

Contents

	Preface	page xi
	List of Abbreviations	xiii
	Note on References	xvii
1	<i>Introduction</i>	1
	Estates and Estates Literature	3
	The Estates Form	4
	The Estates Content and Social Stereotypes	7
	The Role of Work in the <i>Prologue</i> Portraits	10
2	<i>The Anti-Clerical Tradition in Estates Satire</i>	17
	The Monk	17
	<u>The Friar</u>	37
3	<i>Estates Ideals</i>	55
	The Parson <i>garrulous</i>	55
	The Ploughman	67
	The Clerk <i>Angelic</i>	74
4	<i>The Omission of the Victim</i>	86
	The Sergeant of Law	86
	The Doctor of Physic	91
	The Merchant	99
	The Guildsmen	103
5	<i>Independent Traditions: Chivalry and Anti-Feminism</i>	106
	The Knight	106
	The Squire <i>Guildsmen</i>	115
	The Wife of Bath	121
6	<i>Descriptive Traditions: Beauty and the Beast</i>	128
	The Prioress	128
	The Summoner	137

CONTENTS

7	<i>'Scientific' Portraits</i>	145
	The Pardoner	145
	The Franklin	152
	The Miller	160
	The Reeve	163
8	<i>New Creations</i>	168
	The Cook	168
	The Shipman	170
	The Yeoman	172
	The Manciple	174
	<i>Excursus: The 'General Prologue' and the 'Descriptio' Tradition</i>	176
9	<i>Conclusions</i>	187
	<i>Appendices</i>	203
A	<i>Estates Lists</i>	203
B	<i>Chaucer, Langland and Gower</i>	207
	Notes	213
	Selected Bibliography and List of Works Cited	295
	Index	323