

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.

Included in this volume is a complete Handlist to the manuscripts included in this project. Items published or forthcoming in Volumes 1-16 are indicated in bold type. 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 (2005). An interim cumulative index of volumes 1–25 is planned; a final comprehensive index will follow the completion of the volumes of descriptions, currently projected as upward of 40 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 and handlist) 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. Thanks to the British Library for its generous support of the project, permission to publish relevant manuscripts, and waiving of fees as well as for the helpful advice of its staff. Images of British Library manuscripts Cotton Faustina A. x, Julius A. ii, Harley 107, 3271, 3826, Royal 12 G. xii, Royal 15 B. xii are reproduced by permission and may not be further reproduced without written permission of the British Library. We also wish to acknowledge the gracious permission and help of Mary Clapinson, Director of the Bodleian Library and its expert staff; images of Bodleian Library MSS Additional C. 144 (28188) and Barlow 35 (6467) are used by permission and may not be reproduced without written permission of the Bodleian Library. Thanks are due Sir Patrick Neill of All Souls College, Oxford for granting permission to publish images of All Souls College MS 38 and to Peter Lewis and Norma Aubertin-Potter of the Codrington Library for their kind assistance; to the President of St. John's College for permission to publish MS 154 and to Christina Ashby of Research Publications for waiving exclusive publication rights, as well as to P. M. S. Hacker, Fellow Librarian, Catherine Hilliard, Librarian, and Katerina Powell, Senior Conservator, Ralph Hanna, and the late Jeremy Griffiths for their gracious help with St. Johns items; to the authorities of the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris for permission to publish images of MS anglais 67 and to Laurence Camous of the Reproduction Service for her care filling our complex and successive film orders; to the Dean and Chapter of Worcester Cathedral for permission to publish images of Worcester MS F. 174, to the late Canon Iain MacKenzie for his kind help and hospitality and to David Morrison for providing new photography; all manuscripts remain the property of the respective owners, are used by permission and may not be reproduced without the written permission of their respective owners.

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