'Select Bibliography: The Manuscript Letter in Early Modern England'

James Daybell and Andrew Gordon

The following bibliography maps resources available for study of the early modern correspondence concentrating on the manuscript letter. Although substantial it is not comprehensive and should be used in conjunction with the further bibliographies listed under 5a.

1. **General Studies**
2. **Material Features and Technologies of the Letter**
   a. Material and Physical Characteristics
   b. Tools, Technologies and Stuff of Letter Writing
   c. Handwriting and Palaeography
   d. Postal Conditions
3. **Letter Writing Genres and Practices**
   a. Composition and Authorship
   b. Secretaries and Scribes
   c. Epistolary Manuals and Model Letters
   d. Secret Letters
   e. Newsletters
   f. Anonymous Letters and Libels
   g. Linguistic Approaches to the Letter
4. **Afterlives of the Letter**
   a. Letter Books
   b. Copies, Circulation and the Re-Reading of Letters
   c. Archives
5. **Further Resources**
   a. Other Bibliographies
   b. Unpublished Theses
   c. Select Editions
   d. Online Resources
      i. Digital Editions, Letter Projects and Research Initiatives
      ii. Library catalogues
      iii. Other Archival Gateways
      iv. Online Finding Aids and Publications
      v. Digital Collections

1. GENERAL STUDIES

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Daybell, James, 'Women's Letters and Letter-writing in England, 1540-1603' (PhD, University of Reading, 2000).

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Evans, Mel, 'Aspects of the Idiolect of Queen Elizabeth I: A Diachronic Study on Sociolinguistic Principles' (PhD, University of Sheffield, 2011).

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Mair, Katy, 'Anne, Lady Bacon: A Life in Letters' (PhD, Queen Mary, University of London, 2009).

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Petti, A.G., 'A study of the life and writings of Richard Verstegan' (MA dissertation, University of London, 1957).

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Starza Smith, Daniel, 'John Donne and the Conway Papers: A Biographical and Bibliographical Study of Poetry and Patronage in the Seventeenth Century' (PhD, University College London, 2011).

Swann, Joel, 'A study of the copying, dissemination and collection of manuscript texts in the early seventeenth century, with special reference to Chetham's Library MS A.4.15', (PhD, Keele University, 2011).

Vaughan, Jacqueline D., 'Secretaries, Statesmen and Spies: The Clerks of the Tudor Privy Council, c.1540-c.1603', (DPhil, University of St Andrews, 2006)

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c. Select Editions

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DuGard, Lydia, Cousins in Love: The Letters of Lydia DuGard, 1665-1672, ed. Nancy Taylor (Tempe, AZ: Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, 2003).

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Hobbes, Thomas, The Correspondence of Thomas Hobbes ed. Noel Malcolm, 2 volumes (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994).

Holles, John, Letters of John Holles, 1587-1637 ed. P.R. Seddon, 3 volumes (Thoroton Society Record Series, 31, 35, 36, 1975-1986).

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Pole, Reginald, The Correspondence of Reginald Pole ed. Thomas F. Mayer, 4 volumes (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2002-2008).

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Sidney, Mary, The Collected Works of Mary Sidney Herbert, Countess of Pembroke, ed. Margaret P. Hannay, Noel J. Kinnamon, and Michael G. Brennan, 2 volumes (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998).

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Spenser, Edmund, Selected Letters and Other Papers ed. Christopher Burlinson and Andrew Zurcher (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009).

Stuart, Arbella, The Letters of Lady Arbella Stuart ed. Sara Jayne Steen (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994).

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Ungerer, G., A Spaniard in Elizabethan England: The Correspondence of Antonio Pérez's Exile, 2 volumes (London: Tamesis Books, 1974).

d. Online Resources
Resources listed below are open access unless otherwise indicated.

i) Digital Editions, Letter Projects and Research Initiatives

Adams, Robyn, digital edition, 'The Letters of William Herle Project'
http://www.livesandletters.ac.uk/herle/index.html

Centre of Editing Lives and Letters, http://www.livesandletters.ac.uk/.

Corpora of Early English Correspondence,
http://www.helsinki.fi/varieng/CoRD/corpora/CEEC/index.html

University of Oxford, 'Cultures of Knowledge: An Intellectual Geography of the Seventeenth-Century Republic of Letters', http://cofk.history.ox.ac.uk/.

 'Diplomatic Correspondence of Thomas Bodley, 1585–1597',
http://www.livesandletters.ac.uk/bodley/bodley.html.

Early Modern Letters Online, http://emlo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/.

The Electronic Enlightenment (subscription necessary), http://www.e-enlightenment.com/info/about/letters/.

Folger Shakespeare Library, 'Folger Digital Image Collection', http://luna.folger.edu/luna/servlet/FOLGERCM1~6~6.

'Francis Bacon Correspondence Project: An Inventory of his Correspondence', http://www.livesandletters.ac.uk/bacon/baconindex.html.

The Parsed Corpus of Early English Correspondence (access by application), http://www-users.york.ac.uk/~lang22/PCEEC-manual/corpus_description/contents.htm

Scriptorium: Medieval and Early Modern Manuscripts Online, http://scriptorium.english.cam.ac.uk/

'Spenser Letters', http://www.english.cam.ac.uk/ceres/haphazard/letters/lettersindex.html.

'The Thomas L. Gravell Watermark Archive', http://www.gravell.org/index.php?&&offset=&rectotal=4&query=

The Warburg Institute, 'Some Sources for Early Modern Letters', http://warburg.sas.ac.uk/research/projects/scaliger/sources-for-early-modern-letters/.

Wiggins, A., with Bryson, A., Smith, D., Timmermann, A. and Williams, G., eds. Bess of Hardwick's Letters: The Complete Correspondence, c.1550-1608 [On-line resource]. (forthcoming) www.bessofhardwick.org

ii) Library Catalogues

Beinecke Library, Yale, Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts, http://brbl-net.library.yale.edu/pre1600ms/

Bodleian Library Western Manuscripts, http://www.bodley.ox.ac.uk/dept/scwmss/wmss/online/online.htm

British Library Manuscript Catalogue, http://searcharchives.bl.uk/primo_library/libweb/action/search.do;jsessionid=C8A60B5EBBA1944A35F5E83472D0C85E?dscnt=1&dstmp=1353081674033&vid=IAMS_VU2&fromLogin=true

Cambridge University Library, http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/

College of Arms, http://www.college-of-arms.gov.uk/

Folger Shakespeare Library Finding Aids, http://findingaids.folger.edu/index.php

Harry Ransom Centre, The University of Texas at Austin, http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/

Houghton Library, Harvard University, http://hcl.harvard.edu/libraries/houghton/

Huntington Library, San Marino, California, http://www.huntington.org/

The Inner Temple Library, http://www.innertemplelibrary.org.uk/

Newberry Library, http://www.newberry.org/

Lambeth Palace Library, http://www.lambethpalacelibrary.org/

National Library of Scotland Manuscripts, http://www.nls.uk/collections/manuscripts/index

National Library of Wales, http://cat.llgc.org.uk/cgi-bin/gw/chameleon?&skin=full&lng=en
.
Society of Antiquaries, http://www.sal.org.uk/library/

Trinity College, Dublin, http://www.tcd.ie/Library/

William Andrews Clark Memorial Library, UCLA, http://www.clarklibrary.ucla.edu/

Dr Williams Library, http://www.dwlib.co.uk/dwlib/

iii) Other Archival Gateways

A2A, Access to Archives, http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/

AIM25 http://www.aim25.ac.uk/

Archives Hub http://www.archiveshub.ac.uk/

The National Register of Archives, http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/nra/default.asp

iv) Online Finding Aids and Publications

British History Online, Guides and Calendars (large amount of free content but premium subscription options)
http://www.british-history.ac.uk/catalogue.aspx?type=3

Guide to Record Societies and their Publications (Mullins, Texts and Calendars)
http://www.royalhistoricalsociety.org/textandcalendars.php

The Historical Manuscripts Commission,
http://www.royalhistoricalsociety.org/ histmanscommission.pdf

List and Index Society Publications, http://www.listandindexsociety.org.uk/

Maule, Jeremy and Andrew Zurcher, 'Routes Towards Early Modern Literary Manuscripts: Prolegomenon towards the first draft of an elementary elucidarium',
http://scriptorium.english.cam.ac.uk/handwriting/bibliography/prolegomenon.php

v) Digital Collections

Cecil Papers Online (subscription required), http://cecilpapers.chadwyck.com/marketing.do

University of Hull State Papers Project, http://www.sp12.hull.ac.uk/

State Papers Online (subscription required), http://gale.cengage.co.uk/state-papers-online-15091714.aspx