

The Insular Latin Grammarians

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the adaptation of late latin grammars from the schools of the roman empire for use in a foreign christian society culminated in the british isles in the 7th and 8th centuries in the development of two distinct types of grammar designed respectively for elementary and for more advanced students these works whether they take the form of elaborate commentaries on the classical grammarians or of simple collections of paradigms reflect the reading and intellectual preoccupations of their authors the first teachers in the west to face the problem of large scale formal foreign language teaching the influence of the insular grammarians

extended far beyond their own time their works taken to the continent by irish and anglo saxon missionaries shaped both the latinity and the pedagogical technique of their pupils the carolingians and their influence in foreign language teaching has persisted until our own time

grammar and grammarians in the early middle ages is the only book in this field which examines linguistics in the middle ages from the standpoint of both the medievalist and the historian of linguistics primary source material along with previously unpublished texts are used extensively with all foreign texts translated into english and are listed in a useful bibliography to aid further study historical surveys author studies and introductions to medieval grammatical terminology are also included to help clarify the historical context of the study the volume will prove invaluable reading and an important reference work for those studying historical linguistics for medieval and cultural historians and to all who are interested in the intellectual life and literature of medieval europe

sociophilology is a word coined by the author to describe a discipline which combines traditional rigorous philological analysis of texts with the recent insights of sociolinguistics from these combined perspectives he provides an understanding both of late latin early romance language and of the circumstances of the scribes who have given us the evidence the chronological span ranges from the later part of the roman empire to the thirteenth century the focus is on the processes by which latin at different times in different places came to be thought of as being several different languages formal medieval latin and less formal romance languages these conceptual distinctions are most directly represented by the decisions taken to write some texts in a new way there are six sections in the book each containing four chapters section a provides an overview and is entitled latin medieval latin and romance b texts and language in late antiquity c the ninth century d italy and spain in the tenth and eleventh centuries e spain in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries f sociophilology and historical linguistics followed by a concluding summary chapter bibliography and indexes scholars and texts investigated include priscian boniface rhythmic poetry alcuin eulogio de cordoba the strasbourg oaths glossaries glosses and the earliest romance texts of the iberian peninsula general topics considered in detail within the late latin and early romance world include periodization the influence of other languages on the development of latin change of language names the nature of sound change the relationship between speech and writing the relationship between historical linguistics and sociolinguistics and the relationship between language internal variation and language splits

these 14 studies explore the implications of manuscript studies examining the relationship between the church and the secular world cover the phenomena of royal patronage and its manifestations discuss aspects of literacy and orality of the period and cover 10th century

culture

the late middle ages ca 1300 1550

how did people know what they knew and learn what they learnt as derek pearsall s introduction makes clear this is the primary focus of this collection of essays published in celebration of the thirtieth anniversary of the foundation of the centre for medieval studies at the university of york the learning materials included range from grammar books to mystery plays and from court records to monastic chronicles as well as liturgical and devotional texts but the essays are not only concerned with texts alone but with the broader and often fluid social environments in which learning took place many of the papers therefore question the validity of some distinctions habitually used in the discussion of medieval culture such as the opposition between orality and literacy between latin and the vernacular or between secular and religious all but one of the contributors are literary scholars and historians who completed their post graduate work at the university of york they are joyce hill john arnold linda olsen janet burton patricia cullum katherine kerby fulton deborah cannon pamela king and stacey gee katherine zieman although not a york graduate is a most welcome contributor to the volume

a complete list of latin texts written during the early middle ages on celtic territory or by celts abroad

volume 124 of the proceedings of the british academy contains 19 obituaries of recently deceased fellows of the british academy

the western classical tradition in linguistics examines ancient medieval post renaissance and modern conceptions of linguistics i e the study of language and languages it identifies a classical tradition extending from ancient greece to the twenty first century which has spread from europe to the other four inhabited continents it is a story of successive stages of language study each building upon or reacting against the preceding period book jacket

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