

318. London, Lambeth Palace 489

Homilies

[Ker 283, Gneuss 520]

HISTORY: Lambeth 489, like the first part of London, BL, Cleopatra B. xiii [185] and the first part of Cambridge, Corpus Christi College 421 [59], is written by Exeter scribes associated with Bishop Leofric, who moved the see from Crediton to Exeter during his bishopric (1046–1072). The manuscript was in the hands of Archbishop Parker in early modern times in view of the table of contents on f. [iii] recto (where the first three items are related to page numbers in an unknown manuscript) and the script of the catchwords on the first two quires. A second table of contents on f. [v] verso is written in ink in two hands. The manuscript spent some time in Cambridge University Library in view of the oldest of three pressmarks visible on f. [ii] verso, #J.Θ.24, which presumably dates from 1646–1662, when the Lambeth manuscripts were at Cambridge (see Ker, *Cat.*, 346). The manuscript was repaired and the leaves restored to their right order in June 1937, according to a penciled note on f. [i] recto.

CODICOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION: Leaves measure 191 x 118 mm., with a written space of 169 x 85 mm. Ff. 1–24 are ruled in drypoint for 19 lines; ff. 20–58 are ruled for 25 lines per page, although covering the same written area. Ff. 20–24 accordingly contain traces of two lineations. When the second scribe took over, he first retained the practice of writing 19 lines per page up to f. 21r, then switched to writing 25 lines per page on f. 21v. The top and bottom two lines and double bounding lines on each side extend across the page. The parchment, arranged HFHF, is somewhat browned and has been subject to fairly considerable repair. Text has been lost at the edges of leaves. Some damage may date from the time of compilation: at the foot of f. 26v, and at a slight angle to the lines, is the mirror impression of traces of the text from the top of f. 27r. Since this is the middle of a quire, these pages must have been allowed to bleed onto each other when the leaves were unbound.

Leaves are foliated in ink on the top right, with points around the numbers, and with corrected (?) last digits of 55, 56, and all of 57 pasted onto the parchment. The first two quires were misbound until the correct order was restored in June 1937, and both tables of contents and the original foliation reflect the misbinding. On each verso from ff. 1v–10v and on 12v and 16v, a 16c hand imitating Insular minuscule has added catchwords at the end of the page to establish the correct order of the text and to supply words from the final line obscured by mending of the parchment towards the gutter. Small portions of text are also added in ink on the right side of lower lines on the rectos from ff. 7r–10r and 12r to supply letters obscured by the mending of the parchment on the gutter side, and at the top of f. 9v. Ff. 1–16 now bear corrected folio numbers in pencil. Penciled quire signatures are evident at the beginning of Quires III, VI, and VIII on the lower right margin of the opening recto; further examples may be obscured by mends to the parchment at this point.

The text is written in multiple hands. Ker (*Cat.*, 345) suggested five different hands: (1) ff. 1r/1–20r/19; (2) ff. 20v/1–24v/20; (3) ff. 25r/1–31r/1; (4) ff. 31r/2–46v/25; (5) ff. 47r/1–58v/2. Bishop (1954–1958: 198) considered a single scribe responsible for ff. 1–20r and 25–end (less three lines on f. 53v). Distinctions among hands are slight and obscured by the change in size from f. 21v, but Ker's account is probably correct, with hand 4 writing a more scratchy version of the script. The shift between hands 3 and 4 is confirmed by the squeezing in of text on ff. 30v and 31r, described below, which shows that ff. 31r/2–38/5 were already begun by scribe 4 before scribe 3 finished his stint. The shift between hands 4 and 5 is hard to localize precisely. Hand 1 (or the more extensive contribution described by Bishop) also wrote the Exeter additions to Cambridge, Corpus Christi College 421 [59] (i.e., pp. 3–94 and 209–24), and closely resembles the hand of Cambridge, University Library Ii.2.4 [99], according to Bishop (1954–1958: 198). Hand 3 is seen by Ker as “closely similar to and perhaps identical with the hand of Cleop. B xiii [f. 58r/13–58v/11]” [185] (*Cat.*, 345). Rubrics were written in a metallic red which has faded to silvery black; enlarged initial letters at the start of each item are written either in this red or in green (the latter used on ff. 25r and 38r).

Lambeth 489, which is quite slim, may have once been joined to Cleopatra B. xiii, part 1, as suggested by Ker (*Cat.*, 345) and accepted by Clemons/Godden/Pope (see Pope 1967–1968: 33–4) and by Scragg (1979: 255), who give the pair of manuscripts a single siglum. Bishop's suggestion adds the Exeter portions of CCCC 421 as a possible companion volume or part of the same volume.

COLLATION: v + 58 + vi leaves, foliated [i-v], 1-58, [59-64]. I-V⁸ (ff. 1-40), VI⁶ (ff. 41-46), VII⁸ (ff. 47-54), VIII⁴ (ff. 55-58).

[**Note:** Ff. [i], [iii-v], and [60-64] are paper flyleaves, while [ii] and [59] are parchment. The stub of a parchment binding fragment with double-columned Latin text in a Gothic hand is visible between ff. [v] and 1 and between ff. [63] and [64]; the earlier stub reveals three lines of text while the later reveals four and includes glosses on the recto. The old foliation corresponding to new ff. 1-16 runs: 11-16, 10, 2-9; from 17 on, old and new foliations coincide.]

CONTENTS:

1. ff. 1r/1-11v/9 Ælfric, "Catholic Homilies" (= CH) I.2: **VIII. K(A)L-
⟨ENDAS⟩ IANUARI NATIUITAS D(OMI)NI.** | 'WE WYLLAÐ
TO TRYMMIN|GE EOWRES GELEAFAN' (ed. Thorpe 1844: 28-44;
Clemoes 1997: 190-97).
2. ff. 11v/10-20r/19 Ælfric, CH I.15: **DOMINICA PASCHA.** | 'Maria
magdalene & maria iacobi. | OFT GE GEHYRDON YMBE ÐÆS
HÆLEN|des ærist' (ed. Thorpe 1844: 220-28; Clemoes 1997: 299-306).
3. ff. 20v/1-24v/20 Ælfric, CH I.36: **K(A)L⟨ENDAS⟩ NOUEMBRIS
NAT(A)L⟨E⟩ OMNIUMS(AN)C(T)ORUM.** | 'Halige lareowas ræd-
don þ(æt) seo geleaf|fulle gelaðung' (ed. Thorpe 1844: 538-48; Clemoes
1997: 486-96).
4. ff. 25r/1-31r/2 **SERMO AD POPULUM DOMINICIS DIEBUS** |
'L(eofan men) US bisceopum 7 eallum mæssepreostu(m) | is swiðe deope
beboden' (ed. Napier 1883: 291-99, no. 57). [The abbreviation 'L(eofan
men)' expanded by a later hand. Two additional lines of text are squeezed
in to complete the homily, one beneath the lineated space on f. 30v, one
above the lineation on f. 31r.]
5. f. 31r/3-38/5 Revised version of Ælfric, CH I.19, adapted as described by
Ker, *Cat.*, 344: 'SE HÆLEND CRIST. SYÐÐAN HE TO ÐISUM LIFE
| com' (ed. Thorpe 1844: 258-74; Clemoes 1997: 325-34). [A neat early-
modern hand has squeezed a rubric onto f. 31r/2 in small letters: 'In aliis
Codicibus Rubrica i(dem) Homiliæ est | FERIA .III. DE DOM(INI)-
C(A) ORATIONE'.]
6. ff. 38/6-44v/10 Composite homily drawing on Ælfric, CH II.40 adapted and
augmented as described by Ker, *Cat.*, 345: **IN DEDICATIONE AEC-
CL(ESI)Æ.** | 'MINE GEBROÐRA ÐA LEOFESTAN WE WYLLAÐ
| sume tihtendlice spræce' (ed. Godden 1979: 335-37 and 344-45, ll. 1-73
and 293-317).

7. ff. 44v/11–51r/1 **ALII** [corr. from **ALIA**] **IN DEDICATIONE AECCL(ESI)E**. | ‘VS IS ON ÐISUM DÆGE TO WURÐIGENNE | þises temples symbelnys. for þa(m) ðe hit | is gehalgod gode to lofe’ (ed. Brotanek 1913: 15–27, no. 2).
8. ff. 51r/2–58v/2 Ælfric, homily on the dedication of a church: **ALI(A) SERMO DE DEDICATIONE AECCL(ESI)AE** | ‘LUCASSE GODSPELLERE AWRÁT ON ÐÆRE | þriddan cistes béc’ (ed. Brotanek 1913: 3–15, no. 1) [f. 58v/3–25 blank except for library stamp].

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