

# Against All England: Regional Identity and Cheshire Writing, 1195-1656.

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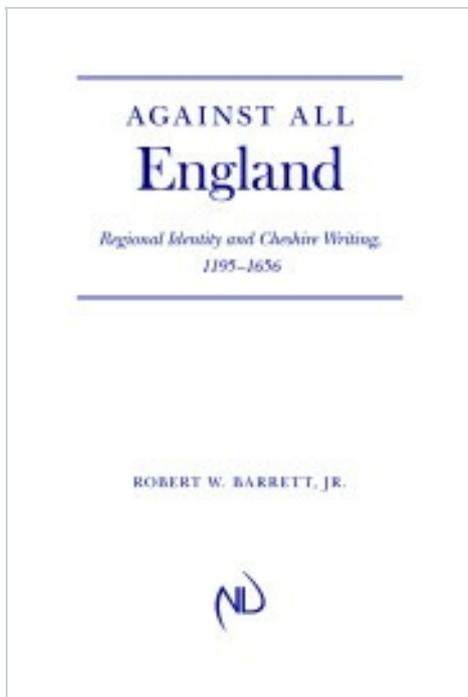


## Against All England: Regional Identity and Cheshire Writing, 1195- 1656



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## **Against All England: Regional Identity and Cheshire Writing, 1195-1656**

*Robert W. Barrett, Jr.*

2009

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**SUMMARY**

Against All England examines a diverse set of poems, plays, and chronicles produced in Cheshire and its vicinity from the 1190s to the 1650s that collectively argue for the localization of British literary history. These works, including very early monastic writing emanating from St. Werburgh's Abbey, the Chester Whitsun plays, Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, seventeenth-century ceremonials, and various Stanley romances, share in the creation and revision of England's cultural tradition, demonstrating a vested interest in the intersection of landscape, language, and politics. Barrett's book grounds itself in Cestrian evidence in order to offer scholars a new, dynamic model of cultural topography, one that acknowledges the complex interlacing of regional and national identities within the *longue durée* extending from the post-Conquest period to the Restoration. Covering nearly five centuries of literary

## Table of Contents

### Cover

 Download | Save

---

### Frontmatter

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---

### Contents, Figures, Acknowledgments, Abbreviations, Maps

pp. vii-xviii

 Download | Save

---

### Introduction

pp. 1-23

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---

## Part I Chester the City

pp. 24-25

---

### Chapter One From Cloister to Corporation

pp. 27-58

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---

### Chapter Two Grounds of Grace

pp. 59-95

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---

### Chapter Three Chester's Triumph

pp. 96-129

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---

## Cheshire the County

pp. 130-131

---

### Chapter Four Heraldic Devices/Chivalric Divisions

pp. 133-170

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---

### Chapter Five Two Shires against All England

pp. 171-225

 [Download](#) | [Save](#)

---

## Epilogue

pp. 207-222

 [Download](#) | [Save](#)

---

## Notes

pp. 223-278

 [Download](#) | [Save](#)

---

## Bibliography

pp. 279-295

 [Download](#) | [Save](#)

---

## Index

pp. 296-306

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