

*(continued from front flap)*

scholarly analysis to produce striking new results. Careful study of the place-names of Lincolnshire reveals that a sophisticated system of defence had been devised and implemented by the early-seventh-century kings of Lindsey. Detailed knowledge of the later medieval ownership of books helps to establish the original home of two Anglo-Saxon manuscripts, and curious features in the Old English translation of the Old Testament are comprehensively analyzed to clarify the concerns and resources of the Anglo-Saxon translators of the Bible.

Finally, a number of issues of current interest are addressed. The question of the medieval representation of women is illuminated by a study of the difficulties which a well-known monastic author, Ælfric, faced in characterizing an Old Testament heroine who used her body to achieve her ends, while a number of traditional assumptions about the property-rights of divorced women in early England are freshly challenged by close philological analysis of surviving law-codes. The notion of the 'Three Orders' of society is shown to have been elaborated in a sophisticated way by Anglo-Saxon authors. And the background to Augustine's missionary activity is given an intriguing new twist.

The volume concludes with the invaluable annual bibliography, providing a comprehensive listing of 1993 publications in all branches of Anglo-Saxon studies.

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