The Hatton and e Musaeo manuscript collections are important donations given to the Bodleian Library during its formative years in the seventeenth century.

The Hatton collection, assembled by Christopher, first Baron Hatton, was largely acquired by the Bodleian Library in 1671. Among its Middle English prose manuscripts are religious texts, including Nicholas Love’s *Mirror of the Blessed Life of Jesus Christ*, commentaries by Richard Rolle on the psalms and ten commandments, chronicles such as the *Brut* and an assortment of manuscripts ranging from political prophecies and grammar treatises to compendia of medical recipes.

The e Musaeo collection, so called because it was originally an eclectic group of manuscripts stored in the librarian’s study, also contains a variety of significant Middle English texts. They range from the religious and devotional: a Wycliffite New Testament, Love’s *Mirror*, and Heinrich Suso’s treatise *The Seven Points of True Love and Everlasting Wisdom*; to the scientific and medicinal: Chaucer’s *Astrolabe*, Henry Daniel’s *Liber Uricrisianum*; and to the historical, notably the *Brut*; and Mandeville’s *Travels*.

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THE INDEX OF MIDDLE ENGLISH PROSE

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THE INDEX OF
MIDDLE ENGLISH PROSE

HANDLIST XXI

Manuscripts in the Hatton and e Musaeo Collections,
Bodleian Library, Oxford

PATRICK J. HORNER

D. S. BREWER
General Introduction

When work began on the Index of Middle English Prose in 1977, it was agreed that the first step towards the preparation of a comprehensive index would be a series of detailed descriptions of the Middle English prose in various major repositories. Each of these Handlists is designed as a self-contained volume. Each includes a full listing of all Middle English prose items, and full indexing of the majority. A few general features of the Handlist should be noted:

1. Each Handlist provides, in the order of the library’s shelfmarks, a listing of all pieces of Middle English prose in the collections. Certain categories of material are noted, but not indexed. These include letters and all legal or quasi-legal documents – deeds, indentures, and other such documents. The existence of such documents is, however, noted as they occur.

2. Macaronic materials appear in an Appendix and are recorded only by opening lines.

3. Each item in the manuscript is identified by an arabic numeral placed within square brackets at the head of the entry. Each manuscript has an independent sequence of numbers. The identifying number is followed by opening and closing lines of the text, located by the folios on which they occur. In citing folios, numerals without further indication denote rectos; a and b thus indicate the first and second columns of rectos (va and vb for the same columns on versos). Normally at least fifty words at the beginning of the text appear and at least twenty at the end. Acephalous and atelous texts are treated as normal texts except that they are preceded and/or followed by three dots (…) to indicate incompleteness.

4. Transcriptions represent the ‘final text version’ with marginal and interlinear corrections indicated, although with no notice of cancellations and expunctions. Abbreviations have been silently expanded to accord with the normal full forms of the text. Z, when it represents z, has been transcribed as z. Word-division is editorial, and only the opening word is capitalized (i.e. ff has been normalized). Within the transcription, a solidus marks the boundary between two folios or columns.

5. Insofar as these can be differentiated with any confidence from the incipit and explicit of the actual text, opening and/or closing rubrics, shorn of the conventional ‘Incipit’ or ‘Here begynneth,’ are recorded within quotation marks. All such manuscript titles are from initial rubrics, except as noted; alternative sources of titles include RT (running title), col (the colophon or explicit), and tab (heading of ms. table of contents). Following this data full bibliographical details are given: italicized, the normal modern title, where one exists; references to standard bibliographical authorities and editions, a description of the work (if unpublished) and the opening lines of important divisions within longer unpublished texts, and references to other manuscripts or to relevant bibliographical sources. Other manuscripts are cited in a fixed order: mss. in London (BL first, other libraries alphabetically), mss. in Oxford (BodL first), mss. in Cambridge (CUL first), mss. in other English libraries (alphabetically by location), mss. in Scotland, mss. in Wales, mss. in Ireland, mss. in the U.S., mss. in Europe, mss. in Asia, mss. in Australia. Texts are located by initial folio only; absence of a folio reference indicates that the work occupies the full ms.

6. Certain categories of material, notably groups of sermons and groups of recipes, pose particular problems. We have sought to index each sermon separately, but have not attempted this for groups of recipes, giving instead the openings of the initial three recipes.
and the concluding lines of the final one. Individual recipes in main text-hands are transcribed; those added by later users of the manuscripts are simply noted.

7. Each Handlist closes with an index, the raw material for the eventual Index of Middle English Prose. The index lists, in strictly alphabetical order (i and y, u and v are separated; y for þ appears with þ under th; ʒ appears after g), all incipits, all explicits in reverse order, and all manuscript rubrics. Separate listings provide, as needed, incipits and reverse explicits for acephalous and atelous texts.

8. Our aim is to include all Middle English prose materials composed between c.1200 and c.1500. There are obvious difficulties with establishing either date with any certainty in most instances, particularly as they involve the latter terminus. For the earlier one, we have tended to include anything not described in N. R. Ker’s Catalogue of Manuscripts Containing Anglo-Saxon (Oxford: Clarendon, 1957). For the latter one, we have sought to err on the side of a generous inclusiveness, feeling that it is better to include some works which might not belong rather than risk omitting them. We also include all post-medieval transcripts of relevant Middle English works.

A. S. G. Edwards

General Editor
Acknowledgments

Upon completion of this *Handlist of Middle English Prose in the Hatton and e Musaeo Collections in the Bodleian Library, Oxford*, it is my pleasure to acknowledge with gratitude those persons and institutions that have contributed to it. My first debt is to Professor A. S. G. Edwards, the general editor of the *Index of Middle English Prose* since its inception, who encouraged my undertaking of this work and has been diligent in guiding it throughout. I owe a similar debt to Professor Ralph Hanna, a member of the IMEP editorial board, who has also read and commented on several drafts. Each of them has generously given of his time and expertise, and their efforts have improved the volume immeasurably. The errors that remain are my responsibility alone.

Any editor of such a handlist also owes a great debt to the editors of earlier volumes in the series, whose careful scholarship has manifestly increased our knowledge of the corpus of Middle English prose, and whose collective work makes each successive volume easier to produce. In addition, many colleagues have shared work that is pertinent to this handlist and responded to numerous queries: George Keiser, *Works of Science and Education*, vol. 10 of the revision of the *Manual of the Writings in Middle English*; Tess Tavormina, a series of studies on medical prose, especially urology; and Linda Voigts and Patricia Kurtz, *Scientific and Medical Writings in Old and Middle English: An Electronic Reference*.

Scholarly work of this type would be impossible without access to the repositories that hold manuscript collections, in this case the Bodleian Library of Oxford University. I am grateful to the library officials and staff for their cooperation and assistance in this work and in other work in the past. My particular debt is to Mr. Colin Harris, the superintendent of the special collections rooms, including Duke Humfrey’s Library, who has shared his expertise and friendship over many years, and to his excellent staff who create an efficient and pleasant environment in which to work. Permission to publish the transcriptions and other information relating to Bodleian manuscripts was kindly granted by Dr. Christopher Fletcher, Keeper of Special Collections, the Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford.

Such work would also not be possible without material and personal support at home and abroad. I am grateful to the American Philosophical Society for a Franklin Research Grant and to Manhattan College for a sabbatical leave and a summer research grant, all of which allowed this work to go forward. I am also indebted to my Christian Brother confreres and to David Scarpa, FSC Director, at De La Salle Provincialate in Oxford, who have graciously welcomed me to their community for many summers. In New York, this work has benefited from access to the New York Public Library, the Walsh Library of Fordham University, the Bobst Library of New York University, and to our own O’Malley Library at Manhattan College, especially to Ms. Maire Duchon, Director, to Ms. Catherine Shanley, and to Mr. John Gormley.

Finally, a word of thanks to those individuals who have contributed to this work in less tangible, but no less important ways: my colleagues in the English Department at Manhattan College, especially Ashley Cross and Rocco Marinaccio, and my Christian Brother confreres at Manhattan College and at Saint Raymond’s Brothers Community. To all of them, my deep thanks.

Patrick J. Horner, FSC
June 11, 2013
Feast of St. Barnabas
Abbreviations

Abbreviations listed here are to items that appear frequently (at least three times) in the Handlist, especially in the various bibliographical sections, and, where appropriate, they follow the format adopted in earlier volumes of the Index of Middle English Prose.

Add  Additional (MS(S))
Anal. Cart.  Analecta Cartusiana
BL  British Library
BodL  Bodleian Library
Camb.  Cambridge
Col  College
CUL  Cambridge University Library
EETS OS, ES, SS  Early English Text Society, Original Series, Extra Series, Supplementary Series.
Gneuss  H. Gneuss. Handlist of Anglo-Saxon Manuscripts: A List of Manu-
ABBREVIATIONS


ABBREVIATIONS


LP  Linguistic Profile

### ABBREVIATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MET</td>
<td>Middle English Texts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLR</td>
<td><em>Modern Language Review</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS(S)</td>
<td>manuscript(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N&amp;Q</td>
<td><em>Notes and Queries</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NLM</td>
<td>National Library of Medicine (Bethesda, MD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NLS</td>
<td>National Library of Scotland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NLW</td>
<td>National Library of Wales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ns</td>
<td>new series</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ODNB</td>
<td><em>Oxford Dictionary of National Biography</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxf.</td>
<td>Oxford (to introduce a sequence of Oxford college libraries)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rawl</td>
<td>Rawlinson MS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ABBREVIATIONS

Scott

Seymour, Bodley

Seymour, Chaucer

Seymour, Defective

Seymour, Properties

Seymour, ‘Scribe’
M. C. Seymour. ‘A Fifteenth-Century East Anglian Scribe,’ *Medium Ævum* 37 (1968), 166–73.

Seymour, ‘Travels’

Singer

Skeat, Astrolabe

Skeat, Works

STC2

TK

TM

UL
University Library

Univ
University

Wanley

Watson

Wells Rev.

Young

YW