**The Wellcome Histories – Sarah L. Peverley**

1454. England. Two short historical texts survive uniquely in London, Wellcome MS 8004, a volume otherwise concerned with medical, astrological, astronomical and prognostic texts. The first is a brief epitome of universal and English history covering select events from the birth of Cain to the Battle of Agincourt (1415). It concludes with a summary of England’s demographic divisions derived from Ranulph Higden’s *Polychronicon*. The second text, which follows the first, offers a synopsis of major battles from the Battle of Stamford Bridge (1066) to Verneuil (1424). It is particularly attentive to battles fought in the north of England or Scotland. Aspects of both texts have an affinity with material found in Higden’s Polychronicon and The Prose Brut, but they have the greatest correspondence with the structure and content of the short history found in Folger Shakespeare Library MS V.a.198 (5r-6r), which Kennedy has labelled the *Folger Brief History*.

Bibliography  
Text: Peverley, Sarah L., ‘Divining the Past in London, Wellcome Library ms 8004: A Study and Edition of the Historical Notes in a Fifteenth-Century English Compendium’, *The Medieval Chronicle 15* (Brill, 2023), 240-52.

Manuscripts

London, Wellcome Library MS 8004