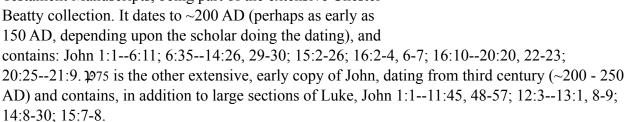
Textual Sources for the Gospel of John:

The Papyri:

Most of the earliest manuscript fragments that we have of John's Gospel are little scraps of papyrus. For example, 2952 (also known as the Rylands Papyrus) is just a scrap of paper roughly the size displayed to the right. It has part of John 18:31-33 on front (recto) and part of John 18:37-38 on the back (verso), and is dated to about ~125 AD. This is among the oldest fragments of any of the books of the New Testament.

The most complete, earliest copies of the Gospel of John are 1966 and 1975. 1966 is one of the most impressive New Testament Manuscripts, being part of the extensive Chester Beatty collection. It dates to ~200 AD (perhaps as early as 150 AD, depending upon the scholar doing the dating), and



There are at least 21 known Papyrus fragments of John's Gospel, 11 of them early (pre-300 AD). The Papyrus numbers are: 2, 5, 6, 22, 28, 36, 39, 44, 45, 52, 55, 59, 60, 63, 66, 75, 76, 84, 90, 93, 95.

The Uncials:

Here we have far more extensive textual exemplars, including the first complete copies not only of John but of the entire New Testament. There are at least 68 Uncial Manuscripts of John, 13 complete, at least 10 substantially complete, and the rest being varyingly fragmented. Examples of these manuscripts include:

Complete **X** Sinaiticus - 4th Century Complete B Vaticanus - 4th Century

A Alexandranus - 5th Century Mostly Complete (except for part of 6 through 8)

C Ephraemi - 5th Century Very Fragmented D Bezae - 5th Century Mostly Complete

E 8th Century (Byzantine) Complete G 9th Century (Byzantine) Complete K 9th - 10th Century (Byzantine) Complete