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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Preface -- Abbreviations -- Play Manuscripts -- 1. Approaches to Early Drama -- 2. Time and Space in Tudor Chester -- 3. Writing the Record -- 4. A Spectrum of Ceremonial and Entertainment -- 5. The Midsummer Celebrations -- 6. Religious Feasts and Festivals -- 7. Professionalism, Commercialism, and Self-Advertisement -- 8. The Past in the Present: The Text of the Whitsun Plays -- 9. Manuscripts, Scribes, and Owners -- 10 .Medievalism and Revival -- Postscript -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	A consciousness of the past has been an essential determinant of community in the city of Chester, England. This awareness and fascination has been bolstered by a strong civic tradition of drama. In

particular, the city's Whitsun Plays have been a vehicle for communicating the myth of the city's medieval heritage, helping to reinforce the sense of history that is part of Chester's identity. Building up the material in REED: Chester, David Mills has produced a detailed study of Chester's Whitsun Plays in their local, physical, social, political, cultural, and religious context. A continuum has survived between the Middle Ages and the present day, providing not only an understanding of the plays themselves, but a narrative of the ways in which manuscripts survive and the functions that they serve. The continued performance of these plays is significant of modern play revivals as a political and sociological phenomenon, demonstrating the power that these rituals and plays still hold. Recycling the Cycle is not only a look at how medieval and Renaissance cultural traditions developed and were maintained over centuries, but an insight into how those traditions can stay fresh and relevant, even today.
