Modern Britain Reading List

Dr. Patrick McDevitt

Topics

Empire & Decolonization 19th c. Politics & Reform Industrialization & Class Victorian Society & Culture First World War Interwar Period World War II Postwar Decline & Thatcherism Sport Memory, Memorialization, & Heritage Tourism

Empire & Decolonization

Bailyn, Bernard. Strangers Within the Realm (1991) Bence-Jones, Mark. Clive of India (1987) Benton, Lauren. A Search for Sovereignty (2010) Brendon, Piers. The Decline and Fall of the British Empire, 1781-1997 (2008) Bryant, Christopher. The Nations of Britain (2006) Bryant, G. J. The Emergence of British Power in India, 1600-1784 (2013) Burbank, Jane & Fred Cooper. Empires in World History: Power and the Politics of Difference (2010) Burton, Antoinette. Burdens of History: British Feminists, Indian Women, and Imperial Culture, 1865-1915 (1994) Cain, P.J. & A.C. Hopkins. British Imperialism (2002) Colley, Linda. Britons (1992) Conklin, Alice. A Mission to Civilize (1997) Cooper, Fred & Jane Ann Stoler. "Between Metropole and Colony: Rethinking a Research Agenda," in Tensions of Empire: Colonial Cultures in a Bourgeois World (1997) Darwin, John. Britain and Decolonisation: The Retreat from Empire in the Post-war World (1988) Dickerson, Vanessa. Dark Victorians (2008) Edwardes, Michael. Plassey: The Founding of an Empire (1969) Games, Alison. The Web of Empire (2008) Hall, Catherine. Civilizing Subjects: colony and metropole in the English imagination, 1830-1867 (2002) Harvey, Robert. Clive: The Life and Death of a British Emperor (2000)

Kennedy, Dane. "The Boundaries of Oxford's Empire," in International History Review (2001)
Lawson, Philip. The East India Company (1993)
Levine, Phillipa. The British Empire, Sunrise to Sunset (2007)
O'Shaughnessy, Andrew. An Empire Divided: The American Revolution and the British Caribbean (2000)
Paul, Kathleen. Whitewashing Britain (1997)
Porter, Bernard. Critics of Empire: British Radicals and the Imperial Challenge, 2nd ed. (2008)
Robinson, Ronald & John Gallagher. "The Imperialism of Free Trade" in The Economic History Review (1953)
Webster, Anthony. The Debate on the Rise of the British Empire (2006)

19th c. Politics & Reform

Biagini, E.F. British Democracy and Irish Nationalism 1876-1906 (2007)
Brown, R. Revolution, Radicalism and Reform: England, 1780-1846 (2000)
Burns, A. and J. Innes, Rethinking the Age of Reform: Britain 1780-1850 (2003)
Chase, Malcolm. Chartism: A New History (2007)
Evans, Eric J. Britain Before the Reform Act: Politics and Society 1815-1832 (1989)
Finn, M.C. After Chartism: Class and Nation in English Radical Politics, 1848-1874 (1993)
Hall, Catherine, J. Rendall and K. McClelland, Defining the Victorian Nation: Class, Race, Gender and the British Reform Act of 1867 (2000)
LoPatin, Nancy. Political Unions, Popular Politics, and the Great Reform Act of 1832 (1999)
Loughlin, James. Gladstone, Home Rule and the Ulster Question 1882-93 (1986)
Thompson, Dorothy. The Chartists (1984)

Industrialization & Class

Cannadine, David. Decline and Fall of British Aristocracy (2005)
De Vries, Jan. The Industrious Revolution (2008)
Samuel, Raphael. "Workshop of the World: Steam Power and Hand Technology in Mid-Victorian Britain," History Workshop (Spring, 1977)
Scott, Joan Wallach. "Women in The Making of the English Working Class," in Gender and the Politics of History (1988)
Stedman Jones, Gareth. Outcast London: A Study in the Relationship between Classes in Victorian Society (1971)
Thompson, E.P. The Making of the English Working Class (1963)
Tosh, John. "Masculinities in an Industrializing Society: Britain, 1800-1914," Journal of British Studies (April, 2005)
Wrigley, E. A. Energy and the English Industrial Revolution (2010)

Victorian Society & Culture

Bailey, Peter. Leisure and Class in Victorian England: Rational Recreation and the Contest for Control, 1830-1885 (1987) Briggs, Asa. Victorian Cities (1963) Briggs, Asa. Victorian Things (1988) Cohen, Deborah. Household Gods: The British and Their Possessions (2006) Deslandes, Paul. Oxbridge Men: British Masculinity and the Undergraduate Experience (2005) Harris, Jose. Private Lives, Public Spirit: A Social History of Britain, 1870-1914 (1993) Knight, Frances. The Nineteenth-Century Church and English Society (1995) Levine, Philippa. Victorian Feminism, 1850-1900 (1987) McLeod, Hugh. Religion and Society in England, 1850-1914 (1996) Morgan, Simon. A Victorian Woman's Place: Public Culture in the Nineteenth Century (2007) Nead, Lynda. Victorian Babylon (2005) Rappaport, Erika. "The Halls of Temptation': Gender, Politics, and the Construction of the Department Store in Late Victorian London," Journal of British Studies (January, 1996) Simmons, Jack. The Railways of Britain (1961) Steinbach, Susie. Understanding the Victorians (2012) Tosh, John. A Man's Place: Masculinity and the Middle-class Home in Victorian England (1999) Walkowitz, Judith. Prostitution and Victorian Society (1980)

First World War

Bourke, Joanna. Dismembering the Male: Men's Bodies, Britain and the Great War (1996)
Bourne, J.M. Britain and the Great War, 1914-1918 (1989)
Constantine, Stephen, Maurice W. Kirby, Mary B. Rose, eds., The First World War in British History (1995)
DeGroot, Gerard J. Blighty: British Society in the Era of the Great War (1996)
Fussell, Paul. The Great War and Modern Memory (2000)
Gregory, Adrian. The Last Great War: British Society in the First World War (2008)
Horne, Alistair. The Price of Glory: Verdun 1916 (1962)
Macmillan, Margaret. Paris 1919: Six Months that Changed the World (2001)
Winter, Jay. The Great War and the British People (1986)

Interwar Period

Beddoe, Deirdre. Back to Home and Duty: Women between the Wars, 1918-1939 (1989)
Constantine, Stephen. Social Conditions in Britain, 1918-1939 (1983)
Fry, Geoffrey. The Politics of Crisis: An Interpretation of British Politics, 1931-1945 (2001)
Graves, Robert, and Alan Hodge. The Long Week End: A Social History of Great Britain, 1918-1939 (1963)

 Lewis, Jane. "In Search of a Real Equality: Women Between the Wars," in Gloversmith, Frank, ed. Class, Culture and Social Change: A New View of the 1930s (1980)
 Overy, Richard. The Twilight Years: the Paradox of Britain between the Wars (2009)

World War II

Addison, Paul. The Road to 1945: British Politics and the Second World War (1975)
Costello, John. Virtue Under Fire: how World War II changed our social and sexual attitudes (1985)
Gaskin, Margaret. Blitz: The Story of December 29, 1940 (2005)
Hobsbawm, Eric. The Age of Extremes: History of the World 1914-1991 (1994) - David
Mackay, Robert. Half the Battle: Civilian Morale in Britain during the Second World War (2002)
Rose, Sonya O. Which People's War? National Identity and Citizenship in Britain, 1939-1945 (2003)

Postwar Decline & Thatcherism

Aldous, Richard and Sabine Lee, ed. Harold Macmillan and Britain's World Role (2005)
Bailkin, Jordanna. The Afterlife of Empire (2012)
Benson, John. Affluence and Authority: A Social History of 20th Century Britain (2005)
Bernstein, George. The Myth of Decline: The Rise of Britain since 1945 (2004)
Clarke, P. F. The Last Thousand Days of the British Empire: Churchill, Roosevelt, and the Birth of the Pax Americana (2008)
Evans, Eric J. Thatcher and Thatcherism (1997)
Gamble, Andrew. The Free Economy and the Strong State: The Politics of Thatcherism (1988)
Holmes, Martin. Thatcherism: Scope and Limits, 1983-87 (1989)
Judt, Tony. Postwar (2005)
Kavanagh, Dennis. Thatcherism and British Politics: The End of Consensus? (1990)
Lewis, Jane E. Women in Britain since 1945: Women, Family, Work and the State in the Post-War Years (1992)
Lowe, Rodney. The Welfare State in Britain since 1945 (1999)
Morgan, Kenneth O. The People's Peace: British History, 1945-1989 (1990)
Pedersen, Susan. Family, Dependents, and the Original of the Welfare State (1995)

Sport in Britain and the Empire

Bale, John. Landscapes of Modern Sport (1994)
Bale, John. Sport and Place: A Geography of Sport in England, Scotland and Wales (1982)
Birley, Derek. Sport and the Making of the Britain (1993)
Birley, Derek. Land of Sport and Glory: Sport and British Society 1887-1910 (1995)
Birley, Derek. Playing the Game: Sport and British Society 1910-45 (1995)

Collins, Tony. Rugby's Great Split: Class, Culture and the Origins of Rugby League Football (1998)
Griffin, Emma. Blood Sport: A History of Hunting in Britain Since 1066 (2007)
Guha, Ramachandra. A Corner of a Foreign Field: The Indian History of a British Sport (2002)
Holt, Richard. Sport and the British (1989)
James, C.L.R. Beyond a Boundary (1963)
Jones, Stephen G. "State Intervention in Sport and Leisure in Britain between the War," Journal of Contemporary History 22:1 (1987)
Lowerson, John. Sport and the English Middle Classes 1870-1914 (1993)
Mason, Tony. Association Football and English Society, 1863-1915 (1980)
McDevitt, Patrick. May the Best Man Win (2004)
Raitz, Karl, ed. The Theatre of Sport (1995)
Vamplew, Wray. Pay Up and Play the Game: Professional Sport in Britain, 1875-1914 (1988)

Memory, Memorialization, & Heritage Tourism

Connelly, Mark. We can take it!: Britain and the memory of the Second World War (2004)
Fussell, Paul. The Great War and Modern Memory (1975)
Gilbert, Martin. Holocaust Journey: travelling in search of the past (1997)
Gillis, John, ed. Commemorations: The Politics of National Identity (1994)
Doss, Erika. Memorial Mania: Public Feeling in America (2010)
Frawley, Oona, ed. Memory Ireland, Volume 1: History and Modernity (2011)
Hibbert, Christopher. The Grand Tour (1987)
Kaufman, Suzanne K. Consuming Visions: mass culture and the Lourdes shrine (2005)
Löfgren, Orvar. On Holiday: A History of Vacationing (1999)
Lowenthal, David. The Past as a Foreign Country (1985)
Mandler, Peter. "Revisiting the Olden Time: Popular Tudorism in the Time of Victoria," in Tatiana C. String and Marcus Bull (eds.), Tudorism: Historical Imagination and the Appropriation of the Sixteenth Century (Oxford: Oxford University Press for the British Academy, 2011), 13-35
Rogers, Edmund. "1688 and 1888: Victorian Society and the Bicentenary of the Glorious Revolution," Journal of British Studies (October, 2011)

Smith, Malcolm. Britain and 1940: History, Myth and Popular Memory (2001)