



A POWERFUL VIRTUAL WORKSPACE FOR HISTORICAL RESEARCH

CENDARI will enable the formation of new research questions, through tools for aggregation, interrogation and visualisation of historical sources, source descriptions and other data.

Case study areas:

Medieval culture
First World War



DIGITAL HISTORICAL RESOURCES

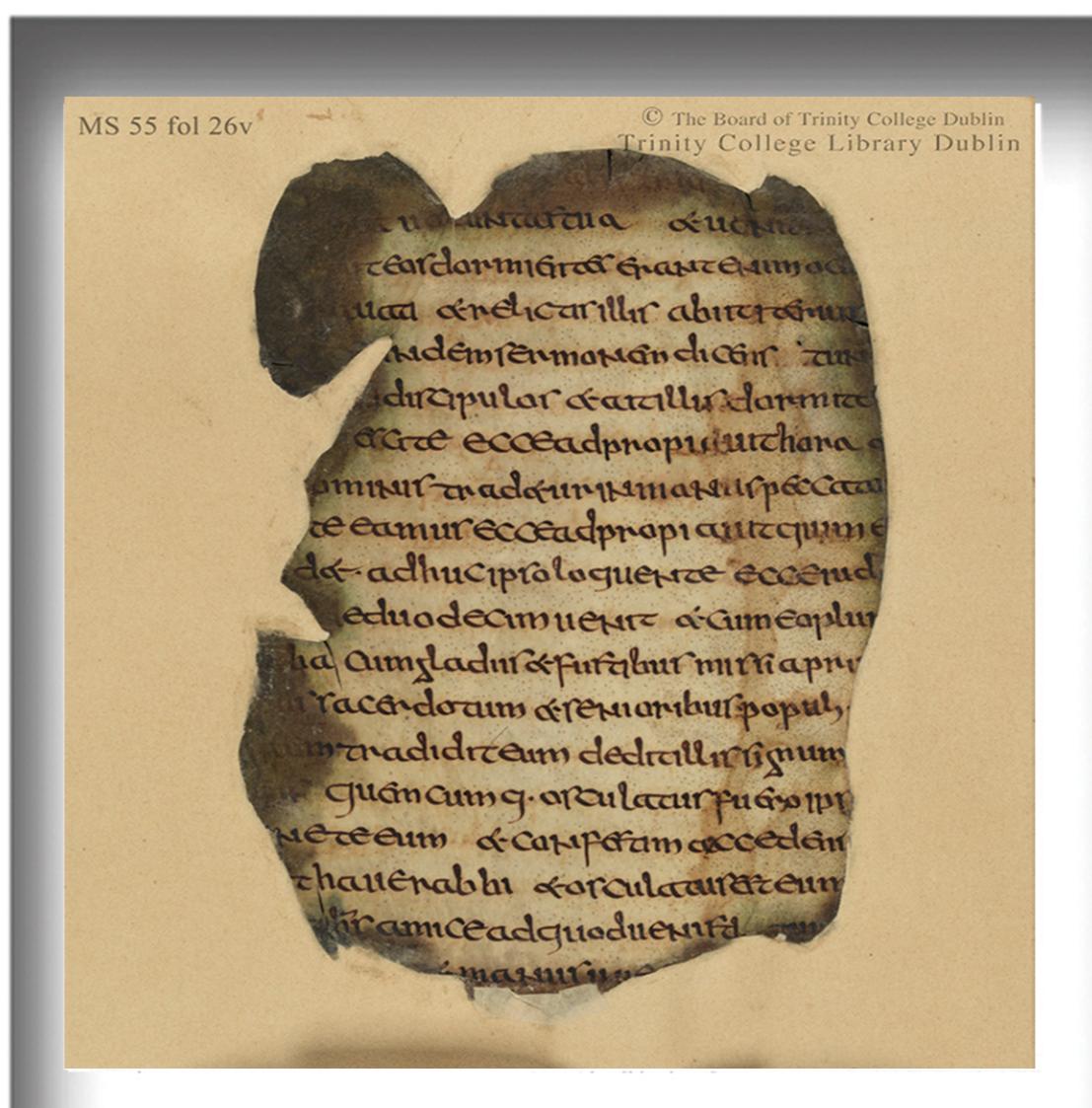
CENDARI has engaged in extensive networking with the archives and libraries of Europe, especially those on the Eastern fringe. The aim has been the creation of a robust process for scoping, enhancing and sharing resources with the institutions.



Integrating institutional data with collection-level descriptions is facilitated by a custom workflow using XML tools and a customised underlying schema.

USER-CENTRED APPROACH

CENDARI has established a nuanced understanding of technical and non-technical barriers to the emergence of widely accepted digital environments for historical research.

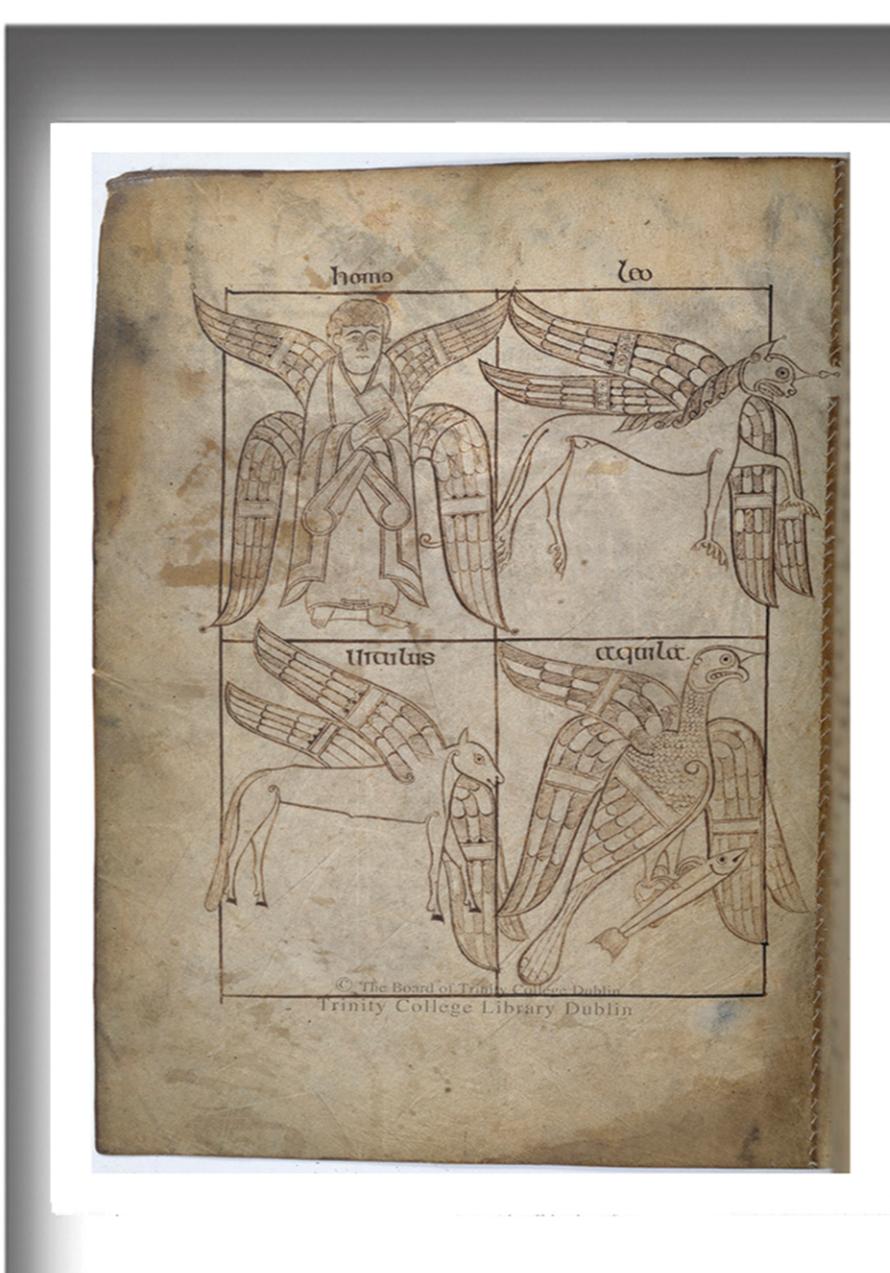


The project strives to accommodate individual research methodologies, rather than predetermining how researchers can work with sources within the CENDARI environment.

The project will enhance the value of currently available stand alone resources and tools. This will lead to faster knowledge creation and exchange among historians and the emergence of new forms of scholarly community.

TECHNICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

The challenge of integrating heterogenous data sources with services and tools has led to a very open approach to architecture, combining a Data Space with a Blackboard.



The data space approach lowers the up-front costs associated with a record. The intelligence about these objects can be layered on with ontologies by individual users, RDF-based data resources, NLP toolkits etc held in the Blackboard.

TRANSNATIONAL ACCESS FELLOWSHIPS

The CENDARI Research Fellowships support and stimulate historical research in our two case study areas, facilitating access to key archives, specialist knowledge and collections in CENDARI host institutions.

The project is committed to hosting early career scholars who aim to apply a digital humanities approach to research, as well as those from countries without equivalent research infrastructures.



SUMMER SCHOOLS



The annual Summer Schools (2013, '14, '15) are designed to address collections-based challenges to trans-national research, such as how to represent sources that have become 'hidden' or lost through accidents of history.

NEXT STEPS

Completing the first set of prototypes, testing the end-to-end implementation of workflows in a contextualised environment, completion of detailed Archival Research Guides and recruitment of content into the CENDARI system.