

## A Mathematical Chaplain: The Books of Richard Bestwick

A contribution to our celebration of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the  
Savilian Professorships in Geometry and Astronomy

One of the largest early donations

That Mr. Ellis Price, Batchelor of Arts of Brasenose College in Oxon, was Elected and chosen for schoolemaster.in the place of Mr. Richard Bestwick who hath resigned his place.

Bestwick resigned because he had been appointed vicar of Westport in Wiltshire<sup>3</sup> not a particularly rich living<sup>3</sup> where he remained until his death in .1705

until the mid-1660s, and so it is possible that they became acquainted. Rawlinson gave Bestwick one of his old engravings, and Bestwick pasted it into an appropriate book. Otherwise we are looking at a book with an Oxonian life prior to its ownership by Bestwick.

Richard D ZOLQVRQ · V HQJUDYLQJ RI (FOLSVH  
New College Library, Oxford, BT3.154.9

Bestwick's second set of books is also notable for its Arabic interest. Its first shipment had included the Savilian Professor of Astronomy, John





Jo: Ant: Maginus nova Cælestium orbium Theoricæ.

Maginus Johanne Antonius. Novæ coelestium orbium theoricæ congruentes cum observationibus N. Copernici  
Damianus Zenarius, 1689.

BT3.181.4(1) Eighteenth century binding, now bound with Galilei's *Storia e Dimostrazioni intorno alle macchie  
solaris* (Rome, 1613), donated by Thomas Tanner.

Joh: Greivus Elementa Linguæ Persicæ Siglis Arabum et Persarum Astronomicis.

