

## 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 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. Users of these descriptions are requested to bring any errors, omissions, or relevant new scholarship to the attention of the publisher or the editor.

Thanks are due to The National Endowment for the Humanities, an independent federal agency, for generous continuing grants in support of the project. Thanks are also due to the Evjue Foundation of Madison, Wisconsin, and to the International Society of Anglo-Saxonists for their generous gifts. Thankful acknowledgment is given to the directors of the Cambridge University Library, the Dombibliothek, Köln, the Wellcome Historical Medical Library, London, the Hessisches Staatsarchiv, Marburg, and the Bodleian Library, Oxford for permission to reproduce in this volume manuscripts owned and held by them and to their staffs for much helpful assistance and advice. Special thanks to the director and staff of the British Library, London, for their long-term enthusiastic support for the project and for waiving fees for rights to reproduction of its manuscripts. Thanks to Lynn Sims and Leslie MacCoull for their expert editorial help and advice. The fiche images in this volume remain the property of the owners of the manuscripts mentioned above and may not be reproduced in whole or in part without the written permission of the respective owners.

It is my sad duty to report that the founding editor of this series, Phillip Pulsiano, died on 23 August 2000, after a long and gallant struggle with cancer. Phillip's vision, learning, and energy have given shape and being to *Anglo-Saxon Manuscripts in Microfiche Facsimile* and brought it along successfully to this point. This volume is the last that he had edited. Future volumes will be edited under my supervision, drawing on the skills of many advisors and collaborators, but the good offices and wisdom of Phillip will be sorely missed. Phillip left many descriptions complete, or nearly so, and future volumes will continue to reflect his work. A future volume is projected as a memorial that will contain a collection of descriptions completed by him before his death.

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