

# Maine History

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Volume 47  
Number 1 *The Maine Borderlands*

Article 8

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1-1-2013

## Book Reviews

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### Recommended Citation

Hall, Joseph, Charles Horne, David Richards, Richard Condon, Dale Potts, and William David Berry. "Book Reviews." *Maine History* 47, 1 (2013): 143-156. <https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/mainehistoryjournal/vol47/iss1/8>

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## Book Reviews

### Authors

Joseph Hall, Charles Horne, David Richards, Richard Condon, Dale Potts, and William David Berry

## BOOK REVIEWS

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*Anticou's Island Domain: Wabanaki Peoples at Mount Desert Island, 1500-2000.* By Harald E. L. Prins and Bunny McBride. Foreword by Donald Soctomah. 2 vols. (Boston: Northeast Regional Ethnography Program, National Park Service, 2007. Pp. xxx + 618. Available electronically for free at <http://www/nps.gov/acad/historyculture/ethnography.htm>

Named for the leader of a Wabanaki community that inhabited Mount Desert Island at the beginning of the 1600s, this two-volume work provides an impressive and most welcome overview of the last five centuries of relations between Wabanakis—the Native American peoples of Maine and the Canadian Maritimes – and Maine's most famous island. The authors' immediate objective is as important as it is long overdue. These volumes document what Wabanakis have always asserted and what non-Indians have slowly begun to recognize in the last several decades: Wabanakis have not disappeared, and Mount Desert has long been and remains part of their homeland.

This contention rests upon extensive documentary research and interviews with contemporary Wabanakis. It is especially noteworthy that the work was published by the National Park Service, which, as manager of extensive holdings of Acadia National Park, has a clear interest in understanding the Wabanakis' role in its lands. As an institution, however, the Park Service has long defined park preservation in terms of the absence of humans, and has often omitted Native Americans and their pasts from park lands. The authors and Park Service rightly believe that new and easily accessible information can help remedy this oversight. In addition to the electronic version, printed copies are also available at many Maine libraries.

Because it is conceived as a report, the writing frequently tends towards a catalog of details rather than a synthesis of a single analytical point that might be expected in scholarly monographs or popular histories. By reproducing large excerpts of primary sources and reprinting rare manuscript maps, the authors provide readers with ample opportunity to trace lines of inquiry for themselves. But readers see more than trees in this proverbial forest: the authors demonstrate repeatedly how

the island's residents inhabited "a much larger cultural ecological system." Thus readers learn both how Mount Desert Island formed part of a larger region of Wabanaki subsistence and also how it was a participant in larger networks, including, for instance, the pre-colonial corn and copper trade that linked Cape Cod to the Bay of Fundy or the basket trade that linked the Wabanakis and late nineteenth-century tourists.

Volume One traces the history of the island and its Wabanaki residents. It begins with an insightful discussion of the complex political and ethno-linguistic affiliations among the peoples of the Saco to St. John valleys. It then describes how Asticou and his followers were the easternmost members of the Wabanaki alliance that extended as far west as the Kennebec, or perhaps even the Saco, River. With the arrival of Europeans, though, these same connections also brought new and more disruptive variants of disease, trade, and war. Prins and McBride recount the many ways that Wabanakis combined diplomacy and war to maintain their autonomy from the competing French, British, and then American empires between 1675 and 1783, but descriptions of wars of the later 1600s as parts of a Wabanaki liberation struggle (p. 184) or resistance movement (p. 196) unnecessarily flatten this otherwise nuanced analysis. With peace and U.S. independence came new waves of European-American settlers. The authors are especially effective at demonstrating how Wabanakis insisted on retaining access to the lands and resources of Mount Desert Island and its environs. That very struggle should change how many people view the development of the island as a tourist destination. Even the creation of Acadia National Park in 1919, an act that most people would consider a major victory for preserving open space on this increasingly popular island, created in Prins' and McBride's astute observation, just one more layer of restrictions in a place where Wabanaki ancestors had freely ranged (p. 345). It is unfortunate, though, that the authors do not elaborate on this point, especially in light of the fact that future collaborations between Wabanakis and the Park Service might require dismantling some of these old restrictions. The volume concludes with a broad survey of continuing Wabanaki connections to the island throughout the last century.

The second volume catalogues with impressive detail previously published descriptions of the coastal floral and faunal resources that have been important to the Wabanakis. Abundant original maps illustrate the many canoe routes and archaeological sites of the region. By juxtaposing descriptions of Wabanaki patterns of travel and resource use from various centuries, the authors provide fascinating insights into the

ways that activities like the gathering of sweetgrass have deep roots even as time has added new meanings to this traditional resource. The volume concludes with an annotated bibliography that will be invaluable to future researchers.

It is difficult to do justice to a work that covers so much so comprehensively in the process of demonstrating how Mount Desert Island was a recurrent and important setting of Wabanaki history. Prins and McBride have provided the most thorough overview available of the last five centuries of Wabanaki history and culture. Wabanakis, Park Service staff, and scholars of Maine history have much to be grateful for.

JOSEPH HALL  
Bates College

*Maine Politics and Government*, 2nd Edition. By Kenneth T. Palmer, G. Thomas Taylor, Marcus A. LiBrizzi, and Jean E. Lavigne. (Lincoln, Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press, 2009. Pp. 308. \$30.00.)

By national standards, Maine is a small state, as it is in the lowest third among states in both area and population. Despite its relative smallness, and its out-of-the-way geographic positioning at the nation's northeastern extremity, Maine's political/ governmental apparatus is remarkably complex and noteworthy, and well worth a good look by policy wonks, political junkies, and the naturally curious.

That "good look" is provided by *Maine Politics and Government*, now in its second edition, by a political scientist (Kenneth T. Palmer), a professor of public administration (G. Thomas Taylor), an associate professor of English (Marcus A. LiBrizzi), and a public administration programs director (Jean E. Lavigne). These four Maine-based academicians have produced a reasonably concise summary of Maine's political and governmental institutions. In presenting and describing the various branches of Maine's state government (executive, legislative, judicial), traditional and contemporary state politics, local and regional governmental structures, and the practical issues arising from the state constitution, budgets and contemporary policymaking, the authors provide a satisfactory and enlightening review of how Maine politics and government works and how it has evolved.

In addition, Palmer, Taylor, LiBrizzi, and Lavigne provide insight on

the Maine political character and what makes it distinctive. To some degree these observations are matters of opinion, but historical information and statistical analysis are offered to back up the conclusions. Most notably, according to the authors, Mainers predominantly reside in small towns (two thirds of them in communities with fewer than 10,000 people), are moderate in their political habits (in contrast to the conservatism of New Hampshire and the liberalism of Vermont), and are quite willing to experiment and innovate on government public policy (term limits, public funding of campaigns, medical marijuana, environmental laws).

What is suggested by these conclusions is that Maine is driven more by consensus than conflict, more by cultural similarity than by cultural diversity. In a nation that is less white than ever, more urban than rural, and more highly combative than Maine on a whole host of social and political issues, such suggestions are no doubt part of the Maine political fabric.

But, as Palmer, Taylor, LiBrizzi, and Lavigne are quick to point out, the situation in Maine is more complicated than the overview suggests. Citing cultural classifications (moralistic, traditionalistic, and individualistic) presented by Daniel J. Elazar, the authors believe that Maine is becoming less moralistic (high citizen participation in running government) and more individualistic (greater dependency on professionals in running government).

That pattern emerges in a number of the book's chapters. The authors cite how Maine towns and cities have professionalized their governance in the last half century, relying more on town and city managers for day-to-day operations. That extends also to the courts, which have become more professional since the municipal system was replaced by district courts in 1961. The Maine legislature also has become more professional in outlook, as more members have entrenched themselves for longer careers and more comprehensive interaction with state bureaucrats. Even with term limits, a number of legislators have extended their careers by jumping to the other house or running again after a break in service.

Another source of controversy and conflict in Maine, according to the authors, is the so-called "Two Maines" concept. A surge of population growth in Maine's southernmost counties accompanied by a loss of population in the northern counties has arguably produced resentments between the two regions. Further complicating the population shifts, according to this book, has been the urban planners' nightmare, sprawl.

Most of Maine's recent population growth has occurred outside its largest cities, spreading civilization to once uninhabited areas and thereby adding to the cost of services and pressure on the environment. Can Maine's traditional inclination toward consensus and moderation survive these changes and pressures? While these issues have been raised in many other publications, the authors have been able to cite these controversies as part of the larger unfolding of Maine's political and governmental institutions.

As a student of history, I would have preferred more historical context in *Maine Politics and Government*. While a number of political campaigns are described by the authors, a more comprehensive parade of the colorful and prominent figures who helped to shape Maine's political and governmental character would have helped to underscore the points the authors make about that character. The first all-female U.S. Senate race (incumbent Margaret Chase Smith v. Lucia Cormier in 1960) made the cover of *Time* magazine and deserved to be fleshed out as an example of Mainer's willingness to experiment in voting. Governors such as Joshua L. Chamberlain and Percival P. Baxter profoundly affected the state's overall governmental direction and warranted more attention. Satirist William R. Pattangall deserved at least a paragraph, as he caught the mood of the Maine electorate on a more humorous vein. While the section on independent gubernatorial candidates was properly warranted, the authors misnamed one of the candidates, Buddy Frankland, as Buddy Franklin.

Nevertheless, the policy wonk, political junkie, or the naturally curious will learn something about Maine and its political and governmental institutions by reading the second edition of *Maine Politics and Government*. It may be instructive while reading this book to consider how Maine will react to the current budgetary crises being faced locally, nationally, and internationally. Chances are how Maine reacts could be part of a third edition of this book.

CHARLES HORNE  
Bangor

*Survival At Work & Home: Saco-Lowell Shops in WW II.* By Roy P. Fairfield. (Saco, Maine: Bastille Books, 2009. Pp. 250. \$17.95.)

Between the end of his high school years at Thornton Academy in 1936 and entering Harvard Graduate School in 1944, Roy Fairfield worked full-time to earn money to attend Bates College, part-time while attending it, and again after graduation at the Saco-Lowell Shops. This manufacturer of textile machinery, with huge buildings in Biddeford and Saco, dominated the area's economy from the mid-nineteenth century until it moved "lock, stock, and spindle" to Easley, South Carolina, in 1957.

*Survival at Work and Home*, set in the summer and autumn of 1944, weaves together two stories. At work, the coming transition from war production to an uncertain peacetime greatly worried S-L-S leaders. They wanted the wartime Office of Price Administration (OPA) to relax its tight controls of prices and labor costs. To make their case stronger, they decided to put together a cost analysis of nineteen representative machines. They named Fairfield to head this program, which he brought to a successful conclusion after five very challenging months of hard work.

At the same time, management wanted him to stay on and climb the corporate ladder. Although he had already been accepted at Harvard and knew that he wanted to be a professor, he appears to have been somewhat conflicted in making his ultimate choice. Fairfield's wife, little daughter, and parents play important roles in this part of the story.

Fairfield left S-L-S after saying his goodbyes to many friends on all levels. He even parted on good terms with two men whose anti-Semitism – directed at two Jewish engineers Fairfield had brought in for the project – had caused some anxious moments. Management surprised him with a recommendation for a \$1000 bonus. It was well-deserved, for the effort to persuade OPA worked; but one of the engineers he brought in for the project told Fairfield that, instead of "writing history" about the machines, management should have been planning for the future. In the book's epilogue, Fairfield agrees.

The two stories mesh as he writes of "a desire to interview people from all branches and processes of the company . . . to understand people...doing such inquiry while working on the project would be personally important in my long-term goals to be a professor and possibly a writer." This attitude animates the book, as Fairfield makes his associates, with their strengths and weaknesses, live on the pages and enliven the sometimes technical details of the project itself. Through the sum-

mer Fairfield turns daily in his few spare moments to Thomas Mann's *The Magic Mountain* for relief from job pressures, a symbolic unifying of the two stories.

The book has several interesting illustrations. There are a number of typos and even a few misprints, but they are not a serious distraction. This very readable work of autobiography captures much of the flavor of home-front America during World War II: labor-management tensions, lingering prejudices, draft worries, changing jobs and moves, disrupted lives, and new experiences.

DAVID RICHARDS  
Northwood University  
Margaret Chase Smith Library

*Designing the Maine Landscape.* By Theresa Mattor and Lucie Teegarden. (Camden, Maine: Down East Books and the Maine Olmstead Alliance for Parks & Landscapes, 2009. Pp. 216. Cloth \$50.)

In *Designing the Maine Landscape*, authors Theresa Mattor and Lucie Teegarden remind readers that the way Maine should be is the product of human design as well as natural wonder. The book originated from the Survey of Designed Historic Landscapes, which was initiated by the Maine Olmstead Alliance (MOA) under the supervision of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission with support from the National Park Service and several foundations between 1991 and 2000. The project produced hundreds of case studies – information that former MOA presidents Charlton and Eleanor Ames believed should be shared through publication.

The nature of the study gives rise to the form of presentation. The publication has the feel of an exhibit catalog with the state of Maine as the expansive gallery. The 216 pages are lavishly illustrated with lush photographs highlighting a wide variety of designed landscapes. The format of the book makes the final product ideal for coffee table display.

The architecture of the book consists of four major sections. The first, focusing on public places, examines the enduring beauty of landscapes in four communities: Portland, Augusta, Camden, and Northeast Harbor. The eclectic second section encompasses five academic landscapes, three recreational landscapes in the form of golf courses, and three landscapes of eternal repose – cemeteries. Part III surveys private

estates, highlighting especially the works of designers Hans Heistad, Beatrix Farrand, and Jens Jensen. The study concludes with a section on the expanding conception of landscape design as it sprawled into the subdivisions of suburban Portland and was imposed on the working-class neighborhoods of the mill town of Rumford and shipbuilding community of Bath.

The scholarly scope of the enterprise is verified by the extensive end matter. The book features a comprehensive bibliography and detailed endnotes. An added bonus is a list of twenty-three landscape designers that includes thumbnail career sketches of each one. The study concludes with a thorough and useful index.

The volume has no specifically stated theme, but implicitly develops one throughout the narrative. From the dust jacket artwork listing the eighteen leading designers who have shaped Maine's manicured landscapes, most notably the two Frederick Law Olmsteds, father and son, the publication honors the men and women who have envisioned the artful arrangement of flora, fields, and forests to domesticate nature for the pleasure and elevation of human audiences. In addition to designers, this work acknowledges the significance of a multitude of organizations that have arisen to preserve these precious landscapes long into the future, groups such as Portland Trails, a host of Friends organizations and land trusts, and last, but certainly not least, the Maine Olmsted Alliance.

Moreover, Mattor and Teegarden pay tribute to the efforts of businessmen such as papermaking mogul Hugh Chisholm, bureaucrats such as Portland city engineer William Goodwin, politicians such as Portland mayor James Phinney Baxter, and benefactors such as philanthropist John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Their individual visions, along with those of many other patrons, have left behind landscape legacies ranging from the housing stock of Rumford to the green spaces of the Forest City – the Eastern and Western Promenades, Deering Oaks, Back Cove, and Baxter Boulevard – to the grand American treasure of Acadia National Park. The resulting design dividends have cumulatively accrued over the decades to endow the ideal marriage of natural and manmade landscapes found throughout the Pine Tree State. Consider *Designing the Maine Landscape* by Theresa Mattor and Lucie Teegarden the indispensable narrated photo album of this most beautiful and blessed union.

DAVID RICHARDS  
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*Historic Maine Homes: 300 Years of Great Houses.* Text by Christopher Glass. Photography by Brian Vanden Brink. (Camden, Maine: Down East Books, 2009. Pp. 176. Cloth. \$40.)

Christopher Glass, an architectural historian and restorer of old homes, writes that “Brian Vanden Brink’s archive of photographs of Maine houses was the inspiration for this book.” He adds that the Maine Historic Preservation Commission and photographer Elizabeth Bouve filled in some of the gaps in Vanden Brink’s collection. Their pictures and Glass’ text survey three hundred years of Maine buildings, almost all of them houses. They are classified chronologically into eleven styles, which are neatly summarized with a paragraph and small picture each at the end of the book.

From the first page with the McIntire Garrison (1707) and Perkins House (1730) and the Old Gaol (all in York) to the last group of inside and outside views of Nelson Rockefeller’s “Anchorage” at Seal Harbor (“the crowning achievement of the first generation of modernists”) the book covers the ground with great success.

Between the first and last periods, all the famous Maine houses make their appearance: for the Georgian era (1720-1780), the Tate House at Stroudwater and Lady Pepperell’s mansion at Kittery Point; for the next (Federal) era, the example is the Parker Cleveland House in Brunswick, now the residence of the Bowdoin College president. The passing decades bring the Black Mansion in Ellsworth, the Gothic Revival Christ Church in Gardiner, the Italianate Morse-Libby House (Victoria Mansion) in Portland, and the Norlands in Livermore. “Queen Ann” houses, such as Holman Day House in Auburn, the “Shingle Style” Campobello, and the Colonial Revival Blaine House in Augusta are also included.

A number of less well-known places, including a group of tiny houses in Mansard style at Round Pond and the Greek Revival Snow House in Rockland, add interest.

Glass uses precise architectural term without falling into jargon, explaining them clearly when it is necessary. He often lightens the text with bits of humor. For example, in discussing the Hatch House in Bangor, he writes that the “Hatch house even incorporates an acroterion in the pediment (see what fun it is?). In Greece the acroterion (a decorative motif) would have been place on the roof ridge, but Bryant knew too much about winter in Maine and instead applied the motif to the pediment, that part of a house’s face is above the horizontal block of the building.”

The hundreds of photographs, full-page and smaller, showing interi-

ors and exteriors, are reproduced with beautiful, true color and almost blinding clarity on fine paper. However, this is more than a coffee-table book of pretty pictures. As Glass writes, “each generation built houses to express its beliefs and aspirations. The great houses were built to borrow some of the splendor of those trendsetters. My goal is tell the stories of our houses.... I also suggest ways in which we can learn from the houses and learn to love them for what they tried to do.”

He achieves these goals in a book that not only delights the eye, but engages the heart and mind.

RICHARD CONDON  
Professor Emeritus  
University of Maine at Farmington

*Twentieth-Century New England Land Conservation: A Heritage of Civic Engagement.* By Charles H.W. Foster, ed. (Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 2009. Pp. 384. \$24.95.)

New England possesses an identifiable image in the national consciousness; the self-reliant and stalwart Yankee character is an icon of independence. *Twentieth-Century New England Land Conservation: A Heritage of Civic Engagement* explores the conservation efforts of individuals, regional organizations, and state governments in New England, whether in advance of or in response to federal legislation. This book provides an important perspective on conservation in the Northeast by illustrating local and state efforts that coincided with national movements in the twentieth century. These informative essays connect the tangible results of conservation efforts in New England to long-standing precedents of local independence and civic responsibility. The authors in this collection of essays come from a wide range of backgrounds, thereby lending this project a comprehensive expertise.

The authors address two primary themes. The first theme is the interplay between local/grassroots, state, regional, and federal efforts to promote conservation often against political and economic barriers. The second theme is the region's self-motivation to conserve as being an outgrowth of the fiercely independent attitudes within each state. Throughout the book, civic engagement is presented as a result of New Englan-

ders' individualism. As Charles Foster indicates in the Foreward, Yankee ingenuity, rather than an abstract concept capable only of abstract results, was visible in the "self-determination, innovation, individual leadership, commitment to place, and a strong legacy of civic engagement" (p. 17-18).

The first chapter outlines the issues involved in land conservation in Maine. As New England's northernmost state and one-time lumber powerhouse of the nation, it is fitting that a discussion of Maine's past leads off the collection. Author Thomas A. Urquhart grounds the study in the legacy of lumber operations that overtook Maine and many other New England states in the nineteenth century. Urquhart makes the twentieth-century history of conservation understandable in light of the region's previous history. Lumber operations (and later pulp and paper companies) obtained near complete control over large sections of northern Maine, as well as significant control over the state legislature. The dominance of lumber and paper companies meant clear-cutting vast sections of forest, often several times over, in the nineteenth century. By 1900, many Mainers became troubled by forest conditions and moved to create or strengthen forest commissions.

More contemporary issues are also presented in the essay, with a hopeful eye for the future. In 1987, nearly a million acres of northern New England's Diamond International Paper Company land was sold. Fearing development, many conservation-minded individuals hoped for either a federal park or a state park, with support falling on both sides of the issue against potential development. The intricate debates and actions of the last few years in northern Maine show that the original fears and concerns of turn-of-the-twentieth century conservationists remain just as true today.

Following the chapter on Maine, there is a chapter that examines the history of conservation efforts in each of the other five New England states. The final chapter addresses state interaction with federal legislation. Each author approaches their work in unique ways and from unique backgrounds. However, they maintain their focus on the theme of New England conservation as a regionally grounded activity of civic responsibility. Each chapter cites local, state, and federal source material judiciously. State and federal administrative reports, such as proceedings of the Conference of Governors in the early twentieth century, are provided with most reports appearing for the states of Vermont and Massachusetts.

This publication occurred as a centennial celebration of the first

conservation conference ever called by the governors of the New England states. This collection of essays makes it clear that the New England states often proved to be far in advance of conservation efforts in other states in the country by the end of the twentieth century. Instead of being overshadowed by conservation and preservation efforts in the American West, New England's environmental history is one of long-standing civic action. This collection celebrates that forward-thinking agenda and stresses how such history "might be used to inform the activities of the next generation of leaders" (p. x).

DALE POTTS

South Dakota State University

*Mountains of Maine: Intriguing Stories Behind Their Names.* By Steve Pinkham. (Camden, Maine: Down East Books, 2009. Pp. 224. Paper. \$16.95.)

Steve Pinkham's *Mountains of Maine: Intriguing Stories Behind Their Names* joins Stanley Bearce Attwood's *The Length and Breadth of Maine* and Philip R. Rutherford's *The Dictionary of Maine Place-Names*. Each varies in depth of research, presentation, and substance. Attwood's work is encyclopedic and accurate, and has gone through a number of printings and updates since the 1940s. In its present form, I have only chanced upon one error in forty years of use. Rutherford's work is likewise all business, but the *Dictionary of Maine Place-Names* is not as thoroughly researched.

In *Mountains of Maine*, the author has chosen to include more informative, paragraph-length entries, occasionally illustrated by vintage postcards and sidebars of attendant features. Indeed, Pinkham claims to have hiked more than 3,000 miles through New England's mountains and has haunted the local libraries and archives for information on Maine's peaks.

Many readers, including some of us who reside along the coast, have less knowledge of our state's mountains than we should. However, Maine is roughly the size of the rest of New England and most of its population lies away from the high elevations. Ski slopes, coastal hills, and easy access trails may be, but as Pinkham notes:

The mountains of Maine do not form any collective pattern, as do the White Mountains of New Hampshire and the Green Mountains of

Vermont. Many are laid out in groups or small ranges, such as the Maahoosucs and the Dead Bigelow Range. Others are clustered together, such as those in Weld or Mount Desert Island. Some mountains rise up alone from a relatively level plain and appear more grand for not being surrounded by neighboring peaks. In the 1950s, the Maine Legislature named all the mountains of Maine by the collective title, the Longfellow Mountains, but the name has never caught on and only occasionally shows up on modern maps.

Indeed, Maine has been far more renowned for its lakes, streams, and coast. Of course, Mount Katahdin, Baxter State Park, and the Appalachian Trail, which ambles out of New Hampshire, is a big exception. *Mountains of Maine* sets out to inform the interested reader about our heritage in high places from diminutive Mount Ararat (255 feet), “about a mile north of the village of Topsham,” to Sugarloaf, Old Spec, and others over 4,000 feet.

The height, location, description, known history, or legends of many mountains are discussed here, but the historian bridles a bit here when we find 2,988 foot Saddleback Mountain’s description: “There are half a dozen mountains in Maine with this name, each having two summits with a low connecting ridge resembling a horse’s saddle. This mountain, which lies northeast of Katahdin Iron Works, has two ponds on it.” This description continues, but does not locate the others by that name. Indeed the introduction notes that the book does not cover every mountain and that is a pity. A comprehensive list would have been most useful.

Let me say that as a working librarian and historian, I have never been one to look askance at a useful source book, and this is a substantive addition to our knowledge base. This is a good ready reference piece, fun to read, and it contains a great bibliography.

However, to my way of thinking, it is awkwardly organized. After a good short introduction, it is broken into ten chapters including, “Southern Coast and Lowlands” (Mount Agamenticus, Jockey Cap, etc.); “Down East Coastland Lowlands”; “Acadia: Mount Desert Island and Isle au Haut”; “The Oxford Hills”; “The Maahoosuc Range”; “Rangeley Lakes and Mount Blue Region”; “Upper Kennebec Valley and Dead River Regions”; “Piscataquis Mountains”; “Katahdin and Baxter State Park”; and “North Country.”

I guess the traveler, by foot and automobile, might find the format useful, but an index would have not made the volume much longer and would have been just as useful as a bibliography. Try and find, for in-

stance, “Big Shanty Mountain” quickly. It will work only if one knows it is in the Piscataquis Mountains. As a historian, I knew that Maloy (Mulloy) Mountain was in Limington, and therefore I should look in the first chapter for an entry. The description is correct in that it was named for Dennis Molloy, who settled in 1777, but a deeper check would have revealed that he was an Irish immigrant by way of Cape Elizabeth, who astonished friends and family in the Old Country by having a landmark named after him in the “first go.” This information, for example, would have greatly enhanced this entry.

Overall, Steve Pinkham has filled a major gap on the Maine history and geography shelf. His book should be in every town and school library across the state, but a second edition ought to include an index, and if possible, a list of all the mountains of Maine.

WILLIAM DAVID BARRY  
Maine Historical Society