

## Preface

*Anglo-Saxon Manuscripts in Microfiche Facsimile* provides students and scholars with a fundamental tool in the field of Anglo-Saxon studies. The project aims to produce over the next six years complete microfiche facsimiles of the nearly five hundred manuscripts containing Old English. Each issue or volume will present facsimiles and descriptions of about ten manuscripts prepared by one or more scholars. The facsimiles are in most cases produced from existing film stock provided by the holding libraries. New photography will be limited to those manuscripts not yet photographed or poorly photographed. The images will be up to the standards expected of a good microfilm reproduction. Each description provides in brief compass the manuscript's history, codicological features, a collation, a detailed list of contents, and a selected bibliography, as well as notes on special features and problems. The descriptions are intended to be used with the photographic images to maximize their usefulness to scholars who do not have immediate access to the originals or who may be unacquainted with the manuscript and its scholarship.

Manuscripts are reproduced *in toto*, even though the post-Anglo-Saxon material that is found as part of many of them may demonstrate no immediate or ultimate relationship with Anglo-Saxon interests. To have edited the facsimiles, presenting only confirmed Anglo-Saxon parts, might have eliminated important material to be noticed or discovered and in any case would remove the Anglo-Saxon vestiges from their actual material contexts. Users must decide for themselves the relevance of the images presented in this series. Several later manuscripts are included in this series even though they were not considered Anglo-Saxon by Neil R. Ker; in our view, these manuscripts have clear connections with or bearings on undoubted Anglo-Saxon texts.

Each manuscript is assigned a main catalogue number for this series; that number is given before the shelfmark. This catalogue number is

concorded with the catalogue numbers of Ker and Gneuss. A comprehensive list of ASM numbers will be issued with the series, together with a concordance-list of Ker numbers. A general index and an index of incipits will be published as the final volume of the series. The manuscript descriptions, after being revised, will also be published as a separate publication towards the conclusion of this project. The editors request that any errors, omissions, or relevant new scholarship be brought to their attention.

The editors wish to thank The Research Materials Divisions of the National Endowment for the Humanities, an independent federal agency, for a generous grant in support of the project. They also wish to thank the Evjue Foundation of Madison, Wisconsin, and the International Society of Anglo-Saxonists for their generous gifts. The editors express their gratitude to the director and staff of the British Library for permission to reproduce the manuscripts, for agreeing to waive fees for rights to reproduction, and for their enthusiastic support for this project. The editors thank the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury Cathedral for kind permission to publish Additional MSS 20, 25, and 32, and for many courtesies. They also thank the Board of Trinity College Dublin for supplying copies of MSS 114, 172, and 492, and for permission to publish them. They express their thanks to the Trustees of the National Library of Scotland for a copy of and permission to publish Adv. 18.7.7 and especially to its Keeper of Manuscripts, I.C. Cunningham, for his personal interest in and participation in this project. The fiche images in this volume remain the property of the owners of the manuscripts and may not be reproduced in whole or in part without the written permission of the owners.

For two years the project was ably assisted by Judith Nysenholc, who has been compiling the index, and by Douglas Texter, who assisted with editorial matters. The editors wish to thank them for their work. They also thank Dr. P.J. Lucas for his continuing enthusiastic participation and support. Finally, the editors wish to thank Mario A. Di Cesare and Medieval & Renaissance Texts & Studies for originally agreeing to undertake the publication of this project, and Pegasus Press, which now produces the series on behalf of MRTS, for close cooperation throughout the entire publication process.

THE EDITORS