PMF Sampling
The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County (PLCH) & University of Cincinnati Libraries (UC)
Ashleigh Schieszer, Library and Archives Conservator
10/29/2015

Summary:

9 total samples were removed from two bindings that contain Phillis Wheatley’s Poems on various subjects, religious and moral, imprints from 1773:

- 5 samples from the University of Cincinnati Libraries half leather binding with parchment (samples # 1-5)
- 4 samples from the Public Library of Cincinnati’s full leather binding with leather patches (samples # 6-9)

Also included is the photographic documentation of the two bindings, as well as the library catalog record information.

Description of Samples: Samples are contained in V-vials labeled #1-9 in black Sharpie and are stored together in a small plastic bag. Sizes of samples range from a few fibers to a “large chunk” of parchment 0.5 x 3 mm in size.

Overview of the University of Cincinnati Libraries half leather binding sample locations # 1-5:

Sample # 1 (UC, Item Record # i21768183):

- **Description:** Dark brown leather
- **Sample location:** Spine, lower turn-in, inner cover hinge
- **Size of sample:** 3 small chunks of dark brown epidermis and a few tufts of fibers from light-brown dermis
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Sample # 2 (UC, Item Record # i21768183):
Description: Dark brown leather
Sample location: Upper cover, bottom corner, inside turn-in
Size of sample: 2 small chunks of epidermis and small fibers of dermis

Sample # 3 (UC, Item Record # i21768183):
Description: Dark brown leather
Sample location: Lower cover, bottom corner, inside turn-in
Size of sample: 1 large chunk of epidermis removed with tweezers

Sample # 4 (UC, Item Record # i21768183):
Description: Parchment (sheep skin?)
Sample location: Upper cover, bottom edge turn-in, left edge
Size of sample: 1 large skinny and long chunk cut with scalpel

Sample # 5 (UC, Item Record # i21768183):
Description: Parchment (sheep skin?)
Sample location: Lower cover, bottom edge turn-in, right edge of parchment
Size of sample: 1 large skinny and long chunk cut with scalpel

Overview of the Public Library of Cincinnati’s full leather binding sample locations # 6-9:
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Sample # 6 (PLCH, Item record # i29412262):
   Description: Dark brown leather
   Sample location: Spine, lower turn-in, inner cover hinge
   Size of sample: 1 large chunk

Sample # 7 (PLCH, Item record # i29412262):
   Description: Dark brown leather
   Sample location: Upper cover, bottom corner, inside turn-in
   Size of sample: 1 medium chunk and 3 small chunks and a few fibers

Sample # 8 (PLCH, Item record # i29412262):
   Description: Dark brown leather
   Sample location: Lower cover, bottom corner, inside turn-in
   Size of sample: 1 large chunk and 1 small chunk

Sample # 9 (PLCH, Item record # i29412262):
   Description: Light brown leather that appears to be a patch
   Sample location: Lower board
   Size of sample: 1 large chunk, 3 small chunks and a tuft of fiber