Elements in England in the Early Medieval World

edited by

Megan Cavell
University of Birmingham

Rory Naismith
University of Cambridge

Winfried Rudolf
University of Göttingen

Emily V. Thornbury
Yale University

RECOVERING OLD ENGLISH

Kees Dekker
University of Groningen
Recovered Old English

Elements in England in the Early Medieval World

DOI: 10.1017/9781009371681
First published online: January 2024

Kees Dekker
University of Groningen

Author for correspondence: Kees Dekker, c.dekker@rug.nl

Abstract: Recovering Old English examines the philological activities of scholars involved in the recovery of Old English in the period between circa 1550 and circa 1830. The discussion focuses on four philological pursuits that dominated this recovery: collecting documents, recording the lexicon, editing texts and studying the grammar. This Element demonstrates that throughout the vicissitudes of history these four components of humanist philology have formed the backbone of Old English studies and constitute a thread that connects the efforts of early modern philologists with the global interest in Old English that we see today.

This Element also has a video abstract: www.cambridge.org/Dekker

Keywords: Old English, Anglo-Saxonism, Old English Dictionaries, Old English Grammars, Antiquarianism

© Kees Dekker 2024
ISBNs: 9781009478809 (HB), 9781009371698 (PB), 9781009371681 (OC)
ISSNs: 2632-203X (online), 2632-2021 (print)
# Contents

1. Preamble 1  
2. Collecting Old English 6  
3. Recording Old English 20  
4. Editing Old English 34  
5. Studying Old English 46  
6. Transitions and Turning Points 61  

Abbreviations 67  
Bibliography 68