

274. London, British Library Harley 3376

(with **392** Oxford Bodleian, Lat. Misc. a. 3 f. 49

and **155** Lawrence, Kenneth Spencer

Research Library Pryce MS P2A:1)

“The Harley Glossary”

[Ker 240, Gneuss 436]

HISTORY: A fragment (92 remaining leaves + two dispersed single leaves) of an extensive and advanced alphabetical glossary (ABC[D] order) running from “A” to “F” and containing 5563 entries glossed in Latin and OE, about a third of the glosses being OE (Oliphant 1966:11–12); if it was ever completed it contained well over 20,000 items: Oliphant (1966: 12) estimates that it was once a third larger than the Corpus glossary. Written in the late 10c/early 11c, most probably at Worcester, since it contains an early ME poem in Western dialect in the margins of ff. 16rv–17r (Stemmler 1977), perhaps in the hand of the 13c Worcester “Tremulous Hand” (Franzen 1991: 17, 73–74; Cooke 1997: 446). A contemporary “Celtic” gloss, ‘corupeta’ (guohi|oc), on f. 43r/2 (not in the hand of the main scribe) may also indicate a Western provenance (cf. Schlutter 1908: 521). The single hand responsible for the main text and secondary glosses was identified by Ker (*Cat.* lvii) as the same as that of BL Cotton Vespasian D. xv [246], ff. 102–21 (Amalarius, excerpts from “De ecclesiasticis officiis”), and Gneuss (List, no. 386) wondered if this hand did not also write BL Cotton Vespasian B. x [242], ff. 31–124 (Aethicus, “Cosmographia”), a book associated with Worcester. It appears to be a compiler’s original copy, consisting of a core of earlier A-S glossary items as seen in the Corpus Glossary, Cambridge, Corpus Christi College MS. 144 [31] (Pheifer 1974: xxxv–xxxvi) supplemented by original items culled from standard school texts (Cooke 1997a: 454–67).

Manuscript was used by John Joscelyn, Matthew Parker’s librarian, who underlined and counted OE words on each page; his extracts from this manuscript are in Lambeth Palace MS 692, f. 34r. Came to the Harleian collection from Warburton in 1720, who according to Ker (*Cat.* 309) acquired it from William Howard of Naworth, along with Harley 2965 [271], Harley 3013 [272], Harley 3825 [276].

Two dispersed leaves containing "T" words are extant, both abstracted before the notations of Joscelyn; one leaf is at Oxford, Bodleian Lat. Misc. a. 3, f. 49 [392] and one leaf at Lawrence, Kansas, Kenneth Spencer Research Library Price MS P2A:1 [155].

CODICOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION: Ff. iii + 94 + iii. An irregularly constructed book, though the writing is clear, expert, and elegant. Parchment variable, generally a bright orangeish-beige, some leaves stiff and thick, others thin and tissue-like, many hair sides showing prominently the skin/pore patterns. Ff. 19–26 (quire III) and ff. 81–94 (quire XI) are irregular sheets, the latter especially short and unevenly trimmed at the bottoms, the gap filled out with 19c paper spacers projecting out from the spine about 7mm. and about 18 mm. high; many other leaves have sporadic minor irregularities. Largest full leaves measure about 212/13 x 140/45 mm. with outer and bottom edges irregularly trimmed on many leaves.

[**Note:** The Oxford and Kansas leaves are much larger (Oxford ca. 299 x 205 mm. but the bottom has been torn off; Kansas 301 x 210 mm.). The main writing areas on the Oxford and Kansas leaves are off-center (and somewhat narrower and higher than in Harley), leaving more gloss space on the outer margins: these have been filled in with two columns of glosses on the outer margin and one on the inner. The detached leaves are more intensively worked over than any of the Harley ones. Oxford and Kansas are scored for 20 lines and written in 20 or 21 (main text). The detached leaves are more heavily glossed and may represent a different layout in a different stage of compilation, as apparently does f. 53r in Harley (see below), and as does also quire XI, of smaller page-size, the only part with OE included as part of the main text, and with glosses regularly in the inside margin. *Pace* Cooke (1997b: 450) there is no physical evidence in Harley that any of its marginal glosses have been trimmed off or that anything has been lost from the bottom of the writing areas on any pages: the remaining margins are fairly wide and for many pages together virtually blank, quite unlike the crowded state of the Oxford and Kansas margins. Oxford and Harley were probably conjugate as 3 and 6 sheets of their quire; see the Kansas description [155].]

Lightly scored with a dry point, 13 or 14 lines on ff. 1–3r, 19 or 20 (quires III–V), 15 or 16 lines on ff. 42v–94 (quires VI–XI), 18 or 19 lines on ff. 3v–18v; lines widely separated to allow for the interlinear gloss; double bounding lines on ff. 1–18 (quires I–II), single in the rest. Writing area 165 x 90 mm.; the main glossary is written in continuous long lines, the writing usually going over the boundary on the right. Anglo-Caroline for Latin, Insular for OE. Dark brownish ink, no decoration except for the serified large initials beginning

each new AB section; in much of the "D" section, capital 'D's are filled in with reddish wash. In the main gloss, the lemma and most Latin glosses are written in large script, widely spaced, lemma and glosses usually separated by a point; Latin and OE glosses are interlined sporadically but thickly throughout; in quire XI many OE glosses are written as part of the main text. Latin and OE are usually carefully distinguished and the script sometimes aids in the identification of which language an obscure word is in (but some OE words are written in Caroline, cf. Oliphant 1966: 14). Added gloss at f. 64r/2, brown ink, by main hand? On f. 53ra-b/1 there is a double-columned format and part of a "Z" series, cancelled; the "D" series continues from f. 52v after a space on f. 52rb/3 (see below).

Nearly effaced 13c ME verses (mostly visible with UV light) on bottom margin of f. 16r, top margins of 16v-17r, written in crayon or pencil (Franzen 1991: 73). Franzen, with some hesitation, assigns this to the "Tremulous Hand" of Worcester (1991: 73-74).

An early modern hand (Joscelyn) has underlined OE words and noted the number of OE words at the bottom outside corners of each page. Water damage on tops of leaves after f. 68 (quires IX, X, XI).

The binding is the standard 19c maroon leather Harley binding, with Harley arms.

COLLATION: iii + 94 + iii. Front: 2 19c paper flies + 1 older paper fly; I⁶⁺² 1 & 2 singletons wrapped around quire and projecting after 8; arranged HH/HFHF (ff. 1-8); II¹⁰ (ff. 9-18); III⁸ 2 or 3 & 6 half-sheets (ff. 19-26); IV-V⁸ (ff. 27-42); VI⁸⁺¹ 5 added half-sheet, flesh in (ff. 43-51); VII⁸ 1 & 8 half-sheets (ff. 52-59); VIII⁸ (ff. 60-67); IX⁸⁺¹ 9 added irregular half-sheet, hair in, wrapped around quire with tag projecting before 1 (ff. 68-76); X⁴ (ff. 77-80); XI¹⁴ (ff. 81-94); back: 1 old paper fly + 2 19c flies.

[Note: In III 3 & 6 are not a contiguous sheet and a tag projects between 3 & 4, but a tag cannot be seen on the other side of the quire. III and XI are made up of irregularly-sized leaves; the gap at the bottom of the quire left by the shortness of the leaves of XI has been relieved by modern paper spacers, about 18 mm. high, bound into the bottom of the spine. IX and X, and to a lesser extent XI are marked by water damage coming in from the top.]

CONTENTS:

1. ff. 1r-94v Latin-Latin-OE Glossary, arranged in ABC(D) order: 'Abacus i{dest} mensa pingentis. stilus. tabula. | u{e}l uirga geometricalis'; ends

imperfectly: 'Future mercis towardes gestreones. | Fu. g⟨rece⟩ paru⟨m⟩
u⟨el⟩ faru⟨m⟩' (ed. Oliphant 1966; lemmata with OE glosses ed. Wright
1884: 1.194–247).

[**Note:** The main text glosses in Latin (sometimes in OE in quire XI). The glossary is arranged in paragraphs, a new paragraph beginning when the third letter of a word moves to a later letter of the alphabet (Derolez 1970: 149; Cooke 1997b: 451). A secondary interlinear gloss by the same hand, obviously a part of the original plan of the book, is in Latin and OE; unevenly, as material required, the compiler has added in the margins Latin-Latin additions to the main gloss from various sources that were probably intended to be incorporated in a re-copying. They are distinguished from the secondary Latin and OE glosses because they maintain, in smaller writing, the hierarchy of capitals that distinguishes the main glossary. The opening is disturbed: it begins with "Ab"-words, skips at bottom of 1v (line 14) to 'Argum⟨en⟩tu⟨m⟩' and the same or similar hand in smaller writing squeezes in "A" words not in AB-order in 5 irregular lines; the first two leaves are singletons and probably some leaves are missing between them. F. 2r begins with 'Adseruator', the page blank to about line 11, with 'Bastastor' apparently holding the place for "B"-words. The alphabetization of "B" words is more advanced: the batches are arranged "Ba", "Be", etc; then "B" plus succeeding consonants, etc.; in this it resembles the "Affatim" glossary (Stein 1985: 23). After "B" the text proceeds more or less normally until f. 53r, which is, uniquely, in two columns and has 17 "Zo" words entered and cancelled. "De" continues in sequence on the second column to the end of the page and then takes up the long-line format again overleaf. This quire (VII⁸) consists of three inner bifolia, completed by added half-sheets as 1 and 8; perhaps the scribe reused part of a discarded quire that was written in an abandoned trial in double-column format.]

2. ff. 16r, 16v, 17r "Poem of the Passion" in early 13c ME: 'In on efnigge . . .
min heorte biginneth to colden uor sunn[. . .]' (ed. Stemmler 1977: 411).

[**Note:** Starts in outer margin opposite 16r/8 and continues to bottom, 26 unruled lines of writing, taking up all the available space, continuing on the upper margins of ff. 16v and 17r, 3 lines of unruled writing across the whole top.]

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