

Gregory-Aland Lect 1957
(a.k.a. Dublin, Ireland, Chester Beatty Library, W 138)

***Kurzgefasste Liste* description:**

GA Number: *Lect* 1957
Contents: U-lesk†
Date: X
Material: parchment
Leaves: 200
Columns: 2
Lines per page: 22
Dimensions: 34.3 x 26.7 cm
Shelf Number: CBL W 138

Corrections to K-Liste description: dimensions, date (?)

***CSNTM* description:**

GA Number: *Lect* 1957
Contents: U-lesk†
Date: X/XI¹
Material: parchment
Columns: 2
Lines per page: 22
Shelf Number: CBL W 138²
Dimensions: 26.7 x 34.6–35 x 5.2 cm (W, H, D)

Leaves: 200 (400 pages) + additional matter (18 images) + cover & color chart (7) = 425 total images

Cover & Color Chart: 7

Additional Matter:

Front: front inside cover + 4 paper leaves (unnumbered) = 9 images

Back: 4 paper leaves (unnumbered) + back inside cover = 9 images

Quires:³ 1.1–8,⁴ (δ) 2.9–16, (ε) 3.17–24, (ς) 4.25–32⁵, (ζ) 5.33–40, (η) 6.41–48, (θ) 7.49–56, 8.57–63,⁶ (ι α) 9.64–71, (ι β) 10.72–79, (ι γ) 11.80–84, (ι δ) 12.85–90, (ι ϵ)

¹ So says the inside of the front cover. Originally dated to the 9th century, it was later determined to be 10th/11th. This seems to be a better judgment than INTF's X.

² Inside front leaf: "W. 136" is crossed out and "W 138" is written in pencil.

³ The quires are normally marked on the first leaf recto. Italics indicate that there are more or less than 8 leaves per quire.

⁴ This is quire γ , which means that the first two quires are no longer extant.

13.91–98, (ις) 14.99–105, (ιζ) 15.106–111, (η) 16.112–119, (ιθ) 17.120–127, (κ) 18.128–135, (κα) 19.136–143, (—) 20.144–148, (—) 21.149–155, (κδ) 22.156–163, (κε) 23.164–171, (κς) 24.172–177, (κζ) 26.178–185, ([κη]) 27.186–193, (κθ) 28.194–200.

Text: 400

Notable features:

Loose paper, c. 8.5 x 11 cm, inside codex, with typing in purple ink (presumably from a mimeograph):

“Greek Lectionary: a Church Service Book containing readings from the New Testament. Late 9th Century.⁷ Fine late uncials with beautiful initial letters.

Property of I. E. Gejou, Paris, France.
Price \$2000.”

Beautiful Slavic uncial hand.

Ornate initial letter of the ekthesis, indicating the incipit for each new lection.

Purple ink, ‘modern hand,’ written at top of every recto. Seems to indicate the ownership. Also often initials on three other edges, marring the beauty of the work.

MS has a crooked binding on bottom

Ornamentation on several leaves has been cut out, marring the work.

Rectos numbered in purple ink and pencil. Pencil is later and correct.

6: ripped and seemingly repaired about half way down on the inside margin.

7a: overhanging piece of parchment shows up in the image.

56b: end of a quire: just six lines of text in the first column, then the rest of the page is blank. It seems that the reason is that the next item was supposed to be an icon or some ornate incipit. The next leaf is not numbered, suggesting that the quire was carved up. Also, the text on this page is written in a different hand.

63b: first 8 lines same hand as on 56b.

82a: same hand as 56b, 63b.

136b: nice illustration of scribe putting egg white on ekthesis letter both to preserve it and give it some shine.

144a, 151b, 180b: same hand as 56b, 63b, 82a.

145b: blank. Again, the reason seems to be that an icon was on the facing page, but someone cut it out along with a couple of leaves. Short quire.

184ab, 185b–186a, etc.: third hand?

189 and 190: detached from the binding.

⁵ Leaf 25, beginning of the quire, has a stylized stigma in the upper right corner to indicate the new quire. It looks just like an S.

⁶ Short quire because initial leaf was cut out almost surely because it was heavily ornamented. The last leaf of the previous quire was largely blank.

⁷ “Late 9th” is crossed out in pencil and “10th–11th” is written in the margin.

22 July 2013: dbw
photographed: rpc & jwp