

‘Select Bibliography: The Manuscript Letter in Early Modern England’

James Daybell and Andrew Gordon

The following bibliography maps resources available for study of the early modern correspondence concentrating on the manuscript letter. Although substantial it is not comprehensive and should be used in conjunction with the further bibliographies listed under 5a.

1. General Studies

2. Material Features and Technologies of the Letter

- a. Material and Physical Characteristics
- b. Tools, Technologies and Stuff of Letter Writing
- c. Handwriting and Palaeography
- d. Postal Conditions

3. Letter Writing Genres and Practices

- a. Composition and Authorship
- b. Secretaries and Scribes
- c. Epistolary Manuals and Model Letters
- d. Secret Letters
- e. Newsletters
- f. Anonymous Letters and Libels
- g. Linguistic Approaches to the Letter

4. Afterlives of the Letter

- a. Letter Books
- b. Copies, Circulation and the Re-Reading of Letters
- c. Archives

5. Further Resources

- a. Other Bibliographies
- b. Unpublished Theses
- c. Select Editions
- d. Online Resources
 - i. Digital Editions, Letter Projects and Research Initiatives
 - ii. Library catalogues
 - iii. Other Archival Gateways
 - iv. Online Finding Aids and Publications
 - v. Digital Collections

1. GENERAL STUDIES

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2. MATERIAL FEATURES AND TECHNOLOGIES OF THE LETTER

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3. LETTER WRITING GENRES AND PRACTICES

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DuGard, Lydia, Cousins in Love: The Letters of Lydia DuGard, 1665-1672, ed. Nancy Taylor (Tempe, AZ: Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, 2003).

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Hobbes, Thomas, The Correspondence of Thomas Hobbes ed. Noel Malcolm, 2 volumes (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994).

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Spenser, Edmund, Selected Letters and Other Papers ed. Christopher Burlinson and Andrew Zurcher (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009).

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d. Online Resources

Resources listed below are open access unless otherwise indicated.

i) Digital Editions, Letter Projects and Research Initiatives

Adams, Robyn, digital edition, 'The Letters of William Herle Project'

<http://www.livesandletters.ac.uk/herle/index.html>

Centre of Editing Lives and Letters, <http://www.livesandletters.ac.uk/>.

Corpora of Early English Correspondence,

<http://www.helsinki.fi/varieng/CoRD/corpora/CEEC/index.html>

University of Oxford, 'Cultures of Knowledge: An Intellectual Geography of the Seventeenth-Century Republic of Letters', <http://cofk.history.ox.ac.uk/>.

'Diplomatic Correspondence of Thomas Bodley, 1585–1597',

<http://www.livesandletters.ac.uk/bodley/bodley.html>.

Early Modern Letters Online, <http://emlo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/>.

The Electronic Enlightenment (subscription necessary), <http://www.e-enlightenment.com/info/about/letters/>.

Folger Shakespeare Library, 'Folger Digital Image Collection', <http://luna.folger.edu/luna/servlet/FOLGERCM1~6~6>.

'Francis Bacon Correspondence Project: An Inventory of his Correspondence', <http://www.livesandletters.ac.uk/bacon/baconindex.html>.

The Parsed Corpus of Early English Correspondence (access by application), http://www-users.york.ac.uk/~lang22/PCEEC-manual/corpus_description/contents.htm

Scriptorium: Medieval and Early Modern Manuscripts Online, <http://scriptorium.english.cam.ac.uk/>

'Spenser Letters', <http://www.english.cam.ac.uk/ceres/haphazard/letters/lettersindex.html>.

'The Thomas L. Gravell Watermark Archive', <http://www.gravell.org/index.php?&&offset=&rectotal=4&query=>

The Warburg Institute, 'Some Sources for Early Modern Letters', <http://warburg.sas.ac.uk/research/projects/scaliger/sources-for-early-modern-letters/>.

Wiggins, A., with Bryson, A., Smith, D., Timmermann, A. and Williams, G., eds. *Bess of Hardwick's Letters: The Complete Correspondence, c.1550-1608* [On-line resource]. (forthcoming) www.bessofhardwick.org

ii) Library Catalogues

Beinecke Library, Yale, Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts, <http://brbl-net.library.yale.edu/pre1600ms/>

Bodleian Library Western Manuscripts, <http://www.bodley.ox.ac.uk/dept/scwmss/wmss/online/online.htm>

British Library Manuscript Catalogue, http://searcharchives.bl.uk/primo_library/libweb/action/search.do;jsessionid=C8A60B5EBBA1944A35F5E83472D0C85E?dscnt=1&dstmp=1353081674033&vid=IAMS_VU2&fromLogin=true

Cambridge University Library, <http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/>

College of Arms, <http://www.college-of-arms.gov.uk/>

Folger Shakespeare Library Finding Aids, <http://findingaids.folger.edu/index.php>

Harry Ransom Centre, The University of Texas at Austin, <http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/>

Houghton Library, Harvard University, <http://hcl.harvard.edu/libraries/houghton/>

Huntington Library, San Marino, California, <http://www.huntington.org/>

The Inner Temple Library, <http://www.innertemplelibrary.org.uk/>

Newberry Library, <http://www.newberry.org/>

Lambeth Palace Library, <http://www.lambethpalacelibrary.org/>

National Library of Scotland Manuscripts, <http://www.nls.uk/collections/manuscripts/index>

National Library of Wales, <http://cat.llgc.org.uk/cgi-bin/gw/chameleon?&skin=full&lng=en>

Society of Antiquaries, <http://www.sal.org.uk/library/>

Trinity College, Dublin, <http://www.tcd.ie/Library/>

William Andrews Clark Memorial Library, UCLA, <http://www.clarklibrary.ucla.edu/>

Dr Williams Library, <http://www.dwlib.co.uk/dwlib/>

iii) Other Archival Gateways

A2A, Access to Archives, <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/>

AIM25 <http://www.aim25.ac.uk/>

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

The National Register of Archives, <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/nra/default.asp>

iv) Online Finding Aids and Publications

British History Online, Guides and Calendars (large amount of free content but premium subscription options)

<http://www.british-history.ac.uk/catalogue.aspx?type=3>

Guide to Record Societies and their Publications (Mullins, Texts and Calendars)

<http://www.royalhistoricalsociety.org/textandcalendars.php>

The Historical Manuscripts Commission,

<http://www.royalhistoricalsociety.org/histmanscommission.pdf>

List and Index Society Publications, <http://www.listandindexsociety.org.uk/>

Maule, Jeremy and Andrew Zurcher, 'Routes Towards Early Modern Literary Manuscripts: Prolegomenon towards the first draft of an elementary elucidarium',

<http://scriptorium.english.cam.ac.uk/handwriting/bibliography/prolegomenon.php>

v) Digital Collections

Cecil Papers Online (subscription required), <http://cecilpapers.chadwyck.com/marketing.do>

University of Hull State Papers Project, <http://www.sp12.hull.ac.uk/>

State Papers Online (subscription required), <http://gale.cengage.co.uk/state-papers-online-15091714.aspx>

