

NEW BOOKS FOR
FALL & WINTER

2022–2023

UNIVERSITY OF
massachusetts
press



Traveling the Old Ski Tracks of New England

E. JOHN B. ALLEN

For over a century New Englanders have taken to the slopes in search of ways to enjoy the coldest months, and skiing has deep roots in the region. In the late nineteenth century Scandinavian immigrants worked to educate snowbound locals on how to ski, make equipment, and prepare trails. Soon thereafter, colleges across the Northeast built world-class ski programs, massive jumps were constructed in Brattleboro and Berlin, and dozens of ski areas—big and small—cropped up from the 1930s through the 1960s.

Traveling the Old Ski Tracks of New England offers a fascinating history of downhill, cross-country, and backcountry skiing across the region and its leading personalities. Moving from popular destinations like Stowe, Cannon, Bromley, and Mount Washington to the less intimidating hills surrounding Boston, Rhode Island, and Connecticut, E. John B. Allen also recovers the forgotten stories of ski areas that have been abandoned in the face of changing tastes and a warming climate.

CONTENTS

New Books	inside front cover
Recently Published	16
Best of the Backlist	17
Fum d'Estampa Press	18
Tagus Press	20
Bright Leaf	23
About the Press	24
Sales Information	inside back cover

COVER ART

"Spring Skiing," *Tuckerman's Ravine*, c. 1930. Silkscreen Poster for New Hampshire State Planning and Development Commission. Courtesy New England Ski Museum, 2017.045.033.

INTERIOR PHOTO

Unknown photographer, *Fred Harris with Dr. Shailer Lawton*, Brattleboro, VT, c. 1905. Courtesy New England Ski Museum 1982L.016.003. From *Traveling the Old Ski Tracks of New England* by E. John B. Allen.

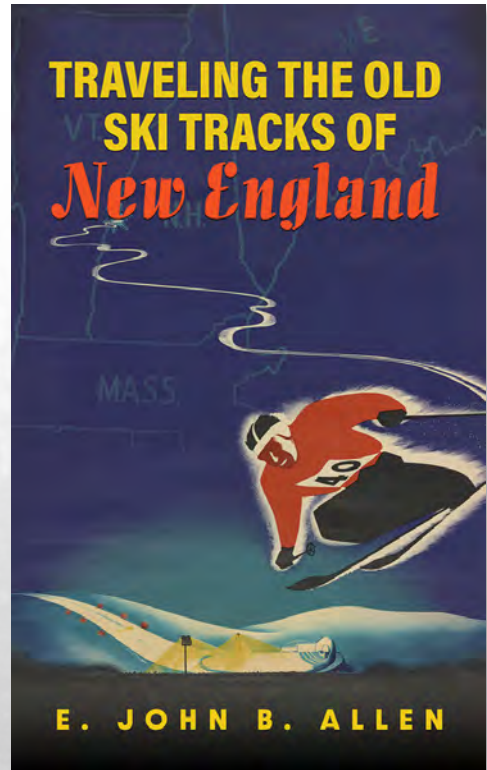


"The stories Allen tells cover a lot of early ski history that is not well known to the skiing public today. With different chapters covering different regions, this book will appeal to a wide readership."

—Jeremy K. Davis, author of *Lost Ski Areas of the Berkshires* and founder of the New England Lost Ski Areas Project

"There's such a depth of information in these pages that manages to keep skiers connected to their past. Allen delivers context to the historical factors and people that are found on trail maps across the region. There is a satisfaction in understanding what helped build the slopes we ski today."

—Eric Wilbur, coauthor of *Thirty Years in a White Haze: Dan Egan's Story of Worldwide Adventure and the Evolution of Extreme Skiing*



E. JOHN B. ALLEN is professor emeritus of history at Plymouth State University and author of *The Culture and Sport of Skiing: From Antiquity to World War II*.

New England History and Culture / Sports and Recreation

320 pp., 10 illus.

\$24.95 bt paper, ISBN 978-1-62534-673-5

\$90.00 hardcover, ISBN 978-1-62534-674-2

Also available as an e-book

November 2022

Boston's Twentieth-Century Bicycling Renaissance

Cultural Change on Two Wheels

LORENZ J. FINISON

\$19.95 bt paper

978-1-62534-411-3



ALSO OF INTEREST



"Molnar creates a valuable testament to our evolving attitudes toward nature. And by weaving in her own personal history, Molnar makes this an important contribution to the field of natural history writing in the tradition of Robin Wall Kimmerer and Michael Pollan."

—Robert Taylor, nature writer

Playing God in the Meadow

How I Learned to Admire My Weeds

MARTHA LEB MOLNAR

After decades of fantasizing and saving, of working multiple jobs and embracing frugality in the midst of Manhattan, Martha Leb Molnar and her husband had found their parcel of land. Determined to turn an overgrown and unproductive Vermont apple orchard into a thriving and beautiful landscape, they decided to restore this patch of land to a pristine meadow and build a safe haven for their family and nearby wildlife.

Once they cleared the gnarled and dying trees away, Molnar was forced to wage war on the invasive species that had sprung up around the property. Propelled by the heated debates surrounding non-native species and her own complicated family history and migration, she was driven to research the Vermont landscape, turning to scientific literature, experts in botany and environmental science, and locals who have long tended the land in search of answers. At turns funny, thoughtful, and conversational, *Playing God in the Meadow* follows this big city transplant as she learns to make peace with rural life and an evolving landscape that she cannot entirely control.

"A thoughtful tale of making a meadow, from a gardener who is not afraid to struggle with questions botanical and environmental."

—Sydney Landon Plum, author of *Solitary Goose*

MARTHA LEB MOLNAR is a freelance writer, author, and commentator based in Vermont. She is author of *Taproot: Coming Home to Prairie Hill*.

Natural History and Botany / Environmental History and Ecology

192 pp., 7 illus.

\$22.95 bt paper, ISBN 978-1-62534-687-2

\$90.00 hardcover, ISBN 978-1-62534-688-9

Also available as an e-book

October 2022

ALSO OF INTEREST



Legends of the Common Stream

JOHN HANSON MITCHELL

\$22.95 bt paper

978-1-62534-581-3

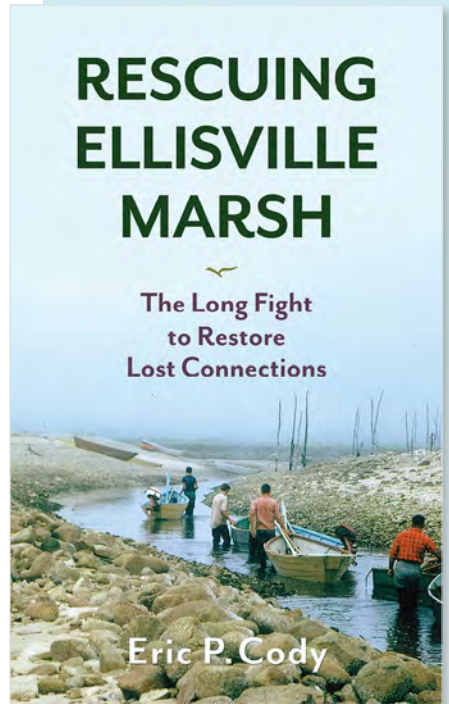
Rescuing Ellisville Marsh

The Long Fight to Restore Lost Connections

ERIC P. CODY

For hundreds of years, farmers and fishing communities maintained the inlet to Ellisville Marsh, a picturesque piece of coastline ten miles south of Plymouth, Massachusetts. Recognized as one of the most environmentally sensitive and ecologically valuable places in the state, the salt marsh and estuary are home to a diverse array of wildlife and a range of habitats, including low-tide mudflats, a saltwater pond, intertidal zone, and fields of tall marsh grass.

After agricultural and fishing activities faded away in the late twentieth century, it soon became apparent that protecting the marsh and its surroundings from development would not be enough to restore the natural equilibrium that had been lost when the inlet became blocked. Having witnessed government inaction over the years, Eric P. Cody and four other locals founded the Friends of Ellisville Marsh in 2007 to address erosion, revive tidal flows, and revitalize fisheries and wildlife in the face of climate change. *Rescuing Ellisville Marsh* presents the powerful case study of backyard activism, telling the story of a community that bonded with a natural place and decided to fight for it.



"Cody offers an intimate portrait of this place, its history and people, and the natural life in and around the marsh. The side stories of the community near Ellisville Marsh, the joys of monitoring work on the marsh, and the battles to win permits and keep the inlet open, are compelling."

—Tim Traver, author of
*Sippewissett: Or, Life on
a Salt Marsh*

ERIC P. CODY is a founder of the Friends of Ellisville Marsh.

Environmental History and Ecology / New England History and Culture

232 pp., 1 illus.

\$26.95 bt paper, ISBN 978-1-62534-677-3

\$90.00 hardcover, ISBN 978-1-62534-678-0

Also available as an e-book

January 2023

Managing the River Commons

Fishing and New
England's Rural Economy

ERIK REARDON

\$27.95 paper
978-1-62534-584-4



ALSO OF INTEREST

JOURNALISM AND DEMOCRACY

Publishing engaging and innovative books, this interdisciplinary series explores the complex and vexed relationship between journalism and democracies past and present, in local, regional, national, and transnational contexts. Projects in the series address a range of issues, including the role of new technologies in reshaping public discourse and civic life; problems of propaganda and government secrecy in the past and in the digital era; changing relationships between press, public, and state; the rise of illiberal populism and its threat to liberal democracy; and commercialism and the concentration of corporate media power.

SERIES EDITORS

KATHY ROBERTS FORDE is professor of journalism at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and author of *Literary Journalism on Trial: Masson v. New Yorker and the First Amendment*.

SID BEDINGFIELD is associate professor at the Hubbard School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Minnesota. He is author of *Newspaper Wars: Civil Rights and White Resistance in South Carolina, 1935–1965*.

“Journalism and democracy need each other, but both are under assault. One effect of this crisis is a heightened scholarly interest across disciplines. A multidisciplinary book series like this one is sure to attract a lot of excellent scholarship and broad readership.”

—David Nord, author of *Faith in Reading: Religious Publishing and the Birth of Mass Media in America*

“Intellectual work in this series will offer resources for addressing key dilemmas facing citizens, philanthropists, policymakers, and news workers—anyone seeking to tackle the challenges of rebuilding democratic journalistic institutions and practices.”

—Anthony Nadler, author of *Making the News Popular: Mobilizing U.S. News Audiences*

The Insider

How the Kiplinger Newsletter Bridged Washington and Wall Street

ROB WELLS

When Willard M. Kiplinger launched the groundbreaking *Kiplinger Washington Letter* in 1923, he left the sidelines of traditional journalism to strike out on his own. With a specialized knowledge of finance and close connections to top Washington officials, Kiplinger was uniquely positioned to tell deeper truths about the intersections between government and business. With careful reporting and insider access, he delivered perceptive analysis and forecasts of business, economic, and political news to busy business executives, and the newsletter's readership grew exponentially over the coming decades.

More than just a pioneering business journalist, Kiplinger emerged as a quiet but powerful link between the worlds of Presidents Hoover and Roosevelt, and used his *Letter* to play a little-known but influential role in the New Deal. Part journalism history, part biography, and part democratic chronicle, *The Insider* offers a well-written and deeply researched portrayal of how Kiplinger not only developed a widely read newsletter that launched a business publishing empire but also how he forged a new role for the journalist as political actor.

"Kiplinger, his newsletter, and his news coverage were all important in this country's journalism history and there has been little historical research on them. Drawing on sources that have not previously been used, including company archives and personal letters between Kiplinger and New Deal officials, *The Insider* is a significant contribution."

—Chris Roush, author of *The Future of Business Journalism: Why It Matters for Wall Street and Main Street*

ROB WELLS is visiting associate professor at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism at the University of Maryland.

Journalism and Media / History: Twentieth- and Twenty-First-Century American

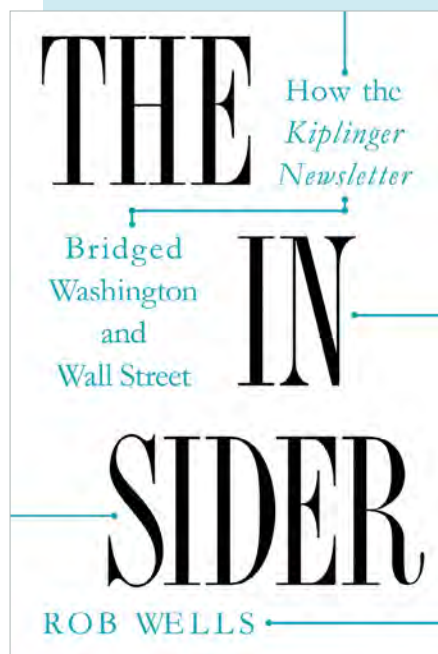
272 pp., 9 illus.

\$32.95 paper, ISBN 978-1-62534-703-9

\$90.00 hardcover, ISBN 978-1-62534-704-6

Also available as an e-book

November 2022



"Politico, Axios, and Substack are rightly heralded for offering innovative newsletters, distinguished by insider accounts, smart brevity, and personal voice. But Wells makes a compelling case that *The Kiplinger Washington Newsletter* combined all these elements in the 1930s. Like its topic, *The Insider* is insightful, analytical, and highly readable."

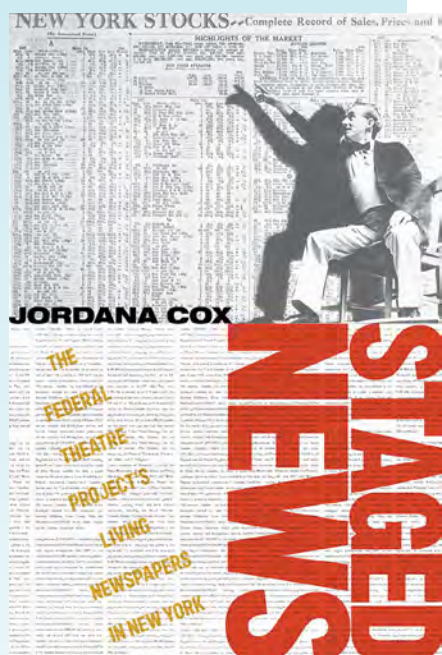
—James T. Hamilton, author of *Democracy's Detectives: The Economics of Investigative Journalism*

Constructing the Outbreak
Epidemics in Media and Collective Memory
KATHERINE A. FOSS

\$26.95 at paper
978-1-62534-528-8



ALSO OF INTEREST



Staged News

The Federal Theatre Project's Living Newspapers in New York

JORDANA COX

In 1935, a group of journalists and theater artists embarked on an unusual collaboration. With funds from the Federal Theatre Project (FTP), a Depression-era employment initiative established by President Roosevelt's New Deal, they set out to produce news for the theatrical stage. Over the next four years, the New York-based team created six productions, known as the Living Newspapers. Covering a variety of public issues that included affordable housing, the plight of Dust Bowl farmers, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and labor law, Living Newspaper productions would reach hundreds of thousands of spectators and inspire adaptations across the country.

Staged News interprets the Living Newspaper's process and repertoire amid journalists' changing conceptions of their profession. Jordana Cox spotlights marginalized "newsmakers," particularly Black artists, who challenged the parameters of public knowledge and assumptions surrounding newsworthiness. This timely analysis reveals how a vital theatrical form sprouted from a changing news landscape and reimagined what journalism could do for people seeking democratic change.

"Cox's writing style is smooth and fluid, and she has mined archives that others have missed. A book on Living Newspapers that focuses on their journalistic status is way overdue."

—Laura Browder, author of *Rousing the Nation: Radical Culture in Depression America*

JORDANA COX is assistant professor of communication arts at the University of Waterloo.

Journalism and Media / History: Twentieth- and Twenty-First-Century American

168 pp., 8 illus.

\$29.95 paper, ISBN 978-1-62534-679-7

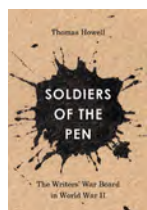
\$90.00 hardcover, ISBN 978-1-62534-680-3

Also available as an e-book

February 2023

"Journalism historians have paid little attention to the subject of Living Newspapers. In this carefully researched history, Cox uncovers how this New Deal program illuminated the limitations of journalism while offering an alternative and collaborative model for truth-telling—a model with lasting value."

—Carolyn Kitch, author of *Pages from the Past: History and Memory in American Magazines*



Soldiers of the Pen

The Writers' War Board in World War II

THOMAS HOWELL

\$29.95 paper

978-1-62534-387-1

Rewriting America

New Essays on the Federal Writers' Project

EDITED BY SARA RUTKOWSKI

Established in 1935, the Federal Writers' Project (FWP) sent over 6,500 unemployed historians, teachers, writers, and librarians out to document America's past and present in the midst of the Great Depression. The English poet W. H. Auden referred to this New Deal program as "one of the noblest and most absurd undertakings ever attempted by any state."

Featuring original work by scholars from a range of disciplinary perspectives, this edited collection provides fresh insights into how this extraordinary program helped transform American culture. In addition to examining some of the major twentieth-century writers whose careers the FWP helped to launch—including Ralph Ellison, Richard Wright, and Margaret Walker—*Rewriting America* presents new perspectives on the role of African Americans, Mexican Americans, Asian Americans, and women on the project. Essays also address how the project's goals continue to resonate with contemporary realities in the midst of major economic and cultural upheaval.

Along with the volume editor, contributors include Adam Arenson, Sue Rubenstein DeMasi, Racheal Harris, Jerrold Hirsch, Kathi King, Maiko Mine, Deborah Mutnick, Diane Noreen Rivera, Greg Robinson, Robert Singer, James Sun, and David A. Taylor.



"Rewriting America demonstrates some of the most vibrant undertakings of the Federal Writers' Project—to focus on regionalism, de-center European standards, and feature previously marginalized voices. The essays are well written and will grab the attention of anyone interested in the New Deal arts programs."

—Lauren Rebecca Sklaroff,
author of *Black Culture and the New Deal: The Quest for Civil Rights in the Roosevelt Era*

SARA RUTKOWSKI is associate professor of English at the City University of New York's Kingsborough Community College and author of *Literary Legacies of the Federal Writers' Project: Voices of the Depression in the American Postwar Era*.

American Studies / Literary Studies and Print Culture

264 pp., 11 illus.

\$30.95 paper, ISBN 978-1-62534-699-5

\$90.00 hardcover, ISBN 978-1-62534-700-8

Also available as an e-book

November 2022

Ragged Revolutionaries
The Lumpenproletariat and African American Marxism in Depression-Era Literature

NATHANIEL MILLS

\$27.95 paper
978-1-62534-279-9



ALSO OF INTEREST



“This book is a marvel of persistent research and the creative use of sources. McGettigan deftly and persuasively shows how the British publishing trades were intimately bound up with the American book market, shaping American authors’ understanding of their careers at every turn. *The Transatlantic Materials of American Literature* stands to become the authoritative account of the range of complex dealings between American authors and British publishers.”

—Meredith McGill, author of *American Literature and the Culture of Reprinting, 1834–1853*

The Transatlantic Materials of American Literature

Publishing U.S. Writing in Britain, 1830–1860

KATIE MCGETTIGAN

During the antebellum period, British publishers increasingly brought out their own authorized and unauthorized editions of American literary works as the popularity of print exploded and literacy rates grew. Playing a formative role in the shaping of American literature, the industry championed the work of U.S.-based writers, highlighted the cultural value of American literary works, and intervened in debates about the future of American literature, authorship, and print culture.

The Transatlantic Materials of American Literature examines the British editions of American fiction, poetry, essays, and autobiographies from writers like Edgar Allan Poe, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Frederick Douglass, and Hannah Flag Gould. Putting these publications into historical context, Katie McGettigan considers key issues of the day, including developments in copyright law, changing print technologies, and the financial considerations at play for authors and publishers. This innovative study also uncovers how the transatlantic circulation of these works exposed the racial violence and cultural nationalism at the heart of the American experiment, producing overlapping and competing visions of American nationhood in the process.

“This is a truly groundbreaking project, which has the potential to revolutionize the way Americanists understand the importance of transatlantic publishing to U.S. writers of the antebellum period.”

—Joseph Rezek, author of *London and the Making of Provincial Literature: Aesthetics and the Transatlantic Book Trade, 1800–1850*

KATIE MCGETTIGAN is senior lecturer of American literature at Royal Holloway, University of London and author of *Herman Melville: Modernity and the Material Text*.

Transnational Studies / Literary Studies and Print Culture

320 pp., 11 illus.

\$34.95 paper, ISBN 978-1-62534-685-8

\$90.00 hardcover, ISBN 978-1-62534-686-5

Also available as an e-book

February 2023



Certain Concealments

Poe, Hawthorne,
and Early Nineteenth-
Century Abortion

DANA MEDORO

\$29.95 paper

978-1-62534-647-6

Organizing Women

Home, Work, and the Institutional Infrastructure of Print in Twentieth-Century America

CHRISTINE PAWLEY

In the first decades of the twentieth century, print-centered organizations spread rapidly across the United States, providing more women than ever before with opportunities to participate in public life. While most organizations at the time were run by and for white men, women—both Black and white—were able to reshape their lives and their social worlds through their participation in these institutions.

Organizing Women traces the histories of middle-class women—rural and urban, white and Black, married and unmarried—who used public and private institutions of print to tell their stories, expand their horizons, and further their ambitions. Drawing from a diverse range of examples, Christine Pawley introduces readers to women who ran branch libraries and library schools in Chicago and Madison, built radio empires from their midwestern farms, formed reading clubs, and published newsletters. In the process, we learn about the organizations themselves, from libraries and universities to the USDA extension service and the YWCA, and the ways in which women confronted gender discrimination and racial segregation in the course of their work.

“Organizing Women succeeds impressively in achieving its goals by blending print culture and women’s history. It builds on library history, particularly the literature on public libraries, by emphasizing the role women played in the ‘infrastructure’ of print.”

—James J. Connolly, coauthor of *What Middletown Read: Print Culture in an American Small City*

CHRISTINE PAWLEY is professor emerita at the Information School at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. She is author of *Reading Places: Literacy, Democracy, and the Public Library in Cold War America*.

Gender and Women’s Studies / Literary Studies and Print Culture

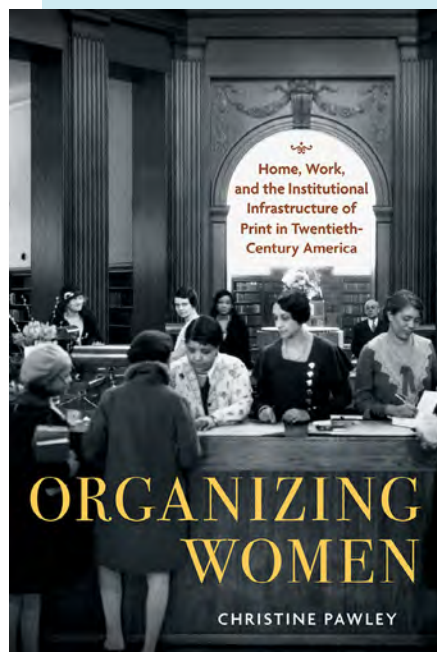
272 pp., 5 illus.

\$30.95 paper, ISBN 978-1-62534-690-2

\$90.00 hardcover, ISBN 978-1-62534-691-9

Also available as an e-book

October 2022



“This ambitious, deeply researched book shows not only the important gains pioneered by these women but also their failures and limitations. Pawley expertly and engagingly explains the evolution of libraries and librarianship, revealing how print culture, and especially library work, both stifled and empowered women.”

—Nancy C. Unger, author of *Beyond Nature’s Housekeepers: American Women in Environmental History*

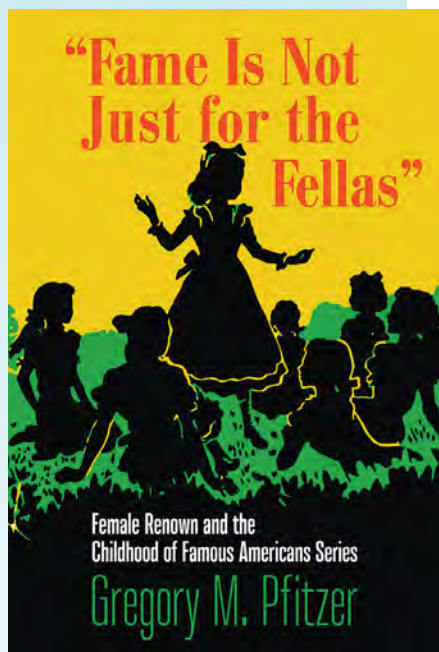
**Faraway Women
and the
“Atlantic Monthly”**

CATHRYN HALVERSON

\$27.95 paper
978-1-62534-455-7



ALSO OF INTEREST



"In our current ideological wars over history, Pfitzer's subject could not be more central to understanding our present. This beautifully written and researched text makes a valuable contribution to both the history of juvenile publishing and the construction of historic nationalism."

—Renée M. Sentilles, author of *American Tomboys, 1850–1915*

"Fame Is Not Just for the Fellas"

Female Renown and the Childhood of Famous Americans Series

GREGORY M. PFITZER

Between 1932 and 1958, thousands of children read volumes in the book series *Childhood of Famous Americans*. With colorful cover art and compelling—and often highly fictionalized—narrative storylines, these biographies celebrated the national virtues and achievements of famous women like Betsy Ross, Louisa May Alcott, and Amelia Earhart. Employing deep archival research, Gregory M. Pfitzer examines the editorial and production choices of the publisher and considers the influence of the series on readers and American culture more broadly.

In telling the story of how female subjects were chosen and what went into writing these histories for young female readers of the time, Pfitzer illustrates how these books shaped children's thinking and historical imaginations around girlhood using tales from the past. Utilizing documented conversations and disagreements among authors, editors, readers, reviewers, and sales agents at Bobbs-Merrill, *"Fame Is Not Just for the Fellas"* places the series in the context of national debates around fame, gender, historical memory, and portrayals of children and childhood for a young reading public—charged debates that continue to this day.

GREGORY M. PFITZER is professor of American studies at Skidmore College and author of *History Repeating Itself: The Republication of Children's Historical Literature and the Christian Right*.

Literary Studies and Print Culture / Gender and Women's Studies

440 pp., 12 illus.

\$32.95 paper, ISBN 978-1-62534-692-6

\$90.00 hardcover, ISBN 978-1-62534-693-3

Also available as an e-book

December 2022



Vicious Infants

Dangerous Childhoods in Antebellum U.S. Literature

LAURA SODERBERG

\$27.95 paper

978-1-62534-588-2

Making Maine

Statehood and the War of 1812

JOSHUA M. SMITH

After the Revolutionary War ended, the new American nation grappled with a question about its identity: Were the states sovereign entities or subordinates to a powerful federal government? The War of 1812 brought this vexing issue into sharp relief, as a national government intent on waging an unpopular war confronted a populace in Massachusetts that was vigorously opposed to it. Maine, which at the time was part of Massachusetts, served as the battleground in this political struggle.

Joshua M. Smith recounts an innovative history of the war, focusing on how it specifically affected what was then called the District of Maine. Drawing on archival materials from the United States, Britain, and Canada, Smith exposes the bitter experience of Maine's citizens during that conflict as they endured multiple hardships, including starvation, burdensome taxation, smuggling, treason, and enemy occupation. War's inherent miseries, along with a changing relationship between regional and national identities, gave rise to a statehood movement that rejected a Boston-centric worldview in favor of a broadly American identity.

"Based on impressive research, Smith provides a fascinating history of the bitter disputes that bedeviled the prosecution of the war in an area that shared a border with British territory but was politically subordinate to Massachusetts. *Making Maine* is a significant addition to regional accounts of the War of 1812."

—J. C. A. Stagg, author of *The War of 1812: Conflict for a Continent*

JOSHUA M. SMITH is director of the American Merchant Marine Museum.

History: Nineteenth-Century American and Civil War / Political History

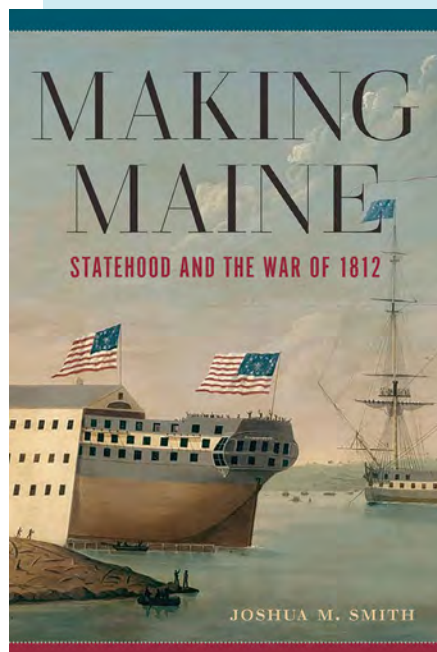
360 pp., 7 illus.

\$34.95 paper, ISBN 978-1-62534-701-5

\$90.00 hardcover, ISBN 978-1-62534-702-2

Also available as an e-book

November 2022



"*Making Maine* is a major contribution to the literature on the War of 1812, linking local and national history with scholarship on the Canadian and British experience. It will shape the historiography of the war going forward."

—Andrew Lambert, author of *The Challenge: Britain Against America in the Naval War of 1812*

Haywire

Discord in Maine's
Logging Woods and the
Unraveling of an Industry

ANDREW EGAN

\$28.95 paper
978-1-62534-663-6



ALSO OF INTEREST



"A lucid, balanced, well-researched, and vivid account of the growth and operations of Save Venice Inc., an organization that has made a major contribution to preserving the art and architecture of one of the world's most compelling and endangered cities."

—Johanna D. Heinrichs,
assistant professor in the School
of Architecture at the
University of Kentucky

Save Venice Inc.

American Philanthropy and Art Conservation in Italy, 1966–2021

CHRISTOPHER CARLSMITH

In 1966, the most destructive flood in the history of Venice temporarily submerged the city and threatened its extraordinary art and architecture. Among the organizations that mobilized to protect this fragile heritage was Save Venice Inc. Founded in Boston and now headquartered in New York City, this nonprofit has become the largest and most active committee dedicated to preserving the artistic legacy of Venice.

Christopher Carlsmith tells the fascinating story of Save Venice Inc., from its origins to its fiftieth anniversary. It continues to provide an influential model for philanthropy in the cultural sector, raising substantial funds to conserve and restore paintings, sculptures, books, mosaics, and entire buildings at risk from human and environmental impacts. Employing extensive archival research, oral interviews, and newspaper accounts, *Save Venice Inc.* explores a range of topics, including leadership, conservation projects, fundraising, and educational outreach. Using a range of methodologies from cultural history and art history, Carlsmith traces the achievements and challenges faced by this and other historic preservation organizations and by this unique city on the sea.

"Save Venice Inc. chronicles the fascinating history of this important nonprofit from the 1960s to the present, with particular attention to the social and political twists and reconciliations between the various interest groups. This is a deeply researched, engaging story that holds the reader's attention."

—Thomas D. Visser, professor and director of the Historic Preservation Program at the University of Vermont

CHRISTOPHER CARLSMITH is professor of history and department chair at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. He is author of *A Renaissance Education: Schooling in Bergamo and the Venetian Republic, 1500–1650*.

Art and Architecture / History: World and Area Studies

400 pp., 34 illus.

\$39.95 paper, ISBN 978-1-62534-675-9

\$90.00 hardcover, ISBN 978-1-62534-676-6

Also available as an e-book

September 2022

ALSO OF INTEREST



The Venice Ghetto

A Memory Space
that Travels

EDITED BY

CHIARA CAMARDA,
AMANDA K. SHARICK,
AND KATHARINE G. TROSTEL

\$28.95 paper

978-1-62534-615-5

The Spirit of Colonial Williamsburg

Ghosts and Interpreting the Recreated Past

ALENA PIROK

On any given night, hundreds of guests walk the darkened streets of Colonial Williamsburg looking for ghosts. Since the early 2000s, both the museum and private companies have facilitated these hunts, offering year-round ghost tours. Critics have called these excursions a cash grab, but in truth, ghosts and hauntings have long been at the center of the Colonial Williamsburg project.

The Spirit of Colonial Williamsburg examines how the long-dead past comes alive at this living-history museum. In the early twentieth century, local stories about the ghosts of former residents—among them Revolutionary War soldiers and nurses, tavern owners and prominent attorneys, and enslaved African Americans—helped to turn Williamsburg into a desirable site for historical restoration. But, for much of the twentieth century, the museum tried diligently to avoid any discussion of ghosts, considering them frivolous and lowbrow. Alena Pirok explores why historic sites have begun to embrace their spectral residents in recent decades, arguing that through them, patrons experience an emotional connection to place and a palpable understanding of the past through its people.

"Pirok has shown Colonial Williamsburg in an intriguing new light, demonstrating that the concept of haunting in this historical place was not a recent development but rather a long-standing arena of contestation about the cultural meaning of the place and how to interpret it."

—Tiya Miles, author of *Tales from the Haunted South: Dark Tourism and Memories of Slavery from the Civil War Era*

ALENA PIROK is assistant professor of history at Georgia Southern University.

Public History / American Studies

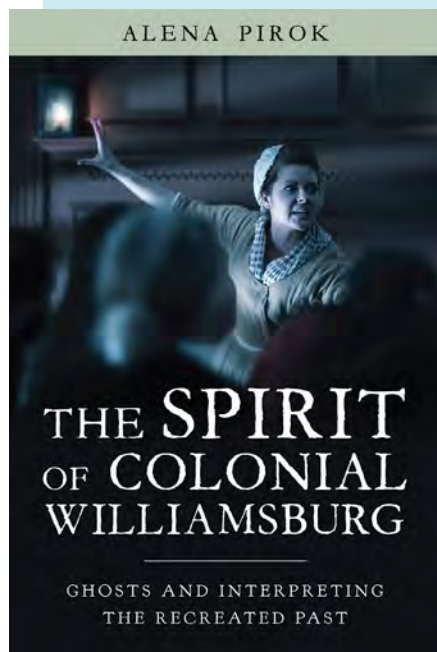
232 pp., 4 illus.

\$30.95 paper, ISBN 978-1-62534-694-0

\$90.00 hardcover, ISBN 978-1-62534-695-7

Also available as an e-book

September 2022



"The affective and imaginative aspects of history museums and historic sites have gotten new attention in recent years but are still surprisingly understudied. *The Spirit of Colonial Williamsburg* takes seriously a topic that might seem trivial or sensationalistic."

—Michelle L. McClellan, author of *Lady Lushes: Gender, Alcoholism, and Medicine in Modern America*

A Cultural Arsenal for Democracy

The World War II Work of US Museums

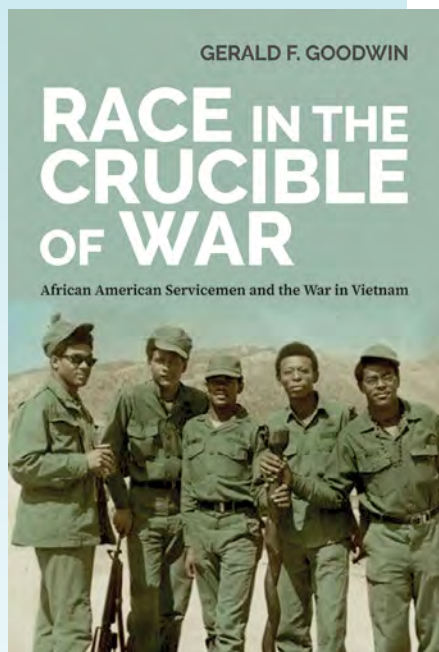
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Bob Dylan in the Attic

The Artist as Historian

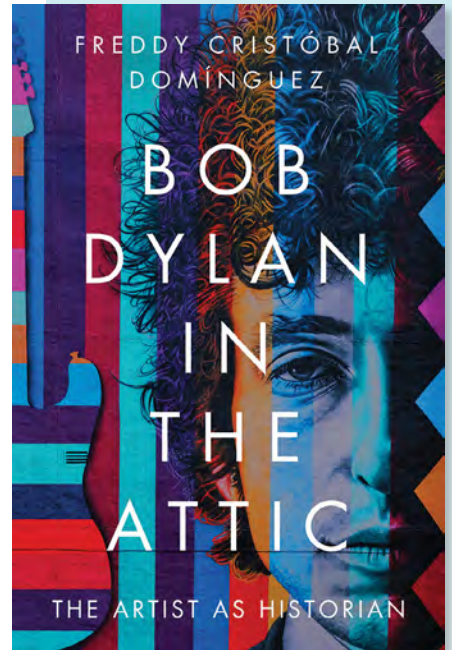
FREDDY CRISTÓBAL DOMÍNGUEZ

Bob Dylan is an iconic American artist, whose music and performances have long reflected different musical genres and time periods. His songs tell tales of the Civil War, harken back to 1930s labor struggles, and address racial violence at the height of the civil rights movement, helping listeners to think about history, and history making, in new ways. While Dylan was warned by his early mentor, Dave Van Ronk, that, “You’re just going to be a history book writer if you do those things. An anachronism,” the musician has continued to traffic in history and engage with a range of source material—ancient and modern—over the course of his career.

In this beautifully crafted book, Freddy Cristóbal Domínguez makes a provocative case for Dylan as a historian, offering a deep consideration of the musician’s historical influences and practices. Utilizing interviews, speeches, and the close analysis of lyrics and live performances, *Bob Dylan in the Attic* is the first book to consider Dylan’s work from the point of view of historiography.

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FREDDY CRISTÓBAL DOMÍNGUEZ is associate professor of history at the University of Arkansas and author of *Radicals in Exile: English Catholic Books During the Reign of Philip II*.

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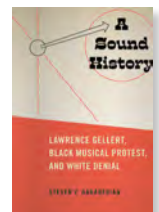
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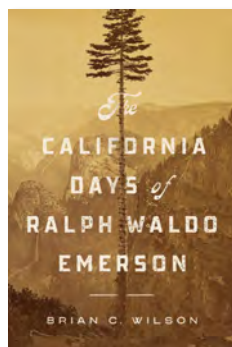


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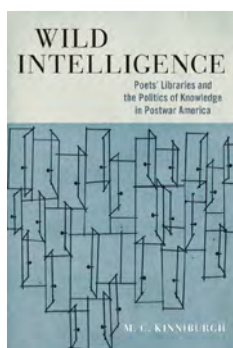
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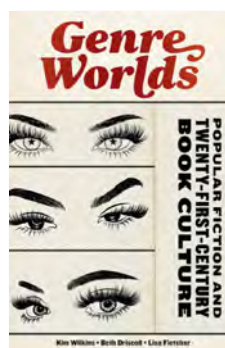


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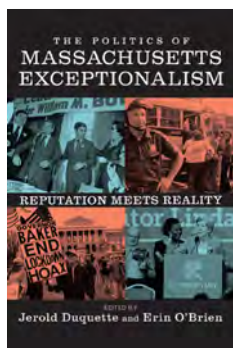
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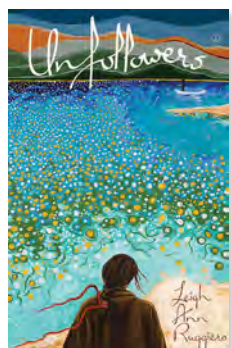


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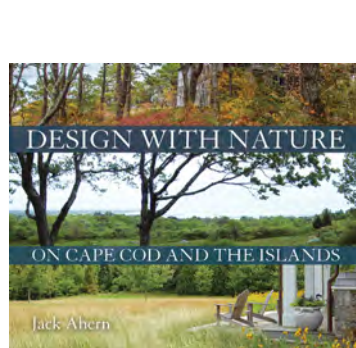


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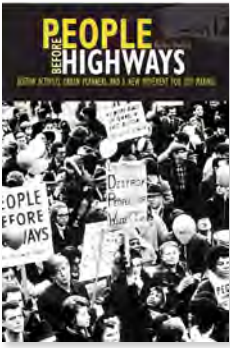
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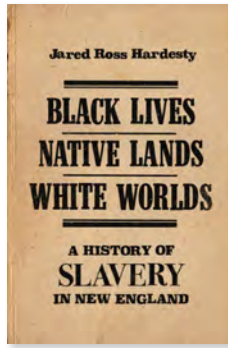
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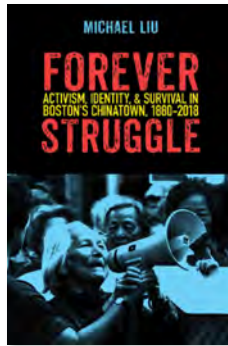
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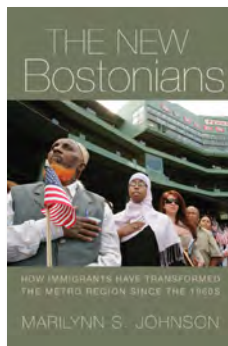
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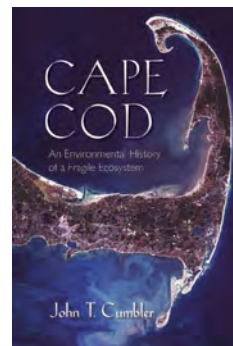
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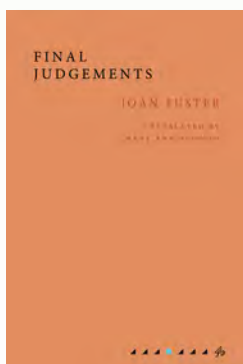
ANNA PUNSODA

TRANSLATED BY MARA FAYE LETHEM

In her novel, *Other People's Beds*, Anna Punsoda shines a light onto the darkest corners of the soul with clean, sharp prose that is punchy, devastating, and tender at the same time. Beautifully highlighting her protagonist's body, a body that has been carved out of stone by her father's alcoholism and her mother's frustrated apathy, Punsoda weaves a story that is as shocking and sad as it is funny and liberating. Claustre's stolen innocence leads to her to losing herself in other people's beds. This powerful debut is written with such ease and fluidity that Punsoda is most definitely a writer to watch.

ANNA PUNSODA is a writer and journalist. Writing for numerous newspapers and magazines, she has been editor for *Dialogal* magazine since 2020. She won the Roc Boronat Premi for *Other People's Beds*.

Born in New York, **MARA FAYE LETHEM** is a writer and literary translator from Catalan and Spanish. She has translated many different titles into English, and her work has appeared in numerous publications.



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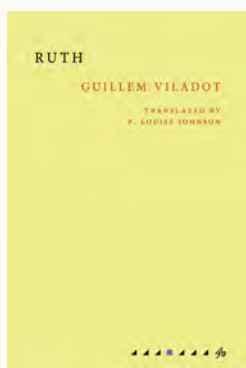
JOAN FUSTER

TRANSLATED BY MARY ANN NEWMAN

Using the aphoristic tradition, less to establish truths than to undermine them, Joan Fuster questions the conceits contained in conventional wisdom. *Final Judgements* is a book of aphorisms that reveal moral and philosophical truths that are relevant to the universal human experience. Despite the seriousness of its subject matter, this book is laugh-out-loud funny, revealing that the best aphorisms strip language of its artifice and highlight its contradictions. The cumulative effect is a quintessentially Mediterranean kind of playfulness. Written between 1950 and 1960, this volume shows us Fuster at the pinnacle of his talent.

JOAN FUSTER (1922–1992) is one of the most prolific and important essayists in the Catalan language. Fiercely against the Franco regime, he published over seventy books and wrote for newspapers, magazines, and literary journals.

MARY ANN NEWMAN is an award-winning translator from Catalan and Spanish and has published works by Quim Monzó, Xavier Rubert de Ventós, and Josep Carner. Her most recent translation is *Private Life* by Josep Maria de Sagarra.



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Ruth

GUILLEM VILADOT

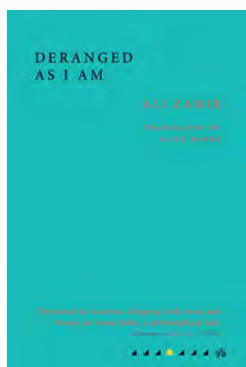
TRANSLATED BY P. LOUISE JOHNSON

How does someone experience things from the viewpoint of the other sex? It is this question that has led to Guillem Viladot's creation of *Ruth*, the genre-defining story of a sex change told by the protagonist through a series of letters to an anonymous friend. Demonstrating the sentimental and intellectual intimacy of a man transitioning into a woman, *Ruth* describes a profound, touching process in which frustrations, ideas of liberty, and changes of identity are interwoven.

Without descending into easy morbidity or sensationalism, Viladot expresses his indignation at the limitations of both masculine and feminine sensibilities, while championing diversity of thought, love, liberty, and, most importantly, desire.

Poet, novelist, essayist, and artist, **GUILLEM VILADOT** is one of Catalonia's most prolific and varied writers. A proponent of visual poetry, he founded Lo Parda in his native Agramunt in the 1990s.

P. LOUISE JOHNSON has taught Catalan literature at the University of Sheffield since 1996 and has published widely on Viladot. She is translator of *Andrea Victrix*.



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Deranged As I Am

ALI ZAMIR

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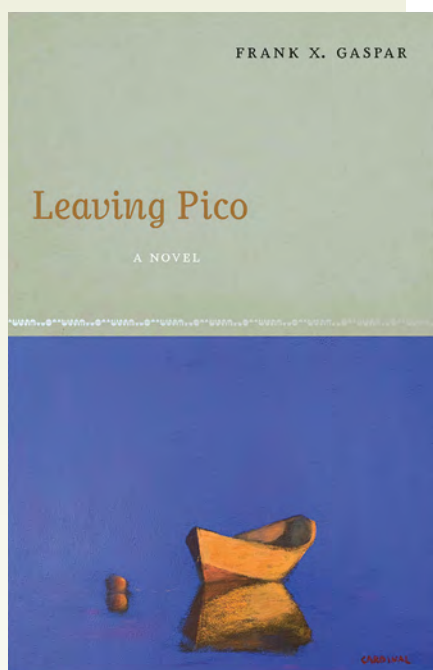
Set on the island of Anjouan, Comoros, *Deranged As I Am* follows the story of a humble dock worker. With his ramshackle cart and patched-up clothes, he spends his days trying to find enough work to feed himself. This whirlwind of a novel takes place over just a few days, yet Ali Zamir's poetic and energetic prose transports readers to the docks, its noises, colors, and smells. This lively and often darkly humorous story does not draw away from the more serious themes of class, poverty, and exploitation that Zamir explores. A rich and significant text that questions literature and language itself, *Deranged As I Am* confirms the very original place that Zamir occupies in French literature.

ALI ZAMIR was born in Anjouan, Comoros, and currently lives in Montpellier, France. *Deranged As I Am* is his third novel and winner of the 2019 Prix Roman France Télévisions.

ALICE BANKS is a translator from French and Spanish into English, based in Madrid. When she is not translating, Banks also writes on French and Spanish literature for various publications.

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FRANK X. GASPAR was born and raised in Provincetown, Massachusetts. The author of five collections of poetry and two novels, *Leaving Pico* was a Barnes and Noble Discovery Prize winner, a recipient of the California Book Award for First Fiction, and a *New York Times* Notable Book.

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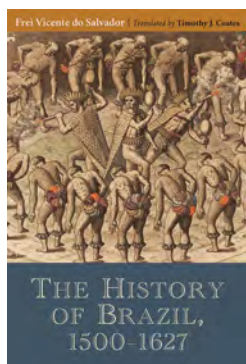
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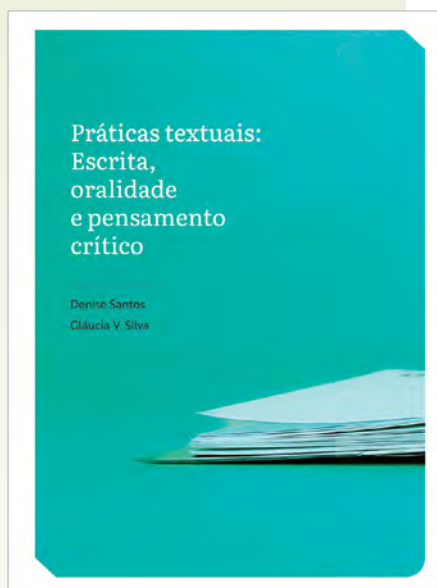
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TIMOTHY J. COATES is professor emeritus of history at the College of Charleston. The author of several books on the history of Portugal and its former empire, Coates is also the translator of *Brazil at the Dawn of the Eighteenth Century* and *Dialog of a Veteran Soldier*.

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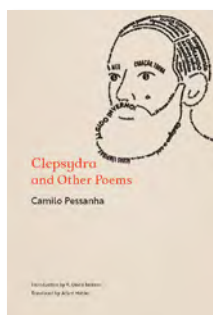


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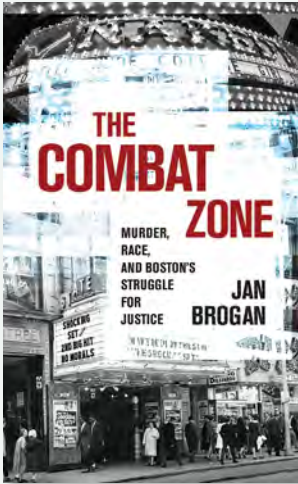
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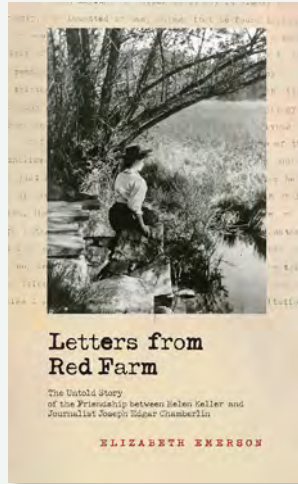
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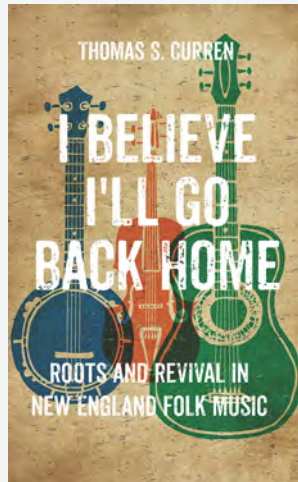
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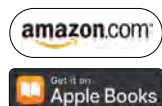
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