The Art Of Not Being Governed An Anarchist History Of Upland Southeast Asia Yale Agrarian Studies Series

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this book presents an account of an intellectual breakthrough in the study of rural society

and agriculture its ten chapters selected for their originality and synthesis from the colloquia of the program in agrarian studies at yale university encompass various disciplines diverse historical periods and several regions of the world the contributors fresh analyses will broaden the perspectives of readers with interests as wide ranging as rural sociology environmentalism political science history anthropology economics and art history the ten studies recast and expand what is known about rural society and agrarian issues examining such topics as poverty subsistence cultivation ecology justice art custom law ritual life cooperation and state action each contribution provides a point of departure for new study encouraging deeper thinking across disciplinary boundaries and frontiers

this text examines the cultural conditions that brought agriculture and science together in 19th century america integrating the history of science environmental history and science studies this text shows how and why agrarian americans accepted resisted and shaped scientific ways of knowing the land

late in the 1930s the u s department of agriculture set up a national network of local organizations that joined farmers with public administrators adult educators and social scientists the aim was to localize and unify earlier new deal programs concerning soil conservation farm production control tenure security and other reforms and by 1941 some 200 000 farm people were involved even so conservative anti new dealers killed the successful program the next year this book reexamines the era s agricultural policy and tells the neglected story of the new deal agrarian leaders and their visionary ideas about land democratization and progressive social change

during the early part of the 20th century farming in america was transformed from a pre industrial to an industrial activity this book explores the modernization of the 1920s which saw farmers adopt not just new technology but also the financial cultural ideological apparatus of industrialism

historians have long viewed the massive reshaping of the american landscape during the new deal era as unprecedented this book uncovers the early twentieth century history rich with precedents for the new deal in forest park and agricultural policy sara m gregg explores the redevelopment of the appalachian mountains from the 1910s through the 1930s finding in this region a changing paradigm of land use planning that laid the groundwork for the national new deal through an intensive analysis of federal planning in virginia and vermont gregg contextualizes the expansion of the federal government through land use planning and highlights the deep intellectual roots of federal conservation policy

an account of all the new and surprising evidence now available for the beginnings of the earliest civilizations that contradict the standard narrative why did humans abandon hunting and gathering for sedentary communities dependent on livestock and cereal grains and governed by precursors of today s states most people believe that plant and animal domestication allowed humans finally to settle down and form agricultural villages towns and states which made possible civilization law public order and a presumably secure way of living but archaeological and historical evidence challenges this narrative the first agrarian states says james c scott were born of accumulations of domestications first fire then plants livestock subjects of the state captives and finally women in the patriarchal family all of which can be viewed as a way of gaining control over reproduction scott explores why we avoided sedentism and plow agriculture the advantages of mobile subsistence the unforeseeable disease epidemics arising from crowding plants animals and grain and why all early states are based on millets and cereal grains and unfree labor he also discusses the barbarians who long evaded state control as a way of understanding continuing tension between states and nonsubject peoples

a definitive history of ideas about land redistribution allied political movements and their varied consequences around the world an epic work of breathtaking scope and moral power the long land war offers the definitive account of the rise and fall of land rights around the world over the last 150 years matthew desmond pulitzer prize winning author of evicted poverty and profit in the american city jo guldi tells the story of a global

struggle to bring food water and shelter to all land is shown to be a central motor of politics in the twentieth century the basis of movements for giving reparations to formerly colonized people protests to limit the rent paid by urban tenants intellectual battles among development analysts and the capture of land by squatters taking matters into their own hands the book describes the results of state engineered land reform policies beginning in ireland in 1881 until u s led interests and the world bank effectively killed them off in 1974 the long land war provides a definitive narrative of land redistribution alongside an unflinching critique of its failures set against the background of the rise and fall of nationalism communism internationalism information technology and free market economics in considering how we could make the earth livable for all she works out the important relationship between property ownership and justice on a changing planet

from thomas jefferson s monticello to michelle obama s white house organic garden the image of america as a nation of farmers has persisted from the beginnings of the american experiment in this rich and evocative collection of agrarian writing from the past two centuries writers from hector st jean de crevecoeur to wendell berry reveal not only the great reach and durability of the american agrarian ideal but also the ways in which society has contested and confronted its relationship to agriculture over the course of generations drawing inspiration from virgil s agrarian epic poem georgics this collection presents a complex historical portrait of the american character through its relationship to the land from the first european settlers eager to cultivate new soil to the transcendentalist utopian and religious thinkers of the nineteenth century american society has drawn upon the vision of a pure rural life for inspiration back to the land movements have surged and retreated in the past centuries yet provided the agrarian roots for the environmental movement of the past forty years interpretative essays and a sprinkling of illustrations accompany excerpts from each of these periods of american agrarian thought providing a framework for understanding the sweeping changes that have confronted the nation s landscape

an important work both in terms of how we understand the operation of ngos in the

philippines and more significantly in terms of the contribution it makes to wider debates about ngos jonathan rigg university of durham

parker shipton offers a range of perspectives on the process of lending borrowing in africa his conclusions challenge the conventional wisdom of the past half century about the need for credit among african farmers

a lively account of a community working to combat suburban sprawl and how it discovers how to live responsibly on the land

in the great meadow brian donahue examines the farming practices of the early settlers at concord in massachusetts he argues against the long held belief that these farmers used methods that degraded the land shows how the concord community in fact achieved a successful sustainable system

this ambitious work is the definitive account of russia s land reform initiatives from the late 1980s to today in russia a country controlling more land than any other nation land ownership is central to structures of power class division and agricultural production the aim of russian land reform for the past thirty years to undo the collectivization of the soviet era and encourage public ownership has been largely unsuccessful to understand this failure stephen wegren examines contemporary land reform policies in terms of legislation institutional structure and human behavior using extensive survey data he analyzes household behaviors in regard to land ownership and usage based on socioeconomic status family size demographic distribution and regional differences wegren s study is important and timely as russian land reform will have a profound effect on russia s ability to compete in an era of globalization

this book deals with an important and timely issue the political and economic forces that have shaped agricultural policies in the united states during the past eighty years it explores the complex interactions of class market and state as they have affected the formulation and application of agricultural policy decisions since the new deal showing how divisions and coalitions within southern corn belt and wheat belt agriculture were

central to the ebb and flow of price supports and production controls in addition the book highlights the roles played by the world economy the civil rights movement and existing national policy to provide an invaluable analysis of past and recent trends in supply management policy

from the acclaimed author and scholar james c scott the compelling tale of asian peoples who until recently have stemmed the vast tide of state making to live at arm s length from any organized state society for two thousand years the disparate groups that now reside in zomia a mountainous region the size of europe that consists of portions of seven asian countries have fled the projects of the organized state societies that surround them slavery conscription taxes corvée labor epidemics and warfare this book essentially an anarchist history is the first ever examination of the huge literature on state making whose author evaluates why people would deliberately and reactively remain stateless among the strategies employed by the people of zomia to remain stateless are physical dispersion in rugged terrain agricultural practices that enhance mobility pliable ethnic identities devotion to prophetic millenarian leaders and maintenance of a largely oral culture that allows them to reinvent their histories and genealogies as they move between and around states in accessible language james scott recognized worldwide as an eminent authority in southeast asian peasant and agrarian studies tells the story of the peoples of zomia and their unlikely odyssey in search of self determination he redefines our views on asian politics history demographics and even our fundamental ideas about what constitutes civilization and challenges us with a radically different approach to history that presents events from the perspective of stateless peoples and redefines state making as a form of internal colonialism this new perspective requires a radical reevaluation of the civilizational narratives of the lowland states scott s work on zomia represents a new way to think of area studies that will be applicable to other runaway fugitive and marooned communities be they gypsies cossacks tribes fleeing slave raiders marsh arabs or san bushmen

a rich analysis of the complex dynamic between food collection and food production in

the farming societies of precolonial south central africa engaging new linguistic evidence and reinterpreting published archaeological evidence this sweeping study explores the place of bushcraft and agriculture in the precolonial history of south central africa across nearly three millennia contrary to popular conceptions that place farming at the heart of political and social change political innovation in precolonial african farming societies was actually contingent on developments in hunting fishing and foraging as de luna reveals

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