While some well-regarded scholars argue that utopianism is a Western phenomenon and that utopias do not appear outside the West until the influence of More's Utopia was felt, others have argued that utopianism developed independently in non-Western cultures. Thomas More invented a literary genre, but there are texts in the West and outside it that describe a nonexistent society that is identifiable better than the existing society. Once it is established that there are utopian traditions that are certainly non-Western, there are problems that confront a scholar approaching the subject at the beginning of the twenty-first century. One is the issue of what is non-Western. Scholars disagree profoundly over what constitutes non-Western and Western. UTOPIAS AND UTOPIANISM The word utopia was invented by Thomas More, who published his famous Utopia (in Latin) in 1516. More coupled the Greek words ou (no, or not) and topos (place) to invent a name that has since passed into nearly universal currency. Further verbal play shows the close relation between utopia and eutopia, which means "the good [or happy] place." Through the succeeding centuries this double aspect has marked the core of utopian literature, which has employed the imaginary to project the ideal. Source for information on Utopias and Utopianism: Encyclopedia of Philos...
Community Brook Farm, one of the most famous experiments in the U.S., lasted for five years. The Brook Farm Community was created to bring human relationships together. Brook Farm consisted of a schooling system and physical laboring. The idea of the farm was created for people to have individual freedom as well as having a civilized relationship with one another. The members were allowed to retain their own private land in the community. Brook Farm did not deprive the members of their own individuality and of their privacy. The founder of the Brook Farm Community was Reverend George Ripley. Because Ripley was not spiritual anymore, he decided to succumb his pulpit.