

## PREFACE

My purpose in the present work has been to try to appreciate Frost's perception of nature in the background of the evolution of man-nature relationship in America as reflected in both popular and literary culture. Frost's rootedness in the American tradition, I believe, accounts in no small measure for his unromantic view of nature. For the present-day reader, Frost's attraction would seem to lie in his ability to leaven the American experience of the process of civilization with his personal insights into the meaning of nature.

In my choice of writers for discussion, I had to be selective owing to practical limitations. Emerson and Thoreau figure with their prose writings, because I feel that they are in their element while writing in prose.

I am deeply indebted to Dr. Sunil Kanti Sen, former head and professor, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Kharagpur, under whose supervision I have carried out my research. To Dr. Dhananjoy Sen, who has helped me considerably with his suggestions and comments, I owe a special debt of gratitude. I am much beholden to Dr. Tarapasanna Ghatak for his careful scrutiny of the text. I should like to put on record the kind assistance offered

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Throughout my discussion I have used The Poetry of Robert Frost, ed. Edward Connery Lathem, published by Jonathan Cape, London (1972).

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Department of Humanities  
and Social Sciences,  
IIT Kharagpur.

*Bishnupada Sandilya*  
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