

ARTHURIAN AND COURTLY CULTURES

Arthurian and Courtly Cultures explores this dynamic field through the great variety of literary and cultural expression inspired by the lore of King Arthur, the Round Table, and the Grail. In forms that range from medieval chronicles to popular films, from chivalric romances to contemporary comics, from magic realism to feminist fantasy—and from the sixth through the twenty-first centuries—few literary subjects provide such fertile ground for cultural elaboration. Including works in literary criticism, cultural studies, and history, *Arthurian and Courtly Cultures* highlights the most significant new scholarship in Arthurian Studies.

Series Editor

Bonnie Wheeler, Southern Methodist University

Published by Palgrave Macmillan:

Adapting the Arthurian Legends for Children: Essays on Arthurian Juvenilia

By Barbara Tapa Lupack

Forging Chivalric Communities in Malory's Le Morte Darthur

By Kenneth Hodges

Violent Passions: Managing Love in the Old French Verse Romance

By Tracy Adams

Hollywood Knights: Arthurian Cinema and the Politics of Nostalgia

By Susan Aronstein

The Medieval Author in Medieval French Literature

Edited by Virginie Greene

Comic Provocations: Exposing the Corpus of Old French Fabliaux

Edited by Holly A. Crocker

Writings on Love in the English Middle Ages

Edited by Helen Cooney

Andreas Capellanus on Love? Desire, Seduction, and Subversion in a Twelfth-Century Latin Text

By Kathleen Andersen-Wyman

Medieval Literacy and Textuality in Middle High German: Reading and Writing in Albrecht's

Jüngerer Titurel

By Annette Volging

Geoffrey of Monmouth and the Feminist Origins of the Arthurian Legend

By Fiona Tolhurst

Geoffrey of Monmouth and the Translation of Female Kingship

By Fiona Tolhurst

Morgan le Fay, Shapeshifter

By Jill M. Hebert

The Myth of Morgan la Fey

By Kristina Pérez

Mapping Malory: Regional Identities and National Geographies in Le Morte Darthur

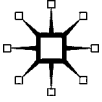
By Dorsey Armstrong and Kenneth Hodges

MAPPING MALORY

REGIONAL IDENTITIES AND
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIES IN
LE MORTE DARTHUR

Dorsey Armstrong and Kenneth Hodges

palgrave
macmillan



MAPPING MALORY

Copyright © Dorsey Armstrong and Kenneth Hodges, 2014.

Softcover reprint of the hardcover 1st edition 2014 978-1-137-03485-4
All rights reserved.

A version of Chapter Five appeared as Kenneth Hodges, "Why Malory's Launcelot Is Not French," *PMLA* 125.3 (2010): 556–71. Reprinted here by kind permission of the editors of *PMLA*.

A version of Chapter One appeared as Dorsey Armstrong, "Mapping Malory's *Morte*: The (Physical) Place and (Narrative) Space of Cornwall," *Arthurian Literature* 28 (2012): 161–90. Reprinted here by kind permission of the editors and Boydell and Brewer.

The image of the map from Matthew Paris is reproduced by kind permission of the British Library.

The image of the Hereford map is reproduced by kind permission of the Cathedral Library of the Cathedral of Hereford.

The other maps in this book were drawn by Jen C. Christopher.

First published in 2014 by
PALGRAVE MACMILLAN®

in the United States—a division of St. Martin's Press LLC,
175 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010.

Where this book is distributed in the UK, Europe and the rest of the world, this is by Palgrave Macmillan, a division of Macmillan Publishers Limited, registered in England, company number 785998, of Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 6XS.

Palgrave Macmillan is the global academic imprint of the above companies and has companies and representatives throughout the world.

Palgrave® and Macmillan® are registered trademarks in the United States, the United Kingdom, Europe and other countries.

ISBN 978-1-349-44201-0 ISBN 978-1-137-44327-4 (eBook)

DOI 10.1057/9781137443274

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Armstrong, Dorsey, 1970–

Mapping Malory : regional identities and national geographies in
Le morte Darthur / by Dorsey Armstrong and Kenneth Hodges.
pages cm.—(Studies in Arthurian and courtly cultures)
Includes bibliographical references.

1. Malory, Thomas, Sir, active 15th century. *Morte d'Arthur*. 2. Malory, Thomas, Sir, active 15th century—Geography. 3. Geography in literature. 4. Regionalism in literature. 5. Nationalism in literature. 6. Politics in literature. 7. England—In literature. 8. Arthurian romances—History and criticism. 9. Romances, English—History and criticism. I. Hodges, Kenneth L. II. Title.

PR2045.A77 2014
823'.2—dc23

2014002971

A catalogue record of the book is available from the British Library.

Design by Newgen Knowledge Works (P) Ltd., Chennai, India.

First edition: July 2014

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

For Ryan
—D. A.

For Su Fang
—K. L. H.

This page intentionally left blank

CONTENTS

| | |
|---|-----|
| <i>List of Maps and Figures</i> | ix |
| <i>Acknowledgments</i> | xi |
| Introduction Places of Romance <i>Kenneth Hodges</i> | 1 |
| 1. Mapping Malory's <i>Morte</i> : The (Physical) Place and (Narrative) Space of Cornwall <i>Dorsey Armstrong</i> | 19 |
| 2. Of Wales and Women: Guenevere's Sister and the Isles <i>Kenneth Hodges</i> | 45 |
| 3. Sir Gawain, Scotland, Orkney <i>Kenneth Hodges</i> | 73 |
| 4. Trudging toward Rome, Drifting toward Sarras <i>Dorsey Armstrong</i> | 101 |
| 5. Why Malory's Launcelot Is Not French: Region, Nation, and Political Identity <i>Kenneth Hodges</i> | 135 |
| Conclusion Malory's Questing Beast and the Geography of the Arthurian World <i>Dorsey Armstrong</i> | 157 |
| <i>Notes</i> | 173 |
| <i>Bibliography</i> | 207 |
| <i>Index</i> | 221 |

This page intentionally left blank

MAPS AND FIGURES

Maps

| | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|-----|
| 1.1 | Cornwall and Arthur's Britain | 18 |
| 2.1 | Wales and the West | 44 |
| 3.1 | The Orkney Islands | 72 |
| 4.1 | Britain, Rome, and Sarras | 100 |
| 4.2 | The War with Rome | 133 |
| 5.1 | Britain and France | 134 |
| C.1 | The Questing Beast | 156 |

Figures

| | | |
|-----|--|----|
| 1.1 | Map from Matthew Paris | 26 |
| 1.2 | Detail from the Hereford Mappamundi | 33 |
| 2.1 | Family Tree for Kings Arthur, Lot, and Pellinore | 71 |

This page intentionally left blank

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Both authors would like to thank Bonnie Wheeler, Brigitte Shull, and Ryan Jenkins at Palgrave for their support of this project from its earliest stages. Edward Donald Kennedy's brilliant and helpful critiques made this a much better book, and we are grateful both for his expertise and for his generosity. Jen C. Christopher gamely took up the challenge of producing the maps, and we are thrilled at how she has translated our vision of Malory's medieval world into a stunning final product; the cost of the production of the maps was covered by a generous grant from the College of Liberal Arts at Purdue University. Similarly, a Humanities Center Fellowship from Purdue's College of Liberal Arts made possible the early stages of researching and writing chapter 1, and Professor Dorsey Armstrong would like to express her gratitude for the leave from teaching that made the inception of her portion of the book possible. Professor Kenneth Hodges thanks the University of Oklahoma for supporting travel and for a leave from teaching, both of which have aided this project.

Kenneth Hodges would like to thank Su Fang Ng, who makes both him and his work better. Colleagues and friends have all contributed to life and to writing, especially Dan Ransom. Daniel Boone and Mary Stevens have provided both friendship and afternoons with dogs, and Mark Conger and Carol Mohr have sustained him in many ways, especially on each trip to Kalamazoo.

Dorsey Armstrong would like to thank the head of the English Department at Purdue, Nancy Peterson, and the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, Irwin Weiser, for their enthusiastic and unflagging support of this project from its infancy. She feels grateful every day to be at an institution and in a department that is so collegial and intellectually lively. She would also like to thank her family: Charles and Susan Armstrong; Katherine, Mark, Audrey, and Matthew Hochstetler; Chuck Armstrong; and Paul and Jan Schneider. The support and good cheer of friends and colleagues made the writing process much more enjoyable; in particular she would like to

thank Beate Allert, Jen Christopher, Charlyne Fabi, Amy Flaa, Shaun F. D. Hughes, Mike Johnston, Chris Lukasik, Robyn Malo, Bich Nguyen, Tom Ohlgren, Derek Pacheco, Manushag Powell, Lori Schrage, and Porter Shreve. She would also like to acknowledge her daughters, Mallory and Emerson, for providing distraction, diversion, and affection. But most of all, this book is possible because of the patience, support, and love of her husband, Ryan Schneider, and she dedicates this book to him.

Finally, both authors would like to acknowledge the work of P. J. C. Field, whose two-volume edition of *Malory* (Cambridge: D. S. Brewer, 2013) appeared just as this book was going to press. Although because of timing and publication schedules our citations of *Malory* are to Eugène Vinaver's three-volume edition, our book owes a great debt to Field's scholarship and generosity.