

Helsinki, The Literary Archives of the Finnish Literature Society, Fragment A detached from the cover of *olim* A 826. Birgittine Antiphonary (of the Diocese of Turku?)

Saec. XV^{3/4}–XVI¹, Diocese of Turku (Naantali monastery?)

Contents

Birgittine Antiphonary, i.e. with the anthiphons, psalms, and hymns of the *Officium parvum beate Marie Virginis*, Sunday *ad sextam* to *feria secunda, ad matutinam* (cf. Den helige Birgitta och den helige Petrus av Skänninge, *Officium parvum beate Marie Virginis*, ed. Tryggve Lundén, 2 vols., *Studia Historico-Ecclesiastica Upsalensia* 18, 1976, 1.36–60).

‘[recto, *ant.*] Omnia mandata ... [verso] ... *ant.* Benedictus dominus’.

Structure

I-1, 1 fol., parchment; 13,7–14,5x19–19,5 (10x13,5). A fragment, apparently trimmed on all four sides. May have had quire foliation: both sides of the folio have traces of red and black ink in the uppermost edge. Text and notation in one column, with six lines of each; ruling in ink. Pricking not discernible, but with numerous holes made presumably when the leaf was sewn to be a part of the cover from which it was removed. Stained and blackened, especially on the recto side.

Script

Gothic bookhand, written by one scribe. The hand strongly resembles those described as belonging to the so-called Naantali-group of manuscripts (Keskiaho 2008; Keskiaho 2010, 418–419), probably produced in the last quarter of the fifteenth century. Quadratic notation in black ink on red lines.

Decoration

Feasts begin with large painted lombards, the fragment has one in red. Chants begin with drawn initials, strongly resembling the type used in the so-called Naantali-group of manuscripts (Keskiaho 2008; Keskiaho 2010). This resemblance of decoration and script is the basis of considering the leaf as remains of a book probably written in the later fifteenth or first half of the sixteenth century in the Diocese of Turku.

Provenance

Removed in 2005 from the binding of *olim* A 826, the notebook of (otherwise unknown) Ericus Christierni Loppensis, *Themata compositionum tradita et correcta ... anno 1638*. The binding seems to have taken place after 1640, as this date is found on one a paper sheet found with the cover fillings that has apparently served a both the front and back flyleaves (‘Luyoensie Anno 1640’ – referring to Lohja – Lojo?).

Binding

Four holes in the extant fold of the original bifolium confirm that the leaf has been bound.

History

The book from which this one leaf survives was probably written in the Diocese of Turku. It is stylistically associated with the so-called Naantali-group of manuscripts, which was most likely produced in the second half of the fifteenth century, probably in the Birgittine monastery of Naantali. It is stylistically remote enough from the group to be considered an imitation rather than a member of the group proper. Given the specifically Birgittine content of the book it was probably produced in Naantali or used there, perhaps somewhat later than the manuscripts of the group proper. By the second quarter of the seventeenth century the book or a part of it found its way to the binder of Ericus Christierni's notebook.

Jesse Keskiaho

Literature

Jesse Keskiaho, 'En grupp handskrifter från slutet av 1400-talet – från Nådendals *scriptorium*?', *Historisk Tidskrift för Finland* 93, 318–350.

Jesse Keskiaho, 'Liite 1: Turun hiippakunnassa kirjoitetut tai käytetyt keskiaikaiset käsikirjoitukset', in Tuomas Heikkilä ed., *Kirjallinen kulttuuri keskiajan Suomessa* (Historiallisia tutkimuksia 254), Helsinki 2010, 417–427.

Jesse Keskiaho, 'En grupp handskrifter från Nådendal? Nya rön', forthcoming.