Guide to the Medieval manuscript fragments, ca. 850-1499

Department of Special Collections
Green Library
Stanford University Libraries
Stanford, CA 94305-6004
Phone: (650) 725-1022
Email: specialcollections@stanford.edu
URL: http://library.stanford.edu/spc
© 1999
The Board of Trustees of Stanford University. All rights reserved.
Guide to the Medieval manuscript fragments, ca. 850-1499

Collection number: M0389

Department of Special Collections and University Archives
Stanford University Libraries
Stanford, California

Contact Information
Department of Special Collections
Green Library
Stanford University Libraries
Stanford, CA 94305-6004
Phone: (650) 725-1022
Email: specialcollections@stanford.edu
URL: http://library.stanford.edu/spc

Processed by:
Sara Timby
Date Completed:
1984

© 1999 The Board of Trustees of Stanford University. All rights reserved.

Descriptive Summary
Title: Medieval manuscript fragments,
Date (inclusive): ca. 850-1499
Collection number: Special Collections M0389
Creator: Bliss, Philip, 1787-1857, collector.
Extent: 17 items (20 leaves).
Repository: Stanford University. Libraries. Dept. of Special Collections and University Archives.
Language: English.
Access Restrictions
None.
Publication Rights
Property rights reside with the repository. Literary rights reside with the creators of the documents or their heirs. To obtain permission to publish or reproduce, please contact the Public Services Librarian of the Dept. of Special Collections.
Provenance
Preferred Citation:
[Identification of item] Medieval manuscript fragments, M0389, Dept. of Special Collections, Stanford University Libraries, Stanford, Calif.
Alternative Formats
Some items have been reproduced photographically in the past. Items for which copy negatives are available are marked by a '+' this guide.
Biographical Note
Philip Bliss, Oxford antiquary, was one of the first collectors to recognize the historical and cultural importance of the medieval manuscript fragments. Most of the fragments came from the best known books of the Middle Ages; they survived intact in England until ca. 1520-70 at which time, particularly in Oxford and Cambridge, they were taken to pieces for use by binders as pastedowns, wrappers, fly leaves, and reinforcing strips.
Scope and Content
From England, France, Germany and Italy, these 17 fragments represent various scripts including Beneventan, Carolingian, Gothic and secretary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1       | **Glossarium. Eastern France, or Germany, 2nd half of 9th century.** +In Latin. A Carolingian glossary of Latin words with their variant definitions and uses; the arrangement is alphabetical. Sources cited in the margins make references to classical authors including Cicero, Virgil, and Isidore.  
**Note**  
Student research papers on this piece are available. |
| 2       | **Carolingian compilation on the Psalms. France, probably north of the Loire, 10th-11th century.** In Latin, two non-consecutive leaves containing 4 sequential texts. The text, or texts, are prefatory matter for a Psalter and include a hitherto unrecorded commentary on the Psalms, apparently of Carolingian authorship, and an early appearance of a prologue attributed to Bede or pseudo-Bede.  
**Note**  
Student research papers on this piece are available. |
| 3       | **Church music, diurnal. Germany, 2nd half of 10th or 1st half of 11th century.** Noted, temporal, including Offices for Holy Innocents (28 December) and St. Silvester (31 December), one entire bifolium, Caroline minuscule of 2 sizes.  
**Note**  
Student research papers on this piece are available. |
| 4       | **Liturgy. Ottonian sacramentary. Germany, 1st half of 11th century.** Temporal, readings for Quadragesima Sunday; a bifolium comprising one complete leaf and most of the second, written in late Carolingian minuscule.  
**Note**  
Missab, Votire Masses for Priest(s) |
| 5       | **Psalter. Southern Italy, 11th century.** In Latin, a bifolium containing part of Psalm 36; written in fine and developed Beneventan script of large size.  
**Note**  
Student research papers on this piece are available. |
| 6       | **Augustinus, Bishop of Hippo and Saint. Italy, 1st half of 12th century.** Tractatus in Johannem, a single complete leaf written in a beautiful large Carolingian script of 2 sizes. From an Augustine *Homilies,* with romanesque white-vine decoration.  
**Note**  
Student research papers on this piece are available. |
| 7       | **Grammar of the Latin language. England?, mid-12th century.** In Latin, 2 bifolia, written in a late Carolingian hand. The leaves deal with such grammatical phenomena as inchoative verbs, supines, and gerundives. Forms of *amo* are especially represented, but other verbs too are discussed. |
| 8       | **Church music, secular antiphoner. Central Italy, 12th century.** From the Office of Matins for the feast of the Conversion of St. Paul (25 January); one single folio in late Carolingian hand. |
| 9       | **Bible. O.T. Isaiah, chapters 33, 23-35, 1 with commentary from the Glossa Ordinaria.** England, first half of the 13th century. The Bible text is written in a single column of 27 lines with two columns of marginal and interlinear gloss, an angular gothic hand in three sizes. |
| Folder 10 | Church music, secular breviary. Central or northern France, middle to late 13th century. Noted, temporal, including from the office of St. John the Evangelist (27 December); a single complete folio written in a small gothic script. |
| Folder 12 | Interpretations of Hebrew Names, from a Latin Bible. Southwestern (?) France, ca. 1300. Part of the letter ‘J’; 3 columns finely written in brown ink in rounded gothic bookhand. |
| Folder 13 | Theological work, perhaps a commentary. Italy, 1st half of 14th century. In Latin, discussing 1 Peter 5.6 about humility; partial bifolium, written in a very cursive (highly tachygraphic) personal hand in brown ink. |
| Folder 14 | Venetian Guild of Rag Merchants Inventory. Venice, 1459. In Italian; a single leaf written in a square Italian book-hand. |

**Note**

Student research papers on this piece are available.

| Folder 15 | About the Proper Conduct of Monks. Germany or the Netherlands, mid-15th century. In Latin, perhaps from a work on virtues and vices; one complete bifolium, written in a gothic bookhand. |
| Folder 17 | Commentary on First Corinthians. England, 2nd half of 15th century. In Latin; one leaf written in a secretary hand. The text includes an account of an adulterer named Aldhelm, who lived in Leicestershire about 1450. |