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Stephen Wolgast, BA (Kansas St), MS (Columbia), FBS, is Assistant Professor of Journalism and Digital Media at Kansas State University. His previous article examined descriptions of academic dress that students at Columbia published in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. He has been editor of the Transactions since Volume 11.
The aim is to build up a comprehensive resource for those researching the design, history and practice of academical dress.

The Introduction is a brief survey of the key materials on academical dress that are either in print or available in the larger public and university libraries.

The Alphabetical list that follows is intended to cover what has been published on the subject since the beginning of the nineteenth century; earlier items are listed if they include engravings that provide important evidence of robes of the period.

The bibliography grows every year. Suggestions for additions (or corrections) are welcome. Please send e-mails to: webmaster@burgon.org.uk.

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**The Burgon Society Library**

Bibliography of Academical Dress

compiled by Alex Kerr

This Bibliography is in two parts. The Introduction is a brief survey of the key materials on academical dress that are either in print or available in the larger public and university libraries. The Alphabetical list that follows is intended to cover what has been published on the subject since the beginning of the nineteenth century; earlier items are listed if they include engravings that provide important evidence of robes of the period. Successful dissertations submitted for the Fellowship of the Burgon Society, whether published later or not, are listed separately on the Submission page of the Research section of this website.

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Books

Acknowledgement of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge
Edited by Nicholas Jackson
Published in 2016 by the Burgon Society as the first in a series of important texts on the history of academic dress and related topics. Hardback. 84 pages. Includes 37 plates (34 colour, 3 B&W).

Here are reprinted all the plates of academic dress that appeared in Rudolph Ackermann’s two-volume histories of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge published in 1814 and 1815, giving a valuable snapshot of the academic and official dress in use at these Universities at the beginning of the nineteenth century.

Members £18.50/$22; Non-members £24.99/$29.99

Shaw’s Academical Dress of Great Britain and Ireland, 3rd edition, Volume II: Non-Degree-Awarding Bodies
Edited by Nicholas Groves
Published in 2014 by the Burgon Society. Crown Quarto, bound, soft cover. 236 pages.
Members £14.50
(Non-members can buy direct from the printers at www.lulu.com at £18.50 or $31.50)

The Vice-Chancellor’s Committee: The University of West Bromwich Considers the Place of Academic Dress in a Contemporary University, A dramatic discussion with three papers as appendices
By Les Robarts
Published in 2012 by the Burgon Society. A5, perfect binding. 76 pages.
For price, please contact us through one of the email addresses at the top of this page.

Shaw’s Academical Dress of Great Britain and Ireland, 3rd edition, Vol. I
Edited by Nicholas Groves
Published in 2011 by the Burgon Society. Crown Quarto, bound, soft cover. 452 pages.
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(Non-members can buy direct from the printers at www.lulu.com at £27.50 or $49)

Key to the Identification of Academic Hoods of the British Isles, 4th edition
By Nicholas Groves
Published in 2010 by the Burgon Society. A5, comb bound. 65 pages.
Members £8.00; Non-members £12.00

Published by New Prairie Press, 2019
Malachite and Silver: Academic Dress of the University of Stirling
By Colin Fleming
Published in 2009 by the Burgon Society. A5, stapled.
Members £7.50; Non-members £10.00

University of London Academic Dress
By Philip Goff
Published in 1999 by The University of London Press. A5, bound, soft cover. 56 pages.
Members £6.50; Non-members £8.75

Journal
From the Transactions’ first edition in 2001 until its fourth edition in 2004, it was called The Burgon Society Annual, but since 2005 has held its present title.

Transactions of the Burgon Society Crown Quarto format
Volume 16 (2016) Further copies of this volume are available.
Members £12.50/$20 per copy; Non-members £15/$24 per copy

Volume 15 (2015) 96 pages. French influence on the dress of Scottish Doctors of Medicine; how academic dress is mobilized in degree ceremonies; a portrait of an early 18th Century nobleman; American degree colours; and the tradition of academic costume at Acadia University.
Members £12.50/$20 per copy; Non-members £15/$24 per copy

Volume 14 (2014) 112 pages. Articles cover the discovery of an image of a Glasgow Court member’s gown; an account of receiving a Lambeth degree; the influence of the Church on the development of the trencher; academic dress at the Ionian Academy; the history of academic dress in Japan; the introduction of academic dress in China; guidelines for academic dress and colours in Spain; creating officers’ robes for the University of Divinity, Melbourne; and students’ writing on academic dress at Columbia University.
Members £12.50/$20 per copy; Non-members £15/$24 per copy

Volume 13 (2013) 144 pages. Academic dress at Kenyatta University, Kenya; academic dress in Sweden; a sumptuary law of Mary I in 1554–5; Scottish ecclesiastical dress from the Reformation to the present day; academic robes of graduates of Cambridge from the end of the eighteenth century to the present day; the development of academic dress of Oxford from 1920 to 2012.
Members £12.50/$20 per copy; Non-members £15/$24 per copy

Volume 12 (2012) 128 pages. The issue includes a memoriam of Dr John Birch, who served as President of the Burgon Society from the Society’s foundation in 2001 until October 2011. It also reports on academic dress of the University of Glasgow; the conservation of a nineteenth-century student gown of the University of Glasgow by the Hunterian; the dress of rectors at Scottish universities; Queen’s College Oxford and purple as the blood of the Lord; gowns worn by MAs in early-seventeenth-century England and Thomas Thornton’s curious sleeves; a survey of variation in US academic dress and a system of categories for departures; and a study on the history and use of lace in academic gowns in the UK and Ireland.
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Volume 11 (2011) 112 pages. Academic dress in Canterbury; academic dress of the University of Hull; academic dress of the University of Leicester; the demise of ‘faculty’ meanings in US hoods; revisions to the academic dress of the University of Malta.
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Volume 10 (2010)  128 pages. This issue includes articles on the history of the Scottish undergraduate scarlet gown; Walter Pope’s successful fight against the abolition of academical dress at Oxford in 1658; the robes for new doctorates at Oxford, 1895-1920; the debate on proposed academical dress for the Royal Institute of British Architects, 1923–24; and an investigation into the perceived decline of academical dress—and how this trend might be reversed or abated—by tracing the social and cultural forces that have acted upon the tradition in the last hundred years.

Members £10.00/$16 per copy; Non-members £13.00/$21 per copy

Volume 9 (2009) — Special North American Issue  224 pages. Three studies on the Intercollegiate Code of Academic Costume, its development and departures from it; three covering the history and use of robes at Harvard, Princeton, and Columbia Universities; two on Canadian universities in Nova Scotia; an article with detailed illustrations on the making of an American doctoral gown; and a timeline of key events in the history of academic dress in North America.

Members £15.00/$24 per copy; Non-members £20.00/$32 per copy

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Volume 8 (2008)  160 pages. The academical dress of the University of Warwick; trends in the manufacture of gowns and hoods (with detailed descriptions and illustrations); the robes for the Master of Midwifery of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries of London; the origins of the University of Wales robes; the use of the academic hood in quire; notes and corrections to Hargreaves-Mawdsley’s History of Academical Dress; and the personal reminiscences of a life-long student of academical dress.

Members £10.00/$16 per copy; Non-members £13.00/$21 per copy

Volume 7 (2007)  144 pages. Academical dress at the University of Toronto; the question of Lambeth degree holders and the University of London; Wills’s cigarette cards of university hoods and gowns; the robes of the medical Royal Colleges; and academic attire as a component of the livery of the Chapel Royal.

Members £9.00/$14.50 per copy; Non-members £12.50/$20 per copy

Volume 6 (2006)  128 pages. Tudor sumptuary laws; green as the colour for doctor’s robes; Masters of Grammar; the academical dress of the University of Stirling; and academic dress and nursing.

Members £7.50/$12 per copy; Non-members £10.00/$16 per copy

Volume 5 (2005)  128 pages. This issue, which continues the series of Burgon Society Annals under a new name, includes articles on the history of robes in Germany and France; the evolution of English academical dress from the Middle Ages to modern times; Lambeth academical dress; the original London University scheme; gold as the colour of science; and the use of the British Colour Council numbering system by British and Commonwealth universities.

Members £7.50/$12 per copy; Non-members £10.00/$16 per copy

Tie

The Burgon Society Member’s Tie  Available only from the Burgon Society.

Pure silk, produced by James Morton Ties, showing small crimson Burgon shaped hoods between narrow triple stripes of silver, crimson and silver on a dark blue background. Members £25/$40
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