

A Guide to the Rosenthal Medieval Manuscript Collection, ca. 1400 - 1767

Rosenthal Medieval Manuscript Collection, ca. 1400 - 1767.
ca. 1400 - 1767.

A Collection in The Special Collections Department 9772-a
Special Collections Department, University of Virginia Library
2002

History

Processed by: Special Collections Department
Funding: Web version of the finding aid funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Title Statement

A Guide to the Rosenthal Medieval Manuscript Collection, ca. 1400 - 1767

Subtitle: Rosenthal Medieval Manuscripts, ca. 1400-1767

Collection: 9772-a

Publication Statement

File size: kb

Date: © 2002 By the Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia. All rights reserved.

Publisher: Special Collections Department, University of Virginia Library

[Conditions of Use](#)

Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from MS Word 2000, created by Danielle Culpepper, 4/30/2002

Language Usage: Description is in English

Revision Description

Feb 19, 2004 PUBLIC "-//University of Virginia::Library::Special Collections Dept.//TEXT (US::ViU::viu02366::A Guide to the Medieval Manuscript Collection, ca. 1400 - 1767)//EN" "viu02366.xml" converted from EAD 1.0 to 2002 by v1to02.xsl (sy2003-10-15).

Feb 27, 2004 converted to conform to eadVIVA.dtd by vivastrict.xsl

Descriptive Summary

Accession number

9772-a

Language

English

Collector

Bernard M. Rosenthal

Physical Characteristics

This collection contains seventy manuscripts.

Repository

Special Collections, University of Virginia Library

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Use Restrictions

See the [University of Virginia Library's use policy](#).

Acquisition Information

This collection was purchased from Bernard M. Rosenthal, San Francisco, CA, on January 14, 1972.

Preferred Citation

Rosenthal Medieval Manuscript Collection, Accession # 9772-a, Special Collections Dept., University of Virginia Library, Charlottesville, Va.

Scope and Content Information

The Rosenthal Medieval Manuscript Collection was assembled by Bernard M. Rosenthal to serve as examples of the development of Latin script from the ninth to the sixteenth century. In describing the collection, Mr. Rosenthal wrote:

"The collection is primarily a tool, a laboratory, for teaching medieval Latin paleography and codicology. The range is such, however, that it can be used in other disciplines: the musicologist will find a good representation of medieval musical notation, the classicist can illustrate techniques of text identification and critical text editing, [and] the number of legal documents is sufficient for acquiring the basic skills of diplomatics.

"Practically all Western scripts are represented: Carolingian minuscules, Gothic minuscules, various types of cursive, the Italian round Gothic and "littera bononiensis," the humanistic minuscule and cursive, and the legal hands ranging from the neat deeds of the Bologna notaries to the "illegible" common law hands of 17th-century England. The countries of origin are Italy, Spain, France, Germany, and England.

"Most leaves are vellum, but some of the later ones are paper; sizes range from small 8vo to large folio. The state of preservation varies: many of the leaves have at one time served as covers of archival bundles or book-bindings and now show corresponding traces of use: fading, stains, cut edges, remains of glue, pen-and-ink scrawls, etc. Other leaves are in perfect condition. In all cases, even when the specimen consists of only a fragment of a leaf, there is enough text to establish the characteristics of the script. The variable quality of preservation and the fragmentary nature of the material reflect the reality which confronts the scholar working with medieval primary sources."

Contents List

Gothic Minuscule, 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Probably Flemish. Unidentified ecclesiastical text. (Missale?) This script is also called Textualis Gothica formata. 2 specimens.

Gothic Minuscule Textualis Gothica Formata, 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Flemish Book of Hours. Double leaf, the second one blank but ruled.

Gothic Minuscule, 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

France. From a calendar (November / December). A characteristic late French Gothic batarde minuscule.

Insular Minuscule, late 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

England.

Humanistic Minuscule, 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Italy. Cicero, De amicitia. Double leaf.

Printed Gothique Batarde, 15th/16th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Paris. Two characteristic leaves, printed on vellum, from a Livre d'Heures. Unidentified but probably Paris, ca. 1500. The initials are entered by hand, the surrounding decoration is metal-cut.

Roman Type, ca. 1518.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Paris: Hardouyn. The use of this Roman type was rather unusual for Livres d'Heures. This one, too, is printed on vellum and has the initials filled in by hand.

Gothic Type, 15th/16th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Germany. Unidentified printed fragment, on vellum, which at first sight could be taken for a manuscript.

Gothic Minuscule, ca. 1400.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Italy? From a service book. Another example of Gothica Textualis formata.

Gothic Minuscule, 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Germany? Lectionary? Note the resemblance to printing type of the same period.

Gothic Minuscule, 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Liturgical text. Humanistic influence is evident in the script.

Humanistic Gothic, 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Italy. Liturgical text. Humanistic influence is stronger in this script than in the preceding one.

Text Minuscule, ca. 1400?

Box 1

Scope and Content

Italy? Pontificale (Benedictio cevrei Paschalis). The script is very difficult to date and could be earlier. Note the use of ... above abbreviated words.

Gothic Minuscule, ca. 1400.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Italy. Breviary? Double leaf.

Gothic Minuscule, 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

France. Livres d'Heures, in French. Very characteristic for the standard type of prayer book as opposed to the deluxe illuminated kind.

Gothic Minuscule, 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Probably Germany. Commune sanctorum (from a Breviary?). Double leaf.

Batarde Minuscule Cursive, 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Lowlands? Prayer Book. Double leaf.

Cursive, 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Italy? Sermon on old age. On paper. There is little, if any, humanistic influence on this script.

Various scripts, 15th/16th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Probably Poland. Two calendar leaves, containing numerous names and obits. The calendar leaves are 15th century; the entries are from the 15th century to about 1575. The names all point to Poland as the place of origin. The scripts range from an accomplished Gothic minuscule to a hasty cursive.

Text Cursive, 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Italy. Unidentified mathematical text on paper.

Late Cursive, 15th/16th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Italy. Two paper leaves from a scientific manuscript: wind rise and astronomical diagrams.

Humanistic Text Cursive, 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Italy. Unidentified schema, apparently related to commercial topics.

Gothic Cursive, ca. 1500.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Germany. Latin grammar, 6 leaves. A characteristic, neatly written German cursive. Probably the grammar was written by a student for his own use.

Papal document, signed "Spinola," 1618.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Rome. Part of the seal box intact.

Papal document, 1767.

Box 1

Cursive, 1419.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Italy. Inventory ... mostly clothes and household articles ... hastily drawn up by a notary, probably for probate.

Papal Chancery Minuscule, 1443.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Siena. Papal bull addressed to the abbot of the Benedictine monastery of Scalocchio, Città di Castello. Issued by Pope Eugene IV while at Siena. Without the seal.

Insular Minuscule, ca. 1475.

Box 1

Scope and Content

England. Missale. Double leaf. A traditional English liturgical hand, based on 13th-century models.

Humanistic Cursive, 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Italy. Unidentified Roman history (the Civil War). Double leaf, with mirror offset of the incunable it served as binding. The script is a cursive textualis.

Roman Type, 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Italy. Classical poem. The leaf clearly illustrates the influence of the humanistic hand on type design.

Gothic Liturgical Type, 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Germany. Missale (Kanon), printed on vellum. Unidentified edition, ca. 1500. A striking example of the influence of gothic script on early type design.

Gothic Minuscule, 15th century.

OS Box V-1 (Oversize)

Scope and Content

Italy. Antiphonale, with music on 4-line staves. Note the intricate penwork in the initial F.

Schedel, Hartmann, Liber chronicarum, 1493.

OS Box V-1 (Oversize)

Scope and Content

Nuremberg: Koberger. A leaf (fol. 282) from the famed Schedel chronicle (Goff S-307).

Liturgical type and music, 16th century.

OS Box V-1 (Oversize)

Scope and Content

France. Unidentified edition of an Antiphonale, printed on vellum, the music on 5-line staves. With anthropomorphic initials. A striking example of the survival of much earlier models. Double leaf.

Gothic Minuscule, 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Italy. Missale, with neumes. Double leaf.

Gothic Type, 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Germany. Missale? Printed on vellum; the similarity to contemporary manuscripts is enhanced by some of the red initials; printed or manuscript? Double leaf.

Humanistic Gothic, 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Italy. Epistola in evengelisticis. The script, though basically Gothic, shows marked humanistic influence.

Notarial Cursive, mid-15th century.

OS Box V-1 (Oversize)

Scope and Content

Ferrara. Legal contract involving one "Dominus Raynaldus de Ariostis" -- perhaps an ancestor of the poet. Very characteristic script used in this type of transaction; date unfortunately cut off.

Batarde Minuscule, 15th century.

OS Box V-1 (Oversize)

Scope and Content

France. XX. Comment le roy doit estir doctible en persuasion (Du regimes des princes?). Text in French. A highly developed and elegant batarde.

Notarial document, 1507.

OS Box V-1 (Oversize)

Scope and Content

In French.

Notarial document, 1531.

OS Box V-1 (Oversize)

Scope and Content

In French.

Notarial document, 1564.

OS Box V-1 (Oversize)

Scope and Content

In French.

Notarial document (real estate transaction), 1555.

OS Box V-1 (Oversize)

Scope and Content

Padova. Note that the script is very close to Cancelleresca.

Notarial document, 1522.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Nice (S. France).

Notarial document: last will, 1521.

OS Box V-1 (Oversize)

Scope and Content

Prato (Italy).

Notarial document: sale of land, 1548.

OS Box V-1 (Oversize)

Scope and Content

Barcelona. This item is also available on microfilm reel M-205.

Notarial document, 1538/40.

Box 1

Scope and Content

England. With seal intact.

Latin bond, 1547-1548.

Box 1

Scope and Content

With seal intact.

Notarial document, 1626.

OS Box V-1 (Oversize)

Scope and Content

England.

3 specimens of "Common law hand," 1667-1696.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Scope and Content

Westminster.

Notarial Cursive, 1466.

OS Box V-1 (Oversize)

Scope and Content

Italy (Siena). Very long legal document detailing the purchase of several pieces of land. Three pieces of vellum pasted together.

Notarial document, 1471.

Box 1

Scope and Content

Bologna. Four-page legal document; very characteristic notarial cursive.

Notarial Cursive, 1426.

OS Box V-1 (Oversize)

Scope and Content

Spain (Teruel). Legal document, in Spanish. Note the resemblance to French batarde. This item is also available on microfilm reel M-205.

Notarial Documents, 1405 to late 15th century.

Box 1

Scope and Content

England. This is a series of 11 English notarial documents, in notarial cursive, most of them with one or more seals intact. The documents date from the reign of Henry V to that of Edward IV.

Notarial Batarde Cursive, 1469.

OS Box V-1 (Oversize)

Scope and Content

France (Paris). Legal document, in French.

Notarial Batarde Cursive, 1481.

OS Box V-1 (Oversize)

Scope and Content

France (Paris). Legal document, in French.

Notarial Cursive, 1437.

OS Box V-1 (Oversize)

Scope and Content

Castelnuovo, near Fermo. Last will of one Vanni Pucciarelli. With some (later) endorsements. Drawn up by the imperial notary "Magister Antonellus."

Scroll.

OS Box V-1 (Oversize)

Scroll.

OS Box V-1 (Oversize)