

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

**JC:PRI9**

PAPERS OF DAVID HUGHES (PRINCIPAL 1802-17)

David Hughes, the son of John of Llanrwst, Denbighshire, matriculated from Jesus College on 7 April 1770 aged 16, and spent the rest of his life as a member of the College. He was elected a Fellow in 1774, and then Principal in 1802. He was also rector of Llandoget, Denbighshire, from 1783-9, Yelford, Oxfordshire, from 1789-1806, and rector of Besselsleigh, Berkshire, from 1783 until his death (information from the *Clergy of the Church of England* database). Within the University, he served as a University Examiner from Easter Term 1810 until Easter Term 1811.

His end was a tragic one: on 23 December 1816 Hughes married Almeria Vaughan, the sister of the then Warden of Merton, but just a few weeks later he travelled up to London, and on 7 March 1817 in a favourite coffee house shot himself.

Most of the following documents were found in the archives in 1993. **JC:PRI9/A1/1**, however, had been stored in the Fellows' Library (it is not known when it was transferred there) and assigned the reference MS 327, but was transferred to the archives in April 2021 as Accession No. 667.

Catalogued in August 2021.

### **JC:PRI9/A1 – LIBRARY CATALOGUE**

**JC:PRI9/A1/1**

**1808**

Volume (unpaginated) titled on the front cover "Catalogue of the Library of the Principal of Jes: Coll:" It is dated to 1808 on the title page. The catalogue is given in two parts: the first part lists the books alphabetically by author, with shelf marks provided for each book, and the second part lists then by shelfmark. At the end of the volume is a list of books in the "Dressing Room", and a list of "Odd Books".

### **JC:PRI9/MS1 – NOTEBOOK USED FOR VARIOUS PURPOSES**

**JC:PRI9/MS1/1**

**1785-1819**

Notebook, first used for exercises from 1785 by the undergraduate Owen Tudor Brigstocke (matr. 1785; Fellow 1789-1808). Brigstocke has written on the cover (which bears the stains of many a wine glass) "Tudor Brigstocke / compendium / 1785." In it, he wrote down on the verso pages a series of Latin catechisms, taught in 29 lessons, on the history of the Christian faith, starting with the creation of the world, and ending with the early persecution of the Christians. The handwriting starts off very tidily, and steadily deteriorates as the book progresses.

At some point, the book came into Hughes's hands. He then wrote on the recto sides of the pages an account of his relations with the family of Thomas Wynn, 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Newborough. Newborough died in 1807, leaving two very young sons, and Hughes was asked to be their guardian. Since Newborough was himself Welsh, this may explain his choosing a Fellow of Jesus College to look after his children (both of whom went to Christ Church). Hughes writes here about how in about 1812 he found himself in dispute with another guardian about the education of the sons.

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At around this time, Hughes inverted the book, wrote "Memoranda 1812-" on the back cover. In these pages he wrote some very rough memoranda about College expenditures from 1812, but also set down the business of one College meeting from 1813. Finally, the book came into the hands of Henry Foulkes, Hughes's successor as Principal, and Foulkes used it to write down brief accounts of the business of College Meetings from 1818-19.

### JC:PRI9/CI – CORRESPONDENCE AND PAPERS

These papers were found together during cataloguing. Their earlier provenance within the archives is unknown, but it was decided to keep them where they were found.

#### JC:PRI9/CI/1

**15 Feb 1783**

Letter from David Hughes to an unnamed correspondent. Hughes encloses a transcription of the memorial inscription in St. Michael's Church, Oxford to Anne, wife of Griffith Lloyd (Principal 1572-86), and her daughter Jane, who died in 1615 and 1596 respectively. He asks his correspondent if he can in turn transcribe the inscription on Lloyd's own monument in St. Benet's, Paul's Wharf, London, where he was buried.

#### JC:PRI9/CI/2

**n.d. (late 18<sup>th</sup> cent.)**

Four sheets of papers, written in various hands, some at least of them Hughes's, with scrappy notes on Griffith Lloyd and other early Principals of Jesus.

#### JC:PRI9/CI/3-4

**7 Sep 1803 and 13 May 1804**

Two letters from David Hughes (address, Jesus College) to Edward Clark (address, Lincolns Inn, London). They discuss issues with Mrs. Comyn, the tenant of one of the properties owned jointly by Jesus, Pembroke and Jesus to finance the Channel Islands Fellowships. These were lands at Medmenham, Berks., and Led Lane, London, and it is not clear where Mrs. Comyn was living. Clark was evidently acting for the College.

#### JC:PRI9/CI/5

**25 Jun 1804**

Letter from David Hughes (address, Jesus College) to Edward Clark (address, Lincolns Inn, London), about troubles with a College tenant called Green.

#### JC:PRI9/CI/6

**10 Nov 1806**

Memorandum of an agreement between Jesus College and Thomas Simmonds on an unspecified property.

#### JC:PRI9/CI/7

**18 Apr 1809**

Letter from Edward Clark (address, Lombard Street) to David Hughes, concerning a request from Mr. Johnson, a College tenant, to have his lease renewed.

#### JC:PRI9/CI/8

**23 Jul 1809**

Letter from J. Weston (address, Brackley) to David Hughes, concerning some unspecified financial transactions between him, his father, and Hughes.

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**JC:PRI9/CI/9**

**19 Jul 1813**

Letter from Robert Hughes (address, Cheltenham) to David Hughes. Hughes reports on a visit by Dr. Browne, Master of Christ's College, Cambridge, to Badgeworth to inspect land owned by Jesus College there. Browne had asked to have some trees cut down there, and Hughes seeks the Principal's advice on what to do.

**JC:PRI9/CI/10**

**“Sunday morning”**

Letter (possibly draft) from David Hughes to an unnamed addressee, discussing licences (of alienation?) on unidentified properties.

**JC:PRI9/CI/11**

**n.d. (1812/13?)**

Memorandum in Hughes's hand about the Rectory of Llandysul. A local farmer, Thomas Evan, has been creating difficulties about paying extra tithes after he has improved some of his land.

**JC:PRI9/CI/12**

**4 Aug 1815**

Letter from David Lloyd (address, Alltyr Odin) to David Hughes. This relates once again to the dispute between the College and Thomas Evan about whether he should pay tithes on land in the parish of Llandysul which he has reclaimed. A lawsuit is in the offing, but Evan may be willing to come to an agreement first.

**JC:PRI9/CI/13**

**22 Jan 1816**

Letter from David Lloyd (address, Alltyr Odin) to David Hughes, once again about Thomas Evan. Lloyd hopes that all potential lawsuits over tithes may be dropped, and thanks Hughes for his proposal to contribute towards a charity school in the area.

**JC:PRI9/CI/14**

**5 May 1816**

Letter from David Lloyd (address, Alltyr Odin) to David Hughes. Once again Lloyd informs Hughes about disputes between his tenants, not least concerning tithes, but also attempts to answer Hughes's questions about the origins of the name of his house.

**JC:PRI9/CI/15**

**11 Nov 1816**

Letter from David Lloyd (address, Alltyr Odin) to David Hughes. Lloyd discusses the litigiousness of some of his tenants, and his hopes that they will call upon Hughes in Oxford. He also discusses his son's education.  
This letter was found torn in half.