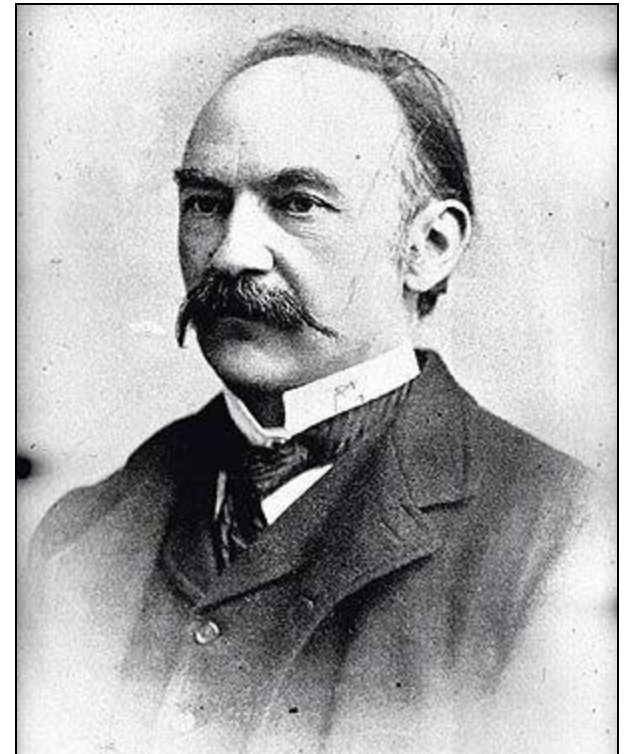




Thomas Hardy

1. Thomas Hardy (1840-1928)

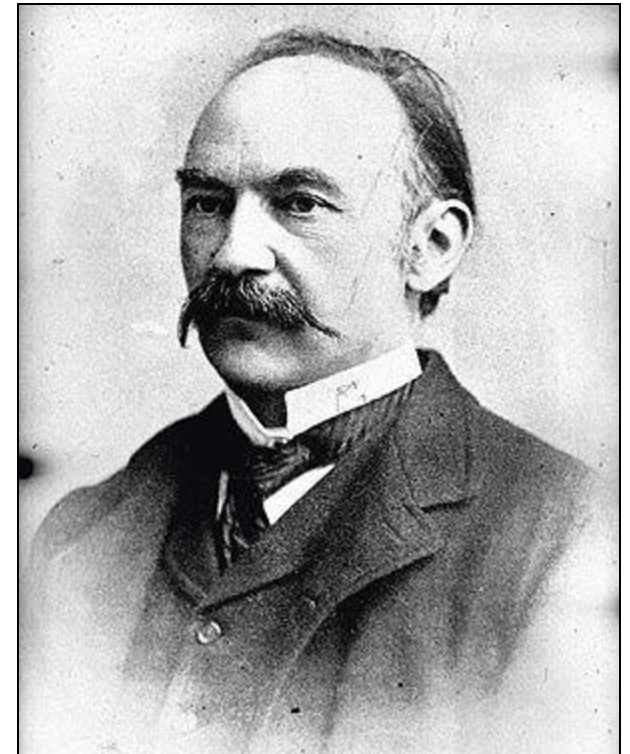
- Born of **humble parents** at Upper Bockhampton, near Dorchester.
- When left school, was apprenticed to a local architect and church restorer.



Thomas Hardy

1. Thomas Hardy (1840-1928)

- Read the works of **Comte**, **Mill**, **Darwin**, which helped shape his thought.
- The philosophy of his works echoes **Schopenhauer's *The World as Will and Idea***, with the Immanent Will which makes notions of free will illusory.



Thomas Hardy

2. Hardy's works

Under the Greenwood Tree (1872)

Far From the Madding Crowd (1874)

The Return of the Native (1878)

The Mayor of Casterbridge (1886)



The Hardy cottage in Higher Bockhampton, Dorchester

2. Hardy's works

The Woodlanders (1887)

Tess of the D'Urbervilles (1891)

Jude the Obscure (1895)

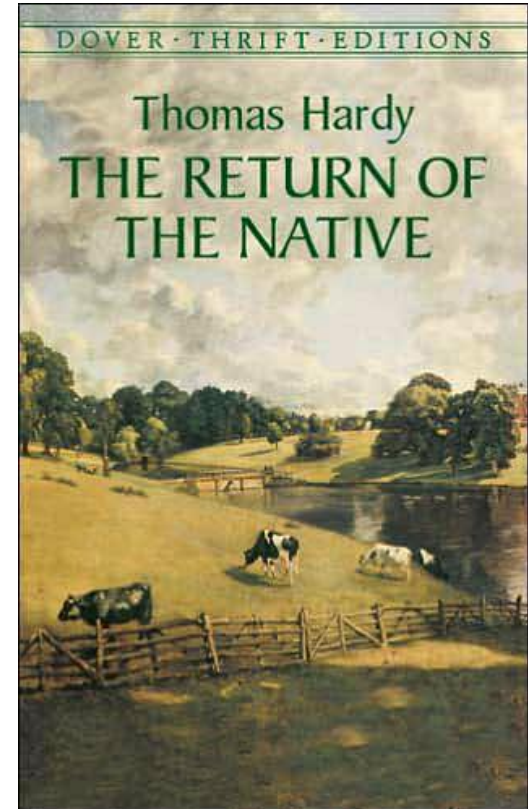
Wessex Poems (1928)



The Hardy cottage in Higher Bockhampton, Dorchester

Features of Hardy's novels .3

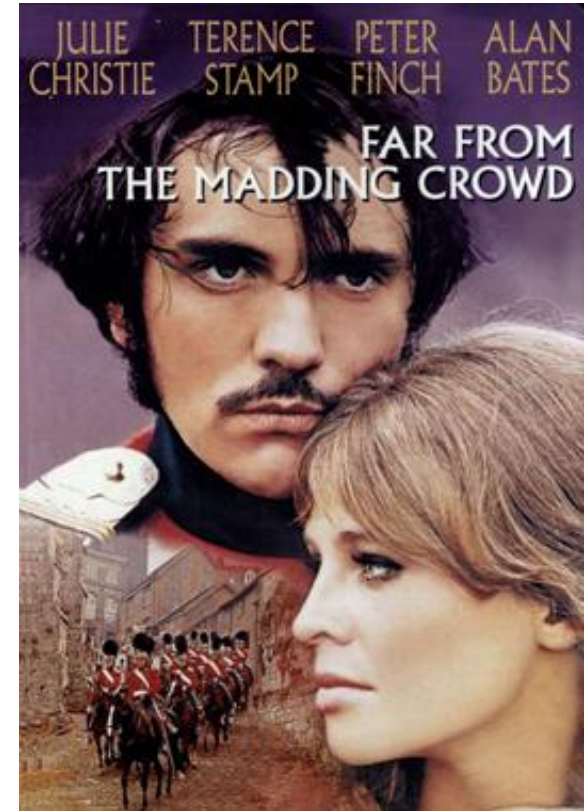
- Interest in the **life of the peasants** in an age of decline and decay of peasantry.
- **Nostalgia for the pastoral** and patriarchal way of life.
- **Deterministic view**, deprived of the consolation of Divine order.
- Man's life controlled by hostile, cruel fate, **«insensible chance»**.



A contemporary edition of The Return of the Native.

Features of Hardy's novels .3

- Superb **sense of place**:
description of ruins of churches, towers, walls, but also important monuments like Stonehenge.
- **Love of detail** to strengthen the final effect □ a **naturalistic approach**.



A contemporary edition of *Far from the Madding Crowd*.

Hardy's style .4

- Use of **colour** strongly linked to **emotion** and **experience**, especially connected with **natural landscape**.
- Victorian **omniscient** narrator.
- Use of cinematic techniques similar to the «**camera eye**» and the «**zoom**».



Hardy and his dog.

Hardy's style .4

- Detailed, controlled language, rich in **symbolism**.
- Use of **metaphor**, **simile**, **personification**.
- Important role of the language of **sense impressions**.



Hardy and his dog.