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## [Review of] A KWIC Concordance to Thomas Hardy's Tess of the D'Urbervilles

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### Notes/Citation Information

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1180. Preston, Cathy Lynn. **A KWIC Concordance to Thomas Hardy's Tess of the D'Urbervilles.** New York, Garland, 1989. 966p. (Contextual Concordances; Garland Reference Library of the Humanities, no.749). \$165.00. PR4748.P74. 823'.8. LC 88-1507. ISBN 0-8240-9076-4.

Preston and the Center for Computer Research in the Humanities at the University of Colorado have compiled another useful concordance in the Keyword in Context (KWIC) series. Based on the Norton Critical Edition of *Tess* (2d ed., 1978), this work provides the context of all words in the novel except the most common articles, conjunctions, and pronouns (although their frequency is indicated). Entries are listed alphabetically, with boldfaced headers on the left and each occurrence of the word in boldface in the middle of the page, surrounded by contextual wording. The lefthand side of each entry begins with reference to the phase, chapter, page, and line of the occurrence. Each line of context has been examined in order to delete potentially confusing word fragments, and within the alphabetical arrangement of each word the occurrences are arranged by the related nature of each occurrence rather than in strict textual order. An unnecessary prefatory essay illustrates how the concordance might be used to examine the work, and a list ranking word frequency concludes the work. The rearrangement of the occurrences of each word from their strict textual order may be a problem for some users, for any rearrangement will bring with it an observational bias, whereas the strict textual arrangement might reveal groupings significant to Hardy's style and intent. Despite this altered arrangement, the work will prove useful to all Hardy scholars. —ROBERT AKEN