Guide to Medieval History sources

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Discovering History Collections
Sources for medieval history

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Introduction
Oxford’s collections (primary & secondary) for medieval history are outstanding by both national and international standards. The principal collections are housed in the Bodleian Library. This guide aims to give an overview of some of the Bodleian’s most important and useful finding aids and collections.

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1. Bibliographical sources

i. Library catalogues

SOLO  http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/
COPAC (UK Union catalogue)  http://copac.ac.uk/
WorldCat [via OxLIP+]  http://oxlip-plus.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/
Library of Congress  http://catalog.loc.gov/
Karlsruhe Virtual Catalogue  http://www.uka.uni-karlsruhe.de/kvk_en.html
Gemeinsamer Bibliotheksverbund Katalog (GBV)  http://www.gbv.de/
Zeitschriftendatenbank  http://dispatch.opac.d-nb.de/DB=1.1/
Österreichischer Bibliothekenverband  http://www.obvsg.at/kataloge/verbundkataloge/
HelvetiCat (Swiss National Library)  http://www.helvetiCat.ch/
Catalog Collectif de France  http://ccfr.bnf.fr/
Servizio Bibliotecario Nazionale (SBN)  http://opac.sbn.it/
Biblioteca Nacional de España (BNE) Catálogo  http://catalogo.bne.es/uhtbin/webcat

A guide to microform holdings in the Bodleian Library. 5th ed. (2002)  [In most reading rooms – ask staff]

ii. Bibliographies

International Medieval Bibliography (IMB) & Bibliographie de Civilisation Médiévale  [via OxLIP+]
The IMB and BCM databases comprise records deriving from articles published in periodicals (journals) and in miscellany volumes (conference proceedings, collected essays, Festschriften and exhibition catalogues) published world-wide. All subjects relating to the Middle Ages are included, within the date range 300-1500 AD. Geographical areas covered are Europe, the Middle East and North Africa.

Bibliography of British and Irish History (BBHI) [continues RHS Bibliography]  [via OxLIP+]
Being the successor to the Royal Historical Society Bibliography online, BBHI is a comprehensive guide to historical writing about the history of Britain, Ireland, and relations with the empire and Commonwealth from SSBC to the present. The database consists of more than 470,000 records giving as comprehensive a guide as possible to books, articles in journals, and articles in books published since 1901, and to a considered selection of those published before 1901. The database consolidates a number of existing bibliographies (primarily series published by the Royal Historical Society and the Institute of Historical Research) together with some additional material. It is not intended to be a guide to the raw material of history - the manuscripts, printed books, buildings, artefacts and so on which constitute the historical record. However, published guides to these sources are included, as are modern editions of primary material and a selection of printed primary material published up to 1900.

Index Islamicus  [via OxLIP+]
Indexes literature and history on Islam, the Middle East and the Muslim world. Records included in the database cover almost 100 years of publications on the world of Islam.

Arts & Humanities Citation Index  [via OxLIP+]
Indexes content of major scholarly journals since 1975-. Particularly useful for finding book reviews.

Oxford Bibliographies Online: Medieval Studies  [via OxLIP+]
OBO is a library of disciplined-based subject modules. In each subject module, leading scholars have produced a literary guide to the most important and significant sources in an area of study they know best. The guides feature a selective list of bibliographic citations supported by direct recommendations about which sources to consult. The field of Medieval Studies explores European and Mediterranean civilization from the 4th to the 15th centuries. This period, which has a critical importance for the understanding of Western culture, can best be approached through a combination of several disciplines from history to English literature.

JSTOR  [via OxLIP+]
JSTOR is a trusted archive of important scholarly journals. Amongst the journals of interest for the study of US history are American Historical Review, Journal of African American History, Journal of American History, William and Mary Quarterly. The resource offers researchers the ability to retrieve high-resolution, scanned
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images of journal issues and pages as they were originally designed, printed, and illustrated. Thanks to its full-text searching functionality, JSTOR is also a resource to find articles and book reviews. However, being an archive of back issues, it does not provide access to current content.

Periodicals Archive Online & Periodicals Index Online [via OxLIP+]
Previously known as PCI Full Text, this resource is a major online periodical archive that makes the backfiles of periodicals in the humanities and social sciences available electronically. Periodicals Index Online is an electronic index to millions of articles published in over 4,500 periodicals in the humanities and social sciences. Both resources are useful discovery tools for finding older published material.

Austria
Österreichische historische Bibliographie = Austrian historical bibliography. 1967-.
Available online at http://www.uni-klu.ac.at/oehb/oehb_query/

France
Répertoire bibliographique de l’histoire de France. 1920-31.
Bibliographie annuelle de l’histoire de France. 1953-.
[URR K.8.38]

Germany
Jahresberichte der Geschichtswissenschaft, 1880-1916
Jahresberichte der deutschen Geschichte, 1918-1924
Jahresberichte für deutsche Geschichte. (Leipzig, 1927-).
1974- available online at http://www.idg-online.de/
[BOD Per. 2231 d.288]
[BOD Per. 240 e.646]
[U R R K.7.278]

Historische Bibliographie. 1986-.
1990- available online at http://www.oldenbourg.de/verlag/ahf/
[Check SOLO]

Great Britain
Bibliography of British and Irish History (BBIH) [via OxLIP+]

Annual Bulletin of Historical Literature; IHR. 1, 1911-.
[via QU eJournals]

Writings on British history: a bibliography of books and articles on the history of Great Britain from about 400 A.D. to 1914 R.H.S.
Also available as the Bibliography of British and Irish History (s.a.)
[Check SOLO]

Annual Bibliography of British and Irish History, 1975- 2002
Also available as the Bibliography of British and Irish History (s.a.)

Italy
Bibliografia Storica Nazionale. 1939-99.
2000- available online at http://www.qiuntastoricanazionale.it/easyweb/w7044/.
[URR K.9.100]

Netherlands
De Digitale Bibliografie Nederlandse Geschiedenis
http://www.dbng.nl/

Spain
Indice histórico español. 1953-.
[URR K.9.100]

Switzerland
Bibliographie der Schweizergeschichte. (Bern, 1913-).
1999- available online through Biblio
http://www.nb.admin.ch/slb/dokumentation/publikationen/00753/00755/
2. Dissertations

The Bodleian holds nearly all Oxford postgraduate theses in the humanities where a deposit requirement is stipulated by the University: all D.Phil. (doctoral) theses, all B.D. theses, all B.Litt./M.Litt. theses since Michaelmas Term 1953, and most B.Phil./M.Phil. theses since Michaelmas Term 1977.

Theses on specific areas (e.g. Commonwealth & US) or subjects (e.g. science, law) are held in those libraries of the Bodleian Libraries which collect in those areas.

All new humanities theses since January 1994, and an increasing number of D.Phil. theses catalogued retrospectively, can be found on SOLO.

If you need a thesis which is not held in Oxford, please check out EThos, the British Library's service for downloading of theses from UK universities. From 2008 onwards, Oxford theses will be deposited in the Oxford University Research Archive (ORA) at http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/ora/oxford_etheses.

_Dissertations & Theses: The Humanities and Social Sciences Collection (full-text)_

_Dissertations and Theses_ [via OxLIP+]

With more than 1.6 million entries, the Dissertation Abstracts database is the single, authoritative source for information about doctoral dissertations and master’s theses. The database represents the work of authors from over 1,000 graduate schools and universities. We add some 47,000 new dissertations and 12,000 new theses to the database each year. The database includes bibliographic citations for materials ranging from the first U.S. dissertation, accepted in 1861, to those accepted as recently as last semester. Citations for dissertations published from 1980 forward also include 350-word abstracts written by the author. Citations for master’s theses from 1988 forward include 150-word abstracts. The full text of more than one million of these titles is available in paper and microform formats.

_Index to Theses (UK & Ireland)_ [via OxLIP+]

A comprehensive listing of theses with abstracts accepted for higher degrees by universities in Great Britain and Ireland since 1716.

_Theses completed & in progress (Institute of Historical Research). 1967-_.

1995- [http://www.history.ac.uk/history-online/theses]

The Institute of Historical Research (London) publishes lists of history theses completed since 1995 and in progress. Note that the IHR has only included theses that students or their representatives have given us express permission to include. This means that some theses listed in previous years are no longer listed.
3. Primary sources

**Introduction aux sources de l'histoire médiévale** / R.C. van Caenegem avec la collaboration de F.L. Ganshof ; traduction de l'anglais par B. van den Abeele. Nouv. éd. (Turnholt: Brepols, 1997) [URR K.7.6*]


Bibliographical guides to medieval sources (material as well as textual) by genre.

**L’Atelier du médiévide**.

Includes to date: Identifier sources et citations, Diplomatique médiévale, L’allemand medieval, Épigraphie médiévale, L’histoire économique et sociale du Moyen Âge occidental, L’histoire économique et sociale du Moyen Âge occidental, etc.

i. Europe


a. Major Texts

Repertories and guides operate closer to the manuscript transmission than handbooks or lists of authors and they exist for large parts of the subject. Those listed below are selective by period, territory or nationality, subject, literary genre, or some combination of these. One has to get to know what exists in order to be able quickly to go to the most appropriate works of reference for any particular text.

**Patrologia Latina**, publ. by Jacques-Paul Migne. 217 vols (Paris 1844–55), with 4 vols. of index (Paris, 1864). [LRR T.Text.Lat.1 + via OxLIP+] Universally known as PL, cited by volume and column, sometimes adding the side-letters that indicate position on the page. An heroic work, accomplished sometimes under the noses of the bailiffs by an eccentric French priest, the Abbé Migne [1800–1875]. The Patrologia is not an edition but a collection of reprints of the writings of the Latin fathers from Tertullian (c. 200) to Innocent III (1216). Only a few volumes present new editions, among them Tertullian, Cyprian, and Johannes Scotus Eriugena. The texts reprinted by Migne vary greatly in quality; some are excellent, some appalling, and some useless as being based on a badly chosen representative of the text. The editions used by Migne range in date from the early 16th century to his own time.


This does the same for the Greek fathers as PL (s.a.) does for Latin. Its coverage is much less complete, but there is always a facing Latin translation. These are sometimes ancient, sometimes medieval, and sometimes more or less modern.

**Corpus Christianorum. Series Latina.** 1-. (Turnhout, 1954-).

Another attempt to replace PL, the CCSL has progressed rapidly. Some of the volumes are well done, others were very hurriedly done and represent little or no advance on older editions. A better source, by and large, than PL. It was always the editorial policy to include PL column-references in the margins, so that older citations continue to be comprehensible, once you have found where to go in the new series. The Series Latina is intended to include all the texts covered by CPL, that is, down to the age of Bede. For later texts, see the *Continuatio medievalis* (s.b.). Index of authors is at http://www.corpuschristianorum.org/home.html.
Corpus Christianorum. Continuatio medievalis, 1- (Turnhout, 1971-).

[Via OxlIp+ as Library of Latin Texts]

A bit of a ragbag. The Continuatio medievalis began by publishing new editions of works from PL later than Bede, and volume numbers were assigned in advance. As time has passed, more and more additional volumes have been inserted or planned volumes have been split into two or three volumes, giving rise to volume numbers such as 40E. The same qualifications apply as to CCSL (s.a.) but generally more useful than PL. Index of authors is at http://www.corpuschristianorum.org/home.html.

Vetus Latina

[Via OxlIp+]

Bible Versions of the Latin Fathers. The comprehensive patristic records of the Vetus Latina Institut in Beuron.

The huge panoply of Latin biblical texts which were in existence and use from the second century AD/CE until the time when the Vulgate became predominant are known under the common rubric of the Vetus Latina, or the Old Latin, Bible. The term Vetus Latina refers to all those biblical texts translated into Latin which are not found in the Vulgate. The textual tradition of the Vetus Latina is complex and incomplete. Because there are a limited number of extant manuscripts that haphazardly cover the biblical text the basic sources are biblical citations or allusions that are found within the writings of the Latin Fathers or Greek patristic authors who were translated at an early date into Latin.


[DH R.2.3 + via OxlIp+]

An attempt to print the ultae of all known saints, published by a small equipe of Belgian Jesuits, the Société des Bollandistes, founded in 1627. The Lives are arranged in the order of the calendar, and the first volumes, covering January, were published at Antwerp in 1643.

For a key to the Latin saints’ Lives, use Bibliotheca hagiographica latina (above). Two subsidiary publications are issued by the Bollandists, Subsidia hagiographica (a series of texts, monographs, catalogues, and collected essays) and Analecta Bollandiana (a regular journal devoted to hagiography).


[DH R.2.1.]

The standard collection of church councils, now very dated.

Monumenta Germaniae Historica

[Via OxlIp+ or on web (http://www.dmgh.de/)]

Selections also available online via OxlIp+ or on web (http://www.dmgh.de/)

More than an institution than a publication, it is usual not to italicize the title. The society was founded in 1819 as Gesellschaft für ältere deutsche Geschichtskunde; the first volumes to be published were edited at Hanover by G. H. Pertz, royal librarian there, who served an absentee English sovereign, King George IV.

Content: MGH Scriptores, 29 vols in folio (1826–92); Auctores antiquissimi, 15 vols (1877–1919); Scriptores rerum Merovingicarum, 7 vols (1884–1920); Scriptores rerum Germanicarum, 1– (1922- ); Scriptores rerum Germanicarum in usum scholarum, 1– (1871– ); Poetae Latinii, 1– (1881– ); &c. &c. &c.

The numerous series of the MGH are generally kept in print, and many volumes are brought up to date with revisions or completely new editions. It remains the outstanding series for the publication of chronicles, laws, letters, and other historical sources, especially for the earlier middle ages. To keep track of its ramifications, get hold of the Gesamtverzeichnis (http://www.mgh.de/publikationen/publikationen-allgemeines/).

P. Jaffe, Regesta pontificum Romanorum ab condita ecclesia ad annum post Chr. n. MCXCVIII. Revised edition, directed by W. Wattenbach, edited by S. Loewenfeld, F. Kaltenbrunner, and P. Ewald, 2 vols (Leipzig, 1881-8).

[DH R.2.11]

The revised edition was published in fascicules from 1881.

Papal Letters - Ut per litteras apostolica

[Via OxlIp+]

Provides online access to the complete collection of papal letters from the 13th and 14th centuries and represents an electronic version of the renowned: Registres et lettres des Papes du XIIIe siècle (32 vols.; Rome, 1883- )
Registres et lettres des Papes du XIVe siècle (48 vols.; Rome, 1899- )

The online database provides striking information on the most varied aspects of medieval society: church institutions, the clergy, the papal states, politics, the legal system, taxation, government and finance, secular society, the religious life, intellectual and artistic life, the economy, wars, law and order, the environment and natural disasters, and daily life. Today the database contains approx. 12 million words and is devoted to the papacies of John XXII, Benedict XII and Urban V.
Medieval SourcesOnline [via OxLIP+]

A web-based learning resource containing hundreds of original medieval history documents compiled for the teaching and study of history. It will contain over three thousand pages of Medieval sources annotated and edited to a high standard. Foreign texts are translated.

Translated Texts for eHistorians. [via OxLIP+]

TTEH makes available sources translated from Greek, Latin, Syriac, Coptic, Arabic, Georgian and Armenian, published between 300 and 800 AD. This period, from late antiquity to the early middle ages saw the transformation of the classical world, the beginnings of Europe and of Islam, and the evolution of Byzantium. Each volume provides an expert scholarly translation, with an introduction setting texts and authors in context, and with notes on content, interpretation and debates.

Sample titles:
- Ambrose of Milan: Political Letters and Speeches
- The Acts of the Council of Constantinople of 553 with related texts on the Three Chapters Controversy
- The Formularies of Angers and Marculf: Two Merovingian Legal Handbooks
- Bede: The Reckoning of Time
- Hilary of Poitiers Conflicts of Conscience and Law in the Fourth-century Church
- The Lives of the Eighth-Century Popes (Liber Pontificalis)
- Conquerors and Chroniclers of Early Medieval Spain
- Gregory of Tours: Life of the Fathers

Medieval Travel Writing [via OxLIP+]

"This collection presents manuscripts of some of the most important works of European travel writing from the later medieval period. The chief focus is on journeys to central Asia and the Far East, including accounts of travel to Mongolia, Persia, India, China and South-East Asia. The collection also includes a number of important accounts of travels to or through the Holy Land although in this it makes no claims to full or even broad coverage: a separate collection, covering crusading and pilgrimage narratives, would be required for that. It features a number of medieval maps such as the famous 'Beatus' and 'Psalter' maps, individual manuscript illuminations, and some modern translations of key travel texts."

Internet medieval sourcebook http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/sbook2.html

A website of a collection of medieval texts. Content scope is broad, covering a wide range of medieval studies. The majority of the sources are organized into one of three major categories: selected sources; full-text sources; and saints' lives. Additional categories include selected secondary resources, medieval legal history, and maps and images. The selected sources section offers an index to facilitate finding texts for particular periods or topics, and deals with material dating from the end of the classical world through to the reformation and renaissance. Topics listed include: economic life; the crusades; church history; intellectual life; Jewish life; and sex and gender. The full-text resources are arranged by document type, including: church councils; historiographical works; literary texts; spiritual writings; and legal documents. The saints' lives are presented in broadly chronological order, beginning with the apostolic era and going through to the post-medieval period. Saints of Byzantine, Western European, and Celtic origin are included.

b. Handlists

Books in this category are much shorter on prose and aim primarily to refer the user to printed editions of texts.


Concise bio-bibliographical listing for about 2000 selected authors. Quick and easy to use for the authors covered.

Eligius Dekkers [1915–1998], Clavis patrum latinorum (Steenbrugge 1951, 1961, Turnhout, 1953)

A key that identifies by number all the extant works of the Latin fathers from Tertullian to Bede as well as many anonymous works falling within the same period. Its arrangement is partly geographical, partly by subject, so it is necessary to consult it via the indexes, especially the 'Index nominum et operum' (pp. 527–47). The treatment of pseudonymous works is good but not complete. The main deficiency of CPL is that it does not provide incipits in the entries on individual texts; there is, however, a partial index by incipit.
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Supplemented by Roger Gryson, *Aktualisierungsheft, Vetus Latina 1/1C* (Freiburg, 1999).

Originally published as Bonifatius Fischer, *Verzeichnis der Sigel für Kirchenschriftsteller, Vetus Latina 1/1* (Freiburg, 1949, 1963), a key to patristic references (before ad 800) in the apparatus to the Vetus Latina, it anticipated CPL (s.a.). The latest edition is very comprehensive and up to date on editions, but the whole is less informative than CPL itself, though it is more thorough at the itemization of letters and sermons.


Similar to CPL (s.a.), though much harder to use. Each author entry is arranged by subject and alphabetically by the incipit of the Greek text. Scholarship dealing with Greek texts is much less advanced than it is with the Latin fathers, so that CPG is a pioneer effort. Translations into Latin (or other ancient languages) are subordinated to the Greek text, except in circumstances where the Greek text does not survive, and no attention is paid to the Latin tradition. No attempt is made to treat Latin works falsely claiming to be translations from the Greek fathers.

*CALMA. Compendium auctorum latinorum medii aevi*, ed. Michael Lapidge, Gian Carlo Garfagnini, Claudio Leonardi, with Lidia Lanza, Rosalind Love, and Simona Polidori (Florence, 2000–).

Vast in scope, and the uneven work of dozens of contributors, this is likely to become the first port of call for information on an author or his works.

*Corpus of British Medieval Library Catalogues*, List of Identifications, compiled by Richard Sharpe. ([http://www.history.ox.ac.uk/faculty/staff/profile/sharpe.html](http://www.history.ox.ac.uk/faculty/staff/profile/sharpe.html))

Authors and works identified in medieval library catalogues and cognate documents from Great Britain. It serves as a cumulative index to documents ranging from tenth century to mid sixteenth century; the works documented extend from Homer to the middle of the sixteenth century.


The latest, though not the last, word on 2200 authors. Addenda available from the compiler’s website; he can also supply a chronological arrangement of the authors’ names and select lists, for example, of members of a particular religious order. The introduction discusses a range of relevant issues for medieval bibliography.

Three works that offer extensive listings of authors but without any attempt to digest or organize the information are:


No more than a collection of records. Useful for writers so obscure that nothing else has provided information.


This describes itself as ‘a normative and computerized list of Greek and Latin authors for all periods, excluding Modern Greek’. It comprises 21,000 entries based on the excerpting of a limited range of reference-books (pp. xxvii–xxx), mostly concerned with Classical antiquity. It serves as a sort of union index to classical dictionaries.

A self-styled authority file for authors’ names, based on the excerpting of fifteen published reference books; its authority lies not in its use of evidence, for there is none, nor in reason, for no onomastic or linguistic principles are stated as to how a form was selected. Useful, however, because it allows a convenient synoptic view of how an author’s name has been treated in modern reference works, and its coverage is wide. These are the forms of names used in the catalogues of manuscripts produced under the auspices of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft.

**c. Repertories and Guides**


Only the first two volumes for the first region have so far appeared, and few expect to see a completed Clavis for all of medieval Europe. The first volume covers Auctores Galliae 735–987, dealing with authors from A to E; the second deals only with one author, Alcuin, omitted from his alphabetical place in vol. 1. The work is systematic and thorough.

Jan Machielsen, *Clavis patristica pseudepigraphorum medii aevi, 1–* (Turnhout, 1990–).

Planned in five volumes. The first one published deals with sermons falsely ascribed to the fathers; it is in two parts, A and B–Z, reflecting the bulk of pseudo-Augustinian material. The index of incipits provides a convenient access. Otherwise it is not always clear which the arrangement is, though it generally follows the order of the old published texts. The Augustinian article is particularly complex, because sermons attributed to him have been published in several series. Always turn to the conspectus of sources at the beginning of the article. CPPM numbers will almost always lead to a definite recognition of which sermon is meant, if not to an identification of what it really is. The second volume, also in two parts, covers Theologica, Exegetica, Ascetica, Monastica. As the project proceeds, other classes of literature will be covered.


For Latin saints’ Lives in print BHL will almost always provide a clear identification with reference to all printed editions. It is also useful for showing how many Lives existed for any individual saint, though it does not help to differentiate between a widely-known text and a peculiar text. The 1986 supplement suffers particularly from attempting to list variant uitae reported in manuscript catalogues without establishing their textual relationship to the main tradition. The compilers tended to eschew comments on date or value, but the arrangement of each saint’s entry is intended to reflect the chronological development of the dossier. There are similar works for saints’ Lives in Greek (Bibliotheca hagiographica graeca) and languages such as Coptic and Syriac (Bibliotheca hagiographica orientalis).

**BHL–MS**

An unusually reliable resource available free via the internet, this is a database incorporating the fruits of several generations of Bollandist cataloguing of manuscripts that contain Latin saints’ Lives. From a saint’s name, one can ascertain what texts have been catalogued, identified by their numbers in BHL; these numbers can be used as a search term to assemble a list of manuscripts known to the Bollandists, arranged by century or by present location.


Stegmüller begins by listing biblical, apocryphal and quasi-biblical texts (vol. 1); then biblical commentaries by identifiable authors (vols. 2–5); and anonymous biblical commentaries (vols. 6–7). There are supplements (vols. 8–9) and several indexes (vols. 10–11). For each item, Stegmüller provides an incipit, a brief account of its coverage, a list of manuscripts and of early printed editions. (This last can be very valuable, since he was better able to tell what texts such early editions contain than were those who have catalogued the printed books.) The drawbacks with Stegmüller’s work stem from its dependence on secondary literature dating back a long way for some of its information, especially references to manuscripts. Where the same work was transmitted as the work of more than one author, Stegmüller usually identifies a preferred author and cross-refers to this entry.


Similar in approach to his Repertorium biblicum, and equally pioneering. This provides a very accessible guide to the full range of Sentence-commentaries, and its reference numbers provide a concise identification for any such text. There is a detailed index of incipits in the second volume.
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Steven J. Livesey, **COMMBASE.** An Electronic Database of Medieval Commentators on Aristotle and Peter Lombard’s Sentences (1988– ).

http://www.ou.edu/class/med-sci/Commbase.htm

This is a repertory of biographical and bibliographical data concerning 1600 Latin commentators on any part of the works of Aristotle or on the Sentences of Peter Lombard. The database continues to grow; an up-to-date copy may be downloaded gratis from the author’s website.


More useful than one might at first think, because such a high proportion of thirteenth-century men of learning passed through the university of Paris. For each author there is a list (in attempted chronological order) of his writings with reference to printed editions. For reference purposes each author has a number and each work a letter.


Conceived on the same plan as his work on Masters in Theology but less fully achieved. Some of the lists of an author’s writings (for example, Robert Kilwardby’s) are derivative, uncritical and unverified. This book will be superseded in due course by Weijers (next).


Reasonably up to date in coverage, thorough, well laid out, and very easy to use. Kaeppeli lists Dominican authors and their works, in most cases providing full information on incipits, manuscripts, and printed editions, so that this can be regarded as a true repertory. It is conveniently cited by reference number. Unfortunately, where Kaeppeli had nothing to add to an earlier listing, he sometimes simply refers back. For some authors, such as Guillelmus Peraldus, Kaeppeli is very thorough. Kaeppeli’s repertory excluded Thomas Aquinas, for whom there is still no manuscript-based listing.


More than a list of manuscripts and effectively a repertory by author and title, though the census of manuscripts is limited to one area of Europe.


Lists the sermons of authors, known and unknown, for the period covered. The period is frustratingly limited, especially if you have a reference to some medieval preacher whose date you do not already know. The survey is based on exemplary manuscripts. It is valuable as providing a guide to the extent of an author’s homiletic works and numbering individual sermons, though it rarely leads to a simple and distinctive means of citing a particular sermon. There is an index arranged by the texts of the lectionary, which allows one to see what sermons survive that were preached on particular texts or occasions.

J. B. Schneyer, *Wegweiser zu lateinischen Predigtenreihen des Mittelalters* (Munich, 1965)

Appeared ahead of the repertory. This provides lists of sermons grouped according to their biblical theme (alphabetically arranged).


A clear and informative repertory, with bio-bibliographical orientation, detailed incipits and concise lists of manuscripts. For works attested only through the bibliographical tradition, Lohr includes an outline reference.

*Repertorium commentariorum medii aevi in Aristotelem latinorum.*

Several volumes have appeared of a series under the title *Repertorium commentariorum medii aevi in Aristotelem latinorum*, each covering manuscripts held in particular libraries or in a particular place, the
Sources for medieval history


Stephan Georg Kuttner [1907–1996], Repertorium der Kanonistik (1140–1234), Studie e testi 71 (Vatican City, 1937).

A survey of writings in canon law from Gratian until the publication of Gregory IX’s Decretales. Informative for what it covers but limited in scope.


I find this a very helpful survey of the writings of canon lawyers, though it should be categorized more as a handbook than a repertory. It is clearly arranged, with separate chapters for different authors and headings for their different works. Schulte almost always cites both manuscripts and early printed editions (and a very high proportion of medieval canon law has not been printed since 1520). Schulte’s work is now somewhat dated, but the more recent reference books do not supersede it in fulness. For the early period, Kuttner is often more informative, and for quick reference the Dictionnaire de droit canonique (Paris 1935–65) is a starting-point.


A concise catalogue of grammatical texts in their manuscript context, with numbering of manuscript-references by library, shelf-mark and item (so 1.1.1 is Aberystwyth, NLW, MS 423, fols. 2–11). The survey covers 318 libraries, including some without published catalogues. Incipits are quoted and indexed (pp. 295-359), but tituli are not cited.


A very well-informed catalogue, providing guidance to the whole field of English medieval legal manuscripts.

Paul Oskar Kristeller [1905–1999], Catalogus translationum et commentariorum, 1– (Washington, DC, 1960–).

Useful essays on the transmission of works in Latin translation or of Latin works with an antique, medieval or renaissance tradition of commentary. The series has not progressed very far, so it is a stroke of luck to find that CTC has got there ahead of you. The latest volume contains a cumulative index to what goes before: necessary, because there is no order in what is treated. Volume 8, ed. V. Brown & others, is advertized for publication in 2003.

d. Incipitaria

When searching for an incipit, one should remember that well-made repertories and guides are likely to include an index of incipits, which will be more likely to lead to an identification than a collection of undigested incipits. It is also the case that many catalogues of manuscripts contain an index of incipits. The incipit collection on slips at the Institut d’histoire et de recherche des texts has made use of a great variety of sources; its 400,000 items are now searchable through In Principio, which seems likely to supersede all other incipitaria as far as recognizing a text from its incipit is concerned; identifying the text still demands work with the incipit indexes to repertories and guides.
Sources for medieval history


A large collection of incipits recorded mainly from manuscript catalogues with some from bibliographical repertories and some from the texts themselves, searchable in multiple ways and enormously useful, though not to be relied on for identifications.

IRHT Répertoire d’incipit de sermons latins, antiquité tardive et moyen âge, 273 fiches. [BOD Microfiches 804]

ii. England

Listed below are some major collections of printed sources. However, there is much material also available as single monographs. These can be found using e.g. subject searches in SOLO:

- Leicestershire (England) -- History -- Sources
- Crusades -- Third, 1189-1192 -- Sources
- St. Albans Abbey -- Charters
- Feudalism -- France -- Case studies

a. Finding aids

Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts: Guide to Reports [URR K.3.550]
- Index of Places [URR R.3.554]
- Index of Persons [URR R.3.554]

Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts: Guides to Sources for British History
e.g. No. 10: Principal family and estate collection [URR R.3.557]


Now in vol. 9, this series ('the new Potthast') is part way through the letter P; the work goes on. Replaces August Potthast [1824–1898], Bibliotheca historica medii aevi. Wegweiser durch die Geschichtswerke des europäischen Mittelalters bis 1500, 2 vols (Berlin, 1896).

b. Texts


This series aims to compile a wide selection of fundamental sources of English history.

[Rolls Series] Rerum Britannicarum Medii Aei Scriptores or Chronicles and Memorials of Great Britain and Ireland during the Middle Ages. (London, 1858-1889). [URR K.7.30-32 + selection on MEMSO via OxLIP+]

A collection of historical materials of which the general scope is indicated by its official title, "The Chronicles and Memorials of Great Britain and Ireland during the Middle Ages". Almost all the great medieval English chronicles have in turn been included. List of titles is also available online at http://www.the-orb.net/rolls.html.
Sources for medieval history

Oxford Medieval Texts (OMT) [URR K.7.34]
Provide scholarly editions of important Latin texts pertinent to the cultural history of medieval Europe. In addition to critical texts, the editions include apparatus, full historical commentary, and precise, facing-page English translations. Title list at http://ukcatalogue.oup.com/category/academic/series/history/omt.do#.UIAW3a7ld8E.

Medieval and Early Modern Sources Online (MEMSO) [via OxLIP+]
MEMSO provides a large and growing resource of essential medieval and early modern sources online. It is an excellent way to access a large library of books essential to the study of medieval and early modern England, Scotland and Ireland. Includes selections of annals and chronicles, calendars and registers, saints’ lives, Rolls’ Series and HMC reports and Statutes of the Realm.

Fontes Anglo-Saxonici [via OxLIP+]
A register of written sources used by authors in Anglo-Saxon England, this resource is intended to identify all written sources which were incorporated, quoted, translated or adapted anywhere in English or Latin texts which were written in Anglo-Saxon England (i.e. England to 1066), or by Anglo-Saxons in other countries. The database shows which texts were known in Anglo-Saxon England, how well specific texts and authors were known, and in what different ways they were used. It also provides the basis for studies on the intellectual interests of Anglo-Saxon authors, and what contributions the Anglo-Saxons made to the history of ideas.

A collection of documents relating to the history of individual monasteries, much of it the work of Dodsworth rather than Dugdale ('the grand plagiarist'). The nineteenth-century edition augmented the work without correcting any of the textual errors of the seventeenth century, or even updating references to manuscripts which had changed ownership during the previous 150 years. The usual edition to cite is that published between 1817 and 1830, which was reprinted in facsimile in 1970. The reprint of 1846 differs in pagination in places.

A massive collection of documents relating to all aspects of ‘foreign affairs’, including trade and tolls. The principles of selection now seem elusive and it is impossible really to predict whether a particular document will have been included or not. Reference to the first edition is always preferable but not always possible.

C. Government

Domesday Book [via OxLIP+]
Domesday Book, one of England’s oldest and most famous public record, describes the condition of England south of the river Tees in 1066 and 1086. Ordered to investigate ‘how the country was occupied, and with what sort of people ... how much each had ... and how much it was worth’, the Conqueror’s commissioners conducted their survey so thoroughly that ‘not one ox, nor one cow,’ was left unrecorded.

99 per cent of the 15,000 places named in Domesday, it provides the first recorded description of their human and natural resources and the history of most English villages and the continuous history of the English countryside, from the landowning classes to the peasantry. On the economy and taxation, military service, administrative structures, government, legal customs and practice, place and personal names and many more miscellaneous topics, Domesday Book is the primary source for several centuries of English history.

Statutes of the Realm; Printed by command of His Majesty King George the Third. London: MDCCCX.-MDCCXXVIII. [URR K.5.323 + in ECCO or MEMSO via OxLIP+]
Contains the legislation of the English crown between 1235 and 1713 in various Parliaments.

Rotuli Parliamentorum (RT) [URR K.5.322 (1-6)]

The rolls of parliament were the official records of the meetings of the English parliament from the reign of Edward I (1272 – 1307) until the reign of Henry VII (1485 – 1509), after which they were superseded by the journals of the lords and, somewhat later, of the commons. The rolls, which amount in total to over four million words, were first edited in the eighteenth century and published in 1783 in six folio volumes entitled Rotuli Parliamentorum (RP) under the general editorship of the Reverend John Strachey. This new edition reproduces the rolls edited in RP in their entirety, plus those subsequently published by Cole, Maitland, and Richardson and Sayles as well as a substantial amount of material never previously published, together with a full translation of all the texts from the three languages used by the medieval clerks (Latin, Anglo-Norman and Middle English). It also includes an introduction to every parliament known to have been held by an English king (or in his name) between 1275 and 1504, whether or not the roll for that parliament survives.


An unofficial record of Parliamentary proceedings between 1066 and 1803, which later became officially known as Hansard.

History of Parliament, 1386-1820 [via OxLIP+]

Contains all of the text and illustrations from the 23 printed volumes of "The History of Parliament", covering the majority of parliaments between 1386 and 1820.

Printed calendars of English government records, e.g. [see also MEMSO above]

Calendar of Charter Rolls (1226-1516) [URR K.5.170]
The royal charter was the solemn instrument whereby the Sovereign made original and confirmatory grants in perpetuity of lands, liberties, privileges, etc. To both corporations and individuals.

Calendar of Close Rolls (1227-1509) [URR K.5.160 + http://www.british-history.ac.uk/catalogue.aspx?type=3]
The Close Rolls, dating from 1227, contain a summary of the closed, sealed up, or more personal letters sent out in the same way, much of the information being of like character with that found in the Patent Rolls, but with the addition of a good deal that might be described as family history. Part of BHO.

Calendar of the Patent Rolls (1216-1575) [URR K.5.175]
From the thirteenth century, down to the present day, these documents have recorded the issue of royal letters open or 'patent', whereby the sovereign has conferred a privilege or communicated his or her will. Their contents provide key information about government action, intention and patronage, and they embrace a wide and varying range of business.

Calendar of the Fine Rolls (1272-1509) [URR K.5.153]
The “fines” from which the Fine Rolls takes their name, were payments made for writs, grants, licences, pardons, etc. of various kinds, most of them under the Great Seal, relating to matters in which the Crown had a financial interest. The documents enrolled include writs to inquire post mortem, writs to the Barons of the Exchequer to assign terms for the payment of debts due to the Crown and to cause fines to be taken from prisoners for their release, licences to marry, appointments of sheriffs and other royal officers who would be required to account at the Exchequer, writs to remove causes from inferior tribunals into the King’s courts, etc.

Aims to publish all Fine Rolls for the reign of Henry III from 1216 down to 1272 in English calendar format, in both print and electronic form. The fine rolls recorded offers of money to the king for concessions and favours, a fine in a general sense being an agreement made with the king to pay a certain sum of money for a specified benefit.

d. Texts produced by record societies British and foreign, e.g.

Camden Society Publications [URR K.6.1]
The Camden Society was established in 1838 for the purpose of publishing historical and antiquarian information. The publications are a miscellaneous collection of British historical and antiquarian information.
Sources for medieval history

Selden Society Publications [URR K.6.5 in Hein Online via OxLIP+]
The Selden Society is the only learned society and publisher devoted entirely to English legal history. Most of the annual volumes consist of original source materials, never before in print: early law reports, courts' records, judges' notebooks, legal treatises, precedent and practice books, and compilations of documents brought together by the Society's editors for the first time. Each volume has the full original text coupled with a modern translation, made as accessible as possible for the modern reader. List of titles is also available online at http://www.law.harvard.edu/programs/selden_society/pub.html.

Catholic Record Society Publications [URR K.6.3]
The Society has published a wide range of material illustrating the history and culture of the British Catholics. It has printed articles on recusancy, family history, the education of priests and layfolk, and the liturgy and spirituality of the English Catholics. The records of old Catholic missions and parishes throughout the land as well as the histories of seminaries, colleges, and convents have also been printed. The Society has published the personal letters, diaries and other papers of priests and layfolk, in addition to important pieces on English literature, music, architecture and other aspects of their cultural life.

Medieval Family Life [via OxLIP+]
The Paston Family Papers have long been a subject of both literary and historical interest. They are Britain's first surviving records of private correspondence, describing everyday life in East Anglia during the Wars of the Roses and the Black Death.

In addition it includes four other valuable collections relating to medieval families in Essex, Oxfordshire, Yorkshire and Warwickshire, c1400-1490.

Available printed transcriptions are full-text searchable and displayed alongside the manuscript images for the very first time. We also include a variety of 'further resources', including family trees, an interactive map and a wide range of outstanding visual sources.

iii. Scotland, Wales & Ireland

Scottish historical documents; [compiled by] Gordon Donaldson. Various editions. [Check SOLO]

Medieval and Early Modern Sources Online (MEMSO) [via OxLIP+]
MEMSO provides a large and growing resource of essential medieval and early modern sources online. It is an excellent way to access a large library of books essential to the study of medieval and early modern England, Scotland and Ireland. Includes selections of annals and chronicles, calendars and registers, saints' lives, Rolls' Series and HMC reports and Statutes of the Realm. It's particularly strong for Scottish history.

Calendar of Chancery Warrants (1244 - 1326)
Calendar of Documents Relating to Scotland (1128 - 1509)
Exchequer Rolls of Scotland (1264 - 1501)


Scottish History Society Publications [URR K.6.2]
The Scottish History Society is the leading publisher of manuscript sources relating to the history of Scotland. Founded in 1886, the Society has published over 170 volumes; taken together, these form a collection of great richness and variety illustrating the history of the nation as recorded by contemporaries, covering all periods from the twelfth to the twentieth centuries and a very wide range of topics - social, economic, legal, political, constitutional, diplomatic, military and religious history.


Wales

List of Welsh entries in the Memoranda Rolls, 1282-1343. [URR K.5.157]


Gerald of Wales: Giraldi Cambrensis Opera. 8 vols. 1964-66 (Rolls Series) [URR K.7.32/21]

Register of Edward, the Black Prince : preserved in the Public Record Office. 4 vols. 1930-33. [URR K.5.190]

Ireland


Medieval and Early Modern Sources Online (MEMSO) [via OxLIP+]

MEMSO provides a large and growing resource of essential medieval and early modern sources online. It is an excellent way to access a large library of books essential to the study of medieval and early modern England, Scotland and Ireland. Includes selections of annals and chronicles, calendars and registers, saints’ lives, Rolls’ Series and HMC reports and Statutes of the Realm.

Annals:


The annals of Inisfallen (MS. Rawlinson B. 503) / edited with translation and indexes by Seán Mac Airt. (Dublin: Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, 1951). [DH R. 1.134b]

Annala Ríoghachta Eirean = Annals of the kingdom of Ireland, by the Four Masters, from the earliest period to the year 1616; ed. ... by John O'Donovan. 2nd ed. Dublin, Hodges, Smith & Co, 1856. [DH R. 1.132]

iv. Germany & Austria

Dahlmann, F.C. (Friedrich Christoph): Quellenkunde der deutschen Geschichte: Bibliographie der Quellen und der Literatur zur deutschen Geschichte. 10th ed. (Stuttgart: A. Hiersemann, 1965-).

Quellensammlung zur deutschen Geschichte. [check SOLO]
Catalogued separately in SOLO. Includes e.g. Quellen zur Geschichte der deutschen Königswahl und des Kurfürstenkollegs; herausgegeben von Mario Krammer. 2. Aufl. 2 vols. (Leipzig: B.G. Teubner, 1925-1932).


Monumenta Germaniae Historica [U RR K.5.355-399]
Selections also available online via OxLIP+ or on web (http://www.dmgh.de/)

More an institution than a publication, it is usual not to italicize the title. The society was founded in 1819 as Gesellschaft für ältere deutsche Geschichtskunde; the first volumes to be published were edited at Hanover by G. H. Pertz, royal librarian there, who served an absentee English sovereign, King George IV.

Content: MGH Scriptores, 29 vols in folio (1826–92); Auctores antiquissimi, 15 vols (1877–1919); Scriptores rerum Merovingicarum, 7 vols (1884–1920); Scriptores rerum Germanicarum, 1– (1922– ); Scriptores rerum Germanicarum in usum scholarum, 1– (1871– ); Poetae Latinii, 1– (1881– ); &c. &c.

The numerous series of the MGH are generally kept in print, and many volumes are brought up to date with revisions or completely new editions. It remains the outstanding series for the publication of chronicles, laws, letters, and other historical sources, especially for the earlier middle ages. To keep track of its ramifications, get hold of the Gesamtverzeichnis (http://www.mgh.de/publikationen/publikationen-allgemeines/).

Regesta Imperii; ed. J.F. Böhmer. Innsbruck, 1877- [U RR K.7.182 + via OxLIP+]
Collection of major source materials on German and European history. An inventory of all charters and historiographic sources of Roman-German kings from the Carolingians to Maximilian I. and of the Popes of the early and high Middle Ages.


Publicationen aus den königlichen preussischen Staatsarchiven. [U RR K.9.2]
Catalogued separately in SOLO. Includes e.g. Lehn- und Besitzurkunden Schlesiens and seiner einzelnen Fürstenthümer im Mittelalter / Hrsg. von Dr. C. Grünhagen and Dr. H. Markgraf. 2 vols. (Leipzig, Hiersel, 1881-83).

Fontes rerum Austriacarum. [U RR K.9.5]
Catalogued separately in SOLO. Includes e.g. Urkundenbuch des Benediktiner-Stiftes St. Paul in Kärnten / herausg. von B. Schroll. (Wien, 1876).

v. France, Belgium & the Netherlands


Documents relatifs à l’histoire des Croisades. [check SOLO]
Sources for medieval history


*Collection de documents inédits sur l’histoire de France*. (1832-)
Over 300 volumes containing chronicles, cartularies, correspondance, reports, instructions, and revolutionary, philological, philosophical, juridical, and archaeological documents. Includes e.g. *Les Olim, ou, Registres des arrêts rendus par la Cour du roi: sous les règnes de Saint Louis, de Philippe le Hardi, de Philippe le Bel, de Louis le Hutin et de Philippe le Long; publiés par le comte Beugnot*. 3 vols (1254-1311). (Paris: Imprimerie royale, 1839-1848).

*Chartes et diplômes relatifs à l’histoire de France.*
Catalogued separately. Includes e.g. *Recueil des actes de Charles III le Simple, roi de France*; publié sous la direction de M. Ferdinand Lot par M. Philip Lauer. (Paris, 1940-)

*Bibliographie générale des cartulaires français ou relatifs à l’histoire de France*; par Henri Stein. [URR K.8.12]


*Bibliothèque des écoles françaises d’Athènes et de Rome*
Catalogued separately. Includes e.g. *Le régime politique et les institutions de Rome au moyenâge, 1252-1347* / A. de Bouard. (Paris, 1920).

*Société de l’histoire de France (Series)*
Catalogued separately. Includes e.g. *Annales de Saint-Bertin*. (Paris, Klincksieck, 1964)

Mostly catalogued separately. Includes e.g. *Le compte général du receveur d’Artois pour 1303-1304: édition précédée d’une introduction à l’étude des institutions financières de l’Artois au XIIIe-XIVe siècles / par Bernard Delmaire*. (Bruxelles, 1977)

*Collection de chroniques belges inédites.*
[URR K.8.1]

*Commission royale d’histoire (Publications)*
[URR K.8.2]

*Rijks geschiedkundige publicatiën*. Grote serie & Kleine serie
[Check SOLO]
Catalogued separately. Includes e.g. *Oorkondenboek van Noord-Brabant tot 1312*.

[check SOLO]

**vi. Italy**

*Fonti per la storia d’Italia pubblicate dall’Istituto storico italiano per l’età moderna e contemporanea*. (prev. known as *Regesta chartarum Italie*)
[URR: K.9.14]
Includes e.g. *Origo civitatum Italie seu Venetiaram* = *Chronicon Altinate et Chronicon Gradense*; a cura di Roberto Cessi. (Roma: Tip. del Senato, 1933).

*Rerum italicarum scriptores*: raccolta degli storici italiani dal cinquecento al millecinquecento; ordinata da L.A. Muratori. (Città di Castello: S. Lapi, 1900-).
[TAY: ITAL.SER.1]
Sources for medieval history

Codice diplomatico ... [check SOLO]
e.g. Codice diplomatico barese
Catalogued separately. Includes e.g. Diplomatico aragonese re Alfonso I (1435-1458). (Bari, 1931).

Documenti per servire alla storia di Sicilia. [check SOLO]
Catalogued separately. Includes e.g. Maria Luisa Gangemi: Il tabulario del monastero San Benedetto di Catania (1299-1633). Palermo: Società siciliana per la storia patria, 1999)

vii. Spain & Portugal

Colección de documentos inéditos para la historia de España; [ed.] por M. Fernandez Navarrete [and others]. 1-112 vols. (Madrid, 1842-95) [BOD: Soc. 2431 d.13]
Later title: Archivo documental español. Real Academia de la Historia (Spain). 1, 1950-
Accompanied by: Catálogo de la Colección de documentos inéditos para la historia de España / por Julián Paz et al. 2 vols. (Madrid, 1930-31).

Colección de crónicas españolas; dirigida por J. de M. Carriazo 9 vols. [check SOLO]
Catalogued separately. Includes e.g. Crónica de los reyes católicos / por su secretario Fernando del Pulgar. 2 vols. (Madrid, Espasa-Calpe, 1943).

Textos medievales. 90+ vols. [check SOLO]
Catalogued separately. Includes e.g. Actas de proceso de Cortes de Tamarite de 1375 / edición rítica e índices por M.a Luisa Ledesma Rubio.

Fuentes cronisticas de la historia de Espana. [check SOLO]
Catalogued separately. Includes e.g. Alfonso X, King of Castile and Leon, 1221-1284: Primera crónica general de España; editada por Ramón Menéndez Pidal. (Madrid: Gredos, 1977).

Fuentes documentales medievales del País Vasco. [check SOLO]
Catalogued separately. Includes e.g. Colección diplomática de Alfonso I de Aragón y Pamplona (1104-1134) / José Angel Lema Pueyo [transcriptor]. (San Sebastián: Editorial Eusko Ikaskuntza, 1990).

Fuentes históricas abulenses. [check SOLO]
Catalogued separately in SOLO. Includes e.g. Documentación medieval abulense en el Archivo General de Simancas; Contaduría Mayor de Cuentas; María Dolores Cabañas González. (Avila, 2004-).

Fuentes históricas aragonesas. [check SOLO]
Catalogued separate. Includes e.g. Alfonso II rey de Aragón, conde de Barcelona y marqués de Provenza: documentos (1162-1196); Ana Isabel Sánchez Casabón. (Zaragoza: Institución "Fernando el Católico", 1995).

Fuentes medievales castellano-leonesas. [check SOLO]
Catalogued separately. Includes e.g. Documentacion del monasterio de San Juan de Burgos, 1091-1400; F. Javier Peña Pérez. (Burgos, 1983).


Fontes medievais da história de Portugal; selecção; prefácio e notas de Alfredo Pimenta. Vol. 1-. (Lisboa: Livraria Sá da Costa, [1948-]). [BOD 24371 e.6]
Sources for medieval history

4. Reference works

The new Cambridge medieval history. 7 vols. in 8. (Cambridge, 1995-2005) [URR Ref.URR.1 + in Cambridge Histories Online via OxLIP+]


The Cambridge history of libraries in Britain and Ireland. 3 vols. (Cambridge, 2006) [SpColl RR R. 5.583 + in Cambridge Histories Online via OxLIP+]

The history of the University of Oxford. 8 vols. (Oxford, 1984-) [DH R.Top.625 +HFL]


Oxford Reference Online [via OxLIP+]

A collection of 100+ dictionaries, language and subject reference works. Includes e.g. A Dictionary of Popes, The Oxford Dictionary of Saints, The Oxford Companion to British History, etc.

International directory of Medievalists [via OxLIP+]

i. Biographical dictionaries

World Biographical Archive / World Biographical Information System [via OxLIP+]

World Biographical Information System, the online version of the World Biographical Archive, is one of the most comprehensive biographical databases available, providing short biographical information on 4 million people with a historical coverage from the 4th century BC to the present. It contains 3.85 million digital facsimile articles from more than 3,700 reference works, including biographical information on 2.3 million people worldwide.

a. National Biographies

France

Dictionnaire de biographie française. 19 vols. (Paris, 1929-) [LRR B3.521]
Unlike the DNB the Dictionnaire de biographie française is incomplete and only goes up to letter L.

Germany

Allgemeine deutsche Biographie [LRR B3.601]
Neue deutsche Biographie [LRR B3.603]
Also available online at http://www.deutsche-biographie.de/.

Great Britain

An illustrated collection of 50,000 specially written biographies of the men and women who shaped all aspects of Britain's past, from the fourth century BC to the year 2000. Remarkable people in any walk of life who were connected with the British Isles - excluding living people. It includes not just the great and good, but people who have left a mark for any reason, good, bad, or bizarre.

Ireland

Dictionary of Irish Biography [LRR B3.150 + OxLIP+]
An important reference work, it offers biographical information about Irish men and women who made a significant contribution in Ireland and abroad. It also includes information about the lives of people born outside Ireland, but who made a significant contribution in that county. You have a choice of full-text searching, advanced searching, browsing or trying the lucky dip ("Read a random life").
Sources for medieval history

open image to see larger version

Italy

*Dizionario biografico degli italiani* [LRR B3.713]

Also available online at [http://www.treccani.it/Portale/ricerche/searchBiografie.html]

The DBI currently runs from A to M and publishes two volumes each year, with ca. 300 entries in each volume.

Switzerland

*Historisches Lexikon der Schweiz.* (Basel, 2002-). [check SOLO]

Also available online at [http://www.hls-dhs-dss.ch/]

Who’s who in Switzerland including the principality of Liechtenstein. 1950/1. [BOD B3.870 Latest issue]

b. Alumni

Venn, John: *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 / Compiled by John Venn and J.A. Venn. 10 vols. [LRR B3.343]

Foster, Joseph: *Alumni Oxonienses*: the members of the University of Oxford, 1500-1714 [& 1715-1886] [LRR B3.333]

A. B. Emden: *A biographical register of the University of Oxford to AD 1500.* (Oxford, 1957- 59) [LRR B3.332]

Similar lists for colleges, schools, etc.

c. Church

*Fasti ecclesiae Anglicanae*, 1066-1300. 10 vols. [SpColl RR R.12.149d]

*Fasti ecclesiae Anglicanae*, 1300-1541. 12 vols. [SpColl RR R.12.149]

Also available online at British History Online [http://www.british-history.ac.uk/].

*Fasti ecclesiae Scoticae medii aevi ad annum 1638.* [SpColl RR R.12.165]

*Fasti ecclesiae Hibernicae*: the succession of the prelates and members of the Cathedral bodies of Ireland [SpColl RR R.12.170]

*Fasti ecclesiae Gallicanae*: répertoire prosopographique des évêques, dignitaires et chanoines des diocèses de France de 1200 à 1500. 11+ vols. [SpColl RR R.12.175]

*Biographisch-Bibliographisches Kirchenlexikon (BBKL)* [via OxLIP+]

A well-known printed reference work, the Biographisch-Bibliographisches Kirchenlexikon (BBKL) is a German biographical encyclopedia related to the history of the Church, founded 1975 by Friedrich Wilhelm Bautz. It contains more than 20,000 biographical articles with bibliographies of the person’s work and selected secondary readings.

ii. Dictionaries, etc.

*Dictionary of the Middle Ages.* 13 vols. 1982-89. [UCam S.HIST.REF.X.30.1]


An important encyclopedia for medieval studies. It deals with all branches of medieval studies and covers the period from 300 to 1500 AD for the whole of Europe and parts of the Middle East and North Africa. Contains 36,700 signed articles by 3,000 authors.

Sources for medieval history

Dictionary of Old English

The Dictionary of Old English was conceived by Angus Cameron, its founding editor, as an historical dictionary in the tradition established by Sir James Murray for the Oxford English Dictionary. The Dictionary of Old English is based on records written in English between 600 and 1150 A.D.

Middle English dictionary.

[URR Ref. URR.233 + via OxLIP+ as Middle English Compendium]

The Middle English Compendium has been designed to offer easy access to and interconnectivity between three major Middle English electronic resources: an electronic version of the Middle English Dictionary, a HyperBibliography of Middle English prose and verse, based on the MED bibliographies, and an associated network of electronic resources, including a large collection of Middle English texts.

Anglo-Norman Dictionary / ed. W. Rothwell et al. (1992) [SpColl RR Ref. 3 + 3a]

A Latin dictionary / rev., enl. and in great part rewritten by Charlton T. Lewis and Charles Short. (Oxford, 1969) [many copies, incl. LRR C.Dict.4]

Revised medieval Latin word-list from British and Irish sources / prepared by R. E. Latham. Var. eds. [Check SOLO]


Grasse, Johann Georg Theodor, Orbis Latinus: Lexikon lateinischer geographischer Namen des Mittelalters und der Neuzeit. 3 vols (Braunschweig, 1972) [LRR B2.1505 + SpColl RR R.Ref. 201]

Also available online http://www.columbia.edu/acis/ets/Graesse/contents.html

Dictionnaire de l’ancienne langue française et de tous ses dialectes du IXe au XVe siècle / composé ... par Frédéric Godefroy. 10 vols. (1881-1902) [via OxLIP+]

5. Manuscripts, archives & Special Collections

Finding aids & catalogues

Bodleian Library: Dept. of Special Collections & Western MSS (incl. Online Catalogue of Western Manuscripts) http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/bodley/library/specialcollections

Bodleian Library: Western manuscripts to c. 1500 http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/bodley/library/specialcollections/western_rarebooks/medieval

Bodleian Library: Quarto catalogues [SpColl RR R.Ref.722]

A summary catalogue of western manuscripts in the Bodleian Library at Oxford which have not hitherto been catalogued in the Quarto series. 7 vols. (Oxford, 1895-1953) [SpColl RR X.Cat.1]

Finding Aids - Papyri, Medieval & Renaissance Manuscripts at the Bodleian Library http://ox.libguides.com/medieval-sc

A guide to the finding aids available for early modern and modern manuscripts in the Bodleian Library.

British Library: Manuscript catalogue (Western mss) http://www.bl.uk/catalogues/manuscripts/

OAIster is a useful metasearch engine to locate digital archives. See http://oaister.worldcat.org/.
British Library: Catalogue of illuminated manuscripts  
http://www.bl.uk/catalogues/illuminatedmanuscripts/

Janus: Cambridge University manuscript online catalogue  
http://janus.lib.cam.ac.uk/

National inventory of documentary sources in the UK & Ireland (NIDS) [microfiches]. (Chadwyck-Healey, 1984).  
[DH Ask Staff]
NIDS is a major national reference work that reproduces on microfiche the finding aids to thousands of archive and manuscript collections in more than 120 libraries and record offices, museums and private collections throughout the UK and Ireland.

Using NIDS, researchers in their own libraries can pinpoint the collections containing documents of interest to them thereby saving time and money and making visits to repositories much more rewarding. Furthermore, NIDS can also help users uncover neglected resources in collections which are often overlooked.

National Archives (UK)  
http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/

ARCHON  
http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/archon/
Directory includes contact details for record repositories in the United Kingdom and also for institutions elsewhere in the world which have substantial collections of manuscripts noted under the indexes to the National Register of Archives.

National Register of Archives  
http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/nra/
Contains information on the nature and location of manuscripts and historical records that relate to British history.

Archives Hub  
http://www.archiveshub.ac.uk/

Access to Archives (A2A)  
http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/

US National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)  
http://www.archives.gov/

List & Index Society (Series)  
[Check SOLO]
Some 240+ titles catalogued separately in SOLO.
Aims to provide photographic copies of unprinted lists and indexes kept in the Public Record Office, London, and of other unprinted guides and aids to the use of public archives in the British Isles. Publications include lists, texts, editions and tabulations of historical manuscripts. Also continues publication of some of the key series of government documents, notably the Calendar of Patent Rolls. It is currently publishing transcripts of the medieval customs accounts and calendars of such little known but key series as HO 47, Judges' Reports on Criminals 1783 to 1830. Recent publications include medieval royal witness lists and itineraries, and gazetteers of early Tudor taxation and medieval markets and fairs. Index of publications available online at http://www.listandindexsociety.org.uk/publications.html.

[Check SOLO]
Major source for later medieval economic, social and administrative history of France and the Low Countries, including the possessions of the house of Burgundy. This is a very useful guide to the holdings of a large number of French, Belgian and Dutch archives and goes far beyond the remit suggested by its title.

[SpColl RR R. Cat. Ref. 22]
What began as separate lists of published and unpublished catalogues in Traditio 6 (1948) 227--317, 9 (1953) 393--418, was expanded, 2nd edition (New York 1960), reprinted with a major supplement (pp. 233--84) as 3rd edition (New York 1965), and is here reset in a much enlarged form. It seeks to be comprehensive, and that is its undoing. Too much information about relatively unimportant lists are included, obscuring what are the major catalogues not only for the big libraries but even in quite small entries. Also lacking is some explanation of the manuscript collections in these libraries, by what names they are known and how they should be cited; without this the manuscript catalogues of libraries such as the BL or Bodleian are all but incomprehensible.

English Monastic Archives  http://www.ucl.ac.uk/history2/englishmonasticarchives/

A systematic guide to the types and current locations of documents generated by medieval English monasteries, but not, as a rule, to the information contained within those documents. The database links monastic houses with the manors, churches, chapels and urban property that they owned. This was initially intended as a working tool to enable the researchers to link documents relating to manors, etc., with the religious house that had generated them, whose name might well figure nowhere in the document. The database also records the documents generated by English monastic houses, structuring the data by genre and the other categories.

Palaeography

The R.Pal. section includes books of manuscript facsimiles and on study of palaeography, diplomatics and manuscript illuminations.

Munich guides to resources for manuscript studies, including e.g.

Historische Hilfswissenschaften: Kodikologie  http://www.vl-ghw.uni-muenchen.de/kodikologie.html

This online resource primarily provides brief evaluative descriptions of websites concerning medieval manuscript studies in general and codicology in particular, with links to the relevant websites. While the emphasis is on medieval manuscripts, some later manuscripts are included.

Historische Hilfswissenschaften: Diplomatik  http://www.vl-ghw.uni-muenchen.de/diplomatik.html

This online resource primarily provides brief evaluative descriptions of websites pertaining to diplomatics within the field of manuscript studies, with links to the sites. It covers the topics: Research institutions; Introduction to the field; Bibliographies for the study of charters, collections of photographs and links; Cartularies etc. (separate page); General topics; Imperial and royal charters; Papal charters; Private charters. Most sources covered are German, English or French.

Historische Hilfswissenschaften: Palaeographie  http://www.vl-ghw.uni-muenchen.de/palaeographie.html

Historische Hilfswissenschaften: Buchgeschichte  http://www.vl-ghw.uni-muenchen.de/buchgeschichte.html

TNA: Latin palaeography tutorial  http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/latinpalaeography/

6. Electronic resources & portals

i. Electronic journals

Key generalist journals

Past & Present
English Historical Review
Historical Journals
Journal of British Studies
French History
German History
Irish Studies Review
The Scottish Historical Review

Key medieval history journals:

Anglo-Saxon England
Crusades
Early medieval Europe
Journal of Ecclesiastical History
Nottingham Medieval Studies
Speculum: a journal of medieval studies
Thirteenth century England
Viator

Access via SOLO or OU eJournals
Use SSO for off-campus access.
ii. Digital Libraries on the web & portals

**Intute: Humanities**
http://www.intute.ac.uk/humanities/

A free, nationally funded, online service providing access to the best
Web resources for education and research, selected and evaluated by a
network of subject specialists. There are over 18,000 Web resources
listed here that are freely available by keyword searching and browsing.
Note: Intute ceased to be updated since summer 2011.

**British History Online (BHO)**
http://www.british-history.ac.uk/

A digital library containing some of the core printed primary and
secondary sources for the medieval and modern history of the British Isles. Created by the Institute of Historical Research and the History of
Parliament Trust. Includes e.g. Fasti Ecclesiae Anglicanae 1066-1300, Gazetteer of Markets and Fairs in
England and Wales to 1516 and much relating to local and London history. Increasingly content from the
Victoria County History project is added to.

**British History Online (BHO) – Premium**
[via OxLIP+]

British History Online - Premium is a digital library of 122 volumes of the Calendar of State Papers, Domestic
and the Calendars of State Papers for Scotland and Ireland as well as Parliament Rolls of Medieval England
(PROME). They are an invaluable source for medieval and early modern history of the British Isles, covering
aspects such as political, administrative, economic, social and local history. The calendar texts are fully
cross-searchable with a range of other material for the early modern period.

**Gallica: la bibliothèque numérique de la Bibliothèque nationale de France**
http://gallica.bnf.fr/

A growing digital library which gives access to a vast collection of digitised texts and images covering the
periods from the Middle Ages to the Nineteenth Century. Subjects covered include philosophy, law,
economics and politics as well as history and literature. The website provides chronologies of the periods
alongside thematic pages with links to related works. Alternatively, you can use the online catalogue to
search for particular works, or by subject. A selection of dictionaries is also available as are a number of
themed collections or dossiers and some audio resources. The website and most of the texts are in French,
but there is also a selection of texts in other languages.

**Digitale Bibliothek - Bayerische StaatsBibliothek**
http://www.digitale-sammlungen.de/

Online library of digitised manuscripts, printed sources, books, broadsides and maps. Includes some
medieval manuscripts and eMonumenta Germaniae Historica.

**Institut de Recherche et d’Histoire des Textes**
http://www.irht.cnrs.fr/

The Institute conducts fundamental research on the medieval manuscript and the transmission of medieval
texts written in Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Arabic, and Old French. The site provides information regarding the
institute's activities and publications, a calendar of seminars, conferences and colloquia, access to online
searching of its library catalogue, a listing of available electronic resources, and information on courses of
interest. Under the News section, a number of recent projects and their websites are also listed, including
‘Enluminure’ (a database of images from the medieval manuscripts held in the French libraries), and ‘Liber
Floridus’ (a database of illuminated manuscripts from French university libraries). This website is of particular
interest to researchers of the medieval manuscript book.