Exhibit Checklist
Department of Special Collections | 976 Memorial Library
University of Wisconsin–Madison | 728 State Street

http://specialcollections.library.wisc.edu/

Exhibit July through September 2011
in conjunction with the biennial conference
of the International Society of Anglo-Saxonists

©2011 Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System

Reflections of Anglo-Saxon England

This exhibit in the Department of Special Collections explores the history, artifacts, and myths of Anglo-Saxon England and their many political and cultural uses. Featuring printed books from the 16th century through the present, the exhibit is designed to complement the biennial conference of the International Society of Anglo-Saxonists in Madison in summer 2011. Books on display, as listed here, highlight reflections of (and on) Anglo-Saxon England, including renderings of language of the period, depictions of archaeological finds, chronicles of the Christianization of Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, and accounts — whether sober or fanciful — of custom, dress, and battle.

The impetus for the exhibit came from now professor emeritus John D. Niles, president in 2011 of the International Society of Anglo-Saxonists, who also brought numerous exhibit-worthy titles to our attention. The exhibit’s curator was Lynnette Regouby, dissertator in the Department of History of Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, who was able to uncover many an illustrated treasure among the holdings of Special Collections, Memorial Library, and other campus libraries. Exhibit installation was the work of staff members and student assistants in Special Collections, especially Barbara Richards, Susan Stravinski, Steven Lange, Lotus Norton-Wisla, Rachael Page, Crystal Schmidt, and Alex Sorensen. It is a pleasure to acknowledge the hard work of all of them. Daniel Joe of the Library Graphics Office produced the striking poster.

The exhibit cases address such topics as antiquities and antiquaries, King Alfred, battles, coins, culture, chronicles and histories, Anglo-Saxon script, the Church and Scripture, runes, enthusiasts and visitors to Anglo-Saxon sites, Beowulf, and echoes of Anglo-Saxon literature. Links in the checklist refer to records in MadCat, online catalog of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Libraries. Selected images were produced in Special Collections using an overhead book scanner appropriate for safe digitization of rare books.

Robin E. Rider
Curator of Special Collections
University of Wisconsin-Madison Libraries
July 2011
Antiquities


Storer, James. *Antiquarian and Topographical Cabinet*: Containing a Series of Elegant Views of the Most Interesting Objects of Curiosity in Great Britain: Accompanied with Letter-Press Descriptions. London: Published for the proprietors by W. Clarke, J. Carpenter, and H.D. Symonds, 1807-1811. Imprint varies. For Vol. 4: Published for the proprietors by W. Clarke ... J. Carpenter ... and Sherwood, Neely, and Jones ....


Society of Antiquaries of London. *Archaeologia, or, Miscellaneous Tracts Relating to Antiquity*. Vol. 34.
And Antiquaries

Tradescant, John. *Musaeum Tradescantianum*, or, *A Collection of Rarities Preserved at South-Lambeth Neer [sic] London*. London: Printed by John Grismond, and are to be sold by Nathanael Brooke, 1656. Catalog of a collection made by John Tradescant and his son (also named John) and left by the latter to Elias Ashmole, who presented it to Oxford University in 1683, where it formed the nucleus of the old Ashmolean Museum (the first natural history museum in Great Britain), but was later dispersed.

Reflections of Anglo-Saxon England

Battles, Arms, Armor


From manuscripts in the Cotton Library. “Fig. 1, a marriage; 2, a bed; 3, a child-birth; 4, a woman winding worsted from a bobbin; 5, a figure which I have thought worth a place here on account of its superiority in point of
proportion and elegance to most of the Saxon delineation; 6, a carpenter; 7, this figure has a collar round his neck, which bears the evident marks of the antient [sic] Saxon custom, viz. putting a collar of iron round the necks of those who were accounted bondsman; the youth also wore a ring of iron in token of bondage, till by their bravery they had it taken off with honour...This figure represents Joseph, after he was sold by his brethren to the Ishmaelites, and made a bondsman, in token of which he waears thje ring of iron. Fig. 8 is remarkable on account of his buskins or boots.” p. 107-108,


Reflections of Anglo-Saxon England

Culture
As exhibited, mainly the culture of Anglo-Saxon kings.

Carter, Matthew. *Honor Redivivus;* or, *The analysis of honor and armory; reprinted with many useful and necessary additions; and supply’d with the names and titles of honour of the present nobility of England, the bishops, baronets, members of Parliament, &c.* 3rd ed. London: A. Herringman [etc.], 1673.


Reflections of Anglo-Saxon England

Coins


Society of Antiquaries of London. *Archaeologia, or, Miscellaneous Tracts Relating to Antiquity*. Vol. 4 (Special Collections) and 27 (Memorial Library).

Writing History


*Abregé de l’histoire d’Angleterre* [etc.]
The Hague: Chez Etienne Foulque, 1695.

*A Complete History of England: With the Lives of All the Kings and Queens Thereof; from the Earliest Account of Time, to the Death of His Late Majesty King William III* [etc.] Vol. 1 of 3. London: Printed for B. Aylmer [etc.], 1706. “The whole illustrated with large and useful notes, taken from divers manuscripts, and other good authors: and the effiges [sic] of the kings and queens ... with alphabetical indexes.” The first part of the first volume, as exhibited, contains “The history of Britain to William the Conqueror” by John Milton. See below for detail from title page.


Reflections of Anglo-Saxon England

Chronicles


Reflections of Anglo-Saxon England

Reflections of Anglo-Saxon England

Anglo-Saxon Script


Henshall, Samuel. *The Saxon and English Languages Reciprocally Illustrative of Each Other: The Impracticability of Acquiring an Accurate Knowledge of Saxon Literature Through the Medium of Latin Phraseology, Exemplified in the Errors of Hickes, Wilkins, Gibson, and Other Scholars, and a New Mode Suggested of Radically Studying the Saxon and English Languages*. London: Printed for the author; and sold by Nicol [sic], Payne, et al., 1798.

Anglo-Saxon Translation of Scripture

Aelfric. *A Saxon Treatise Concerning the Old and New Testament*: Written About the Time of King Edgar (700 Yeares Agoe) by Aelfricus Abbas, Thought to Be the Same That Was Afterward Archbishop of Canterburie: Whereby Appeares What Was the Canon of Holy Scripture Here Then Received, and That the Church of England Had It so Long Agoe in Her Mother-Tongue [sic]. London: Printed by John Haviland for Henrie Seile, 1623.


*Heptateuchus, Liber Job, Et Evangelium Nicodemi; Anglo-Saxonice: Historiae Judith Fragmentum; Dano-Saxonice.* 1698. Headpiece engraving printed upside down.
The Anglo-Saxon Church


Bede [i.e., the Venerable Bede, or Saint Bede]. *Axiomata Philosophica* [etc.] Ed. David Wasy. [Geneva]: Prostant in Officina Fabriana, 1618.


Porter, Jerome. *Written and Collected Out of the Best Authours and Manuscripts of Our Nation, and Distributed According to Their Feasts in the Calendar.* Printed at Doway, 1632. Illustrations engraved by Martin Baes.


King Alfred

The Library of Congress prefers the spelling Alfred (849-899); some other authors use Aelfred. As to the jewel, the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford notes, “Over the years the Jewel has been the cause of as much speculation as admiration..... And finally the inscription: AELFRED MEC HEHT GEWYRCAN - ‘Alfred ordered me to be made’. No one has ever doubted that the sponsor of the piece was King Alfred the Great.”


“History Repeats Itself.” *Punch*, September 18, 1901. Memorial Library. The cartoon caption reads:

*Mistress.* “How is this, Mary? Reading — and the cakes burning in the oven!”

*Mary.* “Very sorry, Mum; but I was so interested in King Alfred’s millinery!”

Runes


Enthusiasts and Visitors


Philipot, John. *Villare Cantianum*: Or, Kent Surveyed and Illustrated. Being an Exact Description of All the Parishes, Boroughs, Villages, and Other Respective Manors in the Country of Kent; and, the Original and Intermedial Possessors of Them, down to the Author’s Time. Drawn Out of Charters, Escheat-Rolls, Fines, and Other Public Evidences; but Especially Out of Gentlemen’s Private Deeds and Muniments. Lynn: Printed and sold by W. Whittingham, 1776.


Anglo-Saxon Literature


*The Seafarer*. Llandofo [Monmouthshire]: Old Stile Press, 1988. Prepared from the Anglo-Saxon by Kevin Crossley-Holland; images by Inger Lawrance. As described by the proprietors of the Old Stile Press, the book “is enclosed, almost wrapped, in a portfolio of rough linen and blue buckram - as though it had survived a turbulent time at sea and is now rescued especially for the reader.”

Reflections of Anglo-Saxon England

Beowulf


*The Tale of Beowulf Sometime King of the Folk of the Weder Geats*. Hammersmith, Middlesex: Printed by ... William Morris at the Kelmscott Press, 1895. ♦


Proud Heritage: *The Anglo-Saxon Review*
