

Findings from the “Manuscript Hunt”

Bruce Peel Special Collections

October 2012

Today’s students are often very excited to discover that old books sometimes contain even older manuscript fragments. This was the idea behind a “manuscript hunt” staged in the Bruce Peel Special Collections in October 2012. Over the course of a long afternoon, a small group of graduate students and faculty members worked with Peel library staff and Paula Simons from the *Edmonton Journal*, under the guidance of distinguished visiting scholar Erik Kwakkel, to identify and date the fugitive manuscript fragments that Erik Kwakkel and Linda Quirk had discovered among Peel library collections. The manuscript hunt was followed by thousands of people around the world on Twitter and the findings are recorded below.

The data recorded during the excitement of the manuscript hunt contained numerous factual errors, such as incorrect call numbers, and it was corrupted when it was shifted from one file format to another. Jesse Carson, a library school student working as a PSA in the Peel library, worked with guidance from librarian Linda Quirk to correct the record and present the information in a more readable format. The information presented here was drawn directly from the source document, with explanations of technical terms added by Jesse. Any embellishments, clarifications, or additions are shown as footnotes.

It is worth noting that the Archbishop of Salzburg’s library, now housed in Bruce Peel Special Collections, includes numerous books of an age that made them likely to have bindings made, at least in part, with manuscript fragments. Dr. Kwakkel was surprised to find that the form of prestige binding most commonly seen in the Archbishop of Salzburg’s collection employs clean sheets rather than recycled manuscripts in the binding structure, so the Salzburg collection was not as rich a source of fugitive manuscript fragments as might have been expected.

The following is a list of printed books and the fugitive manuscript fragment(s) employed in their bindings. Corrections or additions to this list may be sent to bpsc@ualberta.ca.

Images have been included for many of the items. Photo credit for all of the images in this document goes to Jeff Papineau.

Operum M. Hugonis a Sancto Victore [second volume]

Call Number – BX 890 H89 1526 folio t.2

Author - Hugh of Saint Victor

Date - 1526

Language - Latin

Description - The volume is bound in leather and wood, with metal clasps. It is printed with black and red ink, and has a woodcut frontispiece (i.e. an illustration facing the title page) that is dated 1520. At the bottom of the title page there is a handwritten inscription: "Bibliotheca Collegio Borromaei."

Fragment #1

Date - 13th century

Height - 320mm

Width - 209mm

Language - Latin

Description - The manuscript fragment is a full page, located on the front paste-down. It is written on parchment in black, with portions in red and blue, including a number of rubrics (i.e. text written in red).



Fragment #2

Date - 13th century

Height - 320mm

Width - 225mm

Language - Latin

Description - The manuscript fragment is a full page, located on the back paste-down. It is written on parchment in black, with portions in red and blue, including a number of rubrics.

Fragment #1, located on the front paste-down

Operum M. Hugonis a Sancto Victore [third volume]

Call Number - BX 890 H89 1526 folio t.3

Author - Hugh of Saint Victor

Date - 1526

Language - Latin

Description - The volume is bound in leather and wood, with metal clasps. It is printed with black and red ink, and has a woodcut frontispiece (i.e. an illustration facing the title page).

Fragment #1

Date - 13th century

Height - 330mm

Width - 220mm

Language - Latin

Description - The manuscript fragment is a full page, located on the front paste-down. It is written on parchment in black, with portions in red and blue, including a number of rubrics (i.e. text written in red).

Fragment #2

Date - 13th century

Height - 330mm

Width - 220mm

Language - Latin

Description - The manuscript fragment is a full page, located on the front paste-down. It is written on parchment in black, with portions in red and blue, including a number of rubrics and a gloss (i.e. text in the margins) in the top left margin.

D. Nicolai Belloni, patricii Casalensis ... Consiliorvm liber primvs, decem & octo denuo consiliis vltra primam æditionem ab ipso authore additis. Indicem locupletissimum consiliorum antea excusorum in calce libri inuenies: quem statim alius octodecim consiliorum nunc primùm æditorum consequitur

Call Number - KT B447 1550

Author - Niccolò Bellone

Date - 1550

Language - Latin

Fragment #1

Date - 15th century

Height - 45mm

Width - 35mm

Language - Latin

Description - The manuscript fragment is located in the spine of the book, as a reinforcement. The text is a rubric (i.e. text written in red) done in Dutch penwork, in red and blue ink, on parchment. While some letters are visible, the fragment is too small to make any words decipherable.



Fragment #1, visible underneath the spine casing

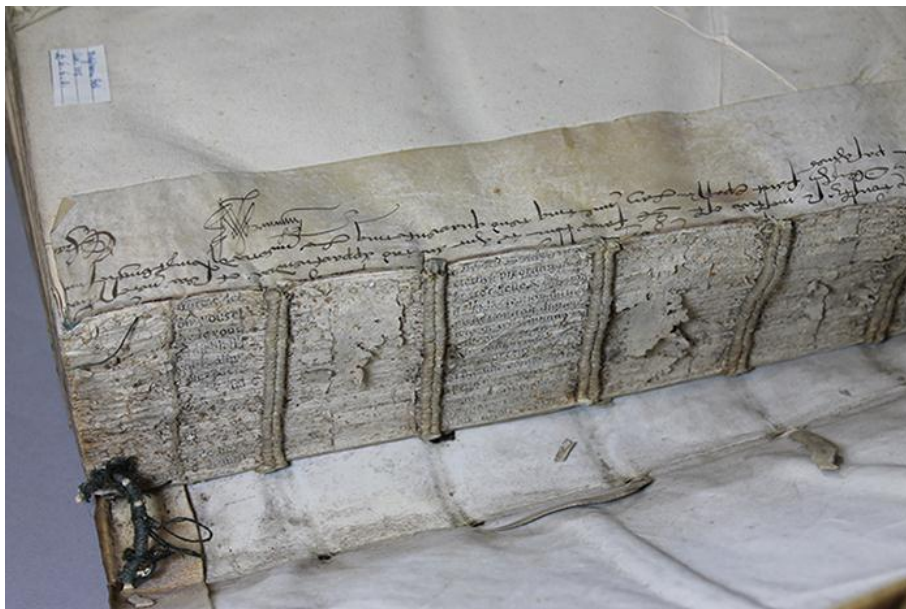
Germanicarvm rerum qvatvor celebriores vetvstioresqve chronographi, earvm descriptionem ab orbe condito vsque ad tempora Henrici IIII. ... singulari fide & diligentia ... in lucem reuocati, & longé emendatius quàm antea impressi ... Qvorvm nomina svnt; Iohannes Tvрпиus De vita Caroli Magni et Rolandi. Rhegina abbas prvmiensis diocesis treviren. Sigebertvs Gemblacensis eivsque continuator Robertvs de Monte. Lambertvs Schaffnabvrgensis, alias Hirsfeldensis dictvs

Call Number - DD 87 S32 G4 1566 folio

Author - Simon Schardius

Date - 1566

Language – Latin



Fragment #1

Height - 54mm

Width - 15mm¹

Language - French

Description - The cropped fragment is located on the spine as a reinforcement. It is a single-sided charter document, written on parchment in cursive script.

Fragment #2, located on the spine as a reinforcement

Fragment #2

Date - 16th century

Height - 54mm

Width - 315mm

Language - French

Description - This cropped fragment is located on the spine as a reinforcement. It is cursive script written on parchment.

¹ This measurement appears to be a typo, as the fragment width is actually 315mm

Vocabularius utriusq[ue] juris difficillimas quasq[ue] voces iuxta receptos iuris interpretes edisserens: nunc demum exactissima cura recognitus ac... supraq[ue] cuiusuis alteri'editionis auresin no[n] paucis vocabulis elegantissimis hac ultima impressione locupletat'

Call Number - KA.5 V872 1537

Date - 1537

Language - Latin

Fragment #1

Date - 14th century

Height - 45mm

Width - 175mm

Language - Latin

Description - The fragment is Leviticus, Chapter 23 from the Vulgate Bible. It is done in black ink and features a decorated initial.



Fragment #2

Date - 14th century

Height - 70mm

Width - 175mm

Language - Latin

Description - The fragment is Leviticus, Chapter 23 from the Vulgate Bible. It is done in black letters with red line decoration.

Fragment #2, located on the spine as a reinforcement

Super tres priores Institutionu[m] diui Iustiniani libros com[m]entaria longè utilissima, unà cum Iasonis annotationibus, antea quidem cum Portij uerbis adeo confusis, ut non raro quid alterutrius esset, uix à purgatissimae naris hominibus deprehendi potuerit

Call Number - KT C824 P852 1548 folio

Author - Cristoforo Porcio

Date - 1548

Language - Latin

Description - The title page has "ex libris Damiani Genngeri a Wolfsegg" written near the bottom.

Fragment #1

Date - 15th century

Height - 320mm

Width - 452mm

Language - Latin

Description - This full-page fragment makes up the entire outside cover of the printed item. It is liturgical text written in Caroline Miniscule script on parchment. It features a number of rubrics (i.e. text written in red), glosses (i.e. text in the margins) in black and red ink, and a decorated initial.



Fragment #1, making up the cover of the item

Anatome corporis utriusque juris

Call Number - KT C82 K58 1608

Author - Tobias Kirchmair

Date - 1608

Language - Latin

Fragment #1

Date - Second half of the 14th century

Height - 140mm

Width - 203mm

Language - Latin

Description - This full-page fragment makes up the outside cover of the printed item. It contains biblical quotes done in penwork flourishing, and has a number of rubrics (i.e. text written in red). The portion covering the spine has been washed to remove the original script, and over it is written "Anatome Vtures, que Juris." The bottom of the fragment is blank, likely because it is the lower part of the original manuscript.

Practicarvm conclsiovm jvris in omni foro frequentiorum Dominici TT. S. Onuphrii S.R.E. Presbyt. Cardin. Tuschi... In qvibvs praeter spiritvales, ecclesiaticas, legales, ivdiciarias, caeterasq[ue] materias canonicas, prophanas... receptasque opiniones... aliqua... multarum insignium ecclesiarum; ordinum regularium militiarum, regnorum... et aliorum locorum statuta... ordine alphabetico continentur, ac declarantur



Call Number - BX 1939 J8 T96 1623 folio t.3-4

Author - Dominicus Tuscus

Date - 1623

Language – Latin

Fragment #1

Description - The fragment is located on the front paste-down.² There seem to be many fragments, but they are obscured so the researchers were not able to determine how many. The fragment(s) feature a decorated "D" initial.

Fragment #1, showing the decorated "D" initial

² The source document identifies the location as the front paste-down, but it is located underneath the front paste-down.

Commentarius mirabilis super titulo de reglis iuris praecipui sui seculi... multò plus quàm vnquam annotationibus auctus, & recognitus. Vbi praeter Nicolae Boerij, & Celsi Hugonis Cabilonen. additiones, multa nouissime per doctorem anonymum sunt addita

Call Number - BX 1935 D58 1540

Author - Dinus de Rossonibus, de Mugello

Date - 1540

Language – Latin

Fragment #1

Height - 35mm

Width - 74mm

Description - The cropped fragment is located on the spine reinforcements and features manicha (i.e. pointing hands).

Fragment #2

Height - 34mm

Width - 71mm

Description - The cropped fragment is located on the spine reinforcements.

Fragment #3

Height - 37mm

Width - 75mm

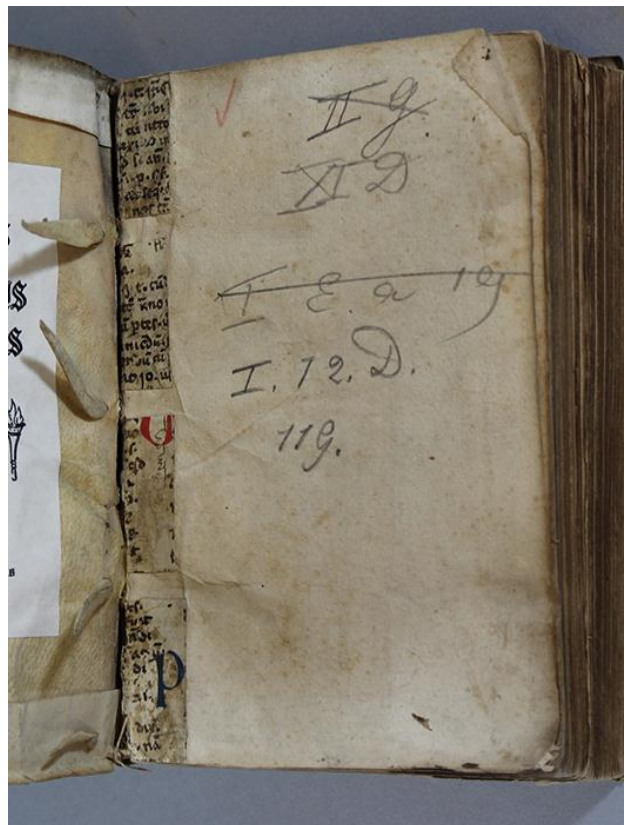
Description - The cropped fragment features a decorated initial.³

Fragment #4

Height - 37mm

Width - 75mm

Description - The cropped fragment is located on the spine reinforcements.



All four fragments, reinforcing the spine

³ It is located on the spine reinforcements, though the source document does not mention this.

Vlyssis Aldrovandi philosophi ac medici Bononiensis historiam naturalem in gymnasio Bononiensi profitentis, Ornithologiae, hoc est, De avibus historiae libri XII ... : cum indice septendecim linguarum copiosissimo

Call Number - QH 41 A36 A1 1599 folio v.1 [copy 1]

Author - Ulisse Aldrovandi

Date - 1599

Language - Latin and Greek



Fragment #1

Height - 365mm

Width - 595mm

Language - Latin

Description - The cropped fragment makes up the outside cover of the book. It is a missal, written in Latin, and featuring a number of rubrics (i.e. text written in red). The fragment also features two decorated initials (an "O" and a "D"), illuminated in gold. There is pencil marking visible underneath the "D," and the fragment shows evidence of pricking (i.e. holes in the page used for ruling). Another fragment is visible through the first, but no details can be made out.

Fragment #1, showing the back cover with decorated "O"

Vlyssis Aldrovandi philosophi ac medici Bononiensis historiam naturalem in gymnasio Bononiensi profitentis, Ornithologiae, hoc est, De avibus historiae libri XII ... : cum indice septendecim linguarum copiosissimo

Call Number - QH 41 A36 A1 1599 folio v.3 [copy 1]

Author - Ulisse Aldrovandi

Date - 1599⁴

Language - Latin

Fragment #1

Height - 365mm

Width - 595mm

Language - Latin

Description - The fragment is a missal written in Latin. It makes up the outside cover of the printed volume, and features a number of rubrics (i.e. text written in red) as well as evidence of pricking (i.e. holes in the page used for ruling). There is another fragment visible through the first, but no details can be made out.

Jesse's Note: The second volume in this three-volume set was not included in the project, but it has what appears to be a similar manuscript fragment on its outside cover as well. Additionally, the fragments on all three volumes have red numbers, in a similar type and position at the top of the page, possibly indicating they are from the same manuscript.



All three volumes of Ulisse Aldrovandi's work, the first and third of which were included in the project

⁴ The source document gives the date as 1599, but the title page gives the date as 1603.

Delle lettere di M. Clavdio Tolomei libri sette

Call Number - PQ 4664 T53 Z5 1576

Author - Claudio Tolomei

Date - 1576

Language – Latin

Fragment #1

Height - 148mm

Width - 54mm

Description - The fragment has evidence of rubrics.

D. Anselmi Cantuariensis archiepiscopi, theologoru[m] omnium sui temporis facile principis in omnes sanctissimi Pauli Apostoli epistolas, & aliquot Euangelia, enarrationes

Call Number – B 765 A8 1549 folio [title 2]

Author - Saint Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury

Date - 1549

Language - Latin

Fragment #1

Height - 330mm

Width - 55mm

Language - Latin

Description - The cropped fragment is located on the paste-down in the front and back covers. It features a decorated initial, a number of glosses (i.e. text in the margins), and some rulings (i.e. lines on the page to guide writing)

Progymnasmata fori; sev, De iis qui in iudicio versantur, et de actis civilium iudiciorum... In hac editione praeter mendas plurimas correctas, adiecta sunt summaria & index copiosus

Call Number - KTH S324 1589

Author - Friedrich Schenck von Tautenberg

Date - 1589

Language - Latin

Fragment #1⁵

Date - 15th century

Height - 158mm

Width - 77mm

Language - Latin

Description - The cropped fragment is located on the outside cover of the item. The cover is made of two fragment pieces pasted over each other, and it appears something was taped or pasted over the fragment at one point. The source document says it is a fragment of "Summa V Indugentia" by Bartholomzus Pisanus.⁶



Fragment #1, making up part of the cover

⁵ The source document says that there are four fragments, but the document only gives information on one.

⁶ It appears likely that "Summa V Indugentia" is a typo, and should read "Summa V Indulgentia"

Libellus de fine, in quo traditur modus & doctrina, quo possunt omnes infideles ad fidem catholicam veritatem breviter reduci, & Terra Sancta, à manibus infidelium recuperari. Nunc de novo correctus & notis marginalibus, ac indice ornatus

Call Number - B 765 L83 L69 1665

Author - Ramon Llull

Date - 1665

Language - Latin



Fragment #1 (left) shown with another item also featuring musical notation as a manuscript fragment [DD 88 M62 1547 folio]

Fragment #1

Date - 16th century

Height - 149mm

Width - 110mm

Description - The fragment is located on the outside cover of the printed text, and has been folded to form the cover. It features large writing and musical notation, with the music lines in red, though the musical clef is missing. The words "deum celi" and "fiat Sacrificium" are visible under the musical notes. The fragment has been identified as a small portion of "Breviarium ad Usus Insignis Ecclesie Eboracensis ... Dominica Prima," and its origins are either Italy or Spain.

Sanctum Iesu Christi Evangelium⁷

Call Number - BS 1975 A1 1500z⁸

Date - 15--?]

Language - Latin Vulgate

Fragment #1⁹

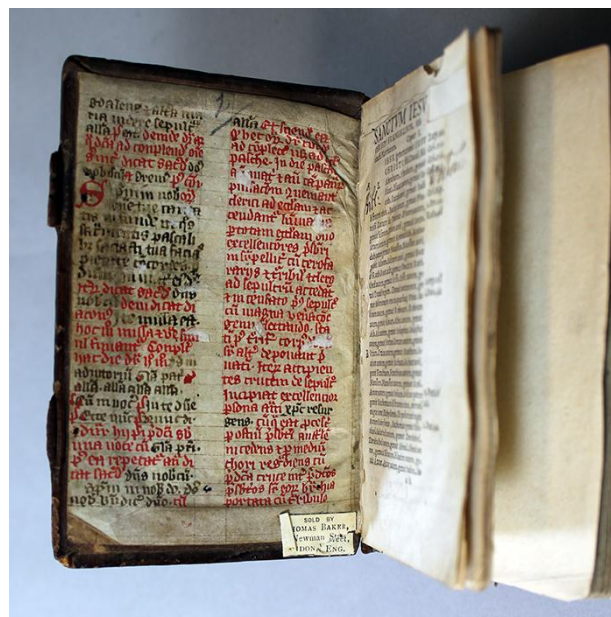
Date - 15th century

Height - 119mm

Width - 83mm

Language - Latin

Description - The fragment is located on the front and back paste-downs of the printed item. It is glued in, though some areas fold up. Certain areas of the fragment are faded, and it is evident that something was pasted on top of it at one time. The fragment features ruling (i.e. lines on the page to guide writing) done in ink as well as a number of rubrics (i.e. text written in red). The content is liturgical, with quotes from the Bible including one passage identified as Hosea 13:14.



The front paste-down portion of Fragment #1

⁷ The source document gives the title simply as "New Testament."

⁸ The source document includes "AOR-5825" at the beginning of the call number, though this does not correspond to anything in the library catalogue.

⁹ The source document lists the number of fragments as two, but gives a description of only one. However, the description refers to both the front paste-down and back paste-down fragments, so it is possible those are the two fragments counted.

Das dritte Theyl der Postillen oder Auszlegung der Euangelien an den furnemmisten Festen inn dem gantzen Jar

Call Number - BR 332 S7 G4 1542

Author - Martin Luther

Date - 1542]

Language – German

Fragment #1¹⁰

Date - 15th century

Height - 305mm

Width - 106mm

Description - The fragment is located on the outside cover of the printed book. It is written in large writing that is largely illegible. It features a red cross as a decoration on the front, and has red initials as well as some smaller writing in red that may be a gloss (i.e. text in the margins). The content has been identified as liturgy.



Fragment #1, showing the front cover portion

¹⁰ The source document lists the number of fragments as two, but gives a description of only one. However, the fragment is located on the outside of both the front and back covers, so it is possible those are the two fragments counted.

Matthaei Dresseri Isagoges historicae

Call Number - D 18 D77 1586 pt. 2

Author - Matthaeus Dresser

Date - 1587¹¹

Language - Latin

Fragment #1

Date - 14th century

Height - 154mm

Width - 256mm

Language - Latin

Description - The fragment is a full page located on the outside cover of the printed book. The fragment shows evidence of ruling (i.e. lines on the page to guide writing) done in plummet as well as red markings in single letters. There is a small piece of paper posted on the spine of the book that says 8' 3, and partially obscures the text which would read "Qui Genus humanum per diabolum a paradisi deliciis dolens exclusum." It has been identified as a fragment from "Life of Saint Katherine."

¹¹ The source document identifies the date of this volume of the five-part series as 1587. The catalogue record gives the dates for the series as 1586-1606.

Historia imperial y cesarea. En la qual en summa se contienen la vidas y hechos de todos los Cesares Emperadores de Roma: desde Julio Cesar hasta el emperador Maximiliano



Fragment #1, showing the back cover with musical notation

Call Number - DD 88 M62 1547 folio

Author - Pedro Mexía

Date - 1547¹²

Language - Spanish

Fragment #1

Date - 16th century

Height - 323mm

Width - 464mm

Language - Latin

Description - The full-page fragment makes up the outside cover of the printed item. It has a clearly visible and tangible folicle pattern. It consists of musical notation, with the musical staff in red and the notes in black. There is also some lettering, including a large stylised “M.” There is more content visible through the parchment on the other side. The fragment’s origins have been identified as Italian.

¹² The source document notes that the copyright page gives the date as 1507, but it appears that the Roman numeral XLVII (1547) was misread.