Scottish Rural Society in the Sixteenth Century

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Scottish rural society in the sixteenth century encompasses the social structure and relations that existed in Scotland between the early sixteenth century and the mid-eighteenth century. Below the lairds in rural society were a variety of groups, often ill-defined, including yeomen, who were often major landholders, and the precocious development of the coal industry and high levels of inflation provided opportunities for investment.

By the end of the sixteenth century, however, the Society of Jesus in...