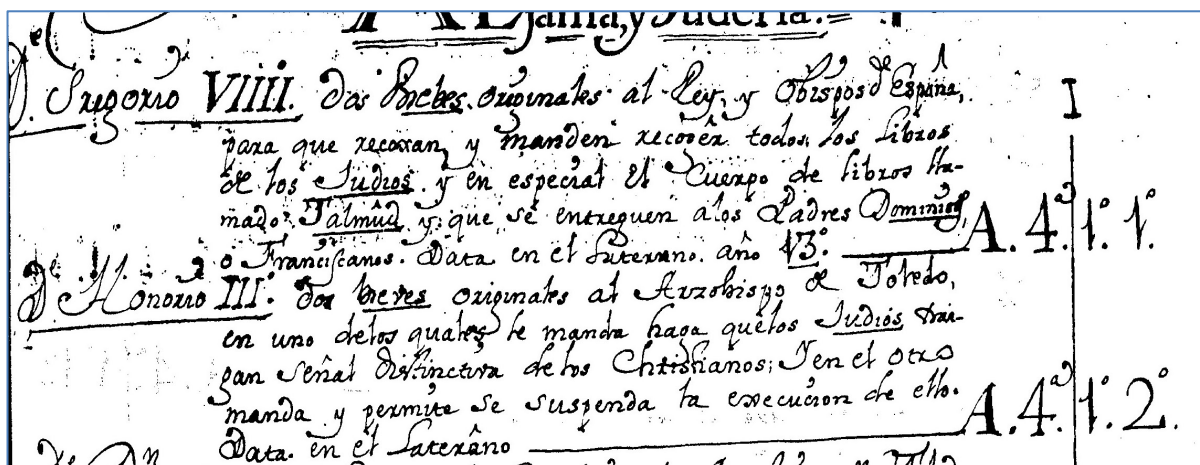


Deciphering Secrets Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)



18th-19th Century Spanish Paleography Manual V2.0

Archivo y Biblioteca de la Catedral de Toledo (Spain). Archivo Secreto. Indice.
Obras y Fabricas. Folio A41.

Dr. Roger L. Martínez-Dávila
University of Colorado
Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

26 May 2018



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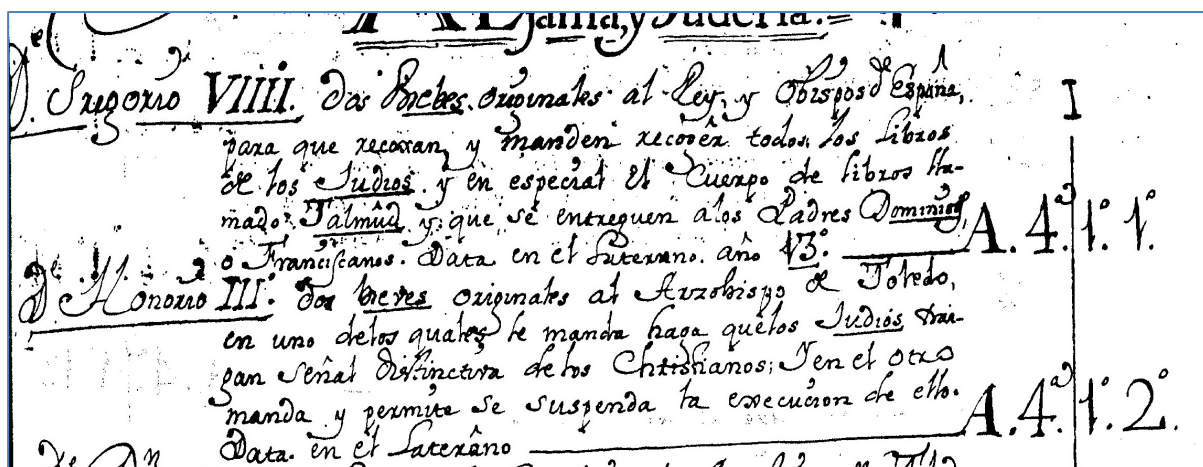
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Introductory Paleography: A Script from the 18th-19th Century

What is Paleography?



Source: Archivo y Biblioteca de la Catedral de Toledo. Used with permission.

Merriam-Webster dictionary offers two useful definitions of the term, "[paleography](#)". The two definitions of this noun are:

- the study of ancient writings and inscriptions and
- an ancient manner of writing; ancient writings.

We can then appreciate that the term is both (1) the academic investigation of older forms of handwriting as well as (2) the actual handwriting itself. For our purposes, we will use the term "paleography" to describe the process of interpreting and recognizing letters and numbers in our primary sources (the manuscripts).

As a historian of medieval Europe, my approach to paleography is one focused on pragmatic use of techniques to read text. While I appreciate the beauty and details of the calligraphy, in general, I view paleography as a tool.

The selection we are presenting is from the Archive and Library of the Cathedral of Toledo. This particular item that we will use to learn introductory paleography is from the "Obra y Fabricas" collection. Specifically, it is an index of documents that are contained in the archive that pertain to the maintenance and care of the Cathedral of Toledo.

Indexes and catalogues are the treasure maps of archives. Without these early efforts to catalogue and create abstracts of documents, it would be virtually impossible for historians to do their work. In many cases, these catalogues are only available as handwritten documents and therefore it is immeasurably helpful to generate electronic copies of them.

Let's get started. Your efforts to learn this 18th-19th century handwriting will be very helpful to our efforts to understand the history of Jewish, Christian, and Muslim interrelations in Toledo.

The first page of the "Obras y Fabricas" section we will study pertains to those properties owned by the Cathedral of Toledo that were used to generate income for maintenance of the physical plant (the buildings) that the church needed to care for and keep in good order. Below is version of the entire document from Folio A41. The section we will study pertains to real estate owned in the Muslim quarter (aljama) and Jewish quarter (juderia).






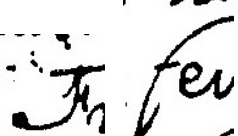
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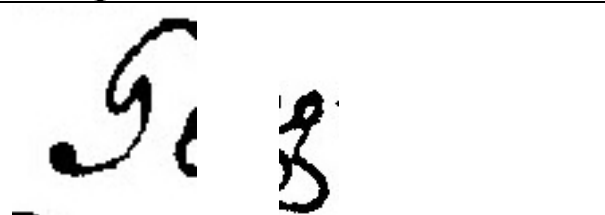
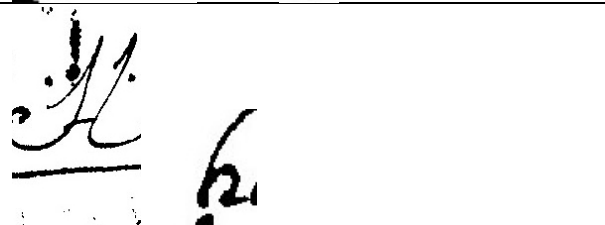
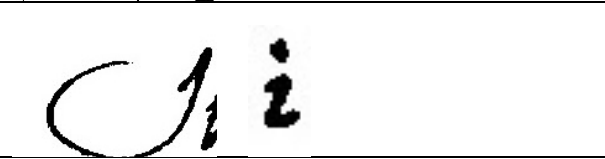
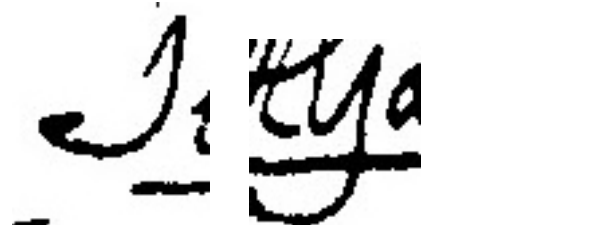


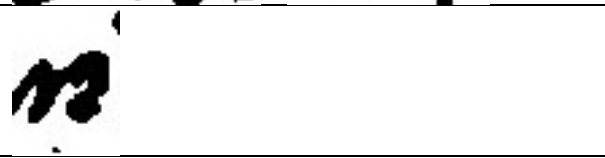


Aljamay Juderia. = +




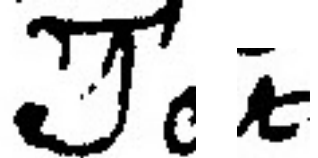


- I. Sugorno VIII.** Dos breves originales al Rey y Obispos de España, para que recojan y manden recoger todos los libros de los Judios, y en especial el cuerpo de libros llamado Talmud, y que se entreguen a los Padres Dominicos, o Franciscanos. Data en el Laterano. año 13. A.4.1.1.
- II. Honorio III.** Dos breves originales al Arzobispo de Toledo, en uno de los quales le manda pagar quentos Judios tan gan señal distintiva de los Christianos; y en el otro manda y permite se suspenda la execucion de ello. Data en el Laterano A.4.1.2.
- III. Don Sancho el Bravo** los Privilegios al Arzobispo de Toledo, para que los que cobrasen el feudo de los Judios para su Alcazabad, no se entremetiesen con los Judios del Arzobispo. D. del uno en Sogetran Era d. 1323. y del otro en Toledo. Era d. 1329. A.4.1.3.
- IV. Don Fernando IV.** o Emplazado, en Privilegio Confirmatorio de los dos Privilegios arriba dichos. Data sobre Echezia. Era d. 1347. A.4.1.4.
- Item.** un mandato del Rey a los Judios de sus Aljamas para que admitan por Lab de toda la Comarca la Lab. Kaym el Levi, Medico del Arzobispo D. Pedro Benorio. B. año d. 1389. A.4.1.5.
- V. Don Gonzalo Ruiz** un mandamiento para quentos Chirijos pagasen unas deudas a los Judios. B. en Toledo. Era d. 1350. A.4.1.6.
- VI. Don Pedro Benorio** una provision a todos eses Judios para que admitiesen por Juez a su Medico Lab Kahym. B. en Xepes. año d. 1388. A.4.1.7.
- Item.** una Excomunion contra Moym de Moym Judio, para que pagase ciertos mrs. B. en Toledo. año d. 1377. A.4.1.8.
- VII. Don Pedro Benorio** un nombramiento en que haze Juez de sus Aljamas, a su Medico Lab. Kahym. B. en Alcalá. año d. 1390. A.4.1.9.
- VIII. Don Fernando IV.** una Provision para que unos Judios paguen cierta cantidad debida al obispo de Cuenca. B. en S. Marina. año d. 1342. A.4.1.10.
- Item.** un Pergamino con sello d. Cera, en que está una Don tenra del Vicario General para que los Judios de Toledo paguen al Cabildo y Convento d. S. Vigilia el tributo de Amaguanas, de las reses que mataban no en esta Carneria sino tambien en sus Casas. año d. 1385. A.4.1.11.

18th Century Letters (Consonants and Vowels)

Let us now familiarize ourselves with the alphabet. Please review this sample of letters so that you can begin to learn some of the peculiarities of the script. Often, lowercase letters are used the most often, as opposed to uppercase letters. We will concentrate on lowercase letters at this time, but show you some of the uppercase letters.

Letter	Sample
A a	
B b	
C c	
D d	
E e	
F f	

Letter	Sample
G g	 Handwritten sample of the letter G g in 18th-century script. The uppercase G is a large, flowing letter with a long, curved tail that loops back. The lowercase g is a smaller, similar letter with a long, curved tail.
H h	 Handwritten sample of the letter H h in 18th-century script. The uppercase H is a large, flowing letter with a long, curved tail. The lowercase h is a smaller, similar letter with a long, curved tail.
I i	 Handwritten sample of the letter I i in 18th-century script. The uppercase I is a large, flowing letter with a long, curved tail. The lowercase i is a smaller, similar letter with a long, curved tail.
J j	 Handwritten sample of the letter J j in 18th-century script. The uppercase J is a large, flowing letter with a long, curved tail. The lowercase j is a smaller, similar letter with a long, curved tail.
k	No sample
L l	 Handwritten sample of the letter L l in 18th-century script. The uppercase L is a large, flowing letter with a long, curved tail. The lowercase l is a smaller, similar letter with a long, curved tail.
M m	 Handwritten sample of the letter M m in 18th-century script. The uppercase M is a large, flowing letter with a long, curved tail. The lowercase m is a smaller, similar letter with a long, curved tail.
n	 Handwritten sample of the letter n in 18th-century script. The lowercase n is a small, flowing letter with a long, curved tail.
o	 Handwritten sample of the letter o in 18th-century script. The lowercase o is a small, flowing letter with a long, curved tail.
P p	 Handwritten sample of the letter P p in 18th-century script. The uppercase P is a large, flowing letter with a long, curved tail. The lowercase p is a smaller, similar letter with a long, curved tail.

Letter	Sample
q	
R r	
S s	
T t	
U u	
v	No sample
w	No sample
x	No sample
y	
z	