

LITERARY GEOGRAPHIES

BOOK REVIEWS

Introduction

The productive dynamism of contemporary literary geography research will be reflected, in each issue of the journal, by a Book Reviews section. The reviews in this inaugural issue draw attention to the breadth of the journal's spatial scope by moving from the geographical and imaginative particularities of northern England, through the landscapes of 'Gilded Age America' and contemporary Italy, and across the 'metageographies' of both modernism and post-modernism. En route, the reviewers discuss critical writing which engages with a heterogeneous range of literary texts in multiple forms and multiple genres and from multiple historical periods. Moreover, the reviewers themselves form, in disciplinary terms, a heterogeneous group which includes representatives from Sociology, Geography, English Literature, Comparative literature and Creative Writing. The reviews in this first issue, then, highlight the pluralism which will be a defining characteristic of *Literary Geographies*.

In keeping with this spirit of pluralism, we are keen – in future issues – to provide opportunities for alternative and exploratory approaches to the scholarly practice of reviewing. Forthcoming issues, then, will include longer review essays which critically engage with two or more recent publications; alongside this, we will publish reviews by different authors – ideally from disparate disciplinary backgrounds – on the same scholarly text. In addition, we will take advantage of the flexibility afforded by digital space to publish reviews incorporating the use of different media including, for example, photography and video.

Titles currently available for review will be advertised on the *Literary Geographies* website; but please contact the Book Reviews Editor directly if you are willing to review a title (or titles) not listed on the site. Similarly, we would welcome any innovative suggestions you may have for alternative approaches to critical reviewing. Ultimately, our hope is that the Book Reviews section will be as dynamic as the interdisciplinary field of research on which it will be focused.

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