

**155. Lawrence, Kansas, Kenneth Spencer  
Research Library Pryce MS P2A:1**  
(with 274 British Library Harley 3376 and  
392 Bodleian Library Lat. misc. a. 3)  
Fragment of an Alphabetical Glossary  
[Ker 240, Gneuss 436]

**HISTORY:** A single detached vellum leaf of an alphabetical glossary (in AB and ABC(D) order) of late 10c/early 11c; a large part of the glossary remains as BL Harley 3376 [274], beginning 'Abacus' to words beginning in "Fu" (ed. Oliphant 1966), and another leaf is in the Bodleian (Lat. misc. a. 3 [392]) containing words beginning in "In". Harley acquired MS 3376 in 1720 and Joscelyn, Parker's librarian, had underlined OE words, but such underlinings are not present on the separated leaves, indicating that the separation took place before he used Harley 3376. Cooke (1997) argues that the hand is from Worcester.

The Kansas and Bodleian leaves were part of the G. Libri sale at Sotheby's on 28 March 1859 and were purchased by Thomas Phillipps as lot 1118. They were acquired about 1946 by Philip and Lionel Robinson and sold in separate fragment-collections, one in 1953 to the Bodleian and this one in 1954 to Frank Glenn of Kansas City who sold it in the same year to the University of Kansas (Collins 1976: 45-46). Ker, in his *Cat.* (p. 313) of 1957, indicated this leaf was "untraced." In his "Supplement" of 1976 he implies that this leaf was edited by Oliphant, but in fact it was not and remains unedited, except for one gloss published by Napier (1900: no. 60) from the brief facsimile in the *Libri Catalogue* (1859: plate XXXVI).

Bodleian has flesh recto and Kansas has hair recto, indicating that the two sheets could have been conjugate. If so, they would have been inner leaves of the quire, probably 3 and 6. Oxford, verso, line 20 ends 'Insudandu(m)' and Kansas recto, line 1 begins 'In superu(m) mare.'

**CODICOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION:** A single half-sheet, 301 x 210 mm. at widest point but much torn and abraded; a large hole (about 25 x 15 mm.) impinges on the main text of both sides at lines 8-9, and there are several

creases and stains that cause difficulty with the text. Its dimensions are quite different from those of the much trimmed-down Harley 3376 (212 x 140/148 mm.) and more in line with the Bodleian fragment (299 x 205 mm). The hair side is the recto. The internal evidence presents a difficulty, since the recto ends with the item 'Istingu(m)' and the verso begins a new paragraph with 'Inter kalares' and runs to 'Inter pe[cc]ata rep(ro)bata'; but the alphabetization of the Harley glossary is not perfect. The straight edge shows a binding crease (edge turned in towards the hair, recto, side) and sewing holes; the Oxford leaf has the straight edge, with the narrower border, as the inner side of the leaf and this accords with the alphabetization of its entries.

The main text space is ruled by dry-point from the hair side with double bounding lines extending up and down to the edges, writing area 200 x 101 mm., ruled for 20 long lines of main text leaving ample space for planned interlinear glosses (21 lines of writing on recto, 20 on verso); this text area is off-set towards the straight edge so that the margin on the straight side is about 38 mm wide (the text area is slightly at an angle to the page) and the opposite margin is about 75 mm at the widest point (at line 7). Two columns of glosses are written on the wider margin (outside) and one on the narrow (inside), both sides. The same layout is to be seen on the Oxford leaf. Marginal areas unlined and written in 38 lines with additional text in bottom margin; individual marginal glosses are preceded by the mark "SS".

The main text is in dark brown ink with large capitals shaded in a lighter brown. The same hand has written most of the Latin-OE interlinear and marginal glosses but other hands have supplied occasional glosses on the sides and bottom.

The parchment is limp, bright on the hair ('In superu(m) mare') side, somewhat stained (perhaps with a thin paste or glue) on the ragged edge, on both sides, but does not appear to have been pasted down entirely. Similar stains on the flesh side, which is somewhat dirty and rubbed, with some places nearly illegible. Collins surmises "may have been used in a bookbinding, possibly as a pastedown or for padding," but it does not seem to be gluey enough for a pastedown; perhaps served as a wrapper (Ker, *Cat.*: 313) or flyleaf. Its condition is almost identical to that of the Bodleian fragment, and it is reasonable to assume that both were recovered from the front and back of the same volume and used in similar ways.

The Libri lot number '1118' appears in pencil at the top and bottom of the hair side, and the Spencer Library mark, 'MS Pryce P2A:1' is at the bottom of the hair side. Lines 11-12 of the flesh side have been enclosed in a penciled

"balloon": these lines are depicted in a (hand-drawn) facsimile in the Libri catalogue of 1859 (plate XXXVI).

### CONTENTS:

Recto / hair, line 1: 'In superu⟨m⟩ mare. (gl.: 'i⟨d est⟩ adriaticu⟨m⟩ mare'); lines 6–21 (beginning of division): 'Istic; Istinc; Istuc. (gl.: 'huc') Isica (gl.: 'tyndern. ⟨ue⟩l mearhgehæc') . . . Istingu⟨m⟩ i⟨dest⟩ satirion' (gl.: 'sus-citatrix. no⟨men⟩ herbe').

Flesh / verso lines 1–20: (beginning of division) 'Inter kalares; Inter nuntius; . . . Inter pe[cc]ata rep⟨ro⟩bata'.

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