

CERL Provenance Newsletter

Accessing the record of Europe's book heritage

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A word from the Editorial Team

Dear enthusiasts of book provenance research,

Welcome to the first issue of this newsletter dedicated to current work in book provenance research. The "CERL Provenance Newsletter" features provenance stories and reports from different libraries and institutions around the world. This includes information about provenance projects, research, conferences, seminars, workshops, and new publications.

The newsletter is scheduled to be published yearly. Take a look and do not hesitate to share your provenance experience with us next time!

Happy reading,

Editorial Team



Metadata

In 2023, a new MARC field was introduced, namely the field number 361: *Structured Ownership and Custody History* (see more: <u>https://www.loc.gov/marc/bibliographic/bd361.html</u>). The field contains copy-specific information in structured form, regarding the ownership and custodial history of the described materials, starting with the time of their creation. The team of the Rare Books and Maps Collection of the ETH Library, which was among the first to use it, share their experiences below.

The use of MARC field 361 at ETH Library

The Rare Books and Maps Collection of ETH Library has been cataloging the provenances of its titles using MARC field 361 since April 2024, thereby replacing its existing practice of using field 561 and the corresponding 700 field. In this article the cataloguers share their experience in working with the complexity of the new MARC field.

There are two possible first indicators to define whether the contents of the field are private or not. The provenances in our Rare Books and Maps Collection are not private, therefore the first indicator is always 1. The use of the subfields is defined by the Library of Congress.

Subfield	Use (in ETH Library)						
\$\$o	Type of ownershipDescribes the type of ownership depending on the provenance.						
\$\$5	Institution to which field applies. The library code of ETH Library						
\$\$y	Identifier of the copy described. Not in use at ETH Library because every copy has an individual record.						
\$\$s	Shelf mark Shelf mark of copy described.						
\$\$a	Name Name of the person or institution the provenance refers to.						
\$\$0	Authority record control number or standard number. ETH Library uses the <i>Gemeinsame Normdatei GND</i> (Integrated Authority File) of the German National Library.						
\$\$f	Ownership and custodial history evidence term Term from the controlled vocabulary list of the thesaurus <u>T-Pro (Thesaurus der</u> Provenienzbegriffe)						
\$\$7	Data provenance "(dpesc/dpsff) t-pro": the codes state that the data provenance element source consulted was t-pro and that data provenance relates to subfield \$\$f						
\$\$k	Formatted date If date is known, this subfield is in use and contains the date in the format yyyymmdd						
\$\$1	Date If date is unknown this subfield is in use and contains an estimate or a range of date information.						
\$\$z	Public note Public note that was previously used to describe the provenance in field 561\$\$a						
\$\$u	Uniform Resource Identifier The ETH Library makes the individual provenances accessible in the image catalogue " <u>Ex meis libris</u> ", therefore every provenance mark has its own Digital Object Identifier (DOI).						

One point for discussion was the use of subfield \$\$0, which designates the type of ownership and custodial history. At first, we referred to all provenance as former ownership. To distinguish the various types according to our collection we came up with the following definition:

\$\$o	Explanation				
Former ownership (Vorbesitz)	Provenance mark is from or dedicated to the previous owner				
Accession (Zugang)	Provenance mark is from the library itself				
Withdrawal (<i>Abgang</i>)	Withdrawal mark from other libraries				
Temporary possession (Ausleihe)	Permanent loans that are in the collection but not legally owned by the library				
Collection (Sammlung)	Describes a collection, e.g. the addition of the single copy to a larger context.				

The other subfields about which there was even more discussion were \$\$k (formatted date) and \$\$l (date). We agreed to use subfield \$\$k if we know the exact date, including year, month, and day of the provenance. This can be a stamp or handwritten date such as in a dedication, e.g. "10. September 1877". The date is recorded in the format YYYYMMDD in subfield \$\$k as "18770910".

Often, we don't have an exact date, so we must do some research and try to estimate the date. For example, our institution was founded as "Eidgenössisches Polytechnikum" in 1855 and renamed "Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule" or "ETH" in 1911. If we find a stamp of "ETH" we know it was put there after 1911 and therefore put "after 1911" in subfield \$\$l.

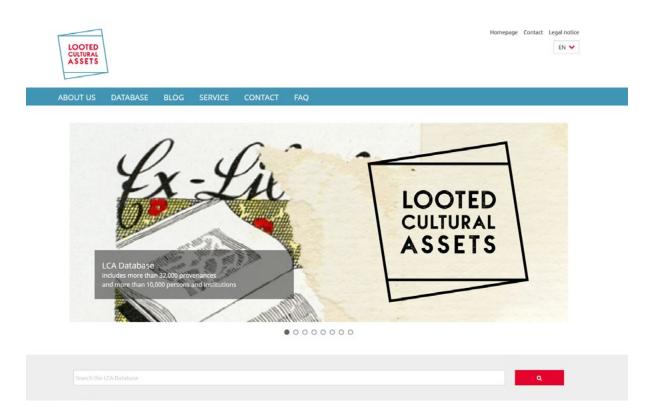
Dedications are a special case because they include two persons. So, we use two fields 361, one for the author of the dedication and one for the recipient of the dedication. It is important to pay attention to the date of dedications. The dedicate may not have received the copy on the same day. For this reason, \$\$\$ rather than \$\$k is used for the dedicatee.

361 1	\$\$o Vorbesitz \$\$5 E01 \$\$s Rar 57012 \$\$a Friedländer, Immanuel \$\$0 (DE-588)139793763 \$\$f Autogramm \$\$7 (dpesc/dpsff) t-pro \$\$k 1893 \$\$z Handschriftliches Exlibris: "I. Friedlaender 1893" \$\$u http://doi.org/10.24439/ethz-a-000007845
361 1	\$\$o Vorbesitz \$\$5 E01 \$\$s Rar 57012 \$\$a Vulkaninstitut Immanuel Friedländer, \$\$f Etikette \$\$7 (dpesc/dpsff) t pro \$\$I nach 1936 \$\$z Exlibrisetikette: "Vulkaninstitut Immanuel Eriedlaender" \$\$u http://doi.org/10.24439/ethz-a- 000001313
361 1	\$\$o Zugang \$\$5 E01 \$\$s Rar 5/012 \$\$a Vulkaninstitut Immanuel Friedländer \$\$0 (DE-588)2026233-4 \$\$t Notiz \$\$/ (dpesc/dpsff) t-pro \$\$k 19360421 \$\$z Indirektes Handschriftliches Exlibris: "1936, 633" \$\$u http://doi.org/10.24439/cthz-a-000001296
361 1	\$\$o Zugang \$\$5 E01 \$\$s Rar 57012 \$\$a Vulkaninstitut Immanuel Friedländer \$\$0 (DE-588)2026233-4 \$\$f Etikette \$\$7 (dpesc/dpsff) t-pro \$\$k 19360421 \$\$z Geschenkexlibris-Etikette: "Schenkung des Vulkaninstituts Immanuel Friedländer" \$\$u http://doi.org/10.24439/ethz-a-000000024

Fig.: Example of an autograph, a bookplate, an accession number, and a label catalogued with field 361 from this book.

For more information: rara@library.ethz.ch

Melanie Lerch, Martin Bosshard, Sidney Manhart (ETH Library, Zurich)



Joint research into provenances: the database Looted Cultural Assets

Guided by the conviction that effective provenance research demands cross-institutional approaches and a transparent handling of information, the cooperative provenance database Looted Cultural Assets was founded in 2016. It is used by libraries engaged in the identification, documentation and restitution of Nazi-looted cultural property.

The provenance of the cooperating library's stocks is researched in a joint effort. By doing this, knowledge is shared, experience is gained, and resources are created and put to use collaboratively. This allows research on looted cultural assets in libraries and other cultural institutions, even if provenance research is only being funded for a short time and with limited funding and personnel. As of January 2025, the cooperation includes twelve German institutions and one in Israel.

The pooling of research data allows, for example, the virtual reconstruction of scattered collections, unimpeded by institutional or national boundaries and regardless of questions of restitution.

In addition to the books looted from individuals and institutions persecuted by the Nazis and the details that indicate the books' provenance, data relating to people and organizations not related to the Nazi theft of cultural property are also recorded. The intention is to share research results with provenance researchers worldwide, unaffected by their assessment.

LOOTED CULTURAL ASSETS			Abc	out us Se	arch Blog	FAQ	Contact	Search	Q	Select Language
SEARCH RESUL	TS FOR BRE	SLAU								ts (736) People (36
Objects (736)								FULL RESULTS so	ort by: relevan	ce identifier title
Transformer Statung (Breslau)	- (Judisch-Theolo Fraencker'scher), Elikett Signatu	Stiffung (Breslau)	- (Jüdisch-Theologisches Se Fræncke'scher Stiftung (Br), Elikett: Signatur, 2194 3'	eslau)	- (Asser'sche Buch Asser) (Strehlen, B Buchhandler, Name Asser (reslau)), Etil e, Ortsangat 1 u. Schrei	tane - (W tett. Orts e Bran	f. Dr. Weis Beeslen. Hugo), Stemper I. Beske, Hugo), Stemper I. Bradae, Berlyssangabe Che, Prof Dr. Weiske Bi lotyp)	lame, Titel/ reslau'.	TELICIT TELICIT Cheddor Lichtent Sempel: Buchhand Ortsanpabe, Musk Bien-Institut Th. L Breslaur. (Prototyp)
People (363)								sor	t by: relevance	identifier name
Jewish Theological Seminary of Breslau		Julius Hainauer (Breslau)		Museum für Schlesische Altertümer (Breslau)				Socialdemokratischer Verein für Breslau und Umgegend		
Königliche Universitäts-Bibliothek Breslau		E. Morgenstern's Buch- und Kunsthandlung Breslau		Stadtbibliothek zu Breslau			עסלא	חיים ברעסלא		
Universität Breslau		Asser'sche Buchhandlung (Marie Asser) (Strehlen, Breslau)		Bibliothek der Synagogen-Gemeinde zu Breslau				Lesezimmer der Christlichen Wissenschaft (Christian Science), Breslau		

The database currently contains more than 48,000 provenance marks and information on more than 15,000 persons and institutions. It is available online for research free of charge.

The motivation behind this online service is very much shaped by a desire to provide (provenance) researchers and other interested parties with an opportunity to make their research results publicly available, or access such information without constraints. It also invites contribution to unfinished or incomplete investigations into the provenance history of books, libraries and the fates and stories of library owners.

Further information can be found on the cooperation's website at https://www.lootedculturalassets.de.

Sebastian Finsterwalder / Jenka Fuchs / Stephan Kummer (Central and Regional Library of Berlin)

The Dawn of Italian Publishing. Technology, Texts and Books in Central and Northern Italy in the 15th and 16th Centuries



At the end of May 2024, the registration in MEI of all the provenances from the incunabula collection of the <u>University</u> <u>Library of Pavia</u> (Italy) was successfully concluded. The project was developed thanks to the support of the PRIN 2017 project - *The Dawn of Italian Publishing. Technology, Texts and Books in Central* and Northern Italy in the 15th and 16th Centuries (coordinator: Prof. Edoardo Barbieri, Università Cattolica di Milano).

To celebrate the results achieved, between 4 March and 24 May 2024 an exhibition was held in the Salone Teresiano of the same University Library entitled <u>All'alba della stampa. Itinerari tra gli</u> incunaboli della Biblioteca Universitaria di Pavia, attended by more than 2,700 visitors who greatly appreciated the selection of illuminated volumes, some of which were on display for the very first time. Both a <u>video presentation</u> and a <u>summary guide</u>, in Italian, are available online.

On the occasion of the exhibition, the figure of Federico Ageno, librarian and later director of the University Libraries of Sassari, Padua and the Nazionale Centrale of Rome, was honoured. Between 1911 and 1920, Ageno devoted himself with great effort to the reordering and cataloguing of the 711 incunabula of the University Library of Pavia, which were described in detail in Latin. However, for reasons still to be clarified, his catalogue was only published after his death, edited by Tullia Gasparrini Leporace under the title *Librorum* saec. XV impressorum qui in publica Ticinensi bibliotheca adservantur catalogus (Olschki, 1954).



Compared to the mid-twentieth-century census, there has been an increase of 36 items in the Pavia University Library's collection, the result of both targeted antiquarian purchases and occasional discoveries made during the cataloguing of miscellaneous collections. It is also worth noting the existence of a nucleus of duplicates that the Library legally donated to the Istituto di Patologia del Libro di Roma (now the Istituto Centrale per il Restauro e la Conservazione del Patrimonio Librario e Archivistico - ICRCPAL), the details of which have already been discussed by Luca Rivali in his book *Gli incunaboli della Biblioteca dell'Istituto Centrale per il Restauro e la Conservazione del Patrimonio Archivistico e Librario di Roma. Catalogo* (Sillabe, 2014).

Moreover, since the University Library of Pavia has recently registered its incunabula in the OPAC of the National Library Service (SBN), each MEI record offers a hyperlink to Italian bibliographic records, thus improving the interaction between the two platforms. It only remains to hope that we will also soon see the publication of a new catalogue of Pavia University Library's incunabula, which will update and extend Ageno's previous census and offer complete hypertextual links to all

available online repertoires, further consolidating the accessibility and enhancement of this extraordinary Italian cultural heritage.

Davide Martini (University Library of Pavia)

Mirabilium Collectio : digital platform of special collections of the University Library in Poznań



Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan (Poland) has recently been granted funds through the regional program "European Funds for Wielkopolska 2021-2027" to implement the project entitled "Mirabilium Collectio : digital platform of special collections of the University Library in Poznań".

The project budget is: PLN 2,006,350.00. Amount of EU funding: PLN 1,404,445.00.

The aim of the project is to create a digital platform, digitize and make available the most valuable materials from the special collections divisions of the University Library in Poznań, as well as, in the future, from other smaller libraries of Adam

Mickiewicz University. Ten special collections at the University Library in Poznań will be made available on a digital platform as part of this project, and a total of 5,253 library objects will be digitized (219,051 scans), including the most valuable regional 19th-century books, archival documents and ephemeral prints concerning Wielkopolska, as well as early printed books, manuscripts, iconography, cartography, musical items, Masonics and comics. The objects selected for digitization were created between the 16th century and the beginning of the 20th century, and in terms of uniqueness, they are at least of a medium level (with the majority of them having the highest level of uniqueness defined for collections).

The platform will also include databases, such as a binding database, a provenance database, reconstructions of historical book collections, a bibliography of Wielkopolska prints (1801-1953) and a database of anti-Jesuit



prints. The aforementioned provenance database is intended to be compatible with the Polish Provenance Database, which is being built simultaneously and will be compatible with CERL databases. This will enable the export of provenance records to other European platforms. The provenance database will also eventually be linked to the binding database and the database containing reconstructions of historical book collections.

The University Library in Poznań holds, among others, one of the world's largest collections of Masonic works, which once belonged to European Masonic lodges, as well as fragments of the Brothers Grimm's private book collection.

Rafał Wójcik (Poznań University Library)

Jesuit books in China



One of the speakers scheduled for the forthcoming CERL online book seminar will be Dr. Noël Golvers from KU Leuven (Belgium), who will discuss his ongoing research on Jesuit collections in China.

His research focuses on the Western book collections in the present National Library of China in Beijing, ca. 4,100 books from the old Jesuit libraries (17th-18th cent.), and in the Municipal Library of Shanghai, originally the books from the Jesuit libraries in the newly established collections in Zikawei. His publications dealing with this topic include:

1. On the 17th-18th cent. books in Beijing: N. Golvers, Libraries of Western Learning for China. Circulation of Western Books between Europe and China in the Jesuit Mission (ca. 1650 - ca. 1750). Vol. 1. Logistics of books acquisition

and circulation (Leuven Chinese Studies XVIII), Leuven, 2012, pp. 343 - 370.

2. On the 19th-20th cent. collection of Shanghai (Zikawei): N. Golvers, 'Old provenances of the Western books in the former (and current) Xujiahui (Zikawei)-library, Shanghai' (in: *Sino-Western Cultural Relations Journal*, ed. Mungello, XXXVI, 2014, pp. 25 – 43).

3. Portuguese books and their readers in the Jesuit mission of China (17th-18th centuries), Lisbon: Centro Cientifico e Cultural de Macau, 2011, 309 pp.

4. Johann Schreck Terrentius, SJ. His European Network and the Origins of the Jesuit Library in Peking (De Diversis Artibus, n° 107), Turnhout: Brepols, 2020, 648 pp.

Renerondo admodum Patri NICCLAO TRIGAVEIO Belgee primo è Societate Jest ce hegno CHIMINSI ROMAN redenti, & Sine coden abiturienti , Annico carismuo & descuandismin gratulatur Joannes Faber Medicus, & Simpliciarius Pontificing Anno 1616 Calondis mi Ito redito vias itorum folicious atris, SINARYM ignotis, Tu Solus nuper ab oris, Er Sociys, CHRISTI spargunt qui Somina misgro Gentile, nostrum redysti PRIMAVS in orbone. (are Deo, dilecte misi, sie itur ad Atta. Salue CHERIS MUM Genitor NICOLAS, minihor Verbi operisg Dec, cari fac cura Sosalis. Dimidig Vilor nother , quon ducis ad INDOS , Sit tibi , neu capiat vos Netri oblinio FABAL Si quando actorno libatis sacra Tonanhi

Books bought "ex fundatione D. Benedicti a Cosmin" (1560-1646) at the University of Krakow

The history of books connected to or owned by the University of Krakow starts with its foundation in the fourteenth century. Towards the end of the fifteenth century the largest library of the *studium* was held in the Collegium Maius, the oldest of the University's colleges. The provision of books in the Collegium's library depended initially on donations. Only in 1559 Benedykt z Koźmina (of Koźmin), a professor of theology, bequeathed to the college a thousand florins and the income from this money was assigned by his will to the purchase of newly published books.

The volumes that enriched the Collegium Maius library thanks to Benedykt's donation between 1560 and 1646 (when the trust's activities ceased) are now held in the library of the Jagiellonian University (as the Krakow University came to be named in the nineteenth century). Existing literature estimates their number at 261 to 400 works (or titles, or copies, as these terms are used interchangeably), but the entire collection has not yet been identified. I suppose not all the books bought "ex fundatione D. Benedicti a Cosmin" have been preserved in the Jagiellonian Library. Some of the copies might have been dispersed or otherwise lost.

Volumes that I have inspected in Krakow were bound (within months of their acquisition) in red calf. The skin is brown now, but the original color is still recognizable, especially on the lower covers and where the skin was long covered by furniture. Bindings were supplied with a set of brass corner pieces, a pair of clasps, and chains. The volumes have a unified appearance, because of the materials and technique they show, and thanks to their decoration. It repeats a similar pattern: as a rule, the upper cover has an outer frame impressed in blind and the inner frame contains a repeated decorative tool or a roll. The frames at the top display the authors' names and generic titles impressed in Roman characters, while the date of binding is tooled at the bottom. A gilt plaquette, a medallion, or an ornamental tool serves as a centrepiece. Each of



the volumes is marked with the inscriptional formula (usually "EX FVNDATIONE D. BENEDICTI A COSMIN"). The decoration of lower covers is more restrained. From 1564 a stamp in the form of a scrollwork cartouche with the University of Krakow's coat of arms (supralibros) occupies the center of the lover cover.

Over the years, bindings paid for from the endowment's funds have been modified by the changing decorative conventions. With time, the supralibros of the Collegium Maius library started to be displayed in the center of the upper cover. At the beginning of the seventeenth century some of the books received bindings of white pig skin. Concurrently on the back of some volumes a plaquette was used showing Jan Kanty, patron saint of the University of Krakow.

The copies that joined the library of Collegium Maius thanks to Benedykt z Koźmina were chosen for their intellectual content and editorial quality. Concurrently, the materiality of the volumes suggested the high social standing of the benefactor and the prestige of the institution in the disposal of the collection.

Justyna Kiliańczyk-Zięba (Uniwersytet Jagielloński, Kraków)

Provenance mysteries in the Middle Temple Library

Middle Temple is one of the four Inns of Court, which have the legal responsibility of calling people to the Bar in England and Wales. Each Inn has its own Library, and the one at Middle Temple was founded in 1641 with a private bequest made by one of our members, Robert Ashley (1565-1641). Ashley left approximately 6,000 books to the Inn to found a Library. In the early stages of the 2020 Covid pandemic, when all public facilities were shut and residents were mandated to stay at home, I took the opportunity to make use of the myriad number of photographs I had taken over the years of items of interest in our rare book and manuscript collection. I have been working at Middle Temple since January 2006, so by March 2020 I had accumulated a wide variety of images of marginalia and other signs of provenance, many of which were not in any identifiable hand. As such, being stuck at home provided a good opportunity to explore all of this interesting provenance data, which I did by starting a 'Provenance Mysteries' feature for our blog (https://middletemplelibrary.wordpress.com/category/provenance-mysteries/). I featured a book

a month that had evidence of marginalia, signatures, or inscriptions in the hope that other readers might recognise the hand and identify it.

As the Ashley bequest consisted mostly of non-legal books, the rare book collection is varied in subject matter. One of the items that was first featured was a book that had many 'drolleries', including a depiction of injury by beard. *Opera, ad multorum codicum Latinorum, eorundem[que] uetustissimorum fidem recognita & castigata*, by Flavius Josephus, was printed in Cologne by Eucharius Cervicornius in 1524. The injury by beard drollery depicts an incident from the Bible, when Joab took Amasa by the beard, seemingly to greet him, but then proceeded to plunge a knife in his belly.

We have received some identifications and clarifications from our blog readers. For example, David Shaw provided further information, and



a corrected transcription for our September 2020 post, which featured *Nova medicina methodus, nunc primu[m] & condita & adita, ex mathematica ratione morbos curand*i, by Johann Virdung von Hassfurt, printed in Etteling in 1532 by Valentinus Kobian: <u>https://middletemplelibrary.wordpress.com/2020/09/10/</u> provenance-mysteries-nova-medicinae-methodus/.



Another reader confirmed that basic shorthand was being used to make notes in our copy of Sir Philip Sidney's *The Countesse of Pembrokes Arcadia* (London: William Ponsby, 1593). He further identified that beneath the inscription of Dorothy Greaves, the alphabet of John Willis's *Art of Stenographie* (first published in 1602) had been applied: <u>https://</u> middletemplelibrary.wordpress.com/2023/02/23/provenance-mysteriesthe-countesse-of-pembrokes-arcadiaprovenance-mysteries/.

With lockdown long finished, the blog is no longer a monthly feature, but continues to be used to promote the collection and to allow readers to comment and identify, or compare marginalia with books in their holdings – it is, in other words, an ongoing project.

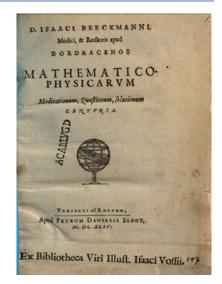
Where possible, we try to write at least one blog post featuring an item

from our current library exhibition. The October 2024 post featured our copy of Luis de Granada, *Guia de peccadores* (Salamanca: Andrea de Portonariis, 1568), which has an inscription on the title page: 'Edward James' and 'Este libro pertence, am= Edward James: [?] en vilo'. The blog posts also gave me the opportunity to highlight books in our collection that were in need of restoration, and to encourage readers to sponsor the cost of their repair.

Dr Renae Satterley (Middle Temple Library)

Provenance of the Centuria by Isaac Beeckman

On 18-19 April 2024 a congress about the Dutch physician Isaac Beeckman (1588-1637) was organized in Dordrecht (NL). Beeckman worked in Utrecht, Rotterdam and Dordrecht, where he passed away. He was educated by Simon Stevin and was friends with Pascal Descartes, Jacob Cats and Johan van Beverwijck. During his lifetime he studied mathematics, physics, music, theology, philosophy, medicine, astronomy and cosmetology. He corresponded with scientists including Snellius, Stevin, Brahe, Kepler and Harvey. The thoughts and observations he noticed in his journal (*Journael*) were published after his death by his brother Abraham Beeckman in 1644 by the printer Pieter Danielsz Sloot. Sloot was a printer of disputations at the newly founded University of Utrecht. The only book by Isaac Beeckman is called *Mathematico-physicarum*



Leiden University Library, 534 F 9:1

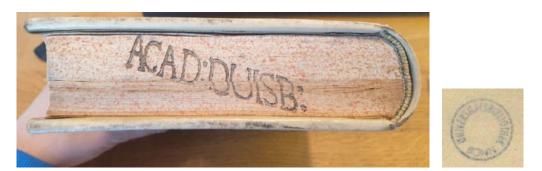
Meditationum, Quaestionum, solutionum Centuria. Until recently there was only one copy known, derived from the book collection of the librarian Isaac Vossius, and sold to the University of Leiden.

At the Dordrecht congress in April two newly discovered copies were presented. The first copy was found in the Württembergische Landesbibliothek in Stuttgart (GE), bound in a multi-item volume with parchment binding. Unfortunately there were no markings or comments on this item. Three other works were also bound in the same volume: two by Johannes Kepler and one by Christiaan Huygens. The first Kepler work is *Somnium Seu Opus Posthumum De Astronomia Lunari* (1634), considered to be the first science fiction book. It has many notes by the Württemberg scholar Michael Richey (1678-1761). The second Keppler work in the volume is *Admonitio ad astronomos, rerumque coelestium studiosos* (1630), about Mercurius, Venus and the sun. The last work in the volume is *Theoremata de quadratura hyperboles, ellipsis et circuli, ex dato portionum gravitatis centro* (1651) by the Dutch scholar Christiaan Huygens. So the binding of the volume must be 1651 or later, seven years after the publication of the *Centuria*. On the flyleaf there is a note that it once belonged to the private collection of the German mathematician Christian Frisch (1807-1881), who published the collected works of Kepler in the 19th century.



Württembergische Landesbibliothek Stuttgart, R 16 Kep 16

The second copy of the *Centuria* belongs to the collection of the University Library of Bonn and is on permanent loan to the Arithmeum, a Museum of Mathemathics in Bonn. It is also bound with other items, including works by Johannes Teyler (*Architectura militaris*, Rotterdam 1697) and Albert Curtz (*Amussis Ferdinandea, ad problemata universae matheseos*, Münich 1654). So the volume was bound in 1697 or later, more than fifty years after the publication of the *Centuria*.



Arithmeum Library 11.7-0133 (Permanent loan from the Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Bonn, O 634).

In this second multi-item volume there are no notes on the flyleaf or annotations in the text. But there is a stamp. In 1680 Duisburg had started stamping the books to prevent theft. This volume also received such a stamp. When it came into the possession of the University of Duisburg is still unknown. It does not appear in the handwritten catalogue of 1717. So it is safe to say that it only came to Duisburg after 1717. The book collection of the former University Library of Duisburg was transferred to the newly built University of Bonn in 1818. It is currently on display in the *Arithmeum*.

So now three copies of Beeckman's Centuria can be studied: in Leiden, Stuttgart and Bonn.

Literature

- Beeckman, I. (1644), D. Isaaci Beeckmanni Medici et Rectoris apud Dordracenos Mathematico-physicarum Meditationum, Questionum, Solutionum Centuria. Utrecht, P.D. Sloot.
- Nieuwenhuizen, P. (2023), 'De Utrechtse disputatiedrukker Pieter Danielsz Sloot'. In: *Büchmania Magazine* 20, p.75-80.
- ⁶De Utrechtse drukker P.D. Sloot en de postume uitgave van Isaac Beeckmans Centuria'. In: *Congres De Dordtse Descartes? Kennis en cultuur in Dordrecht: Isaac Beeckman (1588-1637).* Dordrechts Museum, 19 april 2024.

Acknowledgements

Specials thanks to Dr. Susanne Hertrampf (curator of old manuscripts at the Bonn University), Johannes Kaminski (Library of the Bonn Research Institute for Discrete Mathematics / Arithmeum) and Esther Sturm (Special Reading Room of the Württembergische Landesbibliothek Stuttgart).

Peter Nieuwenhuizen (Leiden University & Utrecht University, NL)

Chronicle – 2024



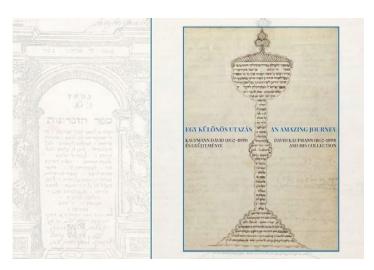
In 2024, the International Provenance Research Day was celebrated on the 10th of April. More than 100 cultural institutions from Germany, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, the Czech Republic, and the United States organized various events pertaining to provenance research. Activities offered by the libraries included: a workshop in the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin; a lecture with presentation on recent Nazilooted findings at Stadtbibliothek Chemnitz; an exhibition at Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Darmstadt; a lecture on identifying provenance and a guided tour of the "Schicksalhafte Seiten"

exhibition in SLUB Dresden; a presentation and consultation on family heirlooms in the Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Hamburg; an exhibition on books of Dr. Tobias Jakobovits at the Hochschule für Jüdische Studien in Heidelberg; an exhibition on provenance research in Thüringer Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Jena; a presentation of a virtual exhibition and crowdsourcing initiative "Library of Lost Books" at the Leo Baeck Institute in Jerusalem; a guided tour of the exhibition "Hölle und Paradies. Amsterdam, Querido und die deutsche Exilliteratur" at the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek in Leipzig; lectures at Leipziger Stadtbibliothek and Universitätsbibliothek Leipzig; blog posts on the *Retour* blog.

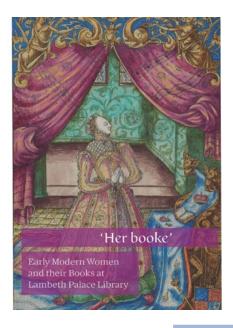
The day was established in 2019 by the German Research Association for Provenance Research (Arbeitskreis Provenienzforschung e. V.) and aims to draw awareness to the importance of provenance research.

The International Provenance Research Day is held each year on the second Wednesday in April. Please see 'Other Events' below, to see how you can participate in International Provenance Research Day 2025.

From June 6 to August 31, 2024, the synagogue in Mád in Hungary hosted the exhibition "Egy különös utazás: Kaufmann Dávid (1852-1899) és gyűjteménye = An Amazing Journey: David Kaufmann (1852-1899) and His Collection". It was dedicated to the collection of David Kaufmann (1852-1899), a professor at the Jewish Theological Seminary of Hungary, who amassed one of the most significant private libraries of rare Hebrew books in the world, held now at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Budapest. This exhibition, which commemorated the 125th anniversary of his death, revolved



around provenance matters, showing how the 15th-18th-century books from his collection travelled across time and space. The exhibition was curated by Fabrizio Quaglia, a book historian and expert in Judaica and Hebraica, who in 2022-2024 was working on the Kaufmann Collection with the project 'Questa terra è di Dio. Questo libro è il mio.' supported by the Rothschild Foundation Hanadiv Europe.



In 2024, Lambeth Palace Library hosted the exhibition "'Her Booke': Early Modern Women and their Books at Lambeth Palace Library", dedicated to material owned, written, commissioned, printed, and translated by women during the early modern period in England. Its digital version, including "Women as Owners and Readers", is available here.

The exhibition was curated by Dr Julia King, Rare Books Librarian, Lambeth Palace Library.

The CERL Provenance Working Group organized last year its 3rd online book seminar: Provenance in Book History III.

The speakers who shared their experiences in the field of provenance research were Dr. Emily Löffler from Deutsche Nationalbibliothek in Leipzig with a lecture on Provenienzforschung und Provenienzerschliessung and its work, Dr. Richard Espley from the National Art Library, Victoria and Albert Museum who spoke about challenges of provenance research in the UK's National Art Library, and Dr. Richard Šípek from Knihovny Národního muzea in Prague discussing the provenance research of the scholars' book collections in the Czech Libraries.

The recordings are available <u>online</u>.



Considential of EUROPEAN RESEARCH LIBRARIES

III ONLINE BOOK SEMINAR Provenance Working Group 10th October, 2024 4 pm CET

16.00-16.20

Dr Emily Löffler. Deutsche Nationalbibliothek (Leipzig. Germany): Provenienzforschung und Provenienzerschliessung and its work

16.20-16.40 Dr Richard Espley. National Art Library. Victoria and Albert Museum (London, UK): Challenges of provenance research in the UK's National Art Library

1640-17.00 Dr Richard Šipek, Knihovny Nårodniho muzea (Prague, Czech Republic). Provenance Research of the Scholars' Book Collections in the Czech Libraries



To mark Heritage Day 2024, the Russel Library (Maynooth University Library, Ireland) launched an exhibition "Identifying with Books – Ex Libris Bookplates from the Collections". It displayed various types of bookplates, showing not only the objects themselves, but also the books in which they are pasted, their history, and the owners.

The exhibition was curated jointly by Alexandra Caccamo, Special Collections Librarian, and Sarah Timmins, Senior Library Assistant in Special Collections & Archives (Maynooth University Library). The exhibition ran for several weeks in the Russell Library, featuring both the historic collections of Saint Patrick's College, Maynooth and books from the Special Collections of Maynooth University.



Its virtual version is available online.

The exhibition was accompanied by a campaign titled #Ex Libris Series on the library's social media platforms, which showcased diverse narratives behind the bookplates.

In 2024, twenty-seven new books from the private library of the Brothers Grimm were found in the Poznań University Library (Poland) by Polish researchers, prof. Eliza Pieciul-Karmińska an Renata Wilgosiewicz-Skutecka.

The volumes discovered in the University Library in Poznań had been considered lost since the end of World War II.

The provenance work took almost half a year, and the discovery may help develop research into the work of the authors of the famous collection of fairy tales.



Photos© Urząd Miasta Poznania

The Landesbibliothek in Coburg (Germany) has carried out a restitution of a Nazi-looted private library of the Jewish citizen Dr. Moritz Cramer (1877-1942). The collection, which was discovered in the State Library of Coburg in 2024, consists of 89 books in 108 volumes, including numerous rare early printed books. The ownership of the books was confirmed identification through of numerous provenance features, such as dedications, name stamps, abbreviations, and handwritten entries.



© Coburg State Library

The restitution was made to Melanie Gelber, Dr. Cramer's great-niece, from whom the collection was subsequently acquired by the Landesbibliothek Coburg, allowing it to remain in its original location and be accessible for further research.



Welcome to the CERL Provenance Digital Archive

Database of Ownership Marks in printed books and manuscripts

Two 2024 CERL Internship and Placement Grants were closely related to provenance research and the Provenance Digital Archive database developed and hosted by CERL. Costanza Ficorella, an assistant archivist from Irish National Monuments Services, described provenance marks of the Fagel Collection held in the Library of Trinity College in the Provenance Digital Archive (PDA) of CERL. Tom Mackinnon, a library assistant at the National Portrait Gallery of London, did the same with the Greek incunabula catalogued in MEI under the project <u>map-inc</u> (*Mapping incunabula in Greek libraries*) at the Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation in Greece. Their reports are available <u>online</u>.

In 2024, the <u>SLUB Dresden's provenance</u> research team worked on the three-part podcast on the provenance of the Nazi-looted books and manuscripts in the library.

The first episode was released in January 2025 on the occasion of International Holocaust Remembrance Day, and is available <u>online</u>.

The podcast is aimed at anyone interested in culture, history and libraries.

The first episode, "Gefunden!" ["Found!"], is about how provenance research works and the everyday life of researchers. The second episode "Erinnern?" ["Forgotten?"] (published in mid-February 2025) questions why it is so important to remember National Socialism. The third episode "Geräuschlos?!" ["Noiseless!?"] (to be published in early March 2025) tells the story of the theft and recovery of books from the Jewish communities of Hamburg and Dresden and looks at the legal and political framework for provenance research into contexts of injustice.



@ SLUB Dresden, Photo: Michael Schmidt, Dresden

"Zweites Untergeschoss. Ein Forschungspodcast zur Herkunft von Büchern" has been published in the SLUB Dresden media library.

It can also be heard on Spotify & Apple Podcasts.

Cloîtrés, connaisseurs et collectionneurs. Les bibliothèques luxembourgeoises entre le 16e et le 19e siècle

Where: Bibliothèque nationale du Luxembourg

When: 09.12.2024-08.03.2025

The exhibition provides a comprehensive overview of Luxembourg libraries from the 16th to the 19th century, bringing out the diverse range of historical libraries, from monastic and ecclesiastical collections to the private libraries of notable individuals such as Pierre Roberti (ca. 1566-1636) and Pierre-Ernest de Mansfeld (1517-1604). Different aspects of the books are highlighted, including authors, subjects, devotees, and traces of use or provenance, to show the value of these rare volumes and how they were used. The exhibition is curated by Max Schmitz, professor of history and collaborator of the rare book department at the BnL.

There is a <u>virtual tour</u> available online.

More information.

Brochure





Photos[©] BnL, Brainplug



More information

Gutenberg's Cradle

Where: Archbishop Marsh's Library, Dublin

When : until March 2025

The exhibition presents the oldest books from the Marsh Library collection, printed in the decades after the invention of printing by Johannes Gutenberg in the 1450s. Many books on display contain inscriptions or comments left by their first owners.

Der verschlossene Garten Zugänge zur Klosterbibliothek der Zisterzienserinnen von St. Marienthal

Where: Sächsische Landesbibliothek – Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek, Dresden

When: 29.01-17.05.2025

From January 29th to May 17th, 2025, the SLUB is displaying manuscripts and early printed books from the collection of St. Marienthal Abbey, the oldest women's convent of the Cistercian Order in Germany. The exhibition entitled "Der verschlossene Garten Zugänge zur Klosterbibliothek der Zisterzienserinnen von St. Marienthal" recounts the history of the women's monastery through its books and acknowledges the historical and cultural significance of the monastic library.

In 2023, the state of Saxony purchased the collection of St. Marienthal Abbey with the help of the Ernst von Siemens Art Foundation. In a project funded by the



Photo by Till Schuster, 2024

Carl Friedrich von Siemens Foundation, the St. Marienthal manuscript and book collection will be studied in greater detail over the next two years by the SLUB and Leipzig University Library.

The curators of the exhibition are:

Dr. Thomas Haffner, Jana Kocourek – SLUB PD Dr. Christine Stridde – University of Zurich Prof. Dr. Barbara Wiermann (for musical materials) – SLUB

Upcoming Events

Conferences

• 4th International Provenance Conference *Księgozbiory rozproszone – (po)wojenne losy kolekcji książki dawnej = Dispersed libraries - (Post)war Fates of Early Printed Book Collections*

The Ossolineum Library in Poland is pleased to announce its 4th international provenance conference which will focus on (post)war fates of early printed book collections.



During the armed conflicts that took place in Europe in various periods of history, many private and institutional early printed book collections were relocated and dispersed. They are currently held in libraries, archives, museums, and private collections all over the world. As the tangible legacy of Europe's cultural heritage, they serve as an invaluable resource for comprehending its history, science and culture. The purpose of this conference is

to examine the war and postwar fates of early printed book collections, their current legal status, and strategies for bringing them together.

The conference is organized in cooperation with The International Centre for Training and Research on Cultural Heritage in Danger, and under the patronage of UNESCO Polish National Commission, Blue Shield Polish Committee, Consortium of European Research Libraries, Lanckoroński Foundation, and Polish Provenance Working Group. The project is supported by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of Poland under the Excellent Science II Programme.

When: April 24-25, 2025

Where: Ossoliński National Institute, 37 Szewska Street, 50-139 Wrocław, Poland

Conference fee: none

Languages: Polish, English

Applications:

- with a paper: by February 28, 2025, to: ksiazka-dawna@ossolineum.pl
- without a paper: by March 14, 2025 (limited number of places, applications will be processed chronologically)

For more information, please visit the conference website (PL, ENG).

• **Provenance Research and Restitution – Transdisciplinary Approaches** Annual Conference of the International Professional Association for Provenance Research (Arbeitskreis Provenienzforschung e.V.) 2025

The International Professional Association for Provenance Research (Arbeitskreis Provenienzforschung e.V.) is organizing its annual conference with a focus this year on transdisciplinary cooperation and its potential for provenance research. The main topics of the conference are: 1. Provenance Research: Methods and Discourses 2. Restitution and Beyond: Norms, Relational Ethics and Impact 3. Communication and Politics.

When: 8 to 10 September 2025, Bonn

Where: University of Bonn, Germany

Applications: abstract (max. 300 words) in German or English together with a short biographical note (in a PDF file) to <u>provenienzforschung@uni-bonn.de</u> by February 28, 2025.

For more information, please visit the <u>website</u>.

• Acutus et Argutus: Early Modern Print in Motion



The Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania and the National Museum of Lithuania invite scholars to participate in the international conference "Acutus et Argutus: Early Modern Print Culture in Motion." The event honours the legacy of Matthias Casimirus Sarbievius (1595– 1640), one of the most influential Baroque poets and literary theorists in early modern Europe. The title of the conference draws inspiration from his work "De acuto et Arguto," which explores the aesthetics of wit and piercing style in literature an idea that resonates with the dynamic transformations of book culture in the early modern period. Topics include: 1. Books and print culture in the early modern period. 2. Readers, circulation, and provenance. 3. New approaches to the study of early printed heritage. 4. Marginalized voices in early modern book culture.

When: 8 to 10 October 2025, Vilnius, Lithuania

Where: Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania and National Museum of Lithuania

Applications: abstract (250–300 words) in English by April 30, 2025.

Submission form with detailed information: https://forms.office.com/e/gYtK5AxppQ

Contact for information: acutus.argutus@lnb.lt

Other events

• Course: Provenance in books: recognising, reading and interpreting

Lecturer: David Pearson

When: 1 April 2025 - 4 April 2025

Where: Taylor Library, Shrewsbury School, Ashton Road, Shrewsbury SY3 7BA

Format: in person, 13 classes of 90 minutes

Organizer: Institute of English Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London

Applications: by 23 March 2024

Fee: £ 500-800

In-person course focusing on recognizing different manifestations of provenance (inscriptions, bookplates and book labels, armorials and other evidence from bindings), practical instruction on paleography, heraldry and reference sources.

The course is part of the London Rare Books School 2025 programme.

More information

• Course: Provenance: Tracing Owners & Collections

Lecturer: David Pearson

In-person course focusing on recognizing and deciphering various forms of ownership markings, tracing owners and their books, and understanding the value of this information.

Topics: inscriptions, paleography, bookplates, heraldry, bindings as provenance evidence, sale catalogues, tracing owners, and the recording of provenance data in catalogues.

Recipients: anyone who regularly works with early books (librarians, collectors, dealers) and who would like to improve their knowledge in this area.

The course is part of <u>Rare Book School 2025</u> programme.

Course Length: 30 hours

Course Week: 1–6 June 2025

Format: in person

Organizer: Rare Book School, University of Virginia in Charlottesville, VA

Fee: \$1,495

More information

• Workshop: Paleography and Provenance in Printed Hebraica

Instructors:

- Ashkenazic paleography Edward Fram (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)
- Mizrahi paleography Noam Sienna (University of Toronto)
- Provenance and early printed books Marjorie Lehman (Jewish Theological Seminary); Michelle Margolis (Columbia University); Adam Shear (University of Pittsburgh); Joshua Teplitsky (University of Pennsylvania)
- Hebraica in the Toronto collections Nadav Sharon (University of Toronto)

In person two-day workshop dedicated to the study of early modern Hebrew paleography, especially in the early printed books.

When: June, 9-10, 2025

Where: Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library - University of Toronto, Canada

Organizer: The Fisher Library, in cooperation with the *Footprints: Jewish Books through Time and Place* project

Participants: all applicants with preference given to librarians working with collections in Jewish history, and scholars and students whose work and/or research will benefit from attending the seminar

Applications: by 24 February 2025

More information

• Call for participation: Provenance Research Day 2025

Where: international

When: 9 April 2025

Organizer: Arbeitskreis Provenienzforschung e.V.

Coordinator: Arbeitsgruppe Tag der Provenienzforschung

Participants: all institutions conducting provenance research

Applications: register your event here by March 26, 2025

This year, the Provenance Research Day, which was established in 2019 by Arbeitskreis Provenienzforschung e. V., will take place on April 9th. All institutions involved in provenance analysis are invited to participate in this event, joining the global research community. Contributions may take the form of talks, lectures, discussions, workshops, exhibitions, book presentations etc.

More information

• Call for blog posts: RETOUR Freier Blog für Provenienzforschende

On the occasion of Provenance Research Day on April 9, 2025, the editorial team of *Retour Free blog for provenance researchers* is accepting texts on provenance research, working experience, interesting objects etc. relating to book provenance to be published on the blog <u>website</u>.

The blog operates in cooperation with the German Provenance Working Group Arbeitskreis Provenienzforschung und Restitution – Bibliotheken ("Working Group Provenance Research and Restitution – Libraries").

Text requirements: 1,500 to 5,000 characters (1/2 to two A4 pages)

Applications: by March 30, 2025, to retour@disroot.org

More information

New Books

• Bücher und ihre Wege : Bibliomigration zwischen Deutschland und Polen seit 1939 / Vanessa de Senarclens (Hg.), Paderborn : Brill Schöningh, 2024. – XXI, 360 pp., ill. – ISBN 978-3-657-79175-0.

A collection of papers focusing on the migration of books between Germany and Poland during and after the Second World War. The papers were presented at the conference "Das "Bibliomigratorische" im deutschpolnischen Kontext seit dem Zweiten Weltkrieg" organized at the German Historical Institute in Warsaw in 2022.

 As mulheres e suas bibliotecas no contexto do patrimônio bibliográfico : cultura material e percursos / Organizadores Fabiano Cataldo de Azevedo, Simone Trindade Vicente da SilvaTanira Fontoura, Salvador, BA : Fundação Museu Carlos Costa Pinto, 2024. – 336 pp., ill. – ISBN 978-65-89749-03-2.

A collection of 23 articles on women and their personal libraries by authors from Brazil, Portugal, Mexico, the United States, England, and Poland. The papers were presented at the international seminar "Women and Their Personal Libraries in the Context of Bibliographic and Documentary Heritage", held in Salvador, Brazil, in December 2022.

 Cultivating best practices in Judaica provenance : a project of the International Forum on Judaica Provenance convened by the National Library of Israel and the Association of Jewish Libraries / Yoel Finkelman and Michelle Margolis, Jerusalem, Israel : National Library of Israel ; Teaneck, N.J : Association of Jewish Libraries, 2024. – 36 pp., ill. – ISBN 978-965-7643-38-9.

A comprehensive guide with best practices relating to the management of Jewish books and manuscripts in cases of uncertain provenance. It also contains a bibliography and a list of digital resources pertaining to Judaica provenance, as well as a style manual for book provenance.

 Looted libraries, looted books : the Swedish case / Peter Sjökvist, Leiden ; Boston : Brill, 2024. – VI, 103 pp. – ISBN 978-90-04-71566-0.

A summarizing description of libraries from Latvia, Poland, Germany, the Czech Republic and Denmark looted by the Swedish army in the 17th century. It outlines the regions and owners from which complete libraries or selected books were looted, where they were placed when they arrived in Sweden, and how they have been received and curated over the years.

• *Production and provenance : copy-specific features of incunabula* / edited by John Goldfinch, Takako Kato, Satoko Tokunaga, Leiden ; Boston : Brill, 2025. – xviii, 442 pp., ill. – ISBN 978-90-04-68984-8.

A collection of papers examining copy-specific features of incunabula, their production and provenance, as well as the perspectives of incunabula studies.

 Verboten, beschlagnahmt, geraubt : NS-Bibliothekspolitik und -praxis in Europa / Banned, confiscated, looted : Nazi library policy and practice in Europe / Edited by Claude D. Conter & Jean-Marie Reding, (Bibliothek und Wissenschaft 56), Wiesbaden : Harrassowitz Verlag, 2024. – X, 266 pp., ill. – ISBN 978-3-447-18247-8.

A collection of 15 articles pertaining to the policy and practice of Nazi libraries in Europe, resulting from a conference organized by the National Library of Luxembourg in October 2022.

• *Glossário de marcas de proveniência* / Marcia Carvalho Rodrigues, Alissa Esperon Vian. 1. Ed., Rio Grande, RS : Ed. da FURG, 2024. – 253 pp., ill. – ISBN 978-65-5754-253-8.

A glossary of terms relating to provenance marks. In Portuguese, with illustrations.

 Księgozbiory historyczne mniejszości etnicznych i religijnych / red. Dorota Sidorowicz-Mulak, Agnieszka Franczyk-Cegła., Wrocław : Zakład Narodowy im. Ossolińskich, 2024. – 494 pp., ill. – ISBN 978-83-6625-719-1.

A collection of 22 articles examining the historical book collections of the ethnic and religious minorities, as well as social movements aiming at the spiritual improvement of the individual and the brotherhood of

people of different religions from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, Silesia and Pomerania, currently held in libraries, archives and museums in Poland and abroad. The papers were presented at the conference held in the Ossolineum Library (Wrocław, Poland) in 2022.

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