

PREFACE

Anglo-Saxon Manuscripts in Microfiche Facsimile provides students and scholars with a fundamental tool in the field of Anglo-Saxon studies. The project aims to produce complete microfiche facsimiles of the nearly five hundred manuscripts containing Old English. Each issue or volume presents facsimiles and descriptions of about ten manuscripts prepared by one or more scholars. The facsimiles are in most cases produced from existing film stock provided by the holding libraries. New photography is limited to those manuscripts not yet photographed or poorly photographed. The images are up to the standards expected of good microfilm reproduction. Each description provides in brief compass the manuscript's history, codicological features, a collation, a detailed list of contents, and a selected bibliography. The descriptions are intended to be used with the photographic images to maximize their usefulness to scholars who do not have immediate access to originals or who may be unacquainted with the manuscript and its scholarship.

Manuscripts are reproduced *in toto*, even though the post-Anglo-Saxon material that is found as part of many of them may demonstrate no immediate or ultimate relationship with Anglo-Saxon interests. To have edited the facsimiles, presenting only confirmed Anglo-Saxon parts, might have eliminated important material to be noticed or discovered and in any case would remove the Anglo-Saxon vestiges from their actual material contexts. Users must decide for themselves the relevance of the images presented in this series. Several later manuscripts are included in this series even though they were not considered Anglo-Saxon by Neil R. Ker; in our view, these manuscripts have clear connections to undoubted Anglo-Saxon texts.

Each manuscript is assigned a main index number for this series; that number is given before the shelf-mark and always appears bolded and in square brackets after the shelf-mark when a manuscript in this series is mentioned in the body of a description. The index number is concorded with the catalogue numbers of Ker and Gneuss. An interim cumulative index of volumes 1–10 has been published as a separate volume (2006). An interim cumulative index of volumes 1–25 is planned; a final comprehensive index

will follow the completion of the volumes of descriptions, now projected as about 45 in number. The manuscript descriptions, after being revised, will also be published as a separate publication towards the conclusion of this project. Users of these descriptions (and of the indices) are requested to bring any errors, omissions, or relevant new scholarship to the attention of the publishers or the editors.

The editors are grateful to The National Endowment for the Humanities, an independent federal agency, for generous continuing grants in support of the project. Thanks are also due to the Evjue Foundation of Madison, Wisconsin and to the International Society of Anglo-Saxonists for generous gifts. We wish to thank the Dean and Chapter of Durham Cathedral for permission to publish images of their manuscripts A.II.17, A.IV.19, A.IV.36, B.III.32, B.IV.9, B.IV.24, and Hunter 100. All copyright remains with the Dean and Chapter of Durham Cathedral and no further reproduction is permitted without prior written consent of the Dean and Chapter of Durham Cathedral. We also thank the following: Dr. J. T. D. Hall, Librarian of the Durham University Library, for permission to publish images of Cosin V.II.6; C. D. W. Sheppard, Head of Special Collections of the Brotherton Library, University of Leeds, for permission to publish images of the "Brotherton Fragments" from Ripon Cathedral; to the Dean and Chapter of York Minster and Ms. Louise A. Hampson for granting permission and for making arrangements to publish York Minster Add. 1 and XVI.I.2; and to the Master and Fellows of Magdalene College, Cambridge and the Pepys Librarian, Dr. Richard Luckett, for granting permission to publish Pepys 2981(19): all the items mentioned in the preceding sentence remain the property of the respective libraries and cannot be further reproduced without the prior written consent of their respective owners.

The editors and describers would like to express their especial debt to Prof. Alan Piper of the Archives Division of Durham University Library for his frequent help on technical aspects of the Durham manuscripts. We also especially thank Canon Ronald L. Coppin and Mr. Roger Norris of Durham Cathedral Library, and Miss E. M. Rainey of Durham University Library, for their cooperation with the project and help to the describers. Thanks are, as always, due to Prof. Robert Bjork, Director of the Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies in Tempe, Arizona, for agreeing to publish the project, and to his excellent staff, particularly Roy Rukkila, Jennifer Michaud, Todd Halvorsen, and Leslie MacCoull, who have been of so much assistance with this and previous volumes. We also wish to acknowledge the help of the Project Assistant for 2005-06, Patrick Murphy.

A. N. Doane, Matthew T. Hussey