

# Contents

<i>List of Color Plates</i>	x
<i>List of Plates</i>	xi
<i>List of Figures</i>	xii
<i>Preface and Acknowledgements</i>	xiii
<b>Inventing the Countryside: An Introduction</b>	1
Inventing Modern Fox-Hunting, Inventing the Countryside	12
'Green Pastoral Landscapes' and the Picturesque Countryside	15
This Peculiar Pastoral, the 'Idea of England'	22
<b>PART I FROM COUNTRY TO COUNTRYSIDE</b>	27
<b>1 The Greenness of Hunting</b>	29
Some Green Paradoxes in Hunting Writing	35
Hunting and Social Ecology	44
A Modern Coda	48
<b>2 Land, and Writing about Land</b>	54
The Poetry of Agrarian Improvement	55
The Science of Agriculture and the Science of Scent	62
The Closed Yet Open Landscape and the Ideology of the Landscaped Park	65
Ecology and the Landlords	68
<b>3 Game and the Poacher</b>	73
Game Legislation Described	74
The Politics of Game Legislation	75
Game, Politics and Ecology	76
The Mutual Entanglements of Country and City	78
Rights of Common: A Long History of Struggle	80
The Poacher in Art and Literature	86
John Clare, Robert Bloomfield and the Science of the Greenwood	

<b>4 The Sporting Life</b>	92
Rural Sports	94
The Language of Sport	95
Changes in Field Sports, 1671–1831: Fishing, Shooting, Coursing	97
Political Governance and the Sporting Ideal	102
<i>Coopers Hill</i> as Touchstone: Hunting	104
Men and Dogs	106
<b>5 The Origins of the Anti-Hunting Campaign</b>	113
The Vegetarian Ideal	115
Metropolitan Intellectuals	117
Poetry, Pets and the Beginnings of Animal Rights	119
Anti-Hunting Sentiments and the Rise of Pedestrianism	125
<i>Coopers Hill</i> as Touchstone: Walking	128
Sporting Culture and the Rise of Pedestrianism	132
Romantic Walking as Anti-Hunting	133
<b>PART II HUNTING A COUNTRY</b>	143
<b>6 Sportswomen</b>	145
Science and Sporting Culture: Women in the Field	146
Women, Hunting and Poetry in the Seventeenth Century	147
Hunting Women in the Eighteenth Century	153
What the Women Said	157
The Side-Saddle as a Gender Machine	163
<b>7 The Pleasures of the Chase <i>circa</i> 1735 to <i>circa</i> 1831</b>	168
Pleasures of the Grass	172
Equestrian Pleasures	173
Talking of Hounds	175
Sartorial and Linguistic Pleasures	176
The Pleasures of Somervile	179
Our Hunting Fathers	182
The Sadness of the Creatures	184
Somervile via Beckford	189
The Complexity of Somervile's Achievement	191

<b>8 The Pleasures of Surtees</b>	195
'Smoke-Dried Cits'	198
Hunting and the Spa Town	199
<b>PART III WALKING IN THE COUNTRYSIDE</b>	203
<b>9 The Pleasures of Perambulation</b>	205
Gear	205
Botanizing, etc.	206
'Hunting the borough'	209
Walkers' Palimpsests	211
Walking as Trespassing, but also Writing: Wordsworth	213
Walking as Hunting: Clare	216
<b>10 'This Lime-Tree Bower' as Walking Poem</b>	220
Walkers for Pantisocracy	222
<b>11 Dartmoor Visible</b>	230
<i>Notes</i>	245
<i>Index</i>	293