

## 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. A complete handlist of all manuscripts included in the project has been published in Vol. 15. An in-

terim 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 43 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. Thanks to the British Library for permission to reproduce manuscripts, for waiving reproduction fees, and for the helpful advice of its staff. Images of British Library manuscripts Cotton Vitellius C. v and Royal 7. C. xii are reproduced by permission and may not be further reproduced without written permission of the British Library. We wish to thank the Keeper of Manuscripts of the Cambridge University Library, Dr. P. N. R. Zutshi, for making the manuscripts in his care available to the project: Cambridge University Library MS Gg. 3. 28 is reproduced by permission and may not be further reproduced without written permission of the Keeper of Manuscripts of C.U.L.; we also wish to acknowledge the permission and help of Mary Clapinson, Director of the Bodleian Library and its staff: Bodleian manuscripts Bodley 340/342, 343, Hatton 116, and Junius 85/86 are reproduced by permission and may not be further reproduced without the written permission of the Director of the Bodleian; we also gratefully acknowledge the permission graciously granted by Mr. William H. Scheide to allow the publication of the “Blickling Homilies,” MS 71 in the Scheide Library of Princeton University, and thank Dr. W. P. Stoneman, as Librarian of the Scheide Library at the time, who made the arrangements to make publication possible: Scheide MS 71 remains the property of Mr. William H. Scheide and may not be further reproduced without written permission arranged through the Scheide librarian. The describer wishes to express his thanks to the University of Iowa Arts and Humanities Initiative and to the University of Iowa College of Liberal Arts and Sciences for their support towards research expenses.

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