IN MEMORIAM

L. A. SHEPPARD

APUD STUDIOSOS INCUNABULORUM PRINCIPIS
This important book forms a really significant landmark in the ongoing development of the Bodleian Library, and especially in the long history of its catalogues. The Library’s collection of pre-1501 printed materials is one of the largest and most interesting in the world, and the publication of this comprehensive descriptive catalogue of these many precious items, assembled over the last four centuries, stands as a monument to the Bodleian’s enduring commitment to scholarly endeavour. It will undoubtedly make a major contribution to our collective understanding of the history of the printed book.

While the contents of this book have been more than a decade in the making, its roots go back almost half a century. That such a large and complex task has been carried through to a successful conclusion during a time of financial constraint in the world of higher education speaks volumes for the dedication and persistence of all those who have been involved in it over so many years. It is particularly pleasing to be able to pay tribute to them all now that their work is done.

The completion of such a long-term undertaking would not have been possible without the large-scale generosity of external donors. The Bodleian Library is deeply indebted to a range of institutions and individuals, both for their encouragement and for their financial support. I gladly take this opportunity, therefore, to record the Library’s great gratitude to the donors who have made the whole enterprise possible: the Fritz Thyssen Stiftung; the Kulturstiftung der Länder; the Deutsche Bank; the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation; the Kress Foundation; the Friends of the Bodleian; the Higher Education Funding Council for England; Helmut Friedlaender; Sir Robert Horton; Harvey Krueger; Nigel and Helen Lovett; George Mallinckrodt; Rupert and Francis Sheppard; and Richard Youard. Without their generous support this book would not exist, and they exemplify how very fortunate the Bodleian is to be able to call upon the assistance of so many friends and allies.

I should also like to express the Library’s deep appreciation of the work of Sir Julian and Lady Bullard, whose extensive help and advice played a really major part in the fundraising efforts on behalf of the project. They and the Library’s successive Heads of Development — David Rutherford, Alastair James, and Veronica Warner — deserve our warmest thanks for their crucial and devoted work for the Library.

The work on the catalogue itself was undertaken by Dr Alan Coates, Dr Helen Dixon, Dr Cristina Dondi, Dr Kristian Jensen, and Dr Bettina Wagner. Dr Carolinne White (authors and texts) and Elizabeth Mathew (provenances and bindings) assisted with the revision of the catalogue entries and editorial work, while Henry Mead checked material throughout the catalogue. In addition, Professor Nigel Palmer described the blockbooks and the single sheet woodcut and metalcut illustrations, and Silke Schaeper produced the inventory of Hebrew incunabula. They are all to be congratulated on the hard and expert work which they devoted to what proved to be a massive undertaking. They were greatly helped by the detailed card catalogue of the incunabula which was drawn up between 1954 and 1971 by the late L. A. Sheppard (to whose memory the present catalogue is dedicated).

The members of the cataloguing team also benefited greatly from the assistance of their colleagues within the Library generally, and particularly from the Department of Special Collections and Western Manuscripts. They received a great deal of expert help also from a board of external
academic advisers, whose input is gratefully acknowledged. Sandra Raphael and Peter Glare took on the onerous task of copy-editing. Andrew and Simon Mather (AMA DataSet Limited) and their colleagues saw through the complex task of file conversion and the preparation of material with great skill and expert care. At the Oxford University Press, Anne Ashby, John Campbell, Paul Cleal, Alison Peel, and their colleagues were all enormously helpful in their support and general enthusiasm for the project.

The year 1605 – more famous no doubt for certain more public events on the national scene – saw the publication of the Bodleian Library’s first printed catalogue, compiled by the first Bodley’s Librarian, Dr Thomas James. That ground-breaking work included catalogue descriptions of the Library’s earliest incunabula. It is, therefore, entirely fitting, and a cause of very great satisfaction and pride, that this exhaustive catalogue raisonné of such an important part of the Bodleian’s incomparable collections should be published in the 400th anniversary year of that first great cataloguing landmark. Sir Thomas Bodley himself would most certainly be very pleased with what has now been achieved by those who have been privileged to build upon his legacy.

Reg Carr
Bodley’s 23rd Librarian
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Organizations and Individuals who sponsored the Cataloguing Project

Fritz Thyssen Stiftung
Kulturstiftung der Länder

The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation
Deutsche Bank AG
Helmut N. Friedlaender
The Friends of the Bodleian Library
The Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE)
Sir Robert Horton
The Samuel H. Kress Foundation
Harvey M. Krueger
Nigel and Helen Lovett
George W. von Mallinckrodt
Francis and Rupert Sheppard
R. G. A. Youard
Cataloguing Team

Work on the catalogue (which was based within the Rare Books and Printed Ephemera Section of the Bodleian’s Department of Special Collections and Western Manuscripts) was undertaken between January 1992 and January 2005.

The cataloguing staff consisted of the following
Dr Kristian Jensen (head, 1992–9, consultant 1999–2005)
Dr Alan Coates (1992–9, head 2000–5)
Dr Bettina Wagner (1992–6)
Dr Helen Dixon (2000–2)

Assistance with textual and provenance work
Dr Carolinne White (2002–3)
Elizabeth Matthew (2002–4)

Editorial
Peter Glare (Latin and Greek inscriptions)
Sandra Raphael (copy-editing)
Henry Mead (general checking of entries and indexes)

Blockbooks, woodcut and metalcut single sheets
Professor Nigel Palmer

Hebrew
Silke Schaeper

Particular assistance from various interns and other assistants
Ulrika Wortmann (Greek material in letter ‘A’)
Deborah Grimes (Library bills)
Géraldine Barron (French material)
Valentina Olivastri (editions in Italian)

The cataloguing team has also received considerable help from present and former Library colleagues.
Academic Advisers

Prof. Lilian Armstrong (illumination).
†Prof. A. C. de la Mare (illumination, Humanist annotations).
Carlotta Dionisotti (Classical texts).
Prof. Vincenzo Fera (Humanist texts).
†Dr Margaret Gibson (medieval theology).
Dr Nigel Griffin (Spanish).
Prof. Nikolaus Henkel (school texts).
Dr Anthony Hobson (Italian and French bindings).
Prof. Volker Honemann (German vernacular texts).
Prof. Karsten Friis Jensen (Classical texts).
Roland Kany (theology).
Dr Jill Kraye (medieval and Renaissance philosophy).
Dr Roger Middleton (French texts, provenances, sale catalogues).
Dr Jim Naughton (Czech).
Prof. Nigel Palmer (German texts, annotations).
Revd Prof. Richard W. Pfaff (liturgical texts).
Dr Nicholas Pickwoad (contemporary Italian bindings).
Prof. Michael Reeve (Classical texts).
Julian Roberts (English inscriptions).
Dr Marianne Rozsondai (German bindings).
Dr Magnus Ryan (civil and canon law, identification of fragments, pastedowns, etc.).
Prof. Richard Sharpe (Latin texts).
Prof. Nancy Siriasi (medical texts).
Dr Jos van Heel (Dutch provenances, especially those of Meerman and Crevenna books).
Acknowledgements

The Bodleian Library would like to thank the following for their assistance:

John Goldfinch (supplying a copy of the ISTC for the catalogue team, and for other assistance, including identification of fragments).
Dr Lotte Hellinga (sharing of information relating to English incunabula from the forthcoming BMC XI).
Andrew Honey (descriptions of bindings of blockbooks, and assistance with descriptions of other bindings).
Dr Paul Needham (use of his provenance index, and identifying provenances).

Dr Redmer Alma (Freeska Landriucht (L-031)).
Dr Jon Arrizabalaga (Articella).
Giles Barber (binding of A-405).
Ursula Baurmeister (French editions).
Pierangelo Bellettini (B-489(1)).
Prof. T. A. Birrell (Provenance Index, especially entries relating to old British Museum shelfmarks).
Claire Bolton (blind impressions of bearer type).
Dr Silvia Coll-Vinent (inscription in B-603).
Dr Richard Cross (Duns Scotus).
Dr Robin Darwall-Smith (identification of J. H. Burn).
Clifford Davies (annotations in ‘Ars moriendi’ (A-447)).
Dr Martin Davies (work on letter ‘A’).
Prof. Rees Davies (Welsh names in M-297).
Prof. Mary Kay Duggan (Augsburg Antiphonal).
Prof. Katherine Duncan-Jones (sixteenth-century English annotations).
Prof. T. F. Earle (Portuguese references).
Jürgen Geiß (bindings of P-149(2), P-169, and P-171(2)).
Mariën Goris (Dutch Boethius).
Dr Clive Griffin (inscriptions in B-603 and L-170, advice with M-212, and other Spanish bibliographical problems).
Richard Hamer (English versions of Legenda aurea).
Dr Randall Herz (binding of T-146).
Dr Roger Highfield (Spanish bibliography, and identification of provenance in F-081).
Hull Central Library, Local History Library (John Mozley Stark).
Julian Martin Abad (provenance of M-212).
Dr Rosa Micus (bindings of J-200(2) and M-244).
Bob Miller (German and Dutch translations of the ‘Vita Adae’).
Prof. Carla Maria Monti and her students (Italian authors).
Dr Ulrike Moret (Lyndoch and Graham Library).
Robert Noel, Lancaster Herald (J. T. Hand).
Dr Adri Offenberg (Hebrew books).
Prof. Malcolm Parkes (J.T. Hand).
Nicolas Petit (French editions).
Paolo Pirillo (transcription in F-090).
Pat Sewell (Halifax Literary and Philosophical Society).
Prof. Richard Sharpe (problems of authorship; introductory material).
Dr David Smith (annotations in 'Ars moriendi' (A-447)).
Dr Lesley Smith (Boethius and Augustine; Rolewinck).
Marc Smith (notes in C-476(1)).
Nicholas Smith (F-025(2)).
Dr John Tiffany (heraldic problems in J-245).
Jaap Tigelaar (Brabant Chronicle (C-193)).
Harriet Wallman (identification of Erik Israelson).
Prof. Andrew Watson (Provenance Index).
Dr Joseph Ziegler (Arnaldus de Villa Nova).
Dr Ewa Zwinogrodzka (binding of A-504).
Bibliographical Abbreviations


Audin Audin de Rians, S. L. G. E. [Bibliography of the writings of Savonarola], in Trattato di frate Ieronimo Savonarola circa il reggimento e governo della città di Firenze (Florence, 1847).


Backmund, Kleinere Orden Norbert Backmund, Die kleineren Orden in Bayern und ihre Klöster bis zur Säkularisation (Windberg, 1974).


Baer, Holzschnitte Leo Baer, Holzschnitte auf Buchumschlägen aus dem XV. und der ersten Hälfte des XVI. Jahrhunderts, Einblattdrucke des Fünfzehnten Jahrhunderts, 90 (Strasbourg, 1936).

Baer, Die illustrierten Historienbücher Leo Baer, Die illustrierten Historienbücher des 15. Jahrhunderts (Strasbourg, 1903).


Bartsch Adam Bartsch, Le Peintre graveur, 21 vols (Vienna, 1803–21).


Bavaria Franciscana Antiqua Bavaria Franciscana Antiqua (Ehemalige Franziskanerkloster im heutigen Bayern), 5 vols (Munich, [1955–61]).


BBFN Bio-bibliographia Franciscana Neerlandica ante saeculum XVI, II: L. Mees, Pars bibliographica, Incunabula (Nieuwkoop, 1974).


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<th>Author</th>
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<tr>
<td>Belloni</td>
<td>Annalisa Belloni, <em>Professori giuristi a Padova nel secolo XV</em>, Ius Commune, Sonderhefte, Studien zur europäischen Rechtsgeschichte, 28 (Frankfurt am Main, 1986).</td>
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<td>BGPTM</td>
<td>Beiträge zur Geschichte der Philosophie und Theologie des Mittelalters, 1– (Münster, 1891– ).</td>
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<td>BHL</td>
<td>Bibliotheca hagiographicà latina.</td>
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<td>BM STC (Germany)</td>
<td>British Museum (London), <em>Short-title Catalogue of Books Printed in the German-speaking Countries and German Books Printed in Other Countries from 1455 to 1600 now in the British Museum</em> (London, 1962).</td>
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BNDB  Biographie nationale de Belgique, 41 vols (Brussels, 1866–1986).


Bod-inc.  A Catalogue of Books Printed in the Fifteenth Century now in the Bodleian Library, by Alan Coates, Kristian Jensen, Cristina Dondi, Bettina Wagner, and Helen Dixon, with the assistance of Caroline White and Elizabeth Mathew; blockbooks, woodcut and metalcut single sheets by Nigel F. Palmer; and an inventory of Hebrew incunabula by Silke Schaeper, 6 vols (Oxford, 2005).


Bogeng  Gustav Adolf Erich Bogeng, Die großen Bibliophilen (Leipzig, 1922).


Bonaventura, Opera omnia  Bonaventura, Opera omnia, edita studio et cura pp. collegii a S. Bonaventura, 10 vols (Quaracchi, 1882–1902).


Books Purchased  A Catalogue of Books Purchased for the Bodleian Library... (Oxford, 1780–1861, published annually between these years).


Bottfield  Beriah Bottfield, Prefaces to the First Editions of the Greek and Roman Classics and of the Sacred Scriptures (Cambridge, 1861).


BQR  The Bodleian Quarterly Record, 8 vols (Oxford, 1914–38).


Bragaglia  Egisto Bragaglia, Gli ex libris italiani dalle origini alla fine dell’Ottocento, 3 vols (Milan, 1993).


Bruni, Opere  Gerardo Bruni, Le opere de Egidio Romano (Florence, 1936).


Bruyne, ‘Préfaces’  Donatien de Bruyne, Préfaces de la Bible latine (Namur, 1920).

BS  Bibliotheca Sanctorum, 14 vols so far (Rome, 1961– ).


Bywater, Elenchus  Elenchus librorum uetustiorum apud *** [Ingram Bywater] hospitantium ([Oxford, 1911]).


Campbell  Marinus Frederik Andries Gerardus Campbell, Annales de la typographie néerlandaise au XV° siècle (The Hague, 1874); Supplément, 4 vols (The Hague, 1878–90).


Campbell–Kronenberg  Maria Elizabeth Kronenberg, Campbell’s Annales de la typographie néer-

CANT  M. Geerard, Clavis Apocryphorum Novi Testamenti, Corpus christianorum Series Apocryphorum (Turnhout, 1992).


**Catalogus (1843)**  *Catalogus librorum Bibliothecae Bodleianae* [and] *Catalogus librorum quibus aucta est bibliotheca MDCCCXXXV – MDCCCXLVII* (Oxford, 1843, 1851).

‘*Catalogus Bibliothecae Novae’*  ‘*Catalogus Bibliothecae Novae Bodleianae*’ [the first handlist of the ‘Auctarium’, begun c.1820, discontinued before 1839]; Library Records c. 1071 [references are given to folio numbers; the volumes are arranged alphabetically, and a particular volume is indicated only where this is not considered clear from the individual entry being discussed].


**CCSL**  *Corpus christianorum: Series latina*.

**CCCM**  *Corpus christianorum: Continuatio Mediaevalis*.


**Chelazzi**  Corrado Chelazzi and others, *Catalogo della raccolta di statuti, consuetudini, leggi, decreti, ordini e privilegi dei comuni, delle associazioni e degli enti locali italiani dal medioevo alla fine del secolo XVIII*, 7 vols so far (Rome and Florence, 1943– ).


Cioni, Rappresentazioni    Alfredo Cioni, Bibliografia delle Sacre Rappresentazioni, Biblioteca bibliografica italiana, 22 (Florence, 1961).

Claes  Franz Claes, Bibliographisches Verzeichnis der deutschen Vokabulare und Wörterbücher, gedruckt bis 1600 (Hildesheim and New York, 1977).

Clark, Collectors  Lilian Clark, Collectors and Owners of Incunabula in the British Museum: Index of Provenances for Books Printed in France, Holland, and Belgium (Bath, 1962).

Clarke, Repertorium  [William Clarke], Repertorium bibliographicum; or, Some Account of the Most Celebrated British Libraries (London, 1819).


CMA  [E. Bernard], Catalogi librorum manuscriptorum Angliae et Hiberniae in unum collecti (Oxford, 1697).


Cohn, Grüninger  Werner Cohn, Einblattdrucke der Strassburger Druckerei Johannes Grüninger, Einblattdrucke des fünfzehnten Jahrhunderts, 92 (Strasbourg, 1937).


Collijn, Bibliografi  I. Collijn, Sveriges bibliografi intill år 1600, 3 vols (Uppsala, 1927–38).

Colomb de Batines  Paul Colomb de Batines, Bibliografia delle antiche rappresentazioni italiane sacre e profane stampate nei secoli XVe XVI (Florence, 1852).


Continental Shelf  A Continental Shelf: Books across Europe from Ptolemy to Don Quixote. An Exhibition to mark the Re-opening of the Bodleian Exhibition Room (Oxford, 1994).


Copinger, Hand List  W. A. Copinger, Hand List of What is Believed to Be the Largest Collection in the World of Editions of ‘The Imitation’ of Thomas à Kempis (privately printed, [1908]).
Copinger, Incunabula Biblica  W. A. Copinger, *Incunabula Biblica or the First Half Century of the Latin Bible, being a Bibliographical Account of the Latin Bible between 1450 and 1500* (London, 1892).


Corner  Flaminio Corner, *Notizie storiche delle chiese e monasteri di Venezia e di Torcello* (Padua, 1758).

*Corpus Orationum*  *Corpus Orationum*, ed. E. Moeller and others, 8 vols so far, CCSL, 160– (Turnhout, 1992–).


Corsten, *Festgabe*  *Ars impressoria . . . eine Festgabe für Severin Corsten* (Munich, 1986).


CR  Dietrich Reichling, *Appendices ad Hainii-Copingeri Repertorium Bibliographicum. Additiones et emendationes*, 6 vols (Munich, 1905–14); *Supplement* (Münster, 1914); see also HCR, HR.


CSEL  *Corpus scriptorum ecclesiasticorum latinorum*. 

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Cusa, Opera Omnia  Nicolaus de Cusa, Opera Omnia, ed. Raymond Klibansky and others, 19 vols so far (Leipzig, 1932— ).

Dallari  Umberto Dallari, Rotuli dei lettori legisti e artisti dello studio Bolognese, 4 vols (Bologna, 1888—1924).


DBF  Dictionnaire de biographie française, 19 vols so far (Paris, 1929— ).

DBI  Dizionario biografico degli Italiani, 62 vols so far (Rome, 1960— ).

DBInd  Deutscher biographischer Index, ed. W. Gorzny, 4 vols (Munich, 1986).


De Marinis, Legatura  Tammaro De Marinis, La legatura artistica in Italia nei secoli XV e XVI, 3 vols (Florence, 1960).


de Ricci, English Collectors  Seymour de Ricci, English Collectors of Books and Manuscripts (1530—1930) and their Marks of Ownership (Cambridge, 1930).

de Ricci, Mayence  Seymour de Ricci, Catalogue raisonné des premières impressions de Mayence (1455—67), Veröffentlichungen der Gutenberg-Gesellschaft, 8—9 (Mainz, 1911).


DHGE  Dictionnaire d’histoire et de géographie ecclésiastiques, ed. Alfred Baudillart, Albert de Meyer, and Roger Aubert, 28 vols so far (Paris, 1912— ).


Dicke, Steinhöwels Esopus  Gerd Dicke, Heinrich Steinhöwels ‘Esopus’ und seine Forsetzer, Münchener Texte und Untersuchungen, 103 (Tübingen, 1994).


DIP  Dizionario degli Istituti di Perfezione, 8 vols (Rome, 1988).


DLB  Dictionary of Literary Biography, 277 vols so far (Detroit, Washington, DC, and London, 1978–).

DNB  Dictionary of National Biography, 32 vols (London and Oxford, 1885–1990). [The Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, 60 vols (Oxford, 2004) was published as the Bodleian’s Incunable Catalogue was itself going to press, so it has not proved possible to refer to it.]


Dobscütz, Christusbilder  Ernst von Dobscütz, Christusbilder. Untersuchungen zur christlichen Legende, Texte und Untersuchungen zur Geschichte der altchristlichen Literatur, 18 (Leipzig, 1899).


Dodgson, Prints in the Dotted Manner  Campbell Dodgson, Prints in the Dotted Manner and Other Metal-cuts of the XVth Century in the Department of Prints and Drawings, British Museum (London, 1937).


Duhr  Bernhard Duhr, Geschichte der Jesuiten in den Ländern deutscher Zunge, 4 vols (Freiburg im Breisgau, 1907–28).


Eberhard, Fabulae  Fabulae Romanenses Graece conscriptae, ed. A. Eberhard (Leipzig, 1872).


EETS  Early English Text Society.


EHR  English Historical Review, 1– (1886–).


Emden, BRUC  A. B. Emden, A Biographical Register of the University of Cambridge to 1500 (Cambridge, 1963).


Evangelia Apocrypha Evangelia Apocrypha, ed. C. de Tischendorf, 2nd edn (Leipzig, 1876).


Farge James K. Farge, Biographical Register of Paris Doctors of Theology 1500–1536 (Toronto, 1980).

Fauser Winfried Fauser, Die Werke des Albertus Magnus in ihrer handschriftlichen Überlieferung, Teil I: Die echten Werke (Münster, 1982).

Fava–Bresciano Mariano Fava and Giovanni Bresciano, La stampa a Napoli nel XV secolo: Atlante, Sammlung bibliothekswissenschaftlicher Arbeiten, 32–4 (Leipzig, 1911–13).


Fiumi Favorino Fiumi, Le edizioni del ‘De civitate Dei’ di S. Agostino del secolo xv, Monografie storiche Agostiniane, 29 (Florence, 1930).


Fletcher, Collectors William Younger Fletcher, English Book Collectors (London, 1902).


Foster Joseph Foster, Alumni Oxonienses: The Members of the University of Oxford, 1500–1714: Their Parentage, Birthplace and Year of Birth, with a Record of their Degrees, 4 vols (Oxford and London, 1891–2).

Foster, 1715–1886 Joseph Foster, Alumni Oxonienses: The Members of the University of Oxford, 1715–1886: Their Parentage, Birthplace and Year of Birth, with a Record of their Degrees, 4 vols (Oxford and London, 1887–8).


Franz, Messe Adolph Franz, Die Messe im deutschen Mittelalter. Beiträge zur Geschichte der Liturgie und des religiösen Volkslebens (Freiburg im Breisgau, 1902).

Frati Carlo Frati and Albano Sorbelli, Dizionario bio-bibliografico dei bibliotecari e bibliofili italiani dal sec. xiv al xix (Florence, 1933).


Frenz Thomas Frenz, Die Kanzlei der Päpste der Hochrenaissance (1471–1527), Bibliothek des deutschen historischen Instituts in Rom, 63 (Tübingen, 1986).


Gb JB Gutenberg-Jahrbuch (Mainz, 1926–).


Gothic: Art for England  

Grabmann, Forschungen  

Grabmann, Geistesleben  
Martin Grabmann, Mittelalterliches Geistesleben, 3 vols (Munich, 1926–56).

Grabmann, Methoden und Hilfsmittel  
Martin Grabmann, Methoden und Hilfsmittel des Aristotelessstudiums im Mittelalter, Sitzungsberichte der Bayerischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, philologisch-historische Abteilung, 1939, 5 (Munich, 1939); repr. in Martin Grabmann, Gesammelte Akademieabhandlungen, Münchener Universitäts-Schriften, Fachbereich Katholische Theologie, Veröffentlichungen des Grabmann-Institutes, NF 25,1 (Paderborn, 1979), 1447–637.

Gray  

Green  

Griese  

Grote  

Gruys  

Gulik–Eubel, Hierarchia Catholica  

Guyot  

GW  

GW Nachträge  
Nachträge zu Hain’s Repertorium Bibliographicum und seinen Fortsetzungen als Probe des Gesamtkatalogs der Wiegendrucke (Leipzig, 1910).

Gwosdek, English Grammatical MSS  

H  
Ludwig Hain, Repertorium bibliographicum, in quo libri omnes ab arte typographica inventa usque ad annum MD. typis expressi ordine alphabeticum vel simpliciter enumerantur vel accuratius recensentur, 2 vols (Stuttgart and Paris, 1826–38).

Haebler, Bibliografia ibérica  
Konrad Haebler, Bibliografia ibérica del siglo XV: Enumeración de todos los libros impresos en España y Portugal hasta el año de 1500 con notas críticas, 2 vols (The Hague and Leipzig, 1903–17).

Haebler, Buchdrucker  
Konrad Haebler, Die deutschen Buchdrucker des XV. Jahrhunderts im Auslande (Munich, 1924).

Haebler, Leiden Christi  
Biographical Abbreviations


Hamy Alfred Hamy, *Documents pour servir à l'histoire des domiciles de la compagnie de Jesus dans le monde entier de 1540 à 1773* (Paris, [1892]).


HCR Dietrich Reichling, *Appendices ad Hainii-Copingeri Repertorium Bibliographicum. Additiones et emendationes*, 6 vols (Munich, 1905–11); *Supplement* (Münster, 1914); see also CR, HR.


Heitz, Kanonbilder Paul Heitz, *Christus am Kreuz. Kanonbilder der in Deutschland gedruckten Messbücher des fünfzehnten Jahrhunderts* (Strasbourg, [1910]).

Helllinga, Campbell Lotte and Wytze Helllinga, *Additions and Notes to Campbell’s Annales and GW*, Beiträge zur Inknabellkunde, 3rd ser., 1 (Berlin, 1965), 76–86.


HLF Histoire littéraire de la France, new edn, 51 vols so far (Paris, 1733–


HR Dietrich Reichling, Appendices ad Hainii-Copingeri Repertorium Bibliographicum. Additiones et emendationes, 6 vols (Munich, 1905–11); Supplement (Münster, 1914); see also CR, HCR.

Hubay, Augsburg Ilona Hubay, Incunabula der Staats- und Stadtbibliothek Augsburg (Wiesbaden, 1974).


Hyde, Catalogus (1674) Thomas Hyde, Catalogus impressorum librorum Bibliothecæ Bodleianæ in Academia Oxoniensi (Oxford, 1674).


IBF Index biographique français, ed. Helen and Barry Dwyer (London, 1993).

IBI  Indice biografico italiano, ed. T. Nappo and P. Noto, 4 vols (Munich, 1993).


IGI  Indice generale degli incunaboli delle biblioteche d'Italia, 6 vols (Rome, 1943–81).


Interleaved Cowley; see Cowley.

Interleaved St; see St [Steinschneider].

Inventaris  Inventaris van incunabelen gedrukt te Antwerpen 1481–1500 (Antwerp, 1982).

ISTC  Incunable Short-title Catalogue [online database, British Library, London].


James,‘Catalogus’ (1602/3); [A catalogue of books in the Bodleian Library, finished in 1603], MS. Rawl. Q. e. 31.

James, Catalogus (1605)  Thomas James, Catalogus librorum Bibliothecae publicae quam vir ornatus-simus Thomas Bodleius eques aureus in Academia Oxoniensi nuper instituit (Oxford, 1605); repr. as The First Printed Catalogue of the Bodleian Library: A Facsimile (Oxford, 1986).

James, Catalogus (1620)  Thomas James, Catalogus universalis librorum in Bibliotheca Bodleiana . . . (Oxford, 1620).


Keil, Grammatici latini  Heinrich Keil, Grammatici latini, 8 vols (Leipzig, 1868).
Keussen  Die Matrikel der Universität Köln 1389 bis 1559, ed. Hermann Keussen, 3 vols (Bonn, 1892–1931).
Klebs–Sudhoff  A. C. Klebs and K. Sudhoff, Die ersten gedruckten Pestschriften (Munich, 1926).
Klemming  G. E. Klemming, Sveriges äldre liturgiska litteratur (Stockholm, 1879).
Krausen, Zisterzienser  Edgar Krausen, Die Klöster des Zisterzienserordens in Bayern, Bayerische Heimatforschung, 7 (Munich, 1953).
Kristeller  Paul Kristeller, Early Florentine Woodcuts (London, 1897).


Kyriß Ernst Kyriß, Verzierte gotische Einbände im alten deutschen Sprachgebiet, 4 vols (Stuttgart, 1951–8).


Lehrs Max Lehrs, Geschichte und kritischer Katalog des deutschen, niederländischen und französischen Kupferstichs im XV. Jahrhundert, 18 vols (Vienna, 1908–34).


Leonine Sancti Thomae Aquinatis doctoris angelici Opera omnia iussu Leonis XIII. O.M. edita, cura et studio fratrum praedicatorum (Rome, 1882– ).


Letters of Sir Thomas Bodley to Thomas James, ed. G.W. Wheeler (Oxford, 1926).


**LGB** Lexicon des gesamten Buchwesens, ed. Karl Lößler and Joachim Kirchner, 3 vols (Leipzig, 1934–7).

**LGB (2nd edn)** Lexicon des gesamten Buchwesens, Zweite völlig neubearbeitete Auflage, ed. S. Corsten and others (Stuttgart, 1987–).

**Library Bills** [The Bills of the Bodleian Library, kept in the Archives of the Library]


**Litta** P. Litta, *Celebri famiglie italiane* (Milan, 1819–74).

**LMA** Lexikon des Mittelalters, 10 vols (Munich and Zurich, 1977–99).


**Machiels, Boekdrukkunst** J. Machiels, *De Boekdrukkunst te Gent tot 1560*, Universiteit Gent Centrale Bibliotheek, Bijdragen tot de bibliothekwetenschap, 7 (Ghent, 1994).


**Maier** Angelus Politianus, *Opera omnia*, ed. Ida Maier, 3 vols, Monumenta Politica et Philosophica Humanistica Rariora, 1,16–18 (Turin, 1970–1).


McKitterick, Print  David McKitterick, Print, Manuscript and the Search for Order 1450–1830 (Cambridge, 2003).


Meerman G. Meerman, Origines typographicae, 2 vols (The Hague, 1765).

Meersseman Gilles Gérard Meersseman, Introdçctio in opera omnia B. Alberti Magni O.P. (Bruges, 1931).

Meersseman, Akathistos Gilles Gérard Meersseman, Der Hymnos Akathistos im Abendland, Spicilegium Friburgense, 2–3 (Fribourg, 1958–60).


MGH Monumenta Germaniae Historica.


Michelitsch  Anton Michelitsch, *Thomasschriften* (Graz and Vienna, 1913).


Missale Sarum  Missale ad usum insignis et preclaræ ecclesiae Sarum, ed. Francis Henry Dickinson (Burntisland, 1861–83).


Monasticon belge  Monasticon belge, 8 vols so far (Bruges, 1890– ).


NDB Neue deutsche Biographie, herausgegeben von der Historischen Kommission bei der Bayerischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, 1– (Berlin, 1953–).


Nijhoff–Kronenberg Wouter Nijhoff and Maria Elizabeth Kronenberg, Nederlandsche bibliographie van 1500 tot 1540, 3 vols (The Hague, 1923–6).


OBS  Oxford Bibliographical Society.


Oesterley  Heinrich Oesterley, Historisch-geographisches Wörterbuch des deutschen Mittelalters (Gotha, 1883).


OHS  Oxford Historical Society.


Ottley  William Young Ottley, *An Inquiry concerning the Invention of Printing: in which the Systems of Meereman, Heinecken, Santander, and Koning are Reviewed, including also Notices of the Early Use of Wood-engraving in Europe, the Block-books, etc.*, with introduction by J. Ph. Berjeau (London, 1863).


Pavanello  Giuseppe Pavanello, *Un maestro del Quattrocento* (Giovanni Aurelio Augurello) (Venice, 1905).


Pollnitz Die Matrikel der Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Ingolstadt-Landshut-München, ed. Götz Freiherr von Pollnitz and others, 5 vols so far (Munich, 1937—).

Pr  Robert Proctor, An Index to the Early Printed Books in the British Museum: From the Invention of Printing to the Year 1500, with Notes of those in the Bodleian Library (London, 1898—1906).


Proctor, Campbell  R. Proctor, Additions to Campbell’s Annales de la typographie néerlandaise au 15e siècle: Tracts on Early Printing III (London, 1897).


Quentin  Henri Quentin, Mémoire sur l’établissement du texte de la vulgate (Rome, 1922).

R  Dietrich Reichling, Appendices ad Hainii-Copingeri Repertorium bibliographicum: Additiones et emendationes, 6 vols: Indices (Munich, 1905—11), Supplementum (Münster, 1914).


RE  Paulys Real-Encyclopädie der classischen Altertumswissenschaft, new edn, ed. George Wissowa, 24 vols (Stuttgart, 1894—1963); 2nd series, vol. 1— (Stuttgart, 1914—). Supplement, 1— (Stuttgart, 1914—).


Rhodes  Dennis E. Rhodes, A Catalogue of Incunabula in all the Libraries of Oxford University outside the Bodleian (Oxford, 1982).


Rhodes, Treviso Dennis E. Rhodes, La stampa a Treviso nel secolo xv, Quaderni di “Studi Trevisani”, 1 (Treviso, 1983).


Ridolfi, Firenze Roberto Ridolfi, La stampa in Firenze nel secolo XV (Florence, 1958).


Sabbadini Remigio Sabbadini, La scuola e gli studi di Guarino Veronese, con 44 documenti (Catania, 1896).

Sabbadini, Antonio Mancinelli Remigio Sabbadini, Antonio Mancinelli ([Velletri, 1878]).

Sack, Frankfurt Kurt Ohly and Vera Sack, Inkunabelkatalog der Stadt- und Universitätsbibliothek und anderer öffentlicher Sammlungen in Frankfurt am Main, Kataloge der Stadt- und Universitätsbibliothek Frankfurt am Main, 1 (Frankfurt am Main, 1966).


Sander Max Sander, Le Livre à figures italien depuis 1467 jusqu’à 1530: Essai de sa bibliographie et de son histoire, 6 vols (Milan, 1942); Carlo Enrico Rava, Supplément (Milan, 1969).

Sander, Copertine Max Sander, Copertine italiane illustrate del rinascimento (Milan, 1936).


**SC**  *Summary Catalogue of Western Manuscripts in the Bodleian Library*, by F. Madan and others, 7 vols (Oxford, 1895–1953).


Schaller  *Initia carminum latinorum saeculo undecimo antiquiorum: Bibliographisches Reper-

Schild  Maurice Schild, *Abendländische Bibelvorreden bis zur Lutherbibel*, Quellen und Forschungen zur Reformationsgeschichte, 39 (Gütersloh, 1970)

Schmidt, *Denkmale*  M. [= Wilhelm] Schmidt, *Die frühesten und seltensten Denkmale des Holz-
und Metallschnittes aus dem vierzehnten und fünfhundert Jahre nach den Originalen im k.
Kupferstich-Cabinet und in der k. Hof- und Staats-Bibliothek in München durch Lichtdruck als Facsimiles reproduirt*, 5 vols in 3 (Nuremberg, [1886]).


strasbourgeois, 1 (Strasbourg, 1893).

bibliographique strasbourgeois, 3 (Strasbourg, 1893).

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Schneuer, *Repertorium*  Johann Baptist Schneuer, *Repertorium der lateinischen Sermones des
Mittelalters für die Zeit von 1150–1350*, 11 vols, Beiträge zur Geschichte der Philosophie und
Theologie des Mittelalters, 43 (Münster, 1969–90).

Mittelalters*, Bayerische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Veröffentlichungen der Kommission für die
Herausgabe ungedruckter Texte aus der mittelalterlichen Geisteswelt, 1 (Munich, 1965).

Schneuer, ‘Winke’  Johannes Baptist Schneuer; ‘Winke für die Sichtung und Zuordnung spätmittel-
alterlicher lateinischer Predigtreihen’, *Scrip-


Schorbach, *Mentelin*  Karl Schorbach, *Der Straßburger Frühdrucker Johann Mentelin (1458–
(Mainz, 1932).


Schreiber, Meister der Metallschneidekunst W. L. Schreiber, Die Meister der Metallschneidekunst nebst einem nach Schulen geordneten Katalog ihrer Arbeiten, Studien zur deutschen Kunstgeschichte, 241 (Strasbourg, 1926).


Schulthess–Imbach Peter Schulthess and Ruedi Imbach, Die Philosophie im lateinischen Mittelalter (Zürich, 1996).


Scrittura, biblioteche e stampa II Scrittura, biblioteche e stampa a Roma nel Quattrocento: *Attidel2ºseminario,6–8maggio1982*, ed. M. Miglio and others, Littera antiqua, 3 (Vatican City, 1983).


St Moritz Steinschneider, *Catalogus librorum hebraeorum in Bibliotheca Bodleiana* (Berlin, 1852–60, repr. Berlin, 1931; Hildesheim, 1964); Interleaved St (kept in the Department of Oriental Collections, annotated with shelfmarks and corrections).


Stintzing  Roderich Stintzing, Geschichte der populären Literatur des römisch-kanonischen Rechts in Deutschland am Ende des fünfzehnten und im Anfang des sechzehnten Jahrhunderts (Leipzig, 1867).

Stokvis  Antoine Marinus Stokvis, Manuel d’histoire de généalogie et de chronologie de tous les états du globe, 3 vols (Leiden, 1888–93).

Strutt, Biographical Dictionary  Joseph Strutt, A Biographical Dictionary; containing an Historical Account of All the Engravers from the Earliest Period of the Art of Engraving to the Present Time (London, 1785–6).

Stummer  Friedrich Stummer, Einführung in die lateinische Bibel (Paderborn, 1928).


Testaverde and Evangelista  Annamaria Testaverde and Anna Maria Evangelista, Sacre rappresentazioni manoscritte e a stampa conservate nella Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze (Milan, 1988).


Thes  Thesaurus Typographiae Hebraicae Saeculi XV, ed. A. Freimann and M. Marx, 8 portfolios (Berlin, 1924–31).

Thomas Aquinas, Opera omnia  Thomas Aquinas, Opera omnia, ed. Roberto Busa, 7 vols (Stuttgart, 1980).


Tiraboschi, Biblioteca modenese  Girolamo, Biblioteca modenese o Notizie della vita e delle opere degli scrittori nati degli stati del . . . duca di Modena, 6 vols (Modena, 1781–6).


TRE Theologische Realenzyklopädie, ed. G. Krause, G. Müller and others, 36 vols so far (Berlin, 1976–).


Veneziani, Brescia Paolo Veneziani, La tipografia a Brescia nel xv secolo (Florence, 1986).

Venn John Venn and J. A. Venn, Alumni Cantabrigienses: A Biographical List of all Known Students, Graduates and Holders of Office at the University of Cambridge, from the Earliest Times to 1900, 2 parts (10 vols) (Cambridge, 1922–54).


VL Die deutsche Literatur des Mittelalters: Verfasserlexikon, ed. Kurt Ruh, Gundolf Keil and others, 2nd rev. edn, 11 vols so far (Berlin, [1977–]).


[Wanley], ‘Observations’ [Humfrey Wanley], ‘Some Observations concerning the Invention and Progress of Printing, to the Year 1465’, *Philosophical Transactions*, 23, no. 288 (Nov./Dec. 1703), 1507–16.

Warnecke Friedrich Warnecke, *Die deutschen Bücherzeichen (Ex-libris) von ihrem Ursprunge bis zur Gegenwart* (Berlin, 1890).


Wegener, Zainer Johannes Wegener, *Die Zainer in Ulm: Ein Beitrag zur Geschichte des Buchdrucks im XV. Jahrhundert*, Beiträge zur Bücherkunde des XV. und XVI. Jahrhunderts, 1 (Strasbourg, 1904).


Worstbrock, Antikerezeption Deutsche Antikerezeption 1450–1550; Teil 1: Verzeichnis der deutschen Übersetzungen antiker Autoren mit einer Bibliographie der Übersetzer (Boppard am Rhein, 1976).


ZFB Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen, 1– (1884–).

ZfdA Zeitschrift für deutsches Alterthum und deutsche Litteratur, 1– (1841–).

ZfKT Zeitschrift für katholische Theologie, 1– (1877–).


## General Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>Anm.</td>
<td>Anmerkung (GW)</td>
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<td>RSL</td>
<td>Radcliffe Science Library</td>
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<td>StB</td>
<td>Staatsbibliothek</td>
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<td>trans.</td>
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<td>UL</td>
<td>university library</td>
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Conventions

(!) is used instead of sic.

(?) is used after the phrase in doubt.

German conventions are retained when citing German works, thus: Kristian Bosselmann-Cyran, ‘Secreta mulierum' mit Glosse in der deutschen Bearbeitung von Johann Hartlieb. Text und Untersuchungen, Würzburger medizinhistorische Forschungen, 36 (Hannover, 1985), 9–14.

‘[]’ with a space is used for unread passages.

Abbreviations for names of libraries follow ISTC and Goñ.
The Bodleian Library and its Incunabula

ALAN COATES

The Bodleian's Acquisition of Incunabula

As a result of 400 years of purchases and donations, the Bodleian now has 5,600 incunable editions in its holdings, some in multiple copies, with the total number of incunabula in excess of 6,700. However, it should be stressed at the outset that the Library's collection of incunabula is essentially a product of nineteenth-century acquisitions, building on the collection acquired by the Library from its foundation.1

It is quite likely that the old University Library acquired some incunabula before it was finally dispersed in the 1550s. However, it is impossible to be certain about this: no incunabula from the old library have been identified, nor do any catalogues of this library survive.2

Incunabula were among the first books presented to the Bodleian Library (by Sir Thomas Bodley’s ‘Store of Honourable Friends’),3 and among the earliest purchases made for it using money given by benefactors. The ‘Honourable Friends’ consisted of several different groups. There were the aristocrats and courtiers in whose circle Bodley would have moved when serving Queen Elizabeth, men such as the Chancellor of the University, Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurst, later Earl of Dorset; George Carey, Lord Hunsdon; Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex; John, Lord Lumley; and Charles Blount, Lord Mountjoy, later Earl of Devon. There were also senior churchmen, such as Toby Matthew, Bishop of Durham; John Langworth, Archdeacon of Wells; James Cottington, Archdeacon of Surrey; and Alexander Nowell, Dean of St Paul’s, London. Another group included civil servants and administrators, Bodley’s former colleagues in the Elizabethan regime, men such as Sir John Fortescue, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Sir Francis Vere. Then there were ‘local’ figures, either members of the university (such as the sometime Vice-Chancellor, Dr Thomas Thornton, John Hawley, Principal of Gloucester Hall, and William Gent, also of Gloucester Hall), or members of the landed gentry of Oxfordshire and the surrounding counties (men such as Anthony Morgan, of Aynho, in Northamptonshire, Sir George Shirley of Astwell, also in Northamptonshire, and one woman, Alice Chamberlaine, of Shirburn). The donations of these and other individuals, whether of incunabula or money from which incunabula were then

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1 The author is greatly indebted to the following colleagues for reading drafts of this introduction, and for their comments and suggestions: Mary Clapinson, Cristina Dondi, Geoff Groom, Andrew Honey, Clive Hurst, Martin Kaufmann, Elizabeth Mathew, Nigel Palmer, Julian Roberts, Tim Rogers, and Caroline White; he is also grateful to Francis Sheppard for information about his father, L. A. Sheppard; the author himself remains solely responsible for any errors, and for the views expressed.


purchased, were recorded in the Library’s ‘Benefactors’ Register’, as part of the record of all such gifts to the Bodleian. From this list of names, it is immediately apparent that, whilst many of them would be regarded as being firm adherents of the Protestant faith, there were several whose religious sympathies leaned more towards Catholicism, for example, Alice Chamberlaine, George Shirley, and, in all probability, the two members of Gloucester Hall, a known stronghold of the old religion. The enthusiasm of adherents of the old religion to contribute material to Bodley’s new library (which was once considered by historians to have been a ‘bulwark of extreme Protestantism’) has been noted elsewhere in the context of donations of manuscripts. Some books from the institutional representatives of the old religion, namely the English monasteries, also found their way into the Bodleian: incunabula with medieval English monastic provenances entered the Bodleian’s collection throughout the first 150 years of its history, but not in any great quantity. This is not simply because of the lack of continuity of the University Library between the medieval and post-dissolution periods: even in Cambridge University Library, where there was no similar hiatus, there were still relatively few incunabula added to the collection during the sixteenth century. In passing, this glance at the previous history of Bodleian incunabula may be extended further: among the books presented to the Library by the Earl of Essex were those formerly in the library of Fernão Mascarenhas, Bishop of Faro and Grand Inquisitor, which Essex removed from the episcopal library during one of his buccaneering raids in 1596. This collection and many books formerly in German religious houses and later acquired for the Bodleian by the agents of Archbishop Laud (see below) serve as a reminder that the dispersal of books between institutions and individuals has not always been a peaceful one.

The Bodleian’s single major source of incunabula during the seventeenth century was the library of John Selden (1584–1654). Selden was a lawyer, antiquary, Member of Parliament, and book collector, whose splendid collection of some 8,000 volumes remains one of the most significant ever given to the Bodleian, in terms of both its size and its breadth, showing the range of Selden’s own interests in law, languages, history, and antiquities. The collection included both eastern and western manuscripts (which were bequeathed to the Bodleian), and printed books (which were subsequently assigned to the Library by his executors). However, with the exception of early English imprints, it is unlikely that Selden collected incunabula for their age or rarity, and the majority of his more than 100 incunabula fall within the range of his general academic interests. At this stage, such books were acquired as part of the Library’s general acquisitions policy, not as specimens of early printing: indeed, it was not really until the eighteenth century that incunabula became the subjects of such an interest.

Another important donation to the Library, that of William Laud (1573–1645), Archbishop of Canterbury, adviser to King Charles I, and Chancellor of the University of Oxford, contained a small number of incunabula. Three of these came from Würzburg, having been alienated from their

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7 See Mascarenhas and Essex in the Provenance Index, with references provided there.

8 See the Provenance Index for further references.

original homes during the Swedish occupation, and were then bought by Laud’s agents; books from Würzburg were probably on sale generally through the London book-trade, and were also acquired by other purchasers such as Richard Holdsworth. At the very end of the seventeenth century the Bodleian acquired, from the widow of Edward Bernard (1638–1697), Savilian Professor of Astronomy (1673–91), those of his printed books not already in the Library, including copies of 40 incunable editions. A list of these acquisitions was subsequently drawn up by the young Humfrey Wanley, who spent five years as an extra assistant at the Bodleian before becoming librarian to Robert Harley. Bernard, the successor to Christopher Wren as Savilian Professor, was not only a distinguished mathematician, but was also renowned as a philologist; in addition, he had a fine library containing many early editions of classical texts, and was editor-in-chief of a catalogue of manuscripts in English and Irish collections.

The eighteenth century, often reckoned to be a time of indolence within the University, saw no major acquisitions of incunabula until the last years of the period, although there were some incunables in three separate bequests. In 1735 the Bodleian acquired the bequest of Thomas Tanner (1674–1735), Bishop of St Asaph, and former Fellow of All Souls and Canon of Christ Church. His collection of printed books, which was especially rich in rare examples of English fifteenth- and early sixteenth-century printing, was put together to support his bibliographical work, the Bibliotheca Britannico-Hibernica, eventually published by David Wilkins in 1748. Nathaniel Crynes (1686–1745), Fellow of St John’s College, Oxford, also left a large collection of books to the Library, including incunabula. The third large bequest containing incunables was that of Richard Rawlinson (1690–1755), the non-juring bishop. His very extensive library included books formerly belonging to his brother, Thomas, another distinguished book collector.

Most of the early acquisitions of incunabula were donations or bequests, as noted above, rather than purchases (the books of Edward Bernard were a rare exception). This had not a little to do with the Library’s increasingly difficult financial position from the middle of the seventeenth century onwards. The Founder’s original endowment, which included properties in Distaff Lane, London (near St Paul’s Cathedral) and land at Cookham, near Maidenhead in Berkshire, had been intended to provide the Library with enough money for book purchases. However, the Bodleian was soon to face financial problems largely because the loan to King Charles I of £500 in 1642 was never repaid. In addition, there were unpaid rents on the Distaff Lane properties, from which money was just beginning to come in after the Civil War, when the Great Fire of London destroyed the properties there, with the result that income from rent was seriously interrupted for some years. Apart from particular University grants for special purchases, the Library was obliged to rely on only one other regular source of money for book purchases, namely the £5 rent from land in the village of Wick Rissington, near Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire, which had been purchased by the Library in 1633, from the £100 given by Margaret Brooke. In the early years of the eighteenth century the position seemed to have improved, largely through an increase in fines on the Library’s estates, but, by the middle of the century, the original Bodleian endowment was being used almost in its entirety to pay for the running of the Library, and there was little money left for the purchase of...
new books. Indeed, by the 1730s, only about £7 per annum was being spent on books. The situation improved a little in 1750, when money left to the Library in a trust fund in 1721 by Nathaniel, Lord Crewe, finally became available, thus guaranteeing a sum of £10 annually for the purchase of books. The deficiencies in the Bodleian’s collections became ever more apparent, and drew considerable criticism but initially no extra financial support. Eventually, a proposal promoted by William Scott (later Lord Stowell), the Camden Professor of Ancient History, led to the transfer of certain University fees to the Library, thereby vastly increasing the book-purchasing budget from £15 in 1780 to £451 in 1781. Although this did allow gaps to be filled, there were still critical remarks about book selection being ‘neither rational nor efficient’. One especially fierce attack, from the incoming Reader in Chemistry, Thomas Lovell Beddoes, in 1787, in his *Memorial concerning the State of the Bodleian Library*, led the Curators of the Bodleian to institute new procedures, whereby they would meet regularly to order the purchase of books and examine booksellers’ catalogues.

Thus, by 1789, the Library was well placed to respond to the wonderful opportunity which the Pinelli and Crevenna sales presented. The acquisitions made at these sales were the first great purchases after the years of relative stagnation. For the Bodleian, the Pinelli sale was a particular landmark in the development of its collections in that it saw the beginning of a concerted policy of purchasing first or early editions of the Latin and Greek classical authors, Aldines, and early editions of the Bible. Two of the Curators, John Randolph, Regius Professor of Divinity; and William Jackson, Regius Professor of Greek, were commissioned to decide on purchases to be made at the sale, and to arrange for bids to be placed. Their selections were presumably influenced by the recent decision to make the newly established ‘Auctarium’ (to be discussed further below) the repository for the Library’s classical and biblical manuscripts and fifteenth-century editions; there, they would be ready for collation, as part of the preparation of new editions which would then be published by the University Press (in addition to being Curators of the Bodleian, both Jackson and Randolph were also Delegates of the Press).

Maffeo Pinelli (1735–1785) had been the hereditary director of the official Venetian press. He had inherited what has been described as ‘one of the great libraries of classical literature in fine Italian printing’. After his death, his books were bought by the London bookseller, James Edwards, and sold at auction in 1789. The bidding (undertaken by the London bookseller Peter Elmsley, on the Library’s behalf) was highly successful, and the Bodleian acquired 79 incunables (costing £538), out of a total purchase at the sale of £1080. However, this left the Bodleian’s account considerably in deficit. By the time the Library published its statement of account on 1 December, the deficit was still standing at some £484. The Curators issued a notice to all members of the University notifying them of the Library’s intention ‘to borrow either from Colleges or Individuals such Sums of Money, as they may be disposed to offer’. Despite the conflict between the Curators (who wished to see money spent on ‘new books’) and Heads of Houses, who were more interested in longer opening hours and better services, the appeal was answered handsomely, to the tune of £1600. Having acquired so many magnificent books at Pinelli’s sale, the Library then set about having them rebound suitably.
The Bodleian commissioned two German binders working in London, Heinrich Walther and Christian Samuel Kalthoeber, to bind books in plain red morocco. Most were also stamped on both covers with the gilt Bodleian stamp, which had been specially engraved for the purpose in 1789. It is worth noting in passing that rebinding in this lavish style and on such a grand scale was very much an isolated occurrence in the history of the Library.

The other large sale in 1789 was that of the library of Pietro-Antonio Bolongaro-Crevenna (1735–1792). Crevenna came from Italy, but subsequently became a trader in snuff in Amsterdam, and put together a splendid library, which he intended to use as material for a work on the history of printing (a project begun but never finished). The bulk of the collection was sold in 1789, with Crevenna choosing to retain some of his books for his continued use. The Crevenna sale is interesting from a Bodleian perspective because the Library continued the process, started at the Pinelli sale, of buying early editions of classical texts, and indeed bought even more heavily. Thomas Payne, the London bookseller, acted for the Bodleian at the sale, and the Library spent £1152 on the purchase of 93 incunables. They included two items which were by far the most expensive of all the purchases in this period: Gulielmus Durandus, Rationale divinorum officiorum (Mainz: Peter Schoefer, 1459) for £80 10s. 0d.; and Biblia Latina (Mainz: Peter Schoefer, 1461), for the extravagant sum of £127 15s. 0d. (by way of comparison, in 1793 the Library bought its copy of the ‘Gutenberg Bible’ from the collection of Cardinal Loménie de Brienne for only £100). Such was the expense that the Library was faced with a debt of more than £1500: the fact that there were no more ‘opportunities of considerable consequence’ for acquisition, coupled with careful financial management and further donations, particularly during 1791–2, allowed the debts to be cleared by 1795.

The Library’s purchases at these two sales were made for academic reasons in the main, but the way they were subsequently bound mirrored the taste of another group of collectors, namely the great aristocratic and gentleman bibliophiles of the period, such as the Duke of Roxburghe (1740–1804), Lord Spencer (1758–1834), and Sir Mark Masterman Sykes, 3rd Baronet (1771–1823), who were acquiring similar books and often binding them even more lavishly, not only for the purpose of study, but also to impress their friends. George John, 2nd Earl Spencer’s distinguished collection of incunables and early editions included many Italian books acquired when he bought the whole of the library of the Duca di Cassano. Spencer sold duplicates from his collections on various occasions during the 1820s, and the Bodleian bought items from these sales. The collection formed by Sykes at his home, Sledmere House, near Driffield in East Yorkshire, was housed in a splendid library room, which reflected the quality of the collection: it was strong in incunabula, and the Bodleian purchased extensively at his sale in 1824.

23 For a list of subscribers see Philip, ‘Purchases of Incunabula’, 372. The principal contributors included Christ Church, All Souls, Magdalen, and The Queen’s Colleges, William Scott, the Bishop of Salisbury, and several Students of Christ Church.

24 On Walther and Kalthoeber and their work for the Bodleian see Kristian Jensen, ‘Heinrich Walther, Christian Samuel Kalthoeber and Other London Binders’, Bibliothek und Wissenschaft, 29 (1996), 292–311. The author is grateful to Andrew Honey, whose work (in progress) has identified several different styles of gilt stamp used by the Library: of these, two appear on books bound by Walther and Kalthoeber, and another two date perhaps from the 1820s.

25 The difference in approach between the Bodleian and the British Museum regarding the rebinding of collections, within a period of fifty years of the Pinelli and Crevenna sales, is shown by the following extract from a letter from Sir Frederic Madden to Sir Thomas Philpips, dated 4 April 1834: ‘I am quite vexed at Douce’s disposition of his collections. To leave them to the Bodleian is to throw them down a bottomless pit! They will there be neither catalogued, bound or preserved, but suffer to sleep on with the Gough, Rawlinson and Tanner collections undisturbed’ [Bodleian Library, MS Philippi-Robinson b. 128, fol. 23, quoted in The Douce Legacy: An Exhibition to Commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Bequest of Francis Douce (1757–1834) (Oxford, 1984), 17]. The author is grateful to Andrew Honey for this comparison.

26 The contributors on this occasion included Corpus Christi and University Colleges, and the Archbishops of Canterbury and York; on the sale see Philip, ‘Purchases of Incunabula’, 373–4, with the benefactors listed at 374, also Philip, Bodleian Library, 110–11.

27 For Roxburghe, Spencer, Sykes, and Cassano see the Provenance Index.
Not all of the Library’s acquisitions during the nineteenth century were by purchase. Richard Gough (1735–1809) bequeathed large numbers of his books. His collection of pre-Reformation service books was outstanding, as also was his collection of geographical and topographical material.28

In 1834 Francis Douce (1757–1834), collector, antiquarian, and former Keeper of Manuscripts in the British Museum, died and left his books to the Bodleian. Douce’s enormous bequest was one of the largest and most important ever to come to the Bodleian. It consisted of more than 19,000 printed volumes, including 479 incunables, and contained examples of virtually every sort of printed book from the fifteenth to the early nineteenth centuries. In addition, the bequest also included some 420 manuscripts, of which two-thirds are medieval or sixteenth-century. The sheer extent and range of the collection becomes immediately apparent when the other items he bequeathed to the Bodleian are considered, namely the prints, drawings, and coins (now mostly housed in the Ashmolean Museum).29 Douce’s collection is important not just for its size, but also for the content: his incunables alone, for example, filled many gaps in the Bodleian’s collections. For, unlike other great contemporary collectors (such as those mentioned above), Douce did not focus on early editions of the classics and Aldines, but rather collected literature in the vernacular, unfashionable medieval texts, fables and romances, sermons and preaching manuals, grammars and schoolbooks, which were not the type of material the Library had purchased at, for example, the Pinelli or Crevenna sales.30

The Bodleian acquired the bulk of its present collections of incunabula during the nineteenth century. The majority of these books came from Germany and were purchased by the Library, rather than acquired by gift or bequest. Central to the success of all purchases of incunabula by the Library for about half the nineteenth century was the determination and interest of Bulkeley Bandinel, Bodley’s Librarian from 1813 to 1860. Bandinel was a curious mixture: the Wykehamist who went on to be chaplain on board HMS Victory, the active and discerning librarian and bibliophile who was nominated, unopposed, to follow his own godfather, John Price, as Bodley’s Librarian, in a somewhat nepotistic succession. He has been described as probably the ‘most outstandingly acquisitive of any Bodley’s Librarian’; and it was said, when he died, that ‘to the very last he knew the size, appearance, and position of every volume in the library’.31 He was especially knowledgeable about printed books in general, and incunabula and editiones principes in particular. Bandinel’s general purchasing policy was wide-ranging, but he was to continue the practice of his predecessor of buying books printed on parchment, editiones principes of the classics, and Aldines; he also aimed to build up a fully representative collection of early printed editions of the Bible. This collecting strategy was motivated both by the climate of contemporary learned taste and by the classical curriculum of the University. Indeed, Bodley’s Librarian, with the active support of the Curators, seems to have allotted a large share of the money available for purchasing books to increasing the size of the incunable collection: during Bandinel’s tenure of office more than 2,200 incunabula were acquired by purchase, bequest, or donation.32 In the later part of his tenure of office, Bandinel was able to buy incunabula in bulk from the sales of Munich duplicates, as will be seen below.33

28 For Gough see the Provenance Index.
29 For Douce’s personal papers were bequeathed to the British Museum on condition that they were not to be opened until 1 January 1900. They were given to the Bodleian by the Trustees of the Museum in 1933 (see Mary Clapinson and T. D. Rogers, Summary Catalogue of Post-Medieval Western Manuscripts in the Bodleian Library, Oxford: Acquisitions 1916–1975 (SC 37300–55936) (Oxford, 1991), I p. 166); the author is grateful to Mary Clapinson for providing this reference.
30 For Douce see the Provenance Index and references given there.
31 On Bandinel see DNB, also Craster, especially 27–30; for the quotations see Jensen, ‘Bodleian Library’, 273, and Craster 29.
33 Craster 71–2.
The Library benefited greatly from the abundance of high-quality German incunabula on the market: these became available mainly as a result of monastic dissolutions in the Habsburg territories, in present-day Belgium, Austria, and northern Italy, which took place under Emperor Joseph II; the dispersals of large French and Italian collections (due to the Napoleonic Wars); and the secularization of the religious houses in southern Germany. The first of these ‘post-Napoleonic’ purchases occurred in 1825, when 26 incunabula were purchased from an unidentified source in Hamburg, for a total of £42 1s. 6d. A great many incunabula were subsequently acquired through the disposal of duplicates by the Royal Library in Munich (now the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek); it is estimated that over 400 Bodleian incunabula were once in the Royal Library in Munich. They reached the Bodleian in a variety of ways. Some purchases were made at sales: for example, the Library bought many Munich duplicates from two sales at Sotheby’s in 1840 and 1841. Other books were acquired from booksellers: in 1837 the Library bought 38 volumes of Munich duplicates from Thomas Rodd, the London bookseller, who invoiced the Library 904 florins (two shillings being the equivalent of one florin) for ‘Books from Munich’. And purchases were made directly from the Royal Library itself, such as in 1850, when 320 volumes of incunabula were acquired for £113 19s. 6d. according to that year’s manuscript accounts; the books were bought through Abraham Isaac Asher, who negotiated on the Bodleian’s behalf with the Royal Librarian, Philipp von Lichtenthal. On 19 November 1850 Asher sent the Bodleian Library a list, now lost, of the incunabula, marked up with prices. On 14 December the books were shipped to London on the Jane White, a sailing vessel, as it cost only half the amount charged for sending goods by steamer.

Other books from southern German religious houses, often Munich duplicates, were sold through the German antiquarian trade and purchased by the Library. For example, in 1858 the Bodleian bought several incunabula from the Catalog einer kostbaren Sammlung von Holztafeldrucken, Pergamentdrucken und anderen typographischen Seltenheiten of Fidelis Butsch (1805–79), the Augsburg bookseller. The last bulk purchase of incunabula at a German auction sale took place in 1883, at the sale of the collection of the Charterhouse of Buxheim. At the dissolution in 1803, the books had become the property of the Graf von Ostein; they were sold in 1883 by Hugo, Graf von Waldrott-Bassenheim. In the 1880s, extensive purchases were also made from Joseph Baer & Co. in Frankfurt am Main. In 1885 and 1886, 79 and 94 incunabula were acquired, mainly from Butsch, and from Albert Cohn (1827–1905) in Berlin; in 1885–6, Caspar Haugg, another Augsburg bookseller, sold the Library 61 incunabula, many ultimately derived from southern German monastic collections.

34 On the secularization of the religious houses in southern Germany and the process by which books from the libraries of the dissolved houses were brought to the Royal Library in Munich, see Lebendiges Bucherbe. Säkularisation, Mediatisierung und die Bayerische Staatssbibliothek (Munich, 2003), especially at pp. 9–53. For the background to monastic dissolutions in general in this period see Derek Beales, Prosperity and Plunder: European Catholic Monasteries in the Age of Revolution, 1650–1815 (Cambridge, 2003).


38 See Library Records b. 3; unfortunately the bills for that year do not survive and it is not possible to identify with certainty which books were acquired. Individual references in the Provenance Index for the Royal Library, Munich, Asher, Rodd, Butsch, Baer, Buxheim, Cohn, and Haugg, etc. should also be consulted.

39 For details of the payments see also Asher’s letters to Bandinel dated 13 Oct. 1849, 26 Oct. 1849, 11 Mar. 1850, and 22 Mar. 1850, in Library Records d. 248, also the letter of 19 Nov. 1850 accompanying the lost list.

40 Catalog der Bibliothek des ehem. Carthusiaklosters Buxheim (Munich: Behrens, 20 Sept. 1883).
Numerous incunabula were also bought from the libraries of private collectors all over Europe during the middle years of the nineteenth century. For example, some 560 were acquired at one sale alone, that of the books of Georg Franz Burkhard Kloß (1787–1854), a physician from Frankfurt am Main, in 1835, at which the Bodleian spent £343 3s. 0d. The Kloß collection reflects an interest in the traditional academic disciplines; for the Bodleian it was the source of many of the incunable editions of canon and civil law, an area which is otherwise less well represented in the collections. Some 50 items were purchased from Johann Heinrich Joseph Niesert (1766–1841), pastor of Velen. In the catalogue it is stated that the sale would take place on 14 March 1843, but, according to a manuscript note by Bulkeley Bandinel in the Bodleian copy of the catalogue, it was delayed and actually took place in July 1843.42

Another continental collector from whose library the Bodleian acquired many books was Dimitrij Petrovich, Count Boutourlin (Buturlin or Bıoturılın, 1763–1829). Boutourlin was a Russian senator, diplomat, bibliophile, and museum director in Saint Petersburg, who has frequently been confused with his kinsman and namesake, the soldier Dimitrij Petrović Buturlin (1790–1849). Boutourlin the collector died in Florence, having created two libraries. The first was destroyed during Napoleon’s invasion of Russia, but it was from the sales of the second, especially strong in Italian editions, that the Bodleian made its many purchases during the period 1839 to 1841.

A third nineteenth-century collector from whose library the Bodleian purchased books was the notorious Guglielmo Bruto Icilio Timoleone, Conte Libri Carrucci della Sommaia (1803–1869). Libri was a distinguished scholar and an Italian patriot, but he also stole books from several French libraries.43

Many incunabula were also acquired at the sales of English collectors. The Bodleian purchased extensively at the sale of the library of Augustus Frederick, Duke of Sussex (1773–1843), an uncle of Queen Victoria. His huge library covered his wide interests, but was especially strong in theology and editions of the Bible. The enormous collection of Richard Heber (1773–1833), the landowner, Member of Parliament, and bibliophile, was sold at auction in London in the years 1834–7. Heber had collected in all areas close to the traditional academic disciplines, with a preponderance of theological material: 359 of his incunabula are now in the Bodleian. More incunabula, 102 of them, were acquired from the collection of the mysterious J. T. Hand (fl. 1834–1837) at his anonymous sale in 1837.44 Given the size of his collection (as indicated by this sale), Hand was a collector of some importance in his time, though it is now considered that the punning armorial book-plate that appears in some of his books is in fact spurious.45 Michael Wodhull (1740–1816), the translator of Euripides, had a fine library of the classics, including many incunabula, and this is reflected in the books acquired from his collection by the Bodleian in the early years of the nineteenth century. The whole of his library was not dispersed at that point; many of his books were retained by his family, and were only sold in the 1880s by his descendant, John Severne, at which time the Bodleian was able to make further purchases, bringing more Wodhull books into the Library. The Bodleian acquired many books from the library of Samuel Butler (1774–1839), Bishop of Lichfield from 1836. Butler not only edited Aeschylus, but was also interested in and published on various aspects of geography, both ancient and modern.

More incunabula came to the Library in 1860, through an internal university reorganization. The important library of the antiquary and scientist, Elias Ashmole (1617–1692), which had been bequeathed to the University of Oxford and became part of the Museum named in his honour, was

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41 Library Bills (1885), no. 102.
42 Catalogus exquisitae bibliothecae pastoris Niesert Velenae (Borken, 1842). For each of the collectors and collections listed here and in the following paragraphs, see the references in the Provenance Index.
43 On Libri see P. Alessandra Maccioni Ruju and Marco Mostert, The Life and Times of Guglielmo Libri (1802–1869), Scientist, Patriot, Scholar, Journalist and Thief: A Nineteenth-century Story (Hilversum, 1995), also other references given in the Provenance Index.
45 The present author is extremely grateful to Robert Noel, Lancaster Herald, for checking the records of the College of Arms in London to discover if Hand was entitled to bear this coat of arms.
transferred to the Bodleian in 1860. Ashmole's incunabula included many scientific books, reflecting his own interests; some of these books had been acquired from the astrologer William Lilly (1602–1682). A further part of this same reorganization made the Radcliffe Library building (now known as the Radcliffe Camera) part of the Bodleian, although the collections of the Radcliffe Library were to remain independent for nearly 70 years, being transferred to the University Museum in 1861.

The tenure of the Librarianship of E.W. B. Nicholson (Librarian from 1882 to 1912) was marked by great energy in all areas within the Library, and incunabula were not exempt from this. With regard to acquisitions, Nicholson was very active, and grants were obtained for purchasing rare books and manuscripts. Sir William Anson, the Warden of All Souls, provided £100 anonymously from his own private means. Trinity, Nicholson's own college, provided a series of annual contributions during the presidency of Henry Pelham, from 1898 to 1906: this was made possible by the use of an ingenious device, whereby the College reduced the salary of Pelham, who was a pluralist (in addition to being President, he was also Camden Professor of Ancient History), and gave £150 per year to the Bodleian instead. When the College discontinued the payments on Pelham's death in 1907, the Bodleian felt the effect keenly, as there was no similar funding to take its place. As has been seen above, many incunabula were purchased from German booksellers during Nicholson's period of office. Unfortunately, not all of his initiatives were so successful. An attempt in 1891 to buy Earl Spencer's library at Althorp, including the famed Caxton collection built up by George John, 2nd Earl Spencer, failed through a shortage of funds: Spencer had indicated to Edward Maunde Thompson at the British Museum that he wished to sell 57 Caxtons to a British library, and the price asked was £15,510. Maunde Thompson proposed a joint offer by the British Museum, the Bodleian, and Cambridge University Library, given that each library wanted some, but not all, of the books; the unwanted duplicates could then be disposed of at a public sale. However, when the Curators approached Hebdomadal Council for a grant of £2500, Council declined to provide the money; Cambridge University dropped out of the arrangement as well; and Spencer was disinclined to see his books being sold at a public sale, which would have allowed private collectors to buy them. The plan was thus abandoned. Mrs Rylands subsequently purchased the entire Althorp library for a quarter of a million pounds, and it later became the core of the John Rylands Library at Manchester. Nicholson was somewhat resistant to paying large sums, even for incunabula, for, as he noted in his 'Statements of the Needs of the University' in 1902, 'there is no reason why the Library, already so rich in Incunabula and unique printed books, should give fabulous sums to outbid the combination of ignorance and wealth which at present governs their sale price.' In spite of this, purchases in some years were extensive: for example, the 94 incunabula purchased in 1886 from Butsch and Cohn.

In 1914 the Bywater collection was received, with a total of 210 incunabula, the bequest of Ingram Bywater (1840–1914), formerly Sub-Librarian in the Bodleian (1879–90) and Regius Professor of Greek. His collection was especially strong not only in incunabula of classical texts, but also in material from the sixteenth century. Another important collection acquired during the first half of the twentieth century came to the Library in instalments. This was the library of Paget Jackson Toynbee (1855–1932), who made donations in 1912, 1913, 1915, 1917, and 1923, and bequeathed other books in 1932. Although Toynbee was known as a Dante scholar, the collection is also especially strong in the works of Petrarch.

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50 Manley, 'E. W. B. Nicholson', 168; Craster 176–7; the correspondence and papers relating to the negotiations are kept in the Library archives (Library Records c.1228).
51 Manley, 'E. W. B. Nicholson', 157, with notes about the purchases at 156–7, and the 1886 figure at 160.
52 For Bywater and Toynbee see the Provenance Index.
As has been seen above, the Radcliffe Library’s collections, including its incunabula, had been transferred to the University Museum in 1861. Following a further piece of University reorganization in 1927, they were integrated with those of the Bodleian. The acquisition of these incunables was a very welcome addition to the Bodleian’s collections, as were those from the Radcliffe Observatory (from the Rigaud collection), which were transferred to the Bodleian in 1935.

Another interesting feature of incunable acquisition has been the custom among some large libraries of exchanging what were considered duplicate editions of incunabula. The British Museum Library (now the British Library) and the Bodleian engaged in such an exchange in 1912–13. Detailed records of the books involved are kept in the Library’s archive; these include the lists of books drawn up, for the Bodleian by G. D. Amery and for the British Museum by A. W. Pollard, and correspondence relating to the exchange.

The largest recent acquisition of incunabula by the Bodleian is the Broxbourne collection, which contains some 190 incunabula, part of the library of the bibliophile and collector, Albert Ehrman (1890–1969). Ehrman’s collection included many incunabula with fine contemporary bindings, and a large number of broadsides, such as indulgences and notices. Material selected from the collection was presented to the Bodleian in 1978, through the Friends of the National Libraries, by John Ehrman, in memory of his parents. The most recent bequest of all containing incunabula has been that of Dr Brian Lawn (1905–2001) in 2001. Lawn, a general practitioner in Barnes, London, put together a fine library of rare books, including incunabula, and eastern and western manuscripts. He bought these books as working material for his researches: his particular interest was in medieval problem literature, and he published various works on this subject from the 1960s through to the 1990s. More than half of Lawn’s 23 incunables contained editions not already represented in the Bodleian’s collections.

Although with much reduced funds, the Library maintains a continuing policy of collecting incunables. This is done by purchasing to fill gaps in the collection (the output of particular printing workshops, or particular texts not hitherto represented in the Library’s collections), at sales such as that of Solomon Pottesman (1904–1978) in 1979; and also by accepting bequests, such as that of Lawn, and smaller, individual donations, such as those of M. R. Tomkinson (1916–1986) and Francis Norris (1885–1966).

The Cataloguing of Incunabula in the Bodleian

Initially, the Bodleian, along with other libraries and individuals, did not consider incunables as being ‘collectors’ items’. They were simply acquired as being the most up-to-date copies of the texts needed by the scholars reading in the Library. This meant that, when it came to cataloguing and housing, incunables were treated in common with the rest of the printed stock of the Library. From the point of view of cataloguing, this meant that they were listed in the catalogues drawn up by Thomas Bodley’s first Librarian, Thomas James: in the unpublished, manuscript catalogue of 1602–3, and then in the Library’s first published catalogue of 1605 (Catalogus librorum Bibliothecae publicae quam vir ornatissimus Thomas Bodleius equeauratus in Academia Oxoniensi nuper institut (Oxford, 1605, reprinted as The First Printed Catalogue of the Bodleian Library: A Facsimile (Oxford, 1986)), which was, in effect, a shelflist. Its successor of 1620 was a true ‘author’ catalogue (Catalogus universalis librorum in Bibliotheca Bodleiana (Oxford, 1620)), and was itself later reissued with an appendix by John Rous in 1635. Incunables continued to be listed in the later published catalogues, including those of Thomas Hyde in 1674 (Catalogus impressorum librorum Bibliothecae Bodleianae in

54 For the Radcliffe Library collections see Craster 252, 285; for the Observatory and Rigaud collections see Craster 186; see also the Provenance Index for further references.
55 Library Records c.1054.
56 For these collectors see the Provenance Index.
Academia Oxoniensis (Oxford, 1674), and Robert Fysher in 1738 (Catalogus impressorum librorum (Oxford, 1738)), and, indeed, in all the general catalogues of the Library’s printed books since that date (Catalogus impressorum librorum Bibliothecae Bodleianae, 3 vols (Oxford, 1843).57 Catalogus...librorum quibus aucta est Bibliotheca MDCCXXV-MDCCXLVII (Oxford, 1851), the ‘Pre-1920’ catalogue, and Oxford University’s online catalogue, OLIS).58

With the acquisition of the Pinelli and Crevenna collections, the trend turned from acquiring incunabula solely for their textual content to acquiring them both for their content and for their historical importance as examples of the development of printing. This, in its turn, led to a change of approach with regard to cataloguing such books, and the belief that there needed to be separate catalogues for these and other important printed books. The first of these catalogues was the Notitia editionum quoad libros Hebr. Gr. et Lat. quae vel primariae vel saec. XV impressae, vel Aldinae, in Bibliotheca Bodleiana adservantur, issued by the Clarendon Press in 1795. As its title indicates, it was a brief list of editiones principes of the classical texts and the Aldines then in the Library, including the recently acquired Pinelli and Crevenna books. It was an anonymous list, with no compilers being named, but it has long been ascribed to John Randolph, Regius Professor of Divinity, and William Jackson, Regius Professor of Greek, the two Library Curators who, it will be recalled, were influential in the acquisition of the Pinelli books. Unfortunately it is, at least by the terms of a modern catalogue, of relatively little use, since it does not actually include any shelfmarks, although there are some bibliographical references, for example, to Maittaire’s Annales typographici.59

It seems that Bandinel and his Sub-Librarian, Henry Cotton, intended to produce a catalogue of editiones principes and incunabular. This project was not carried out, perhaps because Cotton left the Bodleian in 1822 to become Archdeacon of Cashel.60 An alphabetical list in manuscript was prepared by Bandinel in 1826, and this was printed in a small octavo format, with a proof copy surviving as Catalogus Editionum Principum vel saec. XV in Bibliotheca Bodleiana in the Library archives. The date of the printing, 1827, is known because the proof includes books purchased in 1826, but those from 1827 have been added in manuscript. It is not known why this catalogue was not taken to completion.61

In 1866, Henry Bradshaw, the Librarian of Cambridge University Library, spent fifteen hours drawing up a list of English incunabula and fragments in the Bodleian, while he was on a visit from Cambridge; he then made additions to this list during a subsequent visit in 1868. Two years later, in 1870, he sent it to H. O. Coxe, Bandinel’s successor as Bodley’s Librarian (1860–81), with some remarks ‘that reflected on the care that Oxford librarians took of their typographical treasures’ and

57 Craster 23 notes that the 1843 catalogue ‘was eight years out of date at the time of its appearance, and staff were already at work on a supplementary volume which should contain accessions from 1835’. This accounts for what may seem some slightly strange references in the present catalogue to incunabula being acquired by 1835, but with a reference to the 1843 catalogue.
59 For the 1795 catalogue see Macray 276. This history of cataloguing incunabula has been summarized in Coates, ‘Bodleian’s Incunabula’, 108–18, at 114. For Jackson and Randolph see DNB; also Philip, Bodleian Purchases.
61 Bandinel’s manuscript and proof-copy are kept as Library Records d. 602–3, with another manuscript list of fifteenth-century books and editiones principes at Library Records e. 298; for this and the projected catalogue, see Coates, ‘Bodleian’s Incunabula’, 114 and note 26, referring to Macray 295–6 and Craster 28, 178.
suggest that Coxe print it. Coxe sent it back, with the words ‘You must not expect me to thong the whip wherein we may be lashed.’ Bradshaw became very angry, tore up the list, and threw it on the fire! He did not keep a copy.62

Twenty years later, in 1886, Coxe’s successor as Bodley’s Librarian, E. W. B. Nicholson, engaged Edward Gordon Duff, who was then an undergraduate at Wadham College, to draw up a catalogue of incunables. The time he went down from Oxford in 1888, he had reached the letter ‘J’. The project lay dormant till 1891 when Robert Proctor, then an undergraduate at Corpus Christi College, took it up. Proctor managed to complete it by the time he left Oxford to go to the British Museum in 1893: he listed 4,832 incunables, 605 duplicates, and 172 fragments, and produced a list of fifteenth-century printers.63 Much discussion followed between Nicholson and the Curators over the publication of the catalogue: Nicholson was keen to publish the list of printers, but this was blocked by two of the Curators, Andrew Clark and Ingram Bywater. Proctor then proposed that Kegan Paul should publish a short-title index. However, the entries were to be very heavily abbreviated: Duff indicated that he would object to the publication of the entries he had prepared up to the letter ‘J’ without careful revision; and Nicholson saw that such a listing would have made it impossible for him to produce a more detailed catalogue in the future. So the idea of publishing with Kegan Paul was abandoned, although Proctor was persuaded to compile his Index of Early Printed Books in the British Museum, with Notes of those in the Bodleian in 1898, which listed 4,762 incunabula in the Bodleian.64

Some collections did, of course, arrive in the Library accompanied by catalogues or handlists, provided by their donors or the donors’ executors. An example of this is the Selden collection, of which the Library now has three copies of the manuscript catalogue drawn up for his executors. Further, later instances include the books purchased from Alessandro, Count Mortara, in 1852 (Biblioteca Italica ossia catalogo de’ testi a stampa citati nel vocabolario degli Accademici della Crusca, e di altri libri Italiani pregevoli e rari gia’ posseduti dal C. A. M. ed ora passati in proprietà della Biblioteca Bodleiana (Oxford, 1852)), and the bequest of Ingram Bywater in 1914 (Elenchus librorum vetustiorum apud ** hospitantium (Oxford, 111)), which was privately printed for Bywater’s own use and for private circulation only.65

During the first part of the twentieth century there were apparently no further initiatives to produce an incunable catalogue. Falconer Madan, Bodley’s Librarian from 1912 to 1919, and Nicholson’s successor, undoubtedly had the relevant expertise and interest. Although he began as a palaeographer and attained distinction in that field (being University Lecturer in the subject from 1889 to 1913), he was also an expert bibliographer: this was shown by his Oxford Books, published

62 Craster 178; G. W. Prothero, A Memoir of Henry Bradshaw (London, 1888), 203–5; on Bradshaw see also, and most recently, Paul Needham, The Bradshaw Method: Henry Bradshaw’s Contribution to Bibliography, Hanes Foundation Lecture, 7, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (Chapel Hill, NC, 1988). For Coxe see DNB.

63 Manley, E. W. B. Nicholson, 132, where he records that Gordon Duff was not at first impressed by Proctor: ‘He ought to do good work, only he wants shaking up a bit, he is too much Madan’s style.’ On Proctor see also DNB; Robert Proctor, Bibliographical Essays, with a memoir by Alfred W. Pollard (London, 1905); Barry C. Johnson, Lost in the Alps: A Portrait of Robert Proctor, the ‘Great Bibliographer’ and of his Career in the British Museum (London, 1985). A two-volume compendium, compiled by Proctor in 1893, of numbers of Hain’s Repertorium in the Bodleian, survives in the Library archives (Library Records c. 397–8), along with a set of incunable statistics (listed in ‘Proctor order’) from the same year (Library Records c. 396). There is, also, in the British Library, an interesting set of six manuscript notebooks compiled by Proctor during the period 1891–3: the first four complete the alphabetical sequence of Duff’s catalogue (in short-title format, with Bodleian shelfmarks) from K to Z, and list Hebraica and fragments; the fifth book contains appendices, including recent accessions, and lists the locations within the Library of the various shelfmarks used for incunabula; the sixth volume contains references to the general incunabula catalogues of Hain and Campbell, an index of Bodleian incunabula shelfmarks, and a list of authors of incunabula in the Bodleian collections, but not recorded by Hain; the author is extremely grateful to John Goldfinch (Head of Incunabula, British Library) for drawing these notebooks to his attention.

64 Manley, E. W. B. Nicholson, especially at 132 for a discussion of the arguments between the various parties over the publication; Coates, ‘Bodleian’s Incunabula’, 114 and notes 28–9, drawing on Craster 178 and Manley; correspondence relating to this matter is kept in the Library archives (Library Records d. 973).

65 The Selden catalogues are now kept as MSS. Selden Supra 111, Broxbourne 84. 10, and Add. C. 40; for the Elenchus see W. W. Jackson, Ingram Bywater: The Memoir of an Oxford Scholar 1840–1914 (Oxford, 1917), 173, and ‘The Bywater Collection’, BQR 1,4 (1915), 80; for Selden, Mortara, and Bywater see also the Provenance Index.
in three volumes in 1895, 1912, and 1931, which was a full-scale bibliography of books printed in Oxford. In addition, he was himself a collector. It seems clear that, by the time he became Librarian, he was too heavily involved in the administration of the Library, and was, in any case, in office as Librarian for only a short period.66 The academic interests of his immediate successors, Sir Arthur Cowley (Bodley’s Librarian from 1919 to 1931) and Sir Edmund Craster (Bodley’s Librarian from 1931 to 1945) lay in other areas: Cowley was an eminent Orientalist, while Craster was a distinguished medieval historian and a scholar of medieval manuscripts. Responsibility for the Library’s early printed books probably lay with G. D. Amery, who was clearly involved in the preparation of various lists of incunabula, including, in 1912–13, the list of duplicate incunables to be exchanged with the British Museum Library, and, in 1920, a set of statistics of those incunables mentioned by Proctor; his initials can be found in some incunabula noting, for example, where pastedowns have been removed.67 Craster’s successor, H. R. Creswick, had been trained in printed books at Cambridge, where he was Assistant Under-Librarian in charge of incunabula and early printed books in the University Library, and had done work for the Gesamtkatalog der Wiegendrucke; had he stayed, it is possible that he would have instituted a new catalogue of incunables. After only two years as Bodley’s Librarian, he returned to Cambridge in 1947.68 During this period, responsibility for the cataloguing and purchasing of early printed books, presumably including incunabula, fell to C. J. Hindle. Hindle had joined the Bodleian staff in 1924 and retired in 1963. Others had also undertaken various tasks: for example, a manuscript conspectus of incunable shelfmarks and Proctor numbers had been compiled by F. O. Underhill in 1915.69

In 1947 David Rogers (1917–1995) was appointed to the staff of the Bodleian as a part-time assistant. Rogers was a graduate of New College, Oxford, who had been commissioned in the Royal Artillery during World War II and had served in India. He then returned to Oxford to undertake research for a D.Phil. on ‘English Catholics and the Printing Press at Home and Abroad, 1558–1640’, under the supervision of Strickland Gibson: this was to be the first Oxford D.Phil. thesis on a bibliographical subject. The study of recusant literature was to remain his lifelong interest, and culminated in what scholars in this field know simply as ‘Allison and Rogers’.70 Rogers joined the full-time staff of the Library at the beginning of 1952, on the completion of his doctorate. It appears that part of his ‘job description’, when he was appointed, was to undertake the work needed to produce an incunable catalogue.71 This was not carried forward, so, by the mid 1950s, a new initiative was taken, and L. A. Sheppard (1890–1985), who had recently retired from the British Museum, became an extra part-time staff member in May 1955 ‘to help in the compilation of a catalogue of incunabula’.72

66 See Craster, ad indicem, and especially 276; Who’s Who.
67 Both lists are in the Library archives, the exchange list at Library Records c. 1054, and the statistics at Library Records c. 1229.
69 ‘Notes and News: Mr. C. J. Hindle’, BLR 7.4 (1964), 172; the conspectus is at Library Records d. 974.
L. A. (Leslie) Sheppard had been Deputy Keeper in the Department of Printed Books at the British Museum Library before his retirement in 1953. Having studied at St Catharine's College, Cambridge, he served in the First World War with a Red Cross Unit attached to the Italian Army, and joined the staff of the British Museum in 1919, becoming an Assistant in the Department of Printed Books. His first task in the Museum was to work on the subject index for the Museum Library catalogue, and he then undertook work on the catalogue of scientific serials. In 1929 he was promoted to an Assistant Keepership, and, from about 1929/30, he began to assist Victor Scholderer, the Department's resident incunabulist; it was under Scholderer's tutelage that Sheppard learned the skills that were to make him so distinguished. This was clearly his greatest interest, in which he earned his distinction and made his main contribution to scholarship. Nevertheless, even while working on incunabula Sheppard had, initially at least, to undertake various other departmental tasks, including, from 1931, work on the revision of entries for the Museum's General Catalogue of Printed Books: in particular, during 1936/7, the work done on volumes covering the Bible, which was described as a 'notable achievement', was largely that of Sheppard himself. During the World War II, Sheppard continued to work on volumes of the incunable catalogue in London, after Scholderer was transferred with parts of the Museum's collections to the National Library of Wales at Aberystwyth.  

In 1945 Sheppard was appointed as the department's incunabulist in succession to his master, Scholderer, and was promoted to a Deputy Keepership. Sheppard himself retired at the end of 1953, to be succeeded by George Painter. David Rogers, in his appreciation of Sheppard, highlighted Sheppard's 'patient skill and accumulated knowledge', along with his 'thoroughness and wide learning', as some of the qualities that made him such a distinguished and scholarly librarian. He was to work extensively on incunabula from many countries, assisting Scholderer in the production of BMC VI, which appeared in 1930; he also worked on printing from Rouen for BMC VIII, which was published in 1949; on BMC IX, which was published in 1962, BMC X, which appeared in 1971, and parts of BMC XII, which was to be published in 1985, all long after he finally retired from the Museum. Sheppard was also active in the wider bibliographical community, serving on the Council of the Bibliographical Society from 1936 to 1946, and contributing articles and reviews to the Gutenberg Jahrbuch, The Library, and other journals; he was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London in 1943. Another of his scholarly projects was to translate the memoirs of Lorenzo da Ponte, published by Routledge in 1929.  

Sheppard's letter of appointment was sent out by Nowell Myres, by then Bodley's Librarian, but the suggestion of his employment must surely have come from L.W. ('Lars') Hanson, the then Keeper of Printed Books (and formerly one of Sheppard's colleagues at the British Museum). David Rogers, in his appreciation, notes that Sheppard's 'letter of acceptance takes up Myres's phrase ''to help . . .'', but in fact the next sixteen years were to witness the completion of his huge undertaking virtually single-handed.' It is not clear when 'helping' was actually transformed into 'doing the whole catalogue', but that is exactly what happened. During the period of his appointment (1955 to 1971), Sheppard worked 'quietly in a room on the top floor of the New Library. . . little known even by sight, to most of his fellow Bodleian employees'. He compiled detailed index slips for every incunable given to him by Rogers for examination; in addition, he also kept a fascinating series of notebooks, in which he recorded useful pieces of information about the incunables he saw. Throughout these years, the Reports of the Curators contain

73 For Sheppard's career at the British Museum see P. R. Harris, A History of the British Museum Library 1753–1973 (London, 1998), ad indicem.  
74 BMC is the standard abbreviated form for the catalogue of incunabula in the British Museum (later the British Library); its full title is: Catalogue of Books Printed in the XVth Century now in the British Museum.  
75 Lorenzo da Ponte, Memoirs of Lorenzo da Ponte, Mozart's Librettist, with introduction and notes by L. A. Sheppard (London, 1929).  
76 Curators' Report (1971/2), 54.  
77 The Library is most grateful to Mr Francis Sheppard for donating these notebooks to the Bodleian; they are now housed in the Library archives.
glimpses of his activities: in the report for 1955/6, it was reported that ‘Mr L. A. Sheppard has begun a catalogue of the Library’s Incunables’.\(^7\) In 1964/5, it was noted that the ‘end of Italy’ was in sight!\(^7\)

In 1965/6, the report recorded that 546 incunables printed in France and French-speaking Switzerland, and 161 printed in Holland, had been completed, and that work on the provenance index was continuing, while in 1967/8 indexing had begun, along with the compilation of concordances.\(^8\) The report for 1971/2 announced that indexes were being prepared on the Library’s computer (presumably in the room in the New Bodleian then known as the ‘Terminal Room’, which is now known as ‘Room 202’, the base for the present Incunable Cataloguing Project team). Sheppard seems also to have assisted Rogers with other matters relating to incunabula, including the preparation of an exhibition of German incunables held in the Library in 1960; the lists he made for Rogers are now in the Library archives.\(^9\) In 1971 Sheppard ceased working in the Bodleian, following his move from Oxford to Henley-on-Thames. Although his monumental task had not quite been completed, he left behind a complete slip catalogue, with an index of owners and authors. This was to become seven bound folio volumes of xerographic copies, accompanied by indexes of authors and printers, added by John Jolliffe (1929–1985), then Keeper of Catalogues and subsequently Bodley’s Librarian.\(^8\)

It is perhaps appropriate here to quote part of the appreciation by David Rogers, which fittingly sums up Sheppard’s work:

> Sheppard’s descriptions, without duplicating particulars already in print, go beyond even the latest British Museum examples, especially concerning the provenance and binding of the Bodleian copies, for which his thoroughness and wide learning frequently enabled him to puzzle out and identify even the most elusive owners. The resulting massive and precious accumulation of facts about this very rich collection is one which no possible union catalogue could ever reveal.\(^8\)

It is clear that, on his own retirement in 1984, David Rogers had hoped to be able to carry through the necessary revisions to Sheppard’s catalogue so as to bring it closer to publication. In a letter to Bodley’s Librarian, John Jolliffe, dated 7 September 1984, Rogers wrote:

> Since Sheppard completed his work, I estimate that upwards of 200 items have been added to our collections by purchase and gift . . . and these need to be catalogued more Sheppardiano and the results (including provenances) intercalated among his slips. Furthermore, as you know, since Sheppard finished, the Sheppard/Proctor order of presses in the Spanish volume of the BMC has been very substantially revised, and the same will be true of the datings in their forthcoming English volume.

> My duties over the last several years have effectively precluded me from pursuing these tasks, but I would be happy to offer my services for the necessary updating of Sheppard, as a step toward the eventual publication of his great catalogue.\(^8\)

It is interesting to see that, in his response to Rogers in a letter dated 19 September 1984, Jolliffe viewed the question of producing a catalogue in a rather different light. He clearly wished to adopt a more ‘contemporary’ approach, by using an alphabetical rather than a ‘Proctor’ order (an approach derived from the Library’s policy under the librarianship of Robert Shackleton (1966–79) that incunabula were acquired not as representatives of printers and presses, but as vehicles for texts).\(^8\) Instead of publishing Sheppard’s catalogue separately, Jolliffe was keen simply to add Sheppard’s information to the entries which were already being produced for the Bodleian’s Pre-1920 catalogue:

\(^7\) Curators’ Report (1955/6), 35.
\(^8\) Curators’ Report (1964/5), 15.
\(^9\) Curators’ Report (1965/6), 32; (1967/8), 63.
\(^7\) ‘Notes and News: Exhibition of German Incunables’, BLR 6,5 (1960), 578.
\(^8\) Rogers, ‘Sheppard’, 86.
\(^8\) Letter in Rogers’s personal file, Bodleian Library.
Sheppard, though, is a different matter. As you know, I have felt for some time that Proctor order is an idea that has outlived its usefulness and is also not entirely appropriate to a collection as ‘small’ as Bodley’s. It was with the idea of getting a skeleton in alphabetical (i.e. Goff-style) order that I asked Ian Robinson to catalogue the incunabula for re-integration in the Pre-1920 catalogue. When he has finished, I think the additional descriptive material from the Sheppard entries together with binding and provenance information should be added to the brief catalogue entries. I would also like any catalogue of Bodleian incunabula to be complete and, following ULC rather than BMC, to include our Hebrew incunabula.86

Ian Robinson had been appointed to the Bodleian staff in 1955 to work on the revision of the Library’s Pre-1920 catalogue. With his background as a classicist, and his wide-ranging knowledge of languages, Robinson was an ideal choice to undertake the integration of the incunabula into the Pre-1920 catalogue. He seems to have begun work on the incunabula at the beginning of 1982, and to have completed the task during the late summer/autumn of 1985.87 However, nothing further was done (probably as a result of Jolliffe’s illness and early death in 1986) about adding Sheppard’s information to the catalogue records created by Robinson.

In 1985 Kristian Jensen, a graduate of Copenhagen University, who had just completed a Ph.D at the University Institute in Florence and had held a Research Fellowship at the Warburg Institute in London, was appointed to succeed Rogers as the Bodleian’s specialist in fifteenth- and sixteenth-century books. Jensen was keen that the Bodleian should publish a catalogue of its incunabula. By the time he was appointed and had had the opportunity to assess what was needed, more than fifteen years had elapsed since Sheppard’s last work, and his catalogue was already being overtaken both by new scholarship and a new approach.

It was at this point that Jensen decided that a new catalogue must be undertaken, but one, nevertheless, which would utilize all the hugely impressive work produced by Sheppard. The aim of this new catalogue would be to provide descriptions of all of the Bodleian’s incunabula (and there had been important new acquisitions, particularly the Broxbourne collection, since Sheppard’s retirement) to the same standard expected for medieval manuscripts. In particular, there would be a more detailed analysis of the contents of each book, which would identify all the works in a given volume, and provide, where possible, references to modern editions; there would also be detailed descriptions of bindings, decoration, and provenances. All this information would be supported by extensive indexes of authorship and provenance. Jensen was clear from the outset that the new catalogue would not aim to replicate typographical information already available in one of the other detailed incunable catalogues, nor would it aim to provide facsimile reproductions. He also decided immediately that the project was going to be too large for him to do on his own, and that he would therefore need to recruit assistants. Given the severe financial stringencies facing the University in general and the Library in particular, such posts obviously could not be funded on the Library’s establishment, and it would be necessary to secure ‘soft money’ to support the appointments. So Jensen put forward a proposal to the Library, to employ two full-time temporary cataloguers for ten years, and then retain one of these cataloguers for a further, eleventh year, to assist him with the final year’s editorial work prior to publication. With the assistance of various supporters of the Library, especially Sir Julian and Lady Bullard, and the Library’s own development team, he was able to secure funding from the Fritz Thyssen Stiftung, which allowed the Bodleian, late in 1991, to appoint two temporary librarians to assist him, starting in 1992, initially for two years. The people appointed were Bettina Wagner, from the University of Würzburg, and Alan Coates, a graduate of the Universities of Oxford and London. Further funding from the Thyssen Stiftung and from the Kulturstiftung der Länder allowed the extension of the project by instalments, and ultimately, with money from various individual and corporate benefactors (whose generosity is greatly appreciated

85 The author would like to thank Julian Roberts for this information.
86 Letter in Rogers’s personal file, Bodleian Library.
87 The author is grateful to his colleague, Mike Heaney, for information about Robinson and his work.
by the Library), enough financial support was secured by 1999 to allow the project to run for its full planned duration. To assist the cataloguers in their work, Jensen set up a board of academic advisers. Their role was not only to help with material in those areas the team felt were beyond its expertise, but also, especially in the early stages of the work, to provide guidance on what they thought should be included in a catalogue of this type. The advice of the members of this board has, at all times, been of the greatest possible assistance.

Jensen’s plan remained more or less unchanged till the completion of the project, although the personnel of the cataloguing team has changed considerably. Wagner returned to Germany in 1996, to a post in the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek in Munich, where she is now Head of Incunable Cataloguing. Her place was taken by Cristina Dondi, a graduate of the Catholic University of Milan, who was in the process of completing a Ph.D. in the University of London. In 1999 Jensen himself left the Bodleian on his appointment as Head of Incunabula at the British Library in London (and, subsequently, as Head of British and Early Printed Collections), although he continued to act as a consultant to the cataloguing project. After a short interval, Coates was appointed to succeed him, both as the Bodleian’s specialist in fifteenth-century books and as head of the project. Coates’s place as temporary librarian in the project team was subsequently taken by Helen Dixon, an Oxford graduate then completing her Ph.D at Cambridge. In 2002, both Dondi and Dixon left the project team on being awarded research positions: Dondi was elected to the first Lyell Fellowship in Bibliography in the University of Oxford, with a Fellowship at Lincoln College; and Dixon secured a British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Warburg Institute, University of London. Dondi remained an active consultant to the project, but additional help was needed, and was secured with the appointment of two new consultants, Carolinne White (Dictionary of Medieval Latin from British Sources) and Elizabeth Mathew (Early Printed Books Project). They were able to assist Coates and Dondi to bring the project successfully to completion.

The Housing of Incunabula in the Bodleian Library and their Shelfmarks

The first incunables acquired by the Library were simply catalogued among other printed items. Their classification, shelfmarking, and housing were treated in exactly the same way. Bodley decided that the collections in his library would be divided by subject following the arrangement of the four faculties in the University, namely Theology, Law, Medicine, and Arts; and, of course, they were to be housed initially in Duke Humfrey’s Library, then the Bodleian’s only building. Theology was to be the foremost of these, as evidenced by the amount of space allocated to it in Duke Humfrey’s Library: it received nine alcoves, to four and a half for arts, three for law, and two and a half for medicine. Within this system of dividing books by faculty, there was a subdivision by format (folio and quarto), and then a further subdivision by the initial letter of the author’s name. Books with these shelfmarks were housed within the body of Duke Humfrey’s Library, and then, following the completion of Arts End in 1612, as the name suggests, those with Arts shelfmarks were shelved there instead. This system remained in exclusive use until after the arrival of John Selden’s books in 1659. The acquisition of Selden’s large library and its housing as a separate collection in what is now called Selden End necessitated the creation of a separate system of shelfmarking. This was to mirror the existing faculty shelfmarks, but, by inserting the abbreviated form of Selden’s name, ‘Seld.‘, was to differentiate books in


89 The members of the board are listed on p. xv.

90 Craster described the room, fittingly for the time of Bodley: ‘The room has ever been a haunt of ancient learning, well adapted for study and quiet contemplation in summertime, when honey-questing bees droned lazily in through ivy-framed windows opening on to Exeter College garden, but in winter it could be bitterly cold and became dark as day and year wore on, for all artificial light was strictly forbidden under Sir Thomas Bodley’s statute’; Craster 8.

91 The classification by faculties is discussed in Jensen, ‘The Bodleian Library’, 279.
this collection from those in the main sequence.\(^\text{92}\) The faculty system seems to have remained in use for most of the eighteenth century (and, for books in smaller formats, until the 1820s), but it rapidly became impossible for it to be kept up properly, and books were often allocated shelfmarks simply on the basis of where there was most space on the shelves, irrespective of the subject (or the author’s name).

Large collections of printed books, including incunabula, and also of manuscripts acquired by the Library, were usually kept together as named collections. The ‘Linc.’ books left by Thomas Barlow were originally housed in two special wooden galleries constructed over the cases in Duke Humfrey’s Library in 1693.\(^\text{93}\) The Crynes collection was housed in the Picture Gallery (now the Upper Reading Room), in its southern wing.\(^\text{94}\) The Rawlinson collection was shelved in a room in what is now the Lower Reading Room (see below).

The arrival of the Pinelli and Crevenna books was to lead to some changes to this method of housing collections. In 1787 the Library, presumably as part of a general drive to improve its administration – to be seen in conjunction with the desire of the Curators to meet more frequently and to examine catalogues of book sales themselves rather than merely leaving this task to the bookseller acting for the Library – began to clear out and refurnish the old Anatomy School. This room, now (2004) the location of the Library’s Main Enquiry Desk, had briefly been used for dissections, but by the middle of the seventeenth century it was simply a museum of curiosities. The refurnishing, which was to last for two years, was undertaken to the designs of the architect, James Wyatt, and included elegant bookcases with wire fronts.\(^\text{95}\) The room was called the Bibliothecae Bodleianae Auctarium, or, in its abbreviated style, the ‘Auctarium’.\(^\text{96}\) On 21 January 1789, the Curators resolved that the ‘new room be consider’d as an Archive room to the Library for the reception chiefly of MSS. and books of an early date relating to Greek and Latin learning’, and that it should ‘be also consider’d a collating room, to be reserv’d for the constant use only of persons employ’d in any considerable collation’. Thus, the ‘Auctarium’ became the repository for classical and biblical manuscripts and early printed editions, including Aldines, which, as noted above, were then used in the preparation of new editions to be published by the University Press. And indeed, the board with the room’s former name (and the date 1788) may still be seen today, above the inside of the door by which one enters the Lower Reading Room from the south-west staircase.\(^\text{97}\) Nearly 5,500 items were shelved there, with printed books and manuscripts being given shelfmarks in a totally new sequence, built round the abbreviation Auct., with different sequences of letters being allocated to manuscripts and to printed books. Shelfmarks containing ‘Auct. D’ to ‘Auct. F’, and ‘Auct. T’ and ‘Auct. V’ are solely for manuscripts (the manuscript sequence was originally intended to run from ‘Auct. A’ to ‘Auct. G’). For the incunabula, ‘Auct. K’ and ‘Auct. L’ consist mainly of classical texts, while ‘Auct. M’ contains Bibles and blockbooks; the contents of ‘Auct. N’, ‘Auct. O’, ‘Auct. P’, and ‘Auct. Q’ are again mainly classical, but also include some patriotic works and occasional medieval texts; ‘Auct. R’ is the section for Aldines; ‘Auct. Y’ contains further editions of the Bible, while ‘Auct. S’ was mainly used for post-incunable editions.\(^\text{98}\)

F. W. Dubber, formerly Superintendent of the Bookstack, left a description of the ‘Auctarium’, as he remembered it in the years leading up to the Second World War:

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\(^{93}\) Craster 138–40, with the galleries mentioned at 138; Rogers, Treasures, 165–6. The galleries remained in use until 1877 when the books were removed to the Picture Gallery (now the Upper Reading Room) and the galleries dismantled as part of the repair work undertaken to stop the walls of Duke Humfrey’s Library bulging.

\(^{94}\) Craster 11.

\(^{95}\) Philip, Bodleian Library, 111.

\(^{96}\) Hunt notes that the room was first referred to as ‘B[ibliotheca] N[ova]’, and that it was only in 1794 that the decision was made to name it the ‘Auctarium’ [the Latin word for an addition or augmentation]: A Summary Catalogue of Western Manuscripts in the Bodleian Library at Oxford: 1: Historical Introduction and Conspectus of Shelf-marks, ed. R. W. Hunt (Oxford, 1953, repr. 1980), p. xxxix.

\(^{97}\) Coates, ‘Bodleian’s Incunabula’, 114, drawing on Craster 13–15, with a diagram illustrating the use of the first-floor rooms at 14, also on Philip, ‘Bodleian Purchases’, 371; Philip, Bodleian Library, 111–12.

[The Auctarium] was lined with bookcases of Georgian period to a height of about two thirds of its walls. For the remainder of the room, the shelving was of a very mixed kind, added as those above the Georgian cases, in comparatively recent times, and largely used for the storage of more recent accessions. Low floor cases, which were very numerous and miscellaneous in style, were of 19th or 20th century addition, such as the North cases. The Georgian wall cases for the most part were built in units of two doors to a section of about four or five feet in width. The make-up of the case was as follows. From the cornice down to the ledge, two doors made as frames holding wires diagonally at frequent intervals, enclosed an average of four or five shelves slid into grooved uprights. The lower part of the case was enclosed by doors of ornamental latticed woodwork. Each case was individually identified by a capital letter at the top, generally accompanied by a Latin inscription describing the contents. Where this letter was used in a shelfmark, the shelves were numbered usually from the lowest upwards, and each individual book on the shelf was separately numbered, e.g. Auct. K [case], 2 [shelf], 15 [book]. This and similar methods accounts for many of the shelfmarks still in use. Books in the cupboards below were generally ‘Infra’, e.g. Auct. infra 2.15. Those in cupboards over doorways were ‘Supra’, and occasionally ‘Sub Fenestra’ under windows.99

The number of incunabula rapidly outgrew the scope of the original system, so further expansion was soon needed. This was achieved by taking over, in 1821, the room beyond the ‘Auctarium’ (now 2004 the second of the general reference rooms in the Lower Reading Room). This room, formerly the Hebrew School, also sometimes called the School of Rhetoric, had in later years become no more than a drying-room for the University Press. It was then divided into three rooms by partitions: the first of these was intended to be a room for oriental manuscripts, but from c.1825 it became the home for incunabula and sixteenth-century books which were brought down from Duke Humfrey’s Library so as to create more space there for folio volumes. Craster suggested that these displaced books were seen as a supplement to the classical incunabula already shelved in tier ‘Q’ of the ‘Auctarium’, so they were reclassified and given the shelfmarks ‘Auct. 1Q’ to ‘Auct. 7Q’; and the room in which they were housed became known as the ‘Q Room’. A closer examination of the books in these sections reveals that the picture is much more complex than this, and that the contents of ‘Auct. 1Q’ to ‘Auct. 7Q’ are, in fact, much more diverse than those of ‘Auct. Q’; for example, ‘Auct. 1Q’, ‘Auct. 2Q’, and ‘Auct. 4Q’ to ‘Auct. 7Q’ contain many medieval theological and devotional texts, while ‘Auct. 7Q’ also includes patristic material much of which was, before 1825, shelved in ‘Auct. K’ and ‘Auct. L’; ‘Auct. 3Q’ is mainly legal texts.100 Dubber has, again, left a picture of the ‘Q’ Room:

The Q room . . . was . . . divided by artificial archways and walls, which have now been removed during the construction of modern reading rooms . . . Around the walls of the Q Room, in cases of a pattern somewhat similar to those in the Auctarium, but with latticed wire doors instead of the wooden doors underneath, were shelved fifteenth and sixteenth century theological and classical printed books. There were a few descriptive inscriptions above the cases, but no letters similar to those in the Auctarium, as the whole room, as regards the walls, was shelfmarked from the foundation of the term Auct. Q, e.g. Auct. 2Q. 3. 16, the first figure of which represented a section of 3 cases, the second figure a shelf number, and the third the book number in the particular shelf. Above the door was placed Auct. QQ supra, and below the south window, Auct. Q sub fenestra.101

99 F.W. Dubber, ‘Bodleian Recollections’, 11–12; Dubber’s account, an unpublished manuscript, is dated Oct. 1965 and was presented to the Library in May 1966; it is interleaved with photographs taken when the first floor of the Old Bodleian Library was used as a bookstack (for which see note 98 below), and is kept in the Library archives (Library Records d.1 750).


The second of the three partitioned rooms after the ‘Q Room’ contained manuscripts and was known as the ‘Bodley Room’; some incunabula, mistakenly given ‘MS. Bodl.’ shelfmarks, were housed there, as was the case for the third room, the ‘Laud Room’. Subsequently, as part of one of Nicholson’s rearrangements, the ‘Laud Room’ became the home of Richard Rawlinson’s enormous bequest, including his incunabula, and the room became the ‘Rawlinson Room’. A short but steep flight of stairs led up from the ‘Rawlinson Room’ to the ‘Wood-Ashmole Room’ (now one of the staff offices for the Reader Services Department, off the Lower Reading Room). This room housed the material from those collections (including incunabula) after they were moved from the Ashmolean Museum in 1860; at the time it was brought into use, it was simply being used as a lumber room, but had previously been the University Armoury, housing stocks of muskets and halberds.

Beyond the ‘Rawlinson Room’ was the ‘Bywater Room’. A large bequest, such as that of Bywater, posed problems, particularly as it was required that it should be kept together, in this case for at least twenty-one years following the bequest. The collection has been sumptuously housed in handsome book-cases, carefully constructed so as to show off the books to best advantage. The room in which they are placed will be known as the Bywater Room. By the time Dubber knew the ‘Bywater Room’ it also contained the books left by Bishop Barlow (‘Linc.’); and it had also housed the Godwyn collection, with the result that, for a time, it was also known as the ‘Godwyn Room’. The ‘Auctarium’ and the partitioned Hebrew School formed the south range of the Old Schools Quadrangle in the Bodleian. Moving round to the east, there was the former Astronomy School. This was taken over by the Bodleian in 1828, and from 1834 it became the home of Francis Douce’s bequest (including its incunabula) and was renamed the ‘Douce Room’ – the plaque bearing this name still hangs above the bookcases on the west wall of the room, which is now the Patristics and Theology Reading Room. Dubber’s description is again worth quoting:

‘The arrangement on the shelves was primarily alphabetical, but the books on the wall cases were so graduated that the smallest were at the top of each tier, and the largest at the bottom, thus giving an appearance of distinction and pleasing orderliness to the room. Manuscripts, incunabula, and other rarities occupied cases, all of oak, on the floor, running lengthwise along the room.’

At the centre of the eastern range is what is now the Lower Reading Room Reserve counter. This area had initially been the Savile Study, occupied by the Savilian Professors, before becoming part of the Bodleian in 1835. In 1841 its name was changed to the Mason Room, following Robert Mason’s bequest to the Library of £40,000 for the purchase of books. Again, some incunabula were housed here. The remainder of the eastern range was taken up with the old Geometry School. It was acquired by the Bodleian in 1828 and became the Oriental Room, and it was here that, among Hebrew manuscripts and books collected by Rabbi David Oppenheimer, were housed the Hebrew incunabula. The only other room on the first floor of the Library to be used to house incunabula was the Gough Room, at the western end of the north range. Other collections were subsequently fitted in to the arrangement.

The first floor of the Library remained in use as a book-stack with books and manuscripts housed in the rooms as described above for approximately a hundred years, with the bulk of the manuscript collections and incunabula housed in the ‘Auctarium’, except for those in the rooms for named collections. There were clearly severe space problems. On Nicholson’s election as Librarian in 1882, it
seems that this first-floor accommodation was in poor condition: indeed, one Curator described it as an ‘Augean stable’. Various measures were subsequently taken to improve the storage. With the completion of the New Bodleian Library, it was intended that all the manuscripts and rare books in these first-floor rooms should be transferred to its new bookstack. The beginning of World War II brought about some changes to the overall schedule, but the end result was achieved by 1942. Following the readjustments at the end of the war, the bulk of the collection of incunabula remained in the New Library bookstack, together with the manuscripts and other special collections, although some were returned to Duke Humfrey’s Library. New incunable acquisitions have subsequently been shelved in the New Library stack.

Although this sounds like a rather seamless progression, this is not to say that there were no other plans. For example, E. W. B. Nicholson contemplated rearranging the incunabula ‘as will be most instructive to the student of the history of printing’, and conceived the idea of bringing together incunabula and books on the history of printing in the room off the Upper Reading Room, which had been the old Curators’ Room, and which he had refitted with bookshelves in 1882; he was subsequently to change his mind, and suggested in 1907 that this room should become a study for Bodley’s Librarian, a change of use which was eventually undertaken in 1919.

Nicholson, in conjunction with Robert Proctor, was also responsible for introducing a new analytical shelfmarking system for incunabula. The system was actually devised by Proctor, and consisted of a shelfmark introduced by the abbreviation ‘Inc.’, followed by a letter indicating the height of the incunable (this followed what was then standard Bodleian shelfmarking practice) in the form of ‘a’, ‘b’, ‘c’ down to ‘g’ for the very smallest incunables. This was then followed by a code letter for the country of printing (‘G’ for Germany, ‘I’ for Italy, ‘F’ for France, ‘E’ for England, ‘N’ for the Netherlands, etc.). Appended to this country code is a number, referring to the order in time in which printing started in the particular country (where it has not been possible to establish this, a higher number has been used, for example, G97). To illustrate this, Anwyk’s *Compendium totius grammaticae*, printed in Oxford in 1483, bears the following shelfmark: Inc. e. E2.1483.1, as being of ‘e’ size (7–9 inches), printed in Oxford, the second place in England to adopt printing (E2), and being the first book printed in the city in 1483 (1483.1). It should in passing be noted that Proctor’s thinking was clearly running in parallel with that of other scholarly librarians elsewhere. Henry Bradshaw, for example, when Librarian of Cambridge University Library (1867–86), used an undeveloped form of what was later termed the ‘Proctor order’ to arrange his ‘Museum typographicum’ in the University Library. Though the ‘Proctor order’ was impressively detailed and analytical in theory, it had the disadvantage that it allowed size to precede place. It was as Manley has noted, ‘a creditable attempt to adopt the latest theories of bibliography’. However, from a practical point of view, namely that of

108 The reconfiguration of the first-floor rooms into the Lower Reading Room is recorded in ‘Notes and News: Extension Work’, *BLR* 1.10 (1940), 161–2, at 162.
110 See Craster 226–43 on the general state of the buildings, and on the works carried out throughout the Library at this time.
111 Craster 341; photographs, taken by Oxford University Press in 1939, survive in the Library archives of the principal rooms of what is now the Lower Reading Room, showing them in use as the bookstack. These photographs have recently been supplemented by a donation of further pictures by the late Mr Stanley Gillam, who was on the staff of the Library when they were taken; see ‘Photographs of the Old Library’, *BLR* 1.6 (1939), 101; Library archives; also Stanley Gillam, ‘The Bodleian Library in the Nineteen Thirties’, *BLR* 18.1 (2003), 16–30, especially at 24–7, and with a photograph of the Douce Room as it was in 1937 at 25.
being a shelfmark to allow books to be shelved and located easily by staff, it has proved somewhat cumbersome. Nevertheless, new incunables are still given shelfmarks in this section today; the shelfmark 'Arch.' [or 'Archiva'], used for items of special rarity, is also used for incunabula of particular note.
Aims of the Catalogue

The main aim of the catalogue has been, from the outset, to combine information about the individual copies in the collections of the Bodleian Library (their bindings, their provenance, manuscript notes, and other signs of use) with a detailed analysis of the contents of each edition, locating all texts in each edition, identifying their authors, and giving references to modern editions of each text where they exist. It is not the aim of the catalogue to replicate typographical information which is already available in one of the other detailed incunable catalogues, such as GW, BMC, or Polain.

The work of the cataloguing team has been supported by assistance from a board of academic advisers, distinguished scholars in a wide range of fields, from classics to scientific texts, Renaissance philosophy to medieval liturgy, Italian bookbindings to medieval German school texts. The advisers have not only provided expert help within their areas of study, but have also been able to offer advice on the form and presentation of the catalogue.

This introduction covers the content of the main section of the catalogue (the western incunabula), the indexes and appendices; separate short introductions have been provided for the section on blockbooks, woodcuts, and metalcuts, and for the section on the Hebraica.

Method of Cataloguing

Form of Entries

The entries take the following form:

Number

Each edition has a running number in the form 'A-001', where the letter is the first letter of the heading. Where editions have been added to the collection since the catalogue was begun, or where they have had to be relocated, 'A', 'B', 'C' etc. suffixes have been used, in the form 'B-234A'.

Numbers have been encased in parentheses (i.e. (A-291)) where the edition concerned is not now considered to be an incunable but once was, for example, Proctor or the Bodleian's own Pre-1920 catalogue. The descriptions of such items are briefer than normal: no textual information is included (except where the items were catalogued as incunabula by L. A. Sheppard), but full copy-specific information is given.

Heading

To ensure ease of reference between incunable catalogues, the headings are largely conventional and are derived from ISTC. A completely new heading has been chosen only where the traditional heading is positively misleading. Normally the heading is the name of the main author (for example,
Thomas Aquinas) or a generic title (for example, Stella Clericorum, Missale) if there is no author. The authors are listed by surname, if applicable, or first name followed by the toponymic (see also 'Author name' below).

**Title**
The title of the work is a standardized uniform title, which does not necessarily reflect the title given to a work in a particular incunable edition. When no generally accepted uniform title exists, the catalogue has usually followed the title provided by ISTC, although with some variations. An attempt has been made substantially to reduce the amount of detail included (in the title-headings by other catalogues, such as BSB-Ink), precisely because the individual texts are all described below in the appropriate section of the catalogue.

Editorial information (such as the names of editors, translators, and commentators) is included here in parentheses, in the form '(ed. Johannes Andreae)', '(trans. Christophorus Landinus)', '(comm. Philippus Beroaldus)' to allow editions to be differentiated one from another, and to permit them to be grouped more easily into textual traditions.

After these introductory headings, based on conventional names and titles, comes the analysis of the book, first from the textual standpoint, then the copy-specific details of each Bodleian copy. The description of each edition should, where possible, be for the 'perfect' copy; but in some cases, where it has not been feasible for whatever reason to achieve this level of detail, the description has been limited to the part or parts of the edition available.

**Analysis of content**
As the first element of the textual analysis the exact page where each text begins is indicated by a reference to the signature of the sheet. The signature is used rather than folio numbers in order to relate the texts to the structure of the edition as expressed in the collational formula (see below). When the edition bears printed signatures, these have been followed and are represented in the following form 'a2r', a convention which has been adopted for use in this catalogue in order to increase legibility; 'r' and 'v' are employed for the recto and the verso respectively, rather than 'a' and 'b'. Whilst the exact form of the letters or symbols is retained (for example, 'a', 'v', etc.), the form of the numbers is not, in that arabic numerals are used in all cases, even those where roman ones are used in the incunable. The only divergence from this form occurs in some Greek books which have signatures printed in Greek, but then with Greek letters rather than any sort of numbers. In cases where two or more sequences of a particular letter are used, then a superscript number has been added before the letter to indicate this, so 'a2', 'a3', etc. In some books, gatherings have been signed using numbers instead of letters: in these cases, the same conventions have been followed, so leaves which have printed signatures '11r', '12r', etc. are represented in the form '11r', '12r', etc.

When gatherings do not bear printed signatures, 'made-up' signatures have been provided in the collational formula, and these have in turn been used as locations. Signatures which have been supplied in this manner are always placed within square brackets. See also 'Collation' below.

**Author name**
The name of the author is given in a standardized form. Whenever possible a Latin name form is chosen, if the name of the author in question appears in Latin in works printed during the incunable period. The exceptions are authors who have published only in a vernacular, and names of kings, emperors, and other rulers. If the name of the author appears in the incunable in a form which differs significantly from the standardized form, the non-standard form is also given. When the work is anonymous in the incunable, but has now been ascribed to an author, this name appears in brackets, for example '[Albertus Magnus]'. When, in the incunable, the work is ascribed to an author, but this is now considered spurious, the name is followed by [pseudo-]. When, in the incunable, the work is ascribed to an author, but is now thought to be by another author, the form is: 'Albertus Magnus
Additional names are also provided in brackets where the textual tradition has indicated a variety of different ascriptions, for example, 'Dionysius Carthusiensis [pseudo-; Jacobus de Grytrotrode; Jacobus de Clusa].

Names which appear either in printed running headings, in tables of contents, or in colophons are not put in brackets.

Missing parts of a standardized name form are supplied in brackets. When, in the incunable, the work is ascribed to 'Albertus', and the context makes it clear that this was thought to be 'Albertus Magnus', although it is now thought to be by Albertus de Orlamünde, the form is 'Albertus [Magnus, pseudo-]; Albertus [de Orlamünde].

Names are inverted so that the word under which they should be indexed comes first, for example 'Laurinus, Bernardinus'. Toponymics are generally recorded in the Index of Authors, Editors, Dedicatees, and Translators, and are normally used in the text only where it is necessary further to differentiate names; if used, the toponymic appears immediately after the family name: 'Accarius Utianensis, Michael'.

The names of editors, translators, and dedicatees appear after the title, in the following form: 'edited/translated by Bernardinus Laurinus', 'addressed to Pius II, Pont. Max.'

For further information about those named as authors, editors, dedicatees, or translators, reference should be made to the appropriate index.

Title

If the incunable contains the title of a work which is identical or very similar to a title in general use, then only the standard form is given (for which, see above).

If there is no standard title or if the title given in the incunable edition differs significantly from a standard title, the conventional title is given, followed by the name of a work given in the incunable, which is transcribed in a form following cautious normalization, within single quotation marks.

Prologues, prefaces, dedicatory letters, introductory letters, and accompanying verses are given made-up titles in English if there is no usable title in the incunable.

Indices and tables of contents are listed as other texts. Colophons are not mentioned, except in the following cases:

(1) if there are several in one volume;
(2) if one is followed by a text or texts;
(3) if there is other significant information (for example, the names of editors) to which reference is made elsewhere in the catalogue entry.

The reason that the colophon is not normally mentioned is that imprint information will be apparent from the statement of imprint, for which see below.

'Registra', in the sense of lists of gatherings, are not mentioned, except where they are followed by other texts.

Identification of texts

Where a modern critical edition is available a reference is provided to it, identifying the exact place of the incunable text in the modern edition. A short form is used in later references to the same edition within the same or immediately subsequent entries; for editions very frequently used a short reference is used from the outset, with the full reference being provided in the bibliography of frequently used works. This reference is usually introduced by 'Refs. . . .'.

When no critical edition can be found, an incipit is provided (see above). Wherever possible, references are made to relevant incipitaria or to modern works which specifically discuss the text and its transmission, but not to a more general discussion of the author, his life and work. These references are preceded by the word 'see'. For more general or biographical works on a particular author, see the 'Index of Names'.
Incipits are usually provided only when there is no modern edition of the text to which reference may be made, or when a complicated textual transmission makes it desirable to identify the version of the text found in the incunable. Occasionally an *explicit* is included for the same reason. *Incipits* are given exclusively for the purpose of identifying texts, so, in this section of the catalogue, no attempt has been made to provide quasi-facsimile transcriptions. Cautious normalization is applied to transcriptions; the orthography of the incunable is followed; all abbreviations and contractions are expanded silently, according to the normal orthography in the text; in ambiguous cases the chosen expanded form occurs within brackets. Modern punctuation is adopted, using upper-case initials for personal and place names, and after a full stop; in Latin word divisions are modernized; in French and Italian apostrophes are supplied, but accents are not included. In Greek, accents are normalized, if present. Biblical quotations in *incipits* are contained in double quotations marks and followed in brackets by the abbreviations used in *Biblia sacra iuxta vulgatam versionem*, ed. Robert Weber, 2 vols (Stuttgart, 1969).

In some cases 'double incipits' are provided: this has been done when, for example, a preface and the main text follow on directly, but where it was felt that both should be included, perhaps because they are referred to separately in incipitaria, or because the *incipit* is a very common one.

The convention of transcribing verse *incipits* is broadly the same as for prose. If verse is transcribed, then this is usually limited to the first line or first two lines (unless there is some particular reason for transcribing more). If a transcription is provided, the metre is, where possible, identified.

**Imprint**

When all texts and authors in the incunable have been identified, a reference is provided to the details of the imprint, following the style and form used by the *ISTC*. The place of printing is given in the form current in modern English, followed by the name of the printer (and publisher, if appropriate) in a standardized form and by the date and year of the imprint, likewise in a standardized form; the format of the item is then given (‘Folio’, ‘4º’, etc.). This information is often followed by a discussion of the grounds for the dates and the ascriptions. Dating follows that of *GW* where possible; where this is not so, for whatever reason, or where there are alternatives, these are noted.

**Collation**

In contrast to the major modern catalogues of individual collections of incunabula, a collation statement has been included in this catalogue. Its purpose is exclusively to facilitate the location of each text within an edition. Little independent work has been undertaken and collational formulae are, in the main, based on *GW* or *BMC*. Sheppard did not include collation statements, but his frequent notes of variations from published collational statements are included in this catalogue.

‘a–z8’ means that there are 23 gatherings, each of 8 leaves, and all signed with printed alphabetical signatures; numbers are not repeated when changes of sequence of signature occur, if the following letter or symbolized gatherings have the same number of leaves, so ‘a–z & A–D8’; in some cases, printed arabic numbers are used rather than letters of the alphabet, for example; ‘1–48’;

‘[a–z8]’ means that there 23 gatherings, each of 8 leaves, but none of these has a printed signature, so signatures have been assigned by the cataloguer;

‘a–z6.8’ means a sequence of 23 gatherings with a regular alternation between 6 and 8 leaves per gathering;

‘a–d’ means that the gatherings are not signed, but the first half of each gathering is marked with letters in alphabetical order;

when the leaves are unsigned but numbered at the foot where signatures are, the gatherings are usually given symbols (for example [*]), and a note is added to that effect. Unsigned gatherings (*, **, †, etc.) are all put within square brackets, along with the number of leaves: [*4].
However, in some particularly complex cases (for example V-088) where numbers have been used either for more than just one or two gatherings, or when the numbering of the leaves diverges from the simple pattern noted above, no symbols have been introduced, and the collation has been produced in the following form: ‘(1 2 3 4 5) (6 7 8 9 10)’, which means that the first five leaves in each gathering have numbers: in the first they are numbered 1–5, in the second 6–10.

In a break with the conventional bibliographical approach, uneven numbers do occur from time to time in collation formulae, as in GW and BMC. These have been retained in cases where the books in question are too tightly bound to allow a clear examination of structure; or where no stubs are visible; or in books printed on parchment, and where it has not been possible to check a paper copy. However, where possible,’+’ is used to indicate when an extra leaf occurs in a gathering. Single sheets are described as such in the collation.

For many of the books which he saw and catalogued, Sheppard made notes on the reverse of his index cards relating to the presence and absence of watermarks, using the symbol ‘x’ to denote the presence of a watermark and ‘o’ its absence. Information derived from these notes has not as a rule been included in this catalogue, but Sheppard’s notes may on occasion be useful, for instance in establishing the exact location of cancels within gatherings. His index cards may be consulted on application to the Rare Books section.

In association with the collation statement are notes on irregularities arising from errors made during the printing process. These notes may be copy-specific and are in the main based on Sheppard, using terminology familiar from BMC. It has often been possible to express these irregularities with greater clarity, but some imprecision of terminology remains in this area.

**Types, leaves, numbers of lines, area of type**

Type size is usually only given if the edition has not been described adequately elsewhere (for example, in the GW, BMC, or in an edition or monograph on a particular printer); or if there is some need of discussion of the use of an individual type.

**Watermarks**

Details of watermarks have not generally been included, as a matter of policy. The level of research required for a substantial contribution to this field would have extended the work on the catalogue beyond the time available for its completion.

**Illustrations**

Printers’ devices are not mentioned, unless there is a particular reason to do so. Illustrations described elsewhere are mentioned, but only with reference to the relevant reference work. Other woodcuts, which have not been described elsewhere, are, where possible, so described.

**References to other catalogues, etc.**

Reference is made to other catalogues of incunabula (based on ISTC) which have been used in the preparation of this catalogue. They are referred to in the following order: GW (with ‘Anm.’ when referring to notes); Hain (with asterisks to show which editions had actually been seen by Hain); Goff; BMC; and Proctor (the latter without daggers and asterisks); then the other catalogues and lists in alphabetical order. Regular reference has been made to BSB-Ink, Campbell, CIBN, Hillard, HPT, Oates, Rhodes, Sack, Freiburg, Sander, Schramm, and Schreiber. Reference is made to catalogues describing the output of a specific printer (for example Schorbach, Mentelin) or of a printing town (such as Voullième, Köln), but not to national catalogues such as IGI, Pellechet, or Polain, unless there is a specific reason to do so, for example, if Sheppard has noted variants in the Bodleian copy; or if this is the only catalogue in which the item is described. Sheppard numbers are, of course, present for all the incunabula he examined and catalogued during his time at the Bodleian; some
numbers on Sheppard’s index cards were subsequently emended by the late John Jolliffe, but it has been decided to ignore these emendations, as they have not been incorporated by ISTC and other sources in which Sheppard has been quoted. Reference is also made to the microfiche series produced by Primary Source Media (formerly Research Publications), and to facsimiles when they are available.

This completes the standard information relating to the ‘perfect’ copy and to the edition. There then follows the copy-specific information.

Copy number
In the form ‘Copy’ (where there is only one copy being described), ‘First copy’, ‘Second copy’.

Bound with
In the form: ‘Bound with: 1. . . . ; 2. . . . ’ The name of the printer is given in a standardized form, with a brief title of the book. For other incunabula, their catalogue number is given; for later English items, STC or Wing numbers are provided.

Where a volume has already been described, one of the following forms is used: ‘Bound with A-212; see there for details of the binding and provenance’, or ‘For details of the binding and provenance see A-212’, thereby avoiding repetition of information. Sometimes it has been found necessary to say something about the provenance, decoration, or marginalia in a particular item, and this has been included, and the phrase ‘see there for details of . . . ’ has been amended accordingly.

Imperfections
The form ‘wanting’ is used: ‘Wanting the blank leaf x1’. Thereafter, a range of information relating to misbound leaves, variants, etc. is recorded.

Binding
In general, the elements of a binding have been described in the following form: its date, country of origin, and material have been recorded first, then any furniture, rebacking, evidence of chaining, etc. Thereafter, blind- and gold-tooled bindings have been described from the outside inwards towards the centre, followed by the spine. There then follows information on marbled turn-ins, coloured or gilt edging, pastedowns, labels on the spine or covers, annotations on the edges, bookmarks, etc. The following forms have been used: front/rear ‘endleaf’ or ‘endleaves’, to refer to what elsewhere may be called ‘flyleaf’, ‘endpaper’, or ‘end-leaf’. ‘Fillets form a frame, within which . . . ’ something is found, the frame not being something between the fillets.

‘Contemporary’ bindings (fifteenth- to sixteenth-century bindings) have been described in greater detail than later ones, with particular attention being paid to attempts to identify stamps, rolls, and, where possible, binding workshops. For German bindings, reference has been made in particular to Kyriß and the Schunke-Schwenke Sammlung; for French bindings, to the Gid catalogue; and for English bindings, to the works of J. B. Oldham. Whilst considerable attention has been focused on the covers, furniture, and tooling, it has not been possible to provide such a similarly detailed analysis of the structure of most of the bindings, their sewing, headbands, etc. (this is the case, too, for the later bindings). In some cases, such information has been provided (through generous assistance from colleagues in the Library’s Preservation and Conservation Department (especially Andrew Honey), Dr Anthony Hobson, and Dr Nicholas Pickwoad).

Later bindings have usually only been described in more detail where work has been done to enable the workshop of a particular binder to be identified, for example, with books formerly owned by Lord Harley. Other bindings have been recognized, during the ‘life’ of the Cataloguing Project, as having been the style used for an individual owner, for example, the gold-tooled red morocco ‘Harleian’ style bindings for Lord Harley; the half calf bindings with blue/green marbled paper
boards, on books bound for Dr Kloß; and the red morocco bindings (some half morocco with red paper boards, some full), with light decorative gilding on the covers, on books bound for Count Boutourlin, etc.

The phrase ‘Bound for the Bodleian Library’ is also used frequently. This has usually been employed for bindings of books acquired by the Library during the nineteenth century from the sales of German monastic books (see the historical introduction), and the term can denote a variety of styles. Examples include a style of light tan-coloured calf binding, blind-tooled to resemble the styles of binding used on contemporary bindings, and apparently to be dated to the middle of the nineteenth century; half dark blue, purple, or black crushed morocco with cloth of a similar colour, used especially on books in smaller formats, and probably to be dated later in the nineteenth century; and, earliest of all in this category, and the most elegant, the books bound for the Library round about 1790 by the German binders, Heinrich Walther and Christian Samuel Kalthoeber (for whom see Kristian Jensen, ‘Heinrich Walther, Christian Samuel Kalthoeber and Other London Binders’, Bibliothek und Wissenschaft, 29 (1996), 292–311).

Size of book
For most of the entries there will be two sets of measurements of size. The first indicates the size of the volume’s covers, information valuable from the point of view of identifying individual books for administrative and security purposes. The second indicates the size of the leaves of the text block themselves. The main exception to this concerns fragments in guard-books, in which case the measurements of the fragment are indicated.

Pastedowns
This covers both manuscript or printed pastedowns.

Manuscript notes
The presence of manuscript notes has always been recorded and their frequency has been indicated (copious, frequent, a few, occasional), and it has been noted if annotations occur only in certain sections of a book. Where possible, the type of annotation has been indicated (for example, underlining in black ink in the text, extracting key words, ‘nota’ marks, providing summaries of short passages, extracting keywords, structuring the text, providing glosses, commenting on the text, providing corrections to the text). A date, however approximate, is given where possible, as also is the geographical origin of the hand of the notes. When a note is described as ‘unread’ rather than ‘illegible’, it implies that it was not legible to members of the cataloguing team and its associates, but may possibly be to others.

Decoration
The main decoration is described first, being the illuminated borders and principal initials (often on the first leaf or at the beginnings of books, chapters, etc.), followed by the secondary decoration, then the rubricated finishing, distinguishing between features supplied (such as initials, paragraph marks, running headings, and line fillers), and features marked (such as capital strokes).

Provenance
This is introduced by the word ‘Provenance’. Full stops separate the information about one owner from that of the next. Each section of information about a single owner is separated by semicolons: ‘Michael Mattaire (1667–1747). Edward Umfreveille (†1786); inscription on a1: . . . ’ Sale catalogues are quoted in a short form with date: ‘see anonymous sale (London: Puttick & Simpson, 25 Feb. 1886), lot 865’; or ‘sale (1837)’ when the owner has just been named before, with date of sale if needed.
to distinguish it; further information will be found in the Provenance Index. ‘Lot’ is used for lots in auction catalogues, while ‘no.’ is used for numbers in booksellers’ catalogues. For institutional owners, such as monasteries, only the place, order, and name of the dedicatory saint(s) are given, and, in all cases, only references specific to the incunable in question; other information about the owners will be found in the Provenance Index. For individuals the name of the person and his or her dates are given, with a reference to the appropriate sale catalogue after the information on the owner; again, any other information will be found in the Provenance Index.

Acquisition

For early acquisitions by the Library, the principal sources are the Benefactors’ Register, the earliest catalogues of the Library (from 1605 and 1620), both by the first Bodley’s Librarian, Thomas James, and Bodley’s letters to James (Letters of Sir Thomas Bodley to Thomas James, ed. G.W. Wheeler (Oxford, 1926)). This information was usually noted by Sheppard and it has been verified and expanded in this catalogue. For books acquired subsequently, Thomas Hyde’s catalogue of 1674 and Robert Fysher’s of 1738 provide appropriate terminal dates for acquisition.

For the period from 1780 to 1861, there are the Bodleian’s printed purchase lists (these were discontinued in 1861, presumably because they were by then becoming too cumbersome and expensive to produce). For those incunabula he saw, Sheppard indicated on his cards the year of acquisition, when he was able to identify this. This has been verified and expanded to include references to the relevant page of each purchase list and the price paid. Occasionally, when required, Sheppard’s information has been silently corrected, except when a correct year of acquisition could not be identified, in which case Sheppard is given as the source of the information. The identification of a copy now in the collection with a recorded purchase of a copy of the same edition can often be supported by the allocation of a shelfmark appropriate for acquisitions of that period, by provenance information, or by binding evidence in cases where books were rebound for the Bodleian Library. When there is doubt about the identification of a copy with a purchase record, this has been noted.

For purchases made by the Library after this period, until the early years of the twentieth century, Sheppard’s cards reproduce information found in the volumes themselves and sometimes give undocumented references to years of acquisition. The catalogue has relied on information from sale and auction catalogues (see above; the Library has a considerable collection of them), and the identification of acquisitions made in this period has particularly benefitted from a complete examination of the surviving bills and invoices from the earliest years of the Library to about 1910, the early series being very patchy, becoming increasingly complete in the late eighteenth century, and with only a few major gaps in the nineteenth century. The bills are kept in the Library archives, in large guard-books arranged by year; they may be consulted on application to the Library’s Archivist. Recent acquisitions (those made from the 1970s onwards) are recorded in a ledger kept by the Rare Books section, details of which are given in the catalogue entry.

With regard to donations and bequests, in the early years of the Library’s history these were recorded in the Benefactors’ Register. Some gifts and bequests were effectively accompanied by their own catalogues, for example, the manuscript catalogues of the library of John Selden (see the Provenance Index), the catalogue of books produced by Count Mortara, the Elenchus librorum vetustiorum apud *** [Ingram Bywater] hospitantium ([Oxford, 1911]) for the Bywater collection, and, most recently, the catalogues of the library of the late Dr Brian Lawn. Other donations and bequests were recorded in Macray, various reports and supplements printed in the University Gazette, and latterly in the Bodleian Quarterly Record and its successor, the Bodleian Library Record. These sources also list important purchased acquisitions, including many incunabula.

For a summary history of the Library’s acquisition of its incunabula, see the historical introduction.
Former Bodleian shelfmarks
Former Bodleian and Radcliffe Library shelfmarks, given, where possible, in chronological order, and following the standard format (see below).

Present Bodleian shelfmarks
This lists the present shelfmark of the copy in question.

Form of citation of the catalogue
The form in which the entries in the catalogue should be cited is: ‘Bod-inc. A-000’.
Following the main sequence of catalogue entries, there are three indexes. These cover the names of Authors, Editors, Translators, and Dedicatees, and other names in the textual part of the catalogue; the Provenance Index of names of owners and donors; and the Index of Names of Printers and Publishers. While the Index of Printers is in conventional brief ‘index’ form, the Index of Authors and the Index of Provenances both aim to provide additional information in the form of biographical references to works about the people recorded. It has not proved possible to provide such information in every case. In the Index of Authors, ‘floruit’ dates are sometimes given in the form of ‘fifteenth century’ when no further information is available: this dating, particularly with reference to Dedicatees, is usually taken from the ‘floruit’ dates of the figures from whom they received letters or dedications.

Following the indexes are three appendices. The first lists items recorded by Sheppard, but not included in the present catalogue. These are four items which have been returned to their original owners, the Botany School (now the Department of Plant Sciences); and two items in manuscripts owned by Brasenose College, which the College has placed on deposit in the Bodleian Library.

The second appendix lists items which are recorded in ISTC, but which have been excluded from the present catalogue (and were excluded by Sheppard) because they clearly postdate the incunable period. The third appendix lists the leaves in the Library’s copy of Woodcuts from Books of the 15th Century, with introduction by W. L. Schreiber (Munich, 1929) [Library shelfmark: Rec. a.6].