

Report for the Zeno Karl Schindler Foundation, June 2017

Since I began my ZKS fellowship at the start of March, I have been working on two themes within the Durham Priory Library. First, I have been interested in the response of the cathedral community to the English Reformation, c. 1539 to c. 1579, and second, I have been looking at how the library was adapted to the new needs of the community and the demands of the English government for religious change.

I have identified the circle of chaplains around the bishop of Durham, Cuthbert Tunstall from 1530 to 1559 as of particular interest, due to their varied religious beliefs and annotations in significant numbers of books that survive at Durham. They were responsible for the introduction of anti-Lutheran tracts into the collections in the 1530s, for example. I want to build on this work to look at their relationship with the cathedral, where some of them became canons in the following decades. I have also begun to identify books that entered the Durham collections in the years from 1539 to 1570, which range from service and music books to editions of classical authors and medical texts. Some of these books survive in the collections and others are only known through references in wills or in the cathedral's financial accounts.

I have also planned further work on the books that left Durham during or just after this period. I have already identified a significant collection of books that ended up at York Minster, possibly due to Toby Matthew, who was at Durham before becoming archbishop of York. At Ushaw College, the libraries of the recusant families of County Durham preserved priory books removed by former monks. Tunstall was remembered there by the careful preservation of a bookmark made from one of his mandate dated 1532. There are further collections relating to Tunstall and his chaplains in other libraries at Bristol, Oxford and Cambridge, which I intend to examine at the end of the summer.

In relation to the digital side of the larger project, I have identified books that would be useful to digitise due to their high volume of interesting annotations, which would be of interest to scholars working on the theology of the Reformation. I have also been examining the images of already digitised books for signs of sixteenth-century use, which has thrown up some interesting leads that I will be pursuing further in the coming months. I have been contributing to the project's blog at [www.durhampriory.ac.uk](http://www.durhampriory.ac.uk), where I post regular updates on the material I have been finding.

There is so much potential material in the Durham collections alone that I am having to deliberately narrow my approach to a small group of individuals connected to the cathedral to make the work manageable within this year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the librarians and archivists at Durham Cathedral, Palace Green Library, Ushaw College, and York Minster Library for allowing me to use their collections and generously answering my questions, as well as the ZKS foundation for making this work possible.