

VOLUME 45

JUNE 2010

MAINE HISTORY



*Law and Order in
Rural Maine*

Invest in our Future:

Leave a Legacy for Maine History

FOR NEARLY TWO centuries, the Maine Historical Society has been enriching the lives of individuals searching for the connections and insights yielded by the past.

All of us, residents and visitors alike, treasure Maine as an incomparable place, rich in distinctive character and history. Preserving that history and spreading appreciation for our historical heritage is the continuing work of the Maine Historical Society.

Today we are fulfilling our mission in ways unimaginable to our founders 187 years ago. The innovative use of digital technology in the Maine Memory Network and partnerships with communities, schools, and historical societies across the state are making MHS truly a historical resource and enterprise for the 21st century.

Please consider talking to your attorney or financial advisor about making a bequest to Maine Historical Society. Your foresight will help make a promise to future generations that the stories and artifacts of Maine history will always be there.

For more information about making a bequest, please contact Bonnie Vance in our Development Office at (207) 774-1822, ext 231, or bvance@mainehistory.org. If you have already included a provision for MHS in your will or estate plan, and would like to be recognized in the *Anne Longfellow Pierce Society*, please let us know. Be assured all discussions are held in strictest confidence.



Maine Historical Society
489 Congress Street • Portland, Maine 04101 • (207) 774-1822
www.mainehistory.org • www.mainememory.net

MAINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Editorial Office
Department of History
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Books for review should be sent to the book review editor, Stanley Howe, Director, Bethel Historical Society, Dr. Moses Mason House, Bethel, ME 04217.

Cover Illustrations: Natives and visitors alike envision rural Maine as a sparsely populated, peaceful land, free from the ills of urban America. The postcard image of Castine on the front cover alludes to this vision of serenity. Yet as the four articles in this issue demonstrate, humans have imposed their own sense of law and order on this rural landscape — sometimes with brutal consequences. Two of the articles in this issue deal with crime and punishment in nineteenth century Maine: the law. In examining the execution of an alleged murderer in Castine in 1811, William L. Welch explores the ways in which social class affected the rule of law in rural Maine communities. Likewise, Jason Finkelstein examines the execution of an alleged murderer in 1869; his study explores the role of race and politics in capital punishment. The other two articles in this issue examine how both Mainers and non Mainers tried to impose their values on the rural landscape: the order. Allen K. Workman's essay examines the failures and successes of "development" at Schoodic Point, all of which ultimately led to its fate as a national park. Mike Prokosch uses the story of one northern Maine family, the Fowlers, to explore the ways in which rural Mainers have had to adapt to changing economic circumstances in order to survive on such a harsh landscape. *Cover image courtesy of Maine Historical Society.*

Maine History



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