

THE NEW MIDDLE AGES

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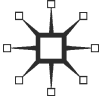
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AUTHORITY AND
SUBJUGATION IN WRITING
OF MEDIEVAL WALES

Edited by
Ruth Kennedy and Simon Meecham-Jones

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Lomers is the London Old and Middle English Research Seminar, a convivial forum that brings together medievalists from the separate colleges of the Federal University of London but also reaches out to other parishes. The inspiration for a series of symposia studying the variety of cultural and national forms of expression in medieval Britain was initiated by an earlier stimulating Lomers seminar by John J. Thompson: “Irishness(es) and Middle English Literary Culture.” This led to four summer symposia on Welshness(es) and Scottishness(es) and Medieval English literary culture, so thank you, John. This volume brings together revised papers from the Lomers summer symposia of 2004 and 2005, together with the Trevisa edition, discussed in 2005 but completed subsequently, and a series of commissioned chapters designed to present as comprehensive and balanced depiction of the complex meeting, interaction, evasion, and resistance of cultures in medieval Wales. Lomers could not run without the wonderful financial and general support of the Institute of English Studies in the School of Advanced Studies at Senate House, London; particular thanks here are due to Warwick Gould, Michael Baron, Joanne Grubb, Francesca Bettocchi, and Jon Millington, and to Julia Boffey, past chair of Lomers, for her continued unstinting advice and encouragement. We would also like to thank our editor, Bonnie Wheeler, and our extremely sympathetic anonymous reader—now revealed as Jeffrey Jerome Cohen—together with all who have worked on this book at Palgrave Macmillan; they have been especially patient this time round. Working on this second book with Newgen Imaging Systems, particularly our contact editor, Maran Elancheran, has been a consistent delight. The image reproduced on the front cover represents the conflict of Beli and Brân, and is from MS NLW Peniarth 23, one of the few surviving illustrated manuscripts from medieval Wales and the only illustrated Arthurian one. We are most grateful to Ceridwen Lloyd-Morgan for drawing our attention to the manuscript, to Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru/The National Library of Wales for granting us permission to use this image, and to Camwy Macdonald for organizing the reproduction and permission. Our warmest thanks also go to Ceridwen for her help in confirming the details of Welsh manuscripts, some of which have been renamed and reclassified many times, and for her invaluable help in proofreading the orthography of Modern and Medieval Welsh throughout the entire volume. We are particularly grateful to Helen Fulton for suggesting Anna Ratcliffe to draw the maps. We are also grateful to the Dean and Chapter of Lichfield Cathedral who have granted permission to reproduce images from Lichfield Cathedral Library, MS 1, and to the British Library and Oxford New College for permission to edit the texts in chapter 6.

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Ruth Kennedy

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Wales and England after 1284

Map of MEDIEVAL Wales and England