered under name of city where held if editor or author not mentioned.)

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CORRESPONDENCE OF CHARLES DARWIN

A Calendar of the Correspondence of Charles Darwin, 1821-1882 (Garland Publishing Inc, New York and London, 1985, \$100, no sterling price yet available) has been published ahead of a complete edition of all the great scientist's correspondence. The Calendar, itself a major work of scholarship, summarizes the contents of nearly 14,000 letters to and from Darwin, with a biographical register and a comprehensive index. The first volume of the edition, to be published in February by Cambridge University Press, will contain both sides of the correspondence for the years 1821-1836, the major part of which relates to the Beagle voyage.

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