

(continued from front flap)

not only about the text itself, but about the forms of several early Northumbrian place-names; and analysis of the vast corpus of glosses to Aldhelm's prose *De virginitate* in an Oxford manuscript shows how the text was received and studied in tenth-century England.

Historical and legal matters also receive fresh attention. A careful sifting of the sources pertaining to the seventh-century foundation of Minster-in-Thanet shows that, in certain circumstances, credence may be given to later legendary materials. Disciplined philological and historical analysis helps to clarify a puzzling reference in Æthelberht's law-code to the early medieval practice of providing food render for the king. Finally, the volume contains two pioneering essays in the *histoire des mentalités*: one of these shows how a hagiographical text such as Lantfred's account of St Swithun can illuminate changing attitudes to corporal and capital punishment in tenth- and eleventh-century England; the other, a wide-ranging study of a difficult Old English riddle, throws new light on what might be called the Anglo-Saxon worldview.

The volume includes the invaluable annual bibliography, providing a comprehensive listing of 1997 publications in all branches of Anglo-Saxon studies.

The Contributors

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[E. A. Rowe,] *Anglia*

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[E. G. Stanley,] *Notes & Queries*

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[H. R. Loyn,] *Journal of Ecclesiastical History*

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