How the Books Became the Bible: The Evidence for Canon Formation from Work-Combinations in Manuscripts¹

Abstract

This paper contributes to a developing conversation about the New Testament canon. I consider the way manuscripts combine different works and investigate to what extent, even before canon lists became widespread, manuscripts combined only those works, which were later affirmed as canonical. My method is to establish the works contained in all Greek New Testament manuscripts, dating from before the end of the fourth century. There are a number of cases where only a fragment survives, containing a small part of one work, but where there are also page numbers that enable us to estimate what else might have been present. My results demonstrate that the works which are now considered canonical were rarely combined with works now considered non-canonical. However, they also demonstrate that single-work manuscripts were widespread.

¹ My thanks to Markus Bockmuehl and Daniela Colomo, under whose wise and helpful supervision this paper began life, Mary Marshall, who asked challenging and helpful questions in the viva, Dirk Jongkind, who kindly gave time and input while supervising another project, Jeremiah Coogan and Katherine Dormandy, who commented helpfully on drafts, and to the anonymous reviewers at *TC*, whose suggestions greatly improved the article. Funding for the research which became this paper was generously provided by Rochester Diocese, the James William Squire Bursary, the Hall-Houghton Studentship in the Greek New Testament and the Gosden Water-Newton Scholarship. I am grateful for helpful discussion of this project at the Birmingham New Testament Textual Criticism Colloquium, the British New Testament Conference and the SBL Annual Meeting, all in 2017. Funding to attend these conferences was generously provided by the Christ's College and the Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge.

1. Introduction

The origins of the New Testament canon continue to be a subject of controversy. In this paper, I aim to examine what light can be shed on this question by considering how literary works are combined in manuscripts.

The scholarly debate on the canon is complex, but nevertheless it is possible to identify at least two types of view: the "open canon" and the "closed canon". Two ideas characterise the "open canon" view, though not all scholars who hold one necessarily hold the other. Firstly, the "open canon" view, as represented by Schröter and Hahneman, holds that the canon did not become established until the fourth century. Although the corpora which make up the modern New Testament, such as the four Gospels and the letters of Paul, were stable earlier, it is only in the fourth century that a list of authoritative Christian writings resembling the modern New Testament was established.² Secondly, "open canon" scholars, as represented by Schröter and Watson, argue that we can discern no property in the canonical books which made it clear that they alone would be selected as canonical. When the Gospels (canonical and not) were being written, there was no reason to think that only four of them would be later received as canonical, let alone which four.³

The "closed canon" view, represented most comprehensively by Trobisch, is that the canon of the New Testament was fixed by the end of the second century. Trobisch specifically argues that all or most of our New Testament fragments originally came from copies of the "complete edition" of the New Testament, containing all twenty-seven books. He does not claim that all the books were bound in one physical codex, but he stresses that the works of the New Testament were from the earliest times produced as part of complete sets, just as a modern

² Jens Schröter, From Jesus to the New Testament: Early Christian Theology and the Origin of the New Testament Canon, trans. Wayne Coppins, Baylor-Mohr Siebeck Studies in Early Christianity 1, (Waco: Baylor University Press, 2013); Geoffrey Mark Hahneman, "The Muratorian Fragment and the Origins of the New Testament Canon," in The Canon Debate, ed. Lee Martin McDonald and James A. Sanders (Peabody: Hendrickson, 2002), 405-15.

³ Schröter, *From Jesus;* Francis Watson, *Gospel Writing: A Canonical Perspective* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2013).

encyclopaedia may exist in several volumes, which are always produced and sold as a set. He specifically claims that 01 and 03 were not exceptional manuscripts in their time, but represent the standard format for how the New Testament circulated.⁴

Gamble, Stanton and Heckel propose a more moderate version of this model: they argue that the Gospels (Stanton and Heckel) or the Pauline corpus (Gamble) were not only fixed by the end of the second century (which even "open canon" scholars would accept), but also that the relevant works standardly circulated in those corpora and most of our Gospel or Pauline fragments came originally from four-Gospel codices or complete Pauline codices.⁵ In this paper, I assess the various different open and closed canon views in the light of work-combinations within manuscripts.

I follow Driscoll's distinctions between work, text and artifact⁶:

Hamlet is a work. The New Swan Shakespeare Advanced Series edition of Hamlet by Bernard Lott, M.A. Ph.D., published by Longman in 1968, is, or presents, a text. My copy of Lott's edition, bought from Blackwell's in Oxford in 1979 and containing my copious annotations, is an artefact⁷

"Manuscript" can be used almost synonymously with "artifact" in this sense, though obviously many non-documentary objects are considered "artifacts".

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⁴ David Trobisch, *The First Edition of the New Testament* (Oxford: OUP, 2000). For the specific point about 01 and 03 being representative of all early New Testament manuscripts, see 37-38. For the analogy with a modern encyclopaedia, see 9-10.

⁵ Theo K. Heckel, *Von Evangelium des Markus zum viergestaltigen Evangelium*, WUNT 120 (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 1999); Harry Y. Gamble, *Books and Readers in the Early Church: A History of Early Christian Texts* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1995); Graham Stanton, "The Fourfold Gospel," *NTS* 43 (1997): 317-46.

⁶ The OED records both spellings (artifact and artefact) as valid today and both are used in the literature. I use "artifact" throughout, but do not change quotations where the other spelling is used ("artefact | artifact, n. and adj.". OED Online. December 2016. Oxford University Press.

http://www.oed.com/view/Entry/11133?redirectedFrom=artefact).

⁷ Matthew James Driscoll, "The Words on a Page: Thoughts on Philology Old and New," in *Creating the Medieval Saga: Versions, Variability, and Editorial Interpretations of Old Norse Saga Literature,* ed. Judy Quinn and Emily Lethbridge (Odense: Syddansk Universitetsforlag, 2010), 85-102 (93).

The terms "canonical" and "New Testament" are problematic, because they carry more historical and theological freight than is helpful to my present purpose. This project does not discuss the rise of the word κανών to refer to a collection of authoritative works. It does not even chart the development of the concept of a bounded set of authoritative works. Rather, it concentrates specifically on the development of the bibliographic practice of combining particular works together. This raises an obvious question about the relationship between the concept and the practice: did the early Christians believe certain works were canonical because they were normally part of the same bibliographic unit or did they regularly include them in the same bibliographic unit because they considered them canonical? This question is also outside my present scope. In this paper I merely aim to present, more comprehensively than before and all in one place, the data on the bibliographic practice and to analyse and summarise that data. In order to make this clear, I use the term "collection-evident", rather than "canonical", to refer to a combination which contains only works which today are considered canonical. This is because such a combination may be evidence for the bibliographic practice of combining particular works, but not direct evidence for the theological concept of canon.

This project is necessary for answering the questions I do not discuss, regarding the rise of the concept of canon. To answer those questions, we must consider my research alongside explicit statements and discussions of the canon by early Christian writers. Meade and Gallagher have recently collected a large number of such texts and it is hoped that my research will compliment theirs. Meade and Gallagher's findings reveal that the first complete and largely undisputed New Testament canon lists begin to appear in the fourth century. There are lists which may well be earlier, but which are uncertain in date or content. Origen's most detailed list is from the third century, in his *Homilies on Joshua*, but is preserved only in Rufinus' fourth century translation and Rufinus may have edited the work to reflect the state of the canon in his own time. The Muratorian Canon is a text containing a list of canonical books, but the text preserved today is probably only a translation, the original of which has been dated anywhere from the second to the fourth century. In the fourth century, New Testament canon lists that closely resemble the modern canon are relatively common: in the east they include the

lists of Eusebius, Athanasius and Cyril of Jerusalem; in the west there are the list in Codex Claromontanus, the Cheltenham list and the list in Jerome.⁸

My research could certainly be used alongside that of Meade and Gallagher to reconstruct how the canon developed, by comparing the bibliographic and literary evidence at different points in time. Hill's 2013 article is an example of this kind of project: he presents a short survey of artifactual evidence for the development of the Gospel canon, in order to compare it with the explicit discussions in early Christian literature. However, he does not discuss work combinations in this article and elsewhere does so only in Johannine literature. ¹⁰ My research will also help show whether the explicit statements of the canon are the consequence or the cause of the bibliographic practice of collection-evident combinations. As noted above, the earliest reliably dated, complete and explicit statements of the New Testament canon are from the fourth century, but there are earlier statements of disputable date (e.g. the Muratorian Canon) and earlier statements of only parts of the canon (e.g. Irenaeus' famous remarks about the four-fold Gospel¹¹). My research will allow us to see how collection-evident artifacts date in relation to these statements: if we find that the modern canon appears in bibliographic practice from very soon after the earliest possible date for explicit statements, this implies these statements are less likely to be the cause of the bibliographic practice than the consequence, since the statements are not likely to have been so widely and quickly heeded.

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⁸ Edmon L. Gallagher and John D. Meade, *The Biblical Canon Lists from Early Christianity: Texts and Analysis* (Oxford: OUP, 2017).

⁹ The scholarly "blogosphere" witnessed a debate not so long ago on the relative epistemic importance of Patristic statements about the canon versus bibliographic evidence. John Meade criticised Michael Kruger's book, *Canon Revisited* (Crossway: Wheaton, 2012) for overemphasising the material evidence. This resulted in an exchange of posts between Meade and Kruger. Kruger's closing words in the final blog of the exchange arguably provide a synthesis: "If [Meade's] point is simply that we have to be recognize [sic] the limitations of the material evidence, then (of course) I heartily agree. The material evidence is not absolute. And it cannot tell us everything. But, I think it can still tell us a lot...And for that reason, I think the material evidence still has much to teach us." I offer the present paper in the same spirit: the material evidence "cannot tell us everything", but it is nonetheless worthy of research. Meade's posts are available at the Evangelical Textual Criticism blog (http://evangelicaltextualcriticism.blogspot.co.uk) and Kruger's at his personal blog, entitled "Canon Fodder" (https://ewww.michaeljkruger.com)). The quotation is from Kruger's second post in the exchange, entitled "Codex and Canon: A Response to John Meade (Part 2)".

¹⁰ Charles E. Hill, "A Four-Gospel Canon in the Second Century? Artifact and Arti-fiction," *EC* 4 (2013): 310-34; Charles Hill, *The Johannine Corpus in the Early Church* (Oxford: OUP, 2004), 152-55, 453-59.

¹¹ Against Heresies 3.11.8.

This project does not investigate the order of works in an artifact. This is not because the order is unimportant or reveals nothing of the attitude that makers and users of manuscripts took to different works. I decline to investigate order partly because of the limited scope of the project and partly because, significant though order is, regular combinations are surely more significant: it is more important for the status of the four Gospels in the early church to note that they were never combined with other Gospels than to note the particular order in which the four were combined.

A number of scholars have investigated work-combinations, but less comprehensively. Trobisch has examined manuscripts for evidence of canon-consciousness, but he excludes manuscripts which contain only one work or which are fragmentary. Schröter similarly presents only a brief analysis, using a small number of manuscripts. Hill also investigates work combinations, but focuses exclusively on the developing Johannine corpus, rather than the entire New Testament. Elliott similarly provides a briefer and less systematic consideration than the one offered here. Hurtado advances a similar argument to mine, but also does not offer a comprehensive analysis of the data.

Any attempt to make generalisations about the bibliographic habits of early Christians from our surviving artifacts will face the challenge that, although we have access to a rich quantity of New Testament artifacts, it is only a tiny fraction of the total that were produced. Many of those that have survived have ended up on the black market, rather than in scholarly hands. The vast majority of our early papyri come from a particular region of Egypt (indeed a particular city, Oxyrhynchus). However, we have to analyse the evidence before us, even when it is incomplete. Further, P. Oxy III 405 is a manuscript of Irenaeus, dated to no later than the first half of the third century. Within a generation of the work being composed in Lyons, a copy had

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¹² Trobisch, First Edition, 28.

¹³ Schröter, *From Jesus*, 285.

¹⁴ Hill, *Johannine*, 152-55, 453-59.

¹⁵ J. K. Elliott, "Manuscripts, the Codex and the Canon," JSNT 63 (1996): 105-23

¹⁶ Larry W. Hurtado, *The Earliest Christian Artifacts: Manuscripts and Christian Origins* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2006), 35-40.

reached Egypt.¹⁷ This suggests that ancient literary culture was less geographically segregated than we might think: papyri found in Egypt are not necessarily unreliable evidence for the rest of the Christian world.¹⁸

2. The Evidence of Work-Combinations

2.a. Methodology

I have attempted to establish the works represented in every Greek New Testament artifact from before 400. I compiled my catalogue of artifacts from the Leuven Database of Ancient Books (LDAB), because it is the most comprehensive, up-to-date database of ancient manuscripts. ¹⁹ I used the LDAB to isolate all aritfacts carrying New Testament material, in Greek, from before 400. I excluded search results where the New Testament material was in a language other than Greek, but where there was Greek New Testament material present. It would be an excellent further development of the project to extend it to other languages. Dating of ancient literary artifacts is notoriously problematic, since they must normally be dated palaeographically, by comparing the handwriting to that found on other artifacts. This process is inherently subjective and Clarysse and Orsini argue that New Testament papyri are particularly liable to be dated too early, sometimes due to apologetic bias.²⁰ I therefore did a "non-strict" dating search of the LDAB, that is, I instructed the search programme to include manuscripts within a certain range outside my specified date range. Although I used the LDAB as my primary research tool, most manuscripts are better known to New Testament scholars by their Gregory-Aland numbers, so, in the main text of this article, I cite these where possible, rather than LDAB numbers.

¹⁷ Lincoln H. Blummel and Thomas A. Wayment, *Christian Oxyrhynchus: Texts, Documents and Sources* (Waco: Baylor University Press, 2015), 287-88.

¹⁸ For further evidence for literary mobility in the ancient world, see Kim Haines-Eitzen, *Guardians of Letters: Literacy, Power and the Transmitters of Early Christian Literature* (Oxford: OUP, 2000), 77-78.

¹⁹ Leuven Database of Ancient Books, http://www.trismegistos.org/ldab/search.php.

²⁰ Willy Clarysse and Pasquale Orsini, "Early New Testament Manuscripts and Their Dates: A Critique of Theological Palaeography," *ETL* 88/4 (2012): 443-74.

De Bruin and Dijkstra have suggested that there might be known, already-discovered artifacts not in the LDAB. They investigate late antique Egyptian amulets and state that "Almost all, fortunately, are included in the Leuven Database of Ancient Books (LDAB) and in TM-Magic". Their phrase "Almost all" suggests that some, potentially with collection-evident content, might have been excluded from the LDAB, so I searched their full catalogue to find any in the catalogue without a Trismegistos number (which would indicate not being in the LDAB), within my date range. I found only one, which had neither a Trismegistos number nor an assigned date, that is SEG 47 2153. However, this is an Egyptian β ou β amulet, with no contentful text, but the words β ou β and probably β auv χ oo β and a cross. The SEG entry defines β ou β as "the personification of the 'premier décan' of Scorpion who is supposed to exercise a beneficent influence on the genitalia". This combined with the cross, is a fascinating example of late antique Egyptian syncretism, but none of the material would ever be considered canonical, so it is of no relevance to me.

In analysing the results of the search, it is insufficient to focus simply on those few artifacts, which contain text from more than one work. We must also give attention to the fragments that probably come from artifacts, which originally contained multiple works. We can identify such fragments by the size of the work and page or column numbering. A fragment of Philemon is highly likely to have come from an artifact that contained more works, since Philemon is so short. If a page or column number indicates that an artifact originally had more pages than were needed to contain the work on the fragment, then that artifact almost certainly contained multiple works. It is normally possible to gauge, from a fragment, very approximately how many characters there were per page or column. I have also performed electronic character counts of all the works of the New Testament in NA²⁸, obviously excluding punctuation, verse numbering and other characters which come from the modern editors. These figures are given

²¹ Theodore S. de Bruyn and Jitse H. F. Dijkstra, "Greek Amulets and Formularies from Egypt Containing Christian Elements: A Checklist of Papyri, Parchments, Ostraka, and Tablets," *BASP* 48 (2011): 163-216 (166). ²² de Bruyn and Dijkstra, "Amulets," 192.

²³ Thomas J. Kraus, "βους, βαινωωχ und Septuaginta-Psalm 90? Überlegungen zu den sogenannten 'Bous' Amuletten und dem beliebtesten Bibeltext für apotropäische Zwecke," *ZAC* 11 (2007): 479-91 (482).

²⁴ A. Chaniotis, H. W. Pleket, R. S. Stroud and J. M. H. Strubbe, "SEG 47-2153. Egypt. Unknown Provenance. Christian Amulet, Undated," in Supplementum Epigraphicum Graecum, ed. A. Chaniotis, T. Corsten, N. Papazarkadas and R.A. Tybout. On-line edition. doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1163/1874-6772_seg_a47_2153.

at the conclusion of the article. Using this data, one can calculate whether a fragment with a page number would probably have contained more than the work which is preserved.

There are obvious possible inaccuracies. Page and column numbers were frequently added by a different hand. This does not mean the numbers are unreliable, especially since in most cases the second hand is probably contemporary. They were probably added later because, as Turner argues, it is prohibitively difficult to write evenly on a page already bound in a quire, so most codices were probably bound after their pages had been written. It would be natural to add page numbers after the binding, which would mean they were added when the codex was out of the hands of its scribe. It is not always certain if the numbers are of pages or folios or quires. Ohas quire numbers and 03 numbers folios on the verso. On the other hand, 0169 and 0189 have two consecutive numbers on adjacent pages, so the numbers clearly refer to pages. Roberts and Skeat argue and Turner's data implies that page numbers were more common than quire numbers in the earliest centuries. It therefore assume that a number refers to pages unless there is reason to take it as referring to anything else.

There is also no guarantee that the manuscript in question had a text identical to NA²⁸, throughout the work in question; indeed, most manuscripts probably did not. One could attempt to mitigate this problem by counting the characters in a form of the text, which reflects the variants in the fragment (e.g. assuming the whole original artifact had a "Western" text throughout if the fragment exhibits a "Western" reading). However, this involves speculating about the non-extant portions so far beyond the evidence as not to be worth the complexity of the task. Another problem is that NA²⁸ does not reproduce the abbreviations, which occur frequently in early Christian manuscripts, such as *nomina sacra*, numbers written as numerals and horizontal bars at the end of lines for the letter nu. This means that a work's character count in a manuscript will be less than in NA²⁸, even if the text was identical. A very serious

²⁵ Eric Gardner Turner, *The Typology of the Early Codex* (Philadelphia, PA: University of Philadelphia Press, 1977), 75.

²⁶ Turner, *Codex*, 74.

²⁷ Colin H. Roberts and T. C. Skeat, *The Birth of the Codex* (London: OUP, 1983), 51; Turner, *Codex*, 73-78.

problem is that letters per page are far from constant throughout a manuscript.²⁸ None of these problems render my approach futile, but they do recommend caution in drawing conclusions.

When the calculations indicate that there were more works present than the surviving one, scholars frequently speculate regarding what the other works might have been. However, given that this project aims to investigate how and when various collections became standard, it is important not to beg this question, by assuming that a particular fragment originally came from a manuscript with a particular work-combination, simply because that combination seems logical to us today.

I assume that if a fragment contains a work which is long enough to have reasonably filled the roll or codex, and there is no evidence that there was any other work present, then no other work was present. This is because there are a considerable number of manuscripts which appear to carry only a single work, either because they survive largely intact or because their pagination indicates that the codex began with the work on the fragment. The fact that a work is at the beginning of a codex does not of course mean that nothing else was present after that work, but it seems unlikely that all ten of the fragments where this is the case just happen to have come from the beginning of their codices.²⁹ There are of course also a considerable number of multi-work manuscripts, so arguably I could equally well assume that a fragment with a single-work comes from a multi-work manuscript. However, this investigation is about to what extent work-combinations are collection-evident. Therefore I must avoid making any assumptions about what additional works may have been present in lost parts of manuscripts. Assuming that a manuscript contained no additional works means I avoid making any assumptions how collection-evident it is. This means that the number of single-work manuscripts I find may be artificially high and it would be wise not to draw too many conclusions from that about the prevalence of single-work manuscripts, but it also means that my findings regarding work combinations are free of dangerous assumptions.

²⁸ My thanks to Jeremiah Coogan for this point (personal communication, 28 November 2017).

²⁹ The ten manuscripts are listed in the table on p.23 of this article.

It is frequently debated whether or not two fragments originally came from the same manuscript. Certainty on this point is rarely possible, since, even if the hands are the same, this does not mean they came from the same manuscript. When the two fragments contain different works (e.g. 0171) the issue is particularly pertinent. In all cases of doubt, I assume that the fragments do not come from the same manuscript. This is partly because the probability is intrinsically low, given the amount of manuscripts an active scribe could be expected to produce in a life-time. It is also because I am investigating work-combinations and it is methodologically sound to "stack the odds" against my research coming to positive conclusions. Therefore I assume that any given manuscript did not combine any works, unless there is overwhelming evidence to the contrary. This is why, in the results tables, some manuscript sigla appear twice (e.g. 0171). Occasionally a manuscript will have two sigla in one numbering system (Gregory-Aland or LDAB) and one in the other.

Using all of the above reasoning, I placed the manuscripts turned up by the LDAB search into the following categories:

- 1. "Certainly Collection-Evident". Artifacts containing more than one work, all of which are today considered canonical.
- 2. "Plausibly Collection-Evident". Fragments, containing only one work, which, more plausibly than not, came from artifacts containing more than one work, all of which are today considered canonical.
- 3. "Certainly or Plausibly One Work". Artifacts which contain only one work, fragments which, more plausibly than not, came from artifacts containing one work or fragments which have no evidence suggesting that their original manuscripts contained multiple works.
- 4. "Plausibly Multi-Work, Indeterminably Collection-Evident". Fragments, which, more plausibly than not, came from manuscripts containing more than one work, where it is impossible to say whether or not those additional works were among those considered canonical today. This category contains mainly fragments of the shorter New Testament, i.e. the letters other than Romans, 1 and 2 Corinthians and Hebrews. It

would be unlikely to make a manuscript for merely one of the short works. Although 0173 has pagination suggesting that it began with James and sufficiently little text per page that it could have contained only James, we can presume that such small, inefficient codices were not the norm. If there is evidence from pagination or column numbering or otherwise regarding the identity of the other works in the parent manuscript, the fragment can be placed into category 2 or 5, but if not, it is categorised here.

- 5. "Plausibly Not Collection-Evident". Fragments, containing only one work, but which, more plausibly than not, came from manuscripts which contained more than one work, at least one of which was not a work that is canonical today. Many manuscripts in this category are fragments of works that are too small to occupy a codex or roll alone, but which have pagination or column numbering that cannot be reconciled with any standard collection of the works now considered canonical.
- 6. "Definitely Not Collection-Evident". Artifacts that contain more than one work, at least one of which is not today canonical.

I consider translations or commentaries on the main work in the artifact not to be additional works, since inclusion of a translation or commentary in the same artifact does not imply that this secondary work is of equal status to the main work. If a New Testament text is found with a Septuagint text, I consider the artifact to be collection-evident, since a fundamental aspect of the development of the New Testament canon is certain early Christian works being accorded the same status as the Septuagint. Regarding palimpsests, where a second text is copied over the original artifact centuries later, I do not consider the second text to represent an additional work.

In the appendix, I present the artifacts found by the LDAB search, sorted into the above categories, with the date given by the LDAB and the contents. In the case of small fragments, I give the full Biblical reference for the contents; unless the specific verses are both irrelevant and impractical. In all cases, I have attempted to check the contents in an alternative authority to the LDAB – either the *editio princeps* or another scholarly work. References to the verifying

source are given for every artifact in the appendix. Even in the case where the *editio princeps* has been used, I give the full reference, rather than merely the siglum of the manuscript, since I am citing that particular edition of the manuscript, rather than the manuscript itself, in order to verify the LDAB's report on the contents. I use Comfort and Barrett and Jaroš as little as possible to verify contents, since Clarysse and Orsini have significantly problematised their dating. ³⁰

I follow the LDAB's dates throughout, rather than those given in my scholarly verifying sources because, in Bagnall's words "[the LDAB] has the advantage of being more or less upto-date and possesses the characteristic – for better or worse – of not embodying any single idiosyncratic viewpoint about the dating of manuscripts". If I were to use a different scholarly work to verify the date of each artifact, as I have done for the contents, I would end up comparing data gathered by observers with a whole range of different biases and approaches and therefore not truly comparing like with like. The LDAB is also the only database which contains so wide and comprehensive a range of artifacts. If I were to use a different database or catalogue, such as the *Liste*, I would have to supplement that with the LDAB, which would once again mean that I was comparing dates, which had been derived using different methods and approaches. Ultimately little in my conclusions will "hang" on the date of an artifact: this project is more aiming at a general picture of canon-consciousness in the early centuries than any change that may be detectable within the early period. The problem of biases and subjectivities does not apply to the contents of the manuscripts, because determining that is obviously much more objective.

³⁰ Clarysse and Orsini, "Manuscripts," 444-47; Philip W. Comfort and David P. Barrett. *The Text of the Earliest New Testament Greek Manuscripts: A Corrected, Enlarged Edition of the Text of the Earliest New Testament Manuscripts* (Wheaton: Tyndale House, 2001); Karl Jaroš, *Das Neue Testament nach den ältesten griechischen Handschriften* (Ruhpolding: Verlag Franz Philipp Rutzen, 2006), 72.

³¹ Roger S. Bagnall, *Early Christian Books in Egypt* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2009).

The only artifacts turned up by the LDAB search, but not ultimately included in the final results were LDAB 2862 and 3232. 2862 is an ostracon with some lines of praise to Mary. Although the LDAB lists it as containing text from Luke 1, it makes a number of significant changes not elsewhere attested, such that it becomes more correct to call it a paraphrase of, or work inspired by, Luke 1 than a manuscript of it. Similarly 3232 has the text of a homily, which alludes to Matthew 19:29, rather than quoting it. It is beyond my scope to address the general question of when two manuscripts differ so much that they should be considered manuscripts of two different works, but in order to keep my results manageable and tightly focused on attitudes to collection-evident relationships between particular texts, I do not include these two.

I now discuss a number of manuscripts, where the categorisation requires some explanation. Space forbids detailed discussion of any of these manuscripts and since this study aims to consider a wide and varied body of data, an in-depth analysis of each individual datum is not possible. I aim that gain of breadth may make up for loss of depth. I discuss some general groups within each category and consider individual manuscripts in LDAB date order.

³² W. E. Crum, with a contribution by F. E. Brightman, *Coptic Ostraca from the Collections of the Egypt Exploration Fund, the Cairo Museum and Others* (London: Egypt Exploration Fund, 1902), 81.

³³ G. Vitelli, *Papiri greci E Latini VII* (Florence: Società Italiana per la ricerca dei Papiri greci e latini in Egitto, 1925), 43-45.

2. b. Specific Comments On Significant Manuscripts

1. Certainly Collection-Evident

This category includes manuscripts which have not survived completely, but are collection-evident in their surviving form, including 03, 04 and 05. It is impossible to know what these manuscripts contained in their original form. Moreover, the fact that 01 and 02 contain early Patristic material, thus rendering them not collection-evident, makes it plausible that the other early great majuscules did as well. However, such reasoning is speculative. A manuscript which is collection-evident in its surviving form is a strong indicator that its producers thought that the works now considered canonical belonged together, even if they may have also included other works in the manuscript.

 \mathfrak{P}^{30} : 1 Thess 4:12-2 Thess 2:11. There is a page number, ΣZ , 207. Blumell and Wayment reason that the codex could have contained the entire Pauline corpus, from Romans.³⁴ The page number does not prove this, but the manuscript in its present form is collection-evident, so I categorise it here.

0212: Gospel harmony; 175-256. There is disagreement amongst scholars as to whether or not this fragment comes from Tatian's Diatessaron (so Joosten) or a different harmony (so Parker, Taylor and Goodacre and, more recently, Mills).³⁵ If it is a fragment of Tatian, then it certainly originally contained Mark. However, either way, it undoubtedly contains material from more than one of the four Gospels, so it is collection-evident.

³⁴ Blumell and Wayment, *Oxyrhynchus*, 116-19.

³⁵ Jan Joosten, "The Dura Parchment and the Diatessaron," *VC* 57/2 (2003): 159-75; D. C. Parker, D. G. K. Taylor and M. S. Goodacre, "The Dura-Europos Gospel Harmony" in *Studies in the Early Text of the Gospels and Acts*, ed. D. G. K. Taylor (Birmingham: University of Birmingham Press, 1999), 192-228; lan Mills, "The Wrong Gospel Harmony: Against the Diatessaronic Character of the Dura Parchment" (paper presented at "Lives of the Text: The Tenth Birmingham Colloquium on the Textual Criticism of the New Testament". Birmingham, England, 22 March 2017).

LDAB 2786/3477 (includes \$\psi^{18}\$): the end of Exodus on one side and the beginning of Revelation on the other. The hands are different and it is possible the second scribe was just using the Exodus artifact as a convenient writing surface, but it is more likely he or she was deliberately associating the two texts since he or she has deliberately caused the end of Exodus to be on the reverse of the beginning of Revelation. There are arguably thematic links between the passages. The Tabernacle in Exodus and the New Jerusalem in Revelation are both instances of God dwelling with his people. Epp suggests that priesthood is another common theme between the passages. There is thus ample reason to think that the scribe of Revelation deliberately chose to copy the text onto an artifact that already contained Exodus, possibly with the aim of making a testimonium of some kind. This hypothesis is strengthened by Nongbri's papyrological arguments that this artifact is a page from a codex. This notable that when producing this artifact, the scribe chose to combine a work in our New Testament with a Septuagint work.

LDAB 2993 (includes \mathfrak{P}^{62}): Matt 11:25-30 in Greek and Coptic and LXX Dan 3:50-55 in Greek. Amundsen suggests that the whole fragment is in one hand (the two languages are written in a sufficiently similar script that one can compare them) and that the passages may be combined as they are because the fragment came from a lectionary. I suggest that it is unlikely to be a lectionary, since the Old Testament passage comes after the New Testament one. Whatever its original *Sitz im Leben*, this artifact is, like the one discussed previously, an interesting example of one of the works in our New Testament being given apparently equal status with the Septuagint.

 \mathfrak{P}^{99} : This artifact is an unusual manuscript, containing grammar tables and a list of Pauline terms. The term "dictionary" is misleading, since the entries are non-alphabetical. Wouters can

³⁶ Eldon Jay Epp, "The Oxyrhynchus New Testament Papyri: "Not Without Honor Except in Their Hometown"?" *JBL* 123/1 (2004): 5-55 (18-19).

³⁷Brent Nongbri, "Losing a Christian Scroll but Gaining a Curious Christian Codex: An Oxyrhynchus Papyrus of Exodus and Revelation" *NT* 55 (2013): 77-88.

³⁸ Leiv Amundsen, "Christian Papyri from the Oslo Collection," *Symbolae Osloenses* 24/1 (1945): 121-47 (128, 136).

give no exact parallel. It is difficult to discern the original use, beyond the connection to language study.³⁹ However it is relevant to this project because the collection of works from which the glossary takes its lemmata is a collection-evident combination. It thus shows a consciousness that in some sense the Pauline epistles belonged together.

*l*1043: passages from all four Gospels. The manuscript was probably a lectionary. The fact that all and only the four appear to have been included is evidence for a sense that they belonged together. At the top of a page beginning with Mark 6:18, there is the number KE, 25, with red adornment. This may be a page number, but given that such numbers are not found consistently on each page it is more likely to be a marker of a section (possibly related to the Eusebian divisions) or a lectional number (i.e. a reading for the twenty-fifth day or similar). Porter and Porter note that there is the feint trace of a sigma underneath the number, which may indicate Eusebian canonical table VI. Even if this were a page number, we could not use it to establish what else was in the artifact, since the fact that it is a lectionary makes it likely that the pericopes were not in their standard order. ⁴⁰ Clearly however the artifact is collection-evident.

LDAB 2991: small ostraca with extracts from the four Gospels. The text of Luke flows continuously from one ostracon to the next, leading Lefebvre (1905, 1) to suggest there was originally a complete text, ⁴¹ but, as Römer points out, this is highly unlikely, given how many ostraca would be needed to carry all of Luke's Gospel. Further, the Lukan ostraca are numbered and the first number comes in chapter twenty-two. They may have been used for some sort of drawing of small pericopes by lot, since ostraca would have been cheaper than parchment or papyrus. ⁴² Whatever the details of the *Sitz im Leben*, these shards are of interest

³⁹ Alfons Wouters, *The Chester Beatty Codex AC 1499: A Graeco-Latin Lexicon on the Pauline Epistles and a Greek Grammar* (Leuven: Peeters, 1988). Comment on no parallels 93.

⁴⁰ Stanley E. Porter and Wendy J. Porter, *New Testament Greek Papyri and Parchments. New Editions: Texts.* Mitteilungen aus der Papyrussammlung der Österreichischen Nationalbibliothek XXIX (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 2008), 123-29, 146-76.

⁴¹ Gustave Lefebvre, "Fragments grec des Évangiles sur ostraka", BIFAO 4 (1905): 1-15 (1).

⁴² Cornelia Eva Römer, "Ostraka mit christlichen Texten aus der Sammlung Flinders Petrie," *ZPE* 145 (2003): 183-201.

to us, since their texts come from all and only the four Gospels and whoever produced them evidently thought those Gospels belonged together.

LDAB 3484: This is an ostracon, containing LXX Pss 117:27 and 26. There then follows some badly preserved words, which Crum regards as Luke 1:28 and certainly are some form of praise to Mary. There follows $\kappa\alpha\iota \tau\omega...\tau\omega.^{43}$ It is debatable whether the Marian material should quite be classed as containing text of Luke's Gospel, but I classify the ostracon here, because it clearly represents an attempt to connect the Septuagint psalms to the Lukan Mary tradition. The $\kappa\alpha\iota \tau\omega...\tau\omega$ are so vague that it is impossible to tell what text they originally represented or what text they were originally part of, but it seems safest to assume that they come from one of the works already represented on this artifact, rather than from something completely new.

Re-used Manuscripts: 088, 067, 0208 and 026 were re-used as palimpsests in later centuries, which means we have an entirely random selection of surviving leaves. I place them in this category, because there is more than one work on the surviving leaves. It is tantalising to wonder what else they might have contained. 088 is especially interesting, since it contains parts of both 1 Corinthians and Titus, associating the pastorals with the Pauline Hauptbriefe.⁴⁴

⁴³ Crum, Ostraca, 81.

⁴⁴ Carla Falluomini, *Der sogenannte Codex Carolinus von Wolfenbüttel (Codex Gulferbytanus 64 Weissenburgensis)*, (Wiesbaden: Harassowitz, 1999), 9, 14, 19, 35-57; Kurt Treu, *Die griechischen Handschriften des Neuen Testaments in der UdSSR: Eine systematische Auswertung der Texthandschriften in Leningrad, Moskau, Kiev, Odessa, Tbilisi und Erevan* (Berlin: Akademie Verlag, 1966), 20-23. Alban Dold, "Griechische Bruchstücke der Paulusbriefe aus dem 6. Jahrhundert unter einem Fragment von Prospers Chronicon aus dem 8. Jahrhundert," *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekwesen* 50 (1933): 76-84.

2. Plausibly Collection-Evident

There are two Gospel manuscripts, which have only one work preserved in their extant portions, but also have the Eusebian canon markers, suggesting strongly that they were originally four Gospel codices. There are 0214 and 0242.⁴⁵

There are a number of fragments where calculations based on pagination suggest that the manuscript was originally collection-evident, although text from only one work survives. The details are given in this table:

⁴⁵ Porter and Porter, *Papyri and Parchments*, 105; R. Roca-Puig, "Un pergamino griego del Evangelio de San Mateo. (P.Cairo, Catálogo, núm. 71942. Mt. VIII 25 – IX 2; XIII 32-38, 40-46," *Emerita: Revista de linguistica y filologia classica* 27/1 (1959): 59-73. On the Eusebian canons, see Bruce M. Metzger and Bart D. Ehrman, *The Text of the New Testament: Its Transmission, Corruption and Restoration* (New York: OUP, 2005), 38-39.

| Manuscript | Work | Page Number | Approx. | <u>Probable</u> | Source |
|---------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | <u>Preserved</u> | (Greek/Arabic | <u>Letters per</u> | Contents Prior | |
| | | Numerals) | <u>Page</u> | to Preserved | |
| | | | | <u>Portion</u> | |
| \mathfrak{P}^{13} | Hebrews | MZ/47 | 875 | Romans and | Blumell and |
| | | (column | | Hebrews | Wayment |
| | | number) | | | 2015, 119-32 ⁴⁶ |
| 0185 | 1 | NB/52 | 700 | Romans and 1 | Porter and |
| | Corinthians | | | Corinthians | Porter 2008, |
| | | | | | 209-11 ⁴⁷ |
| 0201 | 1 | PMZ/147 | Güting does | Romans and 1 | Güting 1988, |
| | Corinthians | | not give this | Corinthians | 97-114 ⁴⁸ |
| | | | figure | | |
| 0206 | 1 Peter | ΩIΘ/819 or | 250 | Romans – | Barker 2009, |
| | | ΩΚΘ/829 | | 1Peter on the | 192-202 ⁵⁰ |
| | | | | modern order ⁴⁹ | |
| 0232 | 2 John | PΞE/165 | 450 | John's Gospel | Roberts 1950, |
| | | | | and letters | 24-25 ⁵¹ |
| 0274 | Mark | PKE/125 | 1,100 | Matthew and | Plumley and |
| | | | | Mark | Roberts 1976, |
| | | | | | 37 ⁵² |

⁴⁶ Calculation Blumell and Wayment's.

⁴⁷ Calculation mine.

⁴⁸ Calculation Güting's.

 $^{^{49}}$ Although by no means standard in the ancient world, in 01 the Paulines come before the Catholic Epistles.

⁵⁰ Calculation Barker's.

⁵¹ Calculation mine. I respectfully disagree with Roberts. He suggests that there are approximately 400 words per page and from that he reasons that the original codex could have contained John's Gospel, Revelation and 1 John, prior to 2 John. Apart from the obvious inaccuracy that results from using words per page rather than characters per page (because words vary so much more in length than characters), Roberts errs in saying the manuscript contains 400 words per page. It is in fact approximately 100. One is obviously reluctant to make such a claim against a respected scholar, but the reader is invited to confirm the plain fact, using the image in Roberts' own volume. It is possible Roberts intended to write 400 characters per page, which approximately agrees with my figure.

⁵² Calculation mine.

3. Certainly or Plausibly One Work

\$\partial{B}^{114}\$: Heb 1:7-12. The manuscript has text from near the beginning of Hebrews on one side and nothing on the other, which may indicate a page left blank between works, meaning there was a work in the original artifact before Hebrews. This is however so speculative that it does not compel me to place the manuscript into category 4.

0230: Eph 6:5-6 in Latin and 6:11-12 in Greek. This appears to come from a bilingual manuscript, not unlike 05. Because it was written in two languages, the length of Ephesians would in effect have doubled, with the result that it could reasonably have filled a codex. Both Houghton and also Norsa and Bartoletti claim that it is likely this came from a manuscript containing all the Paulines. While this is entirely plausible, it would beg the question of my project to assume it and therefore, since there is no reason to think Ephesians did not stand alone. I place the artifact here.⁵⁴

\$\partial^{50}\$: Acts 8:26-32; 10:26-31. Although there are two non-consecutive passages on this fragment, I place it in this category, because they are from one work. They have obviously been deliberately selected for some reason to form the collection of two. The passages are both conversion narratives: that of Cornelius and that of the Ethiopian eunuch. The fragment may have been an amulet, but Cook suggests it is more likely to have been traveller's notes or preacher's notes. This artifact seems to represent one of the earliest attempts at something like systematic theology: it shows an attempt to group together passages on a common theme, in this case the conversion of Gentiles, and use them to build up an overall picture of the teaching

⁵³ Blumell and Wayment, *Oxyrhynchus*, 83-85.

⁵⁴ Medea Norsa and Vittorio Bartoletti, *Papiri greci e latini XIII: nⁱ. 1296-1310, 2d ed.* (Florence: Istituto Papirologico "G. Vitelli". Edizioni di Storia e Letteratura, 2004), 87; H. A. G. Houghton, *The Latin New Testament: A Guide to Its Early History, Texts, and Manuscripts* (Oxford: OUP, 2016), 28.

John Granger Cook, "\$\mathbb{9}^{50}\$ (P.Yale I 3) and the Question of its Function," in *Early Christian Manuscripts: Examples of Applied Method and Approach*, ed. Thomas J. Kraus and Tobias Nicklas, TENTS 5 (Leiden: Brill, 2010), 115-28. For an example of scholarly arguments that the passage is an amulet, see Stanley E. Porter, "Textual Criticism in the Light of Diverse Textual Evidence for the Greek New Testament: An Expanded Proposal," in *New Testament Manuscripts: Their Text and Their World*, ed. Thomas J. Kraus and Tobias Nicklas, TENTS 2 (Leiden: Brill, 2006), 305-37 (320).

of a particular work or collection on that topic. However, since both the extracts come from one work, this artifact is not collection-evident.

027: Luke 1-23. There are various numbers found here, but they are clearly not page numbers, because of their irregular occurrence and position on the page, so are most likely lectional numbers, from which we can draw no firm conclusions about the manuscript's contents. Therefore, since there is no evidence about any additional content, I classify the manuscript here.

\$\partial 105\$: Matt 27:62-28:5. Although this artifact clearly functioned as an amulet, as is indicated by the still extant string and holes, it was clearly originally a fragment from a codex. From As with many of the manuscripts in this category, I assume, since Matthew is a work that could comfortably fill a codex, that the codex contained nothing more. Porter suggests that, since it was a miniature codex, it quite possibly contained only the resurrection narrative.

There are a number of fragments in this category, where it is disputed whether they were originally part of the same artifact or not. Given my methodological assumptions, I assume they were not (see p.11). The relevant manuscripts are: 0171, \mathfrak{P}^{53} , \mathfrak{P}^{77} and \mathfrak{P}^{103} . I follow the general consensus in assuming that \mathfrak{P}^{64} and \mathfrak{P}^{67} were the same artifact, but that \mathfrak{P}^4 was not part of it.

There are also a number of fragments here where pagination indicates that the codex began at the beginning of the work on the fragment. In accordance with my assumptions set out above, I assume that this was all there was in the artifact (see p.10). The details of these manuscripts are given in the following table:

⁵⁶ Constantine Tischendorf, *Monumenta sacra inedita. Nova collectio. Volumen alterum. Fragmenta evangellii Lucae et libri Genesis* (Leipzig: J. C. Hinrichs, Bibliopola, 1857), xi-xxiii.

⁵⁷ Brice C. Jones, New Testament Texts on Amulets from Late Antiquity (London: Bloomsbury, 2016), 127-30.

⁵⁸ Porter, "Textual Criticism," 320-21.

| Manuscript | Work | Page Number | Approx. | Source |
|----------------------|---------------|--|-------------|----------------------------|
| | Preserved | (Greek/Arabic | Letters per | |
| | | Numerals) | Page | |
| \mathfrak{P}^{36} | John | ΛΕ/35 | 200 | Vitelli 2004, |
| | | | | 5-6 ⁵⁹ |
| \mathfrak{P}^{38} | Acts | ΝΘ/49 | 1120 | Sanders 1936, |
| | | | | 14 and |
| | | | | NTVMR ⁶⁰ |
| \mathfrak{P}^{39} | John | ΟΔ/74 | 340 | Greenfell and |
| | | | | Hunt 1922, 7- |
| | | | | 8 ⁶¹ |
| \mathfrak{P}^{106} | John | Γ - $\Delta/3$ -4 | 900 | Head 2000, |
| | | | | 10^{62} |
| \mathfrak{P}^{127} | Acts | PIB/112 | 538 | Parker and |
| | | | | Pickering |
| | | | | 2009, 1-3 ⁶³ |
| 0169 | Revelation | $\Lambda\Gamma$ and $\Lambda\Delta/33$ | 235 | Hunt 1911b, |
| | | and 34 | | 15 ⁶⁴ |
| 0173 | James | IZ and IH/17 | 116 | Blumell and |
| | | and 18 | | Wayment |
| | | | | 2015, 177-79 ⁶⁵ |
| 0189 | Acts | IE/15 | 832 | Salonius 1927, |
| | | | | 116 ⁶⁶ |
| 0217 | John | PK/120 | 300 | Porter and |
| | | | | Porter 2008, |
| | | | | 194 ⁶⁷ |
| 0270 | 1 Corinthians | NΘ/59 or NE/55 | 600 | Image of MS ⁶⁸ |

⁵⁹ Calculation mine.

⁶⁰ Calculation Sanders.

 $^{^{\}rm 61}$ Calculation mine.

⁶² Calculation Head's. Greek page number confirmed W. E. H. Cockle, "4445: John i 29-35; 40-46" in *The Oxyrhynchus Papyri: Volume LXV*, ed. M. W. Haslam, A. Jones, F. Maltomini, M. L. West, W. E. H. Cockle, D. Montserrat, R. A. Coles and J. D. Thomas, with contributions by numerous other scholars (London: Egypt Exploration Society, 1998), 11-14 (12).

⁶³ Calculation mine.

⁶⁴ Calculation mine.

⁶⁵ Calculation mine. Although normally I suggest that the shorter works were too short to occupy a complete artifact, this codex had such small pages that it could have plausibly contained only James.

⁶⁶ Calculation mine.

 $^{^{\}rm 67}$ Calculation mine.

⁶⁸ Image obtained from Klaas van der Hoek, University of Amsterdam, 2 June 2016. Calculation mine.

4. Plausibly Multi-Work, Indeterminably Collection-Evident

\$\partial{B}^{119}\$: John 1:21-44. Chapa uses methods similar to mine, working from quantities of letters in John and typical page size, and calculates that, in this codex, John would have begun on the middle of the right-hand page, not at the top of the left. He argues that this in turn makes it extremely likely there was another work in the codex as well. Fig. There is no evidence, internal to the artifact, as to what that additional work or works were and it is begging the question of this project to speculate. We simply cannot know therefore if it was collection-evident.

 \mathfrak{P}^{23} : Jas 1:9-18. We have the page numbers B and Γ , i.e. two and three, preserved. The text of James prior to the start of page two would need about 1.25 pages to accommodate it. The most probable explanation for this is Barker's: since pages B and Γ are two sides of the same leaf, the first leaf must have had page A and also a "page zero" containing the title and a few lines of text. The codex therefore likely began with James and the pagination gives no clue as to what came after it. It is unlikely that a codex would contain only so short a work, so, by the principles I have outlined, I class the manuscript here.⁷⁰

059 and 0215: Mark 15:20-38. These two fragments are so widely understood to be from the same manuscript that I take them together. On one of the fragments, there are a few letters visible on the conjoining leaf, which are in a different ink and perhaps a different hand. They do not appear to be from Mark, or even early Luke, but there is so little text preserved that it is difficult to be sure. It is also unclear if it came before or after the better-preserved leaf, since we

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⁶⁹ Juan Chapa, "4803. Gospel of John 1 21-8, 38-44," in *The Oxyrhynchus Papyri: Volume LXXI*, ed. R. Hatzilambrou, P. J. Parsons and J. Chapa, with contributions by numerous other scholars (London: Egypt Exploration Society, 2007), 2-6.

⁷⁰ Bernard P. Greenfell and Arthur S. Hunt, *The Oxyrhynchus Papyri: Part X* (London: Egypt Exploration Fund, 1914), 16-18; Don Barker, "The Reuse of Christian Texts: *P.Macquarie inv.* 360 + *P.Mil.Vogl. inv.* 1224 (\mathfrak{P}^{91}) and *P.Oxy.* X 1229 (\mathfrak{P}^{23})." in *Early Christian Manuscripts*, ed. Kraus and Nicklas, 129-44 (136-38).

do not know which way the sheets were folded. It is therefore difficult to say what was here, in addition to Mark.⁷¹

0165: Acts 3:24-4:7; 4:7-13, 17-20. There is page number of Γ or 3 here.⁷² However the amount of text prior to the preserved portion is significantly too big for only two pages. It is possible that the pagination was added after earlier leaves were lost, but it is at least as likely that this fragment came originally from some sort of florilegium, rather than a continuous text of Acts. Since there is a significant possibility of it being a florilegium, where we cannot know the remaining content, I classify the manuscript here.

 \mathfrak{P}^{80} : John 3:34 and some other text, with commentary. The "front" (Spottorno does not use "recto" and "verso") of this papyrus has John 3:34 with a brief έρμενεία. On the back all that is preserved is PΩΠΕ MH KAI. It does not seem that this can be a fragment of the next consecutive lemma in John and the vocative form suggests that it is not the commentary either. It is therefore likely to be a lemma drawn from elsewhere. Spottorno notes various possible Biblical texts, of which this might be a fragment. However, there is simply no way to prove where this lemma came from, so we cannot tell if this manuscript was collection-evident. ⁷³

5. Plausibly Not Collection-Evident

\$\partial \text{\$\pi\$}^{78}\$: This is a fragment of a very small codex, apparently an amulet, containing parts of Jude 4-8. Wasserman performs a detailed palaeographic analysis to determine what else might have been in the codex. To get all of the beginning of Jude into the codex, prior to what survives, would require twelve pages. Either the codex could have been multiple quires with the twelve pages prior to what is preserved forming a three-sheet-quire, or the codex could originally have

⁷¹ Dirk Jongkind, "059 (0215) and Mark 15:28," *TC* 19 (2014): 1-3.

A. H. Salonius, "Die griechischen Handschriftenfragmente des NT zu Berlin," ZNW 26 (1927): 97-118 (111).
 María Victoria Spottorno, "51: John 3:34 + Commentary," in Greek Papyri from Montserrat (P.Monts.Roca IV),

ed. Sofía Torallas Tovar and Klaas A. Worp, Scripta Orientalia 1 (Barcelona: Publicacions de l'Abadia de Montserrat, 2014), 124-28.

been one large quire, in which case, the twelve pages were six leaves prior to our fragment, with another six leaves coming afterwards. However these subsequent six leaves would not, according to Wasserman's calculations, be enough for the remainder of Jude. To contain the remainder of Jude in one quire would require more sheets and therefore obviously more leaves at the beginning as well as the end. We are thus either dealing with a multiple-quire codex, a codex containing only part of Jude or a codex containing something else prior to Jude, possibly a prayer. Wasserman dismisses the first option because the scribe seems to be trying to squeeze more letters on to lines and pages in order to fit text into the codex, which would presumably be less pressing if there were multiple quires. To this we can add the inherent implausibility of a scribe making a multi-quire codex out of such small pages (5.3x2.9 cm), when one quire with larger pages would have been significantly less "fiddly". Wasserman argues by Occam's razor that we should not posit more texts in the codex than we have evidence for, but I suggest it is at least as likely that there was some sort of introductory matter in the codex as that it broke off part-way through Jude, especially since it was probably an amulet and some sort of introductory prayer would have been highly appropriate. Therefore it is likely there was something else here than Jude and it is likely to have been very short. It may have been a verse or incipit from a work now in the New Testament, but a prayer, perhaps expressing the purpose of the amulet, seems more likely. Hence I place the fragment here, because it was more likely not collection-evident.⁷⁴

This category contains some fragments, similar to those in previous categories, which contain only one work, but whose pagination indicates that they contained more. In this category, however, the pagination is not consistent with any collection-evident combination, so we must conclude that there is a reasonable likelihood that the other works in the manuscript were not collection-evident. These manuscripts are set out in this table.

⁷⁴ Tommy Wasserman, " \mathfrak{P}^{78} (*P.Oxy.* XXIV 2684): The Epistle of Jude on an Amulet?" in *Texts and World*, ed. Kraus and Nicklas, 137-60 (140-41, 138 for the dimensions).

| Manuscript | Work | Page Number | Approx. | Notes on | Source |
|----------------------|------------|----------------------------|-------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Preserved | (Greek/Arabic | Letters per | Possible Other | |
| | | Numerals) | <u>Page</u> | <u>Works</u> | |
| \mathfrak{P}^{54} | James | $K\Theta$ and $\Lambda/29$ | 628 | Too much | Kase 1936, |
| | | and 30 | | space for only | II:1 ⁷⁶ |
| | | | | the earlier part | |
| | | | | of James ⁷⁵ | |
| \mathfrak{P}^{126} | Hebrews | PEA/161 | 600 | Too much | Clivaz 2010, |
| | | | | space for only | 158-62 ⁷⁷ |
| | | | | Romans before | |
| | | | | Hebrews, not | |
| | | | | enough for the | |
| | | | | whole Corpus | |
| | | | | Paulinum | |
| 0207 | Revelation | YOH/478 | 750 | Too much | Naldini 1964, |
| | | | | space for the | 19-20; |
| | | | | NT without the | Pintaudi 2009- |
| | | | | Gospels and | 10, 127-28 ⁷⁸ |
| | | | | Acts or the | |
| | | | | Johannine | |
| | | | | corpus; too | |
| | | | | little for the | |
| | | | | entire NT or | |
| | | | | even the NT | |
| | | | | without the | |
| | | | | Gospels | |

⁷⁵ Kase's proposal that other Catholic letters came earlier in the codex is unlikely, given that, as Parker says "the order of the seven Catholic letters is very uniform, especially among Greek manuscripts" (D. C. Parker, *An Introduction to the New Testament Manuscripts and Their Texts* (Cambridge: CUP, 2008), 285-86).

⁷⁶ Calculations mine.

⁷⁷ Calculations Clivaz. Clivaz concludes differently to me despite a similar method. She suggests this papyrus is evidence for an alternative ordering in the Pauline canon. While it is certainly consistent with that, it is begging the question of my project to see this artifact in these terms, rather than as possible evidence for an entirely alternative collection.

⁷⁸ Pintaudi is not only confident about the omicron, which, having observed an image, I dot, he also reports observing on the next page the next number, YOZ. I could only make out the merest traces of the initial two digits of the second number and would not have seen them had I not first read Pintaudi, who admits they are "in truth barely visible" ("davvero poco visibile"). However, one page number is sufficient to indicate the possibilities for whatever other works might have been in the manuscript and I allow Pintaudi to confirm the doubtful omicron in YOH, because he appears to have studied the manuscript itself, not images. Rosario Pintaudi, "Note codicologiche su due codici tardoantichi: *PSI* X 1166 (*Apocalisse* 9, 2-15) e *PSI* X 1171 (Aristofane, *Nuvole* 577-635)," *Analecta Papyrologica* 21-22 (2009-10): 127-30 (127).

6. Certainly Not Collection-Evident

01 and 02: approximately the entire modern canon of both testaments (including the Old Testament apocrypha), with some early Patristic material. Although 01 and 02 are in an important sense very strong evidence for collection-evident bibliographic practices, they nevertheless include material not in the canon today (Hermas and Barnabas in 01, the letters of Clement in 02). Importantly the Patristic material is presented in exactly the same format as the canonical works: there is no material evidence that the scribes considered them any different. Therefore, in this sense, the combinations in 01 and 02 are not collection-evident and they must be categorised here.

\$\partial{B}^{10}\$: Rom 1:1-7 and some nonsensical writing. Blumell and Wayment suggest this is almost certainly a school exercise, in which the writer has copied out the opening lines of Romans in majuscule script and then some nonsense practice in cursive. The Romans passage is written at the top of the page, then there is a gap in which several lines of writing could fit and then there is the nonsense, about halfway down the page. The rest of the page is blank. Although there is the page number, A, 1, at the top, it is most likely that the later pages contained further school exercises. Blumell and Wayment suggest the opening of Romans was probably chosen because it provides particularly plentiful opportunities to practise *nomina sacra*. ⁸⁰ I categorise it here because the copyist clearly did not hesitate to place the nonsense on the same page as Romans, so the artifact is not collection-evident.

LDAB 2565 (includes \mathfrak{P}^{72}): This so-called "Bodmer Miscellaneous Codex" (henceforth BMC) contains the Petrine epistles and Jude and a rich variety of Septuagint and Patristic material. As such it is one of the most extreme examples of a non-collection-evident artifact. Scholars

⁷⁹ Elliott, "Manuscripts," 111. Batovici makes this point in particular with respect to Hermas in 01. Dan Batovici, "The Appearance of Hermas's Text in Codex Sinaiticus" in *Codex Sinaiticus: New Perspectives on the Ancient Biblical Manuscript*, ed. Scot McKendrick, David Parker, Amy Myshrall and Cillian O'Hagan (London: The British Library/Hendrickson, 2015), 149-60 (157-58).

⁸⁰ Blummel and Wayment, *Oxyrhynchus*, 194-97.

debate exactly how the various parts of the codex came to be together and which parts were intentionally collected. The most recent study on the subject is Nongbri's. Nongbri argues that P.Bodmer VIII (the part of the codex that contains 1 and 2 Peter) was originally part of a different codex and only bound into the present day codex subsequently. P.Bodmer VIII is the only part of the codex to contain marginalia. This on its own is weak evidence, since there are many reasons why a reader might only annotate the Petrine material. The stronger arguments are that it has different pagination to the rest of the material in the codex. Further, Nongbri's detailed examination has revealed that the papyrus patching of the central folds of certain sheets did not merely reinforce places where folding had weakened the papyrus, but also joined pieces of papyrus which did not originally belong together. Specifically, in P.Bodmer VIII, leaf $\lambda\alpha$ - $\lambda\beta$ and leaf $\lambda\gamma$ - $\lambda\delta$ are a one-sheet quire. Nongbri argues, following close examination of the fibres and joins, that they were originally not part of the same sheet. Originally they were adjacent leaves of a multiple-sheet quire. The two last leaves of the quire were cut away and the two first leaves joined together to make a single sheet. It is rather like tearing the first few pages out of a modern codex and then sticking them together to make a new, shorter codex. This strongly suggests that P.Bodmer VIII was originally in a different codex with other material.⁸¹ It is irrelevant that the Petrine letters and Jude are copied by the same scribe and that, according to Wasserman's arguments, they display the same scribal *Tendenz* towards high Christology. 82 This is a good explanation for why the two codices were combined, but it is not evidence against Nongbri's proposal, since an active scribe could have produced many codices over the course of a career and many would display the same *Tendenz*.

How then do we categorise the BMC? We have in effect three codices: the one originally containing P.Bodmer VIII, the one containing the rest of today's codex and the combination, i.e. today's codex. The latter two are obviously in category 6, since they contain a variety of works. I list them there as LDAB 2565* and BMC respectively. The codex containing 1 and 2 Peter, I list as P.Bodmer VIII and place in category 1, since it contains a collection-evident

⁸¹ Brent Nongbri, "The Construction of P.Bodmer VIII and the Bodmer "Composite" or "Miscellaneous" Codex," *NT* 58 (2016): 394-410. The point that the presence of marginalia in P.Bodmer VIII alone is weak evidence is mine.

⁸² Tommy Wasserman, "Papyrus 72 and the *Bodmer Miscellaneous Codex," NTS* 51 (2005): 137-54.

combination. Although it almost certainly originally contained more, such that it might not have been collection-evident, it is a collection-evident combination in its surviving form, like, for example, 03, 04 and 05. Therefore, like those manuscripts, I place it in category 1, because it certainly contained a collection-evident combination, whatever else we may speculate was present.

Many proposals have been made regarding the common theme or purpose, which led to the collection of so diverse a literary corpus as the BMC. Horrell fruitfully compares the codex to a similar, relatively recently published Coptic codex containing a similar diverse array of contents, but including some overlap. Horrell argues, partly by comparison to the Coptic codex, that 1 Peter is the thematic hub of the BMC: the works in the codex have many themes and do not all connect to each other, but they all connect in some way to 1 Peter. 83 If this is true, then, in a sense, although this artifact is not collection-evident by my definition, it nevertheless regards a work which is in modern terms canonical as the heart of the collection. Haines-Eitzen suggests that the body and the flesh are a common theme to all the texts. After the conversion of Constantine, when persecution and martyrdom ceased to be a part of regular Christian experience, asceticism became popular as an alternative and this led to theological reflection on the body and physicality.⁸⁴ Ultimately it is a subjective judgement what theory is most convincing. Presumably there was some purpose to the collection and it is not difficult to propose hypotheses of what it might have been: after all, if one gives a scholar even a randomly chosen collection of literary works and ask him or her to find thematic connections, then doubtless he or she will find many interesting ones. However, it is difficult to see how one would substantiate any proposal for the uniting theme of the BMC with objective evidence.

\$\pi^6\$: 1 Clement 1-26 and Jas 1:18-5:20 in Coptic and John 10:1-11:46 in Coptic and Greek. The pagination shows that there is a gap of 32 pages between 1 Clement and James. This is obviously an unusual combination of works and invites speculation, both about the

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⁸⁴ Haines-Eitzen, *Guardians*, 102-04.

⁸³ David G. Horrell, "The Themes of 1 Peter: Insights from the Earliest Manuscripts (the Crosby-Schøyen Codex ms 193 and the Bodmer Miscellaneous Codex Containing P⁷²)," NTS 55/4 (2009): 502-22.

manuscript's *Sitz im Leben* and what works were found between 1 Clement and James. However, there is no evidence on which to base an enquiry (Jaroš 2006, 4886-4911).⁸⁵

\$\mathbb{B}^7\$: uncertain content. This manuscript is apparently lost and has never been photographed. According to Jaroš, it was noted by Gregory in 1908, in the Ukrainian national library, in Kiev, but Kurt Aland, on his 1954 visit, was unable to find it. Jaroš suggests that it was removed from Kiev, during the war and its whereabouts is now unknown. There was apparently an unidentified Patristic text before Luke 4:1-3 and there is another fragment, in the inventory of the Archaeological Museum of the Academy of Humanities, Ukraine, listed under the same inventory number, which contains Matt 6:33-34 and 7:2. Jaroš includes a transcription of the Patristic text, but it is too fragmentary to make sense out of it. Although it is frustratingly hard to have certain knowledge of this fragment, there is no reason to doubt that it contained Matthew, Luke and an unknown Patristic text, so I place it in this category. \$\frac{86}{2}\$

LDAB 6107. It is difficult to identify precisely which works are being quoted on this artifact. This is partly because the copyist evidently used an exemplar, with multiple columns per page, and copied across the columns, rather than down them. Even when the text is re-arranged to reveal the exemplar, verses are conflated and the copyist uses Matthew's version of the Lord's Prayer, with Luke's introduction. The text begins εὐαγγέλιον κατὰ Μαθθαῖον; there follows some Matthean and Lukan material, including the Lord's Prayer and an exorcism text, not drawn from a work now in the New Testament, at least part of which is attributed to Solomon and which includes a quotation from LXX Ps 90:13. ⁸⁷ Whatever the original *Sitz im Leben* was, the poor copying suggests the manuscript was produced by a private and untrained scribe and as such is poor evidence for how trained scribes combined works.

There are several groups of manuscripts in this category which merit comment. One is where material from works in the modern canon is combined with documentary material (notably \mathfrak{P}^{98}

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⁸⁵ Jaroš, Neue Testament, 4886-911.

⁸⁶ Jaroš, *Neue Testament*, 3816-21. For transcription of the Patristic text, see 3817n.8.

⁸⁷ Jones, *Amulets*, 87-94.

and \mathfrak{P}^{12}). Although it is quite likely that the documentary texts are simply being used as convenient writing surfaces, I categorise these manuscripts here, because it is plausible the scribe wished in some way to associate the religious text with the documentary business, perhaps as a means of invoking God's blessing. If this were the case (and it would beg the current question to make assumptions), the artifact is not collection-evident.⁸⁸

Secondly, this category includes a number of amulets which combine material from works in the modern canon with other prayers or similar material (LDAB 5971, 2802, 5835, 6096). ⁸⁹ This kind of combination of works, across the boundaries of the modern canon, is more collection-evident than it seems. To see this, it is important to consider how ancient amulets "worked". Jones argues that they were thought to have a protective and curative power. ⁹⁰ De Bruyn and Dijkstra note that some may also have been more devotional. Of course, the boundary between the effective and the merely devotional may have been less clear at the time the artifacts were being produced. ⁹¹ In either case, there might be material on the amulet in addition to the core text that possesses metaphysical power or is the object of devotion. For example, an amulet making use of Gospel *incipits* might also include a prayer for healing. This hardly indicates that the amulet-maker placed the healing prayer in the same category as the *incipits*. The important issue is not what works are represented on the amulet, but what works are used as texts of power or devotion. De Bruyn concludes from his survey of amulets that certain works were very popular, notably the Gospels and LXX Ps 90. ⁹² Although de Bruyn

⁸⁸ Thomas J. Kraus, ""When Symbols and Figures Become Physical Objects" Critical Notes About Some of the "Consistently Cited Witnesses" to the Text of Revelation," in *Book of Seven Seals: The Peculiarity of Revelation, its Manuscripts, Attestation, and Transmission,* ed. Thomas J. Kraus and Michael Sommer, WUNT 363 (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2016), 51-69 (60); Bernard P. Greenfell and Arthur S. Hunt, *The Amherst Papyri: Being an Account of the Greek Papyri in the Collection of the Right Hon. Lord Amherst of Hackney, FSA at Didlington Hall, Norfolk (London: OUP, 1900), 28-31.*

⁸⁹ Jones, *Amulets*, 124-27; Thomas J. Kraus, "Manuscripts with the *Lord's Prayer*: They Are More Than Simply Witnesses to That Text Itself," in *New Testament Manuscripts: Their Texts and their World*, ed. Thomas J. Kraus and Tobias Nicklas (Leiden: Brill, 2006), 227-66 (254-66); Arthur S. Hunt, *The Oxyrhynchus Papyri: Part VIII* (London: Egypt Exploration Fund, 1911), 251-53; Karl Preisindanz, *Papyri Graecae Magicae: Die griechischen Zauberpapyri* (Leipzig: B. G. Teubner, 1931), 193-94.

⁹⁰ Jones, *Amulets*, 28-29.

⁹¹ de Bruyn and Dijkstra, "Amulets," 180; Theodore S. de Bruyn, *Making Amulets Christian: Artefacts, Scribes, and Contexts* (Oxford: OUP, 2017), 181-82.

⁹² de Bruyn, *Amulets*, 235.

and Dijkstra emphasise the variety and even syncretism evidenced by the varied works chosen as texts of power, a variety which is not collection-evident, this becomes significantly more marked after the chronological cut-off point for this study. In the early centuries studied here, it is rare to find multiple texts, in a non-collection-evident combination, used as texts of power on the same artifact. Excerpts from the four Gospels may be combined with prayer material, but never with the Gospel of Thomas. Thus many of the amulets in category 6, for all the variety of the works present, are in fact more collection-evident than they might appear.

The same is true of the homiletic artifacts in category 6. A number of artifacts combine material from works in the modern canon with homiletic material. As with the amulets, this is paradoxically collection-evident, since the homiletic material is secondary. Some text from the four Gospels, combined with a homily, is very different to an alternative Gospel-collection, since the former clearly does not place the homily on the level with the Gospels.

3. Results and Conclusions

The table below shows the numbers of manuscripts, tabulated by category and century according to LDAB date. When there is a spread over several centuries, I assign a proportional fraction to each century; e.g. for a manuscript dated 350-450, the fourth century gets 0.5 and the fifth century 0.5. Approximations are necessary for more complex date spreads.

| | 2 nd cent. | 3 rd cent. | 4 th cent. | 5 th cent. | 6 th cent. |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Certainly Collection- Evident | 0.8 | 4.7 | 6.5 | 12.8 | 2.8 |
| Plausibly Collection- Evident | 0 | 0.5 | 3 | 4 | 0.5 |
| Certainly or Plausibly One Work | 6 | 30.8 | 39.5 | 35.9 | 7.3 |
| Plausibly Multi- Work, Indeterminably Collection- Evident | 0 | 8 | 6.6 | 9.5 | 2 |
| Plausibly Not Collection- Evident | 0 | 0 | 2.3 | 1.8 | 0 |
| Certainly Not Collection- Evident | 0 | 1.7 | 4.3 | 8.4 | 2.6 |

The results are striking. The significant majority of multi-work artifacts, in any century, are collection-evident. Non-collection-evident artifacts are relatively rare. Importantly, there are no

artifacts with non-collection-evident combinations of Gospels. ⁹³ The nearest one comes to this phenomenon is \mathfrak{P}^7 , which contains something in addition to Matthew and Luke, the precise nature of which is difficult to establish since, as discussed above, it is so fragmentary. This manuscript is also of limited evidential value, because it has been lost without any photographs. It is crucial to note that in the later categories in my catalogue, there is nothing even resembling an "alternative Bible", that is a set of works, different to the ones now canonical, which are regularly combined. Although there are occasional minor variations (e.g. Hermas and Barnabas in 01 or certain letters omitted from the Pauline corpus), there are no alternative Gospel collections, containing, say, Matthew, Mark, Luke and Thomas. There are no particular works, which are not canonical today, yet which seem regularly to be combined with the (in modern terms) canonical ones, as a rival collection. There may be "other Gospels", but there is no "other Gospel collection". Although a variety of Gospels circulated, work-combinations provide minimal evidence that any others had equal status with, or were interchangeable with, the canonical four.

The equivalent point can be made, with only slightly less force, regarding the letters. There is very little evidence for alternative letter collections. The BMC is a rarity for combining letters considered canonical today with such a wide range of other material. This point has slightly less force for the letters than for the Gospels, however, because there are many fragments of small letters, which probably did not come from single-work manuscripts, because the letters were so small, but where we simply cannot know the manuscript's original contents. The manuscripts surveyed here contain twenty-two small fragments of the shorter New Testament letters. 94 It is impossible to know for certain how many originally belonged to small codices containing one short letter, like 0173, how many came from longer, collection-evident codices, like \mathfrak{P}^{46} , and how many came from non-collection-evident artifacts, like the BMC. If all the twenty-two fragments came from miscellanies, then \mathfrak{P}^{46} , not the BMC, was the rarity. This is however unlikely, since there are also eight manuscripts which contain collection-evident

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⁹³ A point made by both Schröter (*From Jesus,* 291-92) and Elliott ("Manuscripts," 107), in both cases without extensive analysis of data to prove the point.

 $^{^{94}}$ \mathfrak{P}^{87} , \mathfrak{P}^{100} , \mathfrak{P}^{32} , \mathfrak{P}^{133} , \mathfrak{P}^{23} , \mathfrak{P}^{132} , \mathfrak{P}^{65} , \mathfrak{P}^{49} , \mathfrak{P}^{9} , \mathfrak{P}^{125} , \mathfrak{P}^{81} , \mathfrak{P}^{51} , \mathfrak{P}^{78} , 0240, 0174, 061, 062, 0254, 0261, 0158, 0159, \mathfrak{P}^{54} .

combinations, such that they could quite plausibly have come from codices containing the Pauline corpus, the catholic letters, or both, though perhaps in an unusual order. ⁹⁵ There is only one manuscript, \mathfrak{P}^6 , which resembles the BMC. This ratio of 8:2 does suggest that the BMC, even in its own time, was unusual compared to \mathfrak{P}^{46} . We cannot make for the letters the equivalent claim we made for the Gospels, that our existing manuscripts contain only singlework artifacts and collection-evident combinations, but we can make the more moderate one that non-collection-evident artifacts are rare among what has survived.

The fact that this trend is so consistent suggests that the bibliographic practice is not a straightforward consequence of explicit statements of the canon: it seems unlikely that any explicit statement could have sufficiently extensive influence. This conclusion must be tentative, partly because there are few, if any, artifacts prior to the earliest statements (few, if any, collection-evident Gospel manuscripts predate Irenaeus' statement of the four-fold canon) and partly because the dating of both artifacts and canon lists is problematic (if the earliest date for the Muratorian Canon is accepted, there would be few New Testament manuscripts which precede it). Tentative as this conclusion is however, it is still evidence that early Christian book-makers did not have to be told by ecclesiastical superiors what was in the canon. This in turn suggests that the early Christians may have perceived particular qualities in the works which we consider canonical, even before explicit statements of the canon arose. This challenges one aspect of the "open canon" view, that "[d]ifferentiation between canonical and noncanonical gospels is not based on identifiable criteria inherent to the texts". 97

 $^{^{95}\,\}mathfrak{P}^{46},\,\mathfrak{P}^{30},\,\mathfrak{P}^{92}$, 0208, 048, 0251, 0247, 088.

 $^{^{96}}$ I am aware that the exact content of \mathfrak{P}^{46} is itself disputed, in that Duff has argued that it contained the Pastorals and, if this is possible, it might also conceivably have contained other material, which would make it not collection-evident (Jeremy Duff, " \mathfrak{P}^{46} and the Pastorals: A Misleading Consensus?" *NTS* 44/4 (1998): 578-90). However, my argument here is valid, even if this was the case. There are still eight manuscripts which are definitely collection-evident in their surviving form and only possibly and speculatively also included material that would render them not collection-evident. There is on the other hand only two miscellaneous codices. For an overview of the debate on \mathfrak{P}^{46} and the Pastorals, see Parker, *Introduction*, 253-54.

⁹⁷ Watson, *Gospel Writings*, 609. Watson allows that the early Christians may have discerned certain internal properties in the four Gospels, which caused them to be recognised as canonical. However, he argues such properties are indiscernible to Gospel-readers today (*Gospel Writings*, 611).

Although the number of single-work manuscripts identified by this study is high, this is partly due to my decision, discussed above, to assume that a manuscript is single-work, unless there is evidence to the contrary. On the other hand, at least some of the manuscripts in category 3 are in fact likely to have been single-work manuscripts, rather than merely being assumed to be such. Notably, there are the ten listed on p.23 which have pagination suggesting that they were the first work in the manuscript. As argued above, it is possible that most or all ten are in fact from multi-work manuscripts and co-incidentally it is the first work that has survived in most or all cases. However, this seems improbable. This suggests that single-work manuscripts, even if not the majority, were common enough. This in turn casts doubt on Trobisch's thesis that the works of the New Testament very commonly circulated together. It is possible that each "volume" of Trobisch's proposed complete edition of the New Testament was independently paginated, as tends to be the case with multi-volume books today. However, it would presumably be economical for book producers to produce Trobisch's proposed complete edition in as few volumes as possible and therefore multiple single-work volumes are unlikely. Further, Watson makes the point, with specific regard to the Gospels, that if the four Gospels commonly circulated together from the earliest times, one would expect to find a roughly equal number of fragments from all four Gospels, since, throughout the early centuries, each of the four would have been copied the same number of times, since they would always have been copied together. However, in fact the vast majority of our surviving fragments come from Matthew and John. One might expect slightly fewer fragments of Mark, because it is shorter and therefore a single surviving page has less chance of being from Mark than any of the others, but this does not account for how much more numerous fragments of Matthew and John are. 98 In summary, single-work manuscripts were evidently common enough to problematise strong versions of the "closed canon" view.

In summary, our conclusions challenge both extreme views. They challenge the "open canon" view, because the frequent combination of (in modern terms) canonical works suggests that they were widely seen to have something in common. Of course, most of the manuscripts which survive date from a time when even "open canon" scholars would argue that the four-

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⁹⁸ Watson himself makes this point in *Gospel Writings*, 411n.1.

fold Gospel and the Pauline corpus were stable. At the very least however the data presented here suggests that most book-manufacturers did not doubt that the canonical works belonged together, which suggests that they did have some distinctive characteristic in common. It is far beyond the scope of this project to suggest what this might have been.⁹⁹

On the other hand, the data presented here also challenges the "closed canon" view. Singlework artifacts are also too numerous for us to believe that complete editions of the New Testament or four-Gospel codices were the normal format for New Testament manuscripts. The data surveyed suggests that the works we consider canonical were commonly associated together, but not always in the same bibliographic unit.

⁹⁹ This is consistent with Watson's view. Watson accepts that the early Christians presumably had reasons for choosing the four Gospels and that these reasons quite possibly were internal to the works in question. However, he also argues that it is impossible for us now to discern any inherent difference between the canonical and non-canonical Gospels (*Gospel Writings*, 611). What my paper adds to this is further evidence that this shadowy factor for differentiating the works we now call canonical was at least understood by early Christian book-producers.

Character Counts of the Works of the New Testament

Matt: 90,368 Phlm: 1,562

Mark (finishing at 16:8): 55,364 Heb: 26,419

Luke: 95,974 Jas: 8,848

John (without *pericope adulterae*): 70,526 1 Pet: 9,048

Acts: 95,830 2 Pet: 6,083

Rom: 34,423 1 Jn: 9,463

1 Cor: 32,741 2 Jn: 1,128

2 Cor: 22,261 3 Jn: 1,105

Gal: 11,082 Jude: 2,568

Eph: 12,001 Rev: 46,040

Phil: 7,994 Four Gospels: 312,232

Col: 7,888 Corpus Paulinum (incl Heb and the

1 Thess: 7,421 pastorals): 186,944

2 Thess: 4,048 Corpus Johanneum: 128,262

1 Tim: 8,856 Catholic Epistles (excl Heb): 38,243

2 Tim: 6,525 Entire NT: 679,289

Titus: 3,723

Appendix

1. Certainly Collection-Evident

| LDAB | Gregory-Aland | Works | Other | LDAB | Verification |
|-----------|------------------------|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Siglum | Siglum | Present | Works Probably Present | <u>Date</u> | |
| 3017 | B 30 | 1 Thess 4:12- 5:28; 2 Thess 1:1-2; 2:1, 9- 11 | | 175-225 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 116-19 |
| 3071 | 0212 | Gospel harmony, parallel to Matt 27:57 | | 175-256 | Joosten 2003, 159-75 |
| 2980 | \$\partial 3^{45} | Several leaves of each of the four Gospels and Acts | 4 Gospels and Acts | 200-250 | Metzger and Ehrman 2005, 54 |
| 3011 | B ⁴⁶ | Most of the Pauline corpus | | 200-250 | Metzger and Ehrman 2005, 54-55 |
| 2786/3477 | P ¹⁸ | Exod 40:26- 38 and Rev 1:1-7 | | 3 rd Century | Epp 2004, 18- 19 |
| 3008 | B ⁹² | Eph 1:11-13, 19-21; 2 Thess 1:4-5, 11-12 | | 250-350 | Gallazzi 1982, 117-20 |
| 2895 | B ⁷⁵ | Most of Luke and most of John 1-15 | Possibly 4 Gospel codex | 300-350 | Martin and Kasser 1961, passim |
| 3487 | | Gen 31:8 and Heb 12:22-23 | | 4 th century | Scherer, 1956, 4 n.2, 3 |
| 2993 | \mathfrak{P}^{62} | Matt 11:25-30 in Greek and Coptic and LXX Dan 3:50-55 in Greek | | 4 th century | Amundsen 1945, 121 |

| P.Bodmer VIII ¹⁰⁰ | \$\pi^{72} | 1 and 2 Pet | | 310-350 | Wasserman 2005, 140 and Nongbri 2016, 394-410 |
|---------------------------------|-------------|--|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 3479 | 03 | Most of the modern canon (Heb damaged, Pastorals, Philm and Rev missing) | At least the complete modern canon | 325-400 | Metzger and Ehrman 2005, 67-69 |
| 5627 | | 1 Cor 15:27; 2 Cor 6:2 and Pss 24:1-2; 26:2, 4; 41:2; 77:54; 144:9 | | 350-400 | Manuscript unedited in the Duke papyrus archive; only source LDAB |
| 2929 | 05 | Most of 4 Gospels and Acts in Greek and Latin (and 3 John 11-15 in Latin) | | 400-450 | Scrivener 1864, passim |
| 2985 | 032 | 4 Gospels | | 5 th century | Sanders 1912, 27 |
| 3030 | B 30 | Various Paulines and grammar tables | | 5 th century | Wouters 1988, passim |
| 5688 | | Matt 5:11, 6; Ps 118:2 and Lam 3:27-31 | | 5 th century | Roberts 1976, 74-76 |
| 3002 | 0208 | Col 1:29-2:15 and 1 Thess 2:4-11 | Possibly Pauline corpus | 5 th century | Dold 1933, 76- 84 |

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 $^{^{\}rm 100}$ Detailed notes on this artifact are in the paper under LDAB 2565, in category 6.

| 128512 | 067 | Matt 14:13-14 | Possibly 4 | 5 th century | Treu 1966, 22- |
|--------|-------|----------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 120012 | | and 15-16, | Gospels | | 23 |
| | | 19-20 and 21- | Gospeis | | 25 |
| | | 23 and Mark | | | |
| | | 14:58-61, 62- | | | |
| | | 64, 65-67 and | | | |
| | | 68-70 | | | |
| 2906 | 048 | Acts and a | | 5 th century | Orsini 2005, |
| 2700 | 040 | range of | | 3 century | 152 |
| | | letters, | | | 132 |
| | | including | | | |
| | | most Catholic | | | |
| | | epistles and | | | |
| | | most Paulines | | | |
| 2986 | 11043 | Passages from | | 5 th century | Porter and |
| 2980 | 11043 | all 4 Gospels | | 3 century | Porter 2008, |
| | | all 4 Gospeis | | | 246-76 |
| | | | | | 240-70 |
| 2932 | 026 | A wide range | 4 Gospels | 5 th century | Falluomini |
| 2332 | 020 | of passages in | . Gosp e is | | 1999, 35 |
| | | Luke and | | | 1,7,7,50 |
| | | John 12:3-20; | | | |
| | | 14:3-22 | | | |
| 2930 | 04 | Various LXX | Complete | 5 th century | Metzger and |
| | | works and | modern | | Ehrman 2005, |
| | | most of the | canon | | 69-70 |
| | | NT | | | |
| 2840 | 0251 | 3 John 12-15 | Catholic | 5 th -6 th | Römer 1980, |
| | | and Jude 3-5 | Epistles | century | 327-29 |
| | | | 1 | | |
| | | | | | |
| 2991 | | Extracts from | | 5 th -6 th | Römer 2003, |
| | | all 4 Gospels | | century | 183-201 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| 3070 | 0247 | 1 Pet 5:13-14; | | 5 th -6 th | Greenlee, |
| | | 2 Pet 1:6-8, | | century | 1968, 130 |
| | | 14-16; 2:1 | | | |
| 2004 | | 10.15.55 | | ≖ th cth | m 4055 50 |
| 3001 | 088 | 1 Cor 15:53- | | 5 th -6 th | Treu 1966, 20- |
| | | 16: 2 and | | century | 21 |
| | | Titus 1:1-13 | | | |
| | | | | | |

| 62323 | <i>l</i> 1601 | Mark 1:9ff; | 5 th -6 th | Crum 1905, 14 |
|-------|---------------|---------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| | | John 2:1ff; | century | |
| | | Luke 9:39ff; | | |
| | | Matt 8:23ff | | |
| 3484 | | Ps 117:27, 26 | 5 th -7 th | Crum 1902, 1, |
| | | and Luke 1:28 | century | and Stern |
| | | in Greek; Pss | | 1885, 100-102 |
| | | 128:8, | | |
| | | 117:26-28 | | |
| | | and Phil 3:20 | | |
| | | in Coptic | | |

2. Plausibly Collection-Evident

| | Gregory-Aland | Works Present | Other | LDAB Date | Verification |
|-------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|--|-------------------|
| | Siglum | | Works | | |
| LDAB Siglum | | | <u>Probably</u> | | |
| _ | | | Present | | |
| 3018 | \mathfrak{P}^{13} | Heb 2:14-5:5; | Rom and | 250-350 | Blumell and |
| | | 10:8-22; | Heb | | Wayment 2015, |
| | | 10:29-11:13; | | | 119-32 |
| | | 11:28-12:17 | | | |
| 3067 | 0206 | 1 Pet 5:5-13 | At least | 350-400 | Blumell and |
| | | | Rom-1 Pet | | Wayment 2015, |
| | | | | | 166-69 |
| 2945 | 0242 | Matt 8:25-9:2; | 4 Gospels | 350-400 | Roca-Puig 1959, |
| | | 13:32-46 | | | 59-73 |
| 3027 | 0185 | 1 Cor 2: 5-6, | Pauline | 350-450 | Porter and Porter |
| | | 9, 13; 3:2-3 | corpus | | 2008, 209-11 |
| 2911 | 0214 | Mark 8:33-34, | 4 Gospels | 400-450 | Porter and Porter |
| | | 34-37 | | | 2008, 105-08 |
| 3033 | 0201 | 1 Cor 11:33- | At least | 5 th century | Güting 1988, 97- |
| | | 34; 12:2-13; | Rom and 1 | | 114 |
| | | 14:20-29 | Cor | | |
| 2805 | 0232 | 2 John 1-9 | Johannine | 5 th century | Roberts 1950, |
| | | | corpus | | 24-25 |
| 2912 | 0274 | Mark 6:56- | At least | 5 th -6 th century | Plumley and |
| | | 10:22, with | Matthew | | Roberts 1976, |
| | | gaps | and Mark | | 34-45 |

3. Certainly or Plausibly One Work

| | Gregory-Aland | Works Present | LDAB Date | Verification |
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| | Siglum | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
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| P.Oxy. | P ¹³⁷ | Mark 1:7-9, | 100-200 | Obbink and Colomo 2018a |
| LXXXIII | , | 16-18 | | |
| 5345 ¹⁰¹ | | | | |
| 2774 | \mathfrak{P}^{52} | John 18:31-34, | 125-175 | Roberts 1938, 1-3 |
| | | 37-38 | | |
| 2775 | \mathfrak{P}^{90} | John 18:36- | 150-200 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, |
| | | 19:7 | | 21-26 |
| 2935 | \mathfrak{P}^{104} | Matt 21:34-37, | 150-200 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, |
| | | 43, 45 | | 20-21 |
| 2848 | 0189 | Acts 5:3-21 | 150-250 | Salonius 1927, 116 |
| 2936 | \mathfrak{P}^{64} and \mathfrak{P}^{67} | Matt 3:9, 25; | 150-250 | Skeat 1997 |
| | | 5:20-22, 25-28; | | |
| | | 26:2-33 | | |
| 2936 | \mathfrak{P}^4 | Luke 1:58-2:8; | 150-250 | Skeat 1997 |
| | | 3:8-4:2; 4:29- | | |
| | | 5:9; 5:30-6:16 | | |
| 2982 | 0171 | Matt 10:17-33 | 175-225 | Treu 1966, 26-28 |
| 2982 | 0171 | Luke 22:44-53, | 175-225 | Vitelli 1913, 24-25 |
| | | 61-64 | | |
| 2801 | \mathfrak{P}^{95} | John 5:26-29, | 200-250 | Lenaerts 1985, 117-20 |
| | | 36-38 | | |
| 2777 | \mathfrak{P}^{66} | Most of John, | 200-250 | Metzger and Ehrman 2005, |
| | | with many | | 56-57 |
| | | gaps | | |
| 2938 | \mathfrak{P}^{103} | Matt 13:55-56; | 200-250 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, |
| | | 14:3-5; | | 26-28 |
| 2937 | \$ ⁷⁷ | Matt 23:30-39 | 200-250 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, |
| | 120 | | | 28-31 |
| P.Oxy | \mathfrak{P}^{138} | Luke 13:13-17, | 3 rd century | Obbink and Colomo 2018b |
| LXXXIII | | 25-30 | | |
| 5346 ¹⁰² | | | | |

¹⁰¹ This manuscript is from the Oxyrhynchus Papyri volume which was published only days before I sent the corrected version of this paper to the journal. It does not yet have an LDAB number and the date is the one given by the editors of the papyrus in the Oxyrhynchus volume, Obbink and Colomo. Although it is obviously an exception to my rule about following the LDAB date, I include it for the sake of completeness.

¹⁰² See n. 101.

| 2851 | \mathfrak{P}^{91} | Acts 2:30-37; 2:46-3:2 | 3 rd century | Barker 2010, 129 |
|--------|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 2852 | \mathfrak{P}^{69} | Luke 22:41, 45-48, 58-61 | 3 rd century | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 38-41 |
| 2853 | \mathfrak{P}^{29} | Acts 26:7-8, 20 | 3 rd century | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 76-77 |
| 2778 | \mathfrak{P}^{47} | Rev 9:10-17:2 | 3 rd century | Kenyon 1933, 7 |
| 2780 | \mathfrak{P}^{5} | John 1:23-40; 16:14-30; 20:11-25 | 3 rd century | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 43-53 |
| 112360 | \mathfrak{P}^{121} | John 19:17-18, 25-26 | 3 rd century | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 74-75 |
| 2781 | \mathfrak{P}^{106} | John 1:29-35, 40-46 | 3 rd century | Head 2000, 5, 10-11 |
| 2782 | \mathfrak{P}^{107} | John 17:1-2, 11 | 3 rd century | Head 2000, 5, 12 |
| 2783 | \mathfrak{P}^{108} | John 17:23-24; 18:1-5 | 3 rd century | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 66-68 |
| 2784 | \mathfrak{P}^{109} | John 21:18-20, 23-25 | 3 rd century | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 68-70 |
| 2939 | \mathfrak{P}^{101} | Matt 3:10-12; 3:16-4:3 | 3 rd century | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 35-38 |
| 2940 | \mathfrak{P}^1 | Matt 1:1-9, 12, 14-20; 2:14 | 3 rd century | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 31-35 |
| 3000 | \mathfrak{P}^{40} | Rom 1:24-2:3; 3:21-4:8; 6:4- 5, 16 | 3 rd century | Bilabel 1924, 28-31 |
| 3010 | \mathfrak{P}^{27} | Rom 8:12-27; 8:33-9:9 | 3 rd century | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 79-83 |
| 7157 | P ¹¹¹ | Luke 17:11-13, 22-23 | 3 rd century | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 41-43 |
| 7160 | P ¹¹⁴ | Heb 1:7-12 | 3 rd century | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 83-85 |
| 2779 | \mathfrak{P}^{22} | John 15:25- 16:2, 21-32 | 250-300 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 53-56 |
| 2788 | \mathfrak{P}^{39} | John 8:14-22 | 250-300 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 57-60 |
| 2941 | \mathfrak{P}^{37} | Matt 26:19-52 | 250-300 | Sanders 1926, 215-26 |
| 7162 | 0308 | Rev 11:15-18 | 250-300 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 160-62 |
| 2785 | \mathfrak{P}^{28} | John 6:8-12, 17-22 | 250-350 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 100-03 |
| 7161 | \mathfrak{P}^{115} | Rev 2-15, with | 250-350 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, |

| | | many gaps | | 142-60 |
|--------|----------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 145321 | | Matt 22:15-22, | 250-350 | Caldwell and Litinas 2012, |
| | | 35 | | 229-33 |
| 2855 | \mathfrak{P}^{38} | Acts 18:27- | 250-350 | Sanders 1936, 14-15 |
| | | 19:6, 12-16 | | |
| 5425 | | Lord's Prayer | 275-325 | Bammel 1971, 280-81 |
| 140277 | | Mark 1:1 | 275-350 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, |
| | | | | 335-37 |
| 2856 | \mathfrak{P}^8 | Acts 4:31-37; | 300-350 | Gregory 1900-09, 1087-1090 |
| | | 5:2-9; 6:1-6, 8- | | |
| | | 15 | | |
| 7311 | \mathfrak{P}^{116} | Hebrews 2:9- | 300-350 | Porter and Porter 2008, 86-87 |
| | | 11; 3:3-6 | | |
| 2942 | \mathfrak{P}^{70} | Matt 2:13-16; | 300-350 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, |
| | | 2:22-3:1; | | 92-95 |
| | | 11:26-27; | | |
| | | 12:4-5; 24:3-6, | | |
| | | 12-15 | | |
| 2944 | 0160 | Matt 26:25-26, | 300-350 | Salonius 1927, 99-100 |
| | | 34-36 | | |
| 113259 | \mathfrak{P}^{123} | 1 Cor 14:31- | 300-350 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, |
| | | 34; 15:3-6 | | 177-79 |
| 2948 | 0192 | Matt 5:17-19 | 4 th century | Kahle 1954, 1:399-402 |
| | | in Coptic and | | |
| | | 7:28; 8:3, 4, 7- | | |
| | | 9 in Greek | | |
| 2946 | \mathfrak{P}^{86} | Matt 5:13-16, | 4 th century | Charalambakis, Hagedorn, |
| | | 22-25 | | Kaimakis and Thüngen 1974, |
| | | | | 37-40 |
| 3016 | \mathfrak{P}^{15} | 1 Cor 7:18-8:4 | 4 th century | Hunt 1910, 4-6 |
| 2793 | 0169 | Rev 3:19-4:3 | 4 th century | Blumell and Wayment 2015, |
| | | | | 181-84 |
| 2787 | 0162 | John 2:11-22 | 4 th century | Blumell and Wayment 2015, |
| | | | | 97-100 |
| 2790 | 0258 | John 10:25-26 | 4 th century | Scherling 1949, 35 |
| 2858 | \mathfrak{P}^{82} | Luke 7:32-34, | 4 th century | Schwartz 1968, 157-58 |
| | | 37-38 | | |
| 10034 | \mathfrak{P}^{117} | 2 Cor 7:6-11 | 4 th century | Salvo 2001, 19-21 |
| 2943 | \mathfrak{P}^{102} | Matt 4:11-12, | 4 th century | Blumell and Wayment 2015, |
| | | 22-23 | | 95-96 |
| 2952 | 058 | Matt 18:18-19, | 4 th century | Porter and Porter 2008, 91-94 |
| | | 22-23, 25-26, | | |
| | | 28-29 | | |

| 3019 | \mathfrak{P}^{17} | Heb 9:12-19 | 4 th century | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 132-34 |
|--------|------------------------|--|--|--|
| 3024 | 0230 | Eph 6:5-6 in Latin and 6:11- 12 in Greek | 4 th century | Lowe 1971, 8 |
| 3020 | \mathfrak{P}^{89} | Heb 6:7-9, 15- 17 | 4 th century | Pintaudi 1981, 42-44 |
| 3021 | 0228 | Heb 12:19-21, 23-25 | 4 th century | Porter and Porter 2008, 243-45 |
| 3022 | 0221 | Rom 5:16-18, 19; 5:21-6:3 | 4 th century | Porter and Porter 2008, 205- 09 |
| 5594 | | Matt 6:11-13 | 4 th century | Knopf 1901, 228-33 |
| 7156 | \mathfrak{P}^{110} | Matt 10:13-14, 25-27 | 4 th century | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 171-74 |
| 112359 | \mathfrak{P}^{120} | John 1:25-28, 33-38, 42-44 | 4 th century | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 174-77 |
| 2857 | 057 | Acts 3:5-6, 10- | 4 th -5 th century | Salonius 1927, 109-10 |
| 2950 | 0231 | Matt 26:75- 27:1; 27:3-4 | 4 th -5 th century | Roberts 1950, 1:23-24 |
| 3023 | 0270 | 1 Cor 15:10- 15, 19-24 | 4 th -5 th century | Observation of digitised image obtained from the University of Amsterdam library |
| 3028 | | Romans 8:31 | 4 th -6 th century | Tait 1930, 172 |
| 2926 | | Mark 6:11-12 in Greek and Coptic | 300-800 | Bouriant 1889, 406 |
| 2861 | \mathfrak{P}^{50} | Acts 8:26-32; 10:26-31 | 313-400 | Cook 2010, 115-28 |
| 2854 | \mathfrak{P}^{48} | Acts 23:11-17, 25-29 | 325-375 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 103-06 |
| 2791 | \mathfrak{P}^{24} | Rev 5:5-8; 6:5- | 350-400 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 140-42 |
| 2947 | \mathfrak{P}^{71} | Matt 19:10-11, 17-8 | 350-400 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 169-71 |
| 2981 | \mathfrak{P}^{53} | Matt 26:29-40 | 350-400 | Sanders 1937, 151-56 |
| 2981 | \mathfrak{P}^{53} | Acts 9:33-10:1 | 350-400 | Sanders 1937, 151-56 |
| 2909 | P 88 | Mark 2:1-26 | 350-400 | Daris 1972, 80-89 |
| 2995 | 0220 | Rom 4:23-5:3, 8-13 | 350-400 | Limongi 2005, 66-67 |
| 2859 | P ⁵⁷ | Acts 4:36-5:2; 5:8-10 | 350-450 | Porter and Porter 2008, 34 |

| 112361 | \mathfrak{P}^{122} | John 21:11-14, 22-24 | 350-450 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 192-94 |
|--------|----------------------|--|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2860 | 0181 | Luke 9:59- 10:5; 10:6-14 | 350-450 | Porter and Porter 2008, 123-29 |
| 2771 | 0173 | Jas 1:25-27 | 350-450 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 179-81 |
| 220512 | | John 7:6-10, 15; 9:17-23 | 350-500 | Burkitt and Gibson 1900, 45-46 |
| 2794 | \mathfrak{P}^{85} | Rev 9:19-10:2; 10:5-9 | 375-425 | Schwartz 1969, 181-82 |
| 10081 | \mathfrak{P}^{118} | Rom 15:26- 16:12 | 375-425 | Schenke 2003, 33-37 |
| 2949 | \mathfrak{P}^{21} | Matt 12:24-26, 31-33 | 400-450 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 190-92 |
| 3031 | 0172 | Rom 1:27-30; 1:32-2:2 | 400-450 | Naldini 1964, 18-19 |
| 3041 | 0219 | Rom 2:21-23; 3:8-9, 23-25, 27-30 | 400-450 | Porter and Porter 2008, 200- 05 |
| 10652 | | Mark 7:4-5 | 400-450 | Orsini 2005, 141 |
| 2803 | 068 | John 13:16-27; 16:7, 8, 12-19 | 5 th century | Wright 2002, 344 |
| 2951 | \mathfrak{P}^{19} | Matt 10:32-42; 11:1-5 | 5 th century | Blumell and Wayment 2015, 186-89 |
| 2798 | 0264 | John 8:19-20, 23-24 | 5 th century | Treu 1966, 33 |
| 2804 | 0301 | John 17:1-4 | 5 th century | Pintaudi 2005, 63-64 |
| 2863 | 0267 | Luke 8:25-27 | 5 th century | Spottorno 2014a, 121-23 |
| 2864 | 0175 | Acts 6:7-15 | 5 th century | Naldini 1964, 18 |
| 2865 | 0244 | Acts 11:29- 12:2, 3-5 | 5 th century | Lakmann 2009, 471 |
| 2866 | 0236 | Acts 3:12-13; 15-16 | 5 th century | Treu 1966, 333 |
| 2869 | 077 | Acts 13:28-29 | 5 th century | Lewis 1894, 98 |
| 2807 | 0218 | John 12:2-3, 4-6, 9-11, 14-16 | 5 th century | Porter and Porter 2008, 197- 200 |
| 2800 | \mathfrak{P}^{93} | John 13:15-17 | 5 th century | Bastianini 1983, 10-11 |
| 2808 | 0216 | John 8:51-53; 9:5-8 | 5 th century | Porter and Porter 2008, 190- 94 |
| 2809 | 0217 | John 11:57- 12:7 | 5 th century | Porter and Porter 2008, 194- 97 |
| 3037 | 0252 | Heb 6:2-4, 6-7 | 5 th century | Spottorno 2014c, 128-32 |
| | | | _ | |

| | | 29 | | 43 |
|--------|----------------------|--|--|---|
| 2900 | 067 | Matt 24:37- 25:1; 25:32-45; 26:31-45 | 5 th century | Treu 1966, 23-24 |
| 119313 | \mathfrak{P}^{127} | Acts 10-12; 15-17 | 5 th century | Parker and Pickering 2009, 1 |
| 2910 | 0188 | Mark 11:11-17 | 5 th century | Salonius 1927, 100-02 |
| 2953 | | Lord's Prayer | 5 th century | Kraus 2006, 240-41 |
| 3042 | \mathfrak{P}^{94} | Rom 6:10-13, 19-22 | 400-550 | Bingen 1987, 75-78 |
| 2799 | 0163 | Rev 16:17-18, 19-20 | 5 th -6 th century | Greenfell and Hunt 1908, 6 |
| 2810 | 060 | John 14:14-17, 19-21, 23-24, 26-28 | 5 th -6 th century | Salonius 1927, 102-04 |
| 2812 | \mathfrak{P}^{36} | John 3:14-18, 31-32 | 5 th -6 th century | Vitelli 2004, 5-6 |
| 3043 | \mathfrak{P}^{14} | 1 Cor 1:25-27; 2:6-8; 3:8-10, 20 | 5 th -6 th century | Harris 1890, 54-56 |
| 2892 | 027 | Luke 1-23 | 5 th -6 th century | Tischendorf 1857, xi-xxii, and Apthorp 1996, 103 |
| 2871 | 076 | Acts 2:11-22 | 5 th -6 th century | Greenfell and Hunt 1900, 41-43 |
| 2913 | 069 | Mark 10:50, 51; 11:11, 12 | 5 th -6 th century | Greenfell and Hunt 1898, 7 |
| 2920 | 072 | Mark 2:23-37; 3:1-5 | 5 th -6 th century | University of Münster NT Virtual Manuscript Room, accessed 3/6/16 |
| 2954 | | Matt 1:19-20 | 5 th -6 th century | Sijpesteijn 1984, 145 |
| 2955 | 071 | Matt 1:21-24; 1:25-2:2 | 5 th -6 th century | Greenfell and Hunt 1903, 1-2 |
| 10091 | | Jas 2:2-3, 8-9; 4:11-13 | 5 th -6 th century | Funghi, Messeri and Römer 2012, 22-23 |
| 2957 | \mathfrak{P}^{105} | Matt 27:62-74; 28:2-5 | 5 th -6 th century | Jones 2016, 127-30 |
| 2958 | 0170 | Matt 6:5-6, 8- 9, 13-15, 17 | 475-525 | Hunt 1912, 5-7 |

4. Plausibly Multi-Work, Indeterminably Collection-Evident

| 1 | Gregory-Aland | Works Present | LDAB Date | <u>Verification</u> |
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| LDAB Siglum | 87 | | | |
| 3013 | \mathfrak{P}^{87} | Phlm 13-15, | 200-250 | Kramer, Römer and Hagedorn |
| | 400 | 21-24 | | 1982, 28-31 |
| 2769 | \mathfrak{P}^{100} | Jas 3:13-4:4; | 3 rd century | Head 2000, 12-14 |
| | | 4:9-5:1 | | |
| 3009 | \mathfrak{P}^{32} | Titus 1:11-15; | 3 rd century | Hunt 1911a, 10-11 |
| | | 2:3-8 | | |
| 112358 | \mathfrak{P}^{119} | John 1:21-28, | 3 rd century | Chapa 2007, 2-6 |
| | | 38-44 | | |
| | \mathfrak{P}^{133} | 1 Tim 3:13-4:8 | 3 rd century | Shao 2016, 3-8 |
| 2770 | \mathfrak{P}^{23} | Jas 1:10-12, | 250-300 | Greenfell and Hunt 1914, 16- |
| | | 15-18 | | 18 |
| 3012 | \mathfrak{P}^{65} | 1 Thess 1:3- | 250-350 | Naldini 1964, 18 |
| | • | 2:13 | | |
| 3014 | \mathfrak{P}^{49} | Eph 4:16-5:13 | 250-350 | Emmel 1996, 291-94 |
| 2789 | \mathfrak{P}^9 | 1 John 4:11-17 | 275-325 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, |
| | | | | 184-86 |
| 117814 | \mathfrak{P}^{125} | 1 Pet 1:23-2:5, | 275-325 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, |
| | | 7-11 | | 162-66 |
| 3016 | \mathfrak{P}^{16} | Phil 3:9-4:8 | 4 th century | Hunt 1910, 8-10 |
| P.Oxy | \mathfrak{P}^{139} | Phlm 6-8, 18- | 4 th century | Lincicum 2018 |
| LXXXIII | | 20 | | |
| 5347 ¹⁰³ | | | | |
| 3068 | \mathfrak{P}^{81} | 1 Pet 2:20-3:1; | 350-400 | Daris 1967, 20-24 |
| | | 3:4-12 | | |
| 3026 | \mathfrak{P}^{51} | Gal 1:2-10, 13, | 350-450 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, |
| | | 16-20 | | 197-200 |
| 9210 | 059 and 0215 | Mark 15:20-21, | 350-450 | Jongkind 2014, 1-3 |
| | | 26-67, 29-38 | | |
| | | and some more | | |
| | | characters | | |
| 704179 | \mathfrak{P}^{132} | Eph 3:21-4:2, | 350-450 | Smith 2016, 1-3 |
| | • | 14-16 | - | , - |
| 2996 | 0240 | Titus 1:4-6, 7-9 | 5 th century | Treu 1966, 353-54 |
| 3034 | 0174 | Gal 2:5-6 | 5 th century | Vitelli 1913, 10 |
| 2872 | 0165 | Acts 3:24-4:7; | 5 th century | Salonius 1927, 110-15 |

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¹⁰³ See n. 101.

| | | 4:7-13, 17-20 | | |
|------|---------------------|----------------|--|---------------------------|
| 3029 | 061 | 1 Tim 3:15-16; | 5 th century | Zahn 1884, 277-78 |
| | | 6:2 | | |
| 3035 | 062 | Gal 4:15-30; | 5 th century | University of Münster NT |
| | | 30-31; 5:1-15 | | Virtual Manuscript Room, |
| | | | | accessed 4/6/16 |
| 3036 | 0254 | Gal 5:13-17 | 5 th century | Horsley 1982, 137 |
| 3038 | 0261 | Gal 1:9-12; | 5 th century | Horsley 1982, 135-37 |
| | | 4:25-31 | | |
| 2997 | 0158 | Gal 1:1-13 | 5 th -6 th century | No secondary attestation; |
| | | | | original in Damascus; all |
| | | | | attempts to contact the |
| | | | | museum unsuccessful. |
| 2998 | 0159 | Eph 4:21-24; | 5 th -6 th century | No secondary attestation; |
| | | 5:1-3 | | original in Damascus; all |
| | | | | attempts to contact the |
| | | | | museum unsuccessful. |
| 2795 | \mathfrak{P}^{80} | Some short | 550-600 | Spottorno 2014b, 124-28 |
| | | lemmata, incl | | |
| | | currently | | |
| | | canonical | | |
| | | material, with | | |
| | | commentary | | |

5. Plausibly Not Collection-Evident

| | Gregory-Aland | Works Present | LDAB Date | <u>Verification</u> |
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| | Siglum | | | |
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| 10009 | \mathfrak{P}^{126} | Heb 13:12-13, 19-20 | 300-350 | Clivaz 2010, 158-62 |
| 2792 | 0207 | Rev 9:2-15 | 350-400 | Naldini 1964, 19-20 |
| 2846 | \mathfrak{P}^{78} | Jude 4-5, 7-8 | 375-475 | Wasserman 2006, 137-60 |
| 2772 | B ⁵⁴ | Jas 2:16-18, 21-23, 23-25; 3:2-4 | 5 th century | Kase 1936, II:1 |

6. Definitely Not Collection-Evident

| | Gregory- | Works Present | LDAB | Verification |
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| Siglum | \mathfrak{P}^{98} | D 11221 1 | 200.250 | W 2017 (0) |
| 2776 | 1 300 | Rev 1:13-2:1 and | 200-250 | Kraus 2016, 60 |
| | 12 | documentary text | | |
| 3475 | \mathfrak{P}^{12} | Letter, with Gen 1:1-5 in | 264-325 | Greenfell and Hunt 1900, 28- |
| | | LXX and Aquila and Heb | | 31 |
| | 10 | 1:1 | | |
| 3025 | \mathfrak{P}^{10} | Rom 1:1-7 and some | 300-350 | Blumell and Wayment 2015, |
| | | nonsense writing | | 194-97 |
| 2565* | Contains | Jude, Pss 33-34, 11 th Ode | 310-350 | Wasserman 2005, 140; Horrell |
| | part of \mathfrak{P}^{72} | of Solomon a variety of | | 2009 and Nongbri 2016, 394- |
| | part or \$ | apocryphal Christian | | 410 |
| | | works ¹⁰⁴ | | |
| 3478 | 01 | Whole range of works, | 325-375 | Metzger and Ehrman 2005, 62- |
| | | mostly in the modern | | 67 |
| | | canon | | |
| BMC | Contains | Petrine epistles, Jude and | 4 th | Wasserman 2005, 140; Horrell |
| | \mathfrak{P}^{72} | many works outside the | century | 2009 and Nongbri 2016, 394- |
| | | modern canon | | 410 |
| 2806 | \mathfrak{P}^6 | 1 Clement 1-26 and Jas | 400-450 | Jaroš 2006, 4886-4911 |
| | | 1:18-5:20 in Coptic and | | |
| | | John 10:1-11:46 in Coptic | | |
| | | and Greek | | |
| 5715 | | Homilies, quoting several | 5 th | Blumell and Wayment 2015, |
| | | sources | century | 350-52 |
| 3481 | 02 | Complete LXX and NT, | 5 th | Metzger and Ehrman 2005, 67, |
| | | Athanasius' festal letter | century | and observation of the digitised |
| | | and the Clementine letters | | manuscript ¹⁰⁵ |
| 5971 | | Lord's Prayer with closing | 5 th | Jones 2016, 124-27 |
| | | liturgical material | century | |
| 2867 | \mathfrak{P}^7 | Uncertain, but apparently | 5 th | Jaroš 2006, 3816-3821 |
| | | contains Gospels and a | century | Í |
| | | Patristic text | | |
| 6096 | | Prayers, incipits of Matt, | 5 th -6 th | Preisindanz, 1931, 193-4. |
| | | ,,, | 1 | |

Specifically: the Nativity of Mary, Apocryphal letters between Paul and the Corinthians, Melito's Paschal homily, a fragment of a hymn and the Apology of Phileas.
 Available on the British Library website

⁽http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/FullDisplay.aspx?ref=Royal_MS_1_D_VIII), accessed 4 February 2017.

| | Luke and John and Ps | century | |
|------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| | 21:20-23 | | |
| 5835 | Lord's Prayer and a variety | 5 th -6 th | Kraus 2006, 254-66 |
| | of LXX materials and | century | |
| | works outside the modern | | |
| | canon | | |
| 6107 | Various synoptic texts, Ps | 5 th -6 th | |
| | 90:13 and materials | century | |
| | outside the modern canon | | Jones 2016, 87-94 |
| 2802 | John 1:1,3 and prayer and | 431-500 | |
| | exorcism language | | |
| | | | Hunt 1911b, 251-53 |
| 2813 | Johannine Prologue and | 431-600 | |
| | prayer against illness | | |
| | | | Jones 2016, 140-46 |

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