

John Whittokesmede as Parliamentarian and Horse Owner in
Yale University Library, Beinecke MS 163

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Abstract

This paper presents prolegomena to a study of Yale University Library, Beinecke MS 163, looking at some selected details of its origins, content and language. It illustrates how research in one area of a discipline can lead to fresh insights into a range of other areas. In this case, work done for the primary purpose of dialectology has necessitated exploration into the life and concerns of a medieval gentleman and his household, and has led to the discovery of a number of words and usages hitherto unrecorded in the historical dictionaries.

Key words:

Whitlocksmead

Beinecke MS 163

Wagstaff Miscellany

15th century

Parliament

Speaker of the House

Horse

Lexicography

Dialectology

LALME