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Piers Plowman and Its Manuscript Tradition Sarah Wood 2022-08-16 The first full survey of crucial witnesses to the reception of Piers Plowman.

Inventing Americans in the Age of Discovery Michael Householder 2016-05-06 Inventing Americans in the Age of Discovery traces the linguistic, rhetorical, and literary innovations that emerged out of the first encounters between Europeans and indigenous peoples of the Americas. Through analysis of six texts, Michael Householder demonstrates the role of language in forming the identities or characters that permitted Europeans (English speakers, primarily) to adapt to the unusual circumstances of encounter. Arranged chronologically, the texts examined include: John Mandeville's Travels, Richard Eden's Adventures of Sir John Mandeville, the Spanish and Portuguese translations of the accounts of Spanish and Portuguese discovery and conquest, George Best's account of Martin Frobisher's voyages to northern Canada, Ralph Lane's account of the abandonment of Roanoke, John Smith's writings about Virginia, and John Underhill's account of the Pequot War. Through his analysis, Householder reveals that English colonists did not share a universal, homogenous view of indigenous Americans as savages, but that the writers, confronted by unfamiliar peoples and situations, resorted to a mixed array of cultural beliefs, myths, and theories to put together workable explanations of their experiences, which then became the basis for how Europeans in the colonies began transforming themselves into Americans.

Authorities in the Middle Ages Sini Kangas 2013-04-30 Medievalists reading and writing about and around authority-related themes lack clear definitions of its actual meanings in the medieval context. Authorities in the Middle Ages offers answers to this thorny issue through specialized investigations. This book considers the concept of authority and explores the various practices of creating authority in medieval society. In their studies sixteen scholars investigate the definition, formation, establishment, maintenance, and collapse of what we understand in terms of medieval struggles for authority, influence and power. The interdisciplinary nature of this volume resonates with the multi-faceted field of medieval culture, its social structures, and forms of communication. The fields of expertise include history, legal studies, theology, philosophy, politics, literature and art history. The scope of inquiry extends from late antiquity to the mid-fifteenth century, from the Church Fathers debating with pagans to therapacious ghosts ruining the life of the living in the Sagas. There is a special emphasis on such exciting but understudied areas as the Balkans, Iceland and the eastern fringes of Scandinavia.

The Complete Harley 2253 Manuscript, Volume 1 2015-04-01 British Library MS Harley 2253 is one of the most important literary works to survive from the English medieval era. In rarity, quality, and abundance, its secular love lyrics comprise an unrivalled collection. Intermingled with them are contemporary political songs as well as delicate lyrics designed to inspire religious devotion.

The Travels of Sir John Mandeville John Mandeville 2005-03-31 Ostensibly written by an English knight, the Travels purport to relate his experiences in the Holy Land, Egypt, India and China. Mandeville claims to have served in the Great Khan's army, and to have travelled in the lands beyond - countries populated byog-headed men, cannibals, Amazons and Pygmies. Although Marco Polo's slightly earlier narrative ultimately proved more factually accurate, Mandeville's was widely known, used by Columbus, Leonardo da Vinci and Martin Frobisher, and inspiring writers as diverse as Swift, Defoe and Coleridge. This intriguing blend of fact, exaggeration and absurdity offers both fascinating insight into and subtle criticism of fourteenth-century conceptions of the world.

Monsters, Gender and Sexuality in Medieval English Literature Dana Oswald 2010 A gendered reading of monster and the monstrous body in medieval literature.

Marco Polo and the Encounter of East and West Suzanne Conklin Aikbari 2008-12-27 Few figures from history evoke such vivid Orientalist associations as Marco Polo, the Venetian merchant, explorer, and writer whose accounts of the “Far East” sparked literary and cultural imaginations. The essays in Marco Polo and the Encounter of East and West challenge what many scholars perceived to be an opposition of “East” and “West” in Polo’s writings. These writers argue that Marco Polo’s experiences along the Silk Road should instead be considered a fertile interaction of cultural exchange. The volume begins with detailed studies of Marco Polo’s narrative in its many medieval forms (including French, Italian, and Latin versions). They place the text in its material and generic contexts, and situate Marco Polo’s account within the conventions of travel literature and manuscript illumination. Other essays consider the appropriation of Marco Polo’s narrative in adaptations, translation, and cinematic art. The concluding section presents historiographic and poetic accounts of the place of Marco Polo in the context of a global world literature. By considering the production and reception of The Travels, this collection lays the groundwork for new histories of world literature written from the perspective of cultural, economic, and linguistic exchange, rather than conquest and conflict.

Re-using Manuscripts in Late Medieval England Hannah Ryley 2022-08-16 A fresh appraisal of late medieval manuscript culture in England, examining the ways in which people sustained older books, exploring the practices and processes by which manuscripts were crafted, mended, protected, marked, gifted and shared.

Manmade Marvels in Medieval Culture and Literature S. Lightsey 2007-08-06 This book examines marvels as tangible objects in the literary, courtly, and artisanal cultures of medieval England, but these clever devices, neither wholly semiotic nor purely positivist objects, are imbued with diverse cultural significance that
illuminates in new ways the familiar literature of the Ricardian period.

Mandeville's Travails Francis Tobienne, Jr. 2016-06-26 Mandeville's Travails challenges the less than serious stereotyping of travel as both genre and theoretical framework. Instead, and by examining the position of travel, a deeper sense of the human species can be appreciated beyond the displaced borders of language, ritual, and culture.

Black Metaphors Cord J. Whitaker 2019-10-25 In the late Middle Ages, Christian conversion could wash a black person's skin-white or at least that is what happens when a black sultan converts to Christianity in the English romance King of Tars. In Black Metaphors, Cord J. Whitaker examines the rhetorical and theological moves through which blackness and whiteness became metaphors for sin and purity in the English and European Middle Ages—metaphors that guided the development of notions of race in the centuries that followed. From a modern perspective, moments like the sultan's transformation present blackness and whiteness as opposites in which each condition is forever marked as a negative or positive attribute; medieval readers were instead encouraged to remember that things that are ostensibly and strikingly different are not so separate after all, but mutually construct one another. Indeed, Whitaker observes, for medieval scholars and writers, blackness and whiteness, and the sin and salvation they represent, were held in tension, forming a unified whole. Whitaker asks not so much whether race mattered to the Middle Ages as how the Middle Ages matters to the study of race in our fraught times. Looking to the treatment of color and difference in works of rhetoric such as John of Garland's Synonyma, as well as in a range of vernacular theological and imaginative literature, including Robert Manning's Handlyng Synne, and such lesser known romances as The Turke and Sir Gawain, he illuminates the process by which one interpretation among many became established as the truth, and demonstrates how modern movements—from Black Lives Matter to the alt-right—are animated by the medieval origins of the black-white divide.

Translators and Their Prologues in Medieval England Elizabeth Dearnley 2016 An examination of French to English translation in medieval England, through the genre of the prologue.

The Defective Version of Mandeville's Travels John (Mandeville) 2002 An edition of the earliest and most important English translation of the French text of Mandeville's Travels, the widely influential collection of travellers' tales. This volume also contains a full commentary with new information about the sources. Its name derives from the loss of the second quire in the Insular manuscript, or its antecedent, from which it was translated. Despite this loss, the Defective Version established itself as the dominant form of the work in England, and was perpetuated in the printed editions of the text until 1725.

Babylon Under Western Eyes Andrew Scheil 2016-05-09 Babylon under Western Eyes examines the mythic legacy of ancient Babylon, the Near Eastern city which has served western culture as a metaphor for power, luxury, and exotic magnificence for more than two thousand years. Sifting through the many references to Babylon in biblical, classical, medieval, and modern texts, Andrew Scheil uses Babylon's remarkable literary legacy as the foundation for a thorough analysis of the dynamics of adaptation and allusion in western literature. Touching on everything from Old English poetry to the contemporary apocalyptic fiction of the "Left Behind" series, Scheil outlines how medieval Christian society and its cultural successors have adopted Babylon as a political metaphor, a degenerate archetype, and a place associated with the sublime. Combining remarkable erudition with a clear and accessible style, Babylon under Western Eyes is the first comprehensive examination of Babylon's significance within the pantheon of western literature and a testament to the continuing influence of biblical, classical, and medieval paradigms in modern culture.

Nature Speaks Kellie Robertson 2017-01-25 What does it mean to speak for nature? Contemporary environmental critics warn that giving a voice to nonhuman nature reduces it to a mere echo of our own needs and desires; they caution that it is a perverse form of anthropocentrism. And yet nature's voice proved a powerful and durable ethical tool for premodern writers, many of whom used it to explore what it meant to be an embodied creature or to ask whether human experience is
independent of the natural world in which it is forged. The history of the late medieval period can be retold as the story of how nature gained an authoritative voice only to lose it again at the onset of modernity. This distinctive voice, Kellie Robertson argues, emerged from a novel historical confluence of physics and fiction-writing. Natural philosophers and poets shared a language for talking about physical inclination, the inherent desire to pursue the good that was found in all things living and nonliving. Moreover, both natural philosophers and poets believed that representing the visible world was a problem of morality rather than mere description. Based on readings of academic commentaries and scientific treatises as well as popular allegorical poetry, Nature Speaks contends that controversy over Aristotle's natural philosophy gave birth to a philosophical poetics that sought to understand the extent to which the human will was necessarily determined by the same forces that shaped the rest of the material world. Both physics and disciplinary divisions have largely discouraged shared imaginative responses to this problem among the contemporary sciences and humanities. Robertson demonstrates that this earlier worldview can offer an alternative model of human-nonhuman complementarity, one premised neither on compulsory human exceptionalism nor on the simple reduction of one category to the other. Most important, Nature Speaks assesses what is gained and what is lost when nature’s voice goes silent.

**Pious Pilgrims, Discerning Travellers, Curious Tourists: Changing Patterns of Travel to the Middle East from Medieval to Modern Times**

Paul Starkey 2020-11-12

This volume comprises a varied collection of seventeen papers presented at the biennial conference of the Association for the Study of Travel to the Near East (ASTENE) held in York in July 2019, which together will provide the reader with a fascinating introduction to travel in and to the Middle East over more than a thousand years.

**Marketing English Books, 1476-1550**

Paul Starkey 2020-11-12

This volume presents a new sales challenge: how to sell hundreds of identical books to individuals, who needed to be convinced the books would attract customers. Marketing English Books sold through a middleman—as most did—that wholesaler, bookseller, or chapman by English printers between 1476 and 1550 within a wider, European context: devotional tracts; forbidden evangelical books; romances, gests, and bawdy tales; news; pilgrimage guides, souvenirs and advertisements; and household advice. Through close analysis of paratexts—including title-pages, prefaces, tables of contents, envoys, colophons, and images—the book reveals the cultural impact of printers in this often overlooked period. It argues that while print and manuscript continued alongside each other, developments in the marketing of printed texts began to change what readers read and the place of reading in their lives on a larger scale and at a faster pace than had occurred before, shaping their expectations, tastes, and even their practices and beliefs.

**The Oxford Encyclopedia of British Literature**

David Scott Kastan 2006-03-03

From folk ballads to film scripts, this new five-volume encyclopedia covers the entire history of British literature from the seventh century to the present, focusing on the writers and the major texts of what are now the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland. In five hundred substantial essays written by major scholars, the Encyclopedia of British Literature includes biographies of nearly four hundred individual writers, and a hundred-topic essays with detailed analyses of particular themes, movements, genres, and institutions whose impact upon the writing or the reading of literature was significant. An ideal companion to The Oxford Encyclopedia of American Literature, this set will prove invaluable for students, scholars, and general readers. For more information, including a complete table of contents and list of contributors, please visit www.oup.com/us/ebl

**Medieval English Travel**

Anthony Bale 2019-01-09

A Critical Anthology is a comprehensive volume that consists of three sections: concise introductory essays written by leading specialists; an anthology of important medieval English travel texts, grouped thematically; and supporting bibliographies organised by type of voyage. This anthology presents some texts for the first time in a modern edition. The first section consists of six companion essays on ‘Places, Real and Imagined’, ‘Maps the Organisation of Space’, ‘Encounters’, ‘Languages and Codes’, ‘Trade and Exchange’, and ‘Politics and Diplomacy’. The organising principle for the anthology is one of expansive geography. Starting with local English narratives, the section moves to France, en-route destinations, the Holy Land, and the Far East. In total, the anthology contains 26 texts or extracts, including new editions of Floris & Blancheflor, The Stacions of Rome, The Libelle of Englyshe Polycye, and Chaucer’s Squire’s Tale, in addition to less familiar texts, such as Osbern Bokenham’s Mappula Angiae, John Kay’s Siege of Rhodes 1480, and Richard Torkington’s Diaries of Englyshe Travell. The supporting bibliographies, in turn, take a functional approach to travel, and support the texts by elucidating contexts for travel and travellers in five areas: ‘commercial voyages’, ‘diplomatic and military travel’, ‘maps, rutters, and charts’, ‘practical needs’, and ‘religious voyages’.

**British Narratives of Exploration**

Frédéric Regard 2015-10-06

Features a collection of essays that focus on British travel narratives from the seventeenth through to the nineteenth centuries. This work investigates how the early explorers’ sense of self was destabilised by encounters with the Other.

**The Index of Middle English Prose Handlist VI**

Frédéric Regard 2015-10-06

Features a collection of essays that focus on British travel narratives from the seventeenth through to the nineteenth centuries. This work investigates how the early explorers’ sense of self was destabilised by encounters with the Other.

**The Stacions of Rome, The Libelle of Englyshe Polycye, and Chaucer’s Squire’s Tale**

Frédéric Regard 2015-10-06

Features a collection of essays that focus on British travel narratives from the seventeenth through to the nineteenth centuries. This work investigates how the early explorers’ sense of self was destabilised by encounters with the Other.

**The Book of Marvels and Travels**

John Mandeville 2012-09-13

In his Book of Marvels and Travels, Sir John Mandeville describes a journey to Europe from Jerusalem and on into Asia, and the many wonderful and monstrous peoples and practices in the
East. A captivating blend of fact and fantasy, Mandeville's Book is newly translated in an edition that brings us closer to Mandeville's worldview.

**Medieval Christian Perceptions of Islam** John Victor Tolan 2013-12-02 For medieval Christians, Islam presented a series of disquieting challenges, and individual Christians portrayed Muslim culture in varied ways, according to their interests and prejudices. These fifteen original essays focus on unfamiliar texts that reflect the wide range of medieval Christianity's preoccupation with Islam, treating works from many different periods and in a wide range of genres and languages.

**Mirror of the World** Meg Roland 2021-07-29 In the late fifteenth century, the production of print editions of Claudius Ptolemy's second-century Geography sparked one of the most significant intellectual developments of the era—the production of mathematically-based, north-oriented maps. The production of world maps was notably slower, with notable maps in the English tradition not produced until the early sixteenth century. As a result, the impact of Ptolemy's text on English geographical thought has been obscured and minimalized, with scholars speculating a possible English indifference to or isolation from European geographic developments. Tracing English geographical thought through the material culture of literary and popular texts, this study provides evidence for the reception and transmission of Ptolemaic-based geography in England during a critical period of geographic innovation and synthesis, one that laid the foundation for modern geographical representation. With evidence from romance, book illustration, theatrical performance, cosmological ceilings, and almanacs, Mirror of the World proposes a new interdisciplinary literary and cartographic history of the concept of Ptolemy's geography in England, one that reveals the lively integration of geographic concepts through narrative and non-cartographic visual forms.

**The Complete Harley 2253 Manuscript, Volume 3** 2015-02-01 British Library MS Harley 2253 is one of the most important literary works to survive from the English medieval era. In rarity, quality, and abundance, its secular love lyrics comprise an unrivaled collection. Intermingled with them are contemporary political songs as well as delicate lyrics designed to inspire religious devotion.

**A Companion to Middle English Prose** Anthony Stockwell Garfield Edwards 2004 The essays in this volume provide an up-to-date and authoritative guide to the major prose Middle English authors and genres. Each chapter is written by a leading authority on the subject and offers a succinct account of all relevant literary, history and cultural factors that need to considered, together with bibliographical references. Authors examined include the writers of the Ancrene Wisse, the Katherine Group and the Wohunge Group; Richard Rolle; Walter Hilton; Nicholas Love; Julian of Norwich; Margery Kempe; "Sir John Mandeville"; John Trevisa, Reginald Pecock; and John Fortescue. Genres discussed include romances, saints' lives, letters, sermon literature, historical prose, anonymous devotional writings, Wycliffite prose, and various forms of technical writing. The final chapter examines the treatment of Middle English prose in the first age of print. Contributors: BELLA MILLETT, RALPH HANNA III, AD PUTTER, KANTIK GHOSH, BARRY A. WINDEATT, A.C. SPEARING, I.AN HIGGINS, A.S.G. EDWARDS, VINCENT GILLESPIE, HELEN L. SPENCER, ALFRED HIATT, FIONA SOMERSET, HELEN COOPER, GEORGE KEISER, OLIVER S. PICKERING, JAMES SIMPSON, RICHARD BEADLE, ALEXANDRA GILLESPIE.

**The Egerton Version of Mandeville's Travels** Sir John Mandeville 2010-06-24 ... the Egerton Version, extant in a unique manuscript written c.1400, is a conflation of a lost manuscript of the Defective Version and a lost ME translation of an Anglo-Latin translation known as the Royal Version ...".-P. [xi].

**The Travels of Sir John Mandeville** John Mandeville The Travels of Sir John Mandeville is the chronicle of the alleged Sir John Mandeville, an explorer. His travels were first published in the late 14th century, and influenced many subsequent explorers such as Christopher Columbus.

**Christian-Muslim Relations. A Bibliographical History. Volume 5** 2013-06-28 Christian-Muslim Relations, a Bibliographical History. Volume 5 (CMR 5) is a history of all the known works on Christian-Muslim relations in the period 1350-1500. It comprises introductory essays and detailed entries containing descriptions, assessments and comprehensive bibliographical details of individual works.

**A knight's legacy** Ladan Niayesh 2020-01-03 The so-called Travels of Sir John Mandeville (c. 1356) was one of the most popular books of the late Middle-Ages. Translated into many European languages and widely circulating in both manuscript and printed forms, the pseudo English knight's account had a lasting influence on the voyages of discovery and durably affected Europe's perception of exotic lands and peoples. The early modern period witnessed the slow erosion of Mandeville's prestige as an authority and the gradual development of new responses to his book. Some still supported the account's general claim to authenticity while questioning details here and there, and some openly denounced it as a hoax. After considering the general issues of edition and reception of Mandeville in an opening section, the volume moves on to explore theological and epistemological concerns in a second section, before tackling literary and dramatic reworkings in a final section. Examining in detail a diverse range of texts and issues, these essays ultimately bear witness to the complexity of early modern engagements with a late medieval legacy which Mandeville emblematizes.

**The Book of John Mandeville** C David Benson 2007-08-01 The Book of John Mandeville has tended to be neglected by modern teachers and scholars, yet this intriguing and copious work has much to offer the student of medieval literature, history, and culture. [It] was a contemporary bestseller, providing readers with exotic information about locales from Constantinople to China and about the social and religious practices of peoples such as the Greeks, Muslims, and Brahmns. The Book first appeared in the middle of the fourteenth century and by the next century could be found in an extraordinary range of European languages: not only Latin, French, German, English, and Italian, but also Czech, Danish, and Irish. Its wide readership is also attested by the two hundred fifty to three hundred medieval manuscripts that still survive today. Chaucer borrowed from it, as did the Gawain-poet in the Middle English Cleanness, and its popularity continued long after the Middle Ages.

**The Complete Harley 2253 Manuscript, Volume 2** 2014-09-01 British Library MS Harley 2253 is one of the most important literary works to survive from the English medieval era. In rarity, quality, and abundance, its secular love lyrics comprise an unrivaled collection. Intermingled with them are contemporary political songs as well as delicate lyrics designed to inspire religious devotion.

**Literature and Culture in the Black Atlantic** K. Campbell 2016-04-30 This book extends our understanding of the black Atlantic, a term coined by Paul Gilroy to describe the political, cultural and epistemological interrelations among blacks living in Africa, the Americas and Europe. This study focuses on pre-colonial English literary constructions and their effects on post-Independence Caribbean literature.

**The seven sages of Rome (Midversion edition)** 2016-02-09 The seven sages of Rome (Midversion edition) edited by Jill Whitelock Jill Whitelock
2005 This is a new edition of an independent Middle English version of an enormously popular story collection, found in almost all European languages. This version was previously edited by Thomas Wright in 1845, but is not otherwise available. The new edition presents a corrected text with full introduction and commentary. The Seven Sages is the first framed story in English, and was known to Chaucer and Gower, among others.

The Medieval Invention of Travel Shayne Aaron Legassie 2017-04-12 Over the course of the Middle Ages, the economies of Europe, Asia, and northern Africa became more closely integrated, fostering the international and intercontinental journeys of merchants, pilgrims, diplomats, missionaries, and adventurers. During a time in history when travel was often difficult, expensive, and fraught with danger, these wayfarers composed accounts of their experiences in unprecedented numbers and transformed traditional conceptions of human mobility. Exploring this phenomenon, The Medieval Invention of Travel draws on an impressive array of sources to develop original readings of canonical figures such as Marco Polo, John Mandeville, and Petrarch, as well as a host of lesser-known travel writers. As Shayne Aaron Legassie demonstrates, the Middle Ages inherited a Greco-Roman model of heroic travel, which viewed the ideal journey as a triumph over temptation and bodily travail. Medieval travel writers revolutionized this ancient paradigm by incorporating practices of reading and writing into the ascetic regime of the heroic voyager, fashioning a bold new conception of travel that would endure into modern times. Engaging methods and insights from a range of disciplines, The Medieval Invention of Travel offers a comprehensive account of how medieval travel writers and their audiences reshaped the intellectual and material culture of Europe for centuries to come.

Before Orientalism Kim M. Phillips 2014 Drawing on medieval accounts of the earliest European journeys to China, India, Mongolia, and southeast Asia, Before Orientalism explores European attitudes toward Asian eating habits, sexual practices, femininities, and civility, reconstructing a precolonial vision of the East that was often neutral or admiring.