This broad-ranging study explores the nature of national sentiment in fourteenth-century England and sets it in its political and constitutional context for the first time. Andrea Ruddick reveals that, despite the problematic relationship between nationality and subject-hood in the king of England’s domains, a sense of English identity was deeply embedded in the mindset of a significant section of political society. Using previously neglected official records as well as familiar literary sources, the book reassesses the role of the English language in fourteenth-century national sentiment and questions the traditional reliance on the English vernacular as an index of national feeling. Positioning national identity as central to our understanding of late medieval society, culture, religion and politics, the book represents a significant contribution not only to the political history of late medieval England, but also to the growing debate on the nature and origins of states, nations and nationalism in Europe.

ANDREA RUDDICK is a Research Associate at the Faculty of History, University of Cambridge. Her research interests focus upon late medieval British political and cultural history, with a particular interest in identities, religion, chronicles and history-writing, and the role of ideas in politics.
The series *Cambridge Studies in Medieval Life and Thought* was inaugurated by G.G. Coulton in 1921; Professor Rosamond McKitterick now acts as General Editor of the Fourth Series, with Professor Christine Carpenter and Dr Jonathan Shepard as Advisory Editors. The series brings together outstanding work by medieval scholars over a wide range of human endeavour extending from political economy to the history of ideas.

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To my parents, with love and thanks
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ABBREVIATIONS


*Anonimalle* *The Anonimalle chronicle, 1333–1381*, ed. V. H. Galbraith (Manchester, 1927).

List of abbreviations


CCR  Calendar of Close Rolls.


CPR  Calendar of Patent Rolls.


CUL  Cambridge University Library.

EHR  English Historical Review.

Flores historiarum  Flores historiarum, ed. H. R. Luard (London: Rolls Series, 1890), no. 95, vol. III.


Johannis de Reading  Chronicæ Johannis de Reading et anonymi Cantuariensis, ed. J. Tait (Manchester, 1914).

List of abbreviations

**Lawrence Minot**

‘Merton Flores’

**Parliamentary writs**

**Pierre de Langtoft**

**Polychronicon**

**PROME**

**Robert of Gloucester**
The metrical chronicle of Robert of Gloucester, ed. W. A. Wright (London: Rolls Series, 1887), no. 86.

**Robert Mannyng**
The chronicle of Robert Mannyng of Brunne, ed. F. J. Furnivall (London: Rolls Series, 1887), no. 87.

**Robertus de Avesbury**

**Rôles Gascons**

**Rotuli Scotoic**

**Scalacronica**

**Short English metrical**

**Thomas Brinton**
List of abbreviations

**Thomas Walsingham**

‘Thomas Wykes’

‘Tintern Flores’

**Treaty Rolls, 1234–1325**

**Treaty Rolls, 1337–39**

**TNA**
The National Archives: Public Record Office

**TRHS**
Transactions of the Royal Historical Society

**Vita Edwadii Secundi**

**Walter of Guisborough**

‘Welsh Rolls’