Contents

List of contributors x
General preface • DAVID WALLACE xi
Acknowledgments xxiv
List of abbreviations xxv

I
AFTER THE NORMAN CONQUEST

Introduction 3

1 • Old English and its afterlife 7
SETH LERER

2 • Anglo-Norman cultures in England, 1066–1460 35
SUSAN CRANE

3 • Early Middle English 61
THOMAS HAHN

4 • National, world and women’s history: writers and readers in post-Conquest England 92
LESLEY JOHNSON and
JOCELYN WOGAN-BROWNE

5 • Latinitas 122
CHRISTOPHER BASWELL

6 • Romance in England, 1066–1400 152
ROSALIND FIELD

II
WRITING IN THE BRITISH ISLES

Introduction 179

7 • Writing in Wales 182
BRYNLEY F. ROBERTS

8 • Writing in Ireland 208
TERENCE DOLAN
Contents

9 • Writing in Scotland, 1058-1560 229
  R. JAMES GOLDSTEIN

10 • Writing history in England 255
  ANDREW GALLOWAY

11 • London texts and literate practice 284
  SHEILA LINDENBAUM

III
INSTITUTIONAL PRODUCTIONS

Introduction 313

12 • Monastic productions 316
  CHRISTOPHER CANNON

13 • The friars and medieval English literature 349
  JOHN V. FLEMING

14 • Classroom and confession 376
  MARJorie CURRY WOODS and RITA COPELAND

15 • Medieval literature and law 407
  RICHARD FIRTH GREEN

16 • Vox populi and the literature of 1381 432
  DAVID AERS

17 • Englishing the Bible, 1066-1549 454
  DAVID LAWTON

IV
AFTER THE BLACK DEATH

Introduction 485

18 • Alliterative poetry 488
  RALPH HANNA

19 • Piers Plowman 513
  KATHRYN KERBY-FULTON

20 • The Middle English mystics 539
  NICHOLAS WATSON

21 • Geoffrey Chaucer 566
  GLENDING OLSON
Contents

22 · John Gower 589
   Winthrop Wetherbee

23 · Middle English lives 610
   Julia Boffey

V
BEFORE THE REFORMATION

Introduction 637

24 · Hoccleve, Lydgate and the Lancastrian court 640
   Paul Strohm

25 · Lollardy 662
   Steven Justice

26 · Romance after 1400 690
   Helen Cooper

27 · William Caxton 720
   Seth Lerer

28 · English drama: from ungodly ludi to sacred play 739
   Lawrence M. Clopper

29 · The allegorical theatre: moralities, interludes
   and Protestant drama 767
   John Watkins

30 · The experience of exclusion: literature and politics in
   the reigns of Henry VII and Henry VIII 793
   Colin Burrow

31 · Reformed literature and literature reformed 821
   Brian Cummings

Chronological outline of historical events and
texts in Britain, 1050–1550 852
   William P. Marvin

Bibliography 881
   William P. Marvin

Index of manuscripts 991
   Index 994