



Diversifying the Repertoire with ArCla (Archives of Classical Scholarship)

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Abstract

In Classical Studies, there is a plethora of *unfinished works* found within personal papers collections located all over the world. Additionally, women and refugee scholars’ work is not most visible in the standard canon. The Archives of Classical Scholarship (ArCla) addresses both problems, in creating a database combining multiple source materials with scholars’ names. Then, through Westbrook’s use of WorldCat & ArchiveGrid, contact with individual archivists, and exploration of specific university collections, the locations of scholars’ collections were found and recorded so that future generations can complete the unfinished works. ArCla currently has 4,533 records, 2,239 of which were added since September, 2019.

Method

There are nine separate sources comprising the ArCla:

- 1: Briggs, 1994
- 2: Wyles & Hall 2016,
- 3: Gaichas 1996,
- 4: Calder 1992a,
- 5: Cohen & Joukowsky 2004,
- 6: Briggs & Calder 1990,
- 7: Gudeman 1911,
- 8: Edgcomb 1993, and
- 9: Calder 1992b *.

To find the above sources, we communicated with colleagues in the Forum for Classics, Libraries, and Scholarly Communication (FCLSC). Additionally, Westbrook consulted the Five College Archive and Manuscript Collection. We specifically targeted works related to the history of Classics (Gaichas, supplying 2,001 new people!), women scholars (Calder), and Jewish refugee scholars (Briggs, Edgcomb).

If a scholar’s papers could not be located, their correspondence, personal journals, or original manuscripts were linked to instead. If the main affiliated university of the scholar was known, Westbrook contacted the lead archivist at that university to see if they knew the location of the scholar’s papers. If still no original source material was found, Westbrook searched the scholar’s name in the Library of Congress Name Authority File. The number of works the scholar published, including their most well-known, was noted in place of the papers. Finally, if absolutely no additional information could be found, “No information found as of this date” was recorded instead. View our references & work at <https://classicsforum.github.io/ArCla/>

Current Prototype

Birthplace

United States

Germany

Italy

Greece

a

b

c

d

e

f

g

Main Affiliation Region

US West

US Midwest

US Northeast

US South

Germany

Italy

Greece

h

i

Location of Papers

US West

US Midwest

US Northeast

US South

California

Massachusetts

New York

Greece

Final Degree

PhD

Doctorate

Master's

Bachelor's

High School and Other

Birthdate Vicennial (20 Years)

1701-1720

1721-1740

1741-1760

1761-1780

1781-1800

1801-1820

1821-1840

1841-1860

1861-1880

1881-1900

1901-1920

1921-1940

1941-1960

1961-1980

1981-2000

2001-2020

Deathdate Vicennial (20 Years)

1701-1720

1721-1740

1741-1760

1761-1780

1781-1800

1801-1820

1821-1840

1841-1860

1861-1880

1881-1900

1901-1920

1921-1940

1941-1960

1961-1980

1981-2000

2001-2020

Main Affiliation US State

☐ ?

AL

AL

AR

AR

AZ

CA

CA

CO

CO

CO, OH, PA

CT

CT

CT, IL

CT, IN

CT, NY

CT, WI

DC

DE

DE

FL

FL

GA

GA

IA

IA

IA, IL

IA, MI

IA, MN

IA, NC

IA, NY

ID

ID

IL

IL

IL or MA? MA

IL, MA

IL, NY

IN

IN

IN, MA

KS

KS

KY

KY

LA

LA

MA

MA

MA, CT

MA, MN

MA, NY

MA, OH

MA, OH

MA, PA

MA, PA

MA, PA, NY

MD

MD

MD, CA

MD, MA

MD, MS

MD, NJ

ME

ME

ME, CA

MI

MI

MI, PA

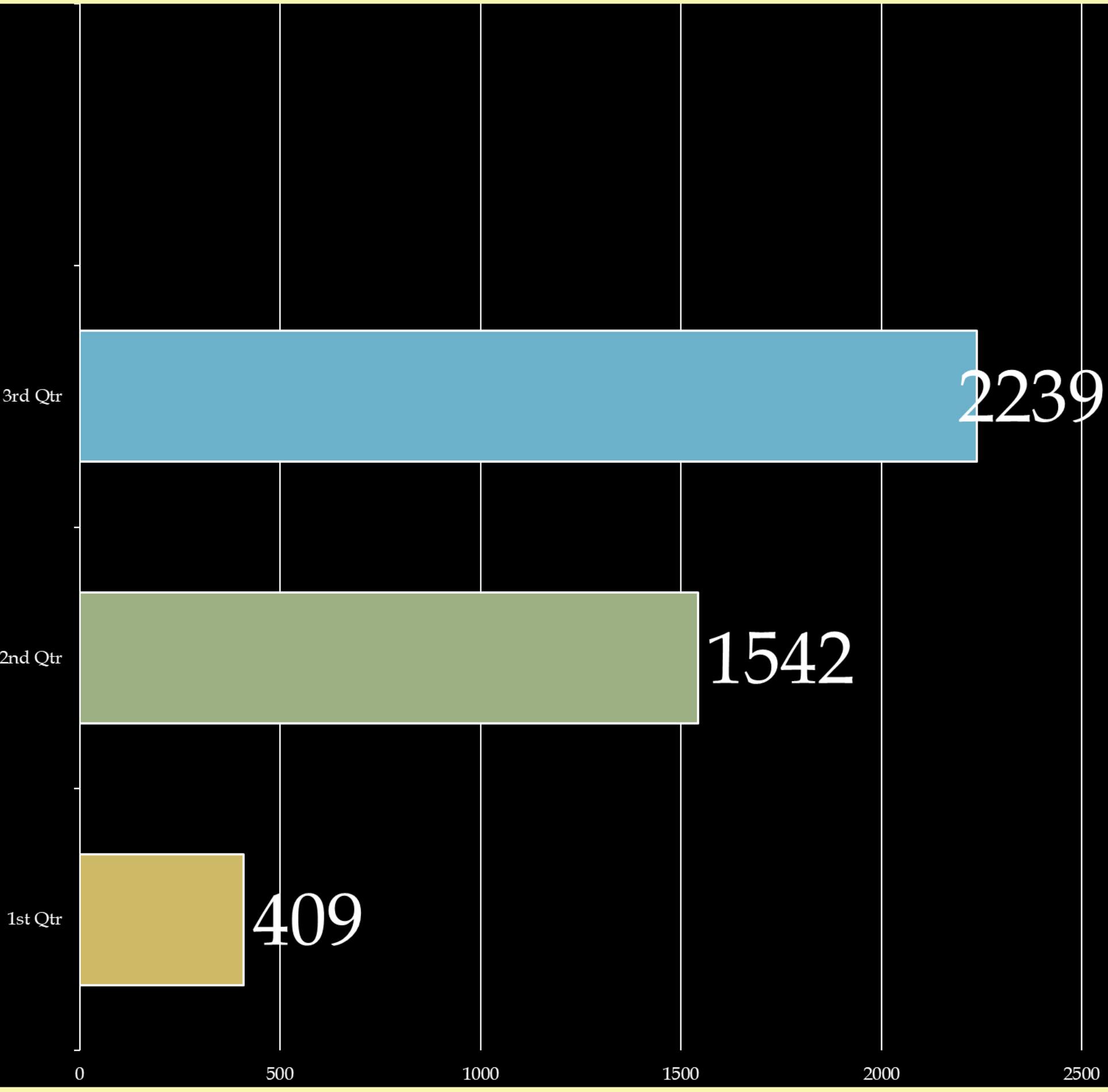
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First+Middle Name	Last Name	Birthplace	Main Affiliation	Main Affiliation Region	Location of Papers Region	Final Degree	Birthdate Vicennial	Deathdate Vicennial	Degree Granting Institution	Main Affiliation US State	Woman?	Refugee?	Collection Name+Number
Frank Frost	Abbott	Redding, CT	Princeton University	US Northeast	US Northeast	PhD	1841-1860	1921-1940	Yale	NJ			Pal Elmer More Papers (1916), 2699
Kenneth Morgan	Abbott	Lincoln, NE	Ohio State; U. Illinois	US Northeast	US Northeast	PhD	1901-1920	1981-2000	Illinois	OH, IL			OCLC: 1432147
Charles Darwin	Adams	Keene, NH	Dartmouth			PhD, Litt. D			Kiel, Dartmouth	NH			Adams Papers, MS 0501
Sinclair MacIardy	Adams	London, ON	Trinity College, U. Toronto			MA			U.Toronto	CT			.
Walter Raymond	Agard	Rockville, CT	U. Wisconsin			L.H.D.			Colby College	WI			.
Caleb	Alexander	Northfield, MA	Hamilton College			BA, AM (honorary)			Yale, Rhode Island College	NY			A grammatical institute of the Latin la the use of Latin schools in the US, 47
Eben	Alexander	Knoxville, TN	U. North Carolina			LL.D			Maryville College, U.	NC			Eben Alexander Papers, , 1209

ArCla currently utilizes GitHub. With this program, the user can limit the number of scholars shown, based on categories ranging from region to refugee status. Data available includes: First and Middle Name, Last Name, Birth Date, Death Date, , Final Degree, Granting Institute, Main Affiliation, Paper Location, Collection Name, Collection Number, Related Links, Correspondence, Woman, Refugee, Birth Place, Main Affiliation U.S. State, and Source Number.

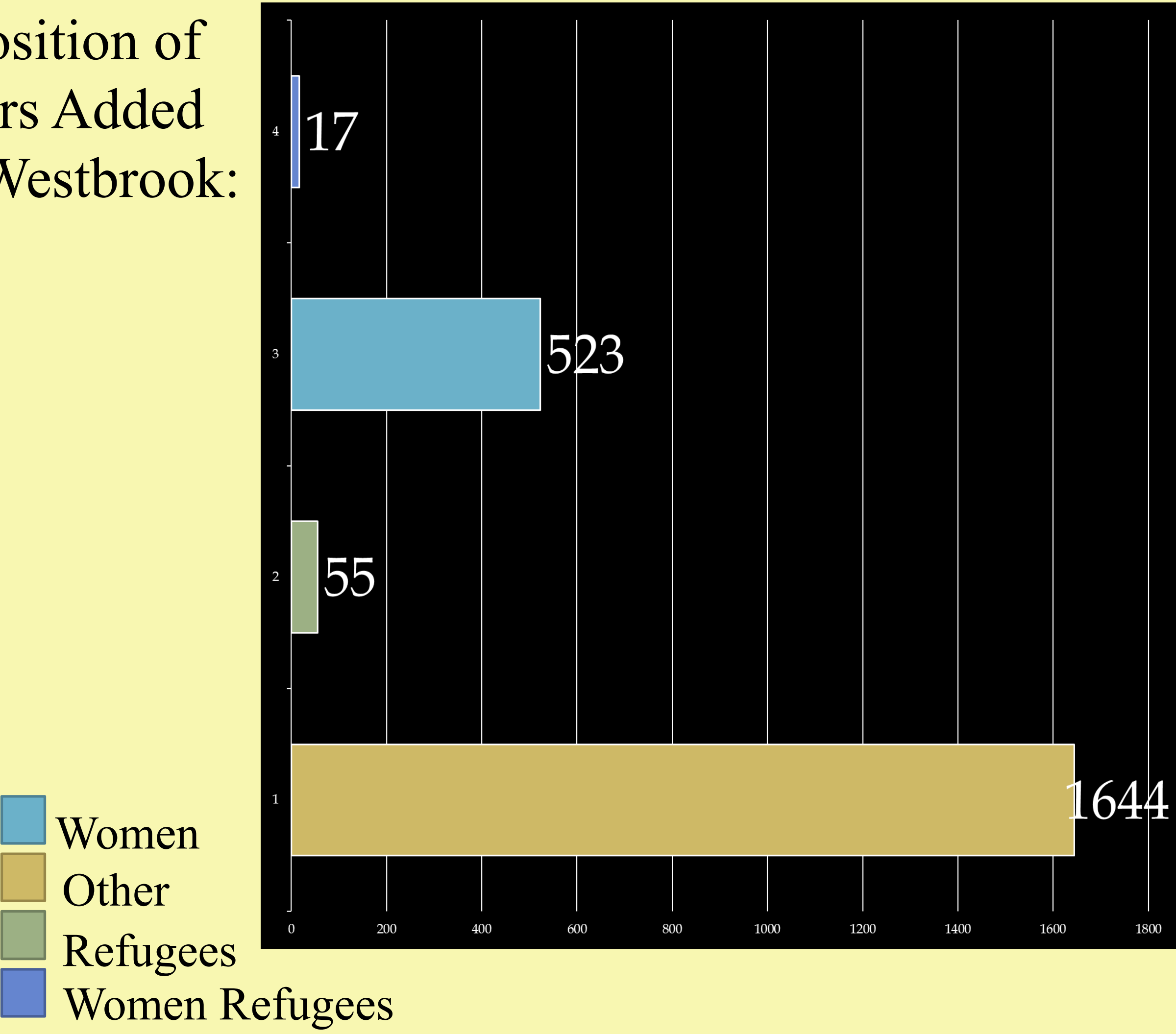
Current Composition

Amount of Entries Added:



- L. Westbrook’s year in project, 2019-20
- C. Field’s year in project, 2017
- From original dataset, 2016

Composition of Scholars Added by L. Westbrook:



Timeline

Jan 2005: Est. FCLSC and members’ commitment to a “finding aid” of scholars.

Jan 6, 2007: ArCla prototype continues development; other aggregators discussed within FCLSC.

Jan 2013: ArCla developers decide to focus on manuscripts, especially if unpublished or at risk of loss. Advisors also decide to broaden scope to include refugee scholars.

Jan-Feb 2017: S. Buchanan and C. Fields begin data transfer to new host site.

May 2017: Transfer/consolidation from original dataset (409) complete; incorporation of new sources begins, using GitHub platform. Bimonthly meetings/refinement. Late August: ArCla records 1951 scholars.

Jan 2006: Dr. Rebecka Lindau (Princeton) presents ArCla prototype at FCLSC, a group of the Society for Classical Studies. Five other FCLSC participants begin to develop additional records for database.

Jan 2016: Contributors suggest a pilot effort on refugee scholars given the comprehensiveness of classical scholarship. In the Fall, S. Buchanan works with Lindau and Dr. Larissa Bonfante (NYU, 1931-2019) on scope, receives dataset, and secures funding to revamp the prototype and create a dedicated online directory in 2017.

Aug 2019 – Mar 2020: L. Westbrook joins project, completes 3,7,8, and adds an additional source (* 9) totaling 2,239 new records to ArCla.