

90. Cambridge, Trinity College, O.3.7 (1179)

Boethius, "De consolatione philosophiae", with gloss
[Ker 95* (Addenda, p. lxiii), Gneuss 193]

HISTORY: A distinguished copy of the "Consolatio" with apparatus of lives, glosses, metrical treatises, pictures, decorated initials, hierarchical script, etc. The text of Boethius in a hand of s. x² (Keynes 1992: 22) is accompanied by a full Latin gloss of the revised Remigian type T (Courcelle 1939: 12-51 and 1967: 405; Bolton 1977a: 382; 1977b: 40); this gloss is "almost, but not quite, identical with Remigius' own text" (Beaumont 1981: 290), written in a contemporary hand. There is an elaborate system of reference marks keying the gloss to the text.

The manuscript is No. 993 in the late 15c catalogue of the library of St Augustine's, Canterbury, compiled ca. 1495 (second folio 'limen'; James 1903: 302). It was given to Trinity College by Roger Gale (1672-1744), Fellow of Trinity and a Yorkshire antiquarian, in 1738.

CODICOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION: Ff. [ii] + 52 + [iii]. Page size, 292 x 215 mm. Writing area ruled 230 x 135 mm., 28 lines to the page, mostly long lines, but the majority of metres are in two columns (e.g., Bk. 1 met. 2, 'Heu quam p(er)cipiti mersa p(ro)fundo', starts in long lines at f. 3r/8, but goes into two columns at f. 3r/11a). Leaves arranged in quire \dot{I} HHFH, in the rest HFHF. Foliated at top right rectos in modern pencil, '1-52'. At beginning and end two paper flyleaves, attached to binding stubs.

Hand of s. x², proses in English Caroline minuscule, meters in rustic capitals. Ink varies from brown to black, with red for initial capitals, some touched with yellow. The red ink becomes silvery towards the end of the book. The initial letter of each verse is normally red (occasionally black), often filled with yellow. Capitals: f. 2r/3 (beginning of Bk. 1) 'C': two birds' heads, black with red and filled with yellow; f. 9r/3 (beginning of Bk. 2) 'P': black, with red bird and beast heads, the bow of the 'P' filled with yellow; f. 31r/16 (beginning of Bk 4) 'H', three heads, one bird, one beast, one indeterminate, black with red lines, filled with yellow-brown, poorly designed and executed (see Keynes 1992). The capitals on f. 2r and f. 31r are of Wormald's Type II; Gameson

(1992: 136-37) points out that it is unusual for initials of this type to be colored. The beginnings of Bks. 3 (f. 17v/12) and 5 (f. 43r/7) are marked by large, but not zoomorphic, initials.

Illustrations: f. 1r has a line drawing, in black ink touched with red, of a female figure, doubtless Philosophia; f. 24v, bottom right hand corner, a diagram of the four elements and four humours ('t(er)ra'; rubbed and hard to read). The hand of the caption is different from the hands of text or gloss; f. 42r, bottom margin, a crude human figure has been scratched in drypoint.

Binding of 18c-19c, brown leather, tooled round edge. Inside front cover the following class marks: 'H. 20 | No: 334 | O. 3. 7,' and below them 'O. 10. 24', cancelled. On recto of first paper flyleaf, 'H. 20', cancelled. On f. 1v, 'B. 10. 24', cancelled, and a paper Trinity College bookplate.

At f. 14v, left hand margin, the MS has been neatly repaired with gauze, at some cost to the legibility of the gloss. On f. 18, at 18r/7-8 right hand margin, there are two neat slits, and the vellum is creased.

OE GLOSSES: Two OE glosses in a fairly similar pale brown ink, in a hand of 11c (pr. Meritt 1945: 12):

f. 14r/22	contum	segelgerd
f. 28r/5	corticem	rinde

[**Note:** The first 'g' in 'segelgerd' is Caroline in form, the second Insular; the fact, therefore, that 'segelgerd' has long "r," 'rinde' the Caroline form is not decisive for the question of whether or not the two glosses are in the same hand, but the hands are probably different.]

COLLATION: I-V⁸ (ff. 1-40); VI¹² 5 and 8 singletons (ff. 41-52); two paper flyleaves at beginning and at end, attached to binding stub. Modern pencil quire signatures, bottom right rectos of first leaf of each quire.

CONTENTS:

f. 1r full-length figure of Lady Philosophy [brown ink, red highlights].

- f. 1v-2r (top four lines) "Lives of Boethius III, II, IV, V": 'Boetius iste de familia fuit mallii torquati nobilissimi uiri'; ends: 'ubi suam et romanorum defl& (*recte* defendit) libertatem' (cf. Pieper 1871: xxxi-xxxv; cf. Troncarelli 1987: 210).
- f. 2r-51r Revised Gloss of Remigius of Auxerre (entered before, after and in margins and interlines of main text): begins in left margin: 'carmina dicta | q(uo)d carptim po|nantur i(d est) partim | scandendo

legant(ur)' (in 'partim' the scribe has inadvertently used the insular form of τ), on right: 'ANIKOS g(rece) inuictus lat(ine)'; ends in outer margin on f. 51r: 'Necessitas non solum de re ... qualiter lib(er)o utimur arbitrio | a se nobis dato' (cf. the excerpts pr. Steward 1916: 26-42; Silk 1935: 312-43).

3. ff. 2r-51v Boethius: "De consolatione philosophiae" (ed. Pieper 1871, Bieler 1957, Moreschini 2000):

ff. 2r-9r/2 Book 1: **INCIPIT LIBER PRIMUS ANICII MANILII SEUERINI | BOETII EXCONS(ULIS) ORD(INIS) PATR(ICII) DE C(ON)SOLATIONE PHILOS(OPHIAE) | 'CARMINA QUI QUONDAM STUDIO FLORENTE P(ER)EGI'** [the first line of the text is written in alternating very large and relatively tiny capitals; proses in Anglo-Caroline minuscule, meters in rustic capitals influenced by uncial; the 4th meter (f.4r/25-4v/5) is marked with *positurae*].

ff. 9r/2-17v/11 Book 2: 'Post haec paulisp(er) obticuit'.

ff. 17v/12-31r/15 Book 3: 'Iam cantum illa finiuerat'.

ff. 31r/15-43r/6 Book 4: 'Haec cum phylo(so)phia dignitate uultus'.

f. 43r/6-51v/22 Book 5: 'Dixerat. orationisque cursum ad alia quaedam tractanda'; ends 'Om(n)is enim creatura mutabit: d(eu)s aut(em) simplex et ideo | immutabilis.' **EXPLICIT LIBER. ANICII. MANILI. SEUERINI | BOETII. EXCONSULIS. ORD(INIS). PATR(ICII) DE CONSOL(ATIONE) PHIL(OSOPHIAE) | Δ(H)Ω. ΓΡΑΘΥΑΚ. AMEN** ["deo gratias, amen" in Greek uncial capitals].

[**Note:** the standard text of the "Consolation" ends with the words "agitis iudicis cuncta cernentis," which appear here at f. 51r/22. The text continues with sentences on Trinitarian doctrine, showing no indication of a break or addition: 'est enim d(eu)s pat(er) [ex] quo om(ni)a | et un(us) unigenitus d(omi)n(u)s n(oste)r ie(su)s chr(istu)s. . . .' The text f. 51r/22-51v/1 'est enim d(eu)s ... usus i(n) mu|nere' is a version of Hilary of Poitiers, "De Trinitate" 2.1 (PL 10.50-51); f. 51v/2-11 'Qua p(ro)p(ter) illud pr(e)cipue . . . sed unus magnus' is from Augustine, "De Trinitate" 5.8 (PL 42.916-17); f. 51v/11-15 'Est aut(em) sapientia equal(is) ... de illo est et ipsa dilectio' is from *ibid.* 6.5 (PL 42.928); f. 51v/15-20 'Anima enim in uno q(u)oque corpore. . . D(eu)s aut(em) simplex et ideo | immutabilis', seems adapted freely from *ibid.* 6.6 (PL 42.929). Among A-S copies, this spurious ending is found also in El Escorial, Real Biblioteca E. II. I [129a], f. 117r/21-117v (early 11c, from Horton, Dorset, Benedictine nunnery of St. Wolfrida).]

4. ff. 51v/23–52r/2 “Life of Boethius IV”: ‘Querī aut(em) a nonullis solet cui(us) temporib(us) boeti(us) fuerat’ (ed. Pieper 1871: xxxiii; cf. Troncarelli 1987: 210).
5. ff. 52r/3–52v/22 Commentary on Boethius’ metrical forms, attributed to Lupus of Ferrières, “De metris Boeti libellus”, begins: ‘Primum itaq(ue) genus carminis elegiacum e(st)’; ends: ‘in metris iambicis trochaicis & anapes [...] per duplices | [three words] comp[...] ve’ (cf. Pieper 1871: xxv–xxvii; Brown 1976).
6. f. 52v/24–30 Epitaph of Elpis: **EPIAPHIUM** [sic] **HELPIS CONIUGIS** | ‘Helpes dicta fui siclæ regionis alumna ... Et socius uite [three words] comp[...]ve’

PHOTO NOTES: The commentary is often lost in the gutter of the tight binding. On f. 52v, No. 6, the Epitaph, has been treated with reagent and is hard to read; cf. Cominus 1721: 142. An improved image is included on a supplementary fiche.

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