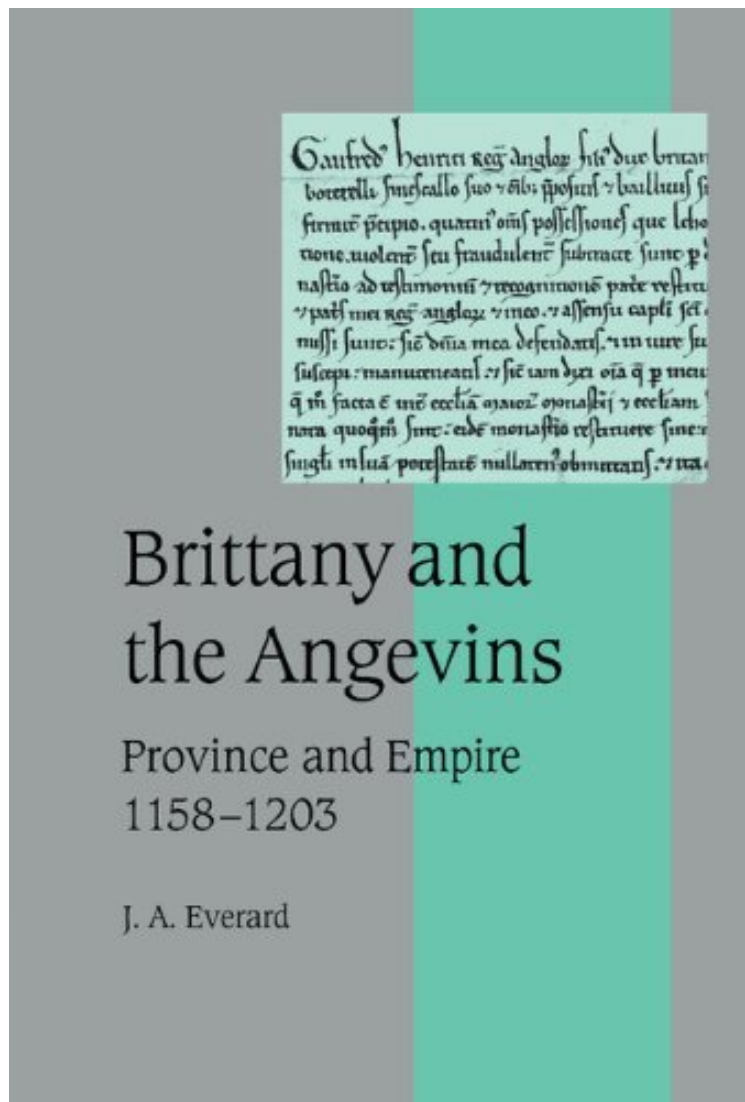


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Brittany and the Angevins: Province and Empire 11581203 (Cambridge Studies in Medieval Life and Thought: Fourth Series)

Von J. A. Everard

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Von J. A. Everard : **Brittany and the Angevins: Province and Empire 11581203 (Cambridge Studies in Medieval Life and Thought: Fourth Series)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Brittany and the Angevins: Province and Empire 11581203 (Cambridge Studies in Medieval Life and Thought: Fourth Series):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.
Excellent Study of a Fascinating Period of Breton HistoryVon Monika SimonThe period of Breton history discussed by Judith Everard in "Brittany and the Angevins" has been sadly neglected until now. For historians of British and French history, Brittany was only of marginal interest. Many past historians of Breton extraction regarded it as an unfortunate period of foreign oppression that was best dealt with quickly. A further impediment to the study of Brittany at this time is that there are comparatively few sources, both administrative and narrative. It is a problem that Judith Everard has to content with, but her intimate knowledge of the extant sources as well as of previous research (She wrote her PhD thesis about this period and is also co-editor of "The charters of Duchess Constance of Brittany and her family, 1171-1221") allows her to compose a coherent study from the scant evidence there is. With this book, she now makes her knowledge available to a wider audience: "Brittany and the Angevins" very thoroughly and clearly examines how Brittany became part of the so-called 'Angevin Empire' and how it was ruled first by Henry II and then by his son Geoffrey, first husband of Duchess Constance. Everard can show that while there were innovations to Breton administration in this period, these were neither oppressive nor 'foreign' to the duchy, but continued developments that had already begun in the previous century. Particularly Geoffrey attempted, quite successfully, to expand the scope of ducal influence and, at the same time, to gain the cooperation of the Breton nobility. While the period had its share of rebellions, Everard demonstrates that they were not motivated by Breton nationalism, as claimed by 19th century historians, but by individual grievances of the rebellious barons. In fact, Geoffrey's early death can be regarded as a tragedy for the development of Brittany. Constance second unhappy marriage, her own death in 1201 and the disappearance (and probable murder) of her heir Arthur, leaving a number of young sisters with contending claims, allowed the King of France to re-establish his overlordship over the duchy. "Brittany and the Angevins: Province and Empire 1158-1203" is an extremely well researched study about a fascinating period of history. And, to my great delight, it has footnotes. I hardly ever give five stars, but this book, in my opinion, deserves it.

KurzbeschreibungThe rule of the Angevins in Brittany is characterized usually as opening an isolated 'Celtic' society to a wider world and imposing new and alien institutions. This study of Brittany under the Angevins, first published in 2000, demonstrates that the opposite is true: that before the advent of Henry II in 1158, the Bretons were already active participants in Anglo-Norman and French society. Indeed those Bretons with landholdings in England, Normandy and Anjou were already accustomed to Angevin rule. The book examines in detail the means by which Henry II gained sovereignty over Brittany and how it was governed subsequently by the Angevin kings of England from 1158 to 1203. In particular, it examines the extent to which the Angevins ruled Brittany directly, or delegated authority either to native dukes or royal ministers and shows that in this respect the nature of Angevin rule changed and evolved over the period. Pressestimmen' this is an excellent monograph that displays considerable insight, scholarship and originality and makes an important contribution to English and French history.' History'With carefully assembled knowledge of a huge cast, she traces in remorseless but clear detail the familial and material motives behind the apparently purposeless wars, rebellions, and shifts of alliance which fill the chronicles of the period, and arrives at many convincing insights.' Cambrian Medieval Celtic Studiesber das ProduktThis book, first published in 2000, is a political history of Brittany between 1158 and 1203, when it was ruled by the Angevin king of England, Henry II, and his successors. The book examines the process whereby Henry II gained sovereignty over Brittany and how it was governed thereafter.