Contents

List of Illustrations ix
List of Tables xi
Acknowledgments xiii

PROLOGUE
Snapshots from a Moving Picture 3

CHAPTER ONE
Introduction 19
The Setting 20
The Questions 32

CHAPTER TWO
Variations on a Theme: Cultural Specificities and Economic Change in Ste Foy, Aveyron 46
The Aveyron: A French Hinterland 47
Ste Foy: The Riches of Roquefort 58
Conclusions 72

CHAPTER THREE
Ste Foy’s Soul: The Principles of the Ostal System 74
Essential Elements 75
Management of Adversity 88
Negotiations of Difference 94
Conclusions 98

CHAPTER FOUR
Ties That Cut and Bind: Ostals in the Community 101
Interactions Among Ostals 102
Bourg and Campagne 114
Conclusions 125

CHAPTER FIVE
Real Ostals in a Changing World 127
Terms of Analysis 128
Patterns of Change 136
Conclusions 151
CHAPTER SIX
New Crises: Structures and Change in Ste Foy 154

The Bride Shortage, 1960–1975 154
The Municipal Crisis of 1975 166
Conclusions 186

CHAPTER SEVEN
Conclusions 188

Closing Scenes 188
On France 192
On Family History 200
On Social Change and Culture in the Modern World 207

APPENDIX 1
Estimations of Ostal Domestic Life Cycles 216

APPENDIX 2
Succession of Households on a Ste Foyan Hamlet 218

Bibliography—Aveyron 221
General 222

Index 229
Illustrations

MAP
Rouergue/Aveyron in southern France

FIGURES
P.1. Bourg of Ste Foy, 1975 4
P.2. An isolated farm (ostal) in Ste Foy’s outlying countryside 10
P.4. Fair day in Ste Foy, 1975: Monthly market 14
1.1. Rural French classic: A Ste Foyan pépé (grandpa) 25
2.1. Old cheese dairy in Ste Foy 63
2.2. New consolidated cheese dairy in the county seat 64
3.1. A Ste Foyan ostit 76
3.2. Posing for a wedding portrait 84
3.3. Ste Foyan family 89
4.1. Hog butchering: Day one, men’s work 105
4.2. Hog butchering: Day two, women’s work 106
4.3. Hog butchering: Day three, household self-sufficiency 107
4.4. Evolution of campagne, bourg, and large hamlet populations 116
4.5. Leaving mass 117
4.6. A bourg street 122
5.1. Ostal household composition 136
5.2. Phases of stem family domestic life cycle 137
5.3. Multigenerational transfers of ostals 141
5.4. Households with hired labor 144
6.2. Net migration from Ste Foy 159
6.3. Celibacy rates in Ste Foy 162
7.1. Fair day in Ste Foy, 1990: Monthly sheep auction 189
7.2. Bourg of Ste Foy, 1990 191
A.1. Estimations of ostal domestic life cycles 216
A.2. Succession of households on a Ste Foyan hamlet 219
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1.</td>
<td>Percentage of French and Aveyronnais Populations Living in Urban Areas</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2.</td>
<td>Percentage of French and Aveyronnais Working Populations Engaged in Agriculture</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3.</td>
<td>Number of Farms in Ste Foy by Size Category</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.1.</td>
<td>Households Following Full Ostal Domestic Cycle</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2.</td>
<td>Numbers of Ostals Practicing Cohabitation</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3.</td>
<td>Transfers of Ostal Ownership</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1.</td>
<td>Exchange Migration Between Ste Foy and Other Rural Townships</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.2.</td>
<td>Destinations of Migrants from Ste Foy</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>