

Modeling Ambiguity – Lessons Learned
GBW Standards of Excellence – 2019 – Philadelphia.
Julia Miller

Selected bibliography on early codex bindings

Adam, Paul. “Der Koptische Einband in Berlin.” *Archiv für Buchbinderei* 11 (1912): 177–181. One of the earliest sources on P. Berol 8502, discovered in 1895.

Bagnall, Roger S. *Early Christian Books in Egypt*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2009. Includes an updated census of early codices.

Bagnall, Roger S. *Everyday Writing in the Græco-Roman East*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2011; first paperback edition, 2012. Focus on the use of notebooks in antiquity.

Boudalis, Georgios. *The Codex and Crafts in Late Antiquity*. New York: Bard Graduate Center, 2018. Extensive overview of the influence of craft on the early codex; catalog of 2018 exhibit.

Clarkson, Christopher. “Some Representations of the Book and Book-Making, from the Earliest Codex Forms through Jost Amman.” In *The Bible as Book: the Manuscript Tradition*. Ed. John L. Sharpe III and Kimberly Van Kampen. New Castle, Del.: Oak Knoll, 1998, 197-203.

Cockburn, Andrew. “The Judas Gospel.” *National Geographic* 209 (2006): 78–95. The initial public roll-out of the Tchacos Codex, including its interesting (!) provenance.

Cockerell, Douglas. “The Development of Bookbinding Methods – Coptic Influence.” *The Library*, Fourth Series, 13 (1932): 1-19. Discusses Stonyhurst, BL Or. 5000 and 5001, etc.

Coptic and Collage, Ancient Technique, Modern Application: A Survey of Contemporary Implementations of the Coptic Structure. Exhibition catalogue. New York: Center for Book Arts, 1997. Hand-bound in edition of 200; provocative overview beautifully written and illustrated.

Darbre, Florence. “The Papyrus Codex Tchacos.” *Papier Restaurierung* 9 (2008): 19–25. Initial brief report by the paper conservator charged with conserving the Tchacos Codex (Judas Gospel).

Depuydt, Leo. *Catalogue of Coptic Manuscripts in the Pierpont Morgan Library. Corpus of Illuminated Manuscripts*. Leuven: Uitgeverij Peeters, 1993. An important source on the MLM collection.

Di Bella, Marco. “An attempt at a reconstruction of early Islamic bookbinding: The box binding.” *Care and conservation of manuscripts 12. Proceedings of the twelfth international*

seminar held at the University of Copenhagen 14th-16th October 2009. Ed. M.J. Driscoll. University of Copenhagen: Tusculanum Press, 2011, 99-116. Detailed; illustrated.

Di Bella, Marco. “From Box Binding to Envelope-Flap Binding: The Missing Link in Transitional Islamic Bookbinding.” In *Suave Mechanicals: Essays on the History of Bookbinding*. Vol. 3. Ed. Julia Miller, 264–279. Ann Arbor, Mich.: The Legacy Press, 2016. Di Bella’s thoughts on the concept of transitional binding exemplars; illustrated.

Doresse, Jean and Togo Mina. “Nouveaux Textes Gnostiques Coptes Decouverts en Haute Egypte: La Biblioteque de Chenoboskion.” *Vigiliae Christianae* 3 (1949): 129–141. This and following first-hand account and earliest images and drawings of the NHC.

Doresse, Jean. “Les reliures des manuscrits gnostiques coptes découvertes à Khénoboskion.” *Revue d’Egyptologie*, 13 (1961): 27-49. Very important to note that Doresse numbered the codices; some of the numbers were switched by the time the *Facsimile Edition* was published in the 1970s.

Emmel, Stephen. “The Nag Hammadi Codices Editing Project: A Final Report.” *American Research Center in Egypt Newsletter* 104 (1978): 10–32.

Emmel, Stephen. “Recent Progress in Coptic Codicology and Paleography (1988-1992). ICCoptS 5 (Washington 1992). Vol. 1. Ed. Tito Orlandi. *Reports on Recent Research*. Rome: Centro Italiano Microfiches, 1993, 33-49.

Ettinghausen, Richard. “Foundation-Moulded Leatherworking: A Rare Egyptian Technique also Used in Britain.” In *Studies in Islamic Art and Architecture in Honor of Professor K.A.C. Creswell*. Cairo: American University in Cairo Press, 1965. Relates decorative technique shared by the Stonyhurst Gospel and Islamic box bindings.

The Facsimile Edition of the Nag Hammadi Codices. Ed. James Robinson et al. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1984. A very important source on the bindings and texts of the NHC.

Forbes, R.J. *Studies in Ancient Technology*. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1965.

Gabra, Gawdat, et al. *Der psalter im Oxyrhynchitischen (Mesokemischen/MittelÄgyptischen) Dialekt*. Heidelberg, Germany: Heidelberger Orientverlag, 1995. Important, and only, in-depth source to date on the David Psalter (Mudil Codex).

Gillis, John. “Book in a Bog.” In *Care and Conservation of Manuscripts II*. Ed. by Matthew Driscoll and Ragnheidur Mosesdottir, 43–47. Copenhagen: University of Copenhagen, Museum Tusculanum Press, 2009. The initial report on the recovery of the Faddan More Psalter; Gillis has since published several other and more in-depth articles on the Psalter.

Goehring, James E. *The Crosby-Schøyen Codex, MS 193 in the Schøyen Collection*. Louvain: E. Peeters, 1990. Schøyen MS 193 is a single-quire papyrus manuscript similar to SBB or. Oct. 987.

Hochhalter, Elise and Gary Frost. "Multi-Quire Codex Structure. From far-Eastern to far-Western." Presented on April 8, 2017. Sawyer/Mellon/Obermann Seminar: *Cultural and Textual Exchanges: The Manuscript across Premodern Eurasia*. University of Iowa, 2016-2017.

Howard, Margaret. "Technical Description of the Ivory Writing-Boards from Nimrud." *Iraq* 17 (1995): 14–20. Early stiff-leaf multi-leaf books – a very early proto-codex?

Ibscher, Hugo. "Alte Koptische Einband." *Archiv für Buchbinderei* 11 (1911): 113-116. On SBB or. Oct. 987.

Ibscher, Hugo. "Von der Papyrusrolle zum Kodex." *Archiv für Buchbinderei* 20 (1920), 21-23, 28, 33-35, and 38-40. Also on SBB or. Oct. 987.

Kasser, Rodolphe. *Papyrus Bodmer XXIII. Esaïe XLVII, 1-LXVI, 24 en sahidique*. Coligny-Genève: Bibliotheca Bodmeriana, 1965. Provocative interpretation of binding fragments; see Regemorter "The Bodmer Gospel of Saint John."

Kebabian, John S. "The Binding of the Glazier Manuscript of the Acts of the Apostles (IVth or IV/V century)." In *Hommage to a Bookman...* Ed. by Hellmut Lehmann-Haupt, 25–29. Berlin: Gebr. Mann Verlag, 1967. Important work on Glazier Codex; a misleading structural drawing; beautiful atmospheric images of the binding.

The Kellis Isocrates Codex. (P. Kell. III Gr. 95). Ed. K.A. Worp and A. Rijksbaron. *Dakhleh Oasis Project: Monograph 5. Oxbow Monograph 88*. Oxford, England: Oxbow Books, 1997.

This and following monograph edited by Bagnall are extremely important studies and facsimiles of the 4th c. stiff-leaf (wooden) codices found at Dakhleh Oasis in the 1980s.

The Kellis Agricultural Account Book. Ed. Roger S. Bagnall. *Dakhleh Oasis Project: Monograph 7. Oxbow Monograph 92*. Oxford, England: Oxbow Books, 1997.

Krutzsch, Myriam and Gunter Poethke. "Der Einband des Koptisch-Gnostischen Kodex P. Berol 8502." *Forschungen und Berichte Staatliche Museen zu Berlin* 24 (1984): 37–40. A thorough and well-illustrated description of the reused decorated leather cover of P. Berol 8502.

Lamacraft, Charles. "Early Bookbindings from a Coptic Monastery." *Library* 4 (1939–1940): 215–217. An important initial study on CBL MSS 813-815 and UofM MSS 166-167. CBL conservator Kristine Rose Beers is writing an article on CBL 813-815 for *Suave Mechanicals* Vol. 7; she has noted how important Lamacraft's essay was and that it continues to be relevant

Lewis, Nicola Denzey and Justine Ariel Blount. "Rethinking the Origins of the Nag Hammadi Codices." *Journal of Biblical Literature* 133, no. 2 (2014): 399–419. A compelling rejection of accepted finding mythologies surrounding early manuscripts/bindings.

Lindsay, Jennifer. 1988. "The Development of the Codex in the Western World." *New Bookbinder* 8 (1988): 9–18.

Lindsay, Jennifer. "The Edfu Collection of Coptic Books." *New Bookbinder* 21 (2001): 31–51. Important source on the Edfu bindings; Lindsay illustrates the covers with line drawings and some photographs, discusses structural evidence and board composition.

Lundhaug, Hugo and Lance Jenott. *The Monastic Origins of the Nag Hammadi Codices*. Tübingen, Germany, 2015. Excellent work on the ever-fascinating NHC.

McKenzie, Judith S. and Francis Watson. *The Garima Gospels: Early Illuminated Gospel Books from Ethiopia*. Oxford: Manar al-Athar, 2017. Describes earliest known Ethiopian manuscripts (3rd/4th c.); some binding information; illustrated.

Meyer, Elizabeth A. "Roman Tabulae, Egyptian Christians, and the Adoption of the Codex." *Chiron* 37 (2007): 295–347.

Miller, Julia. "Puzzle Me This: Early Binding Fragments in the Papyrology Collection of the University of Michigan Library." In *Suave Mechanicals: Essays on the History of Bookbinding* Vol. 2. Ed. Julia Miller. Ann Arbor, Mich.: The Legacy Press, 2015, 198-297. See <http://www.lib.umich.edu/online-exhibits/exhibits/show/puzzle-me-this--early-binding-> .

Miller, Julia and Pamela Spitzmueller. "A Gift from the Desert: A Report on the Nag Hammadi Codices." In Miller, Julia. *Meeting by Accident: Selected Historical Bindings*. Ann Arbor, Mich.: The Legacy Press, 2018, 420-589. A review of and commentary on the NHC binding descriptions in the *Facsimile Edition*.

Needham, Paul. *Twelve Centuries of Bookbinding 400-1600*. New York: Pierpont Morgan Library, 1979.

Nongbri, Brent. *God's Library. The Archaeology of the Earliest Christian Manuscripts*. New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press, 2018. Overview of binding types and an excellent chapter on the Bodmer Papyri (including a spread sheet describing each codex).

Pearson, David. "Common or Garden: the Interest of Ordinary Bindings." *Bookbinder: Journal of the Society of Bookbinders* 21, 2007, 13-25.

Petersen, Theodore C. *Coptic Bookbindings in the Pierpont Morgan Library*. Unpublished

manuscript in the Pierpont Morgan Library, 1948. Invaluable to the early history of the codex; soon to be published by The Legacy Press for The Morgan Library and Museum, edited by Frank Trujillo.

Peterson, Theodore C. "Early Islamic Bookbindings and Their Coptic Relations." *Ars Orientalis* 1 (1954): 41–64.

Powell, Roger. "Some Early Bindings from Egypt in the Chester Beatty Library: Additional notes." *The Library*, Fifth series, 20 (1963): 218-223. Powell comments on Regemorter's research, very interesting.

[Regemorter, Berthe van.] *Binding Structures in the Middle Ages. A Selection of Studies by Berthe van Regemorter*. Trans. by Jane Greenfield. Brussels: Bibliotheca Wittockiana, 1981, see following essays:

"The Bound Codex from its Origin to the Early Middle Ages." 1955, 107-131. An important aspect of Regemorter's writing: she traveled to see the bindings she describes – Roger Powell noted how important this is.

"The Bodmer Gospel of Saint John." 1956, 133-137.

"Some Early Bindings from Egypt in the Chester Beatty Library." 1958, 151-181.

"The Binding of the Gnostic Manuscripts Discovered at Nag Hammadi." 1960, 207-220.

Roberts, Colin H. *Buried books in antiquity*. London: Library Association, 1963.

Roberts, Colin H. "The Codex." *Proceedings of the British Academy* (1977): 168–204.

Roberts, Colin H. and Theodore C. Skeat. *The Birth of the Codex*. London: Oxford University Press, 1983.

Robinson, James M. "The Construction of the Nag Hammadi Codices." In *Essays on the Nag Hammadi Codices in Honour of Pahor Lahib*. Ed. by Martin Krause, 170–190. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1975. Robinson authored numerous articles wherein he added to, or revised, his initial descriptions of the Nag Hammadi bindings.

Robinson, James M. "Codicological Analysis of Nag Hammadi Codices V and VI and Papyrus Berolinensis 8502." In *The Coptic Gnostic Library, Nag Hammadi Codices V, 2–5 and VI with Papyrus Berolinensis 8502, 1 and 4*, 9–45. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1979.

Robinson, James M. "The Discovering and Marketing of Coptic Manuscripts: The Nag

Hammadi Codices and the Bodmer Papyri.” In *The Roots of Egyptian Christianity*. Ed. By Birger A. Pearson and James A. Goehring, 2–25. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1986.

Robinson, James M. *The Story of the Bodmer Papyri*. Cambridge, U.K.: James Clarke & Co., 2011. The Bodmer Papyri (Dishna Papers) are a treasure trove of binding evidence; Robinson describes the tangled provenance of the find.

Schenke, Hans Martin. *Das Matthaus-Evangelium im Mittelayptischen Dialekt des Koptischen (Codex Scheide)*. Berlin: Akademie Verlag, 1981. The most thorough source on the Scheide Codex with a good description of its binding structure.

Schenke, Hans Martin. *Apostelgeschichte 1,1–15,3 im Mittelagyptischen Dialekt des Koptischen (Codex Glazier)*. Berlin: AkademieVerlag, 1991. One of the most important sources on the Glazier Codex (MLM MS G. 67).

Sharpe, John L. “Wooden Books and the History of the Codex: Isocrates and the Farm Account, Evidence from the Egyptian Desert.” In *The Compleat Binder: Roger Powell*, ed. by John L. Sharpe. *Bibliologia* 14 (1996): 107–129. Excellent resource to accompany the two monographs on the Kellis tablets listed in this bibliography.

Sharpe, John. “The Earliest Bindings with Wooden Board Covers. The Coptic Contribution to Binding Construction.” *Preprints, International Conference on Conservation and Restoration of Archive and Library Material* 2 (1996): 381–400. Comparison of the surviving wooden-board bindings from the middle of the first millennium.

Silverman, Randy. “Small, Not Insignificant: a Specification for a Conservation Pamphlet Binding Structure.” *The Book and Paper Group Annual*, 6. American Institute for Conservation: 1987. <http://cool.conservation-us.org/coolaic/sg/bpg/annual/.../bp06-13.html> . Never underestimate the importance of pamphlet structures to the history of the codex.

Skeat, Theodore C. “The Length of the Standard Papyrus Roll and the Cost-Advantage of the Codex.” *Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik* 45(1982): 169-175.

Skeat, Theodore C. “Was Papyrus Regarded as ‘Cheap’ or ‘Expensive’ in the Ancient World?” *Aegyptus* 75 (1995): 75–93.

Szirmai, J.A. *The Archaeology of Medieval Bookbinding*. Aldershot, U.K.: Ashgate Press, 1999.

Torallas Tovar, Sofia. “Progress in Coptic Palaeography and Codicology 2004-2012.” Eds. P. Buzi and A. Camplani. *Coptic Society, Literature and Religion from Late Antiquity to Modern Times. Proceedings of the Tenth International Congress of Coptic Studies, Rome*. Leuven: Peeters, 2016, 431-456.

Turner, Eric G. *The Typology of the Early Codex*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania

Press, 1977.



A note on the dating of early manuscripts in sources cited in this selected bibliography: determining the date of early manuscripts remains a difficult exercise for everyone involved. Initial dating by earlier scholars, usually based on paleographic assessment, is often revised by later scholars interpreting the paleographic evidence differently.¹ The presence of bindings or binding evidence with a manuscript can help with dating – this fact makes locating and describing that evidence even more important.

¹ A case in point is the dating of Schøyen MS 193, dated over the years by succeeding scholars, as follows: 2nd c. (Willis); 2nd/3rd c. (Roberts); 3rd/4th c. (Turner); 4th c. (Orsini); 4th c. (Kasser), 5th/6th c. (Orlandi). List taken from: Nongbri, Brent. *God's Library – The Archaeology of the Earliest Christian Manuscripts*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 2018, Table 5.1. Nongbri notes that AMS radiocarbon analysis of the manuscript is forthcoming.