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SUMMER 2000

MAINE HISTORY



The Early Coast of Maine

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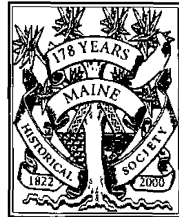
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Books for review should be sent to the book review editor, Stanley Howe, Director, Bethel Historical Society, Dr. Moses Mason House, Bethel, ME 04217.

Cover Illustration: The Maine Coast, insular, yet a gateway to the world, gives focus to two of the articles in this issue. Barbara Rumsey uses an extended lawsuit launched by the cantankerous Boston merchant William Waldron to open a window into the little known world of shipboard fur trading along the Maine coast in the middle 1600s. The transcripts of several “Waldron versus Smith” court cases give voice to the coast’s scattered residents and sojourners, illustrating their difficulties, adaptations, and tools of trade in the area from the Sagadahoc (lower Kennebec) to the Saint John. In our second article, Paul T. Burlin demonstrates the connection between shipbuilding in the coastal-Kennebec area and diplomatic events in the Pacific, through the eyes of Bath’s Harold Marsh Sewall. Claude G. Berube rounds out the issue with an administrative assessment of reform governor William Tudor Gardiner—also from the lower Kennebec region. The cover drawing is from *Harper’s New Monthly Magazine*, August 1877.

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