

Bodleian Manuscripts of Georgian Grammar and Language Studies

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Aims

The project aims to prepare **online editions of Georgian Grammar Manuscripts** and Archival Materials related to Georgian Language Studies preserved in the Wardrop Collection at the Bodleian Libraries. The main objectives are:

- to provide an online edition of related manuscripts, which includes the production of a diplomatic transcription, physical description and supporting documentary for each manuscript;
- to prepare the .xml files needed for the further publishing online;
- to equip .xml files with special tags indicating persons, places and dates in the published materials, which will be used for the linking purposes.

Wardrop Collection

The **Wardrop Collection** of Georgian manuscripts and archival materials is the core collection at the Bodleian Libraries and one of the major repositories of Georgian material outside of Georgia. It includes 210 items, 75 of which are hand-written books from the 7th to the 20th centuries. Most of the materials have been collected by Sir Oliver Wardrop (1864-1948) and his sister Marjory Wardrop (1869-1909), both well-known scholars, translators, founders and benefactors of Kartvelian studies at the University of Oxford (see Figure 1).

<https://georgian.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/>

Digital Bodleian collection includes several Georgian digitized manuscripts, such as an 11th century autograph manuscript by Giorgi Prokhore, the founder of the Holy Cross Monastery in Jerusalem, a 14th century manuscript of the Typikon of the Georgian monastery of the Holy Cross near Jerusalem and some from the Wardrop collection, two 17th century copies of *The Knight in the Panther's skin*, that are listed in UNESCO's Memory of the World Register, etc.

<https://digital.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/collections/Georgian/>

Digitized manuscripts are available in the form of photo materials with appropriate meta-data attached, but they lack the possibility for advanced searches based on the textual content.



Figure 1. MS. Wardr. Add. 13, Marjory Wardrop and Sir Oliver Wardrop.

Material

Georgian Grammar Manuscripts include material starting from the 18th century manuscript *cigni grammatikay k'art'ulisamebr enisa* by Catholicos Anthony I (MS. Georg. e. 1). The illustration of the online edition provided here is based on Marjory Wardrop's **notebooks** related to her Georgian studies:

- Ms. Wardr. e. 32, *Language notebook* of Marjory Wardrop. Translations, lessons, c., relating to her Georgian, Russian and Rumanian studies, Language: English, Georgian (1905-1906); (See Figure 2)
- Ms. Wardr. f. 11, *Notebook* of Marjory Wardrop, with Georgian word-lists, fragments of translations;
- Ms. Wardr. c. 1 (10), *Georgian-English Word-list* by Marjory Wardrop (1895); *Georgian grammar*.

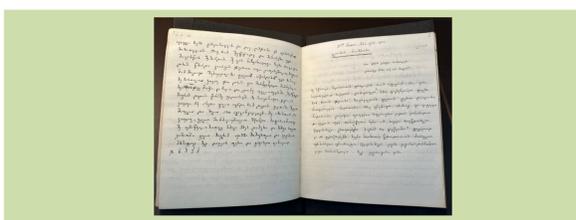


Figure 2. MS. Wardr. e.32.

Methods and Stages

Following the Text Encoding Initiative, Extensible Markup Language (TEI), the files are prepared in .xml using Oxygen software. For our purposes we used Manuscript description section of TEI P5. See <http://www.tei-c.org/release/doc/tei-p5-doc/en/html/MS.html>

Transcription and markup of the text includes thorough description of edition, publication, sources, encoding etc. in accordance with scheme used by Bodleian Libraries for cataloguing issues and already implemented in the previous project of the online digital collection for Georgian manuscripts. See <https://manuscript.iliauni.edu.ge/>

The first stage was to determine the meta-annotation scheme (encoding the Header and the Body of the documents). The second stage was to prepare the .xml files (see Figure 3) and the last stage is to equip the .xml files with special tags indicating persons, places and dates for linking purposes.

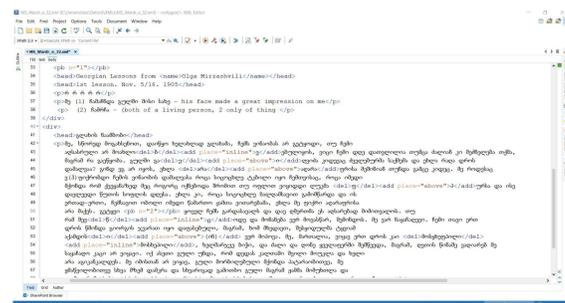


Figure 3. The body of the .xml file.

Work flow

The online edition of the related Georgian manuscripts follows diplomatic transcription thus preserving as much as possible the original spelling, punctuation, line divisions, marginalia, etc.;

UTF8 is a standard for all three types of Georgian scripts: Asomtavruli, Nuskhuri and Mkhedruli;

The single .xml file consists of the meta-data and a full text of the manuscript, a set of images hopefully will be added:

```
<teiHeader> metadata
<facsimile> images
<text> the text
```

The **<body>** elements are standard and may be easily adopted in any manuscript.

In case of Marjory's notebooks related to the language study, it is important to indicate changes in the manuscript, i.e. deletions **** and additions **<add>**. The **<add>** element also has **@place** attribute indicating the place of insertion, e.g. **<add place="inline">**. (See Figure 4)

The user-friendly text reproduces the text in user friendly mode in Modern Georgian. (See Figure 5)

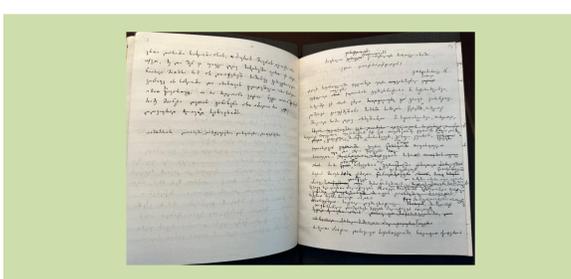


Figure 4. MS. Wardr. e.32 (cuts).

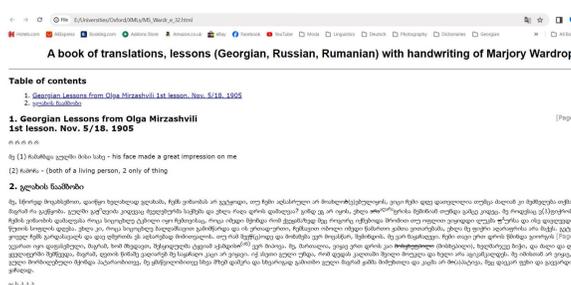


Figure 5. The user-friendly text.

Enriching digital collection

Once the project is completed the online edition of related material will be uploaded to GitHub and Wardrops' Collection Online (WCO), thus enriching the online digital collection for Georgian manuscripts and providing free worldwide access at no charge to the end-user.

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