

JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

JC:P212 TWO INCOMPLETE LATIN POEMS, EARLY 18th CENTURY

No accompanying documentation explains how these two fragmentary poems came to Jesus College. They were found in the Library, where they had been assigned the reference MS 363, and was transferred to the archives in in September 2018 as part of Accession No. 507.

Catalogued in November 2019.

JC:P212/MS1/1

n.d. (1710s?)

Two sheets of paper, numbered 11/12 and 13/14, both containing Latin verse, written in hexameters. Page 13 begins with a title “Aedes Blenheimiana”, and the poem (which breaks off at the bottom of page 14) is an enthusiastic description of the grounds and buildings of Blenheim Palace. Pages 11-12 appear to be the end of a different poem which seems to be about a campaign in the War of the Spanish Succession.

There is nothing to indicate the identity of the poet, nor to explain what happened to the rest of the manuscript, but the subject matter suggests that the poems were written in the 1710s or so, and this manuscript, if it is not the original autograph, dates from that time.