

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910791738103321
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Titolo	The character of English rural society [[electronic resource]] : Earls Colne, 1550-1750 // H.R. French and R.W. Hoyle
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Manchester, : Manchester University Press, 2007
ISBN	1-84779-519-6 1-78170-071-0 1-84779-140-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (337 p.)
Altri autori (Persone)	HoyleR. W
Disciplina	942.06
Soggetti	HISTORY / Europe / Great Britain / General Earls Colne (England) History England Rural conditions
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Copyright; Contents; List of illustrations; List of tables; A note on Earls Colne sources; A note on measurements; Glossary; List of abbreviations; Preface; 1 The character of rural change; 2 Earls Colne; 3The lords of Earls Colne; 4 The Harlakenden estate; 5 The lord and his copyholders; 6 The land market quantified; 7 The land market anatomised; 8 Subtenancy: the character of Earls Colne, 1722-50; 9 Conclusion; Index.
Sommario/riassunto	This is a major study of the transformation of early modern English rural society. It begins by assessing the three major debates about the character of English society: the 'Brenner Debate'; the debate over English Individualism; and the long running debate over the disappearance of the small landowner. It then turns to the history of Earls Colne in Essex, which has never before been the subject of a full-length study despite it being one of the most discussed villages in England. French and Hoyle's rounded account describes the arrival of a new landlord family, the Harlakendens, the tensions