The Life of Walter Scott: A Critical Biography

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Series: Blackwell Critical Biographies

Publication Type: eBook.

Subject Terms: Authors, Scottish--19th century--Biography
Subject Terms: BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / Literary Figures; LITERARY CRITICISM / European / English, Irish, Scottish, Welsh


Accession Number: 47099871

Publication Information: Print/Save 60 pages
Copy/Paste Restricted

Citations

Reviews

LJ Reviews 1994 December #1
Edgar Johnson's two-volume Sir Walter Scott (LJ 6/15/70), still the standard biography though it is out of print, indulges in special pleading for its subject and his books. Sutherland, who has published widely on Victorian literature, is more critical, showing small appreciation for the man or his writing. Sutherland is best in relating the works to Scott's life and times, for example, when he links the Napoleonic Wars to the battles that culminate each of Scott's major poems, or when Sutherland argues that the darkness of The Bride of Lammermoor mirrors Scott's sense of mortality at the time of composition. A good alternative to Sutherland is A.N. Wilson's thematically arranged The Laird of Abbotsford (Oxford Univ. Pr., 1980).-Joseph Rosenblum, Greensboro, N.C. Copyright 1994 Cahners Business Information.

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Walter Scott Biography. Born: August 15, 1771 Edinburgh, Scotland Died: September 21, 1832 Abbotsford, Scotland Scottish author. The Scottish novelist and poet Sir Walter Scott is recognized as the master of the historical novel. He was one of the most influential authors of modern times. Early life. Walter Scott was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, on August 15, 1771, the son of a lawyer with a long family tradition in law. Sutherland, John. The Life of Walter Scott: A Critical Biography. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 1995. Todd, William B., and Ann Bowden. Sir Walter Scott: A Bibliographical History, 1796–1832. New Castle, DE: Oak Knoll Press, 1998. Spartacus Educational - Biography of Walter Scott. The Victorian Web - Biography of Sir Walter Scott. Undiscovered Scotland - Biography of Sir Walter Scott. Britannica Websites. Sir Walter Scott's early work consisted of poetic romances such as The Lady of the Lake. He later wrote The Waverley Novels, a series of historical novels published anonymously between 1814 and 1832 that were popular in his day. The earlier books are set in Scotland and demonstrate Scott's knowledge of Scottish history and society. Learn more. What jobs did Sir Walter Scott have? Scott led a highly active literary and social life during these years. In 1808 his 18-volume edition of the works of John Dryden appeared, followed by his 19-volume edition of Jonathan Swift (1814) and other works. Sir Walter Scott Biography. Walter Scott was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, August 15, 1771. His father was a farmer and his mother, Anne Rutherford, was the daughter of Dr. John Rutherford, who was one of the founders of the medical school of Edinburgh. Mrs. Scott was fond of poetry and anecdotes and it was from her that Walter received inspiration. Walter was one of ten children. The other children's only claim to fame was that they had, “good health and untamable spirits.” In contrast, Walter was afflicted at twenty-one months with something which a biographer describes as, &quot;Sir Walter Scott, 1st Baronet FRSE FSA Scot (15 August 1771 – 21 September 1832) was a Scottish historical novelist, poet, playwright, and historian. Many of his works remain classics of both English-language literature and of Scottish literature. Famous titles include The Lady of the Lake (narrative poem) and the novels Waverley, Old Mortality (or The Tale of Old Mortality), Rob Roy, The Heart of Mid-Lothian, The Bride of Lammermoor, and Ivanhoe. Previous (Walter Rauschenbusch). Next (Walter Winchell). Sir Walter Scott, 1st Baronet (August 15, 1771 – September 21, 1832) was an influential Scottish novelist, poet, and critic. Scott was among the first to draw upon history as source material for his fiction and is generally cited as the father of the historical novel. His novels of Scottish history, such as Waverley (1814) and Rob Roy (1818) awakened pride among Scots, while Ivanhoe (1820) was influential in renewing interest in the Middle Ages.
John Sutherlands new critical biography is an undertaking of major importance in which he penetrates into the darker areas of Scotts life in a sceptical (yet sympathetic) spirit. "A compelling narrative, and a shrewd, unillusioned portrait of Walter Scott, in his various guises; a high point in the history of Scott studies." Karl Miller, University of London. "Contentious, compelling, and very readable." Scotland on Sunday. "Learned, exact, he writes as Scott did, for the enjoyment of the reader, and does not let his assessment of the man cloud his keen appreciation of Scott's art. This is a finely judged and hugely absorbing biography." The Sunday Times. Walter Scott Biography. Born: August 15, 1771 Edinburgh, Scotland Died: September 21, 1832 Abbotsford, Scotland Scottish author. The Scottish novelist and poet Sir Walter Scott is recognized as the master of the historical novel. He was one of the most influential authors of modern times. Early life. Walter Scott was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, on August 15, 1771, the son of a lawyer with a long family tradition in law. John Sutherland, John. The Life of Walter Scott: A Critical Biography. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 1995. Todd, William B., and Ann Bowden. Sir Walter Scott: A Bibliographical History, 1796â€“1832. New Castle, DE: Oak Knoll Press, 1998. Sir Walter Scott was a Scottish historical poet, novelist and playwright. Check out this biography to know about his childhood, life, achievements, works & timeline. Scott made his foray into literary world as a poet, earning critical acclaim and popularity. He ventured forth and tried the less-explored genre of prose fiction, which was then considered inferior to poetry. His first novel, Waverley™ was widely appreciated and led to many more novels by him. Sir Walter Scott was from childhood fascinated by the history and culture of his native Scotland. In his early 30s he published Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border, a three-volume collection of Scottish border ballads. Many of Scott™s Waverley Novels are set in historical Scotland and insightfully portray the customs and attitudes of Scottish society. Scott led a highly active literary and social life during these years. In 1808 his 18-volume edition of the works of John Dryden appeared, followed by his 19-volume edition of Jonathan Swift (1814) and other works. But his finances now took the first of several disastrous turns that were to partly determine the course of his future career. Spartacus Educational - Biography of Walter Scott. Undiscovered Scotland - Biography of Sir Walter Scott. Sir Walter Scott, 1st Baronet FRSE FSA Scot (15 August 1771 â€“ 21 September 1832) was a Scottish historical novelist, poet, playwright, and historian. Many of his works remain classics of both English-language literature and of Scottish literature. Famous titles include The Lady of the Lake (narrative poem) and the novels Waverley, Old Mortality (or The Tale of Old Mortality), Rob Roy, The Heart of Mid-Lothian, The Bride of Lammermoor, and Ivanhoe.
John Sutherland's new critical biography is an undertaking of major importance in which he penetrates into the darker areas of Scott's life in a sceptical (yet sympathetic) spirit. "A compelling narrative, and a shrewd, unillusioned portrait of Walter Scott, in his various guises; a high point in the history of Scott studies." Karl Miller, University of London. "Contentious, compelling, and very readable." Scotland on Sunday. "Learned, exact, he writes as Scott did, for the enjoyment of the reader, and does not let his assessment of the man cloud his keen appreciation of Scott's art. This is a finely judged and hugely absorbing biography." The Sunday Times. Spartacus Educational - Biography of Walter Scott. Undiscovered Scotland - Biography of Sir Walter Scott. The Victorian Web - Biography of Sir Walter Scott. Britannica Websites. Sir Walter Scott’s early work consisted of poetic romances such as The Lady of the Lake. He later wrote The Waverley Novels, a series of historical novels published anonymously between 1814 and 1832 that were popular in his day. The earlier books are set in Scotland and demonstrate Scott’s knowledge of Scottish history and society. Learn more. What jobs did Sir Walter Scott have? Scott led a highly active literary and social life during these years. In 1808 his 18-volume edition of the works of John Dryden appeared, followed by his 19-volume edition of Jonathan Swift (1814) and other works. Walter Scott Biography. Born: August 15, 1771 Edinburgh, Scotland Died: September 21, 1832 Abbotsford, Scotland Scottish author. The Scottish novelist and poet Sir Walter Scott is recognized as the master of the historical novel. He was one of the most influential authors of modern times. Early life. Walter Scott was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, on August 15, 1771, the son of a lawyer with a long family tradition in law. Sutherland, John. The Life of Walter Scott: A Critical Biography. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 1995. Todd, William B., and Ann Bowden. Sir Walter Scott: A Bibliographical History, 1796â€“1832. New Castle, DE: Oak Knoll Press, 1998.
Scott led a highly active literary and social life during these years. In 1808 his 18-volume edition of the works of John Dryden appeared, followed by his 19-volume edition of Jonathan Swift (1814) and other works. But his finances now took the first of several disastrous turns that were to partly determine the course of his future career. His appointment as sheriff depute of the county of Selkirk in 1799 (a position he was to keep all his life) was a welcome supplement to his income, as was his appointment in 1806 as clerk to the Court of Session in Edinburgh. Modern biography can be said to have begun with John Gibson Lockhart's Memoirs of the Life of Sir Walter Scott, Bart in 1838. But Scott - the 'Great Unknown' - has always presented challenges to the biographer. Layers of myth (much of it manufactured by the faithful son-in-law Lockhart) continues to protect him from posterity. John Sutherland's critical biography attempts to penetrate into the darker areas of Scott's life in a sceptical spirit, bringing the massive oeuvre and the chronicle of the life into manageable and readable proportions. Sutherland justifies Scott as a writer to be read and known today as much as in his heyday in the 19th century. What people are saying - Write a review. We haven't found any reviews in the usual places. Sutherland, John. The Life of Walter Scott: A Critical Biography. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 1995. Todd, William B., and Ann Bowden. Sir Walter Scott: A Bibliographical History, 1796–1832. New Castle, DE: Oak Knoll Press, 1998. UXL Encyclopedia of World Biography. —. Cite this article Pick a style below, and copy the text for your bibliography.