

# Lambeth Palace Library Research Guide

## Library Records 1610-1785 Part B







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### 3. The Lambeth Catalogue of 1647

By orders made between December 1646 and March 1647 Parliament ordained that the contents of Lambeth Palace Library should be transferred to Cambridge University Library. In preparation for the transfer a catalogue was made at Lambeth by John Spencer (Library Keeper of Sion College) and Samuel Thompson (or Samuel Tomson as he signed his name in the catalogue). The catalogue was signed by its compilers on 26 April 1647 and presented to the House of Commons on 29 April 1647 (see f. 139v).

The catalogue is a shelf list. Folios 1-75 (as found in Bodleian Library MS Arch Selden B.5) are in the hand of John Spencer, and folios 76-139 are in the hand of Samuel Thompson. The books were still arranged more or less in the order of subjects as recorded in the Bancroft catalogue of 1612. Within subjects books were recorded by size and then alphabetically by authors and sometimes titles. Bancroft and Abbot books were intermixed.

Spencer recorded:

- ff. 1r-4v. Patristics (folios)
- ff. 5r-6r. Protestant theology (folios)
- ff. 6v-8v. Protestant commentaries (folios)
- ff. 9r-11r. Catholic theology [size not stated, presumably folios]
- ff. 11v-14r. Catholic commentaries (folios)
- ff. 14v-22v. Protestant theology (quartos)
- f. 23r-v. Patristics (quartos)
- ff. 24r-27v. Protestant and Catholic commentaries (quartos)
- ff. 28r-34r. Catholic theology (quartos)
- ff. 34v-36r. Patristics (octavos)
- ff. 37r-46r. Protestant theology (octavos)
- ff. 46v-51r. Protestant and Catholic commentaries (octavos)
- ff. 52r-60v. Catholic theology (octavos)
- f. 61r. Anglican and other liturgies (folios)
- f. 61v. Catholic liturgies (folios)
- f. 62r-v. Liturgies (quartos)
- f. 63r. Liturgies (octavos and duodecimos)
- ff. 63v-64r. Devotional works (octavos and duodecimos)
- ff. 65r-69r. Manuscripts (folios)
- ff. 69v-73v. Manuscripts (quartos)
- ff. 74r-75v. Manuscripts (octavos and duodecimos)

Thompson recorded:

- ff. 76r-78r. Scholastic theology (folios)
- ff. 78v-79r. Scholastic theology (quartos)
- ff. 79v-80r. Scholastic theology (octavos)
- ff. 80v-81r. Sermons (folios)
- ff. 81v-82v. Sermons (quartos)
- ff. 83r-84v. Sermons (octavos and duodecimos)
- ff. 85r-88v. Law (folios)



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- ff. 89r-91v. Law (quartos)
- ff. 92r-94v. Law (octavos)
- ff. 95r-97r. Philosophy, mathematics, medicine (folios)
- ff. 97r-102r. Philosophy, mathematics, medicine (quartos)
- ff. 102v-107v. Philosophy, mathematics, medicine (octavos)
- ff. 108r-109r. Philosophy and various (sextodecimos)
- f. 110r-v. English law (Ius Municipale Angl). (folios)
- f. 110v. English law (Ius Municipale Angl). (quartos and octavos)
- f. 111r-v. Bibles (folios)
- f. 112r-v. Bibles (quartos)
- f. 113r. Hebrew works (folios, quartos, octavos)
- ff. 114r-121r. Histories (folios)
- ff. 121r-128r. Histories (quartos)
- ff. 128v-134r, Histories (octavos)
- ff. 134v-135r. Histories (sextodecimos)
- ff. 135v-136r. Dictionaries (folios)
- f. 136r. Dictionaries (quartos and octavos)
- ff. 136v-139r. Theological works (sextodecimos)
- f. 139r. Pamphlets [including some manuscript items] in bundles ['fasciculi'] lettered A-T

Spencer and Thompson had evidently divided the work between them. Cox-Johnson (p. 116) suggests that Spencer recorded the books on the North and West sides of the cloister, while Thompson recorded those on the South and East sides. (f. 139r). If this is correct there must have been some relocation since 1612 (eg. Thompson recorded the Bibles which were on the West side in 1612).

With regard to the manuscripts, Ker described the 1647 catalogue as a 'poor alphabetical catalogue ... produced, no doubt in a hurry, with a view to the transfer of the collection to Cambridge University Library' (Ker, p. 2)

Catalogue:

Bodleian Library, MS. Arch. Selden B.5. Original, signed by Spencer and Thomson. A facsimile is in Lambeth Palace Library (MS Facsimile 9).

A copy, in the hand of Jonathan Pindar, is Cambridge University Library MS. Oo.7.51 (microfilm in Lambeth Palace Library, MS Film 5). See Cox-Johnson, pp. 116-7.

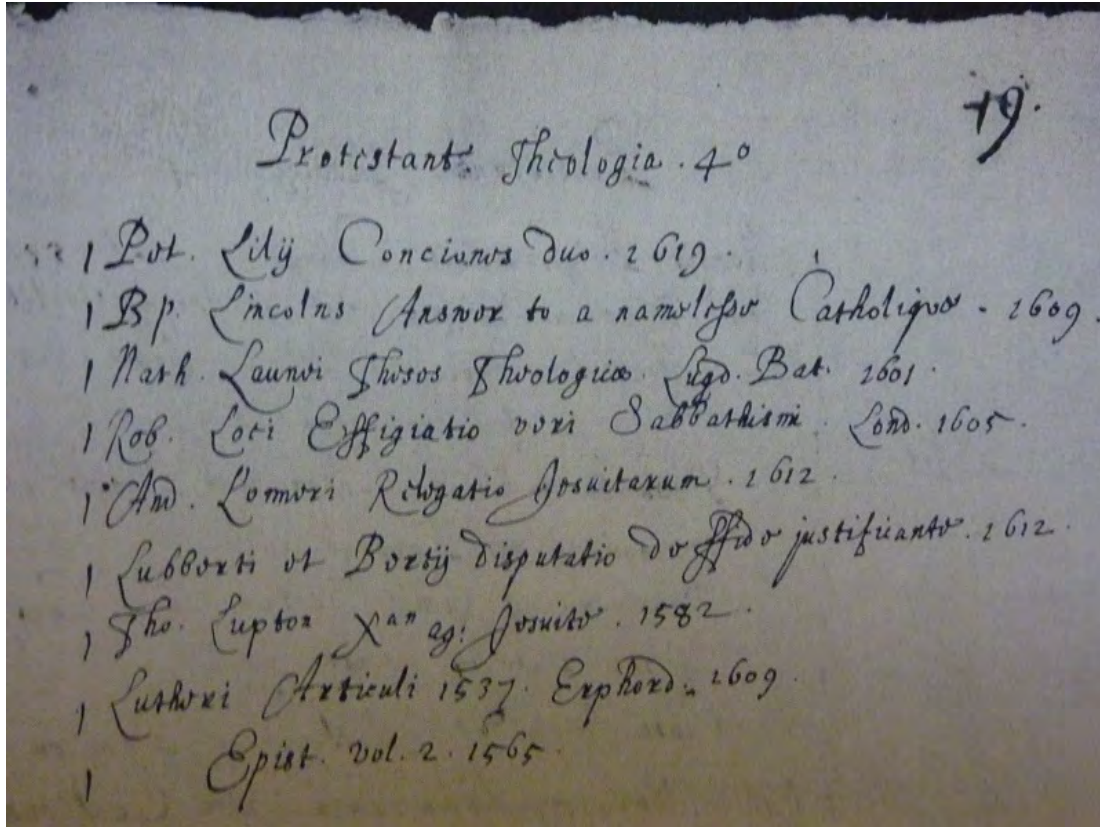
Bibliography:

Ann Cox-Johnson, 'Lambeth Palace Library 1610-1664', in *Transactions of the Cambridge Bibliographical Society*, vol. 2, 1954-58, pp. 105-26, especially pp. 115-6.

Neil R. Ker, 'Archbishop Sancroft's rearrangement of the manuscripts of Lambeth Palace', in E.G.W. Bill, *A catalogue of manuscripts in Lambeth Palace Library. MSS. 1222-1860* (Oxford, 1972), pp. 1-51.



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The hand of John Spencer, Library Keeper of Sion College, in the Lambeth catalogue of 1647 (Bodleian Library, MS. Arch. Selden B.5, f. 19r)

### 4. The Library in Exile at Cambridge, 1647-64

From 1647 until 1664 the contents of Lambeth Palace Library were housed in, and incorporated with, Cambridge University Library.

Several catalogues were produced at Cambridge. First a copy of the 1647 Lambeth catalogue was made by Jonathan Pindar, the Under-Keeper of Cambridge University Library. This is now Cambridge University Library MS. Oo.7.51. According to Oates (p. 258) it was used to check the contents of the boxes as they arrived at Cambridge. Books were totalled up within each subject class. New Cambridge shelf marks were added later in the margins in another hand, attributed to William Moore (see Cox-Johnson pp. 116-7).

The Lambeth collection was arranged on newly provided shelving. The generality of printed books was housed in subject order in the South Room, intermixed with the far smaller number of books already at Cambridge before the arrival of the Lambeth collection. Manuscripts and a few special printed books were housed *in archivis* in the East Room,



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where the Lambeth and the Cambridge pre-Lambeth collections were kept separately (see Oates pp. 264-5). For the first time each book was given a shelf mark. The distinctive Cambridge shelf marks have three elements, first a Roman capital letter denoting the case or bay of shelving; then a Greek letter denoting the shelf, and finally an Arabic number denoting the position on the shelf (for example C.gamma.11). A second series of shelf marks was provided for the manuscripts (and certain special printed books) in the East Room. These shelf marks were identical in character but preceded by a symbol of crossed lines denoting a lock. On these see Ker pp. 2-3 and Oates p. 260. In addition there were three bundles of miscellaneous manuscripts kept on shelf [lock symbol] C.zeta as listed in Cambridge University Library MS. Oo.7.51, ff. 71(2)r-72(3)v. Also pamphlets in bundles lettered A-T (including some manuscript items) as recorded in Cambridge University Library MS. Oo.7.51, ff. 157r-160v.

A new catalogue was then produced by Jonathan Pindar (now Cambridge University Library MS. Ff. 2.34). Comprising 568 pages, this is arranged by author, with titles, place and date of printing, and shelf marks. Oates (p. 261) describes it as a first draft. Pindar then made a revised fair copy (now Cambridge University Library MS. Mm.4.1). See Cox-Johnson p. 118 and Oates p. 261.

Pindar also began (but never finished) a subject catalogue of commentaries on the Bible (now Cambridge University Library MS. Ll.5.16). On this see Cox-Johnson p. 118 and Oates p. 264.

A copy of a shelf list of the Lambeth manuscripts, with their Cambridge shelf marks, is now Bodleian Library MS. Tanner 268 ff. 137-70. On this see Ker, pp. 2-3. Ker describes it as a copy, by 'an ignorant scribe' of a lost original. It includes the contents of the three bundles of manuscripts on shelf C.zeta (ff. 162v-165r), and also the manuscript items found amongst the printed pamphlets in bundles A-T shelved in bay or bookcase [lock symbol] A (ff. 168r-169r).

Pindar also compiled a general catalogue of the printed books in Cambridge University Library (now Cambridge University Library MS. Oo.7.73). This is a shelf list of the contents of the South Room, with Cambridge and Lambeth books together, as it was between 1650 and 1663. However it omits the manuscripts and special printed books *in archivis*, and shelved in the East Room ie. those denoted by the lock symbol. This catalogue was used to separate the Lambeth printed books from the others in preparation of their return to Lambeth and is marked up for that purpose (see Cox-Johnson pp. 125-6 and Oates p. 260).

The return of the printed books to Lambeth is also documented in a catalogue compiled during packing at Cambridge (Lambeth Palace Library LR/F/57). This begins by recording books in the order of the chests in which they were packed, before abandoning the task and recording the remainder in Cambridge shelf mark order. The catalogue appears to have been delivered to Lambeth with the books and it includes a note explaining that the books each contain the Cambridge shelf mark within the front cover and hence could be checked



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against the shelf list in the catalogue. See the Lambeth Palace Library online catalogue of archives and manuscripts for fuller description.

The manuscripts appear to have been sorted into sizes (folios, quartos, octavos) in preparation for their return to Lambeth and then numbered sequentially within each size. A catalogue showing them arranged in this order was produced and this is now Bodleian Library MS. Tanner 274. Oates and Ker identify it as in the hand of William Crowe (1616-1675). These numbers (for example, '4to vol 124') were entered after or below the previous Cambridge shelf mark within the front cover of each book or on the first available leaf. See Ker pp. 3-4 and Oates p. 313. On Crowe see the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography. The catalogue also includes (f. 34) a list of overlooked printed books which had come to light ('libri impressi, compacti, reperti in angulo quodam mihi prorsus incognito latitantes') and the compiler notes that these were placed 'in Cista C' and 'in Cista D', seemingly in reference to the chests in which they were packed. The catalogue was used much later at Lambeth as the basis of Archbishop Sancroft's reorganisation of the manuscripts, and includes annotations in Sancroft's hand recording the new numbers which he assigned. See Ker who provided concordances between the shelf marks in Tanner 268 and Tanner 274 and modern shelf marks.

Tanner 274 includes the contents of the three bundles of manuscripts formerly on shelf C.zeta, and of a fourth bundle (of manuscript items removed from the printed pamphlets lettered A-T). The contents of the four bundles are assigned individual shelfmarks of the same character as the rest of the manuscripts (size and running number).

### Catalogues:

Cambridge University Library MS. Oo.7.51. Microfilm in Lambeth Palace Library (MS Film 5); also a facsimile in Lambeth Palace Library of the manuscripts section only (MS Facsimile 3).  
Cambridge University Library MS. Ff. 2.34. Microfilm in Lambeth Palace Library (MS Film 5).  
Cambridge University Library MS. Mm.4.1. Microfilm in Lambeth Palace Library (MS Film 5).  
Cambridge University Library MS. Ll.5.16. Microfilm in Lambeth Palace Library (MS Film 5).  
Bodleian Library MS. Tanner 268 ff. 137-70. Facsimile in Lambeth Palace Library (MS Facsimile 5).  
Bodleian Library MS. Tanner 274. Facsimile in Lambeth Palace Library (MS Facsimile 7).  
Cambridge University Library MS. Oo.7.73. Microfilm in Lambeth Palace Library (MS Film 5).  
Lambeth Palace Library LR/F/57.

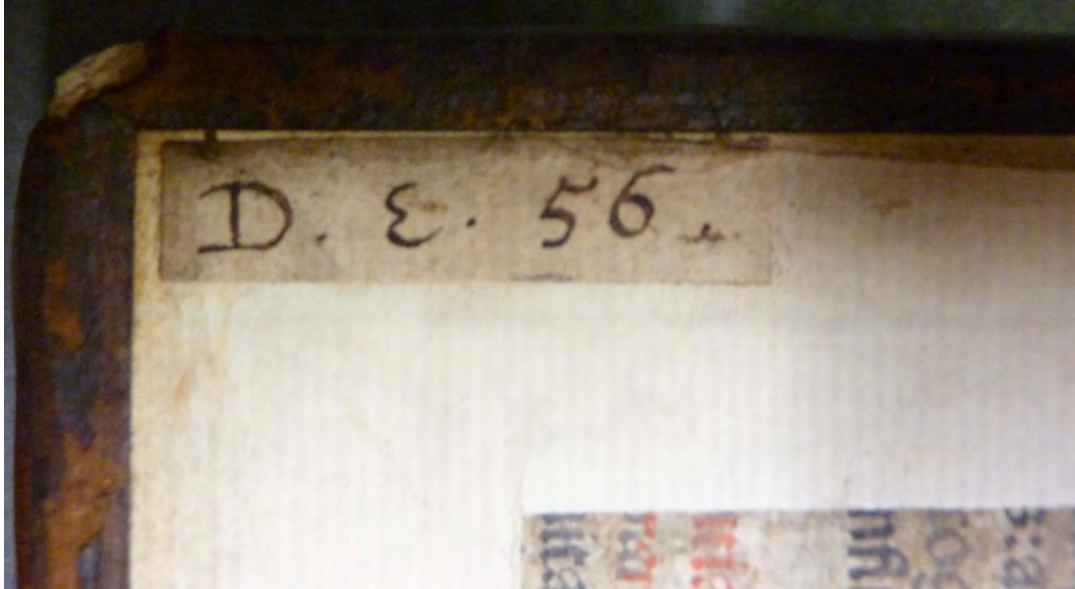
### Physical Evidence:

Cambridge shelf marks (with characteristic elements of Roman letter, Greek letter and Arabic numeral) were written on the inner side of the front board or on the first available leaf. Many are still present.





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A Cambridge shelf mark (printed book): D.epsilon.56; modern shelf mark 1577.2

Books at Cambridge were mainly shelved foredge outwards. A label pasted to the edge of the rear board recorded the third element of the class mark, the number of the book on its shelf.



Label on rear board with number 56 [full Cambridge shelf mark D.epsilon.56; modern shelf mark 1577.2]



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Vellum bound books were sometimes shelved spine outwards.



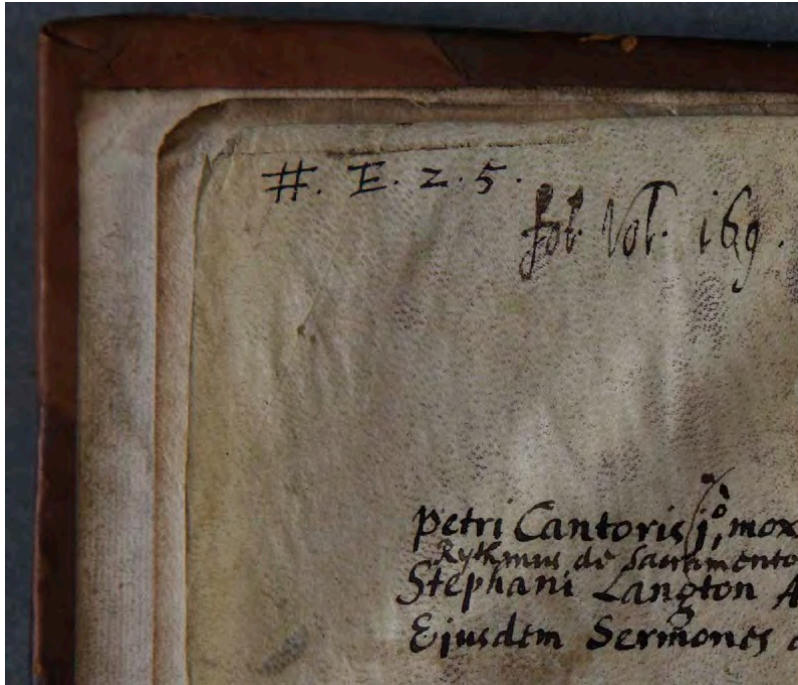
Label on spine with number 5 [full Cambridge shelf mark L epsilon 5; now in class NX4510.B6 at Lambeth]

Manuscripts at Cambridge were shelved in a parallel series of shelf marks preceded by a symbol of crossed lines indicating a lock.



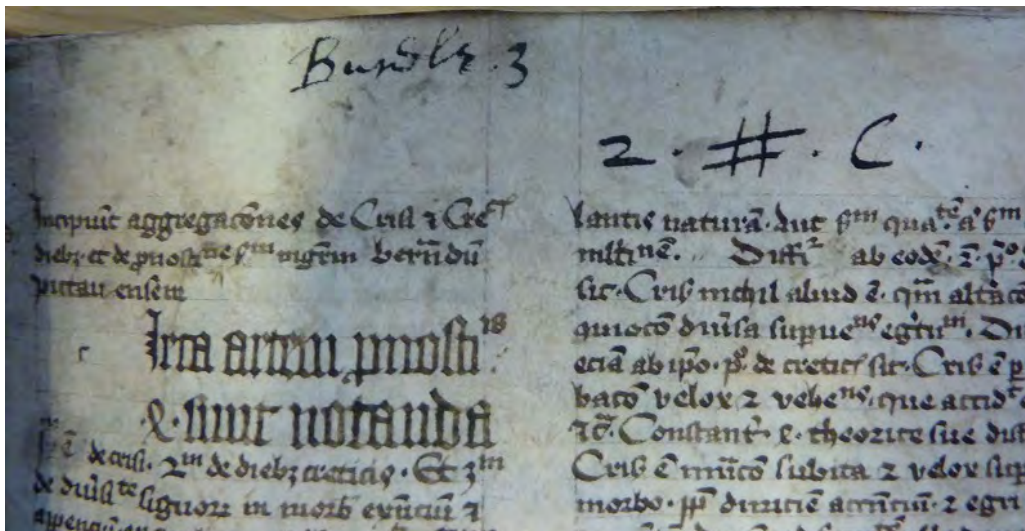


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A Cambridge shelf mark (manuscript): [lock symbol] E.zeta.5. Subsequently folio vol. 169 and now MS 71

Manuscript items within bundles were recorded individually.

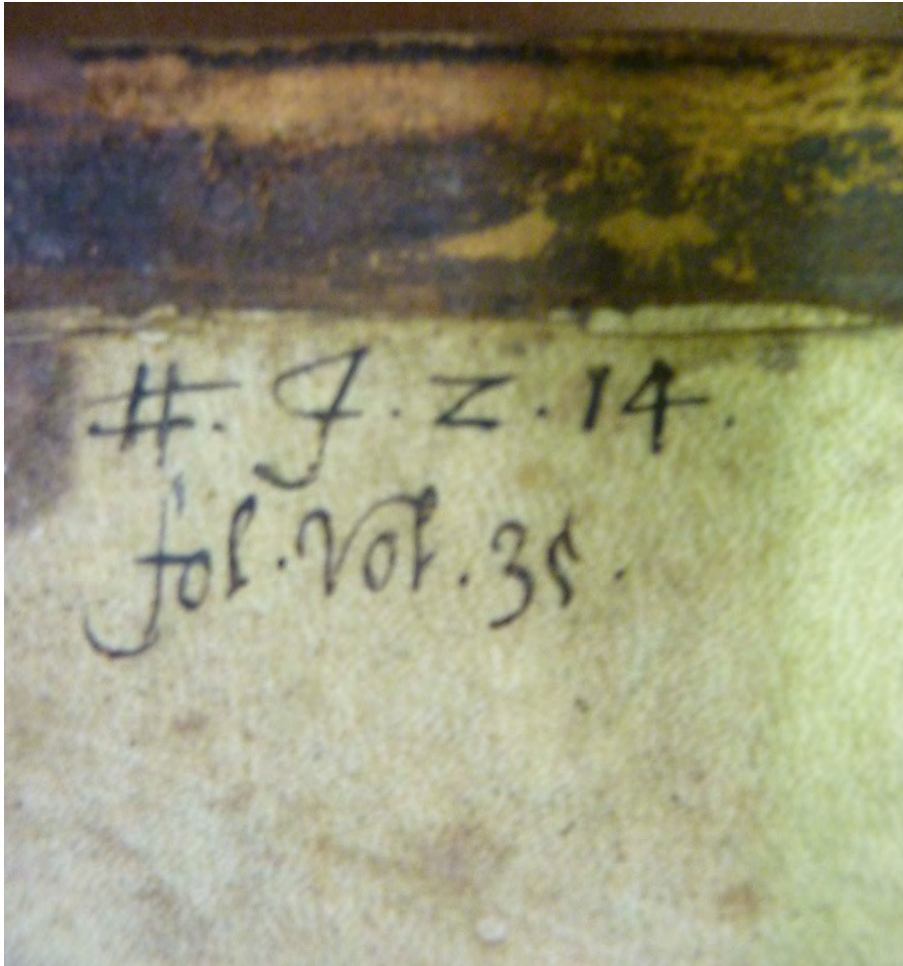


A Cambridge shelf mark (manuscript): bundle 3 item 2, shelved in [lock symbol] C. Modern shelf mark MS 444, f. 25 onwards

In preparation for their return to Lambeth the manuscripts were sorted into sizes and numbered within each size. The numbers were entered in each book after or below the previous Cambridge shelf mark.



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Manuscript number in preparation for return to Lambeth: fol. vol. 35. Modern shelf mark: MS 167

### Bibliography:

Ann Cox-Johnson, 'Lambeth Palace Library 1610-1664', in *Transactions of the Cambridge Bibliographical Society*, vol. 2, 1954-58, pp. 105-26.

Neil R. Ker, 'Archbishop Sancroft's rearrangement of the manuscripts of Lambeth Palace', in E.G.W. Bill, *A catalogue of manuscripts in Lambeth Palace Library. MSS. 1222-1860* (Oxford, 1972), pp. 1-51.

M.R. James, 'Lambeth Palace Library', in *Transactions of the Cambridge Bibliographical Society*, vol. 3, 1959-63, pp. 1-31.

J.C.T. Oates, *Cambridge University Library. A history ...* (Cambridge, 1986), especially chapter 10, 'The Lambeth Library at Cambridge' and chapter 12, 'The work undone, 1659-64'.



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### 5. The Library Restored under Archbishop Sheldon, 1664-77

Early in 1664 the collection was returned from Cambridge to Lambeth at the instigation of Gilbert Sheldon, Archbishop of Canterbury 1663-77. On the restoration of the Library which followed, the Library Keepers, catalogues, and on Sheldon's bequest to the Library, see Richard Palmer, 'Sancroft versus Sheldon: a case of books', in *The Library*, 7th series vol 18, 2017, pp. 271-291.

Sheldon's restoration of the Library began with the reconstruction of the Library buildings which had been totally or almost totally demolished and which were rebuilt around the four sides of the cloister court at Lambeth Palace. There followed the provision of new shelving, the employment of Herbert Richards as the earliest recorded Librarian, and the re-cataloguing of the collection with a new system of shelf marks.

Librarians:

Sheldon employed Herbert Richards (c.1643-1678) as Library Keeper from the end of 1665 or beginning of 1666. In December 1670 he was ordained, and in April 1671 Sheldon appointed him Rector of the parish of Aldington in Kent. He was succeeded as Library Keeper from c.1673 by Edward Taylor (c.1650-1705) who became rector of Keston, Kent, from 1678 and who was chaplain to Sheldon at the time of the Archbishop's death in 1677. He continued as Library Keeper, perhaps for a short time only, under Archbishop Sancroft.

Printed books:

The printed books, with new shelf marks assigned by Richards in the form 10 P 13, were shelved in two separate series, each occupying two sides of the Library. In the first series, on the two sides starting from the East, were 15 bays or bookcases, lettered A-P, each with nine shelves. In the second series, on the two sides starting from the West, were 21 bays or bookcases, lettered A-W, of which 7 contained 14 shelves and 14 contained 12 shelves. The books were roughly arranged in subject order. For example in the two sides starting from the West patristics are found in bays or bookcases T and V, followed by bibles and psalters in W. It is not yet clear whether this represents a systematic new arrangement or the ghost of the subject order of the books as shelved at Cambridge. For Herbert Richards' catalogues, see below.

Manuscripts:

By 1691, and perhaps from the time of Sheldon, the manuscripts were housed in an upper floor on the west side of the cloister. They were catalogued by Richards with shelf marks A.1 to V.34 in a separate catalogue volume (MS 1047). The manuscripts appear to have been shelved with the foredge outwards. As at Cambridge, a label pasted to the edge of the rear





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board recorded the second element of the class mark, the number of the book on its shelf. The present MS 464 (Sheldonian shelf mark J.15) has the number 15; the present MS 410

(Sheldonian shelf mark I.18) has the number 18. As in the time of Bancroft and Abbot, vellum bound manuscripts (the spines of which offered a useful writing surface) were sometimes shelved with the spines outwards. The present MS 417 has a paper label on the spine with the number 10 (Sheldonian shelf mark E.10). None of these three numbers were part of the manuscripts' previous shelf marks at Cambridge.

Sheldon appears to have owned some 1,360 works when he came to London in 1660 (see the packing lists in LR/F/7, ff. i-viii). The number rose to c.2,000 by the time of his death in 1677. Sheldon bequeathed a large portion of his personal collection to Lambeth Palace Library, and this was secured by Archbishop Sancroft in 1683 following a law suit. Sheldon's books (other than the octavos and smaller volumes) were recorded in the shelf list of Lambeth Palace Library compiled by Colomiès in 1684 (LR/F/10). On this see below in the section on Archbishop Sancroft.

In 1661 the ecclesiastical records of the Commonwealth period were placed by Parliament in the custody of the Archbishop of Canterbury. They cannot however have entered the Library at this date and a list of them (MS 1742 ff. 19-20, late 17<sup>th</sup> century) is endorsed by Edmund Gibson: 'Catalogue of MSS in the Secretary's chamber'.

Catalogues:

The following catalogues, datable to c.1666-c.1672, are all in the hand of Herbert Richards and record the Library as restored at Lambeth and as it remained until the death of Archbishop Sheldon in 1677. They have hitherto been misunderstood and were thought to have been compiled after the death of Archbishop Abbot in 1633 (see Ker who refers repeatedly to its shelf marks as 'the pre-1647 shelf marks'). LR/F/8, LR/F/9 and MS 1047 were exhibited in the Court of Arches in 1679 as exhibits in the suit Sancroft versus Sheldon, and were lettered for that purpose A-C. See Richard Palmer, 'Sancroft versus Sheldon: a case of books', in *The Library*, 7th series vol 18, 2017, pp. 271-291. Fuller descriptions are in the Library's online catalogue of archives and manuscripts.

LR/F/12-13. A catalogue of the printed books, arranged by authors, in two sequences. Each sequence is arranged in a rough, rather than strict, alphabetical order (ie. all authors beginning with a single letter of the alphabet are together, but not in alphabetical order within that letter). These volumes are drafts towards Richards' subsequent catalogue in strict alphabetical order (LR/F/8-9).

LR/F/8-9. A catalogue of the printed books arranged in strict alphabetical order by authors, in two sequences. LR/F/8 (compiled from draft LR/F/12) records books in two sides of the Library beginning from the East side, recorded by authors A-Z ('Catalogus librorum a parte orientali'). LR/F/9 (compiled from draft LR/F/13) covers the other two sides, beginning from



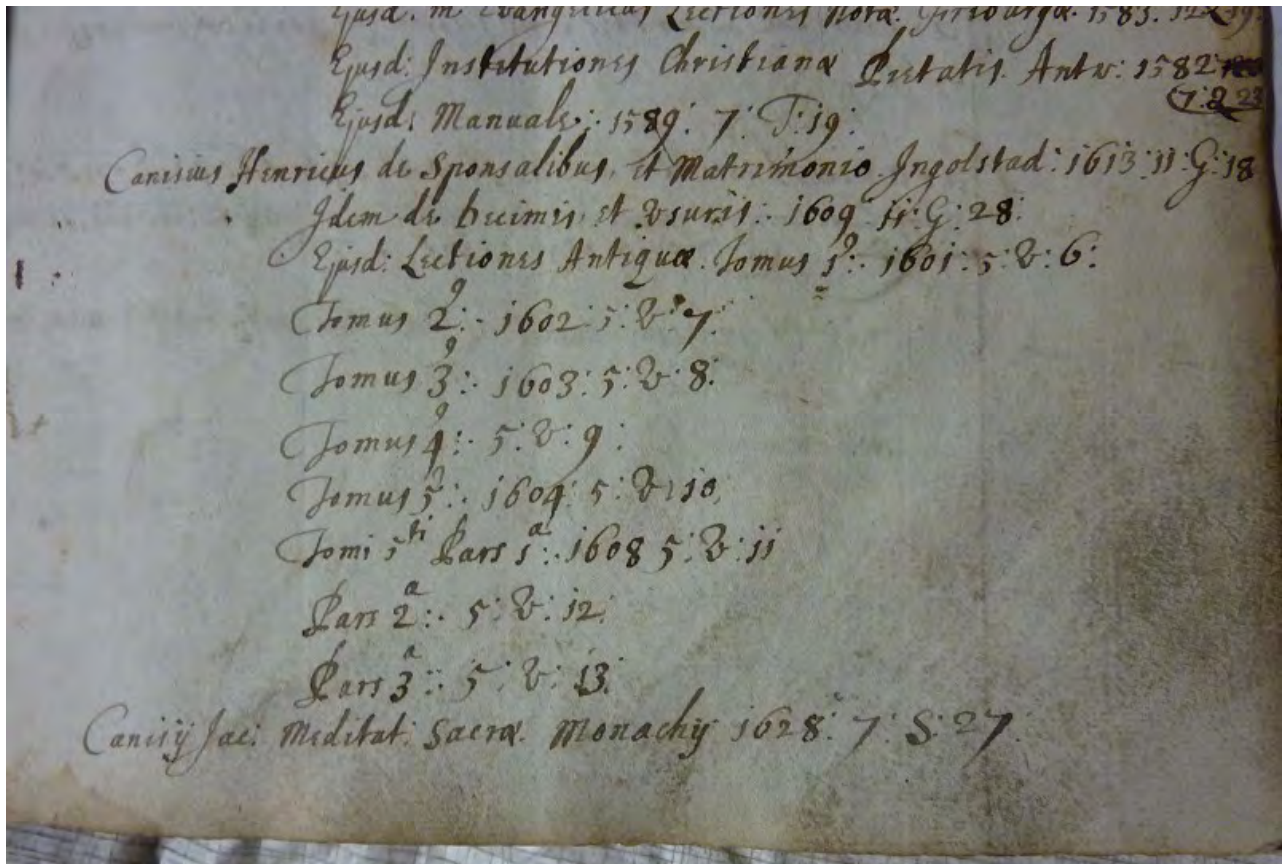
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the West side ('Catalogus librorum a parte occidentali') in a second series by authors A-Z. LR/F/9 includes subsequent changes and corrections in the hand of Archbishop Sancroft.

MS 1074. A catalogue of the manuscripts arranged alphabetically by authors A-Z. Each item was given a new shelf mark in a sequence from A.1 to V.34. A few additions were made later in other hands (eg. At f. 10r, a copy of the works of Charles I, acquired in 1678, with shelf mark R 24, and at f. 14r Philip Traherne's variant readings in the Codex Ephesinus, acquired in 1680, without shelf mark. The catalogue also includes later check marks, corrections and annotations in the hand of Archbishop Sancroft.

LR/F/5-6. Fair copies of LR/F/8-9, written by Richards in a larger hand and with space left between entries for additions. LR/F/9 also includes the catalogue of manuscripts, copied from MS 1074. The copies, although by Richards himself, contain omissions and errors in transcription.

Physical Evidence:

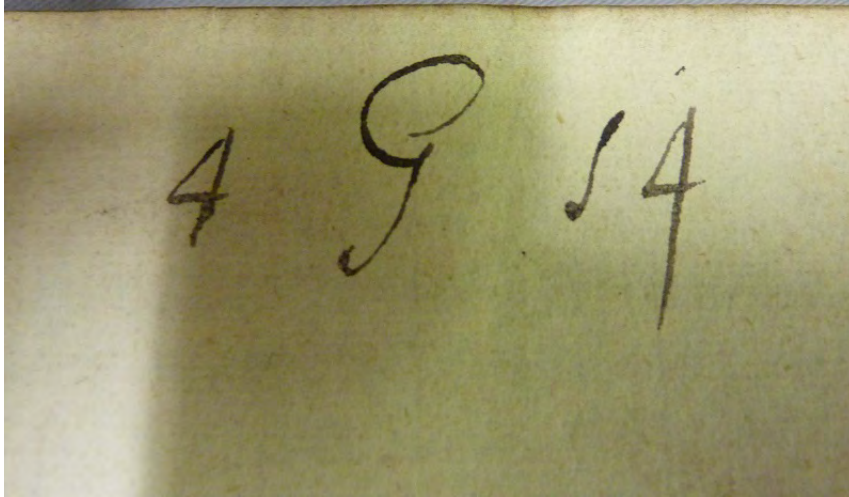


The hand of Herbert Richards (LR/F/9, f. 27r)



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Printed books have shelf marks written boldly by Richards on an initial leaf or sometimes, in the case of vellum bindings, on the front cover.



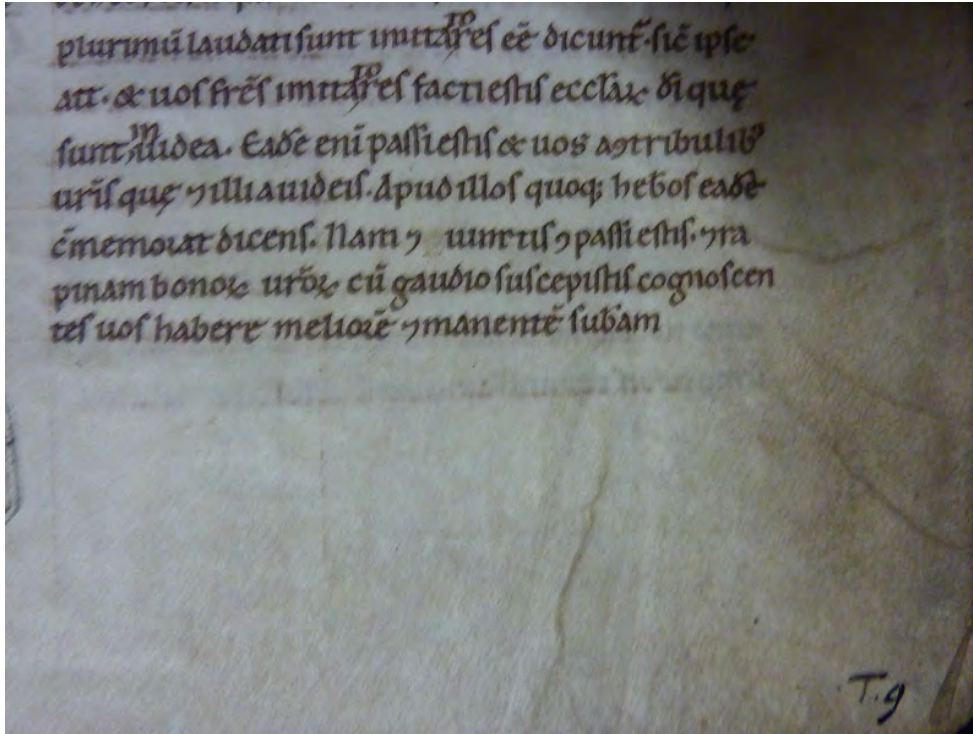
A printed book shelf mark (4.G.14); modern shelf mark 1521.2

Shelf marks written by Richards are rarely found in the manuscripts (MS 136, with Sheldonian shelf mark C.6, and MS 353, with shelf mark E.19, are exceptional), but the final element, the number on the shelf, was written on a paper label on the edge of the rear board. The Sheldonian shelf marks were frequently added later by Sancroft, presumably at an initial stage in his rearrangement and rebinding programme. They are written in his neat hand on the lower right hand corner of an initial leaf.





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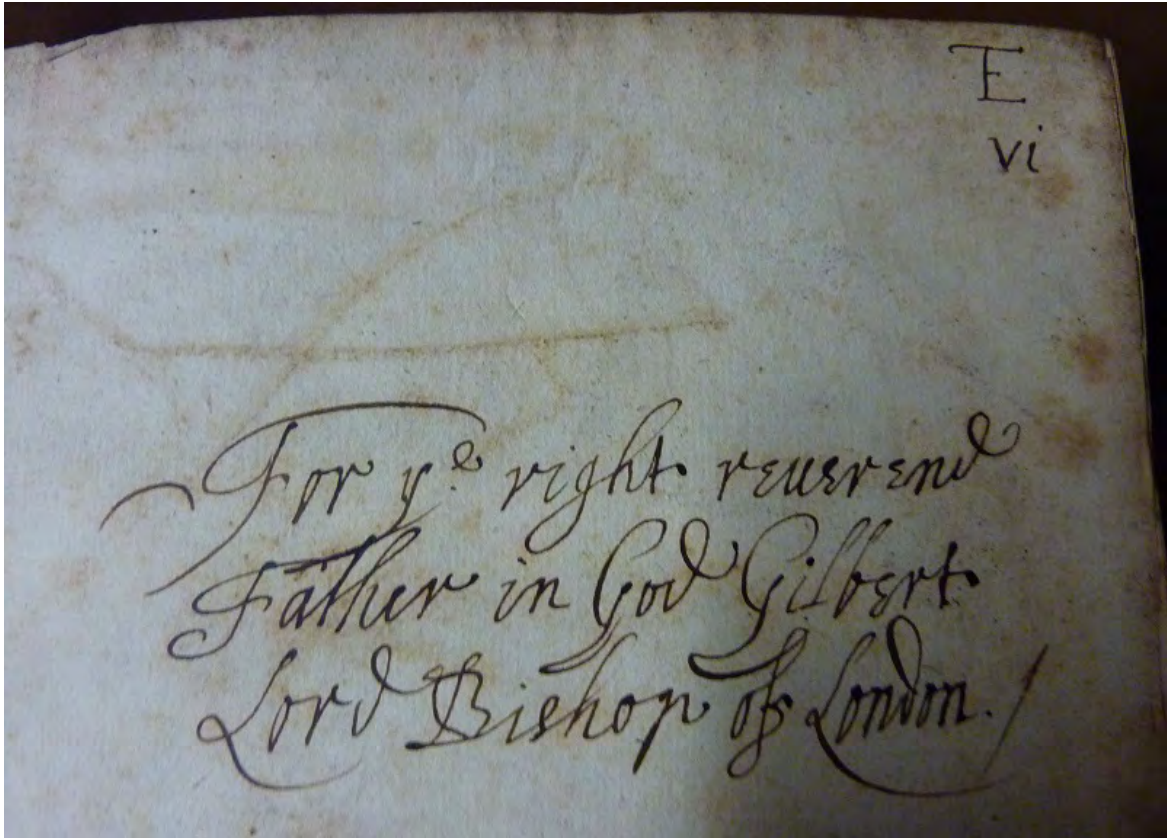


A manuscript shelf mark added by Sancroft: T.9 (modern shelf mark MS 207)

Books which were in Sheldon's personal collection while he was Bishop of London (1660-63) often have shelf marks (in the form Ai, Jviii etc) on the front flyleaves. These reflect the arrangement of the books before Sheldon came to Lambeth.



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John Gregory, *Gregorii posthuma* (London, 1650), with Sheldon's shelf mark while Bishop of London Evi and presentation inscription

In a few instances Sheldon's books include a hand-coloured engraved frontispiece by Hollar displaying his arms as Bishop of London. See Richard Pennington, *A descriptive catalogue of the etched work of Wenceslaus Hollar 1607-1677* (Cambridge University Press, 1982, p. 371). The frontispiece is of the size of a bookplate but was not used regularly as such.





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*'A collection of articles, injunctions, canons ... of the Church of England'* (London, 1661), class mark H5151.A3. In a fine binding with the arms of Charles II. The frontispiece is pasted in opposite a printed dedication to Sheldon as Bishop of London. The frontispiece is also found in MS 568. See Pennington for other locations.

Armorial bindings. The covers of large numbers of Sheldon's books at Lambeth are stamped with his arms as Archbishop of Canterbury, ie. the arms of the See of Canterbury impaling those of Sheldon (on a chevron three sheldrakes, on a canton a rose). The stamp is 100 x 64mm. It may perhaps have been added to the books after Sheldon's death by Archbishop Sancroft, since it has not come to light on dispersed Sheldon books elsewhere.





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The arms of Gilbert Sheldon as Archbishop of Canterbury on a Coverdale Bible, 1535 (\*\*E145)

A small number of Sheldon's books have bindings stamped with his crest. This is in two forms, a Sheldrake holding a rose in its beak, surrounded by a wreath, 93 x 90 mm, and the same without the wreath, 60 x 64 mm.



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John Merbecke, *The booke of common praier noted* (London, 1550), shelf mark 1550.08, crested binding (without wreath); and J. Spencer, *A discourse concerning prodigies* (London, 1665), class mark F97.S6, crested binding (with wreath)

Bibliography:  
ODNB article on Sheldon with further bibliography.

### 6. The Library under Archbishop Sancroft, 1677-91

William Sancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury 1677-91, was actively involved in the development of the Library. He was responsible for a complete reorganisation of the collection, both printed books and manuscripts. In 1683, after a legal dispute, he secured for the Library the books and manuscripts bequeathed by Archbishop Gilbert Sheldon. He also intended to leave his own personal collection to Lambeth Palace Library, and shelved it with the books of Lambeth Palace Library. However when he was ejected from Lambeth Palace at short notice in June 1691 he determined to take his books with him. His printed books are now at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, while many of his papers are in the Bodleian Library. The composition of the Library at the time of Sancroft's ejection is recorded in a statement by William Needham and Henry Wharton dated June 1691 (LR/F/10, ff. 144-8).

Librarians:

Sancroft himself played a fully curatorial role in relation to the manuscripts, which he catalogued and rearranged. His chaplain, Henry Wharton, also played an active scholarly role. In addition Sancroft employed Paul Colomiès (1638-1692) as Librarian. Colomiès came to England in 1681. The date of his employment as Librarian is unknown, but certainly by 1684 when he produced his shelf list of the printed books (LR/F/10: *Catalogus ... a Paulo*



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*Colomesio Ecclesiae Anglicanae Presbytero et Bibliothecae Curatore confectus anno 1684*). According to Ducarel and ODNB, Colomesius remained Librarian until the deprivation of Sancroft in 1690. This is probably correct; his preface to his edition of the correspondence of Gerardus Vossius (London, 1690) was written *ex aedibus Lambethanis* 8 March 1689/90. However his later years brought other commitments, as *Lecteur* in the French church established by Peter Allix in Jewin St., Aldersgate, from 1686, and as Rector of Eynesford, Kent, from 1687. He did not complete the inclusion of the Sheldon books in his shelf list, and drafts towards an author catalogue (LR/F/7, ff. 1-39, 40-144, and MS 1045) are in two other hands, perhaps those of assistants.

### Manuscripts:

By 1691, and perhaps from the time of Sheldon, the manuscripts were housed in an upper floor on the west side of the cloister. Sancroft thoroughly re-ordered the manuscripts, rebinding almost all in uniform bindings of light brown calf stamped with the arms of the See of Canterbury (and not with his own arms as Archbishop of Canterbury). As part of this work some 203 previously separate manuscripts were bound together to form 90 new volumes. He compiled a new catalogue of the manuscripts (Bodleian Library, Tanner MS. 270, which is in his hand), and also wrote descriptions of contents on the flyleaves of the manuscripts themselves. His catalogue shows the manuscripts arranged and numbered in three sequences: folios (1-243, with one addition in Henry Wharton's hand as number 244); quartos (1-170) and octavos and smaller sizes (1-46). See Neil R. Ker, 'Archbishop Sancroft's rearrangement of the manuscripts of Lambeth Palace', in E.G.W. Bill, *A catalogue of manuscripts in Lambeth Palace Library. MSS. 1222-1860* (Oxford, 1972), pp. 1-51. Ker provides a table equating pressmarks in Tanner MS. 270 with those now in use (Ker, p. 37, Concordance III). Sancroft's catalogue covers the historic core of the Library (almost entirely the manuscripts of Bancroft and Abbot) and does not include the Sheldon (mainly Carew/Sheldon) manuscripts. He did however re-arrange and rebind many of these, and included a note on the Carew Irish manuscripts at f. 22r of his catalogue.

The manuscripts rebound by Sancroft have been refurbished in modern times; gilt lettering and manuscript numbers have replaced earlier evidence. The relatively few manuscripts which he did not rebind present evidence suggesting that Sancroft arranged the whole collection for the first time with the spines outward. In 1691 Henry Wharton recorded recent expenditure by Sancroft on the Library in binding and in 'fixing papers on the backs of the books' (LR/F/ 10, f. 148r). MSS 160, 346, 353, 354, 376, 405, 406, 417, 436 (which include bindings of leather over wooden boards as well as vellum bindings) all bear paper labels on their spines with the authors or titles written in a bold and distinct hand. These date from after the Restoration (the label on MS 405 overlays an earlier Cambridge shelfmark label) and appear to have been added by Sancroft. On the spine label on MS 436 Sancroft wrote his new shelfmark '112' (for quarto MS 112). It is possible that Sancroft also had smaller paper labels, bearing manuscript numbers only, pasted on the spines of manuscripts. Several generations of such labels survive on the manuscripts, but all appear to be 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century. Any earlier labels from Sancroft's time on the quartos and octavos would have





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disappeared when these were renumbered by Wilkins in 1720, or, in the case of the folios, in the modern refurbishing and lettering. In some instances Sancroft wrote shelf marks directly

on the spines of vellum manuscripts. MS 33 has '9' (for quarto MS 9); MS 33 has '234' (for folio MS 234); MS 470 has '146' (for quarto MS 146, with title also in Sancroft's hand).

### Printed books:

Under Sancroft's direction the printed books of Lambeth Palace Library were re-arranged, abandoning the shelf marks and catalogues compiled by Herbert Richards less than twenty years earlier. The housing of Sancroft's very large personal collection probably necessitated additional shelving and perhaps a general re-shelving of the Library. A new system of shelf marks was introduced, entirely numerical in form, eg. 3.1.12, although the first, and sometimes the second, element was sometimes written as a roman numeral, eg. III.1.12. These shelf marks are first evident in a copy of Herbert Richards' catalogue (LR/F/9) which Sancroft corrected heavily and to which he added new shelf marks. Later, in 1684, a new shelf list was produced by the Lambeth Librarian Paul Colomiès. Drafts are extant of work towards a new author catalogue (see below), but this was either never completed or has not survived. In addition Sancroft acquired for the Library a copy of *Catalogus impressorum librorum Bibliothecae Bodlejanae in academia Oxoniensi : cura & opera Thomae Hyde* (Oxford, 1674). In this copy, now at \*Z921.O9B6, Sancroft wrote shelf marks and some titles for many Lambeth books (eg. pp. 37, 258). However he did not complete the work systematically. When Edmund Gibson became Librarian in 1696 he wrote that he could not find books until he had made a catalogue (see below).

It is likely that Sancroft re-shelved the printed books, as he did the manuscripts, with spines outward. Fragments of paper labels with the remains of shelf marks assigned by Colomiès (23.6.17-18) are found on the spines of two octavo books at \*\*VB66 and on an octavo copy of T. Bozius, *De imperio virtutis*, 1594, now at NC145.B6 (Colomiès shelf mark 18.1.10 written at the top of the spine and boldly on a paper label at the foot of the spine). These are vellum bindings; it seems likely that labels on leather bindings have disappeared in subsequent rebacking or have been replaced by lettering on the spines.

Sancroft removed some duplicate printed books from Lambeth Palace Library. The Benefactors' Book of Canterbury Cathedral Library (f. 108v) says that Sancroft: 'when Archbishop of Canterbury gave the Duplicates out of Lambeth Library a considerable number having the Archiepiscopall Arms on the covers for wch he bought other Books for the Lambeth Library according to the vallue at wch these were estimated'. Many of these books at Canterbury have the arms of Archbishops Whitgift, Bancroft and Abbot. Others have been identified by Prof. James P. Carley through their Lambeth shelfmarks.

Sancroft shelved his own very large personal library alongside the Lambeth Palace Library books, intending to bequeathe it to his successors. However on his ejection from Lambeth in 1691 he took his books with him. The bulk of the printed books are now at Emmanuel College, Cambridge. Many of Sancroft's manuscripts and papers passed eventually to the Bodleian Library among the Tanner manuscripts. See Helen Carron, 'William Sancroft



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(1617-93): a seventeenth-century collector and his library', *The Library*, seventh series, 1 (2000), 290-307.

### Catalogues:

LR/F/9. Herbert Richards' catalogue of the books on two sides of the Library in the time of Archbishop Sheldon, c.1666-c.1672. With numerous corrections and new shelf marks in several hands, especially Sancroft's. The companion volume, covering the other two sides of the Library (LR/F/8) is not annotated by Sancroft.

LR/F/10. Shelf list of the printed books in the Library by Paul Colomiès, dated 1684. The books are shown to be arranged by size, with two parallel series of shelf marks, meaning that two books of different sizes sometimes bear the same shelf mark. The Bancroft and Abbot folios have shelf marks I.1.1 to XXXIII.6.14; the Sheldon folios have shelf marks XXXIV.1.1 to XXXVIII.5.15. The Bancroft and Abbot quartos have shelf marks XIX.1.1 to XXXIII. 7.20, and the Bancroft and Abbot octavos, duodecimos etc. have shelf marks IX.1.1 to XXXIII.9.19 (the shelf marks indicate that 'classes' XIX-XXXIII contained both quartos and smaller books, on separate shelves). Colomiès did not record the Sheldon quartos and smaller books but these were added in a later hands with shelf marks XXXIX.1.1 to XXXIX.9. 18. Eighteen folios purchased by Sancroft in lieu of Sheldon duplicates were shelved in XL.1. At ff. 144-148 is a statement signed by Sancroft's chaplains William Needham and Henry Wharton on the composition of the Library at the time of Sancroft's expulsion from Lambeth Palace in June 1691.

LR/F/7, ff. 40-144. An author catalogue of the printed books in the Library, in the time of Archbishop Sancroft, after 1683. In rough, rather than strict, alphabetical order (ie. all authors beginning with a single letter of the alphabet are together, but not in alphabetical order within that letter). Under each letter of the alphabet the historic core of the Library (basically the collections of Archbishops Bancroft and Abbot) is recorded first, followed by the books bequeathed by Gilbert Sheldon, Archbishop of Canterbury, which were recovered from Sheldon's family by Archbishop Sancroft in 1683. Shelf marks are in the new Sancroftian form as in LR/F/10. The unidentified compiler also made additions and corrections to the Colomiès catalogue (eg. LR/F/10, ff. 32v, 33r, 63r, 87v) and wrote contents lists found in some of the Sheldon miscellany volumes, eg. modern shelf marks [ZZ]1537.1 and [ZZ]1583.26.

MS 1045. An author catalogue of the printed books in the Library, quarto and octavo sizes only, in another hand. It records the historic core of the Library only (essentially the collections of Archbishops Bancroft and Abbot) and not the books bequeathed by Archbishop Sheldon. It is not a strictly alphabetical catalogue (ie. all authors beginning with each letter of the alphabet are brought together, but in random order). Shelf marks in the new Sancroftian form as in LR/F/10.

LR/F/7, ff. 1-39. An incomplete author catalogue, in strict alphabetical order, of the printed books in the Library, all sizes and including the Sheldon books acquired in 1683. Authors A-



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B only. In the same hand as MS 1045. Shelf marks in the new Sancroftian form as in LR/F/10.

Bodleian Library, Tanner MS. 270. Facsimile in Lambeth Palace Library (MS Facsimile 6). Catalogue of the manuscripts by Sancroft.

MS 580. Catalogue of the manuscripts by Henry Wharton. On this see below.

Physical Evidence:

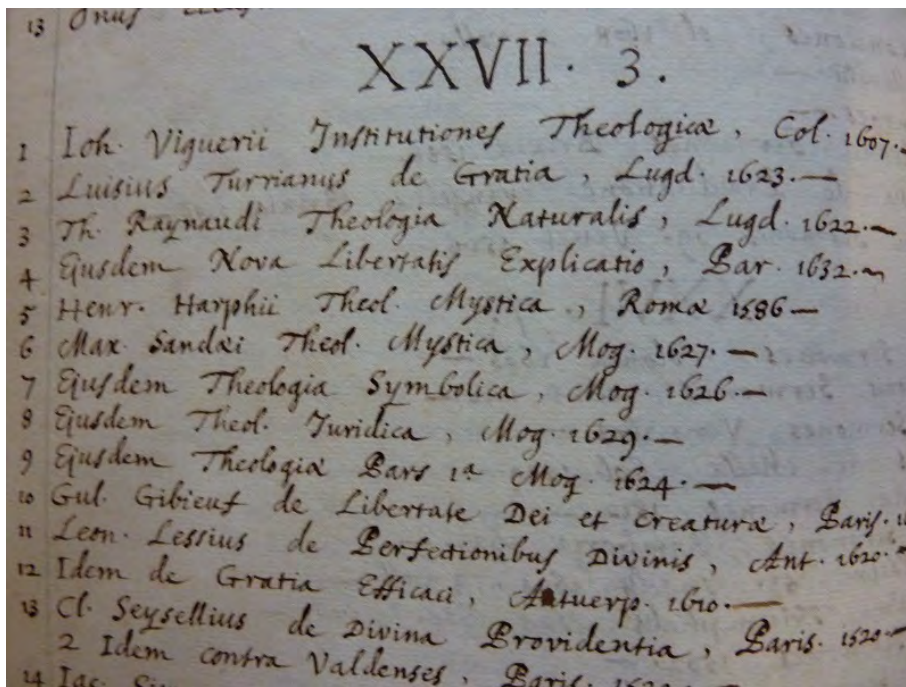


A printed book shelf mark 17.8.29 written by Colomiès at the top of the spine of Aymar Du Rivail, *Civilis historiae...*, 1539 (modern shelf mark O.40)

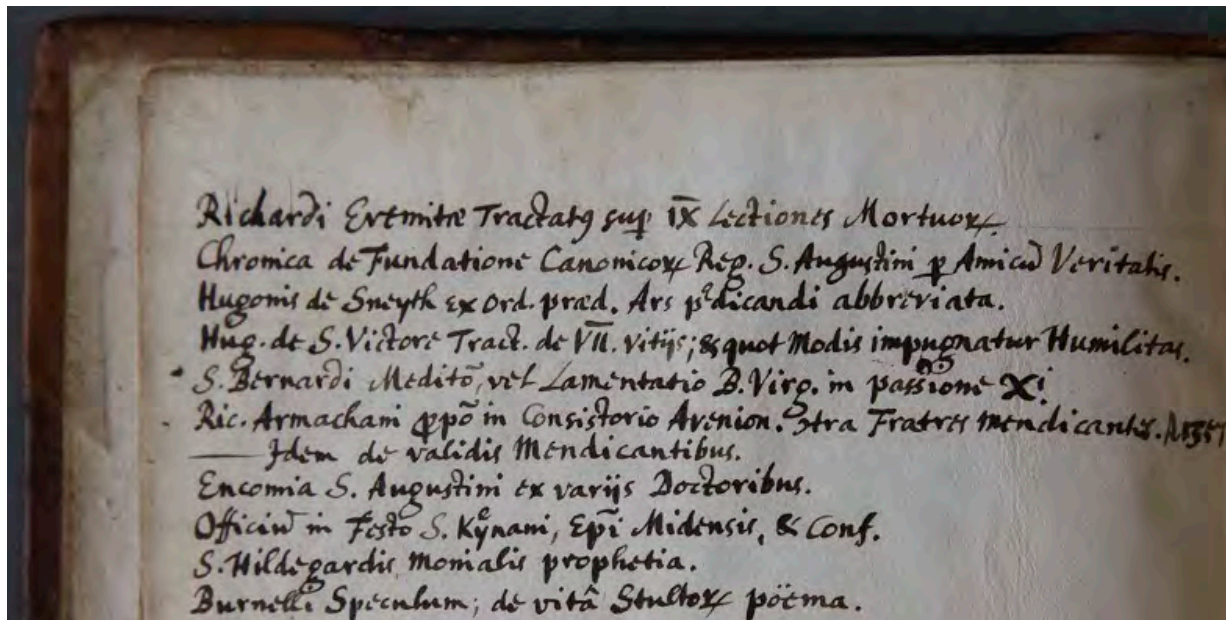




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The hand of Paul Colomiès (LR/F/10, f. 60v)



A description of contents in Sancroft's hand, in MS 357



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MSS 346, 353, 354, 376, 405, with Sancroftian paper labels on the spines





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Paper spine label on MS 436, *Horologium diuinae sapientiae* with Sancroft's number 112 (quarto MS 112)

Bibliography:

ODNB articles on Sancroft, Colomiès and Wharton, with further bibliography.