



## HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

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COMPUTERIZATION OF A.B. EMDEN'S BIOGRAPHICAL  
REGISTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE TO 1500

Attached is a copy of a memorandum by Dr Duncan on the computerization of A.B. Emden, A Biographical Register of the University of Cambridge to 1500 which includes Dr Emden's unpublished additions and corrections to his volume. The computerization was undertaken to facilitate comparison between the medieval universities of Oxford and Cambridge. I hope that the memorandum makes the scope of the computerization clear, but I shall be happy to answer any queries about it.

Contributors are invited to write to me specifying any print-out they require. I would like to emphasize that in addition to straightforward print-out of all scholars in a given category (for example all Theologians) it is also perfectly easy to produce lists of scholars who shared two or more features (say all members of The King's Hall who studied Civil Law and owned books) or who did not share two or more given features (perhaps Theologians who were not members of religious orders).

I should draw attention to one aspect of the computerization. As pointed out in Dr Duncan's memorandum, each scholar has been included in every "generation", faculty or whatever in which he is recorded. Thus if one needs a print-out which is to be subdivided by generation etc. it is essential to stipulate whether one wants every scholar to be printed under each generation etc. in which he occurs or merely under his first known generation etc. In print-out of the former kind, that is by "total generation" etc., many scholars will be listed more than once; in print-out of the latter type, that is by "first generation" etc., each scholar will be listed only once. Thus print-out by first generation etc. is best suited to some lines of inquiry and that by total generation etc. to others.

Having decided which scholars are to be selected (all Theologians for example) and how they are to be arranged in the print-out (by first generation, by college, by place of origin or whatever) it is necessary to decide what information should be printed against each name. The information in any of



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the "fields" described by Dr Duncan can be printed, and the fields can be printed in any order; if all or nearly all fields are printed, part of the information may appear on a second page on which each name will be repeated.

Requests for print-out should clearly specify:

1. The category or categories by which scholars are to be selected.
2. The way in which the list is to be arranged (by generation, college and so on).
3. The information which is to be printed against each name.

A very simple inquiry might, for instance, call for all members of St. Bernard's Hostel in a single undivided list with the fields Datecode, Faculty, College and Hostel being printed. A more complex request might specify bishops, deans and cathedral dignitaries who were not Legists, arranged by total generation and with all fields printed.

It may be that for many purposes it is only the number of scholars in a given category or combination of categories that is required and not a list of names. It is possible to produce such "hit counts" to the same kind of specifications as print-out of names.

I invite you to send me now or in the future requests for print-out, which will normally be executed very promptly. All such requests should specify in detail precisely what is required. It is generally most convenient to use computer output which is printed on paper, but it is very easy to produce microfiche should this be preferred in any particular case. Basic lists from the computerization of the Cambridge data are already available for reference.

I shall, of course, be pleased to give you any further information about the computerization and possible print-out should you require it.

Please address all inquiries to:

T.H. Aston, History of the University, Corpus Christi College, Oxford.

October 1977

T.H. Aston

## History of the University of Oxford

### COMPUTERIZATION OF EMDEN'S BIOGRAPHICAL REGISTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE TO 1500

Sixteen fields containing coded categories have been prepared for the 7,119\* biographical notices in A B Emden, A Biographical Register of the University of Cambridge to 1500 (Cambridge, 1963). The sixteen fields are

Datecode, Keycode, Faculty, ST, College, Hostel, SL, Order, Origin, Univ, Book, Officer, Law, Assoc, Ben, Add

#### DATECODE

All the scholars have been grouped according to date, and for the Cambridge computerization the "generations" used for mediæval Oxford have been adopted. The period extending from 1200 to the middle of the sixteenth century (the time at which the careers of some fifteenth-century scholars came to an end) has been divided into generations of twenty years each, running 1200-1219, 1220-1239 and so on. Many scholars' careers overlap two generations and some extend into three or even four. In these cases the scholar has been given more than one datecode. There are separate categories for scholars of absolutely unknown date and for those who can only be assigned to a particular century.

Precise dates are not always available, so approximate calculations have had to be made from information on offices held or degrees or licences obtained.

When the first known date in a scholar's life is that of a degree, the following scale of retrospective time allowances has been used

B A.	4 years	
M A	2 years	
B C.L. (without arts)	7 years	(ex inform Fr B Hackett)
B Cn L do	10 years	do
D.C.L. do.	10 years	do
D Cn L do	14 years	do
B.Th. (including arts)	15 years	do
D.Th. do.	18 years	do
B Th (religious)	10 years	do
D Th. do.	13 years	do
M B (without arts)	5 years	do
M.D. do.	10 years	do.

\* Where Emden indicates that separate entries may possibly or probably relate to the same scholar, they have been encoded as one entry. The total of 7,119 includes 15 new entries from Emden's MS. addenda to BRUC and 104 scholars credited with a degree or designated magister or dominus, whom Emden cannot with certainty assign to Oxford or Cambridge.

Scholars whose record is the result of the combination of two entries in Emden have been assigned the name given in the first of the two entries.

When the first known date is that of an academic position occupied, the following scale has been used

fellow of a college 4 years (except King's Hall and Godshouse where fellows on admission were undergraduates starting their university careers). This calculation is based on a survey of the college statutes available in print and on deductions from the most reliable secondary sources for colleges whose statutes remain available only in manuscript

scholar who was principal of a hostel or who rented a school  
7 years (he would normally be at least an M A )

Where no Cambridge dates are available, the scholar's generation has been calculated as if he had completed his studies just before taking up his first dated post. If absolutely necessary, the designations magister and dominus have been used to justify a countback of 7 and 4 years respectively

Prospective time allowances have been made in the case of scholars licensed to study at Cambridge. For instance, a licence granted in 1378 for a period of four years places the scholar in both the generations 1360-1379 and 1380-1399, even when there is no other evidence of his presence in Cambridge

Absolute precision has been impossible in this field. The general principle adopted has been to make the datecodes as inclusive as possible

#### KEYCODE

This field has been designed for technical purposes at the computer and need not be printed for users

#### FACULTY

There are separate categories for the following faculties and groups of faculties

Theology, Civil Law, Arts and Civil Law, Canon Law, Arts and Canon Law; Both Laws, Arts and Both Laws, Medicine, Music

Again with exhaustiveness in mind, both parts of any alternative have been included. A scholar licensed to study Theology or Canon Law is entered in the lists of both faculties. The Law faculties contain most of these complexities. A scholar is entered in the category for Both Laws if he studied both Laws to any level at Cambridge, if he is described as legista without further details or if he is only known as having studied "either Civil or Canon Law". In the case of Music only those known to have received a degree, and in Medicine to have studied in the faculty, have been included

#### ST

This field contains separate codes for those scholars described as Masters or Bachelors of Grammar, for Poets Laureate, and for scholars recorded as teaching or studying Mathematics, Geometry or Astronomy

## COLLEGE

The following colleges have been encoded

Buckingham, Christ's, Clare (= University Hall till 1346), Corpus Christi, Godshouse, Gonville, Jesus, King's, King's Hall (= King's Scholars till 1337), Michaelhouse, Pembroke, Peterhouse, Queen's, St Catharine's, St John's, Trinity Hall

Besides cases of certain membership, a scholar has been listed under a college if he was employed by the college. A scholar who rented a room from a college is included, but one who rented a school is not. Also included are college chaplains and co-feoffees of lands destined for the college.

## HOSTEL

A scholar is listed under a hostel if he was a member, the principal (external or internal), or taught in the hostel, or was the owner, or someone engaged in acquiring the hostel, or licensed to celebrate Mass in the hostel.

## SL

This is a separate field for scholars who rented schools.

## ORDER

There are separate codes for each of fourteen religious orders and for unidentified religious, monks, canons and friars. Within this field all heads of religious houses and orders are given an additional code (this category includes provincial heads of orders).

## ORIGIN

This field includes eight divisions covering the geographical origins and family backgrounds of scholars.

- i) country (other than England) the continental students have been classified under the modern name of their place of origin. Where no proof of foreign birth exists, scholars have sometimes been listed under the country indicated by their names. Thus "Paolo di Milano" has been entered as an Italian.
- ii) diocese this includes all the English and Welsh dioceses.
- iii) county this includes all the English and Welsh counties.
- iv) town, village, parish this category simply indicates that Emden has recorded such information. The place-names themselves have not been encoded except in the case of London.
- v) family relationship (by blood or marriage) this category simply indicates that Emden has recorded such information. The particular relationship has not been encoded.
- vi) father's occupation. this category simply indicates that Emden has recorded such information. The particular occupation has not been encoded.

- vii) study outside Cambridge a separate category to record any study outside Cambridge undertaken by a scholar. Scholars in this category include all those who, at any stage of their career, studied, lectured or engaged in administration at Oxford, any continental university, the Inns of Court or De Vaux College, Salisbury. Incorporation of a degree at Cambridge places a scholar in this category.
- viii) university unknown a category for scholars credited with a degree or designated magister or dominus whom Emden cannot with certainty assign to Oxford or Cambridge.

#### UNIV

This field contains six categories

- i) age at admission this category simply indicates that Emden has recorded or clearly implied such information. The particular age has not been encoded
- ii) fellow of a college
- iii) holy orders this category includes, besides those scholars ordained priest, all those in deacon's and minor orders, college and other chaplains, and scholars included in a roll for papal graces
- iv) commoner this category also includes semi-commoners
- v) pensioner
- vi) sizar

#### BOOK

A field containing three categories

- i) author. a scholar has been coded as an "author" if he wrote, or had plausibly attributed to him, any scholarly or literary work, even if it has not survived. This category also includes all correspondents, compilers, transcribers and translators, but excludes administrators such as bishops who kept registers of their official acts
  - ii) owner an "owner" is any scholar who owned, bought, borrowed, stole, was given or who claimed possession of a book, or who singly or jointly deposited a book as a pledge in a loan chest, or whose name appears in any part of a book.
  - iii) donor a "donor" is any scholar who gave, lent, sold or bequeathed a book to any person or institution, or who was instrumental in obtaining a book for a person or institution
- N B. Scholars who can be classified as both owners and donors are encoded only as donors

#### OFFICER

Within this field there are five categories.

- i) officer in a college or hostel other than head. this includes, for instance, bursars, treasurers, deans, collectors of rents, tutors, lecturers, college chaplains and conductors, and bible clerks

- ii) head of a hostel
- iii) head of a college
- iv) officer in the university this includes, for instance, any scholar who was chancellor, vice-chancellor, chancellor's commissary, proctor, keeper of a loan chest, auditor of university accounts, collector of university rents, university chaplain, taxor of lodgings and hostels, or any scholar who acted as a legal or diplomatic representative of the University. Signatories of University statutes are also included, as are bedels
- v) officer in the town this is a category for scholars who officiated in town matters, either in legal disputes or as members of royal commissions

#### LAW

This field includes four categories to accommodate scholars who followed legal careers, whether inside or outside the University

- i) officers in the chancellor's court apart from the chancellor himself, already coded in the university officer category, all those who officiated in the chancellor's court are included. Litigants, and witnesses to property transactions, are excluded from this category
- ii) miscellaneous legal officers this category accommodates all scholars who were legal officers. It includes scholars who officiated in any dispute outside Cambridge, who held legal posts in either secular or ecclesiastical courts (for example, examiners, proctors and auditors of causes) or who were appointed proctors-at-law by colleges.
- iii) notaries public
- iv) practice as a lawyer in any court. this category includes, for instance, J.P.s, justices of gaol delivery, bishops' and archdeacons' officials, bishops' chancellors and registrars, advocates in consistory and archidiaconal courts

#### ASSOC

In this field twelve categories cover a wide range of careers scholars might follow

- i) royal associate (excluding local government officer). in this category are included all scholars who had an association with a king or queen, English or foreign, either by blood or as a member of a royal household, holding offices such as those of king's clerk, chaplain or physician. The category also includes those who received royal gifts or favours, who were attached to St. George's Chapel, Windsor, or who were commissioned to write some work by royal command. Public offices also come under this heading any Chancellor of England, Master of the Rolls etc is included, as well as many lesser officers. The list also includes all diplomatic and mercantile envoys and ambassadors. Keepers of temporalities of bishoprics sede vacante and scholars who preached at court have also been included.
- ii) local government officer
- iii) episcopal associate: an episcopal associate is defined as any

scholar who was employed by a bishop, archbishop or cardinal as chancellor, official, commissary, registrar, vicar general, proctor general, assessor, chaplain, secretary, clerk, physician, or any scholar supported at Cambridge by a bishop. Advocates and proctors in the consistory court, witnesses to bishops' charters, executors and legatees of bishops have been included. Bishops themselves have been excluded from this category, unless they had previously been part of another bishop's familia

- iv) noble associate this category includes scholars associated by blood with a noble or distinguished family, and all scholars who associated themselves with such a family by personal or political alliance, or who were employed by such a family as chaplain, clerk, legal representative, or who were commissioned by them to write a work
- v) bishop this category includes suffragans
- vi) dean this category includes only deans of cathedrals
- vii) cathedral dignitary this category includes vicars choral (but excludes choristers), subdeans, prebendaries, treasurers and canons, archdeacons, whether or not they were canons or prebendaries, have been included
- viii) church living this includes scholars who held any ecclesiastical living (excluding those in previous categories) and includes, for instance, rectors, vicars, curates, parochial chaplains, chantry priests, members of hospitals, clergy of collegiate churches, those ordained to titles (other than college fellowships). Personal chaplains of nobles etc. and those merely licensed to preach or hear confessions in a diocese have been excluded
- ix) lay career this indicates a career (outside the University) with no recorded ecclesiastical element
- x) owner of property in Cambridge. this includes, as well as owners, co-tenants
- xi) member of parliament i.e. of the Commons.
- xii) papal officer this category includes any scholar who was associated with the papacy in any administrative capacity, papal clerks and chaplains to nuncios, envoys and various legal officers such as judges delegate, auditors of causes in the papal palace, collectors of crusading tenths have also been included

#### BEN

This field includes two categories

- i) college or hostel benefactors this includes scholars who were benefactors to colleges, hostels or halls at either Cambridge or Oxford
- ii) benefactors to other institutions this includes scholars who were benefactors to other institutions, including the universities, schools, chantries, churches etc. Benefactions might be in the form of money, books, land, plate etc

#### ADD

This last field has three categories:

- i) entries included by Emden in BRUC with serious reservations



- ii) manuscript addenda this identifies records encoded with reference to Emden's MS addenda to the printed Register. Some do not appear in the printed Register at all, and have been encoded entirely from the MS addenda, others are based on entries in the printed Register but also have codes derived from further information in the MS addenda.
- iii) a category for men credited with a degree or designated magister or dominus who cannot with certainty be assigned to Oxford or Cambridge. They are exclusively scholars listed by Emden under an entry as "to be distinguished from " that main entry. Where their names differ from those of the scholar in the main entry, the name of the latter is given in brackets.

November 1977

G D Duncan

Names of FIELDS in which information is arranged and CODES used in eachDATECODE

00 unknown date  
 2? 13th century  
 3? 14th century  
 4? 15th century  
 5? 16th century  
 20 1200-1219  
 22 1220-1239  
 24 1240-1259  
 26 1260-1279  
 28 1280-1299  
 30 1300-1319  
 32 1320-1339  
 34 1340-1359  
 36 1360-1379  
 38 1380-1399  
 40 1400-1419  
 42 1420-1439  
 44 1440-1459  
 46 1460-1479  
 48 1480-1499  
 50 1500-1519  
 52 1520-1539  
 54 1540-1559

FACULTY

CN Canon Law  
 AN Arts and Canon Law  
 CV Civil Law  
 AV Arts and Civil Law  
 UJ Both Laws  
 AJ Arts and Both Laws  
 TH Theology  
 MD Medicine  
 MU Music  
 FU Unspecified Higher Faculty

ST

GM Grammar Master  
 PY Poet Laureate  
 AY Astronomy  
 GA Geometry  
 MF Mathematics

COLLEGE

BC Buckingham  
 CA Clare  
 XP Christ's  
 CC Corpus Christi  
 GS Godshouse  
 GL Gonville  
 JS Jesus  
 KI King's College  
 KL King's Hall  
 MK Michaelhouse  
 PC Pembroke  
 PU Peterhouse  
 QU Queen's  
 CJ St Catharine's  
 JL St John's  
 TL Trinity Hall  
 UG Unspecified College

HOSTEL

(see attached list of codes for  
 hostels, p. 10)

SL

SL Renters of Schools

ORDER

AC Austin Canons  
 OA Austin Friars  
 OB Benedictines  
 BQ Bonshommes  
 OD Bridgettines  
 OC Carmelites  
 CS Carthusians  
 OT Cistercians  
 CL Cluniacs  
 OP Dominicans  
 OF Franciscans  
 GQ Gilbertines  
 HZ Humiliati  
 PM Premonstratensians  
 UK Unspecified Religious  
 UL Unspecified Canon  
 UF Unspecified Friar  
 UM Unspecified Monk  
 HO Heads of Religious Houses  
 or Orders

ORIGIN

EE Eastern Europe  
FR France  
GY Germany  
IR Ireland  
IT Italy  
MQ Mediterranean other than Italy  
LC Low Countries  
VA Scandinavia  
SC Scotland  
IB Spain and Portugal  
WA Wales  
UW Unspecified Foreign Country

(see attached list of codes for  
dioceses, p 11)

(see attached list of codes for  
counties, p 11)

TN Town or Village recorded  
LR London  
RB Family Relationship by Blood  
or Marriage recorded  
FO Father's Occupation recorded  
UU University unknown  
FS Study outside Cambridge

UNIV

AA Age at Admission recorded  
FC Fellow of a College  
PI Holy Orders  
OZ Commoner  
PF Pensioner  
ZS Sizar

BOOK

AU Author  
OW Owner  
OD Donor

OFFICER

OH Officer in a College or Hostel  
other than Head  
PD Head of a Hostel  
HF Head of a College  
OU Officer in the University  
OM Officer in the Town

LAW

XC Officer in the Chancellor's  
Court  
XM Miscellaneous Legal Officer  
NP Notary Public  
LW Practice as a Lawyer in any  
Court

ASSOC

RA Royal Associate (excluding  
local government officer)  
LG Local Government Officer  
EP Episcopal Associate  
NA Noble Associate  
BP Bishop  
DF Dean  
PB Cathedral Dignitary  
IN Church Living  
LY Lay Career  
OR Owner of Property in Cambridge  
MM Member of Parliament  
PP Papal Officer

BEN

AB College, Hostel or Hall  
Benefactor  
AI Benefactor to other Institution

ADD

AQ Entries included by Emden  
with serious reservations  
AD New entries or entries inc-  
orporating new material from  
Emden's MS addenda to BRUC  
AO A person listed by Emden under  
an entry as "to be distinguished  
from " that entry

## HOSTELS

AE	Archdeacon's Hostel
EH	Archdeacon of Ely's Hostel
AG	St Augustine's Hostel
AR	Ayera's Hostel
BR	St Bernard's Hostel
BG	Brazen George Hostel
BN	Borden's Hostel
CM	St Clement's Hostel
CO	Coped Hall
CK	Crouched Hall
XR	St. Cross's Hostel
ED	St Edmund's Hostel
GR	Garrett Hostel
YG	St George's Hostel
GP	Great Hostel
GE	St Gregory's Hostel
HA	Harleston's Hostel
HU	St Hugh's Hostel
JO	St John's Hospital
MG	St Margaret's Hostel
MR	St Mary's Hostel
NK	Newmarket Hostel
NC	St. Nicholas's Hostel
PA	St. Paul's Hostel
PN	St. Paul's Inn
PH	Physwick Hostel
TO	St Thomas's Hostel
TR	Trinity Hostel
WM	St. William's Hostel
UD	Unspecified Hostel

DIOCESES

XA St Asaph's  
XB Bangor  
XW Bath and Wells  
CE Canterbury  
CF Carlisle  
CG Chichester  
XD St David's  
DQ Durham  
EY Ely  
ET Exeter  
XH Hereford  
LE Lichfield and Coventry  
XL Lincoln  
\* LF Llandaff  
LO London  
NR Norwich  
RC Rochester  
SY Salisbury  
\* XS Sodor and Man  
WN Winchester  
WR Worcester  
YK York

COUNTIES

\* WD Anglesey  
FB Bedfordshire  
EB Berkshire  
\* WF Brecknockshire  
UB Buckinghamshire  
\* WQ Caernarvonshire  
GC Cambridgeshire  
\* WG Cardiganshire  
\* WJ Carmarthenshire  
IC Cheshire  
CW Cornwall  
UC Cumberland  
\* WV Denbighshire  
DY Derbyshire  
DV Devonshire  
DW Dorset  
DZ Durham  
EZ Essex  
\* WW Flintshire  
\* WX Glamorgan  
GT Gloucestershire  
HP Hampshire  
HS Herefordshire  
HK Hertfordshire  
HN Huntingdonshire  
KE Kent  
LK Lancashire  
LT Leicestershire  
LQ Lincolnshire  
\* ZB Merionethshire  
MX Middlesex  
\* ZO Monmouthshire  
ZC Montgomeryshire  
NF Norfolk  
NM Northamptonshire  
NU Northumberland  
NT Nottinghamshire  
OX Oxfordshire  
\* ZP Pembrokeshire  
\* ZR Radnorshire  
RU Rutland  
- SG Shropshire  
SJ Somerset  
SV Staffordshire  
SF Suffolk  
RS Surrey  
US Sussex  
WK Warwickshire  
WE Westmorland  
WT Wiltshire  
WH Worcestershire  
YO Yorkshire

N.B. By no means all of the above codes have been used in the computerization.

An asterisk indicates that a diocese or county does not appear in Emden's record.