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Merovingian Gaul
Edited by Yitzhak Hen and Rob Meens
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THE BOBBIO MISSAL

Liturgy and Religious Culture in Merovingian Gaul

The Bobbio Missal is one of the most intriguing manuscripts to have been produced in Merovingian Francia. It was copied in south-eastern Gaul around the end of the seventh and beginning of the eighth century and it contains a unique combination of a lectionary and a sacramentary, to which a plethora of canonical and non-canonical material was added. The Missal is therefore highly regarded by liturgists; but, additionally, medieval historians welcome the information to be derived from material attached to the codex which provides valuable data about the role and education of priests in Francia at that time, and indeed on their cultural and ideological background. The breadth of specialist knowledge provided by the team of scholars writing for this book enables the manuscript to be viewed as a whole, and not as a narrow liturgical study. Collectively, the essays view the manuscript as physical object: they discuss the contents, they examine the language, and they look at the cultural context in which the codex was written. The entire volume is a major re-evaluation of the Bobbio Missal, its content and purpose.

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The Bobbio Missal is one of the most intriguing liturgical manuscripts that were produced in Merovingian Francia. It is here argued that it was copied in south-eastern Gaul and it contains a unique combination of a lectionary and a sacramentary, to which a plethora of canonical and non-canonical material was added. Notwithstanding its richness and significance, no major study of the Bobbio Missal has been published since 1924, and scholars who used it throughout the twentieth century simply picked up from previous discussions whatever they deemed appropriate. On 28 April 2001 a group of scholars from various disciplines and universities gathered together in Utrecht for a one-day workshop on the Bobbio Missal. The present volume is essentially the revised and expanded version of the papers presented at the Utrecht gathering, to which three more papers have been added (by Ganz, Mostert and Wright and Wright), in order to cover issues which were raised (but not discussed) in the Utrecht workshop.

This volume could not have been published without the help and advice of many friends and colleagues. We would first like to extend our deep gratitude to the contributors for their cooperation and forbearance, and to those who participated in the discussions at the Utrecht gathering. Special thanks should go to Mayke de Jong, who took a special interest in the progress of this enterprise, and provided much encouragement and support. She also chaired the sessions held at Utrecht, and contributed immensely to the success of our workshop. We are equally indebted to the Research Institute for History and Culture of the University of Utrecht and the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) for their generous financial support, and to Irene van Renswoude who masterfully helped us in organising things. Finally, we should like to thank Tessa Webber, William Davies, Caroline Bundy and the staff of the Cambridge University Press for their interest in this book and for seeing it through the press.

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Abbreviations

AASS	Acta Sanctorum (Antwerp and Brussels, 1643–)
BAR	British Archaeological Reports
BAV	Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana
BM	Bibliothèque Municipale
BNF	Bibliothèque Nationale de France
<i>Bobbio</i>	<i>The Bobbio Missal: A Gallican Mass-Book</i> , ed. E.A. Lowe, HBS 58 (London, 1920)
CCSL	Corpus Christianorum, Series Latina (Turnhout, 1952–)
CLA	<i>Codices Latini Antiquiores. A Palaeographical Guide to Latin Manuscripts Prior to the Ninth Century</i> , 11 vols. with a supplement (Oxford, 1935–71; 2nd edn of vol. II, 1972)
CLLA	<i>Codices Liturgici Latini Antiquiores</i> , ed. K. Gamber, 2 vols., Spicilegii Friburgensis Subsidia 1 (2nd edn, Freiburg, 1968); supplemented by B. Baroffio <i>et al.</i> , Spicilegii Friburgensis subsidia 1A (Freiburg, 1988)
Clm	Codices latini monacenses
DACL	<i>Dictionnaire d'archéologie chrétienne et de liturgie</i> , ed. F. Cabrol and H. Leclercq, 15 vols. in 30 (Paris, 1907–53)
HBS	Henry Bradshaw Society Publications
Lowe, 'Notes'	E.A. Lowe, 'Notes on the parallel forms in early texts', in <i>The Bobbio Missal: Notes and Studies</i> , ed. A. Wilmart, E.A. Lowe and H.A. Wilson, HBS 61 (London, 1924), pp. 107–47
Lowe, 'Palaeography'	E.A. Lowe, 'The palaeography of the Bobbio Missal', in <i>The Bobbio Missal: Notes and Studies</i> , ed. A. Wilmart, E.A. Lowe and H.A. Wilson, HBS 61 (London, 1924), pp. 59–106 (repr. in E.A. Lowe,

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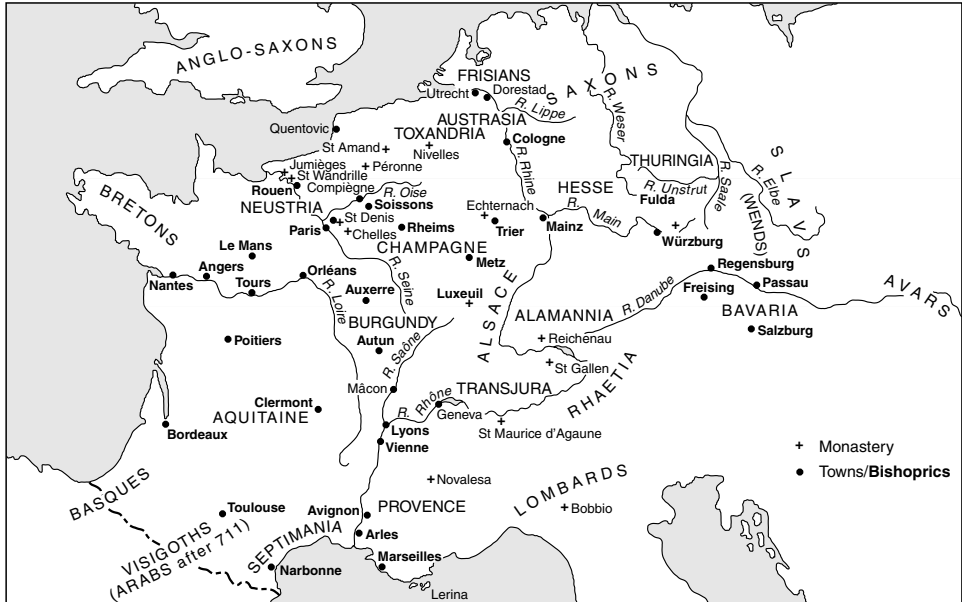
	<i>Palaeographical Papers</i> , ed. L. Bieler, 2 vols. (Oxford, 1972), I, pp. 142–81)
MGH	Monumenta Germaniae Historica
AA	Auctores Antiquissimi, 15 vols. (Berlin, 1877–1919)
SRG	Scriptores rerum Germanicarum in usum scholarum (Hannover, 1871–)
SRM	Scriptores rerum Merovingicarum, 7 vols. (Hannover, 1884–1951)
PL	Patrologiae cursus completus, series latina, ed. J.-P. Migne, 221 vols. (Paris, 1841–64)
PLS	Patrologiae latinae supplementum, ed. A. Hamman, 4 vols. (Paris, 1957–71)
Settimane	Settimane di studio del Centro italiano di studi sull'alto medioevo (Spoleto, 1954–)
Wilmart, 'Notice'	A. Wilmart, 'Notice du Missel de Bobbio', in <i>The Bobbio Missal: Notes and Studies</i> , ed. A. Wilmart, E.A. Lowe and H.A. Wilson, HBS 61 (London, 1924), pp. 1–58
Wilmart, 'Palimpseste'	A. Wilmart, 'Le palimpseste du missel de Bobbio', <i>Revue Bénédictine</i> 33 (1921), pp. 1–18

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Map 1 Bobbio and other monasteries. After Paul Fouracre, *The Age of Charles Martel* (Harlow, 2000)