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Early English Books (c. 1473-1600) in the Keio University Library¹

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In 2006 the online version of the *English Short Title Catalogue* was made freely available. It is a vast database which is ‘designed to include a bibliographic record, with holdings, of every surviving copy of letterpress produced in Great Britain or any of its dependencies, in any language, worldwide, from 1473-1800’.² A sample search in this online catalogue, however, soon reveals that it contains only a few entries detailing holdings in Japanese libraries. This is not surprising, because there has been almost no systematic study or cataloguing of rare Western books in Japanese collections, even though a great number have been imported into Japan. Consequently the books in Japanese collections have received very little attention, with the notable exception of the incunabula collection, on which Koichi Yukishima has been working tirelessly for over twenty years.³ Given our general ignorance about these collections, then, there is a pressing need for scholars to unveil the wealth of Japan’s holdings to the bibliographical community.

It is with this in mind that in the autumn of 2007 the present writer began making a checklist of early English books in Japanese libraries. The main focus of this project is to compile a list of Japanese holdings of books listed in the second edition of *A Short-Title Catalogue* (here-

after STC), and hence also in the online *English Short Title Catalogue*. The study is restricted to holdings dating from the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries (i.e. between 1473, when Caxton published his first book in Bruges, and 1600). Through a preliminary survey of the library catalogues (both online and in codices), this writer has so far confirmed that there are about 200 printed books in Japanese libraries (excluding private collections), and it is certain that the number will be many more than this when the work progresses.

Of the libraries in Japan, Keio University Library (hereafter KUL) has the largest number of holdings. Of course, KUL's collection is not as eminent as those of the famous European or American libraries, but it is no exaggeration to say that KUL has several rare copies that have a significant place in the history of the book: KUL has at least 45 copies of 44 editions from the STC that were published in the fifteenth or sixteenth centuries. According to the library records, the first attempt to acquire STC books was probably made in 1979, when Caxton's *Chronicles of England* was purchased along with several other books. Indeed, we may say that the KUL started to collect rare Western books in the late 1970s.⁴

While the KUL collection may seem heterogeneous, it has a good selection of specifically historical writings produced in the early Tudor period, represented by works such as *Chronicles of England* (STC 9991), Fabyan's *Newe cronycles* (STC 10659, 10664), Froissart's books (STC 11396.7 and 11397a), and Holinshed's chronicles (STC 13568b, 13569). And here acknowledgement should be made of the role that Professor Toshiyuki Takamiya played in the formation of this collection; he not only recommended which books should be purchased, but also donated at least 3 copies of historical writings to the KUL collection [i.e. KUL shelf-marks 120X@549, 120X@550, and 120X@721@1-2].

The following list contains all of the Early English Books held by KUL dating from the period 1473-1600. Although the research itself is still work in progress, it can now describe the contents of the whole collection for the first time. The copies are listed in order of the STC numbers, along with the author's name, the title of the work, the publication details and the ESTC numbers. Bibliographical details such as collation, binding information and provenance are not included here, and so the list is still preliminary. Nonetheless, most of the books have never been described anywhere before, and this checklist will be a guide for those who study the history of English printing.

**A Checklist of Early English Books (c. 1473-1600)
in the Keio University Library**

STC	Author / Title / Publication Details / Format / ESTC	KUL Shelf-mark
836	Ascham, Roger. The schoolemaster, or, playne and perfite way of teaching children, to vnderstande, write, and speake the Latin toong. London: Abell Jeffes, 1589. 4°. ESTC S100267.	120X@922@1
1295	Bale, John. Illustrium maioris Britanniae scriptorum, summarium. Gippeswici [i.e. Wesel]: [D. van dem Straten for] Ioannem Ouerton, [1548]. 4°. ESTC S100599.	120X@515@1
1538	Bartholomaeus, Anglicus. Batman vppon Bartholome, his booke De proprietatibus rerum, enlarged and amended. London: Thomas East, [1582]. 2°. ESTC S106624.	120X@822@1
2166	The Bible (Geneva version). London: Christopher Barker, 1595. 4°. ESTC S676.	120X@723@1
2487	The whole booke of psalmes. London: John Windet for the assignes of Richard Day, 1594. 4°. ESTC S4520.	120X@723@1
3177	Boccaccio, Giovanni. A treatise excellent and compendious, shewing the falles of sondry most notable princes. London: Richard Tottel, [1554]. 2°. ESTC S122339.	120X@514@1
3394	Bossewell, John. Workes of armorie, deuided into three bookes. London. Henry Ballard, 1597. 4°. ESTC S106537.	120X@755@1
3475	Bracton, Henricus de. Henrici de Bracton de legibus & consuetudinibus Angliæ libri quinq[ue] in varios tractatus distincti. London: Richard Tottel, 1569. 2°. ESTC S122159.	120X@1030@1

3593	Bravonius, Florentius. Chronicon ex chronicis, ab initio mundi usque ad 1118. [Ed.] (Gulielmus Howardus). London: Thomas Dawson for Richard Watkins, 1592. 4°. ESTC S106387.	120X@552@1
4418	Calvin, Jean. The institution of christian religion. [Tr. Thomas Norton.] London: Thomas Vautrollier for William Norton. 8°. ESTC S107257.	120X@1@1
4503	Camden, William. Britannia siue florentissimorum regnorum, Angliæ, Scotiæ, Hiberniæ chorographica descriptio. London: Radulph Newbery, 1586. 8°. ESTC S107379.	120X@924@1
4504	Camden, William. Nunc denuò recognita, & plurimis locis adaucta. London: [Eliot's Court Press] by Radulph Newbery, 1587. 8°. S107382.	120X@795@1
5076	Chaucer, Geoffrey. The woorkes [etc.]. London: John Kyngston for J. Wight, 1561. 2°. ESTC S107207 (see <i>Mostly British</i> , pp. 160-65).	120X@619@1
5199	Thordynary of crysten men. London: Wynkyn de Worde, 1506. 4°. ESTC S104992 (see <i>Mostly British</i> , pp. 132-37).	120X@888@1
9991	[Chronicles of England]. Westminster: William Caxton, 1480. 2°. ESTC S106522 (see <i>Mostly British</i> , pp. 112-17).	120X@494@1
9995	[The Saint Albans Chronicles]. St Albans: Schoolmaster Printer, [1485]. 2°. ESTC S106502 (see <i>Mostly British</i> , pp. 118-23).	120X@656@1
10659	Fabyan, Robert. Newe cronycles of Englande and of Fraunce. London: Richard Pynson, 1516. 2°. ESTC S109993.	120X@549a@1
10664	Fabyan, Robert. The chronicle of Fabyan. London: John Kyngston, 1559. 2°. ESTC S122517.	120X@549
11396.7	Froissart, Jean. [Chronicles]. Trans. into English	120X@513@2@1

	by John Bouchier, Lord Berners. London: W. Myddylton [really Thomas Marsh, c. 1563]. 2°. ESTC S121322 (see <i>Mostly British</i> , pp. 166-71).	
11397a	Froissart, Jean. [Chronicles]. Trans. into English by John Bouchier, Lord Berners. London: Richard Pynson, 1525 [really Thomas Marsh, c. 1563?]. 2°. ESTC S121323 (see <i>Mostly British</i> , pp. 167-71).	120X@513@2@2
11883	Gilbert, William. Guilielmi Gilberti Colcestrensis, medici Londinensis, de magnete. London: Peter Short, 1600. 2°. ESTC S121112.	120X@652@1
11883	Gilbert, William. Guilielmi Gilberti Colcestrensis, medici Londinensis, de magnete. London: Peter Short, 1600. 2°. ESTC S121112.	120X@749@1
11892	Gildas. Opus nouum. Gildas Britannus monachus. . . de calamitate excidio, & conquestu Britanniaë. [Antwerp?, Christoffel van Ruremund?, 1525?]. 8°. ESTC S105687.	120X@658@1
11894	Gildas. Opus nouum. London: John Day, 1568. 8°. ESTC S103121.	160X@20@1
13440	Higden, Ranulf. Polychronicon. [Trans. into English by John Trevisa]. Southwark: Peter Treveris, 1527. 2°. ESTC S119426 (see <i>Mostly British</i> , pp. 142-47).	120X@469@1
13568b	Holinshed, Raphael. [The chronicles of England, Scotlande, and Irelande]. London: for John Hunne, [1577]. 2°. ESTC S3985 (see <i>Mostly British</i> , pp. 178-83).	120X@721@1-2
13569	Holinshed, Raphael. [The chronicles of England, Scotland and Ireland]. London: [Henry Denham], 1587. 2°. ESTC S122178.	120X@597@4 @1~4
14453	James, Thomas. Ecloga Oxonio-Cantabrigiensis, tributa in libros duos [A catalogue of manuscripts]. London: G. Bishop & J. Norton, 1600. 4°. ESTC	120X@576@1

	S107711.	
15142	Lambarde, William, ed. and trans. <i>Archaionomia, siue de priscis anglorum legibus libri Gulielmo Lambardo interprete</i> . London: John Day, 1568. 4°. ESTC S122075.	120X@931@1
15375	Le Fèvre, Raoul. <i>The recuyell of the historyes of Troye</i> . Trans. William Caxton. [Bruges: William Caxton, 1473 or 1474]. 2°. ESTC S109298 (see <i>Mostly British</i> , pp. 106-11).	120X@1161@1
15392	Legh, Gerard. <i>The accedens of armory</i> . London: Henry Ballard, 1597. 4°. ESTC S108424.	120X@755@1
15440	Leland, John. <i>Assertio inclytissimi Arturij regis Britanniae</i> . London: [R. Wolfe] by John Herford, 1544. 4°. ESTC S108436.	120X@1125@1
15445	Leland, John. <i>The laboryouse journey & serche. . . for Englandes antiquitees. . .</i> [London: S. Mierdman for] John Bale, 1549. 8°. ESTC S108451 (see <i>Mostly British</i> , pp. 154-59).	120X@661@1
17105	Lyndewode, William. [Constitutiones provinciales]. [London]: Richard Pynson, [1499]. 8°. ESTC S114532.	n/a
17107	Lyndewode, William. <i>Prouinciale seu constitutiones Anglie cum summariiis</i> . Paris: Andreas Bocard, 1501. 2°. ESTC S103845.	140X@23@1
19209	Paris, Matthew. <i>Matthæi Paris, monachi Albanensis, Angli, historia maior</i> . [Ed. Abr. M. Parker.] London: Reginald Wolfe, 1571. 2°. ESTCS115428.	120X@550
19908	Langland, William. <i>The vision of Pierce Plowman . . . Wherevnto is also annexed the Crede of Pierce Plowman. . .</i> London: Owen Rogers, 1561. 4°. ESTC S114908.	120X@885@1
21783	Savile, Sir Henry. <i>Rerum Anglicarum scriptores</i>	141X@67@1

	post Bedam praecipui, nunc primum editi. [Libri] Willelmi Malmesburiensis. Henrici Huntindoniensis. Rogeri Hovedeni. [etc.] London: G. Bishop, R. Newbery, & R. Barker, 1596. 2°. ESTC S121919.	
22412 ^s	Kalender of shepherds. London: William Powell, 1556. 2°. ESTC S95193.	n/a
22857	Smith, Sir Thomas. De republica Anglorum. The maner of gouernement of England. London: Henry Midleton for Gregory Seton, 1583. 4°. ESTC S117628.	120X@986@1
23134	Stafford, William. A compendious or briefe examination of certayne ordinary complaints. London: Thomas Marshe, 1581. 4°. ESTC S117823.	1100@505
25004	Walsingham, Thomas. Historia breuis Thomæ Walsingham, ab Edwardo primo, ad Henricum quintum. [Ed. Abr. M. Parker]. London: Henry Binne- man, 1574. 2°. ESTC S118092.	120X@673@1
25005	Walsingham, Thomas. Ypodigma Neustriæ vel Normanniæ. . . ab irruptione Normannorum vsq; ad annum. 6. regni Henrici quinti. [Ed. Abr. M. Parker]. London: John Day, 1574. 2°. ESTC S118097.	120X@674@1
25802	Wilson, Thomas. The arte of rhetorique, for the vse of all suche as are studious of eloquence. John Kingston, 1563. 4°. ESTC S107566.	B@116@W7@1
25812	Wilson, Thomas. The rule of reason, conteinyng of the arte of logique. London, John Kingston, 1563. 4°. ESTC S120186.	B@116@W7@1

NOTES

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- 2 From the webpage English *Short-Title Catalogue* <<http://estc.ucr.edu/>>.
- 3 See his *IJL* and *IJL2*.
- 4 See Tokunaga, 'Incunabula and the Keio University Library Collection'.
- 5 The leaves B2-C1, C3, C5-M4 are identical to RSTC 22412, but the leaves A-B1, C2 and C4, M5-N7 are supplied from the other editions. For a detailed description, see Matsuda and Tokunaga, 'A Composite Copy of the *Kalender of Shepherdes*'.

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