

## **Bentley Layton**

Department of Religious Studies, Yale University  
451 College Street, P.O. Box 208287  
New Haven, Connecticut 06520-8287  
Tel. (203) 432-0828, FAX (203) 432-7844  
bentley.layton@yale.edu

### **Education**

1971: Harvard, Ph.D. Dissertation: "The Treatise on Resurrection (from the Coptic Gnostic Library): Edition, Translation, and Commentary." Director: Helmut Koester.

1970, 1972–1975: private study of Coptic and linguistics with H. J. Polotsky, Jerusalem.

1963: Harvard, A.B. summa cum laude.

### **Employment record**

2000–: Goff Chair of Religious Studies, Yale University

1983– : Professor of Religious Studies (Ancient Christianity) and Professor of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (Coptic), Yale University. Affiliated professor in departments of Classics and History.

1978–83: Associate Professor (Religious Studies), Yale

1976–78: Assistant Professor (Religious Studies), Yale

1971–76: Visiting Professor (Early Christian Literature), École biblique et archéologique française, Jerusalem.

### **Subjects taught**

History of Christianity from the origins to Islam, especially ecclesiastical history and history of literature; and related graduate seminars and tutorials.

Gnostic religion and literature.

Techniques of Greek epigraphy (inscriptions on stone).

Coptic language and theory of syntax.

Critical edition of texts.

Ancient manuscript studies.

Ancient Monasticism.

Historiography.

### **Participation in research projects and editorial boards**

UNESCO Technical Subcommittee for Publication of Nag Hammadi Codices, Coptic Museum, Cairo. 12/71, 12/72, 9/73, 8–10/74, 1/75, 8–9/75, 4/76, 12/76.

Staff, British Library, Department of Oriental Manuscripts and Printed Books, London, to write descriptive catalogue of holdings in Coptic. Associated research in Oxford, Cambridge, Manchester, Vatican, Vienna, Paris, Leiden.

Organizer and director, International Conference on Gnosticism at Yale, March 28–31, 1978.

Member of editorial team to edit the works of the ancient Coptic author Apa Shenoute; editor of volumes 4 and 5 of the *Canons* (in preparation, to appear in CSCO series).

Editorial board, *Journal of Coptic Studies*.

Series editor, *Corpus Scriptorum Christianorum Orientalium, Series Coptica*.

### Major research grants

Yale Egyptological Institute in Egypt, 2005–, annual grants for excavation and survey of the church and monastery of Shenoute at Sohag, Egypt, (survey director, project historian).

ACLS Fellowship, 1983, to develop and write a Coptic reference grammar.

NEH Research Materials Program project (director, principal investigator), 1983–85, to develop and write a Coptic reference grammar.

Guggenheim Fellowship, 1979–80, for cataloguing of British Library manuscripts (author).

NEH Research and Development Grant, 1977–78, to hold an international conference at Yale (director).

NEH Summer Stipend, 1977, to write a book on a Gnostic text (author).

## PUBLICATIONS, BY RESEARCH AREA

### A. Gnosticism

1974, 1976. *The Hypostasis of the Archons, Or, The Reality of the Rulers . . . Newly Edited from the Cairo Manuscript, with an English Translation, Preface, and Explanatory Notes*, serialized in *Harvard Theological Review* 67, 351–425; 69, 1–71. 146 pp.

1975. Prolegomena to a Critical Edition of the Hypostasis of the Archons, in *Coptic Studies in Honour of Pahor Labib* (Nag Hammadi Studies 5; Leiden: Brill) 90–109.

1977. Editorial Notes on the Expository Tractate Concerning the Soul from Nag Hammadi, *Bulletin of the American Society of Papyrologists* 14, 65–73.

1977. The Hypostasis of the Archons (translation), in *Nag Hammadi Library in English* (ed. James M. Robinson; New York: Harper & Row) 152–160.

1978. The Soul as a Dirty Garment, *Le Muséon* 91, 155–169.

1978. *The Gnostic Treatise on Resurrection from Nag Hammadi* (Harvard Dissertations in Religion; Missoula, Mont.: Harvard Theological Review). 220 pp.

1980, 1981. Edited: *The Rediscovery of Gnosticism, Proceedings of the International Conference on Gnosticism at Yale* (Studies in the History of Religions 41; Leiden: Brill). 2 vols. 912 pp.

1981. Vision and Revision: A Gnostic View of Resurrection, *Colloque international sur les textes de Nag Hammadi* (Quebec: Les Presses de l'Université) 190–217.

1981. The Recovery of Gnosticism: The Philologist's Task in the Investigation of Nag Hammadi, *Second Century: A Journal of Early Christian Studies* 1, 85–99.

1986. The Riddle of the Thunder (NHC VI,2) : The Function of Paradox in a Gnostic Text from Nag Hammadi, *Nag Hammadi, Gnosticism, and Early Christianity* (C. W. Hedrick, R. Hodgson, eds.; Peabody, MA: Hendrickson) , 37–54.

1987. L'Énigme du Tonnère (Bronte, NHC VI,2) : La fonction du paradoxe dans un texte gnostique de Nag Hammadi (trans. by J.-D. Kaestli), *Revue de théologie et de philosophie* 119, 261–280.

1987. *The Gnostic Scriptures: A New Translation with Annotations* (New Haven, Connecticut: Yale Univ. Press; originally Doubleday). 568 pp.

1988. Critical editions of six texts, editorial introduction, editorial revision of prefaces and translations by other scholars (206 pp.), in *The Coptic Gnostic Library: Nag Hammadi Codex II* (Nag Hammadi Studies 20, 21; Leiden: Brill) . 2 volumes. 686 pp.
1991. Critical edition of the work "Zostrianos" (98 pp.), in Bentley Layton, Marvin Meyer, John Sieber, and Frederik Wisse, *The Coptic Gnostic Library: Nag Hammadi Codex VIII* (Leiden: Brill).
2004. *Coptic-Gnostic Chrestomathy: A Selection of Coptic Texts with Grammatical Analysis and Glossary* (Leuven: Peeters). 226 pp.

## **B. Manuscript studies**

1973. The Text and Orthography of the Coptic Hypostasis of the Archons, *Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik* 11, 173–200, Plate IVc.
1985. Towards a New Coptic Palaeography, *Acts of the Second International Congress of Coptic Studies, Rome 1980* (Rome: C.I.M.) , 149–158.
1987. *Catalogue of Coptic Literary Manuscripts in the British Library Acquired since the Year 1906* (London: British Library). 511 pp. + 32 plates.
- See also Gnosticism (critical editions of works from ancient manuscripts)

## **C. Coptic linguistics**

1976. The Coptic Language, in *Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible Supplementary Volume* (Nashville: Abingdon) 174–179, 2 tables, map.
1981. Compound Prepositions in Sahidic Coptic, in *Festschrift for Hans Jakob Polotsky* (ed. D. W. Young; Gloucester: Pirtle & Polson) 239–260.
1990. The Coptic Determinator Syntagm and Its Constituents, *Journal of Coptic Studies* 1, 79–97.
1993. Four Years of Progress in Coptic Linguistics, *Acts of the Fifth International Congress of Coptic Studies, Washington, 12–15 August 1992* (Rome: CIM), vol. 1, 97–110.
1999. A Penultimate Personal Object Morph in Classical Sahidic Coptic, *Ägypten und Nubien in spätantiker und christlicher Zeit: Akten des 6. Internationalen Koptologenkongresses Münster, 20.–26. Juli 1996*, ed. S. Emmel, et al. (Wiesbaden: Reichert), vol. 2, 347–58.
2000. *A Coptic Grammar with Chrestomathy and Glossary: Sahidic Dialect* (Porta Linguarum Orientalium, n.s. 20; Wiesbaden, Harrassowitz;
2004. 2d ed. revised and expanded, 544 pp.
2006. *Coptic in Twenty Lessons: Introduction to Sahidic Coptic with Exercises and Vocabularies* (Leuven: Peeters) 204 pp.
- 2010, in press. 3d edition, revised, of *A Coptic Grammar with Christomathy and Glossary: Sahidic Dialect* (Porta Linguarum Orientalium, n.s. 20; Wiesbaden, Harrassowitz;

## **D. Monasticism in Late Antiquity**

1983. The "Missing" Fragments of a Shenute Homily, *Orientalia* 52, 424–5.
1992. Two Unpublished Shenute Fragments Against Kronos: Layton, Brit. Lib. Nos. 90 and 91, *Journal of Coptic Studies* 2, 117–128, plates 71–74.
2002. Social Structure and Food Consumption in an Early Christian Monastery: The Evidence of Shenoute's Canons and the White Monastery Federation A.D. 385–465, *Le Muséon* 115, 25–55.

2006. Nouvelles recherches sur la vie au monastère de Chenouté, in *Études coptes IX, Onzième journée d'études*, ed. A. Boud'hors, J. Gascou, and D. Vaillancourt (Cahiers de la Bibliothèque copte 14), Paris, pp. 233–37.
- 2006–. “The White Monastery Project” (website). [http://www.yale.edu/egyptology/ae\\_white.htm](http://www.yale.edu/egyptology/ae_white.htm)
2007. Rules, Patterns, and the Exercise of Power in Shenoute’s Monastery: The Problem of World Replacement and Identity Maintenance, *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 15, 45–73.
2008. The Ancient Rules of Shenoute’s Monastic Federation, in *Christianity and Monasticism in Upper Egypt*, vol. 1 *Akhmim and Sohag* (Cairo), pp. 73–81.
2009. The Monastic Rules of Shenoute’s White Monastery, in *The Administration of Monastic Estates in Late Antiquity: Essays in Honour of Sarah Clackson* (ASP 40; American Society of Papyrologists, Cincinnati).
2009. Some Observations on Shenoute’s Sources: Who Are Our Fathers?, *Journal of Coptic Studies* 11, 45–59.
- 2010 in press. Punishing the Nuns: A Reading of Shenoute’s Letters to the Nuns in Canons, Book Four. In festschrift for Tito Orlandi. *Studia Anselmiana*.
- 2010– in preparation. *The Canons of Our Fathers: The Shape of Monastic Community in Fourth Century Egypt*. Under contract to Oxford Univ. Press, UK.
- 2010– in preparation. *The Canons of Shenoute. Books Four and Five*. *Corpus Scriptorum Orientalium Christianorum*, series Coptic. Critical edition of Coptic Texts.
- 2010– in preparation. *The Canons of Shenoute. Books Four and Five*. *Corpus Scriptorum Orientalium Christianorum*, series Coptic. English translations.

#### **E. Other Subjects**

1968. The Sources, Date, and Transmission of Didache 1.2b–3.1, *Harvard Theological Review* 61, 343–383.
1970. A Penthemeros Certificate in Harvard University, *Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik* 6, 183–185, Plate IXc.
1990. The Future of Our Association: Presidential Address, *Coptic Studies: Acts of the Third International Congress of Coptic Studies* (ed. W. Godlewski; Warsaw: PWN) 15–20.

#### **Academic honors, awards**

- Goff Chair of Religious Studies, Yale University, 2000–.
- President, New Haven Oriental Club (1986–7).
- ACLS Senior Fellowship, 1983.
- President, International Association for Coptic Studies, 1980–84.
- Guggenheim Fellow, 1979–80.
- ACLS Senior Fellowship, 1979–80 (declined).
- Vice-president, International Association for Coptic Studies, 1976–80.
- American delegate, First International Colloquium on the Future of Coptic Studies, Cairo 1976, as guest of Egyptian government.
- Oxford, Honorary Member of Senior Common Room, Christ Church College, 1969.
- Harvard Society of Fellows. Four-year Junior Fellowship for interdisciplinary research in Classical philology, Egyptian linguistics, and ancient history, 1967–71.
- Publication prize, Christian Research Foundation (Harvard), 1966.
- Woodrow Wilson Fellow, 1963–71.
- Phi Beta Kappa, alpha Massachusetts, 1963.

Layton c.v.

Detur award (Harvard), 1962.

Harvard National Scholar, 1959–71.

National Merit Scholar, 1959–63.