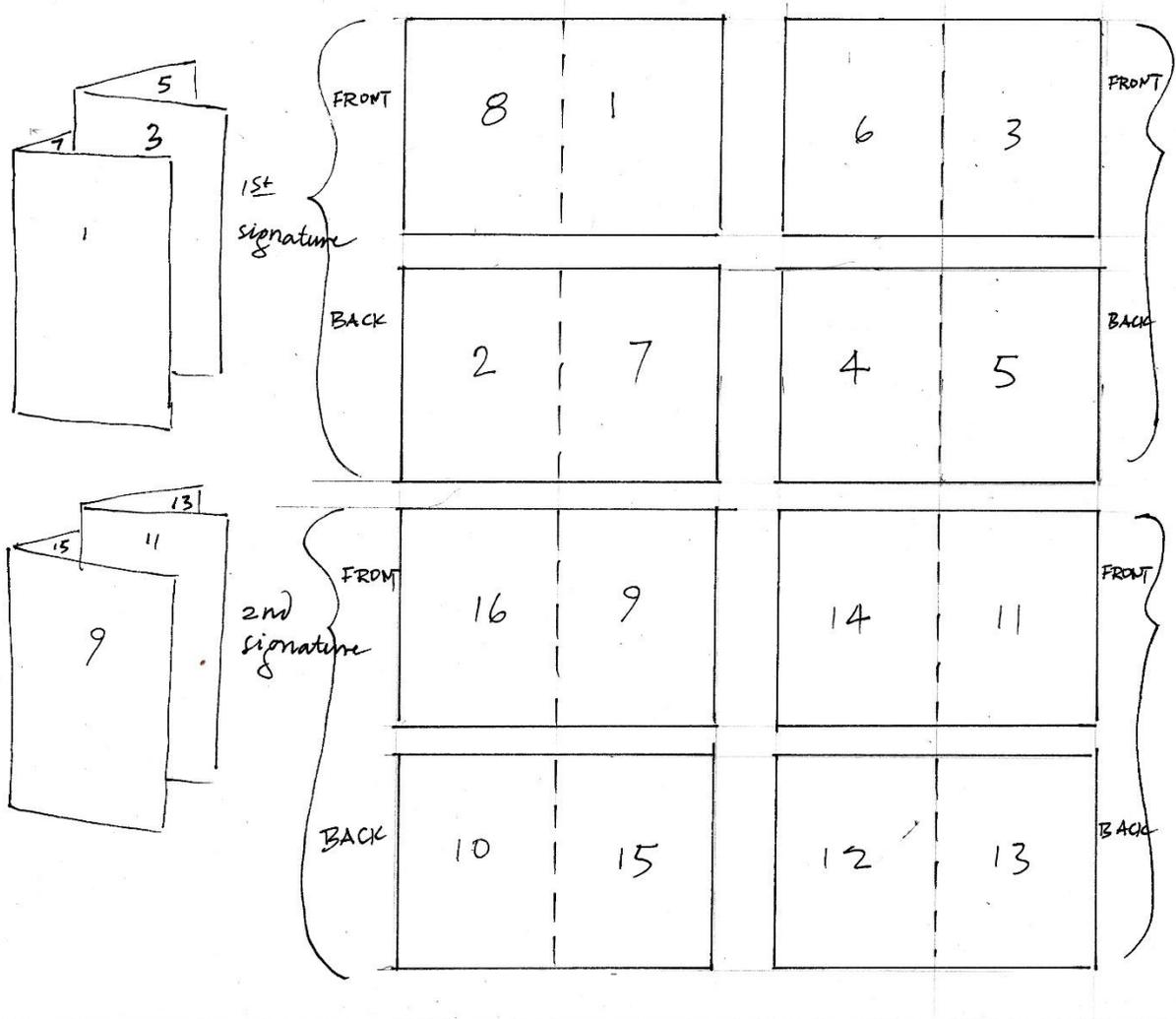


Long Stitch Binding

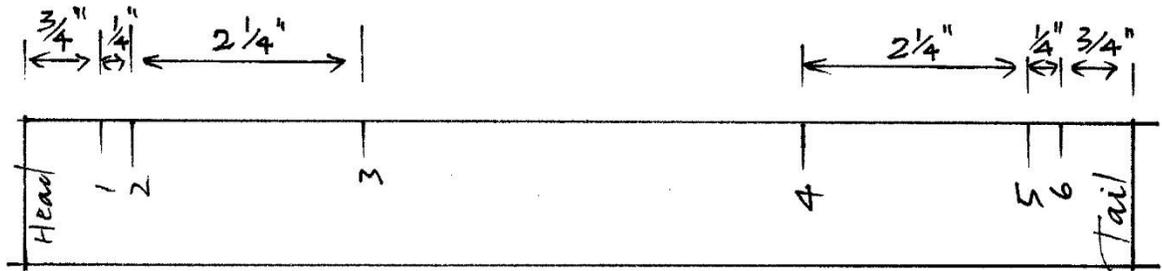
Based on a 14th Century Manuscript



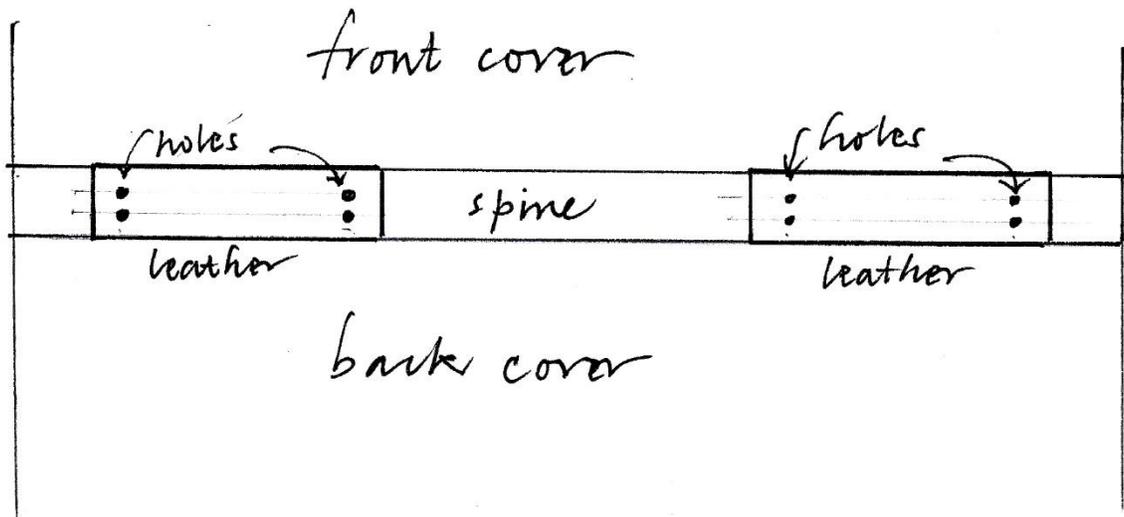
Page Imposition—how the numbered pages are arranged

1. Fold and collate the two text signatures (or quires). Each signature consists of two folded sheets, one inserted inside the other, yielding eight pages.
2. Fold and collate two additional blank signatures in the same manner. These will form the endsheets. The book will have a total of four signatures.
3. Lay the four signatures one atop the other and press down lightly. Measure the thickness of the spine—about $\frac{3}{16}$ " (?—to be checked with the actual materials used).
4. Fold the cover sheet to form a spine panel $\frac{3}{16}$ " wide, centered on the sheet, forming the front cover, the spine, and the back cover.
5. Cut a strip of cover sheet $\frac{3}{16}$ " wide and glue to the inside of the spine of the cover.
6. Cut two leather strips $\frac{3}{16}$ " wide by $2\frac{3}{4}$ " long. Glue these to the outside of the spine, $\frac{3}{4}$ " in from either end.

7. On a paper strip, mark the sewing stations as shown in the diagram.

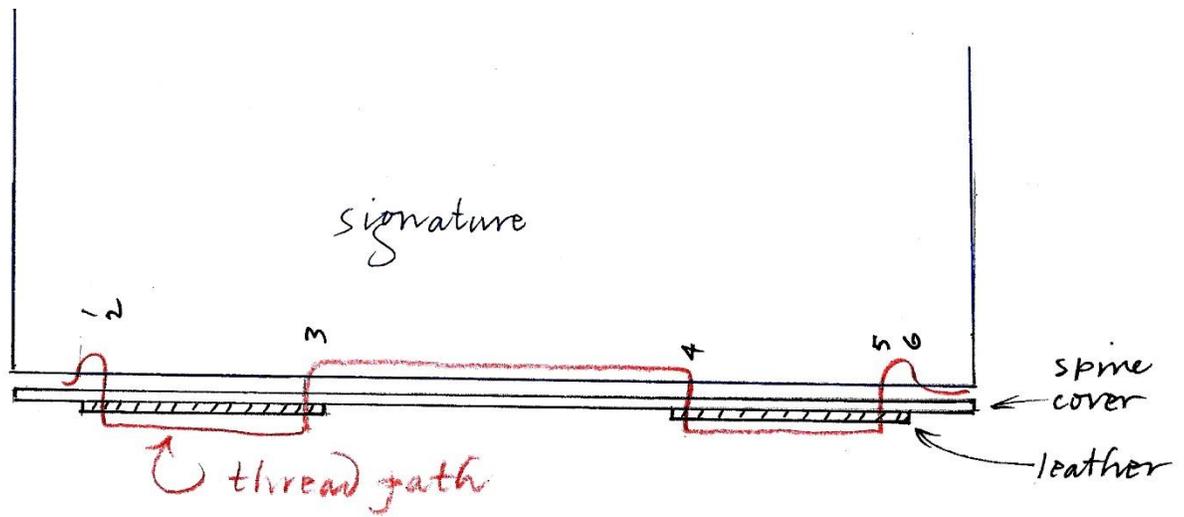


8. Locate two holes, centered on the width of the spine cover at stations two through five, and punch through the cover and leather with a needle. Do not punch the cover at stations one and six.



9. Use the same paper strip to punch holes through the center of each signature at all six sewing stations.
10. There are four signatures and only two holes in the cover at each sewing station, so each cover hole will receive the thread for two signatures.
11. Begin sewing with the rear signature at station six, entering from the outside spine into the fold. Note that this does not pierce the cover. Leave a tail of thread. From station six proceed with the thread inside the signature to station five and exit the signature and sew through the cover in the first hole. The thread runs up the outside of the spine over the leather to station four. Sew back into the center of the signature. At station three sew back out through the cover, over the leather on the outside and re-enter at station two. Proceed to station one and sew out through the signature, but do not pierce the cover. Pull the thread from both ends so it is lightly taut. Place the next signature on top of the one just sewn and sew it in the same manner. When you return to station six, tie a square knot with the tail of thread that was left hanging. Continue on until all four signatures are sewn in the same way. To finish it off, loop the needle between the two previous signatures and tie off two half-hitches. While sewing, be careful to go through the correct holes in the wrapper. The exposed threads over the leather should be neatly aligned without crossing one

another.



12. If there is time, the outer threads may be woven together with a second piece of thread, both strengthening them and adding a bit of decoration.
13. Since the cover paper is the same size as the text, and we have used $3/16$ " of the width for the spine, the text will protrude slightly beyond the covers at the fore-edge. This can be trimmed back evenly to make a neater job.