

65. Cambridge, Jesus College 15 (Q. A. 15)

Peter Lombard, "Sentences"; Ælfric, Homilies (palimpsest)

[Ker 74, Gneuss 122]

HISTORY: A 13c manuscript of Peter Lombard's "Sentences" (date from Ker *Cat.*; James 1895: 13, says "14c") has been bound with older leaves, partly written over, which originally contained Ælfric's homilies. Pope (1967–68: 89) observes that the collection was likely drawn from textually late copies of Ælfric's homilies, arranged in a non-temporal order. Godden suggests that the manuscript "looks rather like a collection of general homilies for any occasion" (1979: lxxiv). The OE, written in the first half of the 11c (Ker *Cat.*, 123), has been partly erased, presumably when the leaves were re-used. A table to the "Sentences" was entered in a hand of the 13/14c. At that stage the manuscript belonged to Durham Cathedral Priory, in view of an entry in a Durham catalogue from the late 14c, which identifies both the text and the first word of the second folio, namely 'pl(ur)alitatis' (James 1895: 13–14). The text of the "Sentences" is headed in an early modern hand 'Textus iiiior libror(um) s(e)n(tent)iar(um) E'. The composite manuscript was already as it is now by the 13c/14c.

The manuscript was given to Jesus College by Thomas Man in 1685, as recorded in a note written in ink in the center of f. ix verso: 'Liber Coll Jesu. | Ex dono Mri. Man Collij Socij Jan. 21. 1685'. An earlier classmark, 'M-H-6' is written in the center of this leaf and scribbled over, with the current Jesus College designation, 'Q-A-15' (corrected in pencil from 'N-A-15') inked beneath this. The same marks of ownership are evident on the inside of the front board, with 'M-H-6' written centrally and 'Q. A. 15' written on the top right. The board also contains an *ex libris* paste-in of the Jesus College coat of arms and the legend 'Collegium Jesu Cantabrigiense | 1700'.

CODICOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION:

Binding Leaves. The binding leaves comprise 10 folios (ff. 'i-x') before and 10 folios (ff. '1-10') after the main manuscript. They now measure 278-282 × 193-196 mm., except for f. x, from which the top half has been cut away so that the surviving leaf is only 166-175 × 190 mm. The opening leaves are foliated in pencil on the upper right corner i-x, while the last ten of the endleaves are foliated in the same pencilled hand 1-10. This is the foliation used throughout this description. The first six leaves are all bifolia and appear to be in successive order, constituting the three inner sheets of a single quire. The parchment has been scraped down so much it is very difficult to tell flesh-side from hair-side, but the arrangement here appears to be FHF. Ff. vii-x also comprise two bifolia, perhaps not originally contiguous: the arrangement may be FF, although it is impossible to be certain. The final flyleaves, ff. 1 + 10, 4 + 9, and 6 + 7 are bifolia; the remaining four leaves are singletons, f. 2 with a stub between 9 and 10, f. 3 also with a stub between 9 and 10, f. 5 with a stub between 8 and 9, and f. 8 with a stub between 5 and 6. Again, arrangement of hair and flesh is very hard now to infer. These leaves are fragments of a manuscript once covered with an OE text, most of which has been erased in preparation for subsequent re-use. The scope of the surviving OE text will be specifically itemized here, followed by a codicological description of both levels of the palimpsest.

Of the opening binding leaves, f. i recto/verso contains OE text, cropped but unerased. Some OE is also faintly visible in inverse on the board of the inside cover. Ff. ii recto-iv verso have been prepared and written on in the 14c or 15c; the OE text has been erased from these pages but is occasionally faintly visible beneath or at the sides of the later text and is more clearly visible, though still partly illegible, for 2 lines at the foot of f. ii verso, 1 line at the foot of f. iii recto, 5 lines at the foot of f. iii verso, 15 lines at the foot of f. iv recto, and 24 lines at the foot of f. iv verso. The whole of ff. v recto-vi recto have had their OE text erased but nothing written over them so that the OE is still partly visible. F. vi verso is in a similar state for the first 20 lines, but the seven lines of OE text at the foot of the page have not been erased and are fully visible. Ff. vii recto-viii recto have been prepared for a 13/14c table of contents to the "Sentences": the OE text has been well erased and is mostly invisible. This is also the case for ff. viii verso and ix recto, even though these pages have been subsequently left blank. F. ix verso has notes of the 13/14c on the top half and well-erased OE under some early modern additions on the lower half. F. x, which has been cut down, is blank

on recto and verso but for well-erased OE. Ff. vii–x are bound upside down in regards to their OE text; the later text is the right way round. On ff. ii recto–v recto, vi recto/verso, viii recto, and x verso, parts of the erased OE text that have not been written over have been washed with a fluid which has left a brown stain, presumably in an attempt to improve their legibility, with mixed success.

The end binding leaves begin with verses written in a 13/14c hand continued from the previously blank last page of the original manuscript (ff. 1r–2v and the preceding verso). The OE text has been thoroughly erased from these pages and is only sporadically faintly visible. Ff. 1 and 10 have been bound upside down in regard to their OE text. Ff. 3r–8r are written over by a 14c or 15c hand. The erased OE text is occasionally partly visible in the margins or at the top of the page. It is also visible, though not always legible, at the foot of the page, for 3 lines at ff. 3r, 3v, 4v, and for 2 lines at ff. 4r, 5r–6r. The OE text has been more fully erased from ff. 6v–8r, although traces are visible at the foot of ff. 6v and 7r. F. 8v is blank, the OE text having been well erased. F. 9r is blank but for a short early modern note: traces of the erased OE are here visible but not consistently legible. Ff. 9v–10v are blank and well erased with just sporadic traces of OE visible. Finally, traces of the OE text are visible in inverse on the inside back cover. The brown wash of the opening flyleaves has been applied to some of these pages, but less extensively than to the opening: it has been used on only small parts of ff. 3r, 8v, and 9r.

The OE stratum

The written grid for the OE, where this can be seen, on ff. i–vi: ca. 238 × 177 mm., ruled in drypoint for 27 lines per page; on ff. vii–x: 232 × 170 mm., ruled for 23 lines per page; on ff. 1–10: 235 × 170 mm., ruled for 24 lines per page. Ruling for the OE text is from the recto on ff. i, iii, vii, viii, 1, 2, 4–6, from the verso on ff. iv–vi, ix, x, 7–10, and undecidable on ff. ii, and 3. The handwriting is a neat insular minuscule dated by Ker (*Cat.*, 123) to the first half of the 11c. Rubrics are written in red, as is the enlarged initial letter of a homily.

Later strata

The 14c or 15c text on ff. ii recto–iii verso is written in double columns of 34 lines occupying a written grid for each column of 222–228 × 75–85 mm. On f. iv the text continues in a long-line format 160–170 mm. wide, occupying 19 lines at the top of f. iv recto and 4 lines at the top of f. iv verso. On f. ii recto, but not thereafter, prominent initials are written in red in the margin and other capitals are touched in red. The text is possibly all in one

hand, with the material on f. iv recto and f. iv verso presumably added in stages. 'Assit p(ri)ncipio s(an)c(t)a maria meo.' is written in a 13/14c hand at the head of f. ii recto.

The table of contents on ff. vii recto–viii recto is written in a small script of 13c/14c in double columns of up to 54 lines, usually occupying a written grid of approximately 190 × 57–79 mm. The table of contents is written in a single hand of 13/14c, picking out the major divisions of the main text of the “Sentences.” The notes on f. ix verso are written in 23 long lines, 175–185 mm. wide. Two different hands wrote the notes on f. ix verso, with a clear change in the color of the ink after line 17.

The 13/14c verses on ff. 1r–2v and the preceding verso are written in a single column, lineated as verse, and written in an extensive ink grid which creates a writing space of approx. 228 × 108 mm. Up to 30 lines of verse are written on a page, occupying less space than the available grid, generally extending up to 208 × 98 mm.; on f. 2v the grid includes unused guiding lines for a double column. The verses are in a single hand without decoration: space for an enlarged opening initial has been left blank. Later hands provide marginal notes.

The 14/15c text on ff. 3r–8r is written in double columns, guided by ink lining. 31–36 lines of text occupy a grid of approx. 202–216 × 78 mm. The text is written in probably a single hand without decorative features: space has been left unfilled for an enlarged opening initial. There are occasional marginal annotations.

Main Manuscript

A medieval foliation runs through the first book of the “Sentences” (most of the first 3 quires), numbering ‘ii–xxvi’ on the upper center of the rectos, but thereafter the book has not been foliated. Catchwords are written at the foot of the page at the end of each quire in the first 3 books to anticipate the next quire. Leaves are arranged FHFH in quires of 8; the parchment is well prepared. There is a wedge-shaped burn in the top of the main MS from about f. xii onwards that gets quite large by the middle of the book and then disappears; it impinges on the 14c annotations on f. xv, f. [liii] but it does not affect the added OE leaves.

The text of Peter Lombard’s “Sentences” is written in a handsome small 13c/14c hand in double columns occupying approx. 173 × 50 mm. The written space is lineated for 40 lines in pencil, with pricking visible in the outer margin and upper and lower margin. The text is richly decorated: there are frequent rubrics written in red, and the initial letter to each section is written in red or blue, often with tails extending into the margin and ornately decorated in blue or red. The opening of each book is marked with

a letter drawn using both colors and with particularly ornate decoration. Other capital letters are touched in red. There are fairly frequent annotations by various hands written in the generous margins.

After the end of the first book (Quire III, leaf 10vb/40) (after f. xxvi verso), there is a table of the chapters of Book 2, occupying 3 pages, written in a more workaday script than the main text, followed by a blank page. Quire III, an enlarged quire, may have been deliberately extended to fit the whole of the first book. Book 2 begins with the start of Quire IV (f. [xxix] recto) and extends to Quire VI, leaf 6ra/25 (f. [1] recto). It is again followed with a list of chapters and other notes, and there are two blank pages, a verso and recto [this opening is not shown on the film]. Book 3 begins with Quire VII (f. [liii] recto) and extends to Quire IX, leaf 7rb/27 (f. [lxxv] recto), again followed by a list of chapters and notes, in this case taking the rest of the quire. Book 4 begins on Quire X (f. [lxxvii] recto) and extends to Quire XIII, leaf 10rb/9 (f. [cxi] recto), and is followed by two pages of notes before the poem commences on what was presumably a blank final page of Quire XIII.

Binding

The current binding is clearly early and may be the original binding from 13c Durham. The wooden boards are visible on the inside, against which were once pressed further binding leaves of OE, now lost, which have left their impressions. The boards are covered on the outside in weathered white leather. The quires are held in place by five sets of stitching that are visible as they are secured into the insides of the boards on either side. There is the trace of an indent for securing some kind of fastener on the front outer cover.

COLLATION:

Foll. x + 111 + x leaves; foliated 'i-x' || [i], 'ii-xxvi', remainder unfoliated || '1-10'. A⁶ three bifolia (ff. i-vi), B⁴ two bifolia (ff. vii-x) || I⁸ (ff. i-viii), II⁸ (ff. ix-xvi), III¹² (ff. xvii-[xxviii]); IV⁸ (ff. [xxix-xxxvi]), V⁸ (ff. [xxxvii-xliv]), VI⁸ (ff. [xlv-lii]), VII⁸ (ff. [liii-lx]), VIII⁸ (ff. [lxi-lxviii]), IX⁸ (ff. [lxix-lxx-vi]), X⁸ (ff. [lxxvii-lxxxiv]), XI⁸ (ff. [lxxxv-xcii]), XII⁸ (ff. [xciii-c]), XIII¹² wants one after 10 (ff. [ci-cxi]) || C¹⁰ 2, 3, 5, 8 are singletons (ff. '1-10').

CONTENTS:

Opening Binding Leaves: Old English Stratum

- f. i recto/1-verso/1 Ælfric, ÆHom 11 "Sermo ad populum in octavis Pentecosten dicendus" (fragment): 'swa swa hé him on life behét þa ða he clypode of eorþan'; ends: 'halgan gaste on anre god cundnysse an

- æلميhti god á butan ende. AMEN' (ed. Pope 1967–68: 444–47, no. 11, lines 526–74 [sig. “f”]).
2. ff. i verso/2–vi verso/8 Ælfric, ÆCHom II, 19 “Feria secunda. Letania maiore”: **Larspell** | ‘Læwde menn behofiað þæt him larwas secgan’; ends illegibly (ed. Godden 1979: 180–89, with lines 31–212 erased and mainly illegible; augmented [at f. v recto/23–verso/6, Godden’s line 238] by Pope 1967–68: 752, no. 24, and including a substitution at Godden’s lines 271–84 of ÆCHom II, 26, lines 110–133. The last substitution is viewed by Pope [1967–68: 89–90] as not by Ælfric, and by Godden [1979: 363] as certainly Ælfric’s).
 3. f. vi verso/9–24 Ælfric, ÆCHom II, 28 “Dominica xii. post Pentecosten” (fragment): SE[RMO] [not visible on film] | ‘Dixit i(esu)s ad quosdam qui in se confidebant . . . DRIhten sæde þis bigspel be sumum mánnum’; ends imperfectly: ‘7 þæt hæþene folc . . .’ (ed. Godden 1979: 249–50, lines 1–22).
 4. ff.vii recto–x verso OE contents of these pages unidentified (see “Codicological Description, The OE Stratum”).

Opening Binding Leaves: Later Strata

5. ff. ii recto a/1–iv verso/4 Tract on Seven Prayers and Capital Sins: [illegible rubric] ‘incipit t(r)actatus p(ar)uulus | de vii petit(i)onib(us) . . . et de vii vitis capitalibus | ordini earum coeptatis | Pater noster. Cu(m) h(ec) or(at)io a sapi(entissimo)’; ends: ‘te(m)p(or)e suo metem(us)’ [rest of ff. iv verso, v recto–vi verso not overwritten].
6. ff. vii recto a/1–viii recto a/53 Table to Peter Lombard’s “Sentences” Book 1: ‘D[istinctio] 1. Omnis doctrina . . .’; ends: ‘[Distinctio] 48. Q(uo)d ho(mo) aliq(ua)ndo bo(na) uol(untate) a(liud) uult q(ua)m d(eu)s | Q(uo)d d(e)i uolu(n)tas p(er) malas ho(minis) vol(untates) i(m)plet(ur) | Ut(rum) plac(er)it uiris s(an)c(t)is q(ua) Chr(istus) pat(er)et(ur) et moreret(ur) | Utrum passiones s(an)c(t)or(um) debeam(us) uelle’ [ff. viii verso–ix recto not overwritten].
7. f. ix verso/1–22 Latin Notes (13/14c?)[f. x recto/verso, cut-down leaf, not overwritten].

Main Manuscript

8. Peter Lombard, “Sentences” (2 columns with marginal notes) (ed. Petri 1971–81), titled in later hand: **Textus IIII^{or} libror(um) s(e)n(ten)iar(um)**:
ff.irectoa/1–xxviversob/40Book1: **Incipit(com)pendiu(m)sen|tenti(ar)um** mag(ist)ri pet(r)i. | Q(uod) o(mn)i doct(r)ina sit. de reb(us) (ve)l / sig/nis ‘OMnis doctrina u(e)l reru(m) | est u(e)l signor(um)’; ends: ‘quem deus non | uoluit.’ **Explicit lib(er) primus.**

- f. i recto/verso Marginal notes: ‘So(rorum) de(i) n(umer)o eb(d)o(mada)’; ends: ‘de fide & de el(eemosyn)is.’ [These heavy notes continue only on these 2 pages, but similar notes can be seen on f. xxii recto, f. [xxxviii] recto, f. [xxxix] recto/verso, f. [l] recto].
- ff. [xxvii] recto a/1–[xxviii] recto b/30 Table to Book 2: **Incipiunt cap(itu)la s(e)c(un)di libri** D(istinctio) 1 [in gutter] ‘Q(uod) unu(m) q(uid) p(ri)n(cipiu)m esse & no(n) pl(ur)a’; ends: ‘.44. [margin] ‘de po(tentia) p(ec)ca(n)di an sit ho(m)in)e. u(e)l di(abo)lo u(e)l d(e)o | an aliqu(a)ndo r(e)siste(n)d(um) sit p(otes)tati.’
- f. [xxviii] verso blank.
- ff. [xxix] recto a/1–[l] recto a/25 Book 2: **Incipit se(cun)dus lib(er) de creat(i)o(n)e ang(e)lo(rum) & lapsu | ho(m)i(n)is .i. cap(itulum). Ad q(uid) f(a)c(t)a sit ratio(nal)is creatura.** | ‘Plato tria initia estimauit’; ends: ‘d(eu)s p(re)cepit ut in malis nulli po(testati) obediamus.’ **Explicit s(e)c(un)d(u)s | liber.** [a-col., lines 26–end blank, except for title].
- f. [l] recto a/40 **Incipiunt cap(itu)la t(er)tii libri.**
- f. [l] recto b/1–48 Note. ‘Inuenit pleni(tu)do te(m)p(or)is misit d(eu)s fi(liu)m suu(m) . . . in plenitudine(m) potestatis.’
- ff. [l] verso a/11–[li] recto b/37 Table to Book 3: **Incipiu(n)t cap(itu)la t(er)tii libri** | ‘.1. Q(ua)re fi(lius) carne(m) assu(m)psit no(n) p(ate)r n(e)c sp(iritu)s s(anc)tus’; ends: ‘de leg(is) & eu(a)ngelis distantia.’
- [Note: The top ten lines of f. [l] verso, column a, bear traces of a now erased text, the top ten lines of column b are blank. ff. [lii] verso/1–15 Latin note. Before this, facing pages f. [li] verso and f. [liii] recto are blank. This opening is not shown in the film. Thanks to Frances Willmoth, Jesus College Manuscript Librarian, for clarifying this point.]
- ff. [liii] recto/1–[lxxv] recto b/27 Book 3: **Incipit lib(er) terci(us) | Q(ua)re sol(us) fili(us) sit i(n)carnatus.** | ‘Cvm uenit plenitudo t(em)p(or)is | misit deus filium suum’; ends: ‘s(ed) plenius i(n) euang(e)lio continetur’ [rest of b–col. blank].
- ff. [liii] recto–verso marginal notes.
- ff. [lxxv] verso a/1–[lxxvi] recto c/18 Table to Book 4: **Incipiu(n)t capitula quarti libri sente(n)tiar(um)** | ‘De sac(ra)me(n)tis’; ends: ‘Ut(ru)m uisa i(m)pior(um) p(o)e(na) minuat u(e)l au(g)eat gloriam bonor(um)’.
- f. [lxxvi] verso a–b Notes: ‘D(ici)t ecc(lesiastes) 34. Vnguentari(us) faciet pigm(en)ta suavi(tatis) ad unguen(tari)us’; ends: ‘ex p(er)cepto pl(ac)ati’ (marginal notes).
- ff. [lxxvii] recto a/1–[cx] recto b/9 Book 4: **Incipit liber Quartus | Quid sit samaritum | . . .** | ‘His tractatis que ad doct(ri)nam | rerum p(er)tinent’; ends: ‘p(er) media ad | pedes usq(ue). uia duce p(er)uenit’.

- ff. [lxxvii] recto–[lxxxviii] verso Marginal notes, starting out fairly thick, dwindling to very few by f. [lxxxviii], in a hand different from the notes at the beginnings of Books 1, 2, and 3.
9. f. [cx] verso Miscellaneous notes.
10. f. [cxi] recto Clerical and Biblical notes.
- [f. [cxi] verso, 1r–2v/17 Latin verses that continue into closing binding leaves, later strata . . .]

Closing Binding Leaves: Later Strata

11. f. cxi verso, 1r–2v/17 Latin Verse. ‘[P]eniteas ‘cito’ p(ecca)tor cu(m) sit miserator. | Iudex. Et sint h(ec) q(u)inq(ue) tenenda t(ibi)’; ends: ‘Et fuga cohortum. felix adopt(i)o celi’ with marginal notes [rest of f. 2v blank].

[**Note:** The poem is found as “De poenitentia,” by Peter of Blois (ca. 1130–1203): PL 207.1153–1156; first lines are the PL text; line 93 (‘Ex mundi ligno . . .’, f. 2r/5) to end not found in the PL edition of Peter of Blois.]

12. ff. 3ra/1–8rb/36 Tract (in 2 columns): ‘[C]um su(m)ma teologice discipline di|uidit(ur) i(n) duas p(ar)tes’; ends: ‘q(uo)d d(icitu)r q(ua) i(n) iu(gali)bus ade eram(us) ip(s)o p(arte)’ [ff. 8v–10v not overwritten].

Closing Binding Leaves: Earlier Strata

f. 3r–v traces of underwriting.

13. f. 4r/22–4v/24 Traces of Ælfric, ÆCHom II, 22, “In Letania maiore. Feria III”: ‘cu[me | to] ð[e;] S[umne] d[æ]l’ . . . ‘ðæt we doð [gode sylfum;]’ (ed. Godden 1979: 211, lines 165–79; augmented by Pope 1967–68: 755–57, no. 25; ending Pope 25 (c), line 10) [reconstructed by Pope 1967–68: 90–91].
14. f. 5r/1–14 Traces of Ælfric, ÆCHom I, 18, “In Letania maiore”: ‘-sung[e] is wreht(?) wið . . .’ (ed. Clemoes 1997: 324, lines 198–213; cf. Pope 1967: 91).
15. f. 5r/15–5v/24 Ælfric, ÆCHom I, 19: **FERIA III ON OÐER GANGDÆGA DÆG** | ‘Se hælend crist’ . . . ‘w[itodlic]e’ (intermittently legible; ed. Clemoes 1997: 325–26, lines 1–15, 31–34; cf. Pope 1967: 91).
16. f. 6r Traces of Ælfric, ÆCHom I, 15, “Dominica Pascae”: Legible fragments are at the foot of f. 6r: ‘[eorðe oncneow. þa ða heo ea]ll [bi]fode [on cristes æriste;] seo sun[ne oncneow]’ (ed. Clemoes 1997: 306, lines 175–76) [identified for the first time here].
17. ff. 6v/17–7v Traces of Ælfric, ÆCHom II, 15, “Sermo de sacrificio in die Pascae”: **EFT BE CRISTES . . . 7 BE . . . A . . .** (unidentified title, deciphered by Ker, *Cat.* 123) | ‘M . . .’ Legible fragments are at the foot of f. 6v: ‘[ægðer ge æfter ðære ealdan gecyðnysse. ge æfter [ðæ]re niwan ð[y ls] ðe [ægig twynung eow derian mage]’ (ed. Godden 1979: 150, lines

5–7) and at the foot of f. 7r: ‘[Sume ðas race we habbað getrahtnod on oðre sto]we[.] | sume we w[illað nu] geopeni[an.] þ[æt] [þe beli]mpð to ðam [hal]gan husl[e] ||’ (ed. Godden 1979:151, lines 34–35) [identified for the first time here].

18. f. 9rv + backboard Traces of Ælfric, ÆCHom I, 22 [identified by Godden 1979: lxxiii].

PHOTO NOTES: Blank facing pages f. [li] verso and f. [lii] recto are not shown in the film. OE reported in items 12–18 is not visible on film.

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