

included booksellers' catalogs Jefferson had acquired in the past or recently solicited, but his preferences and experience in forming libraries over the course of his life would also have exerted a governing influence; Jefferson's existing library catalogs were his likeliest and most reliable source in creating the 1824 catalog. Indeed, a catalog of the University of Virginia's library printed in 1828 (that is, after Jefferson's death and after most of the books listed in the lost 1824 catalog had been ordered, delivered, and installed in the Rotunda) lists a collection of just over 3,400 titles in 8,000 volumes.⁴⁶ Of these titles, a majority are listed in the 1823 Trist catalog—the catalog most recently commissioned by Jefferson when he began his desiderata list in 1824.

The simplest explanation for this coincidence of entries is that Jefferson employed the 1823 Trist catalog as a base-text in compiling the 1824 catalog. And as such, the 1823 Trist catalog was not an attempt at reconstituting Jefferson's "lost" ordering of his books; or at least not only. While it *did* reorder the entries in the 1815 printed catalog according to Jefferson's "chronological-analytical" arrangement, it also provided a baseline enumeration of the titles and editions intended to fill the Rotunda's shelves. In the next section, we examine two catalogs subsequent to Jefferson's 1824 desiderata to show that the evidence for a filiation linking the 1823 Trist catalog and the lost 1824 catalog is textual, rather than merely circumstantial. We contend that the 1823 Trist catalog was the textual foundation of the University of Virginia's first library and was compiled and commissioned with the impending creation of the 1824 catalog in mind.⁴⁷ More precisely, we suggest that the primary purpose of Trist's 1823 catalog was one of expedience. In planning the university's library, Jefferson required a full and clear record of his own library at its greatest extent—that is, immediately before it was sold to Congress in 1814—but arranged in a manner that was familiar to him.

46. The University of Virginia Library published a facsimile reproduction of this catalog in 1945. See University of Virginia Library and William Peden, *1828 Catalogue of the Library of the University of Virginia: Reproduced in Facsimile with an Introduction by William Harwood Peden*, University of Virginia Bibliographical Series (Charlottesville: Printed for the Alderman Library of the University of Virginia, 1945).

47. While Jefferson's so-called "retirement library" catalog may have served as another copy text, the extent and topical range of Jefferson's 1783 catalog was a better model for the University of Virginia's first library. In contrast, Jefferson viewed the retirement library as "a collection for my self of such as may amuse my hours of reading" (Thomas Jefferson to David Bailie Warden, 27 February 1815, polygraph copy in Thomas Jefferson Papers, Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/m7jbib021010/>). The retirement library also comprised only 1600 volumes, many of which also appear in the 1783 catalog. We exclude the retirement catalog from our stemma, as it is textually unrelated to the seven catalogs and lists we examine here. The books that formed this "retirement" library were, however, willed to the University after Jefferson's death. In advance of the transfer of these books to the University, titles that were already held in the Rotunda were marked with an "L" in Jefferson's retirement catalog. These were presumably withheld from the bequest to avoid duplication on the Rotunda's shelves. The Thomas Jefferson's Libraries project has published a detailed account of the retirement catalog's origins and compilation. See "Retirement Library Catalogue," *Thomas Jefferson's Libraries*, <http://tjlibraries.monticello.org/tjandreading/retirement.html>.