

Contents

Acknowledgments xiii

Introduction xv

Chapter One. Romantic Versions of the City

I. The Celestial City in the Poetry of Blake, Wordsworth, and Tennyson 1

II. Blake's Urban Vision: The Poetry of Communal Renewal 2

III. Wordsworth's Urban Vision: Distant Glimpses and "Hurdy-gurdy" Involvement 12

IV. Tennyson's Urban Vision: Historical Tremors and Hysterical Tremblings 24

Chapter Two. Realism Versus Escapism, 1850–1870

I. The Call to Treat the City Realistically 34

II. The Indeterminacy of Clough's Poetry about the City 42

III. Alexander Smith: The City and the Country 56

IV. Matthew Arnold: The Promise of Urban Repose in the Future 64

V. Walker and Buchanan: Groping and Coping in the City 77

Chapter Three. The Urban Volcano, 1870–1890

I. Society's Equilibrium Challenged by Depression and Riots 93

II. Hopkins and Patmore: The Active Crater 100

III. Noel and Morris: From Observation to Revolution	107
IV. James Thomson: The City as Wasteland	134
Chapter Four. The Poetry of the Nineties	
I. New Ways to Write Poetry about the City	147
II. Forms and Types of Poetry about London	149
III. Locker-Lampson, Dobson, and Binyon: Diminished Visions	155
IV. Wilde and Symons: The Cult of Artifice and Impressionism	169
V. Henley and Davidson: London's Energies	180
Epilogue	
Continuities: The Urban Responses of D. H. Lawrence and T. S. Eliot	200
Notes	203
Selected Bibliography	215
Index	227