

# Maine History

PRESERVING  
HISTORY

ENGAGING  
MINDS

CONNECTING  
MAINE

## Maine Agriculture



Volume 49 Summer 2015

# MAINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

489 Congress Street  
Portland, Maine 04101

*Maine History* is published by the Maine Historical Society in cooperation with the Department of History at the University of Maine.

Editorial Office  
Department of History  
5774 Stevens Hall, University of Maine,  
Orono, Maine 04469

All correspondence and manuscripts for review should be sent to Editor, *Maine History*, 5774 Stevens Hall, University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469. Two copies of manuscripts should be submitted in double-spaced typescript and should conform to *The Chicago Manual of Style*, 14th ed. Manuscripts accepted for publication in *Maine History* are typically 15–30 pages in length. Manuscripts will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. The Maine Historical Society assumes no responsibility for the opinions and interpretations expressed by its contributors. The articles appearing in *Maine History* are abstracted in *Historical Abstracts* and *America: History and Life*.

Books for review should be sent to the book review editor, Stanley R. Howe, P. O. Box 113, Bethel, ME 04217.

---

**COVER ILLUSTRATION:** This issue primarily focuses on the history and dynamic of traditional and commercial farming in Maine, accentuating a long history of interaction between Mainers and the land. Jessamy Luthin argues that biology is a dynamic partner and active agent in this relationship as the success of a species is determined, not by human beings alone, but by a combination of biological and social influences. Cody Miller shows us that by the turn of the twentieth century this relationship had become contentious, as traditional farmers resisted corporate and progressive imperatives for technological and mono-crop “advancements.” However, Eileen Hagerman demonstrates that there was still room for a more harmonious relationship, not only between Mainers and the land but between traditional farmers and newcomers during the Back-to-the-Land movement of the 1960s and 1970s. Front cover image: This vibrant 1891 advertising label from Burnham and Morrill, a Portland packing company, celebrates Maine corn, awarded the Gold Medal at the Paris *Exposition Univeselle* (Paris World Fair) in 1878. Image courtesy of Maine State Archives, a bureau of the Department of the Secretary of State.

# Maine History

---



## *Editors*

RICHARD W. JUDD

DANIEL S. SOUCIER

## *Book Review Editor*

STANLEY R. HOWE

## *Editorial Board*

EMERSON BAKER  
Salem State College

LIBBY BISCHOF  
University of Southern Maine

PAUL BURLIN  
University of New England

JOYCE BUTLER  
Kennebunk

EDWIN A. CHURCHILL  
Maine State Museum

RICHARD CONDON  
University of Maine  
at Farmington

JOSEPH CONFORTI  
American and New England Studies  
University of Southern Maine

ELIZABETH DEWOLFE  
University of New England

JOEL EASTMAN  
University of Southern Maine

GRETCHEN FAULKNER  
Hudson Museum  
University of Maine

GREGORY P. GALLANT  
Margaret Chase Smith Library

WENDY HAZARD  
University of Maine  
at Augusta

STEPHEN HORNSBY  
Canadian-American Center  
University of Maine

STANLEY R. HOWE  
Bethel

JAMES LEAMON  
Bates College *Emeritus*

MAUREEN ELGERSMAN LEE  
Black History Museum and  
Cultural Center of Virginia

SARAH MCMAHON  
Bowdoin College

HARALD PRINS  
Kansas State University

HOWARD P. SEGAL  
University of Maine



# Maine History

---

VOLUME 49

NUMBER 2

SUMMER 2015

## *Contents*

|                                                                                                                                                             |                        |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----|
| From Wanted to Weeds: A Natural History of Some of New England's<br>Introduced Plants                                                                       | <i>Jessamy Luthin</i>  | 133 |
| 'The Farmer's Family Must Find Compensation in Something Less<br>Tangible, Less Material': Culture and Agriculture in Maine<br>and New England, 1870 – 1905 | <i>Cody P. Miller</i>  | 151 |
| Old Roots and New Shoots: How Locals and Back-to-the-Landers<br>Remade Maine's Local Food Economy                                                           | <i>Eileen Hagerman</i> | 177 |
| Rosaries, Disease, and Storehouse Keys: Jesuit Conversion Efforts<br>in Seventeenth-Century Acadia                                                          | <i>Heather Sanford</i> | 205 |
| Research Note: James G. Blaine's Effort to Have John L. Stevens<br>Appointed Minister to Hawai'i in 1869                                                    | <i>Paul T. Burlin</i>  | 225 |
| BOOK REVIEWS                                                                                                                                                |                        |     |
| <i>Kennebunkport: The Evolution of an American Town, Volume One,<br/>1603 – 1923.</i> By Joyce Butler                                                       | <i>Libby Bischof</i>   | 237 |
| <i>Patriot on the Kennebec: Major Reuben Colburn, Benedict Arnold<br/>and the March to Quebec, 1775.</i> By Mark A. York                                    | <i>Edward Martin</i>   | 239 |
| <i>Canoe Indians of Down East Maine.</i> By William A. Haviland                                                                                             | <i>Greg Rogers</i>     | 241 |