f. 1  //tempus [singularem per ordinem] puellarum ut intrarent ... in unum
Mardoche/[um]

Esther 2.12 - 3.6. The upper margin has been trimmed with the loss of the first line and a portion of second line of text.

f. 2ra  [hieru]/salem cum iechonia rege ... fons paruus [corrected from: paruos]/

Esther 11.4 - 11.10. The inner and upper margins have been trimmed with loss of text.

f. 2rb  [uel]/let, et fixum habebat ... praecipitque ei/

Esther 11.12 - 12.5. The upper margin has been trimmed with loss of text.

f. 2va  [fu]/erant interfecti ... nequaquam abuti/

Esther 12.6 - 13.2. The upper margin has been trimmed with loss of text.

f. 2vb  [consili]/ariis meis ... turbare subiectaru/[m]

Esther 13.3 - 5. The inner and upper margins have been trimmed with loss of
Parchment. 2 folios (probably once formed the outer bifolium of a quire). Fol. 1 measures 264 x 226 mm; fol. 2 measures 200 x 210 mm (written space originally ca. 245 x 210 mm). 2 columns. Fol. 1 has 25 lines, and fol. 2 has 19 of an original 26 lines. Dry-point ruling on the flesh side; single vertical bounding lines. Prickings at corners of written space.

Written by several scribes in Caroline minuscule, dated by B. Bischoff to the beginning of the ninth century and attributed to northeastern France, perhaps Rheims (Bischoff, Schreibschulen, 2:40). 1-line capitals are written in brown uncial with occasional use of minuscule e, and are usually not set apart from the text. Part of chap. 12.6 and the beginning of chap. 13 are written in orange-red uncial with square capital forms of A, E, and M beside the uncial forms of A and M and round forms of E. Punctuation consists of the punctus, punctus elevatus, and virgule. Corrections have been added by contemporary hands, including superscript letters, erasures and the addition of cauda on e; punctuation has also been altered or added, including the introduction of the punctus versus. Word spacing is inconsistent.

Other fragments from this manuscript are preserved in Lambach, Stiftsbibliothek, Fragment 3 (3 folios). These leaves contain Esther 5.14-6.10 and 6.10-7.4; 9.12-9.19 and 9.20-9.27; 14.8-14.19 and 14.19-15.10 (see the descriptions in Bischoff, Schreibschulen, 2:40, and in Holter [1989], 211, cat. no. IX.06; the Kraus leaves described by Holter and Bischoff are now the Beinecke fragments).

Another leaf is preserved as a flyleaf in the back cover of Kremsmuenster, Stiftsbibliothek, CC 246a (formerly Lambach Ccl 246; the manuscript is briefly described in Holter [1959], 262). This flyleaf is mentioned in the Hauswedell Catalogue, Wertvolle Buecher des 15.-20. Jahrhunderts Autographen Auction 56 (Hamburg, 5-6 May 1954), no. 1, which lists the contents of the flyleaf as the Vetus Latina version of Judith 13.31 and 14.7-8; the catalogue also records that an offprint from a pastedown contains Judith 13.31 and 14.12-14. That pastedown is now Hannover, Kestner-Museum, Inv. 3990 (Cul. I, 80), whose contents include the Vetus Latina version of Judith 13.31-14.6 and 14.11-14. Further fragments removed from Kremsmuenster CC.
246a are preserved at Kremsmuenster (information kindly provided by Haucke Fill). A leaf containing Esther 8.10-9.12 was sold by Hartung & Hartung, Munich, Auktion 103 (6./7. November 2001) lot 39. This leaf was acquired by the Beinecke Library, where it is now MS 965.

The Lambach library catalogue in Lambach Cml XIX includes a manuscript containing the books of Tobias, Macchabees, Judith, Esther and Esdras (see Holter [1956], 274, no. 107 and MBKOe, 5:57). Holter identifies this item as Lambach Cml LXI, a manuscript of the late twelfth or early thirteenth century. Because of its similar contents, it is possible that Cml LXI is a copy of the manuscript preserved in the Beinecke, Hannover, Kremsmuenster and Lambach fragments. There is a brief description of Cml LXI, which is no longer at Lambach, in Holter (1959), p. 241.

Fol. 1 was formerly used as a flyleaf in the binding of Lambach, Stiftsbibliothek, Ccl 86 (the notation "86P" is written in pencil in the lower right corner of the recto). Fol. 2 was used as a flyleaf in Lambach Cml CXXVI (shelf number "126" written in the upper center of the verso; faded notation "126" in pencil in lower right margin of verso). It was briefly described while still in Lambach by Holter (1957), 440, no. 2b.

Fol. 1 was formerly Zinniker 265. Fol. 2 was formerly Beinecke MS 482.1B, Zinniker 60.

Bibliography:

Babcock, Reconstructing a Medieval Library, 8-7, 87 and fig. 45.