In the early modern period, the population of England travelled more than is often now thought, by road and by water: from members of the gentry travelling for pleasure, through the activities of those involved in internal trade, to labourers migrating out of necessity. Yet the commonly held view that people should know their places, geographically as well as socially, made domestic travel highly controversial. Andrew McRae examines the meanings of mobility in the early modern period, drawing on sources from canonical literature and travel narratives to a range of historical documents including maps and travel guides. He identifies the relationship between domestic travel and the emergence of vital new models of nationhood and identity. An original contribution to the study of early modern literature as well as travel literature, this interdisciplinary book opens up domestic travel as a vital and previously underexplored area of research.

Andrew McRae is Professor of Renaissance Studies in the Department of English at the University of Exeter. He is the author of *Literature, Satire and the Early Stuart State* (Cambridge, 2004) and *God Speed the Plough: The Representation of Agrarian England, 1500–1660* (Cambridge, 1996).
LITERATURE AND DOMESTIC TRAVEL IN EARLY MODERN ENGLAND

ANDREW McRAE
For Jane
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1.2 Map of the post-road network of England and Wales, from John Ogilby, *Britannia* (1675). Reproduced by permission of the Folger Shakespeare Library.  

1.3 Road-map from John Ogilby, *Britannia* (1675). Reproduced by permission of the Folger Shakespeare Library.  

1.4 Distance table for Devonshire, from John Norden, *England: An Intended Guyde For English Travailers* (1625). Reproduced by permission of the Folger Shakespeare Library.  

1.5 Proposed road-building designs, from Thomas Procter, *A Worthy Worke Profitable to this Whole Kingdom* (1607). Reproduced by permission of the British Library.  


1.8 Map of Oxfordshire in Robert Plot, *Natural History of Oxfordshire* (1677). Reproduced by permission of the Folger Shakespeare Library.
The origins of this book can be traced to an invitation from Donna Landry, Gerald Maclean and Joseph P. Ward, over a decade ago, to contribute an essay to *The Country and the City Revisited: England and the Politics of Culture, 1560–1840*. For that invitation, which prompted me to think and work along new lines, I am very grateful. The project has developed since then in fits and starts, in different jobs and different countries, interrupted for extended periods by my work on political satire and my editorial work on early Stuart libels. This process has left me with numerous institutions and people to thank.

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Abbreviations

BL British Library

