

John Wesley's Reading: Evidence in the Kingswood School Archives

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In the previous issue I detailed the list of books in the Kingswood School library recorded by Cornelius Bayley around 1775, and noted that Wesley helped procure most of these books. Indeed, Wesley appears to have donated much of his personal library to Kingswood. How do we know this? Because of Wesley's signature on the flyleaf, or other markings in his hand, in many of the books that remain today in the Kingswood School archives from that initial collection.¹

It is a matter of great regret that only about one third of the books on Bayley's list remain at Kingswood (now in the Wesley Centre archives). There is a tradition that two cartloads of books were lost during the move of the school from Bristol to Bath in 1851. Whether this is true or not, it is significant that at Bath the books were placed in an open reading room and remained there until at least 1936. This means they were quite accessible to visitors through the celebration of the centennial of Wesley's death in 1891 and the bicentennial of his birth in 1903. These anniversaries created great interest in collecting Wesley memorabilia, and the Kingswood collection felt the impact. Several of the books that remain have the corner of the fly leaf where Wesley's signature likely was present cut or torn off. And there is little doubt that other signed volumes simply disappeared. In 1937—likely as he was preparing for the upcoming bicentennial of Aldersgate—W. G. Ingram, the librarian at Kingswood, sensed the magnitude of this loss. He published two letters in the *Times Literary Supplement* pleading for anyone with knowledge of the missing volumes to assist in their return.² There is little evidence that Ingram's plea yielded fruit, but the remaining books were apparently placed in a more secure area. Their security was further upgraded in 1988 with the creation of the Wesley Centre at Kingswood.

As should be expected, a number of the books now in the archives of the Wesley Centre are early editions of Wesley's own publications. Frank Baker provides reference to these in his catalogue of extant copies of Wesley's works.³ The following list will be limited to books present in the collection by writers other than Wesley, with a particular interest in evidence that Wesley was personally aware of the book. I begin with those titles present

¹I would acknowledge again my debt to David Brown, Director of the Wesley Centre at Kingswood School, for providing me an initial list of holdings in the Centre and then hosting my visit to peruse the collection, in order to determine which books might be traced back to Wesley. Mr. Brown and Gary Best, current Head Master of Kingswood, also provided some of the background on the collection summarized in the following paragraph.

²See *Times Literary Supplement* (14 August 1937): 592; (18 September 1937): 675.

³Cf. Frank Baker, *A Union Catalogue of the Publications of John and Charles Wesley*, 2nd edition (Stone Mountain, GA: George Zimmermann, 1991).

that were contained in Bayley's 1775 catalogue. Since the publication of this catalogue in the previous issue marked (with an asterisk) every volume still present, I include below only those volumes by other writers with contain some evidence of direct connection to Wesley (almost *two-thirds* of the relevant titles!). Next I list other volumes in the collection, not on Bayley's list, that evidence direct connection to Wesley. Then I turn to volumes in the collection which lack direct evidence (such as a signature), but which we know by other means were known to Wesley. Finally I list any remaining volumes which may have been known to Wesley, but for which the only evidence I have found so far is their presence in this collection.

In the first two sections, **bold** material within quotation marks is in Wesley's handwriting. The authenticity of each inscription was supported by Frank Baker in notes he took on each book, and I have verified their continuing presence.⁴ In the third section I typically list only one external reference for evidence of Wesley's knowledge of each book. Abbreviations of published sources are standard.⁵ Manuscript sources are all found in the Coleman Collection of the Methodist Archives at the John Rylands Library, Manchester. Besides Wesley's "Oxford Diary," these include a list of readings he assigned his students in the years 1730–31 (in Coleman VII) and an inventory of his library on Michaelmas 1731 (Coleman XVIII, pp. 114–17). I am indebted to Richard Heitzenrater for help in confirming Wesley's references to readings in the Oxford Diary.

Let me close with just one sample of the insights this list can provide to Wesley scholars. While all acknowledge that Wesley showed special interest in some patristic writers from the "Eastern" branch of Christianity, it has been unclear what interest or knowledge he had of more contemporary Eastern theologians. From this list we can show that Wesley owned and placed in the Kingswood collection two books by relatively contemporary Eastern writers (Mohyla and Meniates), in addition to a volume on the Greek Church listed in Bayley's catalogue that is no longer present.⁶

⁴Baker's notecards are now in the possession of Richard Heitzenrater, who kindly gave me access to them.

⁵*Works* refers to the Bicentennial edition, while *Works* (Jackson) is the earlier edition edited by Thomas Jackson. The other source is *Minutes of the Methodist Conferences, from the First, held in London, by the Late Rev. John Wesley, A.M., in the Year 1744* (London: John Mason, 1862).

⁶Wesley probably owned Mohyla from 17 Jan. 1734, when the Oxford Diary records him reading the volume. The other book in Bayley's list is Thomas Smith (1638–1710). *An Account of the Greek Church, as to its doctrine and rites of worship*. London: Richard Davis, 1675. [102].

I. Books on Bayley Inventory still in collection, with signature or possible marks

Angèle de Foligno, Blessed (1248–1309). *La Théologie de la Croix de Jésus-Christ; ou, les Oeuvres et la Vie de la Bienheureuse Angèle de Foligni*. Cologne: J. de la Pierre, 1696.

“J.W. 1747”

Aurelius, Marcus (121–80). *Marci Antonini imperatoris eorum quae ad seipsum libri XII*. Glasgow: R. Foulis, 1744.

“J.W. 1748” “Kingswood”

Baerle, Caspar von (1584–1648). *Rerum per octennium in Brasilia ... comitis historia ... [et] tractatus De aere, aquis et locis*. 2nd edition. Clivis: Tobiae Silberling, 1660.

corner of fly leaf cut off, likely for autograph

Baker, Thomas (1656–1740). *Reflections upon Learning: wherein is shown the insufficiency thereof, in its several particulars: in order to evince the usefulness and necessity of revelation*. 3rd edition. London: A. Bosvile, 1700.

“Kingswood” in Wesley’s hand, area of possible autograph removed

Barrow, Isaac (1630–77). *The Works of the Learned Isaac Barrow*. 2nd edition. 3 vols. London: Brabazon Aylmer, 1686.

Wesley’s abridgement marks in volume

Basnage, Jacques, sieur de Beauval (1653–1723). *Histoire de l’Eglise, depuis Jesus-Christ jusqu’a present*. 2 vols. Rotterdam: R. Leers, 1699.

the inscription “John Wesley” likely not by Wesley, but others marks possibly are

Beveridge, William (1637–1708). *Private Thoughts upon Religion; or, necessary directions for its beginning and progress upon earth, in order to its final perfection in the beatific vision*. 2 vols. 13th edition. London: J. & P. Knapton, 1735.

“Kingswood”

Borlase, Edmund (d. 1682). *The History of the Execrable Irish Rebellion*. London: H. Brome & R. Chiswell, 1680.

“J.W. 1760”

Boston, Thomas (1677–1732). *Human Nature in its Four-fold State: of primitive integrity, entire depravity, begun recovery, and consummate happiness or misery*. 10th edition. Edinburgh: Lumisden, 1753.

“J.W. 1757” “The Gift of Mr. Walker of Edinburgh”

Burke, Philipp David (1714–70). *Gnomon in duodecim prophetas minores*. Heilbron: Eckebrecht, 1753.
“J.W.”

Camararius, Joachim (1500–74). *Vita Philippi Melanchthonis*. The Hague: Adrian Vlacq, 1655.
“J.W. 1747” and Wesley’s abridgement marks in text

Castellion, Sebastian (1515–63). *Dialogorum sacrorum libri IV: De Praedestinatione, electione, libero arbitrio, fide*. Edinburgh: T. & W. Ruddiman, 1734.
with some abridgement marks by Wesley

Charnock, Stephen (1628–80). *Several Discourses upon the Existence and Attributes of God*. London: D. Newman, T. Cockerill, et al., 1682.
Wesley’s abridgment marks

Daubuz, Charles (1673–1717). *A Perpetual Commentary on the Revelation of St. John, with a preliminary discourse concerning the certainty of the principles upon which the said revelation is to be understood*. 2nd edition: Abridged, and rendered plain to the meanest capacity, by Peter Lancaster. London: Innys, 1730.

Top corner of fly leaf cut off, but “E.A.P.J. Nov. 14, 1733” remain, so surely had “J.W.” (C. Wesley on title page)

Note: Monthly Ledger (Nov. 1733)

Davies, John (1569–1626) & Thomas Sheridan (1687–1738). *A Poem on the Immortality of the Soul, to which is prefixed an essay on the same subject by Dr. Thomas Sheridan*. Dublin: S. Hyde & J. Dodson, 1733 (published with preceding).
“J.W. 1760” “Kingswood”

Derham, William (1657–1735). *Physico-Theology; or, a demonstration of the being and attributes of God from his works of creation*. 11th edition. Glasgow: A. Stalker, 1745.
“J.W. 1749”

Fleetwood, William (1656–1723). *The Relative Duties of Parents and Children, Husbands and Wives, Masters and servants ... with 3 sermons upon the case of self-murder*. 4th ed. Dublin: Main, 1753.
“J.W. 1760” “Kingswood”

Fleming, Robert (1630–94). *The Fulfilling of the Scriptures*. 5th edition. London: J. & B. Sprint, 1726.
“J.W. 1752” and abridgement marks

Florus, Lucius Annaeus. *Rerum Romanorum libri IV*. Amsterdam: Daniel Elzevir, 1664.
fly leaf cut off where autograph likely

Franklin, Benjamin (1706–90). *New Experiments and Observations on Electricity made at Philadelphia in America*. Three parts bound as one. London: D. Henry & R. Cave, 1754–61.

“J.W. 1761”

Fulke, William (1538–89) *et al.* *The Text of the New Testament of Jesus Christ; translated out of the Vulgar Latin by the Papists of the traitorous seminary at Rhemes ... pretending to discover the corruptions ... whereunto is added a translation out of the original Greek commonly used in the Church of England*. Enlarged edition. London: Thomas Adams, 1617.

“Kingswood”

Gage, Thomas (1603?–56). *A New Survey of the West-Indies; or, the English American, his travel by sea and by land ... with a grammar of some rudiments of the Indian tongue called Poconchi*. 2nd edition. London: J. Sweeting, 1655.

“Kingswood”

Gerhard, Johann (1582–1637). *The Marrow of Divinity; or, a golden chain of divine sentences*. Translated by Ralph Winterton. Cambridge: for Richard Royston [London], 1633.

“Kingswood 1771”

Guthrie, William (1620–65). *The Christian’s Great Interest; in two parts: 1. The trial of a saving interest in Christ; 2. The way to attain it*. Glasgow: Hall, 1761.

“J.W. 1766” “The Gift of Mrs. Woodrow” “A good man, though I do not at all agree with his notion of faith” “Kingswood”

Hales, Stephen (1677–1761). *Statical Essays. Vol. I: Vegetable staticks, or, An account of some statical experiments on the sap in Vegetables; being an essay towards a natural history of vegetation; also, a specimen of an attempt to analyse the air, by a great variety of chymio-statical experiments. Vol II: Containing Haemastaticks, or, An account of some hydraulick and hydrostatical experiments made on the blood and blood-vessels of animals. Also an account of some experiments on stones in the kidneys and bladder*. 3rd edition. London: W. Innys & R. Manby, 1738.

“J.W. 1747” on Vol. 1

- Higden, William (1663?–1715). *A View of the English Constitution with Respect to the Sovereign Authority of the Prince, and Allegiance of the Subject; in vindication of the lawfulness of taking the oaths to Her Majesty, by law required*. 3rd edition. London: S. Keble & R. Golfig, 1710.
“J.W. 1745”
- Hodges, Walter (1695–1757). *Elihu: or, an inquiry into the principal scope and design of the book of Job*. 3rd edition. Dublin: William Williamson, 1757.
“J.W. 1762”
- Horneck, Anthony (1641–97). *The Happy Ascetic; or the best exercise, to which is added a letter to a person of quality, concerning the holy lives of the primitive Christians*. 5th edition. London: Henry & George Mortlock, 1711.
“Kingswood”
- Huet, Pierre-Daniel (1630–1721). *The Weakness of Human Understanding*. Translated by Edward Combe. London: Matthew de Varenne, 1725.
“J.W. 1760”
- Hutcheson, Francis (1694–1746). *An Inquiry into the Original of our Ideas of Beauty and Virtue; in two treatises, in which the principles of the late Earl of Shaftesbury are explained and defended against the author of the Fable of the Bees*. 3rd edition. London: J. Knapton, 1729.
“J.W. 1772” “ A panegyric upon Mankind, pity but it were true!”
- James I, King of England (1566–1625). *The Works of the Most High and Mighty Prince James*. Edited by James Bishop. London: Robert Barker & John Bill, 1616.
“Gift of John Perowne 1769” in Wesley’s hand
- Kettilby, Joshua (fl. 1760–65). *The Excellency and Great Importance of the Hebrew Language*. London: W. Bristow, T. Hooper, & J. Johnson, 1762.
“J.W.”
- Lactantius (ca. 240–ca. 320). *Opera quae extant omnis accedant Carmina vulgo ascripta Lactantio*. With notes by Antonius Thusius. Leiden: P. Leffen, 1652.
“J. Wesley 1747” “Kingswood” partially rubbed out
- Le Clerc, Jean (1657–1736). *A Compendium of Universal History; from the beginning of the world, to the reign of Charles the Great*. London: M. Gillyflower, J. Tonson, et al., 1699.
“J.W. 1752” “Kingswood”

Lommius, Jodocus (ca. 1500–ca. 1564). *Commentarii de sanitate tuenda in primum librum De Re Medica Aurelii Corneii Celsi*. 3rd edition. Leiden: Johann Langerak, 1734.

“J.W. 1750”

Lommius, Jodocus (ca. 1500–ca. 1564). *De curandis febribus continuis liber*. Edited by John Wigan. Revised edition. Rotterdam: Johann Beman, 1733.

“J.W. 1750”

Lommius, Jodocus (ca. 1500–ca. 1564). *Observationum medicinalium libri tres*. 4th edition. Amsterdam: Jansson-Weisberg, 1738.

corner torn off cover, almost certainly for autograph

Malebranche, Nicolas (1638–1715). *Father Malebranche’s Treatise concerning the Search After Truth*. Translated by Thomas Taylor. Oxford: Lichfield, 1694.

“Kingswood 1768”

Mohyla, Petro, Metropolitan of Kiev (1597–1647). *Orthodoxa confessio catholicae atque apostolicae ecclesiae orientalis*. (Greek title: *Orthodoxos homologia tes katholikes kai apostolikes ecclesias tes Anatolikes*). Parallel Latin translation by Lars Norman. Leipzig: J. Thomas Fritsch, 1695.

“Kingswood” and cut out on title page where autograph possible

Neal, Daniel (1678–1743). *History of the Puritans*. 4 vols. Dublin: Brice Edmond, 1755.

“J. Wesley 1759”

Newton, Isaac sir (1642–1727). *A Treatise of the System of the World*. London: F. Fayram, 1728.

“Kingswood”

Oetinger, Friedrich Christoph (1702–82). *Inquisitio in Sensum Communem et Rationem*. Tübingen: Johann Christoph Löffler, 1753.

“J.W. 1759”

Poiret, Pierre (1646–1719). *The Divine Economy; or, An universal system of the works and purposes of God towards men demonstrated*. 6 vols. London: R. Bonwicke, et al., 1713 (Only vols. 1, 3, 4 on Bayley or in current collection).

“J.W. 1750” “6 vols. 55”

Ray, John (1627–1705). *The Wisdom of God Manifested in the Works of Creation*. 11th edition. Glasgow: R. Urie, 1744.

“J.W. 1749”

Robertson, William (d. 1686). *Thesarus linguae sanctae ... sive, Concordantiale lexicon Hebraico-Latino-Biblicum*. London: Samuel Roycroft, 1680.

“1771 Kingswood The Gift of John Wootton”

Robinson, Bryan (1680–1754). *A Treatise of the Animal Oeconomy*. Dublin: Frierson, 1732.

“J.W. 1759”

Royal Society (Great Britain) *The Philosophical Transactions and Collections, to the end of the year 1700*. 3 vols. Abridged by John Lowthorp. London: T. Bennet, et al., 1705 (Vol. 1).

“Kingswood School 1768”

Spanheim, Friedrich (1632–1701). *Brevis introductio ad historiam sacram utriusque testamenti, ac praecipue Christianam ad A.D. 1518*. Leiden: Verbessel, 1695.

“Kingswood 1750”

Stillingfleet, Edward (1635–99). *Irenicum, A Weapon Salve for the Church’s Wounds*. 2nd edition. London: Henry Mortlock, 1662.

“J.W. 1760” “I think he fully proves his point”

Strada, Famiano (1572–1669). *De Bello Belgico decas secunda ... anno MDLXXVIII usque as annum MDXC*. Rome: H. F. Corbelletti, et al., 1648.

“J.W. 1754”

Taylor, Jeremy (1613–67). *Ductor Dubitantium; or, the rule of conscience in all her general measures*. 2nd edition. London: Richard Royston, 1671.

“[J.W. E.A.⁷]P.J. June 20. 1732”

Ussher, James (1581–1656). *The Annals of the World deduced from the Origin of Time ... collected from all history, as well sacred as profane, and methodically digested*. London: J.Crook, J. Bedell, et al., 1658.

“J.W. 1765” “The gift of Mr. Hunt. 1765. Kingswood”

⁷This portion is missing.

Volusene, Florence (1504?–1546 or 7). *De animi tranquillitate dialogus*. Edinburgh: Hamilton, Balfour & Neill, 1751.

“J.W. 1756” “Kingswood”

Watts, Isaac (1674–1748). *The Knowledge of the Heavens and the Earth Made Easy; or, The first principles of astronomy and geography explained by the use of globes and maps*. 2nd edition. London: J. Clark & R. Hett, 1728.

“J.W. 1751” “The gift of Mr. Bowles. Kingswood”

Wilkins, John (1614–72). *A Discourse concerning the Gift of Prayer ... whereunto may be added ... A Discourse concerning the gift of Preaching*. London: S. Gellibrand, 1674.

“Kingswood”

Wilson, Thomas (1563–1622). *A Christian Dictionary, opening the significance of the chief words dispersed generally through Holy Scripture*. 3rd edition. London: William Iaggard, 1622.

“Kingswood”

Wilson, Thomas (1563–1622). *A Complete Christian Dictionary ... continued by John Bagwell ... enlarged and digested ... by Andrew Simson*. 8th edition. London: Richard Chiswell, 1678.

“Kingswood”

Yvon, Pierre (1646–1707). *Préservatif contre la séduction En Trois Traitez*. Amsterdam: Jacques Vande Velde, 1686.

“J.W. 1747”

II. Volumes with Wesley’s signature not on Bayley (i.e., added after 1775)

Bates, William (1625–99). *Vitae selectorum aliquot virorum qui doctrinâ, dignitate, et pietate inclarvere*. London: George Wells, 1681.

“Kingswood 1782”

Bolts, William (1735–1808). *Considerations on India Affairs; particularly respecting the present state of Bengal and its dependencies*. 2nd edition. 3 volumes. London: J. Almon, et al., 1772–75.

“Kingswood 1782” (on vol. 1)

Butler, Alban (1711–73). *The Lives of the Fathers, Martyrs, and other Principle Saints*. 2nd edition. 12 vols. Dublin: John Morris, 1779–80 (vol. 3 only).

“Kingswood 1788”

Chandler, Samuel (1693–1766). *A Vindication of the Antiquity and Authority of Daniel's Prophecies, and their Application to Jesus Christ, in answer to the objections of ... [Anthony Collins]*. London: John Gray, 1728.

“Kingswood”

Cicero, Marcus Tullius. *M.T. Cicero de Oratore; or, His three dialogues upon the character and qualifications of a orator*. Translated by William Guthrie. London: T. Waller, 1742.

“Kingswood School”

Davies, John (1569–1626). *Historical Relations; or, a discovery of the true causes why Ireland was never entirely subdued, nor brought under obedience of the crown of England, until the beginning of His Majesty's happy reign*. Dublin: S. Hyde & J. Dobson, 1733 [bound with Davies, *Poem*].

“J.W. 1760” “Kingswood”

Frederick Henry, Prince of Orange (1584–1647). *Mémoires de Frédéric Henri, Prince d'Orange, qui contiennent ses expéditions militaires depuis 1621 jusqu'à l'année 1646*. Amsterdam: Pierre Humbert, 1733.

“Kingswood 1766”

Guyon, Jeanne Marie Bouvier de La Motte (1648–1717). *Discours Chrétiens et spirituels sur divers sujets qui regardent la vie intérieure tirés la plupart de la Ste. Ecriture*. 2 vols. Cologne: Jean de la Pierre, 1716.

vol 1: “Given by Mrs. Berkeley” “Kingswood” corner of fly leaf cut off, where autograph likely appeared; vol 2: “Half right, half wrong 1777”

Higden, William (1663?–1715). *A View of the English Constitution with Respect to the Sovereign Authority of the Prince, and Allegiance of the Subject; in vindication of the lawfulness of taking the oaths to Her Majesty, by law required*. 4th edition. London: S. Keble & R. Golfing, 1716.

“J.W. 1771” “Admirably well wrote” “Kingswood 1782”

Hoadly, Dr. (1706–1757) & Benjamin Wilson. *Observations on a Series of Electrical Experiments*. London: T. Payne, 1756.

“J.W.”

Mather, Cotton (1663–1728). *The Christian Philosopher; A collection of the best discoveries in nature, with religious improvements*. London: E. Matthews, 1721.

“J.W. 1760” “Kingswood”

[Meniates, Elias, Bishop of Kernitses & Kalavryton (1669–1714).] *Petra tou skandalou etoi diasaphesis ... [Greek]. Lapis offendiculi sive expositio originis et caussae discidii duar. orient. scilicet et occident. ecclesiarum cum quinque controversiis*. London: J. C. Haberkorn, 1762. [Note: this edition was republished by Erasmus Aulonita, bishop of Arcadia (Crete), who was currently in London—his signature appears on the third opening page. Erasmus apparently personally gifted Wesley with this copy.]¹

“J.W.” “Kingswood 1779”

Nicholson, William (1591–1672). *David’s Sharp Harp Strung and Tuned; or, An essay analysis of the whole book of Psalms*. London: William Leake, 1662.

“Kingswood 1779 J.W.”

Roths, Christian Adolph (fl 1770). *The Real Views and Political System of the Regency of Denmark fully explained ... tracing the true causes of the late revolution at Copenhagen* (text in both French and English). London: reprinted for S. Bladon, 1772.

Bound with M., Th. *Letters from an English Gentleman on his Travels through Denmark, serving as a confutation to the many false accounts ... particularly [Roths]*. London: s.n., 1772.

Wesley’s comment on title page “A pitifull Romance”

Sarpi, Paolo (1552–1623). *The History of the Council of Trent, in eight books; in which (besides the ordinary acts of the Council) are declared many notable occurrences, which happened in Christendom during the space of forty years and more, and particularly the practices of the Court of Rome to hinder the reformation of their errors*. London: Samuel Mearne, John Martyn & Henry Herringman, 1676.

“J.W. 1779” “Kingswood”

Watts, Isaac (1674–1748). *Glory of Christ as God-Man Unveiled ... with an abridgement of Dr. Thomas Goodwin’s Discourse of the Glories and Royalties of Christ*. London: J. Oswald & J. Buckland, 1746.

“J.W. 1746” “The gift of Mr. Bowles. June 21”

¹The date of publication has been corrected and the note added after the published article appeared.

III. Works not on Bayley, or signed, but other evidence they were known to Wesley

- Addison, Joseph (1672–1719). *Notes upon the Twelve Books of “Paradise Lost”; collected from “The Spectator”*. London: Jacob Tonson, 1719.
read: Oxford Diary (2–11 Mar. 1730)
- Addison, Joseph (1672–1719) & Richard Steele (1672–1729). *The Spectator; with notes, and a general index, the eight volumes comprised in one*. London: Sharpe & Hailes, 1711–14.
read: Oxford Diary (26–28 Aug. 1725)
- Addison, Joseph (1672–1719). *The Works of the Right Honourable Joseph Addison*. 4 vols. London: Jacob Tonson, 1721.
assign: Oxford Reading List (1730–31)
- Allestree, Richard (1619–81). *The Practice of Christian Graces; or, the Whole Duty of Man laid down in a Plain and Familiar Way for the Use of all, but especially the meanest reader*. London: Norton, 1675. (this copy noted to have belonged to Lady Mansfield)
read: Oxford Diary (13 Feb. 1731)
- Anson, Lord George (1697–1762). *A Voyage Round the World in the Years 1740, 1741, 1742, 1743 and 1744 by George Anson, Esq.* Edited by Richard Waller and Benjamin Robins. 12th edition. London: T. Osborne, et al., 1767.
comment on: *Journal* (29 Nov. 1755), *Works* 21:33
- Bailey, Nathaniel (d. 1742). *An Universal Etymological English Dictionary*. 10th edition. London: R. Ware, et al., 1742.
cite: *Complete English Dictionary*, Preface, *Works* (Jackson) 14:234
- Bunyan, John (1628–68). *The Pilgrim’s Progress from this World to That which is to Come*. London: Nathaniel Ponder, 1672 (2 copies of mixed editions of the three parts).
read: Diary (8 Oct. 1739), *Works* 19:410
- Church of England. *The Thirty-nine Articles, and the Constitutions and Canons of the Church of England*. London: R. Gosling, R. Knaplock, et al., 1724.
cite: Letter to Samuel Wesley Jr. (5–6 Dec. 1726), *Works* 25:204
- Coke, Thomas (1747–1814). *A Letter to the Author of Strictures on Dr. Coke’s Ordination Sermon ... Baltimore ... Dec. 27 1784*. London: W. Paramore, 1786.
sponsor: Wesley sponsored most of Coke’s publications

- Coke, Thomas (1747–1814). *The Substance of a Sermon on the Godhead of Christ ... 26 Dec. 1784*. London: W. Paramore, 1785.
 sponsor: Wesley sponsored most of Coke's publications
- Duport, James (1606–79). *Davidis emmetros [Greek]; sive, Metaphrases libri Psalmorum Graecis versibus contexto*. London: Richard Chiswell, 1674.
 assign: place in libraries for assistants in Bristol, London, & Newcastle, "Minutes" (3 Aug. 1745), *Minutes* (Mason) 1:29
- Grotius, Hugo (1583–1645). *Annotationes in Libros Evangeliorum*. Amsterdam: Johann & Cornelius Blaeu, 1641. (marked "Gift of John Catimole of Portsmouth to Kingswood")
 commended: (by father) Letter from Samuel Wesley Sr. (26 Jan. 1724/5), *Works* 25:158
- Grotius, Hugo (1583–1645) *De Veritate religionis Christianae*. Revised edition. Oxford: Sheldonian, 1700.
 read: Oxford Diary (8–16 Sept. 1725)
- Hawkesworth, John (1715–73). *An Account of the Voyages Undertaken by the order of His present Majesty for making Discoveries in the Southern Hemisphere, and Successfully Performed by Commodore Bryon, Captain Wallis, Captain Carteret, and Captain Cook, in the Dolphin, the Swallow, and the Endeavour*. 3 volumes. London: W. Strahan & T. Cadell, 1773.
 comment on: *Journal* (17 Dec. 1773), *Works* 22:394–95
- Hay, William (1695–1755). *Deformity: an Essay*. 2nd edition. London: Dodsley, 1754.
 comment on: *Journal* (26 June 1754), *Works* 20:480
- Hervey, James (1714–58). *Eleven Letters from the late Rev. Mr. Hervey, to the Rev. Mr. John Wesley; containing an answer to that gentleman's remarks on 'Theron and Aspasio'*. London: Charles Rivington, 1765.
 comment on: *Journal* (12 Nov. 1764), *Works* 21:494–95
- Jeanne de la Nativite (fl. 1650). *Daily Conversations with God; being an extract of the life of Armelle Nicolas, who died in Bretagne in France in the year 1671*. London: s.n., 1763.
 publish: *Arminian Magazine* 3 (1780): 19–24, 81–91, 137–40, 194–99

- Johnson, Samuel (1709–84). *A Dictionary of the English Language*. 8th edition. 2 vols. London: J., F. & C. Rivington, et al., 1786.
 read: Preface to 2nd edition of Wesley's *Complete English Dictionary*
- Law, William (1686–1761). *A Practical Treatise upon Christian Perfection*. 3rd edition. London: W. Innys & R. Manby, 1734.
 read/collect: Oxford Diary (20 Nov.–29 Dec. 1732)
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In 1748 John Wesley founded Kingswood School in Bath, England, a city established as a spa resort by the Romans in A.D. 43 to take advantage of the country's only hot spring. A hero of the Christian faith, Wesley graduated from Oxford University then a thoroughly Christian institution and was one of the best-educated scholars of his generation, as well as England's most important religious leader. He believed strongly in education and promoted it consistently throughout his long and productive ministry, which saw him constantly on horseback traveling from village to village. Three trails of evidence attracted Flew's attention, all rooted in the scientific understanding of the world, for which he had great respect. The three trails are

Browse Our Archives. For more on John Wesley's library, see Randy L. Maddox, "John Wesley's Reading: Evidence in the Kingswood School Archives," *Methodist History* 41.2 (January 2003); and Maddox, "John Wesley's Reading: Evidence in the Book Collection at Wesley's House, London," *Methodist History* 41.3 (April 2003). See particularly item 191 below, a gift from Charles Wesley Sr.'s grandson to Thomas Jackson. See Thomas Jackson, *Recollections of My Own Life and Times* (London: Wesleyan Conference Office, 1874), 230-31, 481-82, 507. Cf. C. Ryder Smith, "The Richmond We The theology of John Wesley, though projected from an historical past, is a living and dynamic force in contemporary theology. The Wesleyan tradition is at its best when it remains responsive to its past and open to its future. This course will examine the primary doctrinal, methodological, and practical commitments of John Wesley's theology as developed in his sermons, hymns, writings, and life-praxis. The course will also explore contemporary trends in Methodism and in Wesleyan theology more generally as they attempt to respond to the present theological situation and to the future prospects