CAMBRIDGE STUDIES IN
ANGLO-SAXON ENGLAND
18

IMAGES OF COMMUNITY IN
OLD ENGLISH POETRY
IMAGES OF COMMUNITY IN OLD ENGLISH POETRY

HUGH MAGENNIS
The Queen's University of Belfast
Contents

Acknowledgements \hspace{2cm} \textit{page vii}
List of abbreviations \hspace{2cm} \textit{viii}

1 Introduction: ideas of community and an Anglo-Saxon audience/readership \hspace{2cm} 1
2 Hall and city, feasting and drinking: images of communal life \hspace{2cm} 35
3 Hall and feasting in \textit{Beowulf} \hspace{2cm} 60
4 Hall and feasting: transformations and alternative perspectives \hspace{2cm} 82
5 Personal in conflict with communal \hspace{2cm} 104
6 The mythic landscape of \textit{Beowulf}: sea, stronghold and wilderness \hspace{2cm} 121
7 The dwelling-places of God’s people: place and setting in biblical poetry \hspace{2cm} 144
8 Places of trial and triumph in hagiographical poetry \hspace{2cm} 168
9 Conclusion: community and power in later poetic and other texts \hspace{2cm} 189

\textit{Bibliography} \hspace{2cm} 201
\textit{Index} \hspace{2cm} 207
Acknowledgements

The Queen’s University of Belfast granted study leave and funds for travel in connection with my research for this book, for which I am most grateful. I am also grateful to the publishers of English Studies, Swets and Zeitlinger, for kindly giving me permission to incorporate into the book, with minor revisions, my article, ‘Treatments of Treachery and Betrayal in Anglo-Saxon Texts’. I would like to thank Mary Clayton, Ivan Herbison, Tom McNeill and Brian Scott for their advice and suggestions, and am particularly indebted to Michael Lapidge and Andy Orchard for their invaluable editorial assistance.
Abbreviations

ASE  Anglo-Saxon England
ASPR  The Anglo-Saxon Poetic Records, ed. G. P. Krapp and E. V. K. Dobbie, 6 vols. (New York, 1931–53) (All references herein to Old English poems, including Beowulf, are to this edition, unless otherwise specified.)
BAR  British Archaeological Reports
CCSL  Corpus Christianorum, Series Latina (Turnhout)
CSASE  Cambridge Studies in Anglo-Saxon England
CSEL  Corpus Scriptorum Ecclesiasticorum Latinorum (Vienna)
EEMF  Early English Manuscripts in Facsimile (Copenhagen)
EETS  Early English Text Society
    os  original series
    ss  supplementary series
ELN  English Language Notes
HE  Bede’s Historia Ecclesiastica Gentis Anglorum, ed. and trans. Colgrave and Mynors, Bede’s Ecclesiastical History of the English People
JEGP  Journal of English and Germanic Philology
MGH  Monumenta Germaniae Historica
    Auct. antiq.  Auctores antiquissimi
    Epist.  Epistolae Aevi Carolini
MLR  Modern Language Review
NM  Neuphilologische Mitteilungen
OE  Old English
ON  Old Norse
### List of abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PMLA</td>
<td>Proceedings of the Modern Language Association of America</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>