

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-03691-8 - Mapping Medieval Geographies: Geographical Encounters in the Latin West and Beyond, 300–1600

Edited by Keith D. Lilley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

## Mapping Medieval Geographies

*Mapping Medieval Geographies* explores the ways in which geographical knowledge, ideas and traditions were formed in Europe during the Middle Ages. Leading scholars reveal the connections between Islamic, Christian, biblical and classical geographical traditions from Antiquity to the later Middle Ages and Renaissance. The book is divided into two parts: Part I focuses on the notion of geographical tradition and charts the evolution of celestial and earthly geography in terms of its intellectual, visual and textual representations; whilst Part II explores geographical imaginations; that is to say, those ‘imagined geographies’ that came into being as a result of everyday spatial and spiritual experience. Bringing together approaches from art, literary studies, intellectual history and historical geography, this pioneering volume will be essential reading for scholars concerned with visual and textual modes of geographical representation and transmission, as well as the spaces and places of knowledge creation and consumption.

KEITH D. LILLEY is Reader in Historical Geography at Queen’s University, Belfast.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-03691-8 - Mapping Medieval Geographies: Geographical Encounters in  
the Latin West and Beyond, 300–1600

Edited by Keith D. Lilley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-03691-8 - Mapping Medieval Geographies: Geographical Encounters in  
the Latin West and Beyond, 300–1600

Edited by Keith D. Lilley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

# Mapping Medieval Geographies

*Geographical Encounters in the Latin West  
and Beyond, 300–1600*

---

*Edited by*

Keith D. Lilley



CAMBRIDGE  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press  
 978-1-107-03691-8 - Mapping Medieval Geographies: Geographical Encounters in  
 the Latin West and Beyond, 300–1600  
 Edited by Keith D. Lilley  
 Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

## CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)

Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9781107036918](http://www.cambridge.org/9781107036918)

© Cambridge University Press 2013

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2013

Printing in the United Kingdom by TJ International Ltd. Padstow Cornwall

*A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library*

*Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data*

Mapping medieval geographies : geographical encounters in the Latin west and beyond / edited by Keith D. Lilley.

pages cm

Includes bibliographical references.

ISBN 978-1-107-03691-8 (Hardback)

1. Geography, Medieval. 2. Geography in literature. 3. Cartography--Early works to 1800. I. Lilley, Keith D.

G89.M38 2013

910.9'02--dc23 2013011081

ISBN 978-1-107-03691-8 Hardback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-03691-8 - Mapping Medieval Geographies: Geographical Encounters in  
the Latin West and Beyond, 300–1600

Edited by Keith D. Lilley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

Dedicated to the memory of  
Denis E. Cosgrove

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-03691-8 - Mapping Medieval Geographies: Geographical Encounters in  
the Latin West and Beyond, 300–1600

Edited by Keith D. Lilley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

Cambridge University Press  
978-1-107-03691-8 - Mapping Medieval Geographies: Geographical Encounters in  
the Latin West and Beyond, 300–1600  
Edited by Keith D. Lilley  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

Contents

<i>List of illustrations</i>	page ix
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xi
<i>List of contributors</i>	xii
 Introduction: mapping medieval geographies	 1
KEITH D. LILLEY	
 <b>Part I Geographical traditions</b>	 <b>21</b>
1 Chorography reconsidered: an alternative approach to the Ptolemaic definition	23
JESSE SIMON	
2 Geography and memory in Isidore’s <i>Etymologies</i>	45
ANDY MERRILLS	
3 The uses of classical history and geography in medieval St Gall	65
NATALIA LOZOVSKY	
4 The cosmographical imagination of Roger Bacon	83
AMANDA POWER	
5 Reflections in the Ebstorf Map: cartography, theology and <i>dilectio speculationis</i>	100
MARCIA KUPFER	
6 ‘After poyetes and astronomyers’: English geographical thought and early English print	127
MEG ROLAND	
7 Displacing Ptolemy? The textual geographies of Ramusio’s <i>Navigazioni e viaggi</i>	152
MARGARET SMALL	
	vii

Cambridge University Press  
978-1-107-03691-8 - Mapping Medieval Geographies: Geographical Encounters in  
the Latin West and Beyond, 300–1600  
Edited by Keith D. Lilley  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

viii	Contents	
<b>Part II</b>	<b>Geographical imaginations</b>	<b>173</b>
8	Gaul undivided: cartography, geography and identity in France at the time of the Hundred Years War CAMILLE SERCHUK	175
9	Passion and conflict: medieval Islamic views of the West KAREN C. PINTO	201
10	Hereford maps, Hereford lives: biography and cartography in an English cathedral city DANIEL BIRKHOLZ	225
11	Shifting geographies of antisemitism: mapping Jew and Christian in Thomas of Monmouth’s <i>Life and Miracles of St William of Norwich</i> KATHY LAVEZZO	250
12	Gardens of Eden and ladders to heaven: holy mountain geographies in Byzantium VERONICA DELLA DORA	271
13	Journeying to the world’s end? Imagining the Anglo-Irish frontier in Ramon de Perellós’s <i>Pilgrimage to St Patrick’s Purgatory</i> SARA V. TORRES	300
	<i>Select bibliography</i>	325
	<i>Index</i>	327



# Illustrations

3.1 Ekkehard’s ‘square map’ dividing the world into three parts, labelled Asia, Europe, and Africa, with the Ocean surrounding the landmass, in St Gall 621	page 71
3.2 Ekkehard’s map of Palestine in St Gall 621, which appears to be the earliest extant medieval example of a regional map that focuses on the Holy Land and the surrounding areas	75
5.1 Schematic of the Ebstorf Map	101
5.2 <i>Mappa mundi</i> , c. 1300	107
5.3 Elevation of the Host, Funeral Mass for the Dead, Psalter, Liège, c. 1280–90	114
5.4 Diagram of the tripartite <i>oikumene</i> in the text-block framing the Ebstorf Map, from one of the four facsimiles of the Map at original size (3.56 x 3.58 m.) as reconstructed by Rudolf Wieneke in 1953	115
6.1 The tripartite world, <i>Myrrour of the World</i> , printed by William Caxton, 1481	140
6.2 Astronomer with his instruments, <i>Myrrour of the World</i> , printed by William Caxton, 1481	142
6.3 Title page, <i>The Compost of Ptholomeus/Prince of Astronomie</i> , printed by Robert Wyer, 1530	145
6.4 ‘The world is devided into foure parts’, <i>The Compost of Ptolomeus, Prince of Astronomie</i> , printed by Henry Gosson, 1600(?)	147
7.1 Map of the Nile river basin	162
7.2 ‘Parte del Africa’	165
7.3 ‘Universale della parte del mondo nuovamente ritrovata’	168
8.1 Map of France, from <i>A tous nobles</i> , c. 1458	179
8.2 Lambert of Saint-Omer, <i>Liber Floridus</i> , c. 1120	193
8.3 <i>Mappamundi</i> , from the <i>Grandes Chroniques de France</i> , c. 1274	195

Cambridge University Press  
 978-1-107-03691-8 - Mapping Medieval Geographies: Geographical Encounters in  
 the Latin West and Beyond, 300–1600  
 Edited by Keith D. Lilley  
 Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

x	List of illustrations	
9.1	Map of the Mediterranean	203
9.2	‘World Map’	205
9.3	‘Map of Egypt’	205
9.4	‘Picture of the Maghrib’	206
9.5	Line drawing of Figure 9.4 with transliterated names and numbers	207
9.6	‘Picture of the Maghrib’, showing lines of gaze and emphasis	214
10.1	‘Map of Europe’, featuring an oversized Ireland and Britain, with ‘Roma’ placed centre-top. This map sits between Gerald’s <i>Topographia Hiberniae</i> and the <i>Expugnatio Hibernica</i> in the Cambrensis codex, NLI MS 700, f. 48r	232
11.1	Section of Norwich Jewry. Numbers 1–2 and 9–17 refer to properties owned by Jews; numbers 4–8 refer to properties owned by Christians	258
12.1	Cosmas Indicopleustes’ tabernacle-shaped cosmos	272
12.2	Orthographic view of Cosmas’ cosmos, with terrestrial paradise in the East	273
12.3	‘The Ladder of Divine Ascent’, icon from the monastery of Saint Catherine in Sinai, c. 1150	289

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-03691-8 - Mapping Medieval Geographies: Geographical Encounters in the Latin West and Beyond, 300–1600

Edited by Keith D. Lilley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## Acknowledgements

---

The essays within this book arose from a conversation I had with Denis Cosgrove during 2006–7. We recognized that across different humanities and arts disciplines in the Anglophone world there is developing scholarly momentum on the topic of ‘medieval geographies’, in which geographers such as ourselves are largely on the periphery. Partly to learn more from these ‘other’ scholars of geography, and partly to stimulate cross-disciplinary debate on medieval geographies, we applied for and received generous financial support from the Ahmanson Foundation to convene a gathering of academics working in this field. So a conference was organized and held at the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (CMRS) at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) in May 2009. I am indebted to the Ahmanson Foundation and to the Historical Geography Research Group (of the RGS-IBG) for providing funds to enable us to convene this gathering, and to the CMRS for hosting it, particularly Karen Burgess and Brett Landenberger, whose organizational efficiency and professionalism were appreciated by all who attended. I am very grateful to Denis for the enthusiasm he showed for the project right from the start, and deeply saddened that he did not live to see the results of the conversation we initiated. The volume is dedicated to Denis’s memory. My thanks are due also to the contributors here whose essays have provided me with such stimulation and insight into mapping medieval geographies, as well as to Liz Friend-Smith at the Press for her editorial thoughts and guidance, and the anonymous readers who commented on an earlier draft. Without their inputs, their efforts and scholarship, this volume would not have been possible.

KDL

*1 October 2012*

Cambridge University Press  
978-1-107-03691-8 - Mapping Medieval Geographies: Geographical Encounters in  
the Latin West and Beyond, 300–1600  
Edited by Keith D. Lilley  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

## Contributors

---

DANIEL BIRKHOLZ is Associate Professor of English at the University of Texas at Austin (USA).

VERONICA DELLA DORA is Professor of Human Geography at Royal Holloway, University of London (UK).

MARCIA KUPFER works as an independent scholar based in Washington, D.C. (USA).

KATHY LAVEZZO is Associate Professor of English at the University of Iowa (USA).

KEITH D. LILLEY is Reader in Historical Geography at Queen's University, Belfast (UK).

NATALIA LOZOVSKY is a Visiting Scholar of the Office for History of Science and Technology at the University of California, Berkeley (USA).

ANDY MERRILLS is Lecturer in Ancient History at the University of Leicester (UK).

KAREN C. PINTO is Assistant Professor of History at Gettysburg College, Pennsylvania (USA).

AMANDA POWER is Senior Lecturer in Medieval History at the University of Sheffield (UK).

MEG ROLAND is Associate Professor and Department Chair in English at Marylhurst University, Oregon (USA).

CAMILLE SERCHUK is Professor of Art at Southern Connecticut State University (USA).

JESSE SIMON is a graduate student in the Oxford Centre for Late Antiquity at the University of Oxford (UK).

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-03691-8 - Mapping Medieval Geographies: Geographical Encounters in the Latin West and Beyond, 300–1600

Edited by Keith D. Lilley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

List of contributors

xiii

MARGARET SMALL is Lecturer in Europe and the Wider World in the School of History and Cultures at the University of Birmingham (UK).

SARA V. TORRES is a graduate student in the Department of English at the University of California, Los Angeles (USA).