

# Acknowledgments

This book is based on my PhD thesis, which I completed in 2023 at the Department of Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic at the University of Cambridge. I would like, once again, to thank Judy Quinn, my supervisor, for sharing her wisdom and guiding me through both my PhD and MPhil. I am also very grateful to my PhD examiners, Elizabeth Ashman Rowe and Jürg Glauser, whose feedback has been invaluable in turning my thesis into this book. I owe a further debt of gratitude to Jürg for bringing it to the Memory and the Medieval North series and for patiently taking me through the publication process. His immense knowledge and particular eye have improved this book well beyond my own capabilities. Thank you also to the other editors – Pernille Hermann, Stephen A. Mitchell, and Lena Rohrbach – for their support in the process, as well as Robert Forke and Verena Deutsch at De Gruyter. Thank you to my anonymous peer reviewer, whose suggestions have been incredibly useful, and to my dad, Andrew Walker, for his diligent proofreading. Needless to say, any remaining errors are my own.

In October 2021, I was fortunate to be able to complete a month of research at the Árni Magnússon Institute for Icelandic Studies in Reykjavík. Of the many kind people I met there, I would particularly like to thank Emily Lethbridge, Aðalheiður Guðmundsdóttir, Guðvarður Már Gunnlaugsson, Annette Lassen, and Svanhildur Óskarsdóttir, who all gave up their time to discuss various aspects of my work.

There are many more people worthy of thanks who have supported me, both academically and personally, since I began my journey through higher education in 2013. But in particular, I would like to thank Helen Birkett, my undergraduate supervisor at the University of Exeter, and my postgraduate departmental friends, Paddy McAlary, Brittany Hanlon, and Lee Colwill. Thanks are also due, of course, to my family – Auli Valpola, Andrew Walker, and Ilona Valpola-Walker – for consistently having faith in my academic pursuits.

This work was supported by the Arts and Humanities Research Council through the Cambridge DTP (ref AH/L503897/1).

