Title
Alumni Oxonienses : the members of the University of Oxford, 1500-1714...

Author
University of Oxford.

DESCRIPTION:

General Remarks
This book is part of a collection of four Alumni Oxonienses book from the University of Oxford.

Binding
This is a half leather binding with dark red sheep skin leather and royal blue cloth covered boards. The boards are cased-in with three recessed cords. The stuck on endbands are commercially constructed and are colored yellow and red. The leather is gilt along the edges where it meets the cloth cover.

Textblock
The text block is composed of several gatherings that are sewn through the fold on three recessed cords. The top edge of the text block is gilt. There is a bookmark made of dark red cloth adhered to the spine of text block.

Primary Support
The text block consists of a light beige machine made laid paper. The endsheets and pastedown are made of a wove paper. The endleaf is colored dark blue on one side and light beige on the other.

Medium
The text is printed throughout in black ink.

Attachments|Inserts
There is a bookplate from the Public Library of Cincinnati on the pastedown of the upper cover. Also, there is a purple ink library stamp on the on verso of the title page and on the last page of the text block.

Housing
No prior housing

CONDITION:

Summary
Overall, the text block is in fair condition, however the book cannot be handled properly due to the poor condition of the binding.
**Binding**
The binding is in poor condition. Both covers are completely detached from the text block. The leather spine is delaminating from the spine lining that has become brittle over time. Along the spine there are several losses of the leather. The color of the leather has faded to a dark red/brown instead of the original bright red. Also, the grain surface layer of the leather is peeling away, which is characteristic of sheep skin. The joints and edges of the boards are friable with loss. The corners are worn and show some losses on the leather. The cloth’s color has faded to a dark purple, and is coated with a heavy layer of grime and dark stains.

**Textblock**
The text block is in fair condition. Overall, it exhibits a superficial layer of dirt, mostly along the edges. The sewing is stable and strong. Both endsheets are coated with a heavy layer of grime. The front endsheet and title pages have a long tear in the center. Also, the title page has a small tear on the bottom edge. The back endsheet is completely detached from the text block and cover. There is no evidence of the existence of a bottom stuck on endband, however it is possible that all the evidence has been lost over time. The cloth bookmark has become brittle and is detached from the text block.

**Primary Support**
The primary support has become brittle and fragile over time.

**Medium**
All the media is stable.

**Housing**

**Housing Narrative**
No prior housing

**Attachments|Inserts**

**Previous Treatment**
No evidence of previous treatment

**Materials Analysis**
No analysis was conducted at this time.

**TREATMENT:**

**Proposal**
1. Dry surface clean the covers and text lock.
2. Remove loose covers and lift leather spine, as well as pages such as fly leaves or tipped-in leaves.
3. Clean textblock spine to remove linings and brittle adhesive.
4. Mend textblock tear and losses.
5. Prepare new archival endsheets.
6. Sew the textblock with new sewing supports. Add new gatherings of hinged leaves and new endsheets (with a toned Uso mino hinge in between the new endsheets).
7. Re-line textblock spine with reversible layer of Uso mino and wheat starch paste, linen cloth lining and Dove gray paper.
8. Prepare covers for split board cover attachment.
9. Reattach boards with a modified library split board binding.
10. Reback and reattach original spine.
11. Construct a corrugated clamshell box to house the binding for long term storage.

**Housing Need**

Corrugated clamshell

**Factors Influencing Treatment**

This book is being treated in conjunction with three other volumes from this set. In order to maintain the original boards, and a cohesive aesthetic, and in order to compensate for the heaviness of the textblock, a modified split board technique will be used to reattach the original boards. New archival endsheets will be added to protect the text block from the original acidic endsheets.

**Performed Treatment**

1. Overall both covers, the pastedowns and flyleaves were dry surface cleaned with Absorbene smoke sponge. The flyleaves that contained a heavy layer of grime and were further surface cleaned with an eraser block. [CF, 0.65 hrs].

2. Both covers were removed and the leather spine was lifted. All the pages that were tipped onto the text block were mechanically removed with a Caselli spatula. [CF, 0.65 hrs]. The flyleaf and title page were mended with Tengujo tissue and Zen Shofu wheat starch paste. [CF, 0.65 hrs]. Also, to reinforce the loss and tear area, an Uso mino kozo tissue V-hinge was adhered with Zen Shofu wheat starch paste. [CF, 0.15 hrs].

3. The leather on the covers and spine was consolidated with Klucel G 3% in Ethanol, [CF, 0.15 hrs].

4. The text block spine was cleaned with a poultice of methyl cellulose 3%. The brittle linings and adhesive were reduced. [CF, 1 hrs].

5. New archival endsheets of Dove Gray paper were exactly measured and cut, and placed between the acidic original endsheets and the textblock. The original endsheets were hinged onto the new endsheets with Zen Shofu wheat starch paste. A loose hinge of toned Uso Mino Kozo tissue was wrapped around the endsheets. [CF, 1 hrs].

6. The removed leaves were hinged onto the textblock with Uso Mino Kozo tissue hinges and Zen Shofu wheat starch paste. [CF, 1 hrs].

7. Once the textblock was completed, it was sewn with linen tapes with a French link stitch using the two original kettle stitch holes. The sewing supports were only sewn on the first four gatherings and on the last four gatherings, reinforcing these areas. The rest of the text block was in good condition and did not need the extra support. [CF, 3 hrs].

8. The spine of the textblock was lined with multiple layers. The spine was first lined with a reversible layer of Uso mino Kozo tissue and wheat starch paste. Secondly, the spine was lined with a linen cloth lining adhered with a mixture of PVA and wheat starch paste. Finally, the spine was lined with a Dove gray paper lining adhered also with a mixture of PVA and wheat starch paste. [CF, 0.5 hrs].

9. Once the textblock was completed, the covers were prepared for a split board cover attachment. First, the corners were repaired with Lascaux 498 HV. [CF, 0.15 hrs]. Secondly, using paring knives, the leather on the covers was lifted and the boards were split in the middle of 1 inch deep. [CF, 1 hrs].

10. Both the spine cloth lining flanges and the tape extensions were adhered together and coated with a thick layer of PVA and air dried. [CF, 0.35 hrs]. The laminated flanges were adhered to the split board with PVA. [CF, 0.95 hrs].

11. The detached leather spine was cleaned with a poultice of methyl cellulose 4% and the brittle linings and adhesive were reduced. [CF, 0.35 hrs]. Once the leather spine was cleaned, it was lined with an acrylic toned Uso Mino kozo tissue and Lascaux 498 HV. Furthermore, the spine was lined with a linen cloth lining and PVA. [CF, 2.15 hrs].

12. The book was rebacked and the original spine was reattached with wheat starch paste. Once the cloth hinges were fully adhered to the cover boards on the outside, the leather on the cover was adhered down with Lascaux 498 HV. [CF, 2 hrs]. The toned Uso Mino tissue hinge on the inside was adhered down on to the pastedown with Zen Shofu wheat starch paste. [CF, 0.15 hrs].
The book was rehoused in a protective enclosure, a corrugated clamshell box. [JE, 1 hr].

**Housing Provided**
Corrugated clamshell

**Housing Narrative**

**Storage Recommendations and Handling notes**

**TOTAL Treatment Time**
16.85 hrs
After Treatment

During Treatment -
Spine cleaned and linings removed.

Sewn new supports and reversible layer.

Spine lined and boards attached.