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MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE MANUSCRIPTS

MS 482.114 Southwestern Germany or Northern Switzerland, s. XIV^{med}

Heinrich Seuse, Buchlein der Ewigen Weisheit (in Middle High German)

This manuscript was probably written during or shortly after the lifetime of the author (1295-1366), and is among the earliest known copies of the Buchlein. The dialect of this fragment is a combination of Swabian and Alemannic, indicating an origin in the transitional zone between the two dialects, in Southwestern Germany or Northern Switzerland. Because it is written in this combination dialect, the text has many variants from the standard Middle High German text.

ff. 1-2 //und vallent ... in der suezzen//

Heinrich Seuse, Buchlein der Ewigen Weisheit, chaps. 6-7; K. Bihlmeyer, ed.,

Heinrich Seuse: Deutsche Schriften (Stuttgart, 1907), 220.19-224.15.

ff. 3-4 //selbes ein ... und siech es//

Buchlein der Ewigen Weisheit, chaps. 7-9; Bihlmeyer, 228.14-232.2.

Parchment. 4 folios (fols. 1 and 4 and fols. 2 and 3 form bifolia). Fol. 1 measures 171 x 121 mm; fol. 2 measures 134 x 125 mm; fol. 3, 134 x 75 mm; fol. 4, 172 x 76 mm (written space 132 x 95 mm). 1 column. 36 lines. Ruled in ink. Pricking in outer margin.

Written in gothic script (*littera textualis*). 3-line initials at the beginning of chapters are in red and are not set apart from the text. 1-line initials are in black, highlighted with red, and are not set apart from the text. Rubrics are written in red in the same script as the text.

Punctuation consists of the punctus and the vergule.

Contemporary (or slightly later) page numbers in Roman numerals in the upper margins of ff. 1r, 2r and 4r identify them as pp. 14, 16 and 20 of the manuscript. The folio number on f. 3r (originally p. 18) has been cut away. This numbering is consistent with the length of the work. The Buchlein would have filled around 60 folios.

These fragments were used as the binding of a volume measuring ca. 160 x 100 mm.

Zinniker 105.

Bibliography:

Enders, M. *Das mystische Wissen bei Heinrich Seuse* (Paderborn, 1993), 246-316.