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List of medieval Cosin Manuscripts

Date range of material: late 11th - early 16th century

Durham University Library
May 2023

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Preface

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Introduction

Collection title: Cosin Manuscripts

Reference code: GB-0033-COM

Dates of creation: late 11th - early 16th century

Language of material: Latin; English, Middle (1100-1500); French, Middle (ca. 1300-1600)

Extent: 79 volumes

Repository: Durham University Library, Archives and Special Collections

Creator: medieval manuscripts presented to Bishop Cosin's Library

Contents

Medieval book manuscripts (in Latin, medieval French and Middle English) containing theological, liturgical, legal, literary, historical, medical, scientific, and culinary texts.

Bishop Cosin's Library

This collection forms part of Bishop Cosin's Library, Durham, which was founded in 1669 by John Cosin, Bishop of Durham, as an endowed public library. The library, still in its original building, now forms part of Durham University Library, and since 1937 the University of Durham has been its trustee.

Accession details

Most of the manuscripts were collected by John Cosin's chaplain George Davenport (d. 1677), Rector of Houghton-le-Spring, and were donated by him to the library in about 1670.

Arrangement

The manuscripts formed part of the original shelving layout of Bishop Cosin's Library, where the book cases are identified by letters and shelved by size. The larger volumes are kept on the bottom shelf (identified by Roman numeral i), decreasing in size as the shelves ascend. There were thus five shelves of manuscripts (V.i - V.v). The V sequence was later reused for printed books added to the library in the 18th or 19th centuries, which means that Cosin V.i.1 is a printed book, Cosin MS. V.i.1 is a manuscript.

Conditions of access

Open for consultation.

Copyright and copying

Permission to make any published use of material from the collection must be sought in advance from the Sub-Librarian, Special Collections (e-mail PG.Library@durham.ac.uk) and, where appropriate, from the copyright owner. The Library will assist where possible with identifying copyright owners, but responsibility for ensuring copyright clearance rests with the user of the material

Finding aids

The manuscripts in Bishop Cosin's Library were catalogued by Thomas Rud in the early 18th century: this was printed in 1838 as an appendix, p.136-191 to *Catalogi veteres librorum Ecclesiae Cathedralis Dunelm. Catalogues of the library of Durham Cathedral, at various periods, from the conquest to the dissolution, including catalogues of the library of the abbey of Hulne, and of the mss. preserved in the library of Bishop Cosin, at Durham*

Surtees Society, 7 (London: J. B. Nichols, 1838). Ian Doyle and Alan Piper worked on a catalogue of the medieval manuscripts in Durham University Library between 1950 and 2016 which has been used as the basis of the online catalogue descriptions attached to this list.

Form of citation

The form of citation should use the code GB-0033-COM, or the collection name Cosin MS, followed by the *reference number*

To order items in the searchroom, use the collection reference code(s), derived by removing the repository code (GB-0033-), followed by the reference number. Citing the section of the finding aid is useful.

Copies

Microfilmed in the mid 1980s by the Hill Monastic Manuscript Library.

Related material - here

Post-medieval manuscripts in Cosin's Library are catalogued separately

Cosin MS V.i.

Cosin MS V.i.1 later 12th century

Origen, *Homilies on the Old Testament* (Genesis-Ezekiel).

Language: Latin

Provenance: Written in England, showing scribal signs of Cistercian influence; owned by George Davenport, from whom it came to Bishop Cosin's Library.

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.i.2 mid 15th century

Breviary (York use), with some musical notation. Missing about half of the original

Language: Latin

Provenance: From Hutton Rudby church (North Yorkshire)

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.i.3 early 15th century

Breviary (Sarum use), with some musical notation.

Language: Latin

Provenance: Belonged to the church of St John the Baptist, Coltishall (Norfolk).

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.i.4 late 12th century

Peter Lombard, *In Psalmos*

Language: Latin

Provenance: Recorded as in Durham Priory Library in 1391 and 1416, it left there in unrecorded circumstances until it was acquired for Bishop Cosin's Library where it is recorded in 1663.

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.i.5 late 12th century

Peter Lombard, *Sententiarum libri iv*

Language: Latin

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.i.6 mid 13th century

Peter Lombard, *Sententiarum libri iv*

Language: Latin

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.i.7 mid 15th century

Roger Waltham, *Compendium morale*; etc.

Language: Latin

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.i.8 early 14th century

Anselm, *Similitudines Anselmi* and *De concordia presciencie et predestinacionis. et gracie dei sum libero arbitrio*; Augustine *De libero arbitrio* and *De verbis Domini et apostoli*.

Language: Latin

Provenance: Ownership inscription of Durham Priory monk Robert Graystones (d. 1334). How it left Durham Priory is not recorded but it was owned by George Davenport in 1663, from whom it came to Bishop Cosin's Library.

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.i.9 late 14th century
Giles of Rome, *Gouvernement des rois*
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.i.10 early 15th century
J. Mandeville, *Itinerarium*
Language: French, Middle (ca. 1300-1600)
Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.i.11 end 12th / early 13th century
Aelred of Rievaulx; Achard of St Victor
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.i.12 mid 15th century
Ephrem Syrus; etc.
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.i.13 end 14th / early 15th century
Bernardus, Rabbi Samuel, Origen, H. Suso, etc.
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.ii

Cosin MS V.ii.1 late 12th century

Old Testament, Numbers, glossed

Language: Latin

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.ii.2 later 12th century

Old Testament: Ruth - Esther, glossed. Aelred of Rievaulx: *Epistola de sermonibus*, *Sermo in adventu domini*, *Sermones De oneribus*. Augustine, *Contra Julianum*.

Language: Latin

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.ii.3 14th/15th century

Augustinus, Methodius

Language: Latin

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.ii.4 14th/15th century

Peter Aureolus; tabula patristica

Language: Latin

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.ii.5 early 14th century

Theological miscellanea, etc.

Language: Latin

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.ii.6 early 12th century

Symeon of Durham, *Historia Ecclesiae Dunelmensis*.

Language: Latin

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.ii.7 mid 14th century

William Peraldus, *Summa de vitiis*

Language: Latin

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.ii.8 mid 13th century

Sermons of Odo, Peter of Rheims, etc.

Language: Latin

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.ii.9 mid-late 13th century

Quaestiones theologicae

Language: Latin

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.ii.10

Other catalogues: Catalogued with post-medieval manuscripts

Cosin MS V.ii.11 late 14th century

Boethius, *De consolatione philosophiae*, with the commentary of Nicholas Trivet, etc.

Language: Latin

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.ii.12 early 15th century

G. de Columnis, Ps.-Turpin, etc.

Language: Latin

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.ii.13 mid 15th century

Chaucer, *Troilus and Criseyde* etc.

Language: English, Middle (1100-1500)

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.ii.14 mid 15th century

J. Lydgate, *Siege of Thebes* etc.

Language: English, Middle (1100-1500)

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.ii.15 later 15th century

Boethius, trans. J. Walton, *De consolatione philosophiae*

Language: English, Middle (1100-1500)

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.ii.16 mid 15th century

J. Lydgate, *Life of the Blessed Virgin Mary*.

Language: English, Middle (1100-1500)

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.ii.17 later 13th century

Anseis de Carthage, Ogier le Danois

Language: French, Middle (ca. 1300-1600)

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.ii.18

Other catalogues: Catalogued with post-medieval manuscripts

Cosin MS V.ii.19

Other catalogues: Catalogued with post-medieval manuscripts

Cosin MS V.iii

- Cosin MS V.iii.1 mid 12th century
Lawrence of Durham, *Works*.
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.iii.2 early 13th century
Sermons
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.iii.3 mid 14th century; later 12th century
Clement V, *Constitutiones*; Summae super Decretum
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.iii.4 13th/14th century
Boniface VIII, *Liber sextus decretalium* etc.
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.iii.5 mid 15th century
J. Mirk, *Festial*
Language: English, Middle (1100-1500)
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.iii.6 late 14th century
Lollard dialogue
Language: English, Middle (1100-1500)
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.iii.7 early 15th century
J. Mandeville, *Itinerarium* etc.
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.iii.8 early 15th century
Pseudo-Bonaventure
Language: English, Middle (1100-1500)
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.iii.9 1421 x 1426
Thomas Hoccleve, *Poems*
Language: English, Middle (1100-1500)
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.iii.10 mid-late 15th century; 14th/15th century
Medical, Astronomical, Grammatical texts.
Language: LatinEnglish, Middle (1100-1500)
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.iii.11 early 15th century
Recipes, etc.
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue

- Cosin MS V.iii.12 early 14th century
E. de Evesham, *Quadriologus* de T. Becket; etc.
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.iii.13 early 13th century
Pontificale, with some musical notation.
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.iii.14 mid 15th century
Ralph Ardens, *Sermones de tempore*
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.iii.15 mid 14th century
Jacobus de Cessolis, *Liber de ludo scaccorum*
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.iii.16 15th/16th century
Theological Miscellanea
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.iii.17 14th/15th century
Usuardus, *Martyrologium*
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.iii.18 early 14th century (post 1322)
Franciscan tracts on poverty
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.iii.19 early 15th century
R. Higden, *Polychronicon* extracts.
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.iii.20 mid 13th century
Isidorus, *Etymologiae*; W. Brito, *Vocabulari Bibliae*
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.iii.21 end of 14th century
Manuale of Sarum Use, with some musical notation
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.iii.22 early 14th century; 14th/15th century
Visio Thurkilli; Albertanus Brixiensis; etc.
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue

[Cosin MS V.iii.23] late 15th century

Rosary of the Virgin Mary.

Language: Latin

Ownership history: Cosin MS V.iii.23 was recorded as missing 1 July 1881; now British Library MS Egerton 1821, and catalogued as acquired in 1860, see British Library online catalogue or *Catalogue of Additions to the Manuscripts in the British Museum. 1854-1875*, ii, (1877), p. 889.

Access restrictions: Not held at Durham; now in British Library.

Cosin MS V.iii.24 mid 15th century

Doctrine of the Hert; Tree, and Fruits of the Holy Ghost.

Language: English, Middle (1100-1500)

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.iii.25

Other catalogues: Catalogued with post-medieval manuscripts

Cosin MS V.iii.26

Other catalogues: Catalogued with post-medieval manuscripts

Cosin MS V.iii.27

Other catalogues: Catalogued with post-medieval manuscripts

Cosin MS V.iii.28

Other catalogues: Catalogued with post-medieval manuscripts

Cosin MS V.iv

Cosin MS V.iv.1 15th century

Medical texts

Language: LatinEnglish, Middle (1100-1500)French, Middle (ca. 1300-1600)

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.iv.2 1477

Fasciculus Morum (abridged) etc.

Language: LatinEnglish, Middle (1100-1500)

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.iv.3 mid 15th century

Sunday sermons: Advent, Lent, Easter

Language: English, Middle (1100-1500)

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.iv.4 mid 15th century

Jan van Wackerzele, *Life of St Barbara*, etc.

Language: English, Middle (1100-1500)

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.iv.5 later 14th century

English statutes of Edward III

Language: French, Middle (ca. 1300-1600)Latin

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.iv.6 mid 15th century

Contemplations of the dread and love of God.

Language: English, Middle (1100-1500)

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.iv.7 mid 15th century

Astrological & Medical texts

Language: LatinEnglish, Middle (1100-1500)

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.iv.8 early 15th century

Medical recipes.

Language: English, Middle (1100-1500)

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.iv.9 earlier 15th century

J. de Hildesheim, *Historia trium regum*, etc.

Language: Latin

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.v

- Cosin MS V.v.1 end 14th century
New Testament, etc. in English
Language: English, Middle (1100-1500)
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.v.2 mid 15th century
A. de Insulis, etc.
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.v.3 end 13th century
Sermons
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.v.4 end 12th century; end 13th century
Sermons; Sententiae; Alfraganus; etc.
Language: Latin
- Cosin MS V.v.5 early 15th century
Book of Hours
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.v.6 end 11th century
Kyriale, Graduale, Tonale, etc.
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.v.7 mid 14th century
Synodalia
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.v.8 mid 12th century
Radulphus; Origen; Bernard
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue
- Cosin MS V.v.9 12th-15th century
Miscellanea
Language: LatinEnglish, Middle (1100-1500)French, Middle (ca. 1300-1600)
- Cosin MS V.v.10
Other catalogues: Catalogued with post-medieval manuscripts
- Cosin MS V.v.11
Other catalogues: Catalogued with post-medieval manuscripts
- Cosin MS V.v.12 15th/16th century
Devotional texts
Language: Latin
Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.v.13 end 15th century

Medical texts

Language: Latin English, Middle (1100-1500) French, Middle (ca. 1300-1600)

Cosin MS V.v.14 14th/15th century

Theological texts

Language: Latin

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.v.15 later 13th century - mid 15th century

Wm Rimington, Edmund Rich, Macer

Language: Latin

Cosin MS V.v.17 13th century

Bible

Language: Latin

Cosin MS V.v.18 13th century

Bible

Language: Latin

Other catalogues: Catalogue

Cosin MS V.v.19 early 16th century

Theological Miscellanea; St John of Bridlington.; etc.

Language: Latin