Informed by multicultural, multidisciplinary perspectives, The Cambridge History of Early Medieval English Literature offers a new exploration of the earliest writing in Britain and Ireland, from the end of the Roman Empire to the mid-twelfth century. Beginning with an account of writing itself, as well as of scripts and manuscript art, subsequent chapters examine the earliest texts from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, and the tremendous breadth of Anglo-Latin literature. Chapters on English learning and literature in the ninth century and the later formation of English poetry and prose also convey the profound cultural confidence of the period. Providing a discussion of essential texts, including Beowulf and the writings of Bede, this History captures the sheer inventiveness and vitality of early medieval literary culture through topics as diverse as the literature of English law, liturgical and devotional writing, the workings of science and the history of women’s writing.

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Abbreviations

ACMRS  Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies
ANS  Anglo-Norman Studies
ASE  Anglo-Saxon England
ASPR  Anglo-Saxon Poetic Records, ed. Krapp and Dobbie
CCSL  Corpus Christianorum, Series Latina
ChLA  Charterae Latinae antiquiores, ed. Bruckner and Marichal
CLA  E. A. Lowe (ed.), Codices latini antiquiores
CMCS  Cambridge Medieval Celtic Studies (later Cambrian Medieval Celtic Studies)
CSASE  Cambridge Studies in Anglo-Saxon England
DOE  Dictionary of Old English (University of Toronto)
EEMF  Early English Manuscripts in Facsimile
EETS  Early English Text Society
EHR  English Historical Review
ELN  English Language Notes
EME  Early Medieval Europe
ES  English Studies
HBS  Henry Bradshaw Society
HE  Bede, Historia ecclesiastica, ed. Colgrave and Mynors
HEL  Hofmann, Nordisch-englische Lehnbeziehungen
IF  Íslensk Forrit
JEGP  Journal of English and Germanic Philology
JMH  Journal of Medieval History
JML  Journal of Medieval Latin
JTS  Journal of Theological Studies
L  Latin
MÆ  Medium Ævum
MP  Modern Philology
MS  Mediaeval Studies
MGH  Monumenta Germaniae Historica
N&Q  Notes and Queries
NM  Neuphilologische Mitteilungen
ODNB  Oxford Dictionary of National Biography
OE  Old English
OEN  Old English Newsletter
## List of abbreviations

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<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ON</td>
<td>Old Norse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIMS</td>
<td>Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PL</td>
<td>Patrologia Latina, ed. J. P. Migne (Paris, 1844–64)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PBA</td>
<td>Proceedings of the British Academy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PMLA</td>
<td>Publications of the Modern Language Association of America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RB</td>
<td>Revue bénédictine</td>
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<tr>
<td>RES</td>
<td>Review of English Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skj</td>
<td>Den norsk-islandske skjaldedigtning, ed. Jónsson</td>
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<tr>
<td>SN</td>
<td>Studia Neophilologica</td>
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