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# Provenance of Rare Books in Spanish Universities: access to the former possessors at the Historic Library of University of Salamanca.

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## PUBLIC DATA BASES OF FORMER POSSESSORS AT UNIVERSITIES IN SPAIN

The University of Salamanca. Biblioteca General Histórica. *Antiguos poseedores*. Available public database on the former owners of their collections, with proprietary brand images, biographical and bibliographical information.





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## PUBLIC DATA BASES OF FORMER POSSESSORS AT UNIVERSITIES IN SPAIN

Barcelona University. *Antiguos poseedores*.

Available public database on the former owners of their collections, with proprietary brand images, biographical and bibliographical information.



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## PUBLIC DATA BASES OF FORMER POSSESSORS AT UNIVERSITIES IN SPAIN

University Complutense of Madrid. *Antiguos poseedores en las colecciones de la Biblioteca Histórica.*

Available public database on the former owners of their collections, with proprietary brand images, biographical and bibliographical information.





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## ACCESS POINT FROM THE CATALOGUE

Universities of Valladolid, Granada, La Laguna, Zaragoza, Seville, Salamanca, Barcelona,  Complutense, Santiago de Compostela and Comillas have devised a standardized access point in the catalogue, with each of its former owners.



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## INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE

The libraries of the Universities of Salamanca, Complutense of Madrid and Barcelona are included in the **CERL Thesaurus**

[http://www.cerl.org/resources/cerl\\_thesaurus/main](http://www.cerl.org/resources/cerl_thesaurus/main)

and in the **CERL Information pages on Provenance databases**

<http://www.cerl.org/resources/provenance/main>.



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## STATUS OF DATABASES POSSESSORS OF UNIVERSITY OF SALAMANCA

The Historical Library is the research centre of the University of Salamanca in charge of the custody, processing and distribution of the bibliographic heritage of the University together with those holdings acquired or deposited in it by virtue of its functions, both historical and current.

The Library's collections comprise of books, pamphlets, periodical titles and special materials, divided into the following classes:

Historical holdings:

Codices, manuscripts and fragments, including typescript originals.

Books, pamphlets, periodicals, maps and all kinds of materials printed using manual printing procedures (15th century - 1830).

Any other assets distinguished by their unique value related to their content, origin or physical characteristics.

Holdings related to Salamanca:

Publications of Salamanca prior to 1958 and Legal Deposit (1958-1982).

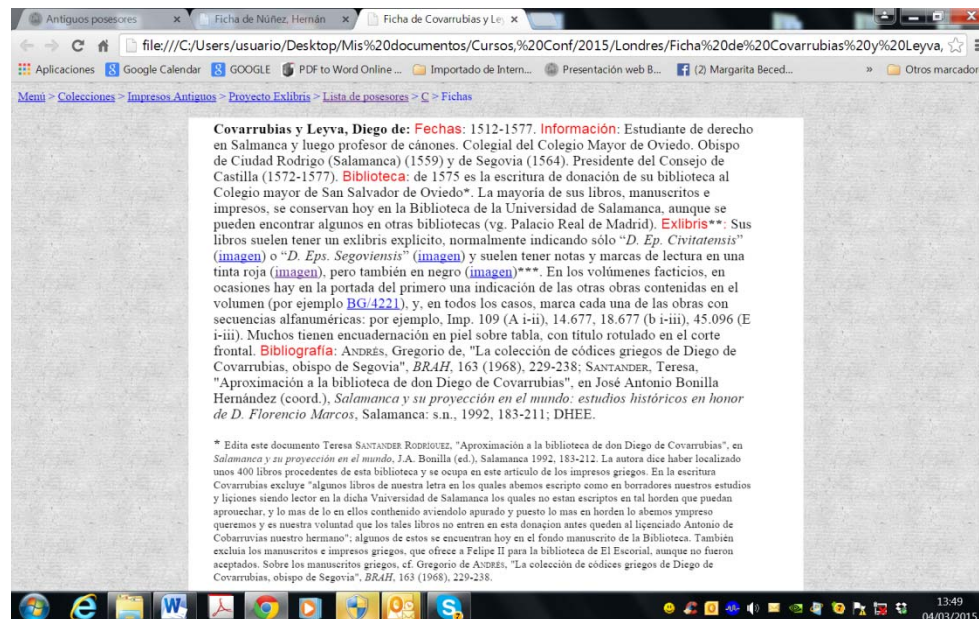
Newspapers and periodicals of Salamanca.

Publications of the University of Salamanca (since 1943).



# 1. Recovery Provenance at University of Salamanca USAL.

- a) The ancient possessors, personal and institutional, can be retrieved from the database we will discuss below, which provides biographical and bibliographical information.
- b) For works related to a given possessor, the search is done from the online catalogue <http://brumario.usal.es/> about the historical background option - Printer, publisher, former possessor. Furthermore, in the notes area on the work in question, the possession or use as shown in this particular book is collected.







## 2. What's in the database? The entries that make up the list of possessors and sources of books have the following structure:

Library: when information is available about the composition and destination of the library belonging to the institution or owner, some brief data are given.

Motto: the motto or phrase that sometimes accompanies the bookplate or the escutcheon is transcribed here.

Exlibris: you can find transcribed here the statement or statements with which the owner is usually identified. We have chosen the one that is more significant for identification. However, in those cases in which variations are significant, several are transcribed. The transcript is accompanied by one or more images. Additionally, some pictures have been taken of the entries found in the book when the allocation to the user whose name appears on it seems quite probable.

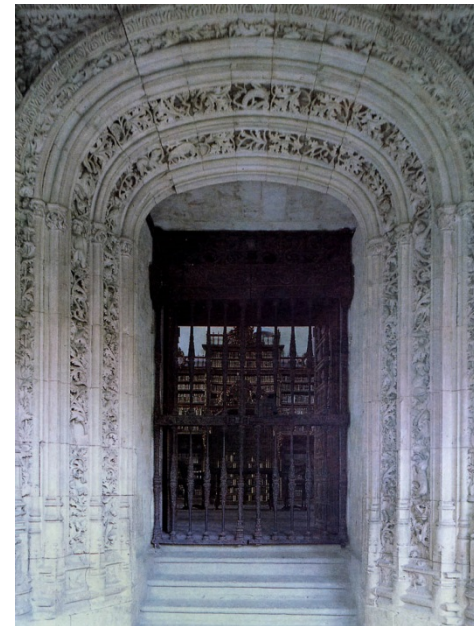
Bibliography: here are collected—including but not restricted to— any bibliographic items in which data about the user and/or library—which at times have been decisive for identification— can be found.

### 3. When was it created? How? Does it welcome another material?

The database was created in 2008 for the first Library website. It has 2,190 possessors and 2,610 associated images.

Html pages are built by Library staff.

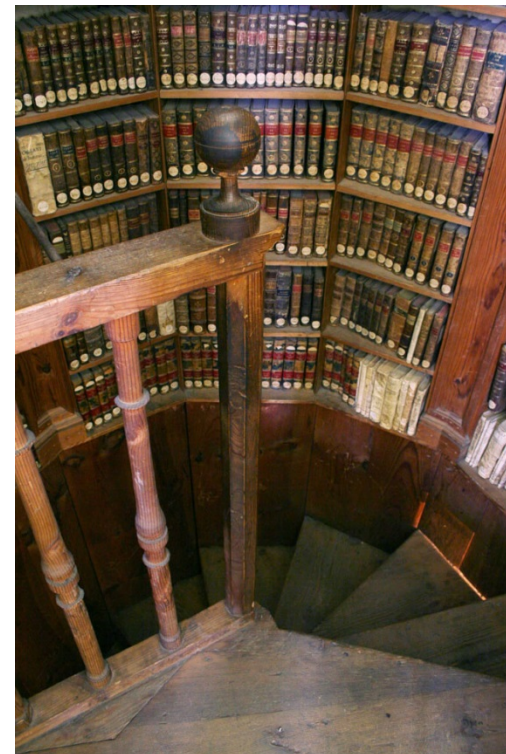
It is not open to other materials, except for bibliographic material from the General Historical Library.





#### 4. Registration. Is the database created internally or is it open to external partners?

It consists of internal records from collections of the University Library of Salamanca. All kinds of information and external suggestions are welcome, but professionals and librarians are in charge of the maintenance.



## 5. Operating System.

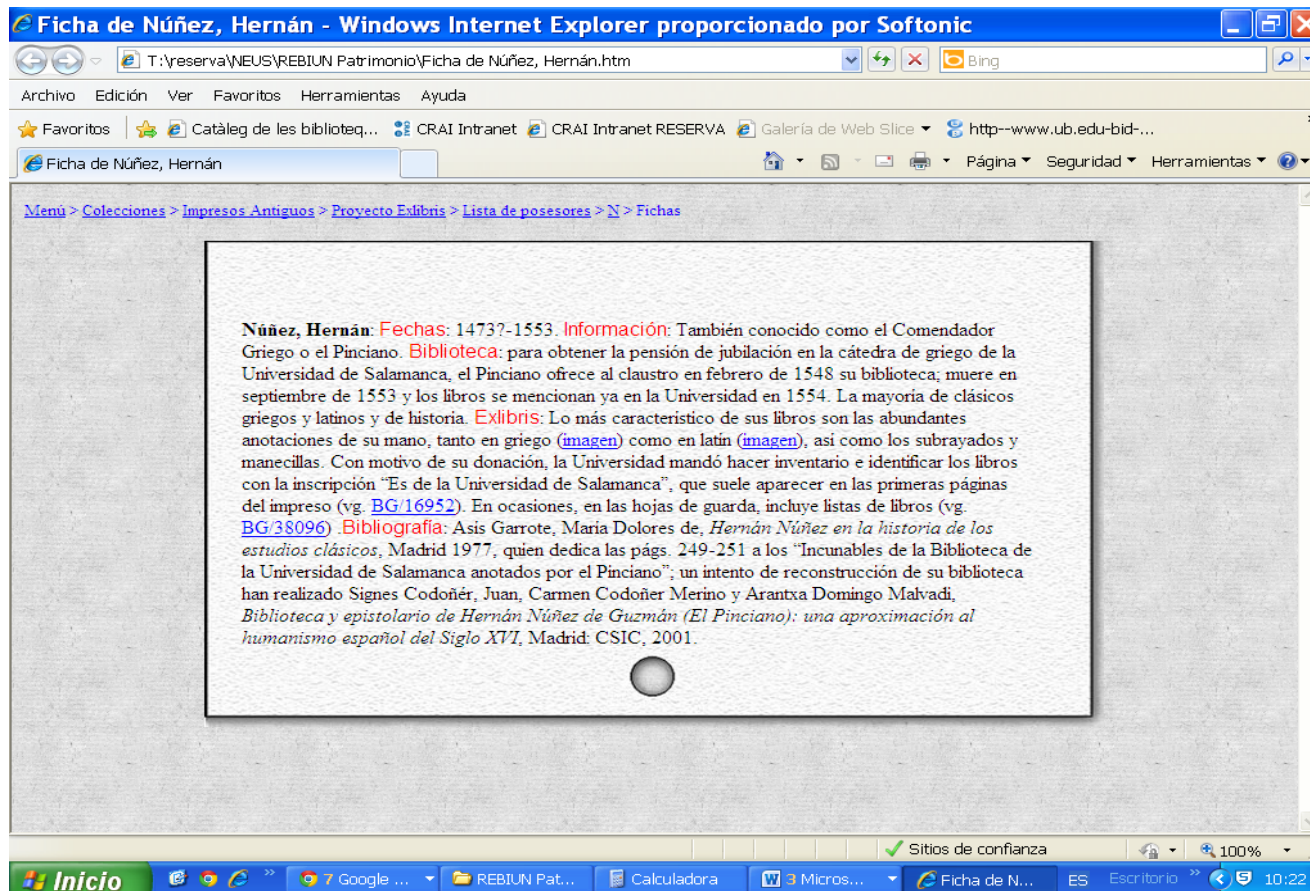
It is old and rudimentary, they are html pages.

It is available from the website of the Library: <http://bibliotecahistorica.usal.es/> from the *Resources* section.

Next projects: The University Historical Library at Salamanca University in Spain is working in a new database, planned for 2015. The aim of this communication is to continue working in international cooperation and to learn from other proposals gathered at this conference.



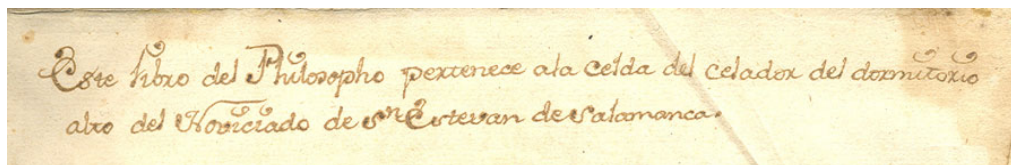
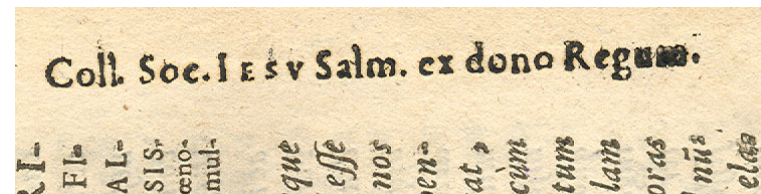
## 6. Presentation of the structure.





## 7. Links to images. Where are the images stored?

The images are linked from the text itself and tend to be from exlibris or the owner's marks. They are stored in a library server.





## 8. Weaknesses.

The database is outdated and at this moment can't extend its content.  
We don't see deficiencies in the content or explanations.

## 9. Desiderata.

We have received some desiderata, via e-mail, pointing out some information that is have verified and added.

## 10. Budget, funding situation.

Since it is powered by the Library staff it does not consume extra budget. In 2015 the library will invest to improve the whole architecture of the database.

## 11. Regarding the future, possible collaborations.

- We're working on a project that aims at renovating our University's database of possessors. This conference is a great opportunity to know other experiences and their results.
- There's a project still in progress, to build a common database of former possessors for all Universities on REBIUN (Spanish Network of University Libraries).



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## STATUS OF DATABASES POSSESSORS OF UNIVERSITY OF SALAMANCA

Thank you very much for your attention. Any questions, we will be happy to answer them.

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