

Maine History

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Cooperation and Conflict
on the Maine Coast



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

COVER ILLUSTRATION: While much of what has been written about Maine's coast has centered on its storied fishing culture and working waterfronts, the articles in this volume emphasize the importance of early land tenure in the development of many of the region's towns and villages. Kendrick Price Daggett, in *Rising in the East: Order and Identity in the Mapping of a Maine Town During the Federal Period*, reveals how, through the mapping of Georgetown, the personal ambitions of local surveyor Mark Langdon Hill entwined with the Federalist agenda to centralize power and consolidate control over the more distant reaches of the new nation following the American Revolution. Patrick W. O'Bannon's *Neighbors and Fences: Land, Conflict, and Community on a Maine Island During the Eighteenth Century* examines the ways in which Islesboro residents, over several generations of settlement, developed a shifting set of community-based, bottom-up strategies for establishing property boundaries, settling land claims disputes, restricting newcomers' access to land, and undermining the legal authority of wealthy Boston-based proprietors. Bryan C. Weare, in *Slaves and Free Blacks in Mid-Eighteenth to Mid-Nineteenth Century Cape Neddick, Maine* explores the complex intersection of neighborly cooperation and social inequality in shaping land tenure by highlighting the legacy of slavery and the uneven process of emancipation for Cape Neddick's earliest black residents. Collectively, these articles suggest that the character of post-revolutionary coastal Maine towns was influenced as powerfully by competing notions of national and local identity, geographical manifestations of social and political power, and community-based patterns of cooperation and conflict as they were by ocean tides and prevailing winds. Front cover image: Aerial Photograph of Northport, ca. 1930, Coll. 1949, Portland Press Herald Glass Negative Collection, Collections of Maine Historical Society/Maine Today Media.

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