

# Virgin Land: The American West As Symbol And Myth

## Henry Nash Smith

Virgin land: the American West as symbol and myth University of Hull Henry Nash Smith. Virgin Land: The American West as Symbol and Myth. Cambridge and London: Harvard University Press, 1978. vii + 305 pp. \$16.00 paper Virgin Land: The American West as Symbol and Myth. - Amazon.com The American Scene - Google Books Result Virgin land the American West as symbol and myth. - HathiTrust Virgin land, the American West as symbol and myth., Toronto Public Library. American literature--19th century--History and criticism. West U.S. - West Virgin land: the American West as symbol and myth Goldsmiths. 12 Feb 2013. VIRGIN LAND: THE AMERICAN WEST AS SYMBOL AND MYTH by Henry Nash Smith Reviewed by Paul Edward Ewing Henry Nash Smith's "Virgin Land" by Henry Nash Smith: A Starting Point for the American. Virgin Land: The American West as Symbol and Myth - H-Net Reviews Similar Items. Virgin land: the American West as symbol and myth. By: Smith, Henry Nash. 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Virgin Land and the Myth and Symbol School. Note: This review is part of the H-Ideas Retrospective Reviews series. This series reviews books published during the twentieth century which have been deemed to be among the most important contributions to the field of intellectual history. Her book *The Legacy of Conquest: the Unbroken Past of the American West* took a more proactive stance on the symbols of the American West, arguing that myths about the West distort our perceptions of its true complexity.[4]. Other have criticized the myth and symbol tradition for its lack of methodological rigor. For example, Bruce Kuklick argued that even if certain myths and symbols could be proven, it would not necessarily prove that yesteryear's texts speak for today. Find many great new & used options and get the best deals for *Virgin Land: The American West as Symbol and Myth* by Henry Nash Smith (Paperback, 1971) at the best online prices at eBay! Free delivery for many products! Henry Nash Smith shows, with vast comprehension, the influence of the nineteenth-century West in all its variety and strength, in special relation to social, economic, cultural, and political forces. Read full description. See details and exclusions. See all 7 brand new listings. Buy it now. henry nash smith virgin land - Free download as PDF File (.pdf), Text File (.txt) or read online for free. They provide a basis for developing my original statements about symbol and myth into a more elaborate scheme. FOT one thing, because such images tend to be timeless, their relation to historical events is always changing. The myths and symbols with which I deal have the further characteristic of being collective representations rather than the work of a single mind. I do not mean to raise the question whether such products of the imagination accurately reflect empirical fact. They exist on a different plane. But as I have tried to show, they sometimes exert a decided influence on practical affairs.

His book *Virgin Land: The American West as Symbol and Myth* (1950) gave name to the Myth and Symbol School, which provided the paradigm of the American Studies until the 1980s. It was the first PhD thesis of the History of American Civilization course at Harvard University; therefore its publication can be seen as the hour of birth for American studies. The book's topic was the collective perception of the American West of the 19th century.Â (American Quarterly 9, 1957: 197-208), to date frequently anthologized, Smith expressed influential objectives and methodology of the Myth and Symbol School. He married Elinor Smith; they had children Harriet Elinor Smith, Janet Carol Smith, and Mayne Smith.[3] He died on June 6, 1986, following a car accident on May 30 near Elko, Nevada.

Virgin Land: The American West as Symbol and Myth. Article. Dec 1951. The narratives of myths are constructed through individual motifs and figures that can have multiple meanings. Thus the Sirens, symbol of irresistible song, can also be used to delineate a cultural boundary. In The Odyssey, they are placed on guard at the edges of the earth (peirata ges), where the known world of humans ends. In the same way, the Greeks of the eighth century B.C. scattered sanctuaries and tombs of Sirens at stopping places throughout their newly expanded territory, thereby marking out the borders between Greek lands and barbarian ones. Please see Wikipedia's template documentation for further citation fields that may be required. {{Citation | title=Virgin land : the American West as symbol and myth / Henry Nash Smith | author1=Smith, Henry Nash | year=1950 | publisher=Harvard University Press | language=English }}. close Email This Record. Email to: You must be logged in to Tag Records. Virgin land : the American West as symbol and myth / Henry Nash Smith. Book. Bib ID. Failure of the Agrarian Utopia 189. XIX. The Myth of the Garden and Reform of the Land. System 195. XX. The Garden as Safety Valve 201. XXI. The Agricultural West in Literature: I. Cooper and. the Stages of Society 211. II. From Caroline Kirkland to Hamlin Garland 224. XXII. The Myth of the Garden and Turner's Frontier. Virgin land; the American West as symbol and myth. Item Preview. remove-circle.

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