

The acquisition of the early Greek New Testament palimpsest 'Codex Zacynthius'

Cambridge University Library purchased one of the world's most important biblical manuscripts – the seventh-century Codex Zacynthius. Such early manuscripts are extremely sought after as invaluable witnesses to the development of the text of the New Testament. The surface of the parchment was first used at the end of the 7th century when it was inscribed in Greek with the text of Luke 1:1-11:33. In the 13th century, this was partially scraped away and written over with the text of an Evangelarium, a book composed of passages from the Four Gospels.

Image



Codex Zacynthius

Region

East of England

Grant awarded

£500,000

Year awarded

2014

Related News

Uncovering the text of the New Testament

A £1.1m campaign by Cambridge University Library to secure one of the most important New Testament manuscripts – the seventh-century Codex Zacynthius – has been a success.

Cambridge University Library reached their appeal target after the National Heritage Memorial Fund recognised the importance of the Codex Zacynthius and stepped in with a grant of £500,000.