



Big Data and the Afterlives of Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts

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Mapping Manuscript Migrations: Digging Into Data For The History And Provenance Of Pre-Modern European Manuscripts

Abstract

Hundreds of thousands of pre-modern European manuscripts have survived until the present day. As the result of changes in their ownership over the centuries, they are now spread all over the world. Collectively they constitute a great cultural and scholarly treasure. There are many sources of data relating to them, and new sources continue to proliferate in the digital environment. This project will link disparate datasets from Europe and North America to provide an international view of the history and provenance of these manuscripts. The aggregated data will enable researchers to analyse and visualize these topics at scales ranging from individual manuscripts to thousands of manuscripts. Our research will address their origins and movements, and the collectors and owners involved in their history. We will be able to show how these manuscripts have traveled across time and space to their current locations, where they continue to find new audiences.

Principal Investigators

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Partner Investigators



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IRHT

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Specific Research Questions

- Trace the history and movement across time and space of a single manuscript
- Trace the history and movement across time and space of a group of manuscripts, selected using one of the following criteria, or by a combination of two or more of these criteria:
 - similar place of origin; same current location (place / institution / collection);
 - same language; similar subject; similar text; same period of origin;
 - same current or previous owner(s); same collection at the same time
- For manuscripts of a particular type, or from a particular group:
 - Find the number or proportion which are now in institutional collections;
 - Find the number or proportion which are in private collections;
 - Show how these numbers and proportions changed over time
- Find the connections between specific actors, and also between specific manuscripts or groups of manuscripts

Broader Research Questions

- A general analysis of the history and movement of medieval and Renaissance manuscripts over the centuries, including such questions as: how many manuscripts have survived; where they are now; and which people and institutions have been involved in their history;
- A more specific analysis of the mobility of manuscripts and its traceability, within and from French space, since the Wars of Religion;
- A comparison of the respective significance of institutional and individual manuscript collectors in the 19th and 20th centuries;
- Trace the history and movement across time and space of a group of manuscripts, selected using one or more of the following criteria: place of origin; current location; language; subject; text; period of origin; current or previous owner(s); in the same collection at the same time

The Project

- Collect and transform heterogeneous data to a common Data Model
- Expose the combined data in a Linked Data environment
- Implement a software interface for browsing and searching the combined data
- Explore research questions relating to the history and provenance of manuscripts on a large scale
- Visualize the data
 - geographical relationships
 - network relationships

LOGIN

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The Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts aggregates observations of pre-modern manuscripts drawn from over 12,000 auction and sales catalogues, inventories, catalogues from institutional and private collections, and other sources that document sales and locations of these books from around the world.

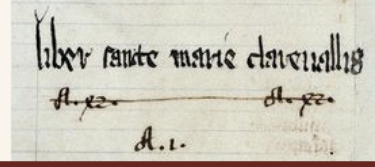
Search the Database

Everyone is invited to search the database. Use the search bar below, or click the facets to the right.

Author	
Saint Augustine (S. Augustinus), Bishop of Hippo (354-430)	5,142
Jerome, Saint (S. Hieronymus) (347-419/420)	3,723
Cicero, Marcus Tullius (106-43 BC)	3,310

Bibale

Historic Collections, Provenance, and Medieval Text Transmission





Medium

- édition avancée
Répertoire des manuscrits reproduits et recensés

IRHT

Recherche

Accueil
Manuscrits
Etablissements
Panier (0)

MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS IN OXFORD LIBRARIES

A catalogue of Western manuscripts at the Bodleian Libraries and selected Oxford colleges

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Data Sources

Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts	Own data model	225,000 records containing provenance-related observations of manuscript histories
Bodleian Library Medieval Manuscript Catalogues	Text Encoding Initiative (TEI)	9,500 catalogue records; about 1,000 with detailed provenance information
Bibale (IRHT) Medium (IRHT)	Own data model	<i>Bibale</i> : more than 5,000 MSS with provenance information <i>Medium</i> : brief records for more than 109,000 MSS, with links to other sources of information

Toby Burrows
User Level: *super_editor*

4 Notifications

Dashboard

Bookmarks

Exports

Groups

Watched Records

Projects

TOOLS

+ Add New Entry

DIGGING INTO DATA CHALLENGE

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

Trans-Atlantic Platform
Social Sciences and Humanities

INSTITUTE of Museum and Library SERVICES

SDBM_31241

This entry has been identified as belonging to manuscript record [SDBM_MS_9367](#), which has 2 entries in the SDBM.

Source	1833-03-16 - London - D'athanasi (Auction/Dealer Catalog)
Cat./Lot #	201
Selling Agent(s)	London
Titles	Bible
Dates	C 1250 (1240 to 1261)
Places	Italy, Europe France, Europe
Folios	43
Provenance Info	This entry has 5 provenance records involving: Maciejowski, Bernard, Cardinal 'Abbās I, Shah of Iran, 1571-1629 D'Athanasi, Giovanni Phillipps, Thomas, Sir, 1792-1872 Pierpont Morgan Library

[View complete record...](#)

Download results as CSV

Source

1833-03-16 - London - D'athanasi	1
Bibliothèque nationale de France - Bibliotheque nationale de France, Archives et Manuscrits Online Catalogue	1

Source Type

Auction/Dealer Catalog	1
Collection Catalog	1

Provenance

Manuscript Date

Manuscript

Place

Language

Material

Folios

Physical Description

Form: codex

Support: parchment

Extent: i (modern parchment) + iv (paper) + 15 + iv (paper) + i (modern parchment)

Dimensions (leaf): 355×230mm.

Dimensions (written): 280-90×190-5mm.

Foliation: modern pencil: i-v, 1-20; the text leaves foliated in pencil in the lower margin, probably by Phillipps

Collation

1(16)

Layout

72-81 lines; in 3 columns; ruled in pencil

Decoration

Red and blue initials with penwork.

Binding

Bound c.1800 in figured red velvet, with blue silk linings decorated in gold, edges gilt and gaufered. Paper flyleaves have watermarks 'J. Whatman' and '1794 J. Whatman', cf. Heawood, nos. 3459–60.

History

Origin: 13th century, late ; [French](#) (Italian-looking hand) (?)

Provenance and Acquisition

Probably from same MS. as MS. Lat. class. c. 12.

[Theodore Poelman](#) (or Pulman), 16th century: annotated by him, and inscribed 'Sum Theodori Pulmanni' (fol. 1r). Cited as MS.P in his edition of Claudian, first published by Plantin, 1571; but M.A. Del Rio, in his *Notae in Claudianum* (Antwerp, 1572, but found accompanying Poelman's 1571 edition) refers to the MS. as 'm.s. liber quam mihi utentum [Victor Giselinus](#) [i.e. Ghyselinc] singulari vir doctrina concessit' (cit. Hall, ed. cit., p.17). At least one other MS. from Poelman's collection now in the Plantin Moretus Museum, MS.Lat.120, was given to him by Giselinus.

[John Broadley](#), his sale, 12 July 1832, lot 182 (this no. in pencil on fol. i verso).

Thomas Thorpe, *Catalogue of upwards of 1400 MSS ...*, 1836, no. 282

[Sir Thomas Phillipps \(1792-1872\)](#), MS. 8775

Sotheby's 28 Nov. 1967, lot 100. Bought.



SUISSE, COLOGNY, Fondation Martin Bodmer, 076

Type Livre
Permalien <http://bibale2.irht.cnrs.fr/view/14751>
Publié par IRHT



► General

Cote livre SUISSE, COLOGNY, Fondation Martin Bodmer, 076
Type composant Volume conservé
Date 1101 - 1200
Lieu Italie
Medium commentaire Gregorius Magnus, Homiliae en Ezechielem

► Associations (7)

Type asso	Notice	Date
est mentionné dans	E. Pellegrin, <i>Manuscrits latins de la Bodmeriana</i>, Cologny-Genève, Fondation Martin Bodmer, 1982 , p. 132-133	
fait partie de	Collection Phillipps	
fait partie de	Fonds du libraire Thomas Thorpe	
fait partie de	Collection de Sydney Cockerell	
fait partie de	Fonds de la librairie Dawsons (Pall Mall, Londres)	
fait partie de	Fonds de libraire de Philip Duschnes	



Morgan Library and
Museum, MS M.638

The Crusader Bible

valter Samuel Sanctus quies secro uaxerat. coram omni populo ungit in Regem.
et cum summa lei namque ipse samuel quam populus sacrificauit.

Phillipps MS 8025 bis [edit](#)

(ngRn5g66cRnldBdlyRKhg)

Phillipps number 8025 bis

Material Vellum

Folios 43 leaves

Height 390 mm

Width 300 mm

ID /mss/phillipps/8025b

Digital copy link <http://www.themorgan.org/collection/Crusader-Bible/thumbs>

Notes Known as: The Crusader Bible. Has Phillipps number on the volume, but does not appear in his Catalogus

Sub-Objects: Overview

[Sold]

[Owned]

[Produced]



25



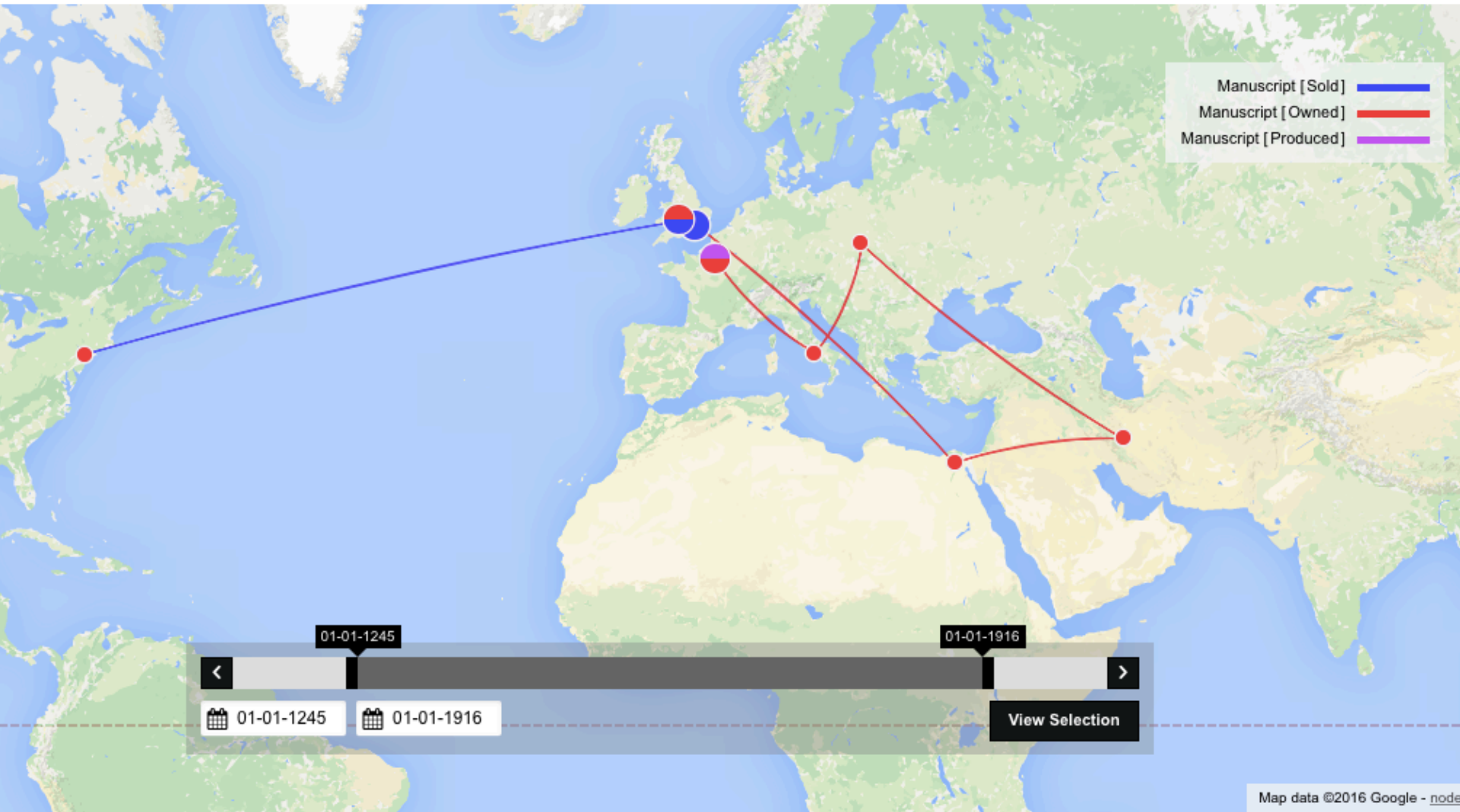
1 - 11 of 11



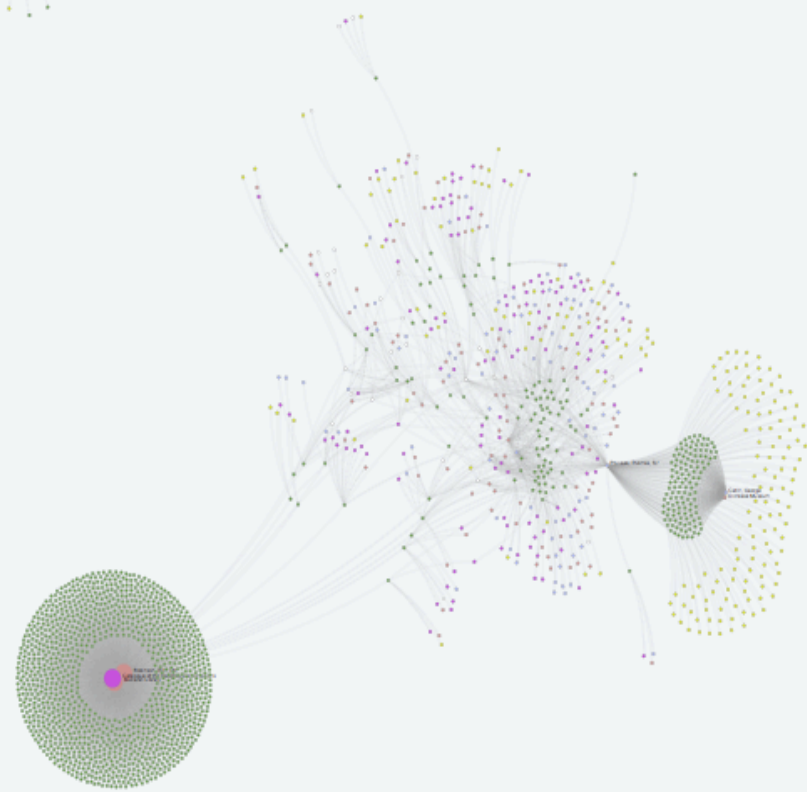
1



	Date Start	Date End		Location
[Produced]	1245	1255	City [Located]	Paris (FR)
[Owned]	1245	1270	City [Located]	Paris (FR)
[Owned]	1300	-	City [Located]	Napoli (IT)
[Owned]	1604	-	City [Located]	Kraków (PL)
[Owned]	1608	-	City [Located]	Esfahân (IR)
[Owned]	1833	-	City [Located]	Cairo (EG)
[Sold]	15-03-1833	-	City [Located]	London (GB)
[Sold]	1834	-	City [Located]	London (GB)
[Owned]	1834	1872	City [Located]	Cheltenham (GB)
[Sold]	1916	-	City [Located]	Cheltenham (GB)
[Owned]	1916	∞	City [Located]	New York City (US)



- Manuscript
- Organization
- Person
- Source of Data
- Text



Catalogue of the topographical collecti...	
out-Links	0/0
in-Links	1170/1170
Manuscript [Owned]	1170
Phillipps MS 19884	1 (3)
Phillipps MS 3	1 (3)
Phillipps MS 57	1 (3)
Phillipps MS 66	1 (3)
Phillipps MS 92	1 (3)
Phillipps MS 108	1 (3)
Phillipps MS 140	1 (3)
Phillipps MS 141	1 (3)
Phillipps MS 142	1 (3)
Phillipps MS 143	1 (3)

Catalogue of the topographical collections

30-03-17 CE
30-03-2017 CE

>

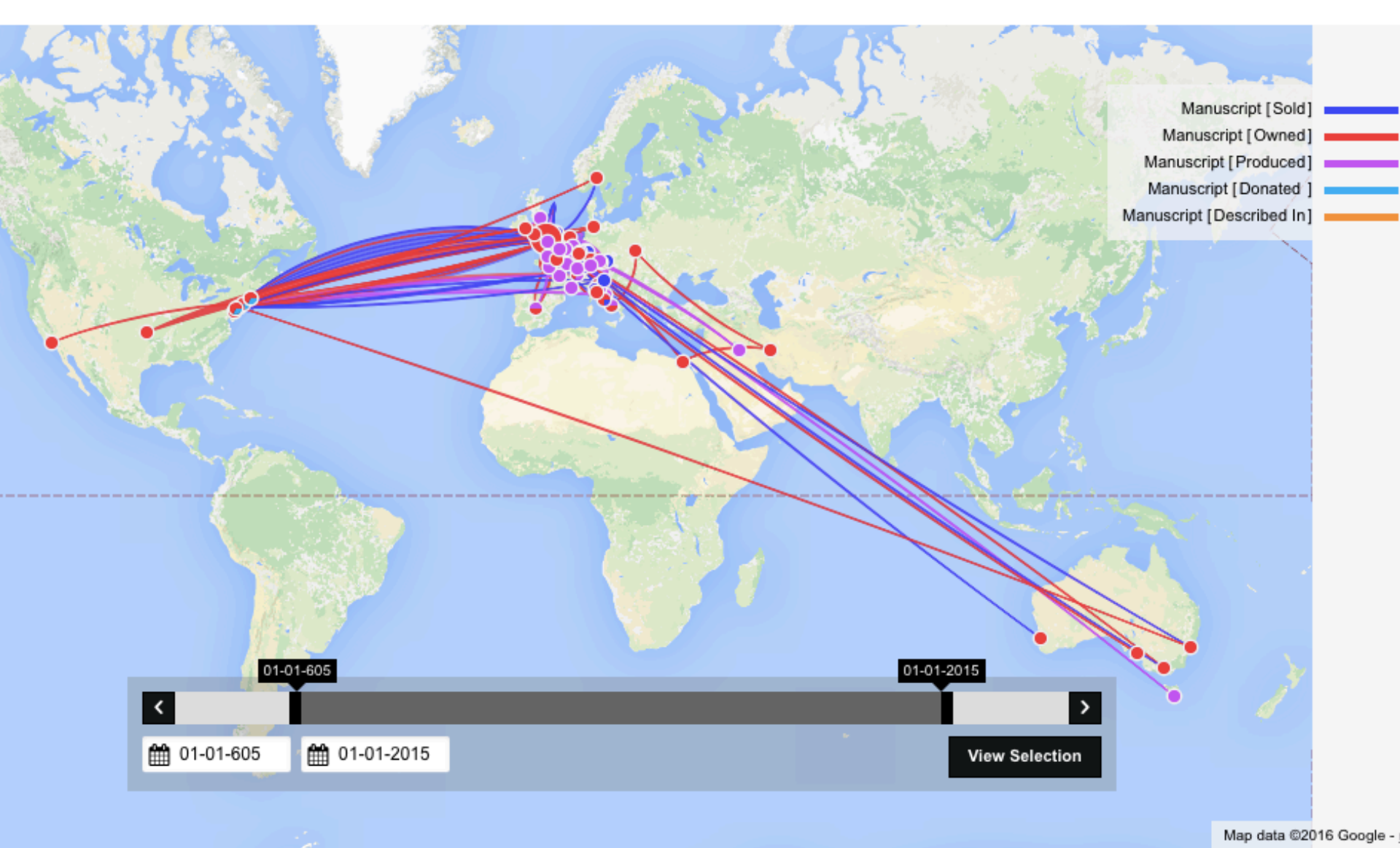
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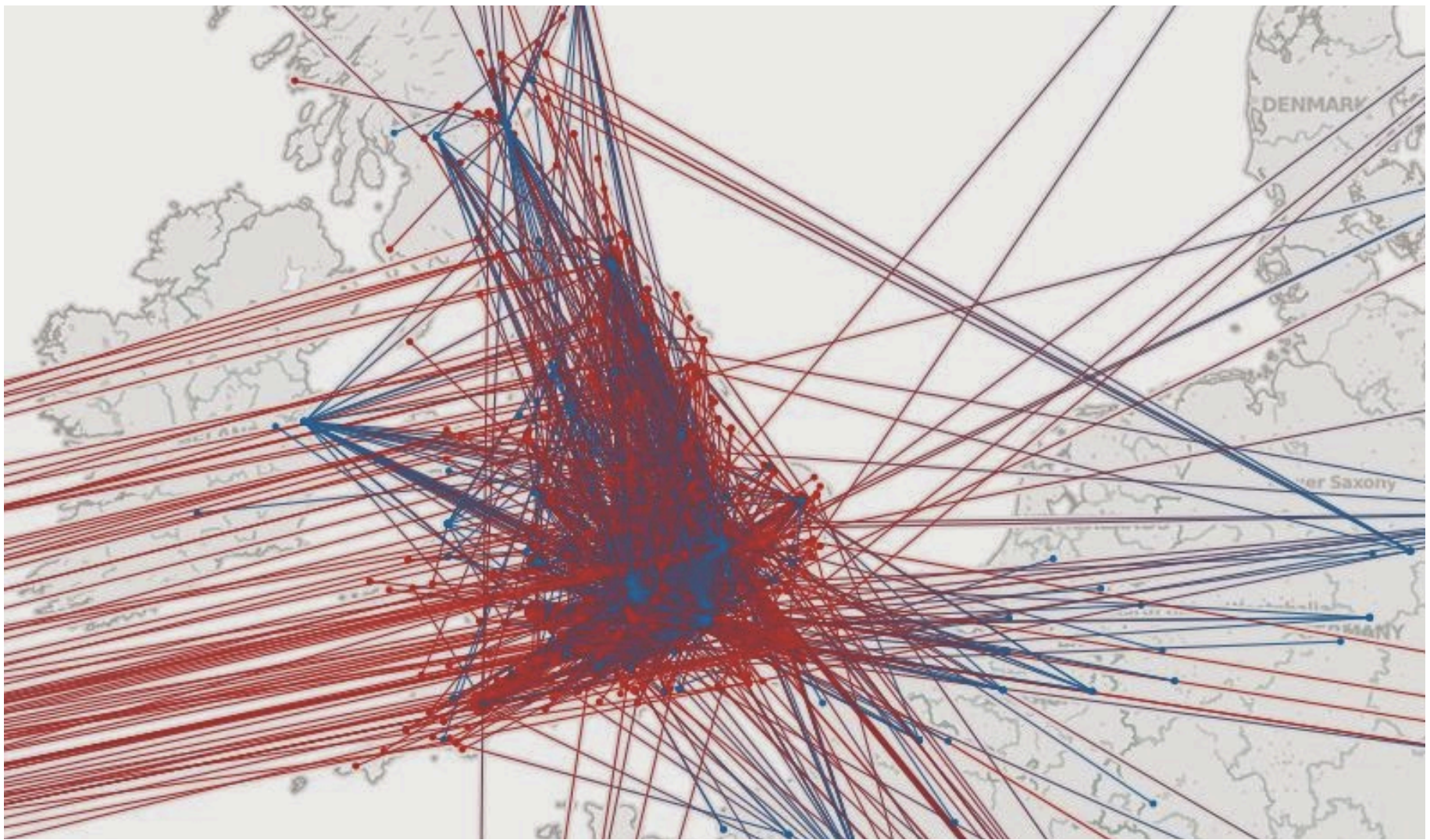
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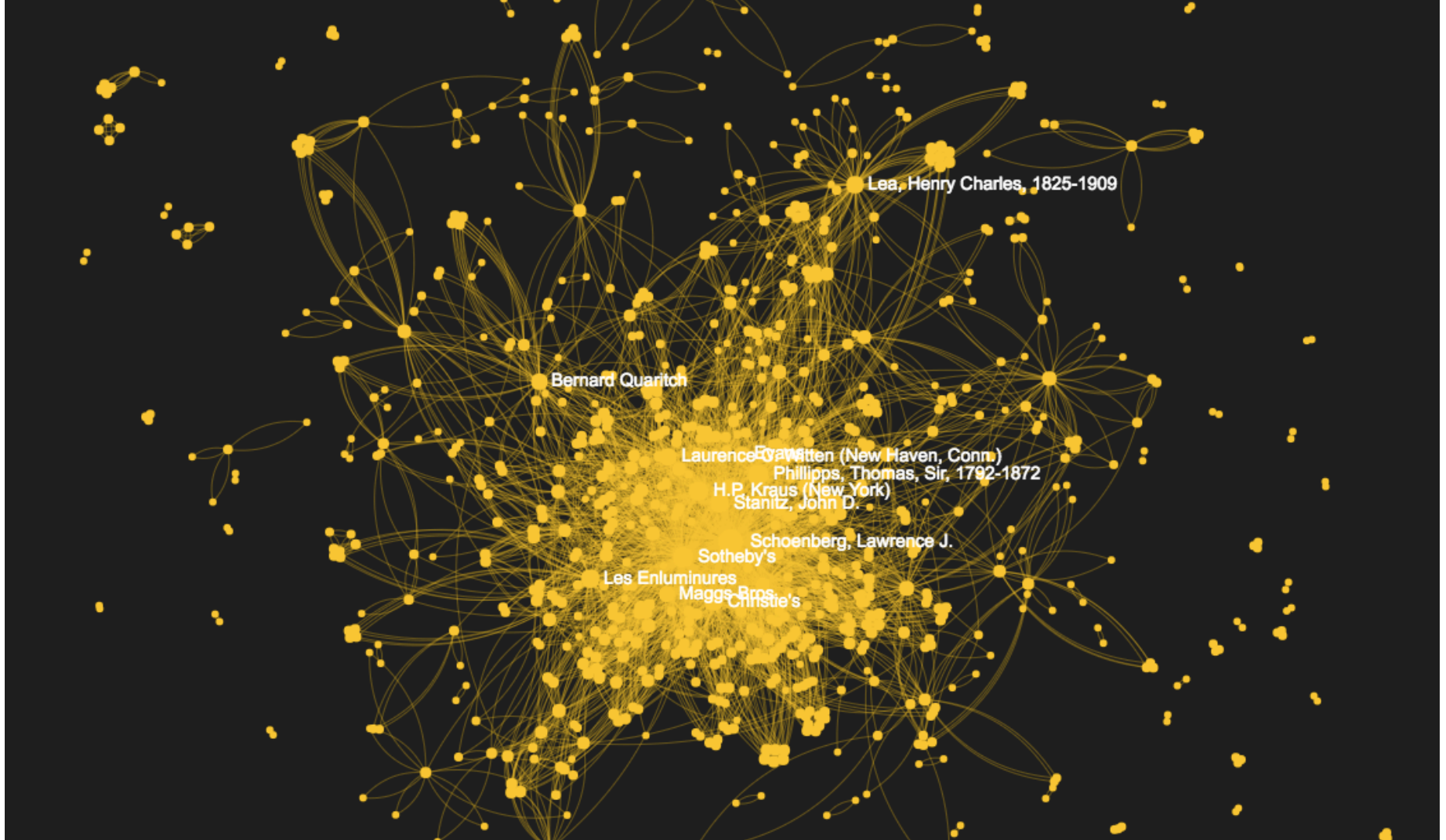
View Selection





Mitch Fraas (2013) “Movement of books from medieval libraries in the MLGB3. Medieval locations (red), Current locations (blue)”

<http://mappingbooks.blogspot.co.uk/2013/11/the-dispersal-of-medieval-libraries-of.html>



Mitch Fraas (2014) “Past possessors of Penn’s codex manuscripts in yellow linked with others who possessed the same manuscript”

<http://mappingbooks.blogspot.co.uk/2014/01/charting-former-owners-of-penns-codex.html>

Work to Date

- A comparative listing of the data elements from the Schoenberg Database, the Bodleian TEI files, and Bibale, mapped to each other and to the research questions identified;
- The Schoenberg Database exported in an RDF representation;
- Initial work on representing the Bodleian TEI files in RDF;
- The Bodleian lists of people, organisations and places mapped to RDF and to external identifiers;
- Recommendations to the Bodleian Library on enhancing the provenance elements of their TEI files;
- A mock-up of the home page and an outline of the search and browse specifications for a software prototype;
- A focus group of researchers at Oxford, which produced a list of requirements and research questions.

Mapping Manuscript Migrations

- More information at:
<http://mappingmanuscriptmigrations.org>
- Twitter: @MSMigrations
- Toby Burrows: toby.burrows@oerc.ox.ac.uk

- Trans-Atlantic Platform:
<http://transatlanticplatform.com>
- Digging into Data:
<https://diggingintodata.org>

