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Further reading: a guide to Chaucer studies

1 Bibliography

The first six items in section 1.1, listed in chronological order, are comprehensive surveys of Chaucer criticism up to 1996; for works published after that date, the annual bibliographies published in the journals listed in section 1.2 should be consulted. *Studies in the Age of Chaucer* and the *Year's Work in English Studies* are particularly useful because the items listed are annotated.

Selected bibliographies follow in alphabetical order. The annotated Chaucer Bibliography by Leyerle and Quick contains about 1,200 items, and that by Allen and Fisher contains 924 items. The other volumes in this section belong to the Chaucer Bibliographies series; they will facilitate access to the prodigious amount of Chaucer criticism produced in this century.

A Chaucer MetaPage designed to provide access to Chaucer studies on the worldwide web can be reached at <http://www.unc.edu/depts/chaucer/>.

1.1 Collections

- Hammond, E. P. *Chaucer: A Bibliographical Manual* (New York, 1908; repr. New York, 1933).
- Griffith, D. D. *Bibliography of Chaucer, 1908-1953* (Seattle, 1955).
- Crawford, W. R. *Bibliography of Chaucer, 1954-63* (Seattle, 1967).
- Baird, L. Y. *A Bibliography of Chaucer, 1965-1973* (Boston, 1977).
- Baird-Lange, L. Y. and H. Schnuttgen. *A Bibliography of Chaucer, 1974-1985* (Hamden, Conn., 1988).
- Sowers, B. K. and M. Allen, eds. *Annotated Chaucer Bibliography, 1986-1996* (Notre Dame, Ind., 2002).
- Allen, M. and J. H. Fisher. *The Essential Chaucer: An Annotated Bibliography of Major Modern Studies* (Boston, 1987).
- Weidler, P. G. and E. M. Biebel, eds. *Chaucer's Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale: An Annotated Bibliography* (Toronto/Buffalo, N.Y./London, 1998).

Further reading

- Burton, T. L. and R. Greentree. *Chaucer's Miller's, Reeve's, and Cook's Tales: An Annotated Bibliography 1900 to 1992* (Toronto/Buffalo, N.Y./London, 1997).
- Eckhardt, C. D. *Chaucer's General Prologue to the Canterbury Tales: An Annotated Bibliography, 1900-1984* (Toronto/Buffalo, N.Y./London, 1990).
- Leyerle, J. and A. Quick. *Chaucer: A Bibliographical Introduction* (Toronto/Buffalo, N.Y./London, 1986).
- McAlpine, M. E. *Chaucer's Knight's Tale: An Annotated Bibliography, 1900-1985* (Toronto/Buffalo, N.Y./London, 1991).
- Peck, R. A. *The Chaucer Bibliographies: Chaucer's Lyrics and Anelida and Arcite: An Annotated Bibliography 1900 to 1980* (Toronto/Buffalo, N.Y./London, 1983).
- Peck, R. A. *Chaucer's Romaunt of the Rose and Boece, Treatise on the Astrolabe, Equatorie of the Planetis, Lost Works, and Chaucerian Apocrypha: An Annotated Bibliography, 1955-1985* (New York, 1987).
- Sutton, M. *Chaucer's Pardoner's Prologue and Tale: An Annotated Bibliography 1900 to 1995* (Toronto/Buffalo, N.Y./London, 2000).

1.2 Annual bibliographies

Studies in the Age of Chaucer

The annual bibliographies published in the above journal are also available as the Chaucer Bibliography Online, a database maintained by Mark Allen at the University of Texas at San Antonio. Connection may be made at <http://uchaucer.utsa.edu>.

Year's Work in English Studies

2 Editions

The standard one-volume edition of Chaucer's works is *The Riverside Chaucer*, a collaborative effort produced under the general editorship of Larry D. Benson. This was based on the second edition of Chaucer's works by F. N. Robinson. Skeat's edition, though now outdated, was the first modern edition of Chaucer, and much later scholarship is based on its voluminous notes. Manly and Rickert's critical edition of the *Canterbury Tales*, published in 1940, was based on all surviving manuscripts. The *Variorum Edition* project, initiated under the general editorship of Paul G. Ruggiers, and now directed by Daniel J. Ransom, was planned as a series of volumes each of which would be devoted to a particular work of Chaucer, and would provide by way of commentary on the text very full syntheses of scholarship and criticism on the work in question. Of the eleven volumes that have appeared

3 Chaucer's life and world

Approximately five hundred documents referring to Chaucer, the man and civil servant, have been collected by Crow and Olson in the *Chaucer Life-Records*. Biographies drawing on these life records and the poet's works are the books by Chute, Brewer (*Chaucer; Chaucer and His World* – a book featuring many fine illustrations), Pearsall, and Stone. Brewer's third study, *Chaucer in His Time*, is an account of the political and social conditions of Chaucer's England, courtly life, domestic life, and religious life, as are the studies of Howard and Strohm, who position Chaucer within a specific social status group. D. W. Robertson complements this general outline by a specific study dealing with the economic, political, social, and intellectual conditions of Chaucer's London. Two richly illustrated pictorial companions to the *Canterbury Tales* in particular and to Chaucer's works in general are the books by Hussey and by Loomis. Rickert *et al.*'s volume, finally, presents a fine collection of contemporary documents illustrating such widely divergent areas as London life, training and education, commercial life, entertainment, travel, warfare, and religion.

- Brewer, D. S. *Chaucer in His Time* (London, 1963; repr. Westport, Conn., 1977).
 Brewer, D. S. *Chaucer*, 3rd edn (London, 1973).
 Brewer, D. S. *Chaucer and His World* (London, 1978).
 Chute, M. *Geoffrey Chaucer of England* (New York, 1946; repr. London, 1977).
 Crow, M. M. and C. C. Olson, eds. *Chaucer Life-Records* (Austin, Tex., 1966).
 Howard, D. R. *Chaucer: His Life, His Works, His World* (New York, 1987).
 Hussey, M. *Chaucer's World: A Pictorial Companion* (Cambridge, 1967).
 Loomis, R. S. *A Mirror of Chaucer's World* (Princeton, N.J., 1965).
 Pearsall, D. *The Life of Geoffrey Chaucer: A Critical Biography* (Oxford, 1992).
 Rickert, E., C. C. Olson, and M. M. Crow, eds. *Chaucer's World* (New York, 1948).
 Robertson, D. W., Jr. *Chaucer's London* (New York, 1968).
 Stone, B. *Chaucer* (Harmondsworth, 1989).
 Strohm, P. *Social Chaucer* (Cambridge, 1989).

4 Language and style, dictionaries and glossaries, concordances

Section 4.1 contains a list of studies on the language, style, and vocabulary of Chaucer's poetry. Purely linguistic analyses – that is, studies of the phonology, morphology, and syntax of Chaucer's language – are offered by Kerkhoff, Kökeritz, Sandved, and Ten Brink. For the position of Chaucer's language in the wider context of Middle English the interested reader should consult the handbook by Mossé, and the study of syntax by Mustanoja in section 4.2. The studies by Eliason, Elliott, Masui, and Roscow investigate primarily stylistic features, while Burnley's excellent treatments combine both historical linguistics and stylistics. Cannon reassesses the traditional claims

for Chaucer as a linguistic innovator; Part 2 of his study provides an index of Chaucer's vocabulary, with details of the linguistic derivation and first recorded use of each word and its first use in Chaucer's works.

Fundamental for the understanding of Chaucer's language is the *Middle English Dictionary*. A special glossary of the words appearing in Chaucer's works has been assembled by Davis *et al.*, while Ross has provided an index of (allegedly) lewd words and phrases. The older concordance by Tatlock and Kennedy is based on the text of the old Globe Chaucer but is still useful, since Benson's concordance to the *Riverside Chaucer* is not widely available. The computer-generated concordance of Oizumi (based on the *Riverside Chaucer*) treats each of Chaucer's works separately, and is not lemmatized (i.e., it does not distinguish between 'dere' = 'dear' and 'dere' = 'harm').

4.1 Language, style, and vocabulary (Chaucer)

- Benson, L. D. *A Glossarial Concordance to the Riverside Chaucer* (New York, 1993).
 Burnley, J. D. *Chaucer's Language and the Philosophers' Tradition* (Cambridge, 1979).
 Burnley, J. D. *The Language of Chaucer* (London, 1989).
 Cannon, Christopher. *The Making of Chaucer's English: A Study of Words* (Cambridge, 1998).
 Davis, N., D. Gray, P. Ingham, and A. Wallace-Hadrill. *A Chaucer Glossary* (Oxford, 1979).
 Eliason, N. E. *The Language of Chaucer's Poetry: An Appraisal of the Verse, Style and Structure* (Copenhagen, 1972).
 Elliott, R. W. V. *Chaucer's English* (London, 1974).
 Kerkhoff, J. *Studies in the Language of Geoffrey Chaucer* (Leiden, 1966).
 Kökeritz, H. *A Guide to Chaucer's Pronunciation* (Stockholm/New Haven, Conn., 1954; repr. New York, 1962).
 Masui, M. *The Structure of Chaucer's Rime Words: An Exploration into the Poetic Language of Chaucer* (Tokyo, 1974; repr. Folcroft, Pa., 1975).
 Oizumi, A., ed. *A Complete Concordance to the Works of Geoffrey Chaucer*, 10 vols. (Hildesheim/Zurich/New York, 1991).
 Oizumi, A. and H. Yonekura, eds. *A Rhyme Concordance to the Poetical Works of Geoffrey Chaucer, A Complete Concordance to the Works of Geoffrey Chaucer*, XI–XII, Supplement Series, 1–II, 2 vols. (Hildesheim/Zurich/New York, 1994).
 Roscow, G. H. *Syntax and Structure in Chaucer's Poetry* (Cambridge, 1981).
 Ross, T. W. *Chaucer's Bawdy* (New York, 1972).
 Sandved, A. O. *Introduction to Chaucerian English* (Cambridge, 1985).
 Tatlock, J. S. P. and A. G. Kennedy, eds. *A Concordance to the Complete Works of Geoffrey Chaucer and to the Romaunt of the Rose* (Washington, D.C., 1927; repr. Gloucester, Mass., 1963).
 Ten Brink, B. *The Language and Metre of Chaucer*, trans. M. Bentinck Smith (London, 1901; repr. New York, 1969).

so far, eight are devoted to the *Canterbury Tales*; since the Hengwrt MS is used as a base text in these volumes, a facsimile of this manuscript, with accompanying transcription and details of variants in the Ellesmere MS, was published as volume 1 in the *Variorum* series.

John H. Fisher's edition is designed for classroom use; it uses one base MS for every text with emendations from collations of texts by earlier editors. Also designed for classroom use are the selective editions by Baugh and Donaldson, who print almost identical selections – that is, all of Chaucer's verse with the exception of the *Legend of Good Women*, *The Romaunt of the Rose*, *Anelida and Arcite*, and the prose writings. Donaldson's edition also features good discussions of the individual works.

The continuing popularity of the *Canterbury Tales* is attested to by the great number of modern editions. Blake is based on the Hengwrt MS; Pratt uses the text of the Robinson edition with occasional variants; and Cawley uses the Robinson edition without alterations. A separate edition of the *Canterbury Tales*, adapted from the *Riverside Chaucer* with the needs of students in mind, was produced by Larry Benson in 2000. Selected tales with good introductions and glossaries have been edited by Hussey, Spearing, and Winny (*General Prologue*, *Miller's Tale*, *Reeve's Tale*, *Cook's Tale*, *Wife of Bath's Tale*, *Nun's Priest's Tale*, and *Franklin's Tale*) and by Andrew and Cawley (*General Prologue*, *Miller's Tale*, *Reeve's Tale*, *Cook's Tale*, *Shipman's Tale*, and *Nun's Priest's Tale*).

The standard edition of the *Troilus* is that by Barry Windeatt, which superseded the edition by Robert K. Root. The edition by Helen Phillips and Nicholas Havelly of Chaucer's *Dream Poetry* (*Book of the Duchess*, *House of Fame*, *Parliament of Fowls* and portions of the *Legend of Good Women*) contains a general introduction, glosses, commentary, and selected source material. Helen Phillips's edition of the *Book of the Duchess* is excellent, featuring a good introduction with bibliography, the text plus readings from different MSS, copious notes, a translation of the French sources and analogues, and a complete glossary. A new electronic edition of the *Book of the Duchess* that includes a reading text, a critical edition, facsimiles, and texts and translations of all major sources has been compiled by M. McGillivray. Derek Brewer's edition of *The Parliament of Fowls* contains an excellent introduction, bibliography, text, notes, and glossary. Nicholas Havelly's edition of the *House of Fame* is a collation of all five witnesses together with an introduction and glosses. Cowen and Kane's completely fresh edition of the *Legend of Good Women* provides an introduction, variants, and textual commentary.

Further reading

2.1 Complete editions

- Benson, L. D. *et al.*, eds. *The Riverside Chaucer* (Boston, 1987).
 Fisher, J. H., ed. *The Complete Poetry and Prose of Geoffrey Chaucer* (New York, 1977).
 Robinson, F. N., ed. *The Works of Geoffrey Chaucer*, 2nd edn (Boston/London, 1957).
 Ruggiers, P. G., ed. *A Variorum Edition of the Works of Geoffrey Chaucer* (Norman, Okla., 1979–) [*General Prologue*, ed. M. Andrew, 2 vols., 1993; *Miller's Tale*, ed. T. W. Ross, 1983; *Summoner's Tale*, ed. J. F. Plummer III, 1995; *Squire's Tale*, ed. D. C. Baker, 1990; *Physician's Tale*, ed. H. S. Corsa, 1987; *Prioress's Tale*, ed. B. Boyd, 1987; *Nun's Priest's Tale*, ed. D. Pearsall, 1984; *Manciple's Tale*, ed. D. C. Baker, 1984; *The Minor Poems, Part One*, eds. G. B. Pace and A. David, 1982; *The Romaunt of the Rose*, ed. C. Dahlberg, 1999; *A Treatise on the Astrolabe*, ed. S. Eisner, 2002]. The progress of this series can be followed in the Variorum web-site, <http://www.ou.edu/variorum>.
 Skeat, W. W., ed. *The Complete Works of Geoffrey Chaucer*, 2nd edn, 7 vols. (Oxford, 1899).

2.2 Selected editions and individual works

- Andrew, M. and A. C. Cawley, eds. *Geoffrey Chaucer: Comic and Bawdy Tales* (London, 1997).
 Baugh, A. C., ed. *Chaucer's Major Poetry* (New York, 1963).
 Benson, L. D., ed. *The Canterbury Tales Complete* (Boston/New York, 2000).
 Blake, N. F., ed. *The Canterbury Tales by Geoffrey Chaucer* (London, 1980).
 Brewer, D. S., ed. *The Parlement of Foullys*, 2nd edn (Manchester, 1972).
 Cawley, A. C., ed. *The Canterbury Tales*, rev. edn (New York, 1975).
 Cowen, J. and G. Kane, eds. *Geoffrey Chaucer: The Legend of Good Women* (East Lansing, Mich., 1995).
 Donaldson, E. T., ed. *Chaucer's Poetry: An Anthology for the Modern Reader*, 2nd edn (New York, 1975).
 Havelly, N., ed. *Chaucer: The House of Fame* (Durham, N.C., 1994).
 Hussey, M., A. C. Spearing, and J. Winny, eds. *Selected Tales from Chaucer* (Cambridge, 1965–).
 McGillivray, M., ed. *Geoffrey Chaucer's Book of the Duchess: A Hypertext Edition* (Alberta, 1997).
 Manly, J. M. and E. Rickert, eds. *The Text of the Canterbury Tales*, 8 vols. (Chicago/London, 1940).
 Phillips, H., ed. *The Book of the Duchess*, 2nd rev. edn (Durham/St Andrews, 1993).
 Phillips, H. and N. Havelly, eds. *Chaucer's Dream Poetry* (London/New York, 1997).
 Pratt, R. A., ed. *The Tales of Canterbury* (Boston, 1966).
 Root, R. K., ed. *The Book of Troilus and Criseyde* (Princeton, N.J., 1926).
 Windeatt, B. A., ed. *Troilus and Criseyde: A New Edition of 'The Book of Troilus'* (London/New York, 1984).

4.2 Language (Middle English)

- Middle English Dictionary*, eds. H. Kurath, S. M. Kuhn *et al.* (Ann Arbor, Mich., 1954-).
- Mossé, F. *A Handbook of Middle English*, trans. J. A. Walker (Baltimore/London, 1952).
- Mustanoja, Tauno F. *A Middle English Syntax* (Helsinki, 1960).

5 Prosody

The study of Chaucer's prosody is hampered by certain conditions which make it difficult to provide definitive answers in this area of investigation. First, we do not know whether he meant his poetry to be read or recited, or precisely what alterations the scribes made when they copied Chaucer's poetry. Secondly, we do not know enough about the spoken language of Chaucer's time to make unassailable statements about his prosody. And thirdly, modern editors have provided us with texts which reflect their own principles of prosody rather than those that Chaucer may have subscribed to. For these reasons it is not surprising that a protracted debate has been carried on, a debate based on certain assumptions about the prosodic principle of Chaucer's poetry. There are two approaches: (1) the hypothesis of iambic decasyllabic verse as the basis of Chaucerian prosody and (2) word-stress and speech rhythms as determinants of the metre of Chaucer's verse. Closely connected with these two approaches are the question of how far Chaucer modelled his verse on contemporary Italian and French verse, and the controversy over the pronunciation of the final unaccented *-e*. Proponents of the decasyllabic iambic verse theory often subscribe to the influence of Italian and French verse on Chaucer's prosody, Romance poetry being fundamentally syllabic in character; while adherents to the speech-rhythm hypothesis would discount this influence, pointing to the accentual nature of English poetry. The same holds true for the pronunciation of the final unaccented *-e*, which some will pronounce for metrical reasons, while others will not, arguing the obsolescence of this sound in the London standard of Chaucer's time and the dominance of natural speech rhythms.

There is also debate over the meaning of the punctuation in the MSS. Do the virgules (/), colons, and dots placed either above or on the line indicate caesuras or rising intonation? Are the lines divided into two half-lines or not? And is Chaucer thinking in terms of a single line-unit at all?

Finally, the question of how far Chaucer's prose is influenced by the Latin *cursus* – that is, the cadenced medieval prose characterizing the Latin writings of his time – is still unanswered.

Further reading

Conflicting views on these and other matters will be found in the studies cited below analysing Chaucer's prosody. The essay by Gaylord is the best assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of the respective positions.

- Baum, P. F. *Chaucer's Verse* (Durham/Cambridge, 1961).
- Gaylord, A. T. 'Scanning the Prosodists: An Essay in Metacriticism', *Chaucer Review*, 11 (1976), 22–82.
- Gaylord, A. T., ed. *Essays on the Art of Chaucer's Verse* (New York, 2001).
- Glowka, A. W. *A Guide to Chaucer's Meter* (Lanham, Md., 1991).
- Halle, M. and S. A. Keyser. 'Chaucer and the Study of Prosody', *College English*, 28 (1966), 187–219.
- Mustanoja, T. F. 'Chaucer's Prosody' in *Companion to Chaucer Studies*, ed. B. Rowland, rev. edn (New York/Oxford, 1979), pp. 65–94.
- Robinson, I. *Chaucer's Prosody: A Study of the Middle English Verse Tradition* (Cambridge, 1971).
- Schlauch, M. 'Chaucer's Prose Rhythms', *PMLA*, 65 (1950), 568–89.
- Schlauch, M. 'The Art of Chaucer's Prose' in *Chaucer and Chaucerians: Critical Studies in Middle English Literature*, ed. D. S. Brewer (London, 1966), pp. 140–63.
- Southworth, J. G. *Verses of Cadence: An Introduction to the Prosody of Chaucer and His Followers* (Oxford, 1954).
- Southworth, J. G. *The Prosody of Chaucer and His Followers: Supplementary Chapters to Verses of Cadence* (Oxford, 1962).
- Youmans, G. 'Reconsidering Chaucer's Prosody' in *English Historical Metrics*, eds. C. B. McCully and J. J. Anderson (Cambridge/New York, 1996), pp. 185–209.

6 Sources and analogues

The standard work on sources and analogues for the *Canterbury Tales* was until very recently the collection by Bryan and Dempster. The first volume of a revised version, edited by Correale and Hamel, appeared in 2002; it contains facing-page translations of texts in languages other than English. A second volume will complete the work. Hanna and Lawler edit and translate the key texts of the clerical antifeminist tradition used in the *Wife of Bath's Tale*. This volume, like those edited by Eisner, Lewis, Mooney, and Wenzel, belongs to the series called the Chaucer Library, which aims to present the classical and medieval works that Chaucer knew as nearly as possible in the form that he knew them, with accompanying translations. For the fabliaux in the *Canterbury Tales* Benson and Andersson's collection of the French, German, Italian, and Latin analogues, accompanied by an English translation, is a valuable reference book. R. K. Gordon prints a translation of the Troilus section of the *Roman de Troie* and of the *Filostrato* together with the text of *Troilus* and Henryson's *Testament of Cresseid*. Havely provides a new translation of those sections from Boccaccio's works comprising the basis

of the *Troilus*, the *Knight's Tale*, and the *Franklin's Tale*. Windeatt makes available in translation the French, Latin, and Italian texts that lie behind Chaucer's dream poems, for example passages from Froissart, Machaut, Deschamps, Cicero, and Boccaccio.

A source book of a different sort is that by Miller, which combines translations of passages from works Chaucer is known to have used with selections from the works of a large number of writers regarded by Chaucer and his contemporaries as authorities in matters ranging from reading to romantic love, chivalric ideals to antifeminism, and the estates of society to the Last Judgement.

- Benson, L. D. and T. M. Andersson, eds. *The Literary Context of Chaucer's Fabliaux: Texts and Translations* (Indianapolis, Ind./New York, 1971).
- Bryan, W. F. and G. Dempster, eds. *Sources and Analogues of Chaucer's Canterbury Tales* (Chicago, 1941; repr. New York, 1958).
- Correale, R. M. and M. Hamel, eds. *Sources and Analogues of the Canterbury Tales*, vol. 1 (Cambridge, 2002) [contains the *Frame*, *Clerk's Tale*, *Cook's Tale*, *Franklin's Tale*, *Friar's Tale*, *Melibee*, *Monk's Tale*, *Nun's Priest's Tale*, *Pardoner's Prologue and Tale*, *Parson's Tale*, *Reeve's Tale*, *Second Nun's Prologue and Tale*, *Squire's Tale*].
- Eisner, S., ed. *The Kalendarium of Nicholas of Lynn* (Athens, Ga./London, 1980).
- Gordon, R. K., ed. *The Story of Troilus as Told by Benoît de Sainte-Maure, Giovanni Boccaccio, Geoffrey Chaucer, Robert Henryson* (New York, 1934; repr. Toronto, 1979).
- Hanna, R., III, and T. Lawler, eds. *Jankyn's Book of Wikked Wyves*. Vol. 1: *The Primary Texts*. *Walter Map's "Dissuasio," Theophrastus' "De Nuptiis," Jerome's Adversus Jovinianum* (Athens, Ga./London, 1997).
- Havely, N. R., ed. and trans. *Chaucer's Boccaccio: Sources of Troilus and the Knight's and Franklin's Tales* (Cambridge, 1980; repr. 1992).
- Lewis, R. E., ed. *Lotario dei Segni (Pope Innocent III). De Miseria Condicionis Humane* (Athens, Ga., 1978; London, 1980).
- Miller, R. P., ed. *Chaucer: Sources and Backgrounds* (New York, 1977).
- Mooney, L. R., ed. and trans. *The Kalendarium of John Somer* (Athens, Ga./London, 1998).
- Wenzel, S., ed. *Summa Virtutum de Remediis Anime* (Athens, Ga., 1984).
- Windeatt, B. A. *Chaucer's Dream Poetry: Sources and Analogues* (Cambridge, 1982).

7 Introductions, handbooks, anthologies, and collections of essays in criticism

Within the past forty years a number of general introductions have been written to facilitate access to Chaucer's poetry. Most of the books in section 7.1 are designed to do just that – that is, to introduce students to the Chaucer canon. The volumes by Norton-Smith and Mehl, though likewise

introductory in nature, are suitable for the more advanced student of Chaucer's poetry. Also within the same period a number of companions to Chaucer studies have been assembled to help both students and teachers familiarize themselves with major aspects of Chaucer studies. The five works listed here reflect different approaches as well as different levels, ranging from selective (Cawley) to all-inclusive (Rowland) and from introductory (Allen and Axiotis; Hussey, Spearing, and Winny) to advanced (Brewer).

Section 7.3 lists nine anthologies of Chaucer criticism. The older collections by Wagenknecht and by Schoeck and Taylor contain some important critical essays from the first half of the twentieth century. The anthologies by Andrew, Barney, and Benson reprint influential essays ranging from the beginning of the twentieth century up to the 1980s. The collection edited by Shoaf combines reprinted essays from the 1970s and 1980s with a large number of new contributions.

In section 7.4 a number of collections of original essays are listed ranging from specific topics like 'Chaucer and the Italian Trecento' to general discussions such as 'Chaucerian Problems and Perspectives'.

7.1 Introductions

- Aers, D. *Chaucer* (Atlantic Highlands, N.J., 1986).
- Brewer, D. *A New Introduction to Chaucer*, 2nd edn (London/New York, 1998).
- Coghill, N. *The Poet Chaucer*, 2nd edn (London, 1968).
- Dillon, J. *Geoffrey Chaucer* (Basingstoke/London/New York, 1993).
- Howard, E. J. *Geoffrey Chaucer* (New York, 1964).
- Hussey, S. S. *Chaucer: An Introduction* (London, 1971).
- Knight, S. *Geoffrey Chaucer* (Oxford, 1986).
- Lawlor, J. *Chaucer* (New York, 1968).
- Mehl, D. *Geoffrey Chaucer: An Introduction to His Narrative Poetry* (Cambridge, 1986).
- Norton-Smith, J. *Geoffrey Chaucer* (London, 1974).
- Rudd, G. *The Complete Critical Guide to Geoffrey Chaucer* (London/New York, 2001).

7.2 Handbooks

- Allen, V. and A. Axiotis, eds. *Chaucer* (New York, 1996).
- Brewer, D. S., ed. *Writers and Their Background: Geoffrey Chaucer* (London, 1974).
- Cawley, A. C., ed. *Chaucer's Mind and Art* (Edinburgh/London, 1969).
- Hussey, M., A. C. Spearing, and J. Winny. *An Introduction to Chaucer* (Cambridge, 1965).
- Rowland, B., ed. *Companion to Chaucer Studies*, 2nd edn (Toronto/New York/London, 1979).

7.3 Anthologies of essays in Chaucer criticism

- Andrew, M., ed. *Critical Essays on Chaucer's Canterbury Tales* (Toronto, 1991).
 Barney, S. A., ed. *Chaucer's Troilus: Essays in Criticism* (Hamden, Conn./London, 1980).
 Benson, C. D., ed. *Critical Essays on Chaucer's Troilus and Criseyde and His Major Early Poems* (Toronto, 1991).
 Ellis, S., ed. *Chaucer: The Canterbury Tales* (London/New York, 1998).
 Jost, J. E., ed. *Chaucer's Humor: Critical Essays* (New York/London, 1994).
 Schoeck, R. J. and J. Taylor, eds. *Chaucer Criticism*, 2 vols. (Notre Dame, Ind., 1960).
 Shoaf, R. A., ed. *Chaucer's Troilus and Criseyde: "Subgit to alle Poesye": Essays in Criticism* (Binghamton, N.Y., 1992).
 Stillinger, T. C., ed. *Critical Essays on Geoffrey Chaucer* (New York/London, 1987).
 Wagenknecht, E. C., ed. *Chaucer: Modern Essays in Criticism* (New York, 1959).

7.4 Collections of original essays in criticism

- Arrathoon, L. A., ed. *Chaucer and the Craft of Fiction* (Rochester, Mich., 1986).
 Beidler, P. G., ed. *Masculinities in Chaucer: Approaches to Maleness in the Canterbury Tales and Troilus and Criseyde* (Cambridge/Rochester, N.Y., 1998).
 Benson, C. D. and E. Robertson, eds. *Chaucer's Religious Tales* (Cambridge, 1990).
 Boitani, P., ed. *Chaucer and the Italian Trecento* (Cambridge, 1983).
 Brewer, D. S., ed. *Chaucer and Chaucerians: Critical Studies in Middle English Literature* (London, 1966).
 Dean, J. M. and C. Zacher, eds. *The Idea of Medieval Literature: New Essays on Chaucer and Medieval Culture in Honor of Donald R. Howard* (Newark, N.J., 1992).
 Economou, G. D., ed. *Geoffrey Chaucer: A Collection of Original Articles* (New York, 1975).
 Fein, S., D. Raybin, and P. C. Braeger, eds. *Rebels and Rivals: The Contestive Spirit in the Canterbury Tales* (Kalamazoo, Mich., 1991).
 Fichte, J. O., ed. *Chaucer's Frame Tales: The Physical and the Metaphysical* (Tübingen/Cambridge, 1987).
 Hahn, T., ed. *Reconceiving Chaucer: Literary Theory and Historical Interpretation, Exemplaria*, 2 (1990), 1-353.
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8 Criticism

Responses to Chaucer and his works from the medieval period to the twentieth century are comprehensively documented in the volumes by Spurgeon (up to 1900) and Brewer (up to 1933); Burrow's much smaller volume offers a useful selection of critical responses from medieval to modern times. Within the past fifteen years, as a glance at one of the annual bibliographies will quickly convince anyone, Chaucer criticism has become not only a veritable industry but also well-nigh unmanageable. To give it adequate treatment within the limited scope of this bibliography is impossible. Consequently, the interested reader is advised to consult the essays listed below (8.1), which will sketch the history of Chaucer criticism from the Middle Ages to the present when read in the following order: Brewer (2), Baugh and Purdy, Crawford, Ridley, Baird-Lange, and Leicester. Benson's, Rooney's, and Rudd's treatments are more general.

Although a survey of Chaucer criticism cannot be produced here, it is still possible to establish groupings to which the book-length studies cited below can be assigned. They can be allocated to the following three categories: 8.2 general criticism; 8.3 literary tradition; and 8.4 historical criticism. Under the heading of 'general criticism' are included studies on rhetoric, stylistics, genre theory, narratology, hermeneutics, and gender, or combinations thereof. In the category 'literary tradition' the works on Chaucer and his place in literary history are assembled, be they native English, French, Latin, or Italian. And the grouping 'historical criticism', finally, embraces those studies which focus primarily on the theological, philosophical, art-historical, historical, and socio-economic conditions and their supposed influence on Chaucer's poetry. Needless to say, the boundaries between these three divisions are not always clear-cut because studies on Chaucer tend to be multifaceted and occasionally multimethodological. In these cases assignment has been made according to what appears to be the dominant character trait. In general, studies from the post-war era have been included here, since the foundations of contemporary Chaucer criticism rarely go back further than that. Seminal books which appeared in this epoch of criticism are marked by an asterisk (*) – the choice made by the present author being, of course, a subjective one.

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