

## EDMUND SPENSER AND THE EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY BOOK

Edmund Spenser's epic poem *The Faerie Queene* (1590–96) occupied an important place in eighteenth-century culture. Spenser influenced almost every major writer of the century, from Alexander Pope to William Wordsworth. What was it like to read Spenser in the eighteenth century? Who made Spenserian books, and how did their owners use and interpret them? The first comprehensive study of all of the eighteenth-century editions of Edmund Spenser addresses these questions through bibliographical analysis, and through examination of the history of the book and of eighteenth-century literature and culture. Within these contexts, Hazel Wilkinson provides new information about the production, contents, texts, and reception of the eighteenth-century editions of Spenser, to illuminate how his cultural presence became so far-reaching. With each chapter structured around a major edition of Spenser's work, this volume provides a timely addition to arguments about the nature of literary history and the growing cult of great writers of the past.

DR HAZEL WILKINSON is a Birmingham Fellow at the University of Birmingham, where she lectures on eighteenth-century literature. She has published articles and book chapters on subjects including eighteenth-century literature, typography, and the history of the book trade, and is currently an editor on *The Oxford Edition of the Writings of Alexander Pope*. Wilkinson has also created a database of eighteenth-century printers' ornaments in partnership with Cambridge University Library.

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BOOK

HAZEL WILKINSON

*University of Birmingham*



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*Dedicated to Guy and Jackie Wilkinson*

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## *Abbreviations*

<i>ESTC</i>	<i>The English Short Title Catalogue</i>
<i>GA</i>	<i>The General Advertiser</i> . London, 1744–52
<i>GM</i>	<i>The Gentleman's Magazine</i> . London, 1731–1922
<i>N&amp;Q</i>	<i>Notes and Queries</i>
<i>ODNB</i>	<i>Oxford Dictionary of National Biography</i>
<i>OED</i>	<i>Oxford English Dictionary</i>
<i>RES</i>	<i>Review of English Studies</i>
<i>SB</i>	<i>Studies in Bibliography</i>
<i>SEnc</i>	<i>The Spenser Encyclopedia</i> , ed. A. C. Hamilton et al. London: Routledge, 1990
Q1	<i>The Faerie Queene</i> , first quarto (1590)
Q2	<i>Ibid.</i> , second quarto (1596)
F1	<i>Ibid.</i> , first folio (1609)
F2	Spenser's <i>Works</i> , second folio (1611–17)
F3	<i>Ibid.</i> , third folio (1679)

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## *A Note on the Text*

The place of publication for all pre-1800 titles is London unless otherwise stated. Short titles are given in the footnotes; full titles and publishers can be found in the List of Works Cited.

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