

Peasantry And Society In France Since 1789

In considering the pattern of emigration in the context of migration history, Choquette shows that, in many ways, the movement toward Canada occurred as a by-product of other, perennial movements, such as the rural exodus or interurban labor migrations. Overall, emigrants to Canada belonged to an outwardly turned and mobile sector of French society, and their migration took place during a phase of vigorous Atlantic expansion. They crossed the ocean to establish a subsistence economy and peasant society, traces of which lingered on into the twentieth century.

At the close of the twentieth century, even as globalization spurred the growth of megacities worldwide, inhabiting the French countryside had become an internationally-shared fantasy and practice. Accounts of moving into old farmhouses were bestsellers, and houses and barns built by peasants had been renovated as second homes throughout the rural hinterland. Such developments, Sarah Farmer argues, did not simply stem from nostalgia for a rural past or a desire to invest in real estate. Rather, they defined new versions of the rural that emerge in post-agrarian societies. In post-World War II France, cutting-edge technological modernization and explosive economic growth uprooted rural populations and eroded the village traditions of a largely peasant nation. And yet, this book argues, rural France did not vanish in the sweeping transformations of the 1950s and 1960s. The French responded to the collapse of peasant society and threats to cherished landscapes by devising new ways of inhabiting the countryside, making them the sites of change and adaptation. In addition to the rise of restored peasant houses as second residences, Rural Inventions explores the utopian experiments in rural communes and in "going back to the land"; environmentalism; the extraordinary success of peasant autobiographies; photography; and other representations through which the French revalorized rural life and landscapes. The peasantry as a social class may have died out, but the countryside persisted, valued as a site not only for agriculture but increasingly for sport and leisure, tourism, social and political engagement, and a natural environment worth protecting. The postwar French state and the nation's rural and urban inhabitants, Sarah Farmer eloquently shows, remade the French countryside in relation to the city and to the world at large, not only invoking traditional France but also creating a vibrant and evolving part of the France yet to come.

This intriguing book examines popular religion, traditional medicine, witchcraft, apparitions, demonology, and magic in nineteenth-century rural France. Devlin demonstrates that many of the impulses and mental processes now considered superstitious constituted a wholly reasonable response to the pressures of a harsh and impoverished life. Far from the product of a primitive mentality, many of these beliefs have survived in modern culture and can even illuminate the nature of modern mass politics.

In May 1829, strange reports surfaced from the Ari ge department in the French Pyrenees, describing male peasants, bizarrely dressed in women's clothes, gathering in the forests at night to chase away state guards and charcoal-makers. This was the raucous War of the Demoiselles, a protest against the national French Forest Code of 1827, which restricted peasants' rights to use state and private forests. Peter Sahllins unravels the fascinating story of this celebrated popular uprising, and in his telling captures the cultural, historical, and political currents that swept the countryside during France's July 1830 Revolution. Sahllins explains how and why the Ari ge peasants drew on the practices and rituals of folk culture, as well as on a revolutionary tradition, to defend their inherited rights to the forest. To explore these rights and their expression, he delves into the history of forest management, of peasant conflicts with the state, and of popular culture--particularly the disputed history of Carnival and of local rituals of justice. Sahllins also sheds new light on the French revolutionary tradition and the "Three Glorious Days" of July 1830. The drama and symbolism of the War of the Demoiselles have inspired nearly a dozen plays, novels, films, and even a comic book. Using the concepts of anthropology and cultural studies as transport, Sahllins moves from this rich event to the wider worlds of peasant society in France. Focusing on the years from 1829 to 1832 but drawing on sources since the sixteenth century, his book should captivate social, cultural, and political historians of both early modern and modern Europe.

Peasant and French

Soldier and Peasant in French Popular Culture, 1766-1870

The Superstitious Mind

The Social Origins of Political Regionalism

Boulangism and the Dreyfus Affair, 1886-1900

Modernity and Tradition in the Peopling of French North America

The Peasants of Languedoc

In recent years the peasant household has become a central focal point of social history. This is true not only because the peasant represents the major element of European society through the nineteenth century, but also because many of the main issues in modern historical debate can be studied within the sphere of the peasant family. This book deals with the European peasant family during the period of transformation from agrarian to industrial society, the time called by some the period of protoindustrialization. The essays in this volume explore some of the major issues concerning the influence of the economy, society and institutions on the peasant household and, conversely, the influence of the peasant household on the outside world. Themes dealt with include the ways in which the physical environment and the economy may make for very different family structures and even affect intra-family relationships; the effects of inheritance, marriage and kinship strategies, as well as social pressure, on peasant family structure and demography; the debate about changing gender roles and status; the debate over the manner and effects of class formation; questions of social and political agency; the nature of gender and parent-child relations; the validity of protoindustrial theory; and the role of peasants in initiating industrialization as consumers, producers and as a labor force. In examining these themes, the essays provide both case studies and innovative analysis by preeminent international scholars in the fields of family and women's history, economic history and demography.

This translation of La Fin des Paysans is a fascinating and highly readable study of the effects of technological change on the structure, attitudes, and values of traditional French rural society.

This book examines the social, economic and cultural evolution of the peasantry in France and its place in French society since 1789.

First published in 1987, A Social History of Nineteenth-Century France argues that the social impact of the French Revolution has been greatly exaggerated, and that in 1815 France was still predominantly a rural and pre-industrial society. The revolution introduced only very limited changes in social structures and relationships – the daily lives of ordinary people remained virtually unchanged. A much more decisive turning point in French history, the author suggests, was the period of structural change in economy and society, which began in the mid nineteenth century. The first part of the book looks at many changes in the economy and their effect on living standards and social environment. The second part identifies the social groups which make up French society and provides detailed analyses of their lifestyles and social relationships. Part Three considers the influence of such key institutions as churches, schools, and the state. Drawing on an exceptionally wide range of primary sources, this is likely to be the definitive overview of French society for many years to come and will be of interest to researchers of French history and European history.

From Savage to Citizen

The War of the Demoiselles in Nineteenth-century France

Rural Panic in Revolutionary France

Rural Inventions

Peasants, Lords, and Legislators in the French Revolution

Sociability and Voluntary Associations in the Loire Valley, 1815-1914

French Peasants and the Supernatural in the Nineteenth Century

Taking the province of Languedoc as a microcosm for France as a whole, this comprehensively researched riveting narrative demonstrates the way in which the class relations enforced by the absolutist state brought about the revolutionary upheaval of 1789.

The contention of Georges Lefebvre that the peasantry occupied center stage during the early years of the Revolution is vindicated with the support of fresh evidence culled from archives, unpublished theses and other sources.

This title is part of UC Press's Voices Revived program, which commemorates University of California Press ' s mission to seek out and cultivate the brightest minds and give them voice, reach, and impact. Drawing on a backlist dating to 1893, Voices Revived makes high-quality, peer-reviewed scholarship accessible once again using print-on-demand technology. This title was originally published in 1988. Michael Burns charts the rural impact of the two political watersheds' of fin-de-siecle France--Boulangism and the Dreyfus Affair. Broadening our understanding of the early Third Republic, he investigates its intricate village life and shows how the deindustrialization of the countryside both upset and solidified rural cultures. Originally published in 1984. The Princeton Legacy Library uses the latest print-on-demand technology to again make available previously out-of-print books from the distinguished backlist of Princeton University Press. These paperback editions preserve the original texts of these important books while presenting them in durable paperback editions. The goal of the Princeton Legacy Library is to vastly increase access to the rich scholarly heritage found in the thousands of books published by Princeton University Press since its founding in 1905.

The Modernization of Rural France, 1870-1914

French Peasant Fascism

Peasant Uprisings in Seventeenth-century France, Russia and China

The Ancien R é gime: French society 1600-1750

Historical Studies

The Vanishing Peasant

The French Countryside, 1450-1815

The story of the survival of a rural household economy of small-holders in nineteenth-century France.

Philip Hoffman shatters the widespread myth that traditional agricultural societies in early modern Europe were socially and economically stagnant and ultimately dependent on wide-scale political revolution for their growth. Through a richly detailed historical investigation of the peasant agriculture of ancien-r é gime France, the author uncovers evidence that requires a new understanding of what constituted economic growth in such societies. His arguments rest on a measurement of long-term growth that enables him to analyze the economic, institutional, and political factors that explain its forms and rhythms. In comparing France with England and Germany, Hoffman arrives at fresh answers to some classic questions: Did French agriculture lag behind farming in other countries? If so, did the obstacles in French agriculture lurk within peasant society itself, in the peasants' culture, in their communal property rights, or in the small scale of their farms? Or did the obstacles hide elsewhere, in politics, in the tax system, or in meager opportunities for trade? The author discovers that growth cannot be explained by culture, property rights, or farm size, and argues that the real causes of growth derived from politics and gains from trade. By challenging other widely held beliefs, such as the nature of the commons and the workings of the rural economy, Hoffman offers a new analysis of peasant society and culture, one based on microeconomics and game theory and intended for a wide range of social scientists.

For this volume from Annales we have selected not only those articles that treat the impact of the events of a decade or the secular trends of a millennium on the agrarian structure of France but also those that describe the peculiar combination of physical surroundings traditions habits and "tone" that give the village its special character and durability. Hence three of the eight selections treat specific villages. The essays are qualitative, despite their precision about acreages and occupations; interdisciplinary, relying heavily upon cultural anthropology and folklore; and, above all, subtle in performing the double role of describing in depth the activities and values of a restricted number of human beings and of evoking situations that reflect a timeless, human dimension--the durable.

"Using methodologies derived from cultural studies, new historicism, and the history of ideas, Amy S. Wyngaard argues that changing ideas of individual, class, and national identity in the eighteenth century were elaborated around portrayals of the peasant."--BOOK JACKET.

Modernity and Tradition in the Peopling of French Canada

Peasants, Politicians and Producers

Innovation and Change in French Agriculture

Rural Society and French Politics

Peasants of the Is è re, 1870-1914

Agrarian Foundations of French Absolutism

Industry and Politics in Rural France

The example of Old Regime France provides a source for many of the ideas about capitalism, modernization, and peasant protest that concern social scientists today. Hilton Root challenges traditional assumptions and proposes a new interpretation of the relationship between state and society.

`Succinct survey of how war was experienced by ordinary people in late medieval France ... very welcome addition to the literature.' INTERNATIONAL HISTORY REVIEW (Michael Jones)

This volume combines elements of human geography, historical demography, economic history and folk culture in a depiction of a great agrarian cycle, lasting from the Renaissance to the Enlightenment. It describes the conflicts and contradictions of a traditional peasant society in whic the rise in population was not matched by increases in wealth and food production.

Recent revisionist history has questioned the degree of social and economic change attributable to the French Revolution. Some historians have also claimed that the Revolution was primarily an urban affair with little relevance to the rural masses. This book tests these ideas by examining the Revolutionary, Napoleonic and Restoration attempts to transform the tenure of communal land in one region of southern France; the department of the Gard. By analysing the results of the legislative attempts to privatize common land, this study highlights how the Revolution's agrarian policy profoundly affected French rural society and the economy. Not only did some members of the rural community, mainly small-holding peasants, increase their land holdings, but certain sectors of agriculture were also transformed; these findings shed light on the growth in viticulture in the south of France before the monocultural revolution of the 1850s. The privatization of common land, alongside the abolition of feudalism and the transformation of judicial institutions, were key aspects of the Revolution in the countryside. This detailed study demonstrates that the legislative process was not a top-down procedure, but an interaction between a state and its citizens. It is an important contribution to the new social history of the French Revolution and will appeal to economic and social historians, as well as historical geographers.

Rural Society and Economy in Southern France, c.1789-1820

The Peasantry in the French Revolution

The Abolition of Feudalism

A Social History of Nineteenth-Century France

Peasantry and Society in France Since 1789

Fraternity Among the French Peasantry

Peasants into Frenchmen

A study of French rural society during an age of revolutionary experimentation with democratic institutions.

This book, first published in 1983, is a major contribution to our understanding of how and why French rural peasant society became modernised by radical changes in the communications system - in particular, the coming of the railways. The author argues that complex changes in the transport systems, and their effects on agricultural market structures, finally brought traditional French rural civilisation to an end. With the extension of commercialisation, and the widening of horizons, new economic and social structures - and changed attitudes - rapidly came into being. Writing as an economic historian, the author has adopted an interdisciplinary approach to this study which incorporates economic, sociological, historical and geographical methods and data.

Although the United States has been involved in Vietnam for over twenty years, there has been no book in English that provides both a historical perspective on the Vietnamese peasants, who are more than 80 percent of the population, and a firsthand account of their living conditions under colonial rule during the first half of this century. The subject of this study is the impact of French colonial administrative policies on Vietnamese peasant society between the 1880s and 1945&a period that is crucial for an understanding of the nature of the peasants' determined struggle not only against the French colonizers but also against their American successors. In his Foreword to the book, Professor Alexander Woodside (East Asian Research Center, Harvard) remarks that &"for English-speaking readers, this book is likely to serve as a forceful, unpleasantly chilling introduction to some very representative Vietnamese views about what Vietnamese relations with the industrial West have meant to Vietnamese society over the past century.&" The book is divided into two nicely complementary parts. In the first, Mr. Long presents a brief but detailed history of the effects that the French policy of land expropriation and free land concession had upon the peasant; the resulting problems of tenant farming and sharecropping; and the roles of taxes, tax collection, usury, government agrarian credit programs, and industry and commerce in determining the peasants' living standards. This history provides an objective background for the second part of the book, which introduces moving personal Vietnamese accounts in translation of life in the twenties and thirties. &"The Peasants,&" by Phi Van; &"When the Light's Put Out,&" by Ngo Tat To; &"Dead End,&" by Nguyen Cong Hoan; &"Mud and Stagnant Water,&" by Hoang Dao; and &"Who Committed This Crime?&" by Tran Van Mai are only samples from the rich legacy of Vietnamese writings on social change that were produced during this period and that because of stringent censorship took the form of the short story and the novel. &"Some of the best documentation of the conditions of peasant life appeared in fictional disguise,&" writes Mr. Long&and the prolific outpourings of these tormented and often short-lived writers became a most sophisticated means of indirect opposition to French rule.

Describes the negotiation of French national identity during the nineteenth century in terms of the relationship between the French and their rural cultures.

The Peasantry in the Old Regime
The French Countryside after 1945
A Study in Political Power and Popular Revolution in Languedoc. Revised and Updated Edition
Frenchmen Into Peasants
The Great Fear of 1789
Forest Rites

Common Land, Wine and the French Revolution
Men stayed on the farms, and women departed for the mills.

The individualism of the French peasantry during the nineteenth century has frequently been asserted as one of its most striking characteristics. In this 1999 book, Alan Baker challenges this orthodox view and demonstrates the extent to which peasants continued with traditional, and developed new, forms of collective action. He examines representations of the peasantry and discusses the discourse of fraternity in nineteenth-century France in general before considering specifically the historical development, geographical diffusion and changing functions of fraternal voluntary associations in Loir-et-Cher between 1815 and 1914. Alan Baker focuses principally upon associations aimed at reducing risk and uncertainty and upon associations intended to provide agricultural protection. A wide range of new voluntary associations were established in Loir-et-Cher - and indeed throughout rural France - during the nineteenth century. Their historical geography throws new light upon the sociability, upon the changing mentalités, of French peasants, and upon the role of fraternal associations in their struggle for survival.

The enforced bachelorhood of eldest sons in traditional French rural society was a subject to which Pierre Bourdieu devoted three major articles. Here he brings them together, presenting them as stages in 'a kind of intellectual Bildungsroman' through which one can follow the development of his theory of practice.

"[Because] generalizations about the Ancien Régime [have grown] increasingly self-contradictory and French history increasingly incomprehensible...the appearance of Professor Goubert's "Ancien Régime", coming as it does from an author with an established reputation, marks a red-letter day; for Professor Goubert is able to show that much of the current orthodoxy is nonsense. All the old clichés, he says, must be abandoned or thought out fresh. The causes of the French Revolution, he asserts categorically, cannot be explained by the 'triumph of an unidentifiable feudal aristocracy.'

At last a French professor has the courage to concede that Turgot spoke the truth when in a public debate staged for the instruction of Louis XVI he said: 'the cause of privilege is no longer the cause of the distinguished families against the third estate but the cause of the rich against the poor.'" --C. B. A. Behrens, The New York Review of Books, back cover.

The European Peasant Family and Society
Selections from the Annales; Économies, Sociétés, Civilisations

The Bachelors' Ball
The Organisation of Agriculture in France Since 1918
The Modernization of Rural France

The Imperfect Peasant Economy
The Crisis of Peasant Society in Béarn

France achieved national unity much later than is commonly supposed. For a hundred years and more after the Revolution, millions of peasants lived on as if in a timeless world, their existence little different from that of the generations before them. The author of this lively, often witty, and always provocative work traces how France underwent a veritable crisis of civilization in the early years of the French Republic as traditional attitudes and practices crumbled under the forces of modernization. Local roads and railways were the decisive factors, bringing hitherto remote and inaccessible regions into easy contact with markets and major centers of the modern world. The products of industry rendered many peasant skills useless, and the expanding school system taught not only the language of the dominant culture but its values as well, among them patriotism. By 1914, France had finally become La Patrie in fact as it had so long been in name.

One of the most important results of the French Revolution was the destruction of the old feudal order, which for centuries had kept the common people of the countryside subject to the lords. In this book, John Markoff addresses the ways in which insurrectionary peasants and revolutionary legislators joined in bringing "the time of the lords" to an end and how, in that ending, seigneurial rights came to be central to the very sense of the Revolution. He traces the interaction of peasants and legislators, showing how they confronted, challenged, and implicitly negotiated with one another during the course of events. Contrary to many historians who see the source of revolutionary change in elite culture, Markoff argues that peasant insurrection was a crucial element of the transformation of France. Of particular importance to the study is Markoff's analysis of the unique cahiers de doléances, the lists of grievances drawn up in 1789 by rural communities, urban notables, and nobles alike. These documents are invaluable for understanding the Revolution, but until the pioneering work of Markoff and Gilbert Shapiro, they had not been studied systematically at the national level. In addition to an unprecedented quantitative analysis of the cahiers, Markoff traces the ebb and flow of peasant insurrection across half a decade of revolutionary turbulence. He also offers qualitative analysis through his use of the records of the legislative debates as well as the memoirs and journals of the legislators. The Abolition of Feudalism breaks new ground in charting patterns of grievance and revolt in one of the most important social and political upheavals in history.

In the nineteenth century, the reading public expanded to embrace new categories of consumers, especially of cheap fiction. These new lower-class and female readers frightened liberals, Catholics and republicans alike. The study focuses on workers, women and peasants, and the ways in which their reading was constructed as a social and political problem, to analyse the fear of reading in nineteenth century France. The author presents a series of case-studies of actual readers, to examine their choices and their practices, and to evaluate how far they responded to (or subverted) attempts at cultural domination.

A study of the differing views of the conscript based on evidence along the eastern border of France. The popular idea of the swaggering military folk-hero, a potent image for the peasant-conscript, contrasts with the elitist view of conscription as 'the nation in arms'.

Growth in a Traditional Society
France, 1849-1981
Frenchmen into Peasants
Communications Networks and Agricultural Market Structures in Nineteenth-Century France

Peasants and King in Burgundy
The Invention of the Peasant in the French Enlightenment

Politics in the Rural Society
In 1920s France the far-right peasantry wanted an authoritarian and agrarian society. This study examines their singular lack of success and the enduring French perception of themselves as a peasant nation.

This book examines the social history and historical geography of the most important agricultural pressure groups in France since about 1918, which helped to shape the evolution of French farming this century.

The Southern Massif Central C.1750-1880
Migration, Marriage and the Collapse of Traditional Peasant Society in France

Workers, Women, Peasants
Conditions and Protests
Before the Revolution

Readers and Society in Nineteenth-Century France
Henry Dorgère's Greenshirts and the Crises of French Agriculture, 1929-1939