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### **CONCEPTS OF THE ENGLISH COUNTRYSIDE**

#### **The countryside and English culture**

Bunce, M. *The countryside ideal: Anglo-American images of landscape*. London, Routledge, 1994. 2860 BUN

Burchardt, Jeremy. *Paradise lost: rural idyll and social change since 1800*. London, Tauris, 2002. 2030 BUR

Mingay, G. E., (ed.). *The rural idyll*. London, Routledge, 1989. 2030 RUR

Short, Brian. *The English rural community: image and analysis*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1992. 7500 ENG

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#### **The countryside and English national identity**

Daniels, S. *Fields of vision: landscape imagery and national identity in England and the United States*. Chichester, Princeton University Press, 1993. 2830 DAN

Howkins, Alun. *The discovery of rural England*, in *Englishness: politics and culture, 1880 to 1914*, edited by Robert Colls and Philip Dodd. London, Croom Helm, 1986. 1670 ENG

Lowenthal, D. *British national identity and the English landscape*, in *Rural History*, vol. 2, no. 2, 1991, pp. 205-30. PER READING ROOM

Mandler, Peter. *Against "Englishness": English national culture and the limits to rural nostalgia, 1850-1914*. *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society*, 6<sup>th</sup> series, vol. 7, 1997. PAMPHLET--9620-BOX 1/03

—*The English national character: the history of an idea from Edmund Burke to Tony Blair*. New Haven, Yale University Press, 2006. 1670 MAN

Marsh, Jan. *Back to the land: the pastoral impulse in England, from 1880 to 1914*. London, Quartet, 1982. 7500 MAR

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Keith, W. J. Regions of the imagination: the development of British rural fiction. Toronto, University of Toronto Press, 1988. 9430 KEI

—The rural tradition: William Cobbett, Gilbert White and other non-fiction prose writers of the English countryside. Hassocks, Harvester Press, 1975. 9430-KEI

Williams, Raymond. The country and the city. London, Hogarth Press, 1985. 9430 WIL

### **Rural autobiography, reporters and essayists**

Blythe, Ronald. Akenfield: portrait of an English village. London, Allen Lane, 1969. 8610 BLY

Burnett, J. Useful toil: autobiographies of working people from the 1820s to the 1920s. London, Penguin, 1977. 8341 USE

Haggard, Henry Rider. Rural England. London, Longman, 1902. 2410 HAG

Howkins, Alun. Inventing everyman: George Ewart Evans, oral history and national identity, in *Oral History*, vol. 22, no. 2, 1994. PER READING ROOM

Rawlinson, Mark. Dead chickens: Henry Williamson, British agriculture and European war, in *The English countryside between the wars: regeneration or decline?* edited by Paul Brassley, Jeremy Burchardt, Lynne Thompson. Woodbridge, Boydell Press, 2006. 2030 ENG

Shaw, Marion. Cold comfort times: women rural writers in the interwar period, in *The English countryside between the wars: regeneration or decline?*, edited by Paul Brassley, Jeremy Burchardt, Lynne Thompson. Woodbridge, Boydell Press, 2006. 2030 ENG

The MERL library holds perhaps the most accessible national collection of literature on farming and country life, and of novels and essays based on these themes. The collection includes the more literary commentaries on country life from the rural nineteenth century onwards, including the writings of

Richard Jefferies, Alfred Williams and George Sturt of Farnham (some written under the pseudonym of George Bourne).

Among the better known rural writers of the inter-war and immediate post-war period, the library has good holdings of all relevant works by Fred Archer, Adrian Bell, J S Collis, Fred Kitchen, George Ewart Evans, H J Massingham, John Moore, Walter Rose, A G Street, C Henry Warren and Henry Williamson. Additionally, there is a useful working collection of rural novels, written since the 1920s.

Some important accounts include:

Bourne, George. *Change in the village*. London, Duckworth, 1912. 8610 BOU

Evans, George Ewart. *Where beards wag all: the relevance of the oral tradition*. London, Faber & Faber, 1970. 9211 EVA

Jefferies, Richard. *Hodge and his masters*. Stroud, Sutton, 1992 (first published 1880). 8200 JEF

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Sturt, George. *The wheelwright's shop*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1934. 5850 STU

Thompson, Flora. *The illustrated Lark Rise to Candleford*, abridged by Julian Shuckburgh. London, Century, 1983. 9430 THO

### **Rural society**

Ambrose, Peter. *The quiet revolution: social change in a Sussex village, 1871-1971*. London, Chatto & Windus, 1974. 8540 AMB

Bailey, Christopher. *Rural industries and the image of the countryside*, in *The English countryside between the wars: regeneration or decline?*, edited by Paul Brassley, Jeremy Burchardt, Lynne Thompson. Woodbridge, Boydell Press, 2006. 2030 ENG

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—Part V; *Rural society and community*, pp. 1229-1511.  
—Part VI: *The urban impact on the countryside*, pp. 1515-1754.

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—The death of rural England: a social history of the countryside since 1900, London, Routledge, 2003. 2030 HOW

—Reshaping rural England: a social history, 1850-1925, London, Harper Collins, 1991. 7500 HOW

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Mingay, G. E. A social history of the English countryside. London, Routledge, 1990. 7500 MIN

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Newby, Howard. Country life: a social history of rural England. London, Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1987. 2030 NEW

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