

**Report on EM 1060 to 1220 Project symposium  
Leicester, July 2007**

The first of the Project's two symposia was held in Leicester on 5 and 6 July 2007. 29 people attended: numbers were necessarily limited in order to ensure plenty of discussion, and that certainly succeeded! It was a tremendously useful opportunity for the Project team to talk about what we are doing and more importantly to hear in detail what others are working on and to discuss together fundamental questions for the Project in terms of topic, methodology and future directions.

**Speakers were:** Mary Swan (Leeds): 'Changing texts: English Manuscripts 1060 to 1220', Faith Wallis: 'MS Oxford St John's College 17: A tour of the web-site', Orietta Da Rold (Leicester) and Susan Irvine (London), 'Electronic Resources and Manuscripts', Bella Millett (Southampton) and William Flynn (Leeds) 'Preaching and Manuscripts', Winfried Rudolf (London) and Peter Stokes (Cambridge), 'Writing, Form and Language', Elaine Treharne (Leicester), 'Evaluations and Perspectives' and Michael Gullick 'A Response'.

It was the first opportunity to talk in detail about the catalogue—its mechanisms, layout and terminology—and we got copious and welcome feedback which will inform our next steps. The symposium also highlighted the work of the Project in an integrated and sustained fashion, and we're very grateful to all the attendees, among whom were numbered historians, literary scholars, linguists, and codicologists and, perhaps most significantly, a healthy number of graduate students. The full list of participants is given at the end of this report. The connections we were able to make in those two days will be of invaluable assistance to us. Without the AHRC's sponsorship, none of this would have been possible.

In the opening plenary lecture, we gathered up participants' responses to the following:

- What are the major questions about English manuscripts 1060 to 1220 which you think need to be answered, or at least addressed?

- Are there particular manuscripts you'd like to see scrutinised?

We also asked what questions or issues participants would particularly like the Symposium to deal with.

The major issues and questions proposed were:

- 1 Pre- to post- Conquest transmission
- 2 Contemporary post-Conquest transmission
- 3 Relationship of English to Latin and French, and the question of hierarchy of languages
- 4 Relationship of English and Latin to the liturgy
- 5 Relationship of manuscripts in English to 'new' European learning of post-1050, esp. scientific/medical
- 6 Institutional contexts of production
- 7 Impact of new religious orders
- 8 Evidence for relations between clergy and laity
- 9 Places of production:
  - i. mapping (including language mapping)
  - ii. relationships between places of production
  - iii. mainland European influences
  - iv. institutional context
- 10 Language and language change (including in multiple copies of the same text, and in scribal alterations)
- 11 Scribes
  - i. scribal training
  - ii. how many hands writing English?
  - iii. relationship between Latin and vernacular scripts
  - iv. scribal links between books and charters
  - v. manuscript interrelationships
  - vi. scribal movement
- 12 Consciousness of change
- 13 Textual transmission
- 14 Layout and C12 bibliographical techniques
- 15 Who's in charge of manuscript production and alteration?

- 16 Who had access to manuscripts?
- 17 Implications for literary culture and for reading
- 18 Continuities – and not.

The individual manuscripts flagged for attention were:

Lambeth Palace 487 and other SW Midlands mss

Cambridge, Trinity College B. 14. 32

Claudius B. xiv

Faustina A.x

Mss containing homilies

Mss containing didactic texts

Legal encyclopaedias

Glossed psalters

Charters and cartularies

Bodley 180 (we've since catalogued this)

Oxford, Jesus College 17

Harley 3667

Cambridge, Corpus Christi College 265

-- So what will we do with all of this? Of course, some of the issues raised are core to our agenda in the Project, so they'll be at the heart of our deliberations, conference papers and publications over the remaining time. In addition to this, some issues – those specific to French and Latin, language change, scribal training and other contextual factors – are ones which others are better placed to think about than we are. We therefore want the Project to act as a facilitator for contacts and conversations on these and other topics. We'll do this partly through our continuing organisation of conference sessions on related themes (Kalamazoo 2008 is the next of these), and partly through our planning for the second Project symposium. An important focus for collaboration, and for us to draw on the expertise of others, is our electronic catalogue. Our policy here is that if a scholar is working on one of the Project manuscripts, we invite them to contribute, or to collaborate with us in making, the catalogue entry for that manuscript, and of course they are credited with their authorship. The issues and questions raised at the Symposium served to highlight how much work needs to be done on particular aspects of the wider picture of

manuscript production and use in and around this period in an European context, and we hope that July's wide-ranging and provocative discussions will have a longer term impact on everyone who attended. The second symposium will be held in two years' time, 2009 and there will be more news on this nearer the time.

## List of Participants:

Julia Barrow - University of Nottingham  
Emma Campbell - University of Warwick  
Aidan Conti - University of Bergen  
Julia Crick - University of Exeter  
Orietta Da Rold - University of Leicester  
Richard Dance - St Catherine's College, Cambridge  
Nick Doane - University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Zoe Enstone - University of Leicester  
William Flynn - University of Leeds  
Thomas Gobbitt - University of Leeds  
Michael Gullick - The Red Gull Press  
Joyce Hill - University of Leeds  
Susan Irvine - University College London  
Martin K Foys - Hood College, Frederick  
Ursula Lenker - Institut für Englische Philologie Universität München  
Angelika Lutz - Erlangen-Nürnberg  
Bella Millett - University of Southampton  
Rob Payne - University of Leicester  
Andrew Prescott - University of Wales Lampeter  
Winfried Rudolf - University of Jena  
Donald Scragg - University of Manchester  
Philip Shaw - University of Sheffield  
Peter Stokes - King's College, London  
Jo Story - University of Leicester  
Mary Swan - University of Leeds  
Chris Tuckley - University of Leeds  
Elaine Treharne - University of Leicester  
Elizabeth Tyler - University of York  
Faith Wallis - McGill University  
Kate Wiles - University of Leeds