

The Visitors' Book and Hotel Culture in Victorian Britain and Ireland



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Abstract

PDF

The visitors' book occupied a central place in the hotel and inn culture of Victorian Britain and Ireland, reflecting intertwined legal regimes and leisure practices that created distinctive space for inscription in, and reading of, the volume—acts that were portrayed as unique to the travel cultures of the United Kingdom. Contemporary commentators, while playfully critiquing vulgar “inn verse,” nonetheless lamented its displacement by prescriptive regimes of guest registration, which marked intensifying corporate and continental influences over what they regarded as singular practices associated with British and Irish traveling culture. Indeed the social and cultural history of the visitors' book offers a window onto travel performances, the liminality of hotel and inn space, distinctive features of the Law of Innkeepers in the Anglo-American legal tradition, and contests over status and taste as guests placed their imprimatur on places of high physical circulation and social fluidity.

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British culture has its roots in the United Kingdom's rich history, the people and the four countries — England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland — that it's made up of each with their own unique traditions and customs. British culture and social norms are very unique. One of the most important things to know before going to any country is what their cultural and social norms are. As an international student from another country, you may be clueless. This article introduces you to everything you need to know about the British culture. Sure, you may have learned some facts about UK from tel The Victorian era saw much missionary activity. Societies founded by different denominations sent personnel to countries within the British Empire and to countries ruled by other powers. Commentators point out that Victorian Britain was the most religious society that the world had ever known.[9] Church attendance was as high as 50 percent. Victorian religion thus informed the idea that Britain had a special role to play in Christianizing and civilizing the world. On the one hand, this was associated with attitudes of religious and cultural superiority that denigrated and demonized other religions. Notes. ↑ Ireland - Population Summary, Department of Social and Family Affairs Report (1998). Retrieved January 23, 2009.