

Community Class And Careerism Cambridge Studies In Medieval Life And Thought Third Series

This authoritative survey of Britain in the later Middle Ages comprises 28 chapters written by leading figures in the field. Covers social, economic, political, religious, and cultural history in England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales Provides a guide to the historical debates over the later Middle Ages Addresses questions at the leading edge of historical scholarship Each chapter includes suggestions for further reading Challenges students to think beyond a narrowly defined canon and conventional disciplinary boundaries. Includes close readings of frequently studied texts, including texts by Chaucer, Langland, the Gawain poet, and Hoccleve.

The Manor, the Plowman, and the Shepherd is a study of agrarian history and economics that illuminates the literature of England for the late medieval and early Renaissance period (ca. 1300-1600). During the fourteenth century, basic changes in the country resulted from natural and man-made crises: famine, plague, war, and rebellion. As population declined, the manorial institution changed, and the arable farming considered essential for the manor gradually yielded to a more profit-oriented pastoral way of life, a subtle change identified in late thirteenth-century poems such as "The Man in the Moon," "Song of the Husbandman," A Satire of Edward II's England, and Wynnere and Wastoure. One of the most recognizable images of the old way of life, but also representing a troubled force in the new way of life, is the plowman, whose strong spiritual and social associations are central to Piers Plowman and present in the works of writers such as Chaucer, Gower, and the anonymous authors of the Piers Plowman tradition. The agrarian economic conditions of the fifteenth century, which permitted extensive leasing of demesne land to enterprising peasant farmers, give rise to the literary creation of the "new" farmer, a beggar on horseback, a less severe and more humorous type in such works as "John the Reeve," "How the Plowman Learned his Paternoster," "The Turnament of Tottenham," and various short poems. Closely related to the comic farmer is the shepherd, who began to appear particularly in the mystery plays. This is the beginning of a native pastoral tradition that will contribute to the prevailing pastoral literature of the sixteenth century. By the early sixteenth century, the agrarian landscape changed to more pastoral land, more enclosures, and a decrease in (or a rearrangement of) manorial lands. Increased population and an abundance of labor created economic tensions that caused moralizers to cry out for reform, but there is no evidence pastoral lands decreased even by the end of the century. In literature, the plowman tradition continued to exist in such forms as the remarkable sermon by Bishop Latimer, but more often than not it was viewed nostalgically as part of the past, and used to address the problems brought about by the pastoral economy of the sixteenth century. The plowman can be identified even as late as Spenser's Faerie Queene where he assumes the moral associations of the fourteenth-century type, and in Sidney where the plowman becomes the unsympathetic buffoon. But it is the shepherd who becomes the familiar voice of morality (Skelton and Spenser), of love (Sidney, Spenser, and Shakespeare), and of basic human values (Spenser and Shakespeare).

Fictions of Advice historicizes the late medieval mirrors (or handbooks) for princes to reveal how the ambiguities and contradictions characteristic of the genre are responses to—as well as attempts to manage—the risks implicit in advising a king. Often thought of as moralizing advice unable to engage political conflicts, the mirrors for princes have been taken for dull and conventionalized testimonies to the medieval taste for platitude. Judith Ferster maintains that advice was at the center of one of the important political debates in the late Middle Ages: how to constrain the king and allow for his subjects' participation. Fictions of Advice rereads the English mirrors for princes to show

how their moralizing was often highly topical and even subversive. Although overtly deferential to the rulers they address, the mirrors' authors were surprisingly capable of criticism and opposition. In putting the texts back into their historical contexts, Ferster reveals the vital cultural and political function they fulfilled in their societies.

This ground-breaking volume brings together contributions from scholars across a range of disciplines (including literary studies, history, geography and archaeology) to investigate questions of space, place and identity in the medieval city. Using Chester as a case study – with attention to its location on the border between England and Wales, its rich multi-lingual culture and surviving material fabric – the essays seek to recover the experience and understanding of the urban space by individuals and groups within the medieval city, and to offer new readings from the vantage-point of twenty-first century disciplinary and theoretical perspectives. The volume includes new interpretations of well-known sources and features such as the Chester Whistun Plays and the city's Rows and walls, but also includes discussions of less-studied material such as Lucian's *In Praise of Chester* – one of the earliest examples of urban encomium from England and an important text for understanding the medieval city – and the wealth of medieval Welsh poetry relating to Chester. Certain key themes emerge across the essays within this volume, including relations between the Welsh and English, formulations of centre and periphery, nation and region, different kinds of 'mapping' and the visual and textual representation of place, borders and boundaries, uses of the past in the production of identity, and the connections between discourses of gender and space. The volume seeks to generate conversation and debate amongst scholars of different disciplines, working across different locations and periods, and to open up directions for future work on space, place and identity in the medieval city.

The Court in English Alliterative Poetry, 1350-1450 explores certain links between literature and society in the portrayal of courtly society in a group of alliterative texts: *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, *Awntyrs off Arthure at the Terme Wathelyn*, *Morte Arthure*, *Wars of Alexander* and the *Gest Historiale of the Destruction of Troy*. The book examines the social function of the texts and how they affect their audience. First published in 1998. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

This study of Cheshire and Lancashire society in the late fourteenth and early fifteenth centuries is a unique attempt to reconstruct the social life of an English region in the later Middle Ages. Drawing on the voluminous archives of the two palatinates and the extensive muniment collections of local families, it offers an unusually rich and wide-ranging analysis of a dynamic regional society at a dramatic stage in its history.

The commercialisation of English society offers a major new interpretation of social and economic change in England over five centuries. By 1500 English livelihoods depended more upon money and commercial transactions than ever before; the institutional framework of markets had been transformed, and urban development was more pronounced. These changes were not, however, caused by any unilinear development of population, output or money supply. This pioneering study examines both institutional and economic transformation, and the social changes that resulted, and stresses the limited importance of formal trading institutions for the development of local trade. Commercial transition is throughout analysed from a broader perspective that looks at the changing power relations within medieval society (which might loosely be described as feudal), and considers how these relations were affected by such commercial development.

Thanks in part to Shakespeare, Henry V is one of England's best-known monarchs. The image of the king leading his army against the French, and the great victory at Agincourt, are part of English historical tradition. Yet, though indeed a soldier of exceptional skill, Henry V's reputation needs to be seen against a broader background of achievement. This sweepingly majestic book is based on the full range of

primary sources and sets the reign in its full European context. Christopher Allmand shows that Henry V not only united the country in war but also provided domestic security, solid government, and a much needed sense of national pride. The book includes an updated foreword which takes stock of more recent publications in the field. "A far more rounded picture of Henry as a ruler than any previous study."--G.L. Harris, *The Times*

Relations between town and crown in late medieval England examined through two of its most important towns, Bristol and York. This thorough examination of the feudal powers of English kings in the thirteenth and early fourteenth centuries is the only study to analyze the actual pattern of royal grants and the grantees' use of their rights, and to place them in the social context of marriage, kinship, and landholding within the English elite. The royal rights, known as feudal incidents, included custody of a tenant's lands when he died leaving minor heirs, the arrangement of the heir's marriage, and consent to the widow's remarriage. Scott Waugh shows how the king exercised those rights and how his use of feudal incidents affected his relations with the tenants-in-chief. He concludes that royal lordship was of fundamental importance in reinforcing the power and prestige of the monarchy and in offering the king a valuable source of patronage. English kings, therefore, devoted considerable effort to defining and institutionalizing their feudal authority in the thirteenth century. It is also clear that families living under royal lordship were profoundly concerned about these rights, especially since marriage was of such critical importance in providing for the smooth transfer of lands from one generation to another. Given the hazards of life in the Middle Ages, inheritance by minors was a frequent occurrence, and the king's distribution of feudal incidents was therefore a delicate political problem. It raised issues not only about royal finances and favoritism but also about the fate of families. Originally published in 1988. The Princeton Legacy Library uses the latest print-on-demand technology to again make available previously out-of-print books from the distinguished backlist of Princeton University Press. These editions preserve the original texts of these important books while presenting them in durable paperback and hardcover editions. The goal of the Princeton Legacy Library is to vastly increase access to the rich scholarly heritage found in the thousands of books published by Princeton University Press since its founding in 1905.

This major work is the most radical reinterpretation of the subject for fifty years. Hicks argues that Bastard Feudalism was far more complex - and positive in its effects - than previous accounts have suggested. A major contribution to historical debate which revolutionises our view of late medieval society.

The palatinate of Chester survives Tudor centralisation.

That resistance, informed by a model of literary influence grounded on the idea of interruption, would keep the *Canterbury Tales* away from the *Decameron*, though not the rest of Chaucer from other works by Boccaccio. In the end, of course, that resistance tells us more about Chaucer's reception since the fifteenth century than about Chaucer himself or his sources."--BOOK JACKET.

Revised in 1998, this book explores the realities of medieval English society.

This text analyzes the effect of Chaucer's poetry on his contemporary readers, examining how he and his audience understood their society and how this is reflected in the works. This book provides a fuller understanding of Chaucer's world and the social implications of literary styles and form.

The medieval English monarchy usually delegated responsibility for defence of military frontiers to magnates with lands in the region. These ruling magnates deployed their tenants and connexion to maintain good rule and defence. But what happened if the

ruling magnates were unavailable for this purpose? *Defending English Ground* looks at two instances when the crown had to make other arrangements and fell back on lesser landowners in the shires of Meath and Northumberland. Why did this strategy work fairly well in Meath but much less well in Northumberland?

First published to wide critical acclaim in 1973, *England in the Later Middle Ages* has become a seminal text for students studying this diverse, complex period. This spirited work surveys the period from Edward I to the death of Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth, which heralded in the Tudor Age. The second edition of this book, while maintaining the character of the original, brings the study up to date. Each chapter includes a discussion of the historiographical developments of the last decade and the author takes a fresh look at the changing world of the Later Middle Ages, particularly the plague and the economy. Also included is a rewritten introduction.

This wide-ranging study of language and cultural change in fourteenth-century England argues that the influence of oral tradition is much more important to the advance of literacy than previously supposed. In contrast to the view of orality and literacy as opposing forces, the book maintains that the power of language consists in displacement, the capacity of one channel of language to take the place of the other, to make the source disappear into the copy. Appreciating the interplay between oral and written language makes possible for the first time a way of understanding the high literate achievements of this century in relation to momentous developments in social and political life. Part I reassesses the "nominalism" of Ockham and the "realism" of Wyclif through discussions of their major treatises on language and government. Part II argues that the chronicle histories of this century are tied specifically to oral customs, and Part III shows how *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* and Chaucer's *Knight's Tale* confront outright the displacement of language and dominion. Informed by recent discussions in critical theory, philosophy, and anthropology, the book offers a new synoptic view of fourteenth-century culture. As a critique of the social context of medieval literacy, it speaks directly to postmodern debate about the politics of historicism today.

English Political Culture in the Fifteenth Century is a new and original study of how politics worked in late medieval England, throwing new light on a much-discussed period in English history. Michael Hicks explores the standards, values and principles that motivated contemporary politicians, and the aspirations and interests of both dukes and peasants alike. Hicks argues that the Wars of the Roses did not result from fundamental weaknesses in the political system but from the collision of exceptional circumstances that quickly passed away. Overall, he shows that the era was one of stability and harmony, and that there were effective mechanisms for keeping the peace. Structure and continuities, Hicks argues, were more prominent than change.

An investigation into three of the best-known cases tried under the Court of Chivalry reveals much about gentry military society. *Romance and the Gentry in Late Medieval England* sheds new light on Middle English romance, the most popular genre of secular literature in late medieval England. Romances are the predecessors to modern science fiction and Westerns: like these genres, they are often thought of as representative of the "popular culture" of their day. This book, however, offers a different perspective on the genre of medieval English romance, showing that, in fact, such texts appealed primarily to the gentry, England's elite

landowners who lacked titles of nobility. To make this case, *Romance and the Gentry in Late Medieval England* examines surviving manuscripts, surveys recent work by historians on the gentry, and provides analyses of the literary texts, all of which, together, shows this genre speaking to this social class.

To seek sanctuary from persecution by entering a sacred space is an act of desperation, but also a symbolic endeavor: fugitives invoke divine presence to reach a precarious safe haven that imbues their lives with religious, social, or political significance. In medieval England, sanctuary was upheld under both canon and common law, and up to five hundred people sought sanctuary every year. What they found, however, was not so much a static refuge as a temporary respite from further action—confession and exile—or from further violence—jurisdictional conflict, harrying or starvation, a breaching of the sanctuary. While sanctuary has usually been analyzed as part of legal history, in *Uncertain Refuge* Elizabeth Allen explores the symbolic consequences of sanctuary seeking in English literary works—miracle collections, chronicles, romances, and drama. She ponders the miracle of a stag's escape from the hunt into a churchyard as well as the account of a fallen political favorite who gains a sort of charisma as he takes sanctuary three times in succession; the figure of Sir Gawain, seeking refuge in a stark land far from the court and Robin Hood, hiding in his local forest refuge among his Merry Men. Her consideration of medieval sanctuary extends to its resonances in a seventeenth-century play about the early Tudor usurper Perkin Warbeck and even into modern America, with the case of a breach of sanctuary in southwest Georgia in 1963, when sheriffs took over a voter registration meeting in a local church. *Uncertain Refuge* illuminates a fantasy of protection and its impermanence that animated late medieval literary culture, and one that remains poignantly alive, if no longer written into law, in today's troubled political world.

An important collection of essays on the subjects of kingship, lordship, warfare and sanctity, penned by the highly respected historian of late medieval England, the late Professor Simon Walker

This collection of articles is the result of an interdisciplinary Medieval Studies conference held at the University of Sheffield in 2009. Brutality and aggression were a stark reality of everyday life in the Middle Ages; from individual rebellions through family feuds to epic wars, a history of medieval warfare could easily be read as a history of medieval violence. This volume goes beyond such an analysis by illustrating just how pervasive the nature of war could be, influencing not only medieval historiography and chronicle tradition, but also other disciplines such as art, architecture, literature and law. The overarching and multi-faceted themes bring together both iconic aspects of medieval warfare such as armour and the Crusades, as well as taking in the richness of textual traditions and matters of crucial importance at the time—the justification for war and the means by which peace can be re-established.

New editor, new directions: the series broadens its scope to encompass European literatures other than French and English; still, however, an indispensable component of any historical or Arthurian library. **NOTES AND QUERIES**

The fourth edition of this essential Middle English textbook introduces students to the wide range of literature written in England between 1150 and 1400. Beginning with an extensive overview of middle English history, grammar, syntax, and pronunciation, the book goes on to examine key middle English texts — including a new extract from Julian of Norwich's *Revelation of Divine Love* — with helpful notes to direct students to key points within the text. Keeping in mind adopter feedback, this new edition includes a new model translation section with a

student workbook and model exercise for classroom use. This new chapter will include sections on 'false friend' words, untranslatable idioms and notes on translating both poetry and prose. The text and references will be fully updated throughout and a foreword dedicated to the late J. A. Burrow will be included.

This New Casebook brings together a wide range of original, scholarly essays on key figures and topics in medieval literature by leading academics. The volume examines major authors such as Chaucer, Langland and the Gawain Poet, and covers key topics in medieval literature, including gender, class, courtly and popular culture, and religion.

Population. It also counters the recent preoccupation with the 'low' politics of the localities by arguing that England was a remarkably unified state whose subjects were directly affected by, and therefore interested in, the 'high' politics of the court, council and parliament. The book reassesses the significance of the depositions of Edward II, Richard II and Henry VI and concludes with a discussion of the origins of the Wars of the Roses.

This study of a 14th-century confessor's English example contributes to the Europe-wide research on pre-Reformation confessional practice and clerical training.

The Black Death, the Peasants' Revolt, the Hundred Years War, the War of the Roses... A succession of dramatic social and political events reshaped England in the period 1360 to 1461. In his lucid and penetrating account of this formative period, Gerald Harriss illuminates a richly varied society, as chronicled in *The Canterbury Tales*, and examines its developing sense of national identity.

Dr Ayton has transformed understanding of Edward III's armies - compulsory reading for anyone interested in the Hundred Years War. *WAR IN HISTORY* [Michael Prestwich]

A study of the careers of over 1200 sheriffs appointed in England during the fourteenth century.

A study of prophetic traditions in early modern England, their influence and popularity.

This volume explores the ways in which the English settlers in Louth maintained their English identity in the face of plague and warfare, through the turbulent decades between 1330 and 1450.

Twelve Good Men and True brings together some of the most ambitious and innovative work yet undertaken on the history of an English legal institution. These eleven essays examine the composition of the criminal trial jury in England, the behavior of those who sat as jurors, and popular and official attitudes toward the institution of jury trial from its almost accidental emergence in the early thirteenth century until 1800.

The essays have important implications for three problems central to the history of criminal justice administration in England: the way in which the medieval jury was informed and reached its verdict; the degree and form of independence enjoyed by juries during the early modern period when the powers of the bench were very great; and the role of the eighteenth-century trial jury, which, although clearly independent, was, by virtue of the status and experience of its members, arguably a mere extension of the bench. This extensive collection marks the first occasion on which scholars working in several different time periods have focused their attention on the history of a single legal institution.

Written by J. M. Beattie, J. S. Cockburn, Thomas A. Green, Roger D. Groot, Douglas Hay, P.J.R. King, P. G. Lawson, Bernard William McLane, J. B. Post, Edward Powell, and Stephen K. Roberts, the essays utilize sophisticated techniques to establish from a variety of manuscript sources the wealth, status, and administrative experience of jurors. Originally published in 1988. The Princeton Legacy Library uses the latest print-on-demand technology to again make available previously out-of-print books from the distinguished backlist of Princeton University Press. These editions preserve the original texts of these important books while presenting them in durable paperback and

hardcover editions. The goal of the Princeton Legacy Library is to vastly increase access to the rich scholarly heritage found in the thousands of books published by Princeton University Press since its founding in 1905.

Examination of the role played by key figures around the monarchy in the Wars of the Roses.

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