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General correspondence regarding OEN should be addressed to the Editor. Correspondence regarding the Year's Work in Old English Studies and the Annual Bibliography should be sent to Professors Trahern and Berkhout respectively.

Scholars can assist the work of OEN by sending two offprints of articles to the Editor and two notices of books or monographs to him.

The Old English Newsletter is a refereed periodical. Solicited and unsolicited manuscripts (except for independent reports and news items) are reviewed by specialists in anonymous reports.

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NEWS

I

New Editors at Anglia

After thirty years, all the editors of the journal, Anglia: Zeitschrift für englische Philologie, have changed; Helmut Gneuss and Hans Käsmann have also retired from the editorship. Responsible for Anglia's section on English language, including history of the language and Old and Middle English language and literature (but also Early Modern and Modern language), are now Karl Reichl and Hans Sauer. The Editors welcome contributions in these areas for consideration, as well as notices of books that should be reviewed.

The new editors may be reached at:

Karl Reichl
Universität Bonn
Englisches Seminar
Regina-Pacis-Weg 5
D-53113 Bonn
Germany

Hans Sauer
Technische Universität Dresden
Institut für Anglistik/Amerikanistik
D-01062 Dresden
Germany

II

MLA 1996
Washington DC, December 27-30, 1996

The Executive Committee of the Old English Division of the Modern Language Association has planned three sessions for its 1996 program. The sessions are:

1. Historicist Approaches to Old English Texts
2. Beowulf
3. Open Session

Additional information may be requested from the Program Chair:

Patrick W. Conner
Department of English
P.O. Box 6296
West Virginia University
Morgantown, WV 26506-6296

PHONE: 304-293-3107
FAX: 304-293-5380
e-mail: pconner@wvnvm.wvnet.edu
III
Berkeley Germanic Linguistics Roundtable

The Faculty Club at the Univ. of California, Berkeley will host the Berkeley Germanic Linguistics Roundtable Friday-Saturday, April 12-13, 1996. The Roundtable will focus on various aspects of Germanic Linguistics, including diverse approaches, synchrony and/or diachrony, and historical and/or contemporary language.

Invited speakers are Charles Barrack (Univ. of Washington), Robert D. Fulk (Indiana Univ.), and Ekkehard König (Free Univ. of Berlin); the dinner speaker will be Werner Winter (Univ. of Kiel). Further inquiries may be sent to:

Irmenard Rauch
Dept. of German
Univ. of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, CA 94720

PHONE: 510-642-2003
FAX: 707-746-7480
e-mail: irauch@garnet.berkeley.edu

The Berkeley Germanic Linguistics Roundtable is supported by the Univ. of California, Berkeley Center for German and European Studies, and the Max Kage Foundation, Inc.

IV

The Role of Translation in the Production of History: The Evidence of Old and Middle English Texts

a special session at the
Twenty-First International Conference on Patristic, Medieval, and Renaissance Studies (PMR) at Villanova University

October 4-6, 1996

Kathleen Davis, English Department, Rutgers New Brunswick, announces plans for a special session at PMR. The session abstract is:

No longer do we say, "It's just a translation." As a process of interpretation and re-writing that nonetheless presents itself as an act of repetition—often of authoritative texts—translation is now recognized as a complex and powerful social performer. This session will examine specific examples of translation's participation in medieval production of history and the development of historical understanding. Texts considered need not be "histories" narrowly construed, but can include any text that offers an historical account in translation, or as translation.

Contact: kdavis@ucis.vill.edu
V

Subsidia 22: The Scansion of Beowulf

OEN announces the publication of Subsidia volume 22, Alan Bliss' The Scansion of Beowulf, edited and with a foreword by Peter J. Lucas. The text, produced shortly before the death of the author in November, 1985, was intended as a pedagogical guide for students of Old English at University College Dublin, and since then has been used, along with Bliss's Introduction to Old English Metre, in teaching classes on Old English meter and verse grammar.

The analysis in the work is essentially an expansion of the statistical information given in Appendix C of The Metre of Beowulf, giving ample illustration of the various metrical types and turning the statistical list of symbols into a valuable teaching aid. To that end, The Scansion of Beowulf may be used in conjunction with two other publications in the Subsidia series, Bliss' Introduction to Old English Metre (re-issued as Subsidia 20) and Jeffrey Vickman's Metrical Concordance to Beowulf (Subsidia 16).

Subsidia 22, The Scansion of Beowulf, by Alan Bliss, edited and with a foreword by Peter J. Lucas, is available from the OEN offices at a cost of $5.00 US. There are 51 pp., including foreword, introduction, and Appendix, "A Note on Methodology." ISSN 0739-8549. To order, please contact:

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VI

Carolinas Symposium on British Studies: Call for Papers

The Carolinas Symposium is now inviting proposals for the twenty-third annual conference on British Studies to be held at Coastal Carolina Univ. in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina on October 5 and 6, 1996. The Symposium provides an annual forum for the delivery of scholarly presentations and the exchange of ideas relating to all aspects of British Studies, including history, literature, art and architecture, government, dance, and music.

While the Symposium is based in the Southeast, participants from all parts of the country are encouraged to submit proposals for individual papers, full sessions, and panel discussions. Also invited are submissions for the student paper session from both graduate and undergraduate students, with a prize in each category.

Proposals or papers should be sent by May 1, 1996, to:

Dr. Jaqueline L. Gmuca
Department of English
Coastal Carolina Univ.
Conway, SC 29626

Student papers, which must be complete, should be sent by May 1, 1996, to:

Dr. John Hutcheson
Department of History
Dalton College
Dalton, GA 30720
VII
Utrecht Conference

A conference on The Medieval Chronicle has been scheduled for July 13-16, 1996 in Utrecht, Holland. The conference organizers observe:

In the past twenty years the chronicle, a genre long neglected by both historians and literary scholars, has received a good deal of attention. It seems therefore the right moment to organize a conference on this elusive genre, and to bring together scholars of various disciplines in an attempt to come to a synthesis of what has been achieved and to plot directions for further research.

The conference will focus on four themes: 1) the chronicle as a genre, 2) the function of the chronicle, 3) the chronicle and the reconstruction of the past, and 4) language and image in the chronicle.

For further information contact: Dr. Erik Kooper
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PHONE: +31-30-2536187 or +31-30-2538189 (secr.)
FAX: +31-30-2536000
e-mail: kooper@let.ruu.nl

VIII
New Publications from Odense Univ. Press

Odense Univ. Press introduces two new publications:

NOWELE Supplements,


This corpus-based study examines the lexical field of theft in the Anglo-Saxon law-codes and documents containing reports of lawsuits (charters, writs, and some chapters of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle). The individual Old English lexemes are analyzed not only in terms of their meaning, collocation patterns, and Latin translations, but also, more unusually in a field-approach, with reference to their distribution over various textual genres and the discourse strategies dominant in these. Although primarily linguistic in focus, a detailed description of the theft-offenses and the wider context in which they occur should also be of interest to the historian.


The language of the First Riugrung Manuscript, dating from ca. 1300 A.D., represents the most archaic stage of Old Frisian. The mainly legal texts are famous for their historical value, however, a grammatical treatise of this important codex is still lacking. This book is meant to meet this
need. It contains an inventory of the linguistic evidence as well as a synchronic study of the grammar. Moreover, historical linguistic problems are discussed wherever relevant. The book is intended for all students of Old Frisian, not just linguists but also legal historians, philologists, historians, and others.

Odense Univ. Press also invites readers to subscribe to a new festschrift: A Frisian and Germanic Miscellany: Published in Honour of Nils Århammar on his Sixty-Fifth Birthday, 7 August 1996.

The publication of this festschrift in honor of Nils Århammar's sixty-fifth birthday will coincide with his retirement from the posts of Professor of Frisian in the Bildungwissenschaftliche Hochschule Flensburg - Universität and Director of the Nordfriisk Institut at Bredstedt. The volume is due to appear as a double issue of the journal NOWELE in collaboration with the Nordfriisk Institut, and will include the following articles of interest to Anglo-Saxon studies:

Gillis Kristensson, "Four English Place-Name Etymologies"
Patrick V. Stiles, "Old English uncer and incet"
Matsuji Tajima, "The Common/Objective Case Subject of the Gerund in Middle English"

The price of the festschrift is DKK 300.00 (for subscribers to NOWELE, DKK 240.00). Additional information may be requested from:

Odense Univ. Press
Campusvej 55
DK-5230 Odense M Denmark

IX

New from the Early English Text Society, Supplementary Series 15 --

Byrhtferth's Enchiridion

Edited by Peter S. Baker and Michael Lapidge

This edition of the Enchiridion supersedes that of S. J. Crawford, published for the Society in 1929 as vol. 177 of the Original Series. The new edition contains a full introduction and a facing-page translation, followed by detailed commentary. The edition also includes the text of Byrhtferth's Latin treatise on computus, which has never before been printed.


To order, contact:

Oxford University Press
198 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10016
Brief Notices on Publications


D.S. Brewer has also issued *Words, Names and History: Selected Papers of Cecily Clark*, edited by Peter Jackson. This post-humous publication gathers articles from throughout Clark’s career into a single volume. Articles of interest to Anglo-Saxonists include, “The Narrative Mode of the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* before the Conquest,” “On Dating the *Battle of Maldon*: Certain Evidence Reviewed,” and “Historical Linguistics—Linguistic Archaeology.” Including an Introduction by the editor, a short Note of Appreciation by Peter Clemoes and a list of publications by Cecily Clark. Pp. xxviii + 448. ISBN 0-85991-402-X.


Joan Holland
Centre for Medieval Studies, Univ. of Toronto

The rate of progress at the Dictionary this year has been encouraging. The drafting of entries for the sixth fascicle, the letter E, is almost complete, final revision is proceeding well, and we expect publication in the first half of 1996. In addition, we have written more than half the entries for F, which, with about 3000 headwords, will be our third largest letter. We are grateful to those of you who have been so generous in responding to our numerous queries about the entries. We would like to let you know that Karen Jankulak will be replacing Catherine Georgi temporarily as our copy-editor and letter-writer as Catherine is taking some time off in preparation for her new baby. Our specialist readers will, therefore, still receive our unrelenting questions though under another name.

The project has made significant technological advances this year. The 1995 version of our Electronic Corpus is updated and incorporates correction of errors and replacement of some editions of the texts. More significantly, it is fully conformant with the 1994 guidelines of the Text Encoding Initiative (TEI). We were assisted in our work on this by Dr. John Price-Wilkin of the Univ. of Michigan, in collaboration with our systems analyst, Tak Ariga. The putting of the Electronic Corpus on the World Wide Web has been the high point of our year: with the support of the Chief Librarian of the Univ. of Toronto, we were able to bring John Price-Wilkin to Toronto in May; as a result of this visit (as well as of our earlier preparatory work), we were able to make the Dictionary Corpus available on the Web to the Univ. of Toronto community as a prelude to making our materials accessible to scholars around the world within the next few months. This will facilitate not only the research of our colleagues but our collaboration with them in the writing of the Dictionary. In July we were delighted to give a preview of the Web Corpus to the participants in a summer seminar sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities under the direction of Paul E. Szarmach of Western Michigan Univ. The project's next computer effort is the tagging of the fascicles of the Dictionary, a process parallel to, but more complex than, the tagging of the Corpus. As part of our planning, we invited Michael Sperberg-McQueen of the Univ. of Illinois at Chicago to meet with us in Toronto, along with Richard Venezyk, our Director of Computing. We are in the earliest planning stages of this endeavor.

During the year we have had visits from a number of scholars who consulted our collection for their own research. Working here for lengthier periods were Keiko Ikegami of Seijo Univ., Tokyo, who visited in May, and Tadao Kubouchi of the Univ. of Tokyo, who used our research collection for several weeks in July and August. Also, in December we had a site visit from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada for the purpose of assessing their future level of commitment to the project.

Two members of our staff have attended conferences this year. Antonette diPaolo Healey and Nancy Speirs gave papers at the Sixteenth International Conference of the International Computer Archive of Modern English at the Univ. of Toronto in May. As well, Antonette diPaolo Healey chaired a session at the 30th International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, Michigan in May; gave a paper at the Second International Medieval Congress (450-1500 A.D.), Univ. of Leeds in July at a session in honor of Professor Eric Stanley, a member of our International Advisory Committee; attended the meeting of the Advisory Board at the Conference of the International Society of Anglo-Saxonists at Stanford Univ. in August; and, finally, attended the MLA meeting in Chicago in December, where she gave a report on the Dictionary to the Old English Executive Committee.

We are delighted to report that we have been able to complete the match for the Challenge Grant awarded to the project in the spring of 1994 by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The amount remaining to be matched, $91,893 U.S., was fully released by the outright portion of our most recent grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, awarded in the summer of 1995: $100,000 outright, $200,000 matching. The project's immediate concern is to raise the $200,000 to meet the Endowment match as quickly as possible. Donations from the Jackson Foundation and the McLean Foundation, both of Toronto, as well as contributions from individuals, have been crucial in our fundraising efforts. We would like once again to express our appreciation for the invaluable support of the international scholarly community.
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Roberta Frank

Editor, Publ. of the Dictionary of Old English
Roberta Frank

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The Univ. of Toronto
Xerox Corporation University Grants Committee
THE OTTO GRÜNDLER PRIZE 1997

Dr. Diether H. Haenicke, President of Western Michigan University, announces the first Otto Gründler Prize to be awarded in May, 1997 at the 32nd International Congress on Medieval Studies sponsored by the Medieval Institute. The Prize honors Professor Otto Gründler for his distinguished service to Western Michigan University and his life-long dedication to the international community of medievalists. The Prize will recognize a book or monograph in any area of Medieval Studies that is judged by the selection committee to be an outstanding contribution to the field. The author will receive $2,500.

Eligibility

Authors from any country are eligible. The book or monograph may be in any of the standard scholarly languages. To be eligible for the 1997 prize the book or monograph must have been published in 1995.

Nominations

Readers or publishers may nominate books. Letters of nomination should include sufficient detail and rationale so as to assist the committee.

Submission

Send letters of nomination and any supporting material by 1 November 1996 to:

Paul E. Szarmach, Secretary
Gründler Prize Committee
The Medieval Institute
104E Walwood Hall
Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-3801

For further information see the Bulletin Board at
http://www.wmich.edu/medieval/
The British Library Newsletter, no. 13 (Summer 1995), announces the completion of the Rare Books and Music Reading Room at St. Pancras, in the first floor southwest area. It has been sealed off in preparation for the opening of the building. The Newsletter writes:

As with all the reading rooms at St Pancras, the walls and ceiling of the RBMRR are painted white, with American oak panelling on the lower parts of the walls and pillars, and on the service counters. The carpet is blue-green to complement the blue leather desk tops designed for the humanities reading areas. Sockets are provided at each desk for power supply, and individual desk lamps are placed between facing desks, lending privacy as well as illumination.

There are 288 reader desks in the Rare Books and Music Reading Room, with additional seating for online, CD-ROM and typing facilities. Private study carrels are also provided.

While there will be no reader visits to the site for the foreseeable future, the video The British Library at St Pancras continues to be shown to readers on Wednesdays, at fortnightly intervals, in the Seminar Room in the King's Library.

Reader's wishing to see the video and discuss their concerns with the Library staff at the question-and-answer sessions afterwards are invited to attend. Details of the times of the video showings are available from the Enquiry Desk, or from the St. Pancras Information Officer, Frances Lill (PHONE: +44-171-412-7766).

Also of interest is Graham Jefcoate's progress report on the latest developments in the British Library's Internet strategy. Portico, the British Library's online information server (forming part of the Library's Initiatives for Access program), was launched in July, 1994, and seeks to bring comprehensive online information about the Library and its resources to Internet users by providing a plaintext guide to services and collections. As of the publication of Volume no. 13 of the Newsletter, Portico had registered over 450,000 connections, an average of 1,323 per day, with peak times experiencing connections of about 40 users per minute.

The Portico gopher connection has been enhanced by a variety of World Wide Web pages, adding hypertext documents, images and audio files to the information sources available online. Users can now preview a British Library exhibition, sample some of the exhibits and even hear musical extracts of the manuscripts shown on screen. The World Wide Web URL is:

http://portico.bl.uk

A second aspect of the Library's involvement with the Internet is its continuing efforts to formulate a policy on widening Internet access to the Library's staff to help them support the Library's operations and services. The experience of staff in six pilot areas and surveys of Internet use elsewhere in the Library and in other organizations are being utilized to develop proposals for a range of Internet-related topics, including security, training, management and procedural aspects. Other aspects of Internet-use under development include the use of the Internet as a tool in supporting information services, the availability of Internet access for users in the reading rooms and at St. Pancras, and the need for ongoing specialist staff training. A number of well-received public demonstrations at the Library's Boston Spa base have also been given.

Graham Jefcoate closes with the optimistic: "The challenge of the Internet to traditional working methods is clear. However, by adopting a measured approach, the Library hopes to achieve a 'managed' introduction of the network to both staff and users."

The editors of OEN wish to thank Gillian Ridgley, editor of the British Library Newsletter, for permission to extract news items of interest to the Old English Newsletter and its readers.
Richard Rawlinson Center for Anglo-Saxon Studies 
and Manuscript Research

The Rawlinson Center fosters teaching and research in the history and culture of Anglo-Saxon England and in the broader field of manuscript studies. Dedicated to the memory of the founder of the chair of Anglo-Saxon at Oxford, and established through a gift from Georgian Rawlinson Tashjian and David Reitler Tashjian, the Center opened in May 1994. Its resources are currently being actively developed. It houses a small but growing specialist library of books, microfiches, microfilms, and slides. Eventually it will hold photographic reproductions, in various formats, of a large number of Anglo-Saxon and other manuscripts, notably The Electronic Beowulf project, whose other bases are at the British Library and the Univ. of Kentucky, and seeks to develop further the potential of digitization for teaching and research.

Sources of Anglo-Saxon Literary Culture (SASLC), now a project of the Rawlinson Center, plans to issue at least three volumes in the coming decade. Old English Newsletter and OEN Subsidia have also become publications of the Rawlinson Center, which will be the site for other publications within the discipline of Anglo-Saxon Studies.

The Rawlinson Center also supports special lectures, programs, and courses. The first public lectures sponsored by the Center took place on 23 March 1995, when Thomas H. Ohlgren (Purdue Univ.) spoke on "The Gollancz Facsimile of MS Junius 11," and Timothy Graham on "A Testimonie of Antiquitie: The Waldo Library Copy." The two lectures commemorated purchases by Western Michigan Univ.'s Waldo Library. In June-July 1995 the Center hosted a Summer Seminar on "New and Old Approaches to Beowulf and Old English Literature," funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and directed by Paul E. Szarmach with Timothy Graham. Twelve college teachers and independent scholars pursued a wide range of research interests. Kevin Kieman (Univ. of Kentucky), Katherine O'Brien O'Keefe (Univ. of Notre Dame), and Hans Sauer (Dresden) gave guest presentations. See the following article for more information on the seminar.

For Winter and Spring 1996, Timothy Graham will hold, as he did in 1995, an appointment as Visiting International Scholar. A specialist in Anglo-Saxon manuscripts and formerly based at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, Graham will teach a course in "Latin Palaeography" through the Newberry Library Consortium (February-April) and offer directed studies in Latin to students in the Medieval Institute's program leading to a Master of Arts in Medieval Studies. For the Spring 1996 session Timothy Graham will offer a course on "Women and Medieval Manuscripts." It is anticipated that Graham will visit again in winter, 1997.

Dr. Douglas Ferraro, Dean of Arts and Sciences at Western Michigan Univ., has announced the appointment of the following as Members of the first International Advisory Board for the Center:

Michelle Brown (British Library)
Antonette diPaolo Healey (Toronto)
Catherine Karkov (Miami-Ohio)
Kevin S. Kieman (Kentucky)
Donald S. Scrugg (Manchester)
Hans Sauer (Dresden)
Patrick Wormald (Christ Church, Oxford)

The Rawlinson Center will play a major role in the 31st International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 9-12, 1996, by sponsoring sessions for the first time in its history. These are Session 235, "Cotton Julius E.vii" (Friday, May 10, 3:30 p.m.) and Session 257 "Anglo-Saxon Studies in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries" (Saturday, May 11, 10:00 a.m.). The Center also plans to sponsor a Richard Rawlinson Congress Speaker at each Congress who will be a transatlantic scholar invited to anchor sessions on Anglo-Saxon studies outside of literature. The Center is proud to announce that the Richard Rawlinson Congress Speaker for the 1996 Congress will be Patrick Wormald from Christ Church College, Oxford.

In this second year of operation the Center intends to develop further the research library at its facilities in Walwood Hall and to work with Waldo Library in the strengthening of Western Michigan Univ.'s holdings in the field of Anglo-Saxon studies with special reference to resources for the study of manuscripts. The strengthening of existing links with projects and programs at other institutions and the development of new areas of cooperation will be strategic goals.
Sources at Kalamazoo

The program Sources of Anglo-Saxon Culture plans the following sessions for the Thirty-First International Congress, May 9-12, 1996:

Session 19: Anglo-Saxon Law
Presider: Paul E. Szarmach, Western Michigan Univ.
"Archbishop Wulfstan's Canon Collection, "Patrick Wormald, Christ Church College-Oxford [Richard Rawlinson Center Congress Speaker]
"Anglo-Saxonism in the Old English Laws," Mary P. Richards, Univ. of Delaware

Session 228: Magic and Witchcraft in Anglo-Saxon England and Early Medieval Europe
Presider: Catherine E. Karkov, Miami Univ.
"The Oxymoron "Christian Magic": Early Medieval Medicine, Liturgy, and Folklore," Karen Louise Jolly, Univ. of Hawaii-Ma'noa
"Tangled Webs: Weaving and the Supernatural," Kelley Wickham-Crowley, Georgetown Univ.
"Falling Amongst Thieves: The Old English Charms for the Loss of Cattle," Lisa M.C. Weston, California State Univ.-Fresno

Session 371: Women and Anglo-Saxon England
Presider: Helen Damico, Univ. of New Mexico
"Elene: Power and the Christian Hierarchy," Marjorie Brown, Utica College
"Speech, Gender, and Linguistic Change in Beowulf," Mary Catherine Davidson, Univ. of Toronto

Sources worked with the committee honoring J. E. Cross, which organized the “Symposium on Irish and Anglo-Saxon Literary Culture in Honor of J.E. Cross.” These sessions included:

Presider: Denis Brearley, Univ. of Ottawa
"Links between a 12th Century Worcester Homily and the 8th century Hiberno-Latin Liber questionum in evangeliis (Orléans 65)," Jean Rittmueler, Memphis, Tennessee
"Eucharistic Theology and Terminology in Some Old English and Hiberno-Latin Homilies," Lawrence T. Martin, Univ. of Akron
"Sources of the Catechesis Cracoviensi," Thomas Amos, Harvard Univ.

Session 310: Symposium on Irish and Anglo-Saxon Literary Culture in Honor of J.E. Cross II
Presider: E. Gordon Whatley, Queens College
"Paris, BN, lat. 5574 and Old English Literature," Frederick M. Biggs, Univ. of Connecticut
"The Old English "Macarius" Body and Soul Homily, Vercelli Homily IV, and Ephraem the Syrian's De paenitentia," Charles D. Wright, Univ. of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign

Session 354: Symposium on Irish and Anglo-Saxon Literary Culture in Honor of J.E. Cross III
Presider: David F. Johnson, Florida State Univ.
"To Shave Beowulf [sic]." Alan Brown, Ohio State Univ.
"The Old English Dough Riddle and Women's Magic: The European Context of Exeter Book Riddle 45," Thomas N. Hall, Univ. Illinois-Chicago
"Renaming Lordship: Rhetorical Power and Ambiguous Rhetoric in Old English Narrative," Sachi Shimomura, Cornell University
Session 391: Symposium on Irish and Anglo-Saxon Literary Culture in Honor of J.E. Cross IV
Presider: Thomas N. Hall, Univ. of Illinois-Chicago
   "Sanctifying Anglo-Saxon Ealdormen: Lay Sainthood and the Rise of the Crusading Ideal," John
   Edward Dumen, Univ. of Arizona
   "Noble Counsel Un-Counsel: Advising Æthelræd the Unready," Alice Sheppard, Cornell Univ.
   "Gildas and Glastonbury: Revisiting the Origins of Glastonbury Abbey," Alfred K. Siewers, Univ. of
   Illinois-Chicago

Session 426: Symposium on Irish and Anglo-Saxon Literary Culture in Honor of J.E. Cross V
Presider: Susan E. Deskis, Northern Illinois Univ.
   "The Conversion Stories in Ælfric's Lives of Saints," Dabney Anderson Bankert, Univ. of
   Illinois-Urbana-Champaign
   "Liturgical Echoes in Laxdaela saga," Andrew Hamer, Univ. of Liverpool
   "Truth of the Trinity: Kynde Knowynge in Piers Plowman," Joseph S. Wittig, Univ. of North Carolina-
   Chapel Hill

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Thirty-Second International Congress on Medieval Studies
May 8-11, 1997

Key Dates and Deadlines

- May 15, 1996: Deadline for suggested topics for Sponsored and Special sessions
- June 1996: Mailing of the Call for Papers
- Sept. 15, 1996: Deadline for submission of abstracts for General sessions
- Oct. 1, 1996: Deadline to submit schedule of sessions for organizers of Sponsored and Special sessions
- Oct. 1, 1996: Deadline for offers to chair General sessions. The Congress experiences an annual shortage
  of presiders, if you are interested in chairing a session, please let us know!

All deadlines are firm. We may be reached at:

International Congress on Medieval Studies
Medieval Institute
Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-3801

PHONE:  616-387-8745
FAX:  616-387-8750
e-mail: MDVL CONGRES@WMICH.EDU
WWW Site: http://www.wmich.edu/congress/congresshome.html
1995 NEH Summer Seminar at Western Michigan Univ.

The National Endowment for the Humanities, Division of Fellowships and Seminars, supported a Summer Seminar for College Teachers on "Old and New Approaches to Beowulf and Old English Literature," at the Richard Rawlinson Center for Anglo-Saxon Studies and Manuscript Research, the Medieval Institute, Western Michigan Univ., June 19-July 28, 1995. Paul E. Szarmach, working with Timothy C. Graham and the staff of the Institute and WMU, directed the seminar. The seminar was the first national activity of the Rawlinson Center.

The seminar focused on Beowulf and considered the impact of scholarly trends in the last quarter century on the understanding of that work. The intellectual plan and schedule sought to study old and new approaches that included the idea of philology, orality and literacy, women's studies, computer applications, and in the general context of Old English literature. The primary source, both for direct discussion and for general textual reference, was Beowulf, but many other poetic and prose texts were adduced to cover seminar themes through seminar sessions, individual conferences, and informal discussions. Participants had ample opportunity to work on their own research programs.

Kevin S. Kiernan (Univ. of Kentucky), Katherine O'Brien O'Keefe (Univ. of Notre Dame), and Hans Sauer (Dresden) were guest speakers. Kiernan introduced the group to The Electronic Beowulf project and conducted a hands-on session on the project's digitized images at the WMU Computing Center. O'Brien O'Keefe made a presentation on oral theoretical analysis, assessing frameworks and considering future possibilities, and led a question-and-answer session. Sauer gave an informal lecture on "Anglo-Saxon Studies in Germany," a written version of which appeared in OEN 28.3.

The highlight of the seminar was a research visit to the Dictionary of Old English, where Antonette DiPaolo Healey and her associates Joan Holland and Nancy Speirs introduced the group to the DOE and its resources.

The images of The Electronic Beowulf were available throughout at the Rawlinson Center for study and discussion.

The twelve participants at the seminar, chosen in a national application process, were:

Rebecca Barnhouse (Youngstown State Univ.)
John Brennan (Indiana Univ./Purdue Univ.-Fort Wayne)
Patricia D. Davis (Pima Community College)
Michael E. Ellis (Southwest Missouri State)
Frances J. Hildahl (SUC-Oswego)
Shari Horner (Univ. of Nebraska-Kearney)
Ray Moe (Coastal Carolina Univ.)
Thomas Nunnally (Auburn Univ.)
Robert M. Otten (Indiana Univ.-Kokomo)
David W. Porter (Southern Univ.-Baton Rouge)
Leslie Stratyn (Ithaca College)
Catherine Brown Tkacz (Independent scholar)

The photo-page on the right offers a partial, visual record.

At the 31st International Congress on Medieval Studies an ad-hoc committee of participants will present a panel entitled, "You're still teaching Beowulf? Renewing Old English Literature for 21st Century Students," Saturday, May 11 at 3:30 p.m. in Room 203 [session no. 337]. The participants include John Brennan, Indiana Univ./Purdue Univ.-Fort Wayne; Patricia D. Davis, Pima Community College; Michael E. Ellis, Southwest Missouri State; Frances J. Hildahl, SUC-Oswego; Ray Moe, Coastal Carolina Univ.; and Robert M. Otten, Indiana Univ.-Kokomo.

Catherine Brown Tkacz' article on MCOE, in this issue of OEN, was written and developed at the Seminar with the assistance of DOE.
1. Walwood Hall, site of Seminar

4. Seminar takes a break at the Rawlinson

2. David Porter, John Brennan, Thomas Nunnally at the table

5. Timothy Graham at work

3. Shari Horner and Leslie Stratynar

6. Patricia Davis and Thomas Nunnally at the wine hour
ISAS 1995: Stanford

President George H. Brown hosted the Seventh Biennial Meeting of the International Society of Anglo-Saxonists at Stanford Univ., August 6-12, 1995. Organized around the conference theme “Old and New Ways in the Study of Anglo-Saxon Culture,” the schedule featured twelve sessions of papers, four sessions of media presentations, and three sessions of reports on projects in addition to an after-dinner address by Fred C. Robinson, "Recalling Herbert Dean Meritt, the Man and the Scholar," and the business meeting. Two excursions, Wednesday to Napa Valley Wine Country and Saturday to Monterey, Carmel, and San Juan Bautista, highlighted the Stanford meeting.

The Advisory Board met to consider a number of actions and to plan, as presented below, for the succession of officers and the future scheduling of coming biennial meetings. The Board voted the following special actions, endorsed subsequently by the members present:

1. A £1000 grant to support Bede’s World [see elsewhere in this issue].

2. A $500 grant to support Anglo-Saxon Manuscripts in Microsciehe Facsimile.

3. A new category of membership, Life Member, at $200, funds from which would go towards an endowment.

4. Honorary memberships to:

   Helmut Gneuss (Munich, emeritus)
   Edward B. Irving, Jr. (Pennsylvania, emeritus)
   Barbara Raw (Keele, emerita)

Effective January 1, 1996, the officers of ISAS are:

President: Patrizia Lendinara (Palermo)
First Vice President: Katherine O’Brien O’Keeffe (Univ. of Notre Dame)
Second Vice President: Phillip Pulsiano (Villanova Univ.)
Executive Director: Patrick W. Conner (West Virginia Univ.)

Advisory Board:
Antonette diPaolo Healey (Dictionary of Old English)
Michael Lapidge (Anglo-Saxon England)
Paul E. Szarmach (Old English Newsletter)

Peter Baker (Univ. of Virginia)
Michelle Brown (British Library)
Mary Clayton (Univ. College, Dublin)
Matti Kilpiö (Univ. of Helsinki)
Kevin Kierman (Univ. of Kentucky)
Tadao Kobouchi (Univ. of Toronto)
Andrew Orchard (Emmanuel College, Cambridge)
David Pelteret (Univ. of Toronto)
Ursula Schaefer (Humboldt Univ., Berlin)

Advisors whose service ended December 31, 1995 are: James Graham Campbell, Joyce Hill, Katherine O’Brien O’Keeffe, Hans Sauer, and Patrick Wormald.
The 1997 ISAS meeting will take place at the Univ. of Palermo, Sunday, July 6 through Saturday, July 12. The theme is: "Anglo-Saxon Studies in the Twentieth Century: Retrospect and Prospect." For further information contact:

Prof. Patrizia Lendinara  
Cattedra di Filologia Germanica  
Facoltà di Magistero  
Università di Palermo  
Piazza I. Florio, 24  
90139 Palermo, Italia

PHONE: 39 + 91-6956553 / 772  
FAX: 39 + 91-321665  
e-mail: Lendi@CUC.UNIPA.IT

The 1999 ISAS meeting will take place at the Univ. of Notre Dame in August. For preliminary information contact:

Prof. Katherine O'Brien O'Keeffe  
Dept. of English  
Univ. of Notre Dame  
Notre Dame, IN 46556

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To join ISAS send dues ($15 US or £10; £10 or £7 for students) to the International Society of Anglo-Saxonists, along with professional name, title, e-mail, and correct address (no more than six lines) to:

Prof. Patrick W. Conner  
Department of English  
P.O. Box 6296  
West Virginia University  
Morgantown, WV 26506-6296

Photographs on page 20 courtesy of Phillip Pulsiano.
1. Fred C. Robinson and Roberta Frank

2. Reception time

3. Phyllis and George Brown

4. Hugh Magennis and David Pelceret

5. When is it our turn?

6. James Earl and Robert Bjork
Sixty-Fifth Birthday Party in Honor
of Fred C. Robinson

Nicholas Howe
Ohio State Univ.

On the occasion of his sixty-fifth birthday, September 23, 1995. Fred C. Robinson was honored with a surprise party in New Haven, Connecticut. Those in attendance included the honoree and his wife Helen, John C. Pope, Marie Borroff, Ingeborg Glier, Annabel Patterson, Lee Patterson and Elizabeth Fowler (all Yale Univ.), Daniel Donoghue (Harvard Univ.), and Anne Donoghue, Peter S. Baker (Univ. of Virginia), Hal Momma (New York Univ.), and Nicholas Howe and Georgina Kleege (Ohio State Univ.). Also present to honor Robinson were two of his current Ph.D. students, Philip Rusche and Mary Ramsey. At the dinner, Professor Robinson was also presented with an album of congratulatory letters and cards from around the world. Among these messages of good wishes were original poems in Old English composed by E. G. Stanley (Oxford), Bruce Mitchell (Oxford), Mary Blockley (Univ. of Texas), and Roy Michael Liuzza (Tulane Univ.).

In addition, Marijane Osborn (Univ. of California-Davis) sent an album featuring her translations from Beowulf arranged next to Japanese prints to form a cross-cultural tribute to Robinson.

The high point of the evening was the presentation to Robinson of a pre-publication copy of a festschrift in his honor entitled, Words and Works: Essays in Honor of Professor Fred C. Robinson. This festschrift, edited by Peter Baker and Nicholas Howe, will include essays on medieval English language and literature by friends and former students. The contributors include, in addition to the editors: Mary Blockley, David Boyd (Univ. of Pennsylvania), Daniel Donoghue, Roberta Frank (Univ. of Toronto), Helmut Gneuss (Univ. of Munich), Antonette di Paololo Healey (Univ. of Toronto and the Dictionary of Old English), Michael Lapidge (Cambridge), Roy Michael Liuzza, Bruce Mitchell, Marijane Osborn, Michiko Ogura (Chiba Univ.), Maati Rissanen (Univ. of Helsinki), E. G. Stanley, Paul E. Szarmach (Western Michigan Univ.), and Siegfried Wenzel (Univ. of Pennsylvania).

After the official presentations, the guests enjoyed a delicious dinner and good conversation. The guest of honor, it is safe to say, was utterly surprised and deeply moved by the celebration.
Anglo-Saxon Studies in Spain

Antonio Bravo, Univ. of Oviedo and
Maria José Mora, Univ. de Sevilla

This article is another in a series discussing Anglo-Saxon studies around the world. See OEN 28.3, pages 11-22, for a look at Anglo-Saxon studies in Germany and OEN 28.1, Appendix B for discussions of Anglo-Saxon studies in Eastern Europe, including Romania, the Czech Republic, Poland, and Hungary, ed. Terry Hood.

These reports analyze the history and state of Anglo-Saxon studies in Spain. Old English entered the university curriculum in the 1950's--as part of the newly created section of "Modern Languages" or "Modern Philology"--but research did not expand until the 1980's. In this brief period of time, Anglo-Saxon studies in Spain have also been influenced by some of the main factors that have marked the development of the discipline elsewhere, such as the debate over the place of this subject within English Studies, or the impact of new trends in linguistics and critical theory.

The first report traces the history of the discipline in Spain and examines the place of Old English studies in the university curriculum, currently under reform. The second presents a brief assessment of Spanish work on Old English, analyzing research lines, translations, and discussing the factors that have conditioned the development of Anglo-Saxon studies in Spain.

I. Teaching Old English in Spain

Antonio Bravo
Univ. of Oviedo

The history of Old English in Spanish universities began in the 1950's, when this subject entered the curriculum of the Humanities as part of the new section of Modern Languages, English Philology, or English Studies. In fact, the teaching of English Philology began in Salamanca in 1952; Madrid followed in 1953, and Barcelona in 1954. From the very beginning, Medieval English (OE and ME language and literature) was granted a special status, since English Studies inherited the tradition and approach used in Spanish and Romance Philology. Therefore, the first teachers and scholars in Spain emphasized historical linguistics and medieval literature; consequently, in the 1950's, 1960's and 1970's, Old and Middle English were compulsory subjects in the first curricula designed for the Departments of English.

Most important for Old English studies was the appointment of Emilio Lorenzo to teach Germanic Philology in general--and Old English in particular--in Madrid in 1953, and his occupying the first chair of English in Spain in 1958. Lorenzo had been trained in Romance and Germanic Philology in Spain and abroad, and had studied under Ernst Curtius in Bonn. He was for many years in charge of the Department of English Philology in Madrid, and taught Old English until his retirement in 1985. Directly or indirectly, his influence has been present in all the Departments of English created in Spain until the 1970's; some of his disciples--most of whom taught Old English--obtained chairs of English in different universities. Lorenzo is now a member of the Royal Academy of the Spanish Language.

In this early period, Old English classes focused mainly on translation, and Sweet's Anglo-Saxon Primer was the textbook used in most universities. Old English literature was not taught as a separate subject, but considered together with Middle English literature as part of the same course.

In the 1970's and 1980's, no less than twenty new universities were created. The philological orientation that had presided over the beginnings of English Studies in Spain lost prominence, and Old English was rarely introduced as an independent subject. The interests of Spanish scholars had expanded, and other areas were privileged. In the last two decades, many of the older universities have reformed their curricula moving in the same direction: the impact of new trends in linguistics and literary theory, and the rise of areas like Commonwealth literature or Women's Studies have relegated the philological study of the language--and especially the study of Old English--to a secondary position. In many cases, Old English only remained as part of the general courses in the History of the English language.

Syllabus reform, as some critics have pointed out, is a subject never far below the surface in English Studies all over the world. In Spain the government has recently launched a nationwide reform of university studies, including, of course, English Philology. The most outstanding feature in this reform is that it imposes a national standard--a basic "core" of required subjects in every field--while at the same time stressing student option. The curriculum combines "core" subjects (that will be required in all universities in Spain), compulsory subjects (freely introduced by each university, but required of their students), and electives. In English Studies, the "core" subjects are English (as a foreign language; 140 hrs.), English Grammar (100 hrs.), English and American Literature (270 hrs.), History and Culture of the English-speaking countries (80 hrs.), and History of the English Language (100 hrs.)

As far as we are concerned, the inclusion of
the History of the English Language among the core subjects is most important, since it guarantees that Old English will be taught at least one term—three hours a week—in all Spanish universities. And, since each university can introduce other compulsory subjects or other requirements, some of them have added more credits to the History of the English Language. Thus, some universities such as Oviedo, Seville, Santiago, León, Málaga, Valencia, and Madrid among others are going to teach no less than 60 or 90 hrs. of Old English.

Besides this compulsory course in the History of the English Language, some universities have introduced an Old English elective with different terminology: Anglo-Saxon Studies, Old English Philology, or merely Old English. It is not likely, however, that this elective will enlist large numbers of students, since most prefer more fashionable subjects such as Women’s Studies.

As far as Old English Literature is concerned, it will be taught in most universities only as a small part of courses in the History of English Literature. Some universities, however, have introduced Medieval English Literature as a compulsory subject; and in this case, Old English literature will have greater relevance (perhaps 20 hrs. in a semester). In Oviedo, Old English Literature has been made compulsory for a semester (40 hrs.), but this is an exception in Spain.

In order to teach Old English language and literature most teachers make use of texts and handbooks both in English and Spanish. Standard books for the History of the English Language courses are: the History of the English Language by Baugh and Cable, B. Strang’s A History of English and more recently the The Cambridge History of the English Language; in Spanish, Historia de la lengua inglesa (1982; 2nd ed. 1990), by F. Fernández, and Historia del Ingles (1992) by Juan de la Cruz and Ángel Cañete. For Old English in particular, Sweet’s Primer and Reader are still used, but Mitchell and Robinson’s Guide to Old English is now much more popular. The Old English Anthology (1992; rev. ed. 1994) by Antonio Bravo et al.—with a prologue by Fred Robinson—is also used, and a revised edition has been published. In Spanish we have La Prosa de los anglosajones (1983) and Iniciación práctica al inglés antiguo (1986), both by Juan de la Cruz. Old English literature is normally studied only as a brief part of the history of English literature, so most teachers make use of general histories of English literature. But we also use the New Critical History of Old English Literature by Stanley Greenfield and Daniel Calder, and the Cambridge Companion to Old English Literature, edited by Malcolm Godden and Michael Lapidge.

This is, generally speaking, the situation of Old English studies in Spanish universities. Summing up, the discipline is not in a bad position, as all students must take Old English at least as part of the required course in the History of the English language. The position of Old English literature in the curriculum is weaker, but there is a small group of teachers and scholars interested in this subject who are actively publishing in the field.

Finally, I would like to point out that one event determining the present scope of Old English and its teaching in Spain was the foundation of the Spanish Society for Medieval English Language and Literature (SELIM) in 1987. Its objectives are to develop and help the expansion of Old and Middle English studies in Spanish universities, to contribute to mutual knowledge among Spanish teachers and scholars, and also to make their work known in Spain and abroad. All these aims are being met by means of an annual conference (the 8th took place in September, 1995).

Another element that must be taken into account is the fact that in the last decade Spanish teachers have benefited from contacts with Old English scholars from the USA and England. For the annual conferences, the Society invites foreign scholars (among them we have already received the visits of Bruce Mitchell, Thomas Shippey, Norman Blake, Donald Scragg, and Malcolm Godden). Besides, in many cases Spanish Anglo-Saxonists have studied abroad under such specialists as Eric G. Stanley, Bruce Mitchell, Daniel Donoghue, Michael Lapidge, Thomas D. Hill, and Fred Robinson. On the other hand, some of these scholars have also come to Spain to lecture or teach doctoral courses, as Bruce Mitchell, Roger Lass, Patrick Conner or Fred Robinson, among others.

II. Old English Scholarship in Spain: New Ways, and Old

María José Mora
Univ. de Sevilla

In his address to the Fifth ISAS conference at Stony Brook—“Transmitting What is Preserved: How are We Doing?”—Fred Robinson told a joke to illustrate the different views on the state of Anglo-Saxon studies: a farmer, his horse, and dog are run over by a car and badly injured. The driver tries to see what’s happened: he finds the dog, cries out that he can’t bear to see it suffer such agony, pulls out a gun and shoots it dead. He does the same with the horse. He then finds the farmer; the man is clearly done for, but, when the driver asks him if he is OK, he looks at the gun and cheerfully answers that he had never felt better in his life.

I would like to apply the reflection suggested by this joke to my analysis of Old English scholarship in Spain. In the course of the same address, Robinson spoke kindly and encouragingly of the work being done by Spanish Anglo-Saxonists. I was surprised to
hear that, because my own impression was that our work had almost no impact outside Spain. It is true that by 1991 several bibliographies of Spanish publications on Old and Middle English had already been published—in Spain and abroad—and that the editors of these bibliographies always emphasized the fact that "the production of Spanish medievalists ... is increasing," or that "the study of Old English in Spain ... has ... a promising future." And since the first publications listed date only from the 1960's, Prof. Robinson could easily join them in believing that our future should compare favorably to the past.

Four years later, all appearances seem to indicate that their optimism was well grounded. A new bibliography of Old and Middle English studies in Spain has just been published, and it does show that our production is increasing rapidly: nearly half of the studies listed have appeared in 1990's. Logically, the editors do not hesitate to repeat that we have "a promising future." And they are not alone voicing their optimism. That Anglo-Saxon studies are now flourishing in Spain is also something we hear every year at the annual meeting of the Spanish Society for the Study of Medieval English Language and Literature (SELIM): our President yearly congratulates us on the increasing number of members (118 in 1995), and the number of papers presented. We all agree that Medieval English studies have never looked better in Spain.

But as in the joke, behind these reassuring and optimistic statements, there is something that does not seem to fit. That the number of scholars and publications in the field grows is surely a good sign; but is that alone enough to measure our progress? We sometimes seem to think so: the bibliographers insist that there are in Spain "major promoters" of medieval English studies, "active teachers," "active scholars" and "proulic writers." I would suggest, however, that in order to assess the progress of Anglo-Saxon Scholarship in Spain we should go beyond this emphasis on quantity (how much we do) and consider also what we do, why, and what for; that is, the research lines we pursue, the specific difficulties we face, and the interest and impact of our work. The publication of this new bibliography (Bravo, Galván, and González, 1994) indeed provides a good starting point for these reflections.

From the titles listed in this work, one of the things that is likely to strike us is the seeming modernity of our research. A quick analysis of production in the 1980's, for instance, shows that we seem to favor new, rather than old ways: 20% of the publications—which I will not consider at this point—are translations, handbooks, and descriptive essays. But, within the remaining 80%, we find a high proportion of studies (ca. 60%) that introduce "new" linguistic and literary theories (Transformational Grammar; functionalist approaches; discourse analysis, using, for instance, Speech Act theory; pragmatics; narratology; post-modernist poetics or reception theory). There are, however, very few (only about 20%) that develop "old" or traditional lines of research (philological studies, patristic criticism, sources, etc.). In a country that does not have a tradition in Anglo-Saxon studies, this prominence of the "new" ways should not be surprising in itself, were it not for the fact that the tendency is being reversed in the 1990's: the rate of studies in more traditional lines has already risen to over 50%.

Apparently, Old English scholarship in Spain is moving in a rather illogical direction. But this tendency makes good sense if we consider the specific problems posed by the Spanish context. And, paradoxical as it may sound, I would argue that this shift from "new" to "old" does not indicate that Anglo-Saxon studies in Spain are regressing but, rather, progressing. There are good reasons why it has been easier for Spanish scholars to follow "new" ways, so the fact that we are now turning to old approaches as well must indicate that we are finding the means to overcome some of these problems, and that is a sign of progress.

The most obvious of these limitations is the lack of an academic tradition in English Studies. As Bravo has explained, English was not taught at Spanish universities until the 1950's, and Anglo-Saxon studies entered the curriculum as part of this new field. Except in some special cases (such as the Universidad Complutense in Madrid), the historical study of English has typically been separated from the study of its Germánic and Indo-European origins (traditionally associated to Departments with a much longer tradition in historical linguistics, such as Classics). Old English literature is, likewise, part of the English curriculum, separated from the study of Latin and other areas of medieval culture. Most Spanish graduates in English, therefore, often lacked the training necessary to work in the lines of Germanic philology, sources, or textual criticism.

But the most dramatic consequence of the lack of an academic tradition is the ensuing lack of resources in our libraries. The problem is not only that our holdings of books and periodicals are very limited, but that virtually everything we have is new. This may suffice when we work with modern approaches: to produce a Speech Act analysis of an Old English text, all you need is a Reader, and a couple of books and papers published in the 1970's or 1980's. But if you try to solve a cæter, you may need to check different interpretations, both new and old. That will certainly be out of the scope of any of our libraries. For Interlibrary Loan, we would have to resort to institutions outside Spain; the process is difficult, slow, and expensive.

Side by side with these "new" and "old" approaches, there is also a good share of publications in a line that has already been called "Spanish
Side by side with these "new" and "old" approaches, there is also a good share of publications in a line that has already been called "Spanish connection" or Spanish-oriented studies: handbooks and introductions to Old English designed for the Spanish public; translations; comparative studies (such as parallels between Beowulf or Maldon and El Cid), and studies of the relationships between Anglo-Saxon culture and Spain (a favorite subject being Jorge Luis Borges and his interest in Old English and Old Norse). The reasons why we should work in this line are obvious: it makes sense that Spanish scholars should try to fill a gap in the national market; and it is also logical perhaps that we should be concerned with the cultural relationships between Anglo-Saxon England and Spain. The trend is certainly not restricted to our field; Shakespeare studies afford perhaps the best illustration: the most important books published in the 1990's bear the complementary titles of Spain in Shakespeare (1991) and Shakespeare in Spain (1993).

I would like to focus on the Beowulf translations. The first was produced as late as 1962, by the Chilean professor Orestes Vera Pérez. Vera chose to translate in prose, arguing that it would be impossible to reproduce in Spanish the tone and spirit of the Old Germanic original. But as this was the first translation ever, he could rightly claim that the main merit of his work lay in giving the Spanish reader access to one of the most important monuments of English literature. A new version, in verse, was published by Luis Lerate in 1974 (revised 1986). He tried to imitate the stress pattern of the Old English line, but in so doing he was forced to take some liberties with both the OE text and the Spanish language (he introduces some odd collocations and turns of phrase, and the syntax sometimes sounds artificial). Since the more literal version by Vera Pérez soon went out of print, other Spanish scholars decided to undertake the same task: Antonio Bravo (Univ. de Oviedo) produced his own prose translation in 1981, and Angel Cañete (Univ. de Málaga) published yet another one, annotated, in 1991.

The latest of the series is a Catalan Beowulf by Xavier Campos (Universitat Jaume I, Castellón). As Campos presented his project, he stated that this was "not a book designed for scholars but for those general readers among the Catalan-speaking community." He also explained that he would not try to imitate the Anglo-Saxon poetic diction, but render the poem into prose, observing: "We miss the poetry but gain knowledge of the existence of an old Scandinavian dragon-slayer who shares some mythical features with Saint George, another European myth." Since Campos overlooks the poetic aspect of the work, his main goal seems to be to introduce the hero to his public. The poem was already available to them in several Spanish versions but, in giving his readers a Catalan text, he is appropriating the poem for the national culture. This is yet another way in which Anglo-Saxon studies in Spain are currently reproducing "old" ways, since Nineteenth Century editions, translations, and studies of Beowulf typically sought to rationally the poem: if Thorkelín claimed that the poem, the hero, the author, and even the language were Danish, Sharon Turner reacted protesting that Thorkelín was "not entitled to claim it as a Danish poem," because "it is pure Anglo-Saxon"; Turner lamented that the English should have let this "relic" of their ancestors be "first printed by a foreigner, and in a foreign country." And whereas Grundtvig maintained that the poem was imbued with the true Danish spirit, Victorian scholars underlined Beowulf's Englishness by comparing him to Nelson, their prototype of the national hero. Campos in turn links the poem with the Catalan community, associating the hero with the patron saint of Catalonia, St. George.

I will finally turn to the difficult point of trying to assess our work. And since the official view that scholarship in the field is flourishing is based on figures (number of members of SELIM and publications), I will attempt an alternative analysis of the situation based likewise on figures. To do so I will follow the method introduced by Enrique Bernárdez in his essay "What is the use of what we do? On the Reflection of English Studies in Spain on English Studies in Spain." Bernárdez tried to evaluate the contribution of Spanish research to the development of English Studies in Spain, starting with a statistical analysis of citations: the frequency with which we cite other Spanish scholars in our papers will be a clear indication of the value we attribute to their work.

I have applied this "citation frequency" test to 43 papers on Old English published in the period 1988-94, with a total of 634 citations. Only 59 were to Spanish works (9.3%). But this does not exactly mean that we find the work of our colleagues useful enough to refer to it in 9.3% of the cases. To reach a more accurate estimation we should eliminate from these 59 citations 21 in which the author is citing himself/herself, and a further 25 in which the references are to the work of scholars in other areas (Spanish literature, linguistic theory, etc.). We come down to a total of 13 instances--out of 634--in which we cite other Spanish Anglo-Saxonists, barely 2% of the citations. We are busy publishing, but nobody seems to read what we write or find it useful.

There may be other reasons why Spanish scholars should not be eager to cite their colleagues. As Bernárdez suggests, perhaps we feel that relying more heavily on national scholarship might be interpreted as a "parochial" attitude--implying that we do not follow the latest developments in the international scene--and we think it more "prestigious" to cite the work of foreign scholars. If this were true (and I think it is partly true), this attitude would betray...
few years many Spanish Anglo-Saxonists have studied abroad, and have benefited from the advice of British and American scholars.\textsuperscript{14} The implication seems to be that you cannot receive adequate training in Spain, though I believe this is not what the editors mean, especially since all of them have been teaching in Spain for over a decade.

Another aspect that should be considered is the channels that we use to publish our work. And in this sense, it is true that the foundation of SELIM (the Spanish Society for the Study of Medieval English) in 1987 has done much to boost publication in Old and Middle English. The Society publishes a yearly periodical, and the proceedings of the annual Conferences. Sixty-four papers on Anglo-Saxon topics have appeared in these volumes since 1989 (almost 50\% of the studies produced in this period). But again, this is not in itself a clear sign of progress: what it means, in fact, is that nearly half of the studies published in Spain from 1989 to the present have not been subject to any selection or evaluation process, since membership in the society automatically gives us the right to present a paper in the conferences and get it published in the proceedings. A further 25\% of our publications correspond to volumes brought forth by local University Presses, that have very limited distribution; only about 25\% of the total have appeared in international or national periodicals and publishing firms that reach wide circulation and impose a strict referee system.

The conclusion we may draw from this analysis is that Anglo-Saxon studies in Spain is indeed growing, with the impulsion of a sort of Affirmative Action policy promoted by SELIM. In order to help us overcome the handicap of the lack of an educational tradition we are given institutional help, particularly in the form of sponsored publications where we can bring out studies that in some cases we might find it difficult to place elsewhere. But, as with other forms of affirmative action, the application of this policy inevitably raises a number of questions: whether it is fair that so much public funding should be spent in giving us these advantages, or whether this funding would not be better invested on more basic needs (such as enlarging the holdings of our libraries or subsidizing and improving Interlibrary Loan services). And whether the current policy is really helping the development of Medieval English studies in Spain, or rather helping the academic career of Spanish medievalists, inflating our resumés.

These are issues that we will have to debate at some point. It is true that Anglo-Saxon studies in Spain need support, and that SELIM should play a crucial role promoting Medieval Studies. But if--besides growing--we want to make sure we are progressing, we may need to revise this protective policy and gradually demand higher standards in our publications. We must keep working to create our space in the national and international scene. Some of

NOTES


10. Xavier Campos, \textit{Beowulf. Traducción en prosa "un poema épic de l'Anglès antic" (Castelló de la Plana, [forthcoming]).


14. Bravo, Galván, and González, p. iv
Rebuilding Bede's World

Helen Damico, Univ. of New Mexico and
George H. Brown, Stanford Univ.

Interest in rebuilding Bede's World began with Rosemary Cramp's excavations from 1963 to 1978. The results of these excavations led to the founding of the Bede Museum housed in Jarrow Hall and, in 1992, to the establishment of a trust with a mission to complete the project sometime after the year 2000. Helen Damico reports on the progress of Bede's World from 1993 through the summer of 1994, and George Brown reports on the developments to date.

I. Helen Damico

The entire Bede's World complex stretches from the banks of the Don just below the monastic ruins south of St. Paul's to the industrial area north of Jarrow Hall. Figure 1 is a copy of a 1993 aerial photograph that graphically outlines the project, while Figure 2 is a model representing the vision for 2010 A.D., about which more below. In the center foreground is St. Paul's church with the seventh-century chancel and Anglo-Saxon and Norman tower, surrounded by the monastic site where Bede lived and worked. To the north is Jarrow Hall (which housed the first museum) and immediately behind it is the projected site of the new museum. Beyond this space to the north is the recently constructed landscape of the "Anglo-Saxon farm"—where the demarcations of an "early" Anglo-Saxon field system are visible and to its right the outline of a stream. At the furthest point close to the industrial tank farms is the site where experimental reconstructions of Northumbrian timber buildings are in progress. Encircling this entire area are the Tyne River to the north and Don River which is progressively being reshaped to create mudflats as homes for wading birds. From 1993 to the present this bare outline has moved toward becoming a living space.

Jarrow qualifies as a pilgrimage site. Anglo-Saxonists travel there to pay tribute to Bede and Bede's world, which George Brown once called the first frontier. The reconstruction of Bede's world, the reclamation of the Anglo-Saxon past, is an example of creative operational ecology.

By summer 1994 the reclamation process—which has a target date of 1997—was well underway. In one year, the site had been landscaped and some nine-thousand stripplings had been planted; the first wheat and barley crop had been brought in; the stream ran with clear water and along its banks were lovely fragrant wild flowers; Anglo-Saxon types of cows, sheep, goats, and a boar and sow were in place within their enclosures; and the construction of an Anglo-Saxon timber house had begun.

Progress on the Gyrwe Farm where land was being reclaimed by experimental farming was underway. Figure 3 is a picture of the area to the east of the stream. On the particular day Helen Damico visited Bede's World, the sow had escaped, and the staff were busy trying to find her. The lone figure on the horizon is Dr. Chris Grocock, Project Director, looking for the sow which had escaped from its enclosure that very morning and being quite anxious because Rosemary Cramp and Helen were walking about the valley taking pictures. The tree in the center is one of the many varieties that have been planted—oak, hazel, ash, rowan, and some fifteen other varieties. Straight across Figure 3 to the right of Chris is a newly-formed path that leads over the slope down to the banks of the Don [fig. 4]. It is difficult to believe when one is in the midst of this delicate landscape that it was once a desolate industrial wasteland with earth that had been stripped of its nutrients.

The transformation is more miraculous when one stands on the banks of the stream in the midst of lush vegetation, or when one looks over the hazel enclosure onto a field of wheat and barley. The hazel wood enclosures are labor intensive, as is everything on Gyrwe Farm, for most all building and farming is done by using Anglo-Saxon contemporary techniques. The oak logs are stripped by hand with an adze, and the stakes for building the Anglo-Saxon timber house are prepared by hand.

The site of the Anglo-Saxon timber house is at the furthest northern part. In charge of building the "Anglo-Saxon" halls is Michael Hayes, a former shipwright and an experienced craftsman in using wood-working tools such as the adze. All the materials: the hazel wood, the oak, the flowers are contemporary with Anglo-Saxon times.

Likewise contemporary are the breeds of the animals that have been brought onto the site. There are three varieties of sheep. The four-horned sad-looking fellow in the foreground is a Manx loaghtan from the Isle of Man, and the little ones along the hazel wood hurdles are of a Portland Breed [fig. 5]. On the opposite end of the enclosure are two black sheep of the Hebridean variety. The consultant on the animal breeds is the archaeologist Louisa Gidney who runs a small farm in County Durham where she studies and raises rare breeds.

Walking back toward the south is the bull and cow enclosure. The breed is Dexter, which Louisa says is similar in size and bone structure to those of Bede's age. Immediately south of the enclosure are the temporary buildings, the site of the new museum. Located behind Jarrow Hall, in 1994 the buildings were used as classrooms and meeting rooms.

Several improvements have been made
around St. Paul’s church; the monastic site has been re-singed with graphics which include reconstruction drawings of both the Anglo-Saxon and medieval buildings. Within the church a new display of the pre-Conquest sculpture, once built into the church porch or lying outside, has been made in the “house style” of the new museum. The display includes the very Roman-looking balustrade ornamental impostes and free standing balusters (which possibly surrounded the altar in the first church), parts of friezes, and a cross with inhabited plant scrolls. There are two crosses dating from the ninth and tenth century and some fine balustrade friezes. Also in the church, there is a simulated design in color of what the main altar and church interior might have looked like, with Roman influence discernible on the sculpture brought back by Benedict Biscop.

The path along the Don has undergone much renovation. On the far side of the river, the bank which backs the Nissan shipyard has been dug up and prepared for seeding and planting, so that in a short time the far banks will be an expanse of green and shade. New grass was growing blanket-like on the near bank. The morning Helen Damico was visiting the Don, a couple and two children were sitting on a newly riveted bench, enjoying the birds that had congregated on the river floor after the tide had gone out. The entire location—from the Tyne to the southern curve of the Don had been transformed. To quote Rosemary Cramp, “it is quite on the way of becoming a green pleasant island in the midst of an awful industrial wasteland.”

II. George H. Brown

From 1994 to the present momentous architectural developments have accompanied the growth of the Gyrye farm project. The principal event of the great building plan was the opening of phase 1 of the Bede’s World Museum. On 18 May 1995, H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester, accompanied by Rosemary Cramp and Curator Susan Mills, cut the ribbon at the museum entrance and delivered an informed and witty address befitting the occasion. The celebration was of such magnitude because the Founding Fund campaign, despite the difficult economic climate, was able to attract large matching grants from institutions such as the European Regional Development Fund as well as many individual bequests. Actual donations happily exceeded the initial estimates, so the first phase became a far grander realization than was first anticipated. The project has received gifts and commitments which exceed $4.25 million. So the first phase construction could be confidently expanded from a simple reception hall to a stunningly impressive complex of entrance forecourt, pergola, central rotunda, display and bookshop areas; and some funds remain for the inauguration of phase 2. The magnificent complex, designed by the architectural firm of Evans & Shaley and featured in The Architect’s Journal, is reminiscent of the Mediterranean Roman buildings and early European monasteries, which the founding abbot of Wearmouth-Jarrow, Benedict Biscop, encountered on his six trips to the Continent in the late seventh century [fig. 2]. Succeeding phases, two through seven, will echo the development of monastic architecture into the early Middle Ages, while providing lecture halls, display sections, and scholarly workplaces.

At present, situated across from Jarrow Hall, the museum houses visitor services and an exhibition area in rooms off the atrium. The exhibit is keyed to passages from Bede’s Ecclesiastical History of the English People and History of the Abbots of Wearmouth and Jarrow concerning the development of the Kingdom of Northumbria up to the building of the Monastery of St. Paul in A.D. 681. An additional, smaller exhibition shows the design and work of the Gyrye estate in a room that looks out onto the estate itself.

The phase 2 Building Appeal will fund an extension of exhibition areas next to the reception area and courtyard of phase 1. This will begin with an introductory simulation of Benedict and Ceolfrid’s journeys through Europe, and will open out into a large museum space in which the finds from the excavations can be properly displayed and interpreted for the first time, enhanced by modern audio-visual techniques. This phase will terminate in a study center in which it is hoped not only to provide a data base for Bedan study, but to be able to link together those scholars and Institutions working on Bede and wider aspects of Early Northumbria. After 1998, as funds permit, the remaining areas of the museum complex will be built. These will include a lecture hall, a sunken cloister built to allow the visitor a place of meditation and quiet, and an educational workshop.

The enterprise has not been solely undertaken by professional building contractors. Rather, as in the work on the Gyrye farm, many dedicated individuals closely allied to Bede’s World have contributed their time and muscle to the project. For instance, Rosemary Cramp and Pauline Nicholson designed and constructed the courtyard garden, planted the raised beds with species of plants known to have existed in western Europe before A.D. 1500, and so, with the roses, vines and honeyeuckle, which climb the surrounding pergola, recalling a late medieval pleasure garden.

Bede’s World and the Museum of Early Medieval Northumbria at Jarrow have attracted distinguished patrons. Dame Catherine Cockson, the famous author of Northern English romances, is the First Patron of Bede’s World; she has donated £100,000. Lord St. John of Fawley, chairman of the Royal Fine Art Commission is Patron of the Bede Foundation. However, Bede’s World depends not only upon the patronage of the great and wealthy. Small
sums as well as large ones are welcome and necessary for the accomplishment of the project. It is hoped that every Anglo-Saxonist will want to be a patron to this great project. Rosemary Cramp is particularly eager for gifts to help fit out the study and educational areas of the new museum, and to provide funding to develop the electronic facilities necessary for a first-rate scholarly workplace.

At the seventh ISAS conference at Stanford on 6-12 August 1995, the executive committee and membership voted to contribute £1000 to Bede's World for these purposes. This contribution betokens the Society's official support for the project. Frank Sharratt, chairman of the Bede Foundation, has written a letter of gratitude, expressing thanks to the Executive Committee and members of ISAS. Even though ISAS as an organization has demonstrated our support for the project, individuals are called upon to contribute to this important Anglo-Saxon enterprise as well.

Individual subscribers to the Old English Newsletter who wish to donate to Bede's World should be aware that because of the United States' tax laws any contribution from sources within the USA should be channeled through the CAF America. A form for your use is at the right. Please photocopy, cut out the form, and mail with your donation to the address indicated. Thank you.

NOTES


2. The plantings in the farm consist of over twenty varieties of flowers, including field poppies, bird's foot, field forget-me-nots, and fox glove.

Contributing to Bede's World

Name: ____________________________
Affiliation: _______________________
Address: _________________________
                                            ____________________________
Phone: ___________________________
Fax: _____________________________

I would like to make the following gift to
CAF America: ______________________

I would like to suggest the following organization:

Name: The Bede Foundation Limited
Address: The Museum
          Church Bank,
          Jarrow,
          Tyne & Wear NE32 3 DY
          England

Phone: +44-191-483-4870
Fax: +44-191-428-2361
Contact Person: Dr. David R. Sayers

Please return to:

CAF America
90 Park Avenue, Suite 1600
New York, NY 10016
Unlocking the Word Hoard:  
Conducting Word Studies Using MCOE

Catherine Brown Tkacz  
Spokane, Washington

The Microfiche Concordance to Old English (MCOE)\(^1\) has a variety of research applications. It can facilitate linguistic and metrical studies,\(^2\) aid in identifying which texts mention a given person or character (see "Proper names" below), and it makes possible the study of words in every known occurrence in Old English in all genres, which is the focus of this manual. "Every known occurrence" is a category with limits.\(^3\) Lost for all time is spoken Old English—conversation, ephemeral formal speech, oral performances—and much of what was written in Anglo-Saxon times no longer exists. Although more manuscript evidence surely exists, hidden in pastedowns and in uncatalogued obscurity, the surviving manuscript material is better known now than at any time previously, with cataloguing, facsimiles, editions, and digitizing all advanced and advancing. Subgroups of the Old English corpus are available as electronic texts, and about one hundred and forty copies of the entire electronic corpus are owned worldwide, including one at the University of Virginia that is accessible through Labyrinth. Moreover, the searches described below can be performed more efficiently in the electronic corpus than in MCOE. Many scholars in the international community, however, do not have and are not likely soon to get access to the electronic tool. Fortunately, through MCOE—one of the first publications of the Dictionary of Old English (hereafter DOE)—scholars can still recover more fully than at any earlier point in post-medieval history the complete context for given terms, for MCOE concords the three million running words of Old English. And the whole corpus of Old English is the proper base for Old English word studies. To omit charters or chronicles would bias the potential base of evidence; one cannot know in advance that a specific text or group of texts will have no occurrences of a given word.

In order to unlock this concorded word hoard, however, it is necessary to identify all the forms of a given word as found in MCOE. The common assumption that this task is easy is far from true, for the Concordance is not lemmatized, but ordered alphabetically by the spellings that actually occur in Old English.\(^4\) Inflected and conjugated forms, prefixes, compounds, dialectal and spelling variants, and the multiform bogey of scribal error combine to make the task of unlocking the word hoard complex, as daunting as any Old English riddle or runic passage. Moreover, "vowel-length is not marked, so spellings distinguished only by long and short vowels are interfiled."\(^5\) The experience of having used MCOE to complete three word studies (\textit{wile}, \textit{gewenman}, \textit{gescufan}) involving 1235 passages of Old English and having in progress two more (\textit{wuldeor}, \textit{wymn}), which involve three times as much data (3751 passages), allows me to set forth an effective strategy for capturing with reasonable comprehensiveness all occurrences of a given term.\(^6\) Using this method allows one to make good a \textit{beot} to treat a word thoroughly.

\textbf{Step One: Bibliographic Search}

To learn what other comments may have been made on a given word, one can consult the DOE's useful \textit{Old English Word Studies} (1983)\(^7\) and, for recent work, the OEN bibliographies. \textit{Old English Word Studies} identifies not only works devoted to a single word or group of words; it also identifies the individual pages within other studies that treat a given word. Because the office of the DOE maintains a research collection of word studies, it is an ideal site for research. The revised and new editions published since MCOE was produced are included in the DOE's most recent list of editions (see n. 1).

\textbf{Step Two: Designing the Search}

Searching MCOE means perusing perhaps dozens of individual fiches and, on each fiche, scanning perhaps scores of pages, not necessarily adjacent ones. The groundwork for efficient work is planning the order of the search. To capture every occurrence of a word the search must cover all possible forms the word might take. This comprehensiveness may well mean checking for forms which turn out not to exist and being surprised by the existence of other quite unlikely ones. The first task in designing the search is determining its scope. If the broadest sense of the word, with all its nuances and contexts is sought, then the search entails all cognates, with and without prefixes, in compounds as well as the simplex.\(^8\) Does genre limit the search? Then one can exploit the format of MCOE entries, for the list of occurrences of each form is organized by the categories defined by Angus Cameron: "A" for poetry, "B" for prose, "C" for interlinear glosses, "D" for glossaries, "E" for runic inscriptions, and "F" for non-runic inscriptions. If at the start it is unclear how much data exists for the word \textit{per se}, an initial search may concern the word itself. If the initial yield of data is scant, the search can then be expanded by a second search for cognates and compounds. In any case, the root word will be the core of the search.

For a verb, whose conjugated forms may
place a wide array of vowels within the root, the most prudent approach is to search through all instances of the consonantal shell of the root, i.e. with every vowel and diphthong—and with none at all. The usual list is a, ea, e, eo, i, i, o, u, y. Because the elements in a diphthong are subjects to variation, it is useful to search for the collocations ea, ei, eu, ey and ia, i, io, i, iy, and aii, etc. In short, potentially any vowel could be the first element in a diphthong, and equally any vowel could be the second element. Ideally someday there will be a wildcard "V" for searching a database of the corpus of Old English where "V" stands for "any vowel or any diphthong or no vowel or diphthong." Then one could simply search with VVV within the consonantal shell. With MCOE the researcher must construct the search. In this way all orthographic and dialectal variations will be found. For instance, this approach, when seeking forms of scufan 'to shave,' captured the unusual scafone (LS 10[Guth] 308) and scyf (Met 13.56 and WCan 1.2[Torkar] 35). Seeking forms with each diphthong recovered unexpected extant forms derived from unwemman, including unwoemmedo, unwaeommedo, and unrwaeomenda.9 It is useful to include the consonantal shell sans vowel; this detail of the search yielded ten additional forms for wuldor 'glory' and its cognates: wldrice (BenRW 66) and nine forms beginning with uuld-.10 A vowel is presumably more likely to be dropped when it is to follow a consonant that can be construed as or spelled with a vowel; e.g., wldrice's w can be represented as uu or even u.

As these examples show, another role of the researcher is to identify likely variations, including misspellings (or at any rate, unexpected spellings). A consonant may occur singly or doubled: e.g. [ge]wemman 'to mar' may be spelled with a single -m- and weman 'to sound, to persuade' may be spelled with a double -mm-.11 An -n- may be substituted for one or both of the two m's medial in the word. In short, the double nasal -mm- can be found as -m-, even -m-, -mm- or -mn-.12 Abbreviated forms also occur: once formosi is glossed simply as wili, a shortened form of wiliig.13 Metathesis has been emended in many modern editions which serve as the basis for MCOE, but the Concordance still records numerous instances of it, often involving "liquids, nasals, and fricatives combined with vowels or with each other."14 Common spelling substitutions and cues for possible metathesis include the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For a</th>
<th>o</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>æ</td>
<td>ae e</td>
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<tr>
<td>c</td>
<td>ch h k</td>
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<tr>
<td>cs</td>
<td>sc x</td>
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<td>ge-</td>
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<td>hr</td>
<td>r15</td>
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<td>i</td>
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<tr>
<td>ie</td>
<td>i y</td>
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</table>

To a modest degree MCOE's spelling conventions simplify the search. While spellings are never normalized for MCOE or HFW, "the main entries or 'headwords' have been re-spelled, for the purpose of alphabetization, according to the following conventions: tailed e is treated as a, j as i, k as c, d as h, initial and final th as h, and v as u; the double consonants bb, cc, dd, ff, hh, kk, ll, mm, nn, pp, rr, ss, tt, ff, dd, when final, are treated as though they were single (kk being equivalent to c, and d to h)."19

Prefixes. Naturally one must look for verbs with and without the prefix ge-. Surprisingly, it may occur twice in a word. In my experience, this is only in the presence of the prefix un-. That prefix may be misplaced after ge-, or it can be sandwiched between a pair of ge-'s. In addition to the sixteen instances of the verb un[ge]wit3 reported in Tkacz (1993), MCOE records one instance each of geuweleigea, geuweleigad, and geuweleigeb.20 Fortunately, the treble prefix geunge- occurs only three times, in geungeirimed, geungeibr and geungeggeb (fiche G036, p. 123). Thus it is prudent to look for the following: ge-, geun-, un-, unge-. A comprehensive search for a verb should include all possible prefixed forms. And, if a specific prefix is particularly important to the search, then also check variant spellings of that prefix. Whereas the search of [ge]sc* yielded sixty-four forms of n*scufan, searching for forms with the following prefixes more than trebled the pool of data by yielding an additional 131 citations:21

a
and
after
ar
at
be
for
fore
ge
gehe
geond
geun
genge
mid
o
of
offer
on
or
to
þurh
un
under
unge
ut
wid
wîd
ymb
ymbe

For a non-verb–noun, pronoun, adjective, adverb, conjunction, or preposition—perhaps it may be that the vowel(s) are stable. Searching for the normalized form would still not be enough, although limiting the search to likely vowel substitutions may suffice. Consider two different results of searching for the basic vowel substitution of y for i. For wite, within the consonantal shell of wilt only i or y is expected. Thus the initial search consisted of gewlít* (34 instances), gewlît* (none), wilít* (584), wîlt* (6) and the negated forms ungewlít* (2), ungewlît* (none), unwilít* (14), and unwîlt* (none). In short, in the case of wîte searching for forms with y yielded only six occurrences, not even one percent of the total number of 640. But in the case of ys 'ice' the proportion of new evidence under alternate spellings is significant. The first phase of the search, winnowing the occurrences of is 'ice' out of the 20,206 forms spelled is, was an enormous chore, and it is understandable that the researcher did not want to expand that work onerously. Nevertheless Stork retrieved another thirty passages with inflected or compounded forms of is, or the rune for it. But, although two occurrences of ysgebled were included, other variant forms beginning ys- were apparently not searched (and the unique variant islh- was missed). Scanning the inflected forms of ys– in MCOE fiche Y004 recovers ysemere [Ch 716 (Birch 1113) 4] and six possibly pertinent forms of yst, ysta, and yste. Judging from the proportion of is 'ice' to is 'is' (26,20,180) one would expect only a few forms of 'ice' among the 3004 occurrences of ys in the High Frequency Words (HFW). At a guess, 0-4 forms may lurk in that array; those, with the islh- and ys- forms just identified, constitute 8-12 new passages, perhaps more. Though the number is small, the cold fact is that these forms of is are equal to approximately one fifth of the fifty-eight other forms used as evidence in the study.

So far only logical vowel substitutions have been mentioned. Prudence requires checking for substitutions that may appear illogical. When Moffat culled 105 occurrences of ac 'oak' from MCOE's list of 9,320 occurrences of the adverbal conjunction ac, he also checked the variant spellings aac, acc, ache, ak, ac, acc, oc, and ok and found seventy more occurrences of the noun. They increase his body of evidence by two thirds. His list is intended as a sorting of ac into the two words, not as a full study of the word for 'oak,' and he therefore does not look for the inflected forms of the noun, so anyone intending a word study would have substantially more work to do to locate the evidence.

An intriguing feature of MCOE is its list of all the forms in Reverse Alphabetical order, a list found in the final fiches, RA01-RA06. This allows one to search for a word appearing as the second element of a compound. Then one can look up the pertinent compounds and discover their inflected forms in the alphabetical array. The RA lists are in two columns per page, simply giving the forms and the number of occurrences of each; to gain the full sententiae and citations one must then look up the retrieved forms in the MCOE. The headwords for the RA pages are in reverse alphabetical order; the page headed DRAOTSEW-DR/EFAŁ begins with the word westpârd. So to locate words ending in -ice, one must seek the headwords that will include ECIL-. To capture all occurrences one must also search the reverse-order list for the inflected forms of the second element of the compound, for it is possible that a compound may survive only in inflected form.

Conventions for representing the parameters of a search will both assist the researcher during the search and also allow efficient reporting of the scope of the search to other scholars. The following schematically presents the basic search used for wuldor and its cognates:

\[
\{\text{ge}(\text{un})\text{ge}\}\{\text{uw}/\text{w}\}(\text{V})*
\]

Curly brackets enclose optional elements, of which none, some, or all may be present; within the curly brackets, square brackets delimit those options. Freestanding square brackets enclose options for an essential element. The diagonal slash mark (/) separates elements of which only one will be present. "V" represents any vowel or diphthong or no vowel at all. The asterisk is the universal wild card. Even though the word wuldor has a second syllable, that syllable varies with inflection and has sometimes been omitted before a suffix, so it is simpler to conclude the search schema with the asterisk and scan all forms encountered. The same conventions can be used to report the actual variety discovered, as will be seen with the name Daniel below.

If compounds are included in the search their parts may appear in MCOE separated by a space. For instance, Old English records both the compound
wuldcyning and also the collocation wuldcyning—which varies in order and in the form of each word, e.g. as kyning wuldores.

Proper names are a special case. Some names are unambiguous: the 406 instances of Hierusalem all refer to Jerusalem. In other cases, however, winnowing out homographs becomes sorting out references to different people of the same name; e.g. of the twenty-eight instances of Danila refer to the eighth-century bishop of Winchester, with the rest being the Old Testament prophet. If a name is being searched in order to find accounts concerning a specific person or character, then in addition to variant spellings, alternate names and other forms of reference need to be considered. The Three Young Men of Daniel 3 are sometimes cited in Old English by their Persian names and, less often, by their Hebrew names, and sometimes they are simply the dry haligan cnitias.

Serendipity may present an unexpected form. In such a case it is worthwhile to check MCOE for additional occurrences of the overlooked spelling. This may have been how ysgebled was discovered; it is certainly how I found welwite and hiofonwite, each of which is unique.

Step Three: The Search

In recent years archaeological excavations of the past have been faulted for failing to record precise details about the excavations and also for neglecting to report their findings fully. Analogously, the scope of a word search should ideally be both recorded and reported.

Working with MCOE means perusing a given fiche at a time, so in order to be efficient it is useful to have at hand an alphabetical list of the forms to be searched. Otherwise one is forever being changing fiches and returning to ones already used, and scooting around from one end of a fiche to the other. Those who revel in the rapidity of electronic searches will recoil at the idea of a manual search. Yet if MCOE is the tool, the search is unavoidably by hand, and the only way to proceed smoothly is by planning and recording the search.

A note of the scope of the intended search is handy, and a full record of the search is indispensable. The goal is to avoid the frustration and waste of time that arise if memory suddenly falters over whether a certain spelling or, worse, a whole range of spellings, has been searched yet. This is no slight matter. Consider a search for the name Aethelthryth. A reasonable basic search for this name involves checking for variants in the first letter, which could be A, AE, AE, or conceivably AE (which does not in fact occur); variants for the first thorn, which may be spelt do or dh; a variant for the vowel in the second syllable (ae for e, which does not in fact occur); in practice from this point the number of forms will probably be small enough so that all (if any) can be scanned, but to give final details, one might expect either y or i in the penultimate syllable, and for the last thorn again possibly d or th. This can be written schematically:

\[ A/Ae/E/Ee/E][d/dh/th][w/e][d/dh/th]/r^*

No one could keep all the possible spellings in his head, let alone keep them in alphabetical order. Note that a d or th spelling may be quite a distance from a p spelling: Aepeldryp, the most common spelling of the name, is on p. 161 of fiche AE009 while Aepeldryp is on p. 259.

A written record of the search as it progresses prevents the searcher's either skipping part of a search or redoing some of it. This record will include all forms searched and the number of occurrences of each. Sometimes a single passage will use the same form two or more times; the evidence should be recorded consistently, ideally with the number of occurrences of the form, not of passages. A special note can be added if this number includes multiple occurrences in a single passage. The null sign or a zero is invaluable as a reminder that in fact the form was sought and not found; if instead no number were recorded it would be ambiguous whether the form was not searched or whether no instance of it was found.

Recording the search as it actually progresses allows for serendipity. In the search for Aetheldrīth, the first form encountered was Aethelrede, which alphabetically is prior to the first item sought. Recording the search for Aethelthryth, seeking all variants indicated above, filled a full sheet; forty-four occurrences in twenty-six texts were recovered. Seven of these texts would have been missed if the A-, AE- and E- spellings had not been checked.

The above search took under an hour. Many searches take much longer and net hundreds, even thousands of pertinent passages. Especially in such cases, printing the fiche is useful. Then the hard copy can be highlighted, annotated, and readily consulted. Even counting the occurrences of a form can be much easier on hard copy, especially when hundreds of occurrences have been found.

Step Four: Winnowing out Homographs

Because homographs are listed together, frequently the forms of two or more words need to be disambiguated. For instance, the noun sceaf 'sheaf' must be distinguished from the conjugated form sceaf from scyfan 'to shelve.' Analyzing the word wite entailed disambiguating the inflected forms and compounds of the desired cognates wite 'beauty,' wiliug 'beautiful, radiant,' and [ge]witugian 'to beautify,' from the inflected forms and compounds of wilda 'countenance' and wilitan 'to gaze.' Sometimes the results are surprising: it seemed possible that wynn 'joy' might have been sometimes spelled win, but scanning the several pages of win disclosed that in Old
English there is no joy in wine.

When a search yields abundant citations, simply weeding out the irrelevant look-alikes can be time-consuming; this is particularly true in cases where a form of the word is in the High Frequency Word List. Sorting a homograph into its various words may of course be the goal of a useful study: nearly ten thousand occurrences of *ac* and more than twice as many occurrences of *is* were sorted by Moffat and Stork respectively. The Introduction to HFW (pp. 11-14) pairs each high-frequency word "with other less common words for which it might conceivably be a spelling." This could be the starting point for a sorting-study of one of these high-frequency words, perhaps as a class project. Certainly such sorting-studies are of use to the ongoing work of the *DOE*.

Step Five: Counting the Forms

Two errors are to be avoided in counting the forms. First, the identical form may occur more than once in a sentence; be sure to count the number of forms, not of sentences. Second, a single sentence may contain two or more forms of a single word, e.g. *wulder* and *wulder*. The latter form should be counted only later when the sentence is included with occurrences of the form *wulder*, not when counting occurrences of *wulder*, or the numbers will be wrong. If, for simplicity’s sake, passages and not occurrences of forms are counted, then this should be clarified in the record and reported in publication of the research.

Step Six: The Latin Evidence

The *DOE*’s corpus of Old English includes, in addition to the three million running words of Old English, another two million of Latin, in glossaries and interlinear glosses. Other pertinent Latin texts not included in MCOE should also be considered in a word study. The types of relationship in which Latin may stand vis à vis Old English are detailed in the *DOE*’s in-house manual, "A Guide for Entry-Writing," the source of the following information. In the case of "C" and "D" texts (interlinear glosses and glossaries), Latin is included in the MCOE citations of Old English. This holds for a few "B" texts (prose) as well: Ælfric’s Grammar and Glossary. Some Old English texts are translations from Latin: texts from the Bible, the Alfredian translations, the Benedictine Rule, Chrodegang’s Rule, Theodulf’s Capitula and the Wonders of the East, and those passages from Byrhthferth’s Manual which are translations of preceding Latin passages. In these cases the Latin will not be in MCOE but the researcher can independently match the Old English with the Latin from the editions. (For identifying editions Pauline A. Thompson and Robert Stanton’s Abbreviations for Latin Sources and Bibliography of Editions is useful.)

The *DOE* scrupulously represents the relationship between Latin and Old English. For instance, the "Guide" stipulates, "Consider as Latin equivalents in manuscripts Latin words which correspond to the Old English headword and are present in the same context in the manuscript. . . . But because of the difficulty of dating sporadic Latin glosses to Old English texts, e.g., the Homilies of Wulfstan or Ælfric, do not consider such Latin glosses (which may be quite late) as Latin equivalents." It would be desirable for word studies to use the *DOE*’s order of presentation for Latin equivalents: “List Latin equivalents in strict alphabetical order. If one (or more) Latin words are markedly more frequent than the others, precede them with a + sign.” *DOE* practice is to provide a translation for the Latin only if the particular meaning or the word itself occurs in no Latin dictionary.

The *DOE* specifies a format for presenting multiple glosses in Dictionary entries, and it is included here for its potential usefulness to those working particularly with glosses.

“When the Latin lemma is glossed by both Old English and another Latin word which is itself never glossed by this Old English word, use the formulation:

lemma (1x/2x with additional Latin word or phrase
See example s.v. dumb: mutus, elinquis (1x with graece adelos)
For more than one additional Latin word, continue in a series with the same wording:

See example s.v. deep noun: gurges (1x with flumen, 1x with flumen latum)

If a Latin lemma occurs only in association with other Latin glosses, use the formulation:

lemma (with additional Latin gloss)
not the formulation:

lemma (1x/2x with additional Latin gloss.)”

Other Latin works are “sources of, or parallels to, much of Old English literature,” as Pauline Thompson notes in the preface to the *DOE*’s Abbreviations for Latin Sources and Bibliography of Editions. Thus the *DOE* provides “Latin source quotations for many of the prose and even some of the poetic works in the corpus, not only for those which were known to be more or less direct translations of Latin originals, such as the Alfredian translations, but also for homilies, saints’ Lives, penitentials, etc. which often draw from a wide variety of Latin originals, not all of which are readily identifiable.” In a word study, the scholar has latitude in how much or how little this extra-manuscript Latin will be used, but should be aware that it exists to be drawn on.

Regarding Latin tools, the “Guide” clarifies that The Dictionary of Medieval Latin from British Sources (A-H so far), Lewis and Short, and Latham are the main dictionaries used by the *DOE*, in that order of priority. Also consulted are the *Oxford*
In order to assess the evidence of glosses, I have found it useful to compile a census of scriptural glosses, especially the Psalm glosses, on three-by-five cards. Given that fourteen glossed Psalters, the Paris Psalter, etc. all provide matched (or readily matchable) Latin-Old English evidence, a single card for each pertinent verse is practical. Though the same OE word may gloss a single Latin term in every occurrence of a given verse, disparate spellings may scatter the evidence throughout the alphabetical array of fiches, and a census card is a convenient means of collating the evidence. Head the card with the Psalm reference, e.g. "Ps. 59:12," perhaps adding the Latin and the Old English terms paired in the first found instance, e.g. "wuldro: glória." If the first found instance is a Psalm gloss, it will include the full quotation of Latin, which can go on the first lines of the card. Highlighting the Latin term, e.g. glória, makes it easy to pick out the key evidence at a glance. If the first found instance is PsGIA, then on the next line after the Latin write the citation at the far left and copy the entire Old English gloss, again highlighting the key term, e.g. wuldro. If, however, the first gloss is a gloss with a later letter, e.g. PsGIF, leave a blank line for each of the Psalters A-E and then record PsGIF with the entire OE gloss. As subsequent matches are found, their citations can be recorded on the appropriate lines and on the back of the card as needed, recording only the key term in Latin and OE, noting spelling variants. The Paris Psalter can be recorded at the end of the card. Gaps in the evidence on the census card may point to unusual spellings for the term lurking in other Psalm glosses, or to rival options for glossing a given Latin term. In either case, the other Psalm glosses can be checked to recover more fully the context of the word being studied. If the same verse is rendered elsewhere in Old English, it also can be added to the card, or to a second card stapled to the first. Bear in mind that the numbering of the glossed Psalters, especially in PsGIA, is sometimes not that of the Vulgate. Because a preacher or hagiographer may be either quoting or paraphrasing scripture, the researcher must compare the Old English to the Latin of the Vulgate (or Old Latin) on a case-by-case basis to determine how closely the two are related.

In two ways tools created by the DOE give access to the two million running words of Latin included in MCOE. In the Concordance Latin terms which are not glosses but are incorporated into Old English texts can be searched in the alphabetical array. Thus glória can be found on fiche Q043, pp. 66-68. In Old English versions of the Benedictine Rule the Latin term is used fifteen times as a Latin liturgical term, shorthand for "Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritu Sancto." The Latin term is so commonplace it even appears five times in Old English glosses, as a gloss on glória. Another indication of the word's familiarity is that glória may be unglossed, even if virtually the rest of the sentence is glossed. The familiarity and importance of the Latin term implies that its Old English counterpart may well have had equal familiarity and valence.

To look more comprehensively at the role of a Latin term in the corpus of Old English the electronic corpus must be used. Searching the electronic corpus for the Latin term reveals whether any Old English word other than the one being studied appears as a gloss for the Latin term. In the case of wuldro, it was useful to explore whether other Old English terms appear paired with glória. The search retrieved 1410 occurrences of glória. At least one glossator reserved wuldro as a gloss on glória in contexts referring exclusively to God and in contrast used wyrpscype to gloss glória in contexts describing what human action may attain. Checking the Latin through the electronic corpus also retrieves aberrant spellings of the Old English word, such as wulde for wuldre. And puzzles are discovered: is wundor a misspelling for wuldro, or scribal error, or was there confusion about the meaning of glória?

Step Seven: Reporting

In the publication of a word study, the parameters of the search and the details of the results should be included. At present it is unusual to report negative results, but ideally full reporting will become standard. An obvious reason for reporting results is so that other scholars can judge whether a search has been thorough. Again, when a possible form is not cited in a word study, the reader wants to know whether no such form exists, or whether that form was not searched. Beyond that, knowing which prefixes occur with a given verb, which variant spellings are attested, etc. may be of use to other researchers even though this data may be of minor relevance to the word study. Word studies per se are certainly useful to the lexicographers of the DOE; fully reported ones may have additional uses to them that the researcher does not envision.

MCOE and HFW are available from:

Publications Department
Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies
59 Queen's Park Crescent East
Toronto, Ontario M5S 2C4, Canada
(e-mail: pontifex@epas.utoronto.ca [Internet/Bitnet]).

For queries concerning the corpus or to communicate errors or anomalies noted in the corpus, please contact:

e-mail: editors@doe.utoronto.ca
NOTES

This article was prepared during the NEH Summer Seminar for College Teachers on "Old and New Approaches to Beowulf and Old English Literature," directed by Paul E. Szarmach, June 19-July 28, 1995, at Western Michigan University. I am grateful to Michael E. Ellis and Timothy Graham for their suggestions during the seminar regarding metathesis and smoothing. During the seminar's research visit to the Dictionary of Old English at the University of Toronto, Antoinette diPaolo Henkel and her colleagues, especially Joan Holland and Nancy Speirs, generously advised me and shared in-house materials to make this essay possible; to them my cordial thanks.

1. Richard L. Venezy and Antoinette diPaolo Henkel, *A Microfiche Concordance to Old English*, Publications of the Dictionary of Old English 1 (Toronto, 1980). Also Richard L. Venezy and Sharon Butler, *A Microfiche Concordance to Old English: The High Frequency Words (HFW)*, Publications of the Dictionary of Old English 2 (Toronto, 1985). In this article texts are cited as in MCOE, with the line references being to the start of the sentence containing the headword. Note that the Introduction to the HFW adds nine new texts and editions (pp. 5-7) and corrects a few titles (p. 7). The DOE itself continually updates its corpus and bibliography of editions; the latest List of Texts and Index of Editions was revised March, 1995.


3. While MCOE represents at least one copy of every Old English text, the Concordance does not include every copy of each text. Therefore some spellings, even some words, may be missing which are found only in variant manuscripts and not represented in the base texts represented in MCOE.

4. And, of course, in some cases the emended spellings found in the various editions used in MCOE.


7. Angus Cameron, Allison Kingsmill, Ashley Crandell Amos, *Old English Word Studies: A Preliminary Author and Word Index* (Toronto, 1983).

8. Nancy Porter Stork extends her study of *i* 'ice' to include adjectives and compounds: *tig*, *tiscalde*, *ismere*, *isgebinde*, *issigfeara*, *yageblode*. "Ic: Ice in Old English," *Melocael Studies* 51 (1989), 287-303. By including these she augments the body of thirty-six passages with the noun "ice" by another eleven passages with cognates. She also uses eleven runic passages for a total of fifty-eight texts.

9. See DurRiGl I (Thompson) 141.2: unwoenmedo/immaculatum and unwoenmedo/immaculatum. For unwoemendra/immaculaturn, see PsGlH (Campbell) 36.18.

10. See MCOE, fiche U010, pp. 314-16.

11. Of the 449 occurrences of [un]ge/swemman—the 439 identified in Tkacz (1993) and the ten identified in the notes of this essay—seventy-two are spelled with a single -m-. In five instances forms of the verb *weman* 'to sound, to persuade' are spelled with -mm-; ibid. n. 61.

12. MCOE has ungewenemmadinnaculaturn (BenRGI 7:14), which the DUE has identified as an error for the edition's ungewenemmadinnaculaturn; gewenemmadinnaculaturn (BenRGI 53.9), which the edition annotates as "read gewenmmed", for onweemendra/immaculaturn see n. 9 above. These three forms and the others in notes 11 and 17-18 were found since Tkacz (1993) appeared; these ten new instances of *[un]gewemman* confirm the meanings already identified in that article.

13. CocGl 28 (Nap) 206. For four other glosses of *formusas* / wilitig see Tkacz (1993) 40. There is also one instance of wobewrilt / formosas (ColGl 25 401). Even with the newly discovered evidence, *formusas* is still the Latin term least frequently glossed as *wilitig*, as reported originally.


15. For instance, *hrægi*, but *rægeles*, LS 23 (Mary of Egypt) 792.

16. See *issihan*, n. 23 below, and *halli*, PsCaK (Sisam) 6.2.

17. This spelling in seen in e.g. five Psalm glosses. In addition to onweemendra cited in n. 9 above, other glosses on innaculaturn are onweemendra in PsGlH (Roeder) and in PsGlE (Haraley) and onweemendra in PsGlH (Kimmens), all on 36.18. The fifth instance is onwenme / innaculatum in PsGlH (Bremner) 118.80.

18. E.g. for ungewuumid / infractus (CorpGl 2[Hessels] 9.211).


21. To the sixty-three occurrences of [ge]se*/* reported in Tkacz (1993) can be added icerceone, the only instance of the verb where the prefix ge- has developed into i-. HomU 3[Beuf 12] 53. To the 129 prefixed forms drawn on in that article can be added iclesofe and iclesofe, Fiche U101, pp. 263, 264.


23. This variant of isig- as *ish- is in *issihan cealdynysse*, LS 23 (Mary of Egypt) 570; see fiche 1005, p. 12. No forms of *ise- occur.

24. The word yer* 'storm, tempest, hurricane' is used seventy-one times with that spelling (MCOE, fiche Y004, pp. 40-45). It may also have been confused with the word *is*, for in Psalm glosses five times
yst ([a][e])] is a gloss of grando (p. 41, 44) and once it is a gloss for glacies (p. 43). Antonette Healey points out that The Dictionary of Medieval Latin from British Sources includes "hailstorm" as sense 2 of grando and notes, "The glossator may be picking up the notion of storm with gloss yst. Therefore this might not be a confusion with it."

25. **HFY**, fiche Y001, pp. 1-185. For count of occurrences, see list.

26. Moffat, "The Occurrences of Ac 'Oak' in Old English: A List," Medieval Studies, 49 (1987), 334-40. I derived the figures from counting the evidence in his tables. On p. 334 he notes the inflected forms he did search. He also distinguishes ac 'oak' from eac, variant of ece, and oc 'oak' from the conjunctive oc, variant of ac. p. 536.


29. Ibid., p. 35, nn. 16-18.


31. Healey, p. 42.

32. Fact noted by Antonette di Paolo Healey at the office of the DOE at the University of Toronto, July 4, 1995.


34. I am grateful to Joan Holland of the DOE for allowing me to study this in-house document on July 5, 1995. While the printed guide itself is "somewhat outdated," staff have annotated it to keep it current. The following relies on Section B: "Citations," subpart H.2.3.3 "Latin" (pp. 58-59) and Section 10: "Latin equivalents in Manuscripts" (pp. 61-63). See also Healey, pp. 90-91.

35. DOE Publication, distributed with fascicle B.


37. DOE publication, distributed with fascicle B, preface, p. i.


40. Jane Toswell and Phillip Puliano are each working on collated editions of the Old English Psalters, and these will make study of them and their lexical evidence far easier.

41. See Mary Carruthers, for instance, on quoting ad res versus quoting ad verbum; The Book of Memory: A Study of Memory in Medieval Culture (Cambridge, 1990).


43. Twice it is part of a Latin phrase identifying another scriptural passage which has a liturgical role: "gloria tibi domine," ELei3 (Wulfstan 2341, and "gloria in excelsis deo," Mart 5 (Herzfeld-Binz) 75 [JA06/C6].

44. For instance, it is un glossed in PsCaK (Sisam) 6.2 and BenRGI 37.18. The entire repeated line "deo patri sit gloria" is un glossed in HyGl 2 (Stevenson) 18.4. 21.4, 24.4, 27.5, 30.3 and 34.4. Whole phrases, e.g. "gloria tibi domine" and "gloria in excelsis deo," are evidently considered too well known to need a gloss in RegCGl 5.88, 5.223, 6.20, 6.23, 9.12, 9.24.

45. LibSe 2.3, 2.49, 13.13, 49.32, but cf. 56.9 in which gloria / waldor are paired perhaps because wysscape is needed as a gloss on honore.

46. PsCaK (Sisam) 14.18.

47. HemS 1(VersChom 5) 38, PsGJ (Oess) 56.12 and 61.8.

48. For instance, negative results are not reported by Moffat (1987) and Stork (1989). While Moffat gives information on nine spellings of ac, one would like to know if others were tried. Stork includes y.g. in her evidence (p. 298 and table) but does not mention that she did not check the yt spelling or other forms starting with yt. But cf. Tkacz (1993) on acuscin with prefixes.

Æðelflæd's Exceptional Coinage?

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During the period ca. 910-18, Mercian mints produced a series of unusual coins labelled the "ornamental" or "exceptional" reverse types. They include coins displaying three primary motifs: (1) fronds, flowers, or rosettes, (2) the Hand of God, (3) towers. The obverse of all three types carries the clear statement, Edward rex, and the coins are therefore generally considered part of his issue. However, the date, unusual iconography, and the fact that all three types come from mints in the territory governed by Edward’s sister Æðelflæd, Lady of the Mercians, has led to suggestions that the picture may be more complicated. Blunt, Stewart, and Lyon (pp. 42-43, 266) suggest that the unusual motifs may have been Æðelflæd’s way of distinguishing the products of her mints from those of Edward, going on to note that the “subsequent reversion to the Horizontal type, if it did not occur before her death, could have been part of Edward’s concerted action to discourage any revival of Mercian separatism.”

The iconography of the coins, particularly that of the tower coins, supports this thesis. While both Æðelflaed and Edward are known for the building of fortifications, Æðelflæd is connected to two significant events that occurred in gateways. The Mercian Register records the death of four of her dear thegns within the gate of Derby in 917, while the Fragmentary Annals of Ireland record that Chester was attacked by the Vikings in the year 907, the same year in which Æðelflæd had fortified the city. In response to the attack, Æðelflaed and Æðelred, who was on the verge of death, ordered their troops to lure the enemy army into the city gates where it could be (and was) ambushed and slaughtered. The fact that the Chester mint was the main source of tower coins makes it likely that the image of the tower was associated with the new fortifications and the battle at the city gates.

The form of the tower that appears on the coins has parallels in both contemporary architecture (Grierson and Blackburn, p. 609) and manuscript illumination, however the type itself goes back to the Roman city gates coins that were especially popular under the Tetrarchy and Constantine. It is possible that the coins had the additional function of linking the new Mercia with the glory that was Rome, particularly as Chester was an old Roman city. The iconography of the other two ornamental types may have had similar royal, or dynastic, connotations: the Hand of God, a symbol of divine protection and the divine right of kings, has its sources in Carolingian iconography; while the curled leaves of many of the flower coins recall the Mercian M of Offa’s coinage.

Whatever the specific meanings the images on the reverse might have carried, the obverse of these coins makes it clear that they were not intended to question Edward’s authority. Rather, they might be seen as symbols of a consolidated Wessex and Mercia, statements of joint leadership aimed at the visually literate, politically powerful sector of the population that would have been using coins. The fact that Edward felt it necessary to revert to his standard horizontal type after Æðelflaed’s death, however, suggests that the “ornamental” coins did have a specifically Mercian significance, one that Edward was not about to let circulate free from the control of his powerful sister.

Bibliography


Cotton Tiberius B.i (C Chronicle), fol. 140r
By Permission of the British Library
Æðelflæd in the Chronicle

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Jessica Amanda Salmonson's *The Encyclopedia of Amazons*, p. 3, gives a brief account of Alfred's daughter that begins: "Having disliked her only experience of childbirth, Æðelflæd swore herself to chastity and took to the sword." Æðelflæd's interesting personal life, however, is not the stuff of the Anglo-Saxon *Chronicle* but rather suppressed sexuality is to be found in the later Latin chronicles such as William of Malmesbury's *De Gestis Regum Anglorum* II.125 (with brief mention in II.126). The first account of Æðelflæd's life and times occurs in the *Chronicle* section Plummer named "a little Mercian Register," which relates Mercian matters out of chronological order. This section exists in three of the *Chronicle* versions:

B = Cotton Tiberius A.vi, art. 1, fols. 1-35, and Cotton Tiberius A.iii fol. 178; Ker no. 188, Gneuss no. 364, which extends to 977; at fols. 30r-31r;

C = Cotton Tiberius B.i, art. 4, fols. 115v-64; Ker no. 191, Gneuss no. 370, which extends to 1056 and for 1065 and 1066; at fols. 140r-41r;

D = Cotton Tiberius B.iv, only art., fols. 3-86, 88-90; Ker no. 192, Gneuss no. 372, which extends to 1079; at fols. 47v-48v.

B and C are very close to each other, while D represents a form of levelling into the main account of the House of Wessex. Simon Taylor edited *MS B* for *The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*, vol. 4 (Cambridge: D.S. Brewer, 1983). The only modern edition of C currently available is Harry August Rositzke, ed., *The C-Text of the Old English Chronicles*, Beiträge zur Englischen Philologie 34 (1940). Katherine O'Brien O'Keeffe and Geoffrey Cubbin are planning editions of C and D respectively for *The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* [see the article by David N. Dumville in *OEN* 27.3, pp. 21-22, "Edition and Re-Edition of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle"].

The page at the left is fol. 140r of the C version. C's page and its layout rationale are immediately evident to the eye: the left hand of any page, recto or verso, offers the year entered in red "flush left," in the form "años number," the numbers for the year tend to invade the text space, the entry proper begins with an initial in red, and the text continues to a right margin; should the text spill over the right margin onto the next line, the text does not continue "flush left" under "años." but is rather indented under the year entered, which then becomes more of a header or sub-head in its visual impact. While the logic of this layout plan seems transparent, there are minor variations. On recto pages, where the gutter is on the left, run-over text gets tucked in under the numbers for the year, not the century, at a horizontal, page-length ruling. On the verso page, where the gutter is on the right and the left margin is therefore more open, run-over text is indented under the first letter of the prose for the entry. This alternation has its contemporary analogue in word-processing programs that change margins, recto-verso, to account for binding [cf. OEN]. The C Scribe has no *horror vacui*, particularly evident in his allowing some eleven prose lines to remain unfilled, but he does feel obligated to list a year even when, to speak, nothing happens. Six times, for 903, 906, 908, 920, 922, 924, all presented in red, the scribe puts in an annal entry after the text of the previous year. In this way the C-Scribe can maintain the linear flow of dated entries, honoring any obligation to genre of the annal, and keep to the logic of the layout by avoiding unsightly blank spaces at what would have to be the most important junction of the visual and the textual, the beginning of an entry. This self-consciousness about dates for entries offers the major, hitherto unnoticed, layout evidence for the coherence of the Mercian *Register*. For the years before this block of text, viz., 896-901, and for the years after it, 925-33, the Scribe writes in the years only, filling in the line to the right margin until he begins the Mercian *Register* in the former case, and ends it in the latter. Thus, annal number entries, all in red, become a frame or a border marking the Mercian *Register* off from the main flow of the *Chronicle* and marking it off, e.g., from the *Battle of Brunanburh*, which soon follows. The Scribe acknowledges in visual terms the integrity of this narrative section, its separateness, and in turn by implication its unique origin. Before the closing border of dates C, like B, offers an error in the incomplete sentence "he geat his sweoster," which D completes. This shared error (unless one wishes to argue lectio difficilior that the sentence is completely grammatical as "he married his sister off") at the point of closure cements B and C together. In his edition Rositzke concentrates on text only, avoiding any interest in the physical layout and manuscript context.

The layout and design of this section of the Chronicle support Plummer's description of the integrity of this text, but there are internal features that offer slight clues to its integrity. There are adative absolutes in the entries for 913 and 917, which suggest a Latin origin, and in the entry for 917 discussing the campaign at Derby, the mention of Æðelflæd's sorrow is one of the few such displays of human emotion in the entire Chronicle.
Rositzke does not bear witness to this manuscript context in his edition. Rositzke simply omits the barren strings at the beginning and end of the Mercian Register; even the annual number 920 (on fol. 140v), which is tucked in neatly at the end of the entry for 919 to the right margin and before the annual for 921, which is on the next line, and the annual numbers for 922 and 923, which occupy their own line, and the annual numbers for 922 and 923, which occupy their own line, receive no notice. One may infer that for Rositzke only entries with text are worthy of notice. Like his predecessor scribe in C, Rositzke is seeking to convey meaning by layout and design, but it is not the same meaning that the C-scribe conveyed.

Compared to William, the Anglo-Saxon chronicler offers a most de-gendered picture of Alfred’s daughter. William’s inscription of Æðelflæd is within his account of her brother Edward, where she is “virago potentissima multum fratem consiliiis iuvere” [a most powerful man-woman who aided her brother with much advice]. William’s treatment of Edward contains enough left-handed compliments to create some ambiguity as to his intention. William calls Æðelflæd “favor civium, pavor hostium” ['citizens’ delight, enemies’ fright'] and later observes that he does not know whether it be “fortuna an virute ut mulier viros domesticos protegeret alienos terreret” ['by fortune or manliness that a woman would protect her male warriors. terrify her enemies']. The rhythm and the rhyming verbs might imply the existence of an antecedent text, as one might infer from the Chronicle account. William does not so much erase Æðelflæd as to use her as a rhetorical foil.

The Chronicler might join with William in calling Alfred’s daughter “citizens’ delight, enemies’ fright,” but he hardly seems interested in her personal life. The difference may very well mark a significant change in the perception of gender roles.

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