

hisp. quart. 30

Binding:

Parchment binding, typical of Spain in the 17th and 18th centuries with two loop fastenings, the front cover includes the title in ink, a drawing of a cross, six stars arranged in a triangle, red edges, endpapers made of white paper, original.

History:

The manuscript is one of many copies of a collection of rules concerning the Spanish court etiquette and description of palace ceremonies. There is no date on which it was written, nor indication of any place or the author. It was made in Spain in the 17th century or at the beginning of the 18th century, after 1651 (the last date mentioned in the text). The manuscript does not include the name of its first owner, it might have been somebody from a family whose members served as majordomos or other courtiers. The manuscript does not include any notes indicating its history. We do not know how it reached the Königliche Bibliothek. Lack of accession number indicates that it was owned by the Königliche Bibliothek before 1828, the year of establishment of the accession register.

Content:

The manuscript includes two texts connected with organisation of life at the royal court in Spain in the first half of the 17th century. I (1r^o-269v^o) *Etiquetas de Palacio* describes responsibilities and remuneration of people employed at the royal court, from a majordomo, through the kitchen, medical, room and religious staff to a barber and a shoemaker. II (271r^o-469v^o) *Fiestas Reales solemnes* describes court ceremonies such as: reception of a Turkish ambassador and other high envoys, an oath taken by infants, rules connected with military orders, etc. It is one of numerous copies of a collection of rules concerning the Spanish court etiquette reformed by the king of Spain, Philip VI, in 1617. Copies from the 17th and the 18th

centuries are kept in the Archivo General de Palacio, Biblioteca Nacional de España, Biblioteca Municipal de Madrid, in private libraries, cf. Margaret Rich Greer, John E. Varey, “El Teatro Palaciego en Madrid, 1586-1707: Estudio y documentos,” Tamesis, London 1997, pp. 232-235. The above study, listing around forty known copies, does not mention the *Hispanica* Quart. 30. The copies differ in technical details (orthography, the ways that numbers and dates are written, use of abbreviations, page layouts) and contents, e.g. ms. 8.740 from BNE (closest to the *Hispanica* Quart. 30) describes later events, to 1634. With reference to this manuscript, cf. Lemm, p. 106.