

MS. 367

Chronicle, etc., of St. Peter's Abbey, Gloucester England, Gloucester; s. xv (before 1412?)

Text

1. (pp. 1–64) History of the foundation of St. Peter's, Gloucester, and of its abbots, down to Walter Froucestre (1381–1412): '*Sequitur hic de prima fundacione monasterij petri Gloucestrie ab osrico subregulo de licencia Regis Ethelredi. Anno ab incarnatione domini Dcⁱⁱⁱlxxxj^{us} Ethelredus Rex merciorum iiii^{us} a Penda primo rege ... pro ut patet in bullis papalibus inde confectis.*' (edited by Hart, 1863, pp. 1–58; translated by D. Welander, *The history, art, and architecture of Gloucester cathedral* (Stroud, 1991), pp. 597–639; cf. P. H. Sawyer, *Anglo-Saxon charters: an annotated list and bibliography* (London, 1968), p. 400 no. 1424). [\[Image\]](#)
2. (pp. 65–120) Alphabetical list of donations of goods to St. Peter's, Gloucester, and their donors: '*Hic incipiunt donaciones omnium bonorum monasterij sancti Petri Gloucestrie tam temporalium quam spiritualium. De alre. Ethelbaldus rex merciorum dedit deo et sancto Petro Gloucestrie et monialibus ejusdem loci ... totam terram suam in vptone uocatam yendcombe tempore Reginaldi abbatis.*' (G. R. C. Davis, *Medieval cartularies of Great Britain: a short catalogue* (London, 1958), p. 52 no. 457; ed. Hart, *op. cit.*, pp. 58–121), including a list of books given by abbot John de Gamages (1284–1306) (edited by R. Sharpe, *et al.*, *English Benedictine libraries: the shorter catalogues*, CBMLC, 4 (London, 1996), B48). [\[Image\]](#)
3. (pp. 120–121) Confirmation of King Burgred: '*Confirmacio Regis Burgredi. Anno domini DCCC^ol[x]ij. Burgredus rex Merciorum ... quod habebatur in Welesbourne. Predecessorum confirmat dona suorum. Petrus Burgredus sic scribitur hic quoque fedus.*' (ed. Hart, *op. cit.*, pp. 121–2; cf. Sawyer, *op. cit.*, pp. 123–4 no. 209). [\[Image\]](#)
4. (pp. 121–125) List of donations of land to St. Peter's, Gloucester: '*Hii sunt donatores terrarum sancti Petri Gloucestrie. Alredus subregulis Wictiorum dedit deo et sancto petro Culne sancti Ailwini lx manentes illius terre x. cassatorum ... Johannes de Codestone seruiens quondam Henrici Foliot abbatis dedit nobis terram suam de Lylletone.*' (ed. Hart, *op. cit.*, pp. 122–5). [\[Image\]](#)
5. (p. 125) Added 16th-century numbered list of abbots (on whom see Dugdale, *Monasticon*, I, pp. 531–6) down to Henry Foliot (c.1228–1243), but omitting his predecessor: '1. Serlo primus abbas post conquestum 1072 | ... | 11. Henrici foliat .11. 1231.' [\[Image\]](#)
6. (p. 126) Added notes on calendrical calculations: 'Quere lunam primam post epiphanie ...'. [\[Image\]](#)
7. (p. 126, 127–8) Added lists by various hands of kings of England from Lucius to Henry VII. [\[Image\]](#)

Decoration

Two- and one-line initials in plain blue; paraphs in blue or red. [\[Image\]](#)

Physical description

Parchment, *c.*195 x *c.*130 mm., of poor quality.

ff. iii (paper, pp. i–vi) + 64 + iii (paper, pp. 129–134), paginated on most rectos in pencil, 19th century; modern pagination in pencil added to the unpaginated flyleaves and first few leaves of text: i–vi, 1–134.

Quires mostly of 8 leaves each: 1^{three} (structure uncertain) (pp. 1–6), 2¹² (pp. 7–30), 3–8⁸ (pp. 31–126), 9¹ (pp. 127–128); catchwords at ends of most quires, crossed-though in red and sometimes with a simple red framing; catchwords also on each leaf in the first half of the first two quires; leaf signatures in the first half of each quire, omitting the first quire, ‘a’–‘g’.

Frame-ruled in brown ‘crayon’; the ruled space *c.*140 x *c.*95 mm.

Written with 23–6 lines per page in anglicana script.

Secundo folio: ‘sui xij^o’.

Binding

Standard Queen’s College binding (see Introduction) [[Image](#)]. Sewn on four cords, and bound in 18th-century brown leather over pasteboards, each cover with a blind-tooled panel; the front board detached.

Provenance

1. The contents suggest that the book was written for and at the Benedictine abbey of St. Peter, Gloucester (Ker, *MLGB*, p. 92); Sharpe, *et al.*, *op cit.*, suggest that it was written before the death of Walter Froucestre in 1412, as he is the last abbot covered by item 1. Items 1 & 2 are found together in Gloucester Cathedral, MS. 34 (s. xv in.) (Ker, *MMLB*, II, p. 968), and the composite volume BL, Cotton MS. Domitian A.viii (s. xv), fols. 126v–144v and 145v–161v (the latter ending imperfect), which was probably copied from the present manuscript (see Hart, 1863, p. x). Considerable extracts of the Cotton manuscript are printed by Dugdale, *Monasticon*, I, pp. 541–53, and a complete transcript is BL, Lansdowne MS. 426.
2. Perhaps brought to Oxford from Gloucester by the 16th century: inscribed with many 16th- and 17th-century marginal notes, including some referring to Gloucester College, Oxford, next to the section ‘*De domo nostra apud Oxon.*’ (p. 31) and the name Giffard, founder of the College (pp. 31, 74).
3. Inscribed with initials or shelfmark(?): ‘I. H.’ or ‘1. H.’ (fol. 1r, top right). [[Image](#)]
4. ‘Mr Robinson’; see below.
5. Henry Jackson (1585–1662) (on whom see *DNB*), divine, of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, and rector of Mesey Hampton, Gloucestershire, who collected materials for a history of St. Peter’s, Gloucester; according to a pencil inscription (p. vi); he borrowed the present manuscript from a ‘Mr Robinson’ and made notes which are now in Bodleian, MS. Wood D. 18 (*Summary catalogue*, no. 8563); Jackson (or Robinson) also allowed Richard James (1592–1638) to make notes from the manuscript, now in Bodleian, MS. James 8 (*Summary catalogue*, no. 3845); notes of Brian Twyne

(1579?–1644) are now in Bodleian, MS. Twyne 24; another previously unnoticed copy made by Thomas Marshall (1620/1–1685) is now in Bodleian, MS. Marshall 84 (*Summary catalogue*, no. 5277).

6. William Fulman (1632–88) (on whom see *DNB*, and Magrath, *Queen's*), antiquary, also of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, and rector of Mesey Hampton (from 1669), editor of *Rerum Anglicarum scriptorum veterum*, I (Oxford, 1684).
7. Timothy Halton (1632?–1704) (on whom see *DNB*, and Magrath, *Queen's*), provost of Queen's College, and largely responsible for the building of the present Library; he is listed in the Library Benefactors book (MS. 556) as giving four printed books in 1677.
8. Anthony Hall (1679–1723) (on whom see *DNB*, and Magrath, *Queen's*), antiquary, fellow of Queen's College, sub-librarian of the Bodleian Library, editor of Leland's *Commentarii de scriptoribus Britannicis* (2 vols, 1709), and texts in Queen's College, MS. 304.
9. Queen's College, presumably a gift or bequest from Hall; the front pastedown with the College bookplate, inscribed with the former shelfmark 'O. 6' [\[Image\]](#); the spine with a paper label printed '6'; the shelf-list in MS. 557 records 'Lent to Mr Mores', later crossed through and marked 'returned', presumably Edward Rowe Mores (1731–1778) (on whom see *DNB*); in the 19th century a transcript was made by Sir Thomas Phillipps's daughter, Katharine, and is now Bodleian, MS. Phillipps-Robinson f. 26.

Bibliography

Coxe, *Catalogus*, pp. 85–6.

William Henry Hart, ed., *Historia et cartularium monasterii sancti Petri Gloucestricæ*, RS, 33 (3 vols., London, 1863–7), I, p. x and *passim*.

Status: Draft