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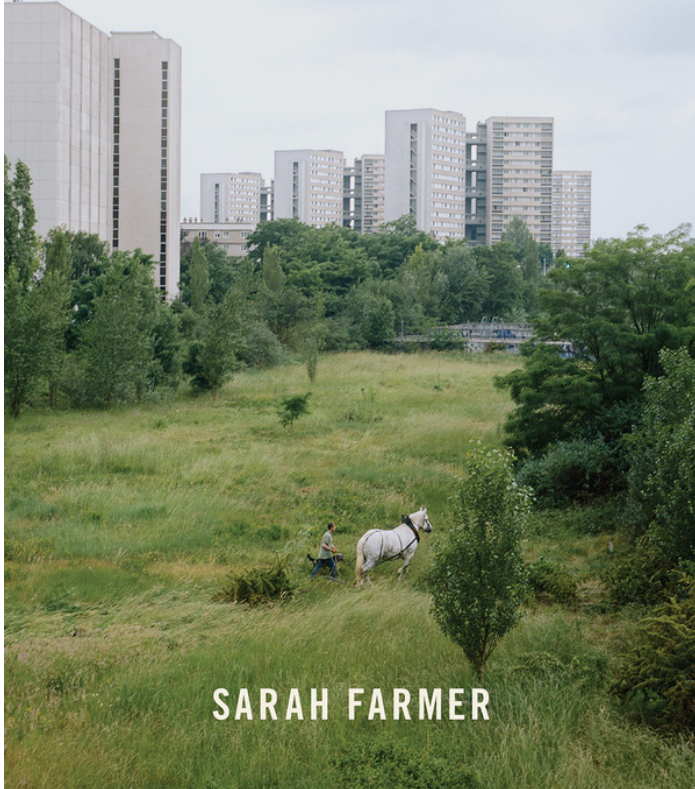
THE FRENCH COUNTRYSIDE AFTER 1945

Sarah Farmer

30%
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RURAL INVENTIONS

The French Countryside
after 1945



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At the close of the twentieth century, even as globalization spurred the growth of megacities worldwide, inhabiting the French countryside had become an internationally-shared fantasy and practice. Accounts of moving into old farmhouses were bestsellers, and houses and barns built by peasants had been renovated as second homes throughout the rural hinterland. Such developments, Sarah Farmer argues, did not simply stem from nostalgia for a rural past or a desire to invest in real estate. Rather, they defined new versions of the rural that emerge in post-agrarian societies.

*“This is a magisterial piece of scholarship that breaks new ground by providing a wide-ranging, multi-dimensional perspective on the changes that have affected rural France since World War II. What makes this book extraordinary is the sheer sweep of the analysis conducted by Sarah Farmer and the depth of erudition that she brings to it.” — Michael Bess, author of the *The Light-Green Society**

“Sarah Farmer knows rural France very well. In this compelling, innovative, and thoughtful study, she lays out what has changed in the countryside, for better or for worse.” — John Merriman, Yale University

Sarah Farmer is Associate Professor of History at the University of California, Irvine.

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