

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910255096203321
Autore	Reid Fred
Titolo	Thomas Hardy and History // by Fred Reid
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer International Publishing : , : Imprint : Palgrave Macmillan, , 2017
ISBN	3-319-54175-7
Edizione	[1st ed. 2017.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource ( 241 pages)
Disciplina	823.8
Soggetti	Literature, Modern—19th century Fiction Civilization—History Nineteenth-Century Literature Cultural History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references at the end of each chapters and index.
Nota di contenuto	CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION: APPROACHES TO HARDY AND HISTORY -- CHAPTER 2 The Liberal Anglican idea of history -- CHAPTER 3 Horace Moule and 'the evils of our era' -- CHAPTER 4 Walter Bagehot and the writing of history -- CHAPTER 5 Essays and Reviews: Frederick Temple and Baden Powell -- CHAPTER 6 Auguste Comte -- CHAPTER 7 George Drysdale and the Radical Hardy -- CHAPTER 8 John Stuart Mill -- CHAPTER 9 The Poor Man and the Lady -- CHAPTER 10 Desperate Remedies and Under the Greenwood Tree -- CHAPTER 11 The Franco-Prussian War -- CHAPTER 12 Satire and Romance: A Pair of Blue Eyes -- CHAPTER 13 'Lead kindly light': Satire and History in Far from the Madding Crowd -- CHAPTER 14 Hardy and Patriotism -- CHAPTER 15 Crisis of Civilisation -- CHAPTER 16 Meliorism in The Mayor of Casterbridge and The Woodlanders -- CHAPTER 17 Stopping Wedding Guests -- CHAPTER 18 LAST WORD -- FURTHER READING.
Sommario/riassunto	This book addresses the questions 'What did Thomas Hardy think about history and how did this enter into his writings?' Scholars have sought answers in 'revolutionary', 'gender', 'postcolonial' and 'millennial' criticism, but these are found to be unsatisfactory. Fred Reid is a

historian who seeks answers by setting Hardy more fully in the discourses of philosophical history and the domestic and international affairs of Britain. He shows how Hardy worked out, from the late 1850s, his own 'meliorist' philosophy of history and how it is inscribed in his fiction. Rooted in the idea of cyclical history as propounded by the Liberal Anglican historians, it was adapted after his loss of faith through reading the works of Auguste Comte, George Drysdale and John Stuart Mill and used to defend the right of individuals to break with the Victorian sexual code and make their own 'experiments in living'.

---