

# ENGLISH BINDINGS

I *A late twelfth- or early thirteenth-century binding from Fountains Abbey.*

'Liber Ezechialis'. MS. on vellum (Latin), written at Fountains Abbey, Yorkshire, in the latter part of the twelfth century; ruled.

297 × 197 × 57 mm.

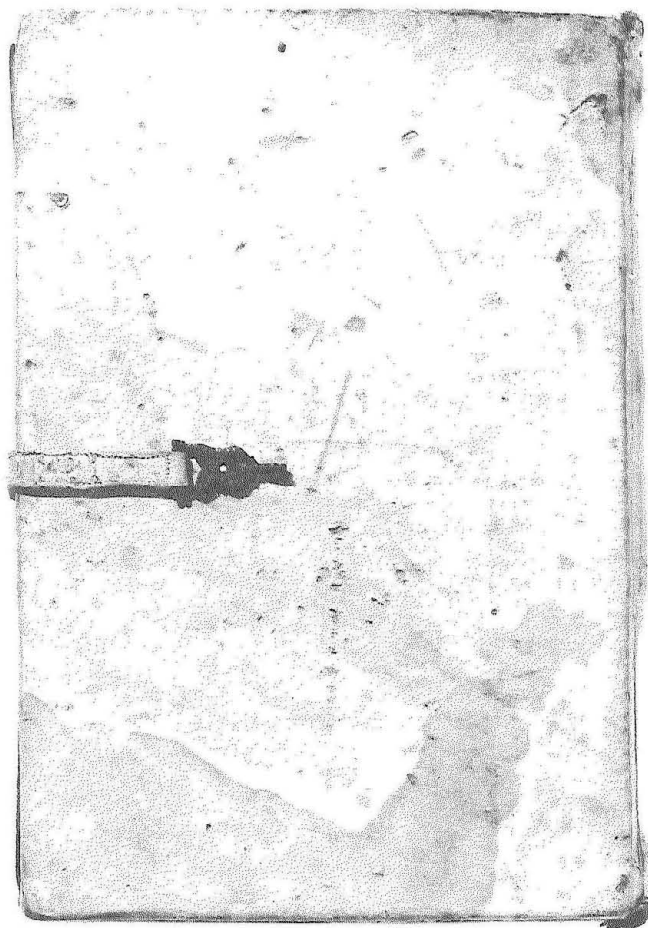
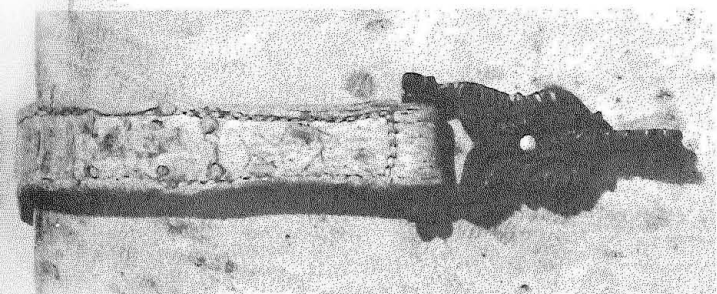
(M. 49)

White whittawed skin over wooden boards. A brass clasp on a long leather thong fastens almost in the centre of the lower cover. The flat spine has at head and tail semi-circular tabs whipped round with blue silk. Vellum paste-downs.

PROVENANCE: Fountains Abbey; Sir W. H. Ingilby (sold: Sotheby's, 21.X.1920, 50); Wilfred Merton (book-plate); Breslauer (sold: 19.II.1958).

REFERENCES: Pollard, *Library*, 1962, pp. 1-22. Ker, *Medieval Libraries*, pp. 89, 371. Romme, *Book Collector*, 1969, p. 28. Foot, *B.L.J.*, 1977, p. 114.

LITERATURE: Miner, *Baltimore*, n. 106. Pollard, *Festschrift Hunt*.



2 *A Canterbury binding by John Kemsyn, c. 1470.*

'Biblia Sacra'. Illuminated MS. on vellum (Latin), thirteenth century; ruled.

212 × 135 × 68 mm.

(M. 39)

Brown calf over wooden boards, tooled in blind with various small stamps to a different design on each cover. Modern clasps. The spine has seven double and two single bands and ten blind-tooled compartments. Vellum ms. paste-down and vellum end-leaves.

PROVENANCE: W. Barrett (sold: 13.XI.1608); M[?H] Dampier, 1809; John Lucius Dampier (book-plate); F. K. J. Coleridge; Sotheby's, 22.V.1950, 123a (pl.).

REFERENCES: Oldham, *Blind Stamped*, p. 24. Romme, *Book Collector*, 1969, p. 28 (pl. VII). Foot, *B.L.J.*, 1977, p. 114. Exhibited: *Festival of Britain*, 1951, 449.

Same tools on: [covers]: Bodley, Douce bindings, A. 19, B. 10. 'Arithmetical and astronomical pieces', MS. on vellum, 12th–13th century: Bodley, Selden Supra 25. Gulielmus Alvernus, MS. on vellum, 15th century: Bodley, MS. Bodl. 281. 'Historical and medical pieces', MS. on vellum, c. 1465: Bodley, MS. Bodl. 648.

LITERATURE: Hobson, *English*, pp. 15–16, pl. 33. Oldham, *Kyriss Festschrift*, p. 163. Pollard, *Library*, 1970, pp. 204–05.

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3 *A London binding by the Scales Binder, c. 1475.*

Charlier de Gerson, Jean, *De passionibus animae* [and other works], [Cologne]: Ulrich Zell [and others], n.d. [c. 1470–73].

225 × 150 × 52 mm.

(P. 1415)

Rebound with the original brown leather covers onlaid. Tooled in blind to a different design on each cover, with on the lower cover the initials *rs*, possibly those of the original owner, cut in the leather.

PROVENANCE: [?R.S.]; ms. notes; Thomas Forman; Anthony Higgin, dean of Ripon; Ripon Cathedral Library (sold: Sotheby's, 31.V.1960, 7).

REFERENCES: *B.M.C.* I, 190, 190, 189, 212, 214, 210. Proctor, 983. Vouillième, *Köln*, 899. Mortimer, *Leeds Phil. and Lit. Soc.* X (1962), p. 45, n. 12. Romme, *Book Collector*, 1969, p. 28. Barker, *Book Collector*, 1972, pp. 356–79, p. 375, n. 14. Foot, *B.L.J.*, 1977, p. 114, fig. 1.

LITERATURE: Hobson, *English*, pp. 17–18. Hobson, *Cambridge*, pp. 12–24, pl. 4–8. Oldham, *Blind Stamped*, p. 25. Oldham, *Kyriss Festschrift*, pp. 164–65. Pollard, *Library*, 1970, pp. 193–219.

Note: The Scales Binder worked probably from the early 1450s to at least 1481.

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