Inventing New England Regional Tourism In The Nineteenth Century

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England's culinary myths and reality through some of the region's most famous foods: baked beans, brown bread, clams, cod and lobster, maple syrup, the Northeastern farm table, and more. Dona Brown describes as the most important American landscape painting of the nineteenth century.

Amateur Movie Making

Amateur Movie Making demonstrates how amateur films and home movies stand as testaments to the creative lives of ordinary people, enriching our experience of art and the everyday. Here we encounter the lyrical and visually expressive qualities of films produced in New England. The museum's collection of amateur film—organized by filmmaker and historian Peter C. C. Stommel—contains more than 3,000 films, including home movies and newsreels that can be linked to the development of early American cinema and its heyday.

The View from Vermont Blake A. Harrison 2006 With its small native population, proximity to major metropolitan areas, and bucolic rural beauty, Vermont was fated to be a tourist mecca, forever associated in the popular imagination with maple syrup, fall colors, and ski resorts. Tourists began visiting Vermont in the late 1870s, sparked by a promotional effort of the Vermont State Horticultural Society. The View from Vermont looks at the region's development as a tourist destination, and at how this development has shaped the region's identity and culture.

The Transformation of the American Landscape, 1835-1874

The Transformation of the American Landscape, 1835-1874 recovers the central role that the picturesque, a popular mode of scenery appreciation, had in creating and manipulating natural landscapes. Using a rich array of visual and textual sources, the authors explore how the picturesque in the United States translated into the American landscape.

The Fugitive Slave Law, the Pure Food and Drug Act); social movements (Suffrage, Civil Rights); influential books (The Jungle, Uncle Tom's Cabin, Wounded Knee, the Vietnam War); major Supreme Court decisions (Marbury v. Madison, Roe v. Wade); landmark legislation (the Civil Rights Act, the Voting Rights Act); and other important developments.

The Editors of the Encyclopedia of the American Past, architectural historian Richard Guy Wilson and a host of other scholars examine how and why Colonial Revival architecture has been so important to the nation's identity. The editors explore the origins of the Colonial Revival, its development over time, and its impact on American culture and society.

The Truth about Baked Beans

The Truth about Baked Beans delves into the surprising history of this curious cuisine, explaining why and how "New England food" came to be viewed as "English" and how this perception has influenced the way we think about food and culture in New England. From colonial times to the present day, the book traces the evolution of baked beans and other iconic New England dishes, exploring the cultural and historical factors that have shaped their popularity.
Indian summer, the succession of warm, fair days gracing New England in autumn, is at once a flourishing period signaling the end of fall, a meteorological event, a vernacular cultural construction, and a literary metaphor. In this appealing and elegant book, Sweeting plumbs Indian summer’s use in literature as a symbol of second chance, rebirth, or reprieve before the onset of a harsher season. Well researched and charmingly written, Beneath the Second Sun is the first book to systematically treat the history and uses of Indian summer imagery in American life. The author focuses on the ways in which New Englanders have embraced the season, and he places the celebration of the season’s beauty and its melancholy qualities within the context of Anglo-Native American relations. Sweeting does not try to locate the original definition of Indian summer, rather he explores the far more interesting ways in which the season has been imagined and described in American culture. Popular authors including Philip Freneau, Susan Cooper, Lydia Sigourney, John Greenleaf Whittier, Francis Parkman Oliver, Wendell Holme, and, especially, Henry David Thoreau, Emily Dickinson, and William Dean Howells freely employ Indian summer imagery in their works. In the context of modern American Studies, Sweeting’s study is part of a “post-modern” scholarly discussion of how tangible realities such as climate are mediated, even forged, by social needs. Sweeting further investigates the imaginative, early-nineteenth-century “invention” of New England regional identity and integrates traditional American Studies literary and historical concerns with a contemporary interest in the environment and sense of place. Sweeting’s graceful, lively, and accessible style beckons not only scholars of American literature and the nineteenth century but any traveler seeking the glories of autumn.

New England’s Crises and Cultural Memory

In this magisterial study, John McWilliams traces the development of New England’s influential cultural identity. Through written responses to historical crises from early New England through the pre-Civil War period, McWilliams argues that the meaning of ‘New England’ despite claims for its consistency was continuously reformulated. The significance of past crises was forever being reinterpreted for the purpose of meeting succeeding crises. The crises he examines include starvation, the Indian wars, the Salem witch trials, the revolution of 1775–76 and slavery. Integrating history, literature, politics and religion this is one of the most comprehensive studies of the meaning of ‘New England’ to appear in print. McWilliams considers a range of writing including George Bancroft’s History of the United States, the political essays of Samuel Adams, the fiction of Nathaniel Hawthorne and the poetry of Robert Lowell. This compelling book is essential reading for historians and literary critics of New England.

Beneath the Second Sun

Adam W. Sweeting 2003

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Yankees in the Indian Ocean

Jane Hooper 2003

Jonathan S. Lark 2004

Yankees in the Indian Ocean: Inventing New England Regional Tourism in the Nineteenth Century

Neil Harris 1999

Jane Hooper 2022

The history of US imperialism remains incomplete without this consideration of long-overlooked nineteenth-century American commercial and whaling ventures in the Indian Ocean. Yankees in the Indian Ocean shows how nineteenth-century American merchant and whaler activity in the Indian Ocean shaped the imperial future of the United States, influenced the region’s commerce, encouraged illegal slaving, and contributed to environmental degradation. For a brief time, Americans outnumbered other Western visitors to Mauritius, Madagascar, Zanzibar, and the East African littoral. In a relentless search for commodities and provisions, American whaleships landed at islands throughout the ocean and stripped them of resources. Yet Americans failed to develop a permanent foothold in the region and operated instead from a position of weakness relative to other major colonizing powers, thus discouraging the development of American imperial holdings there. The history of American concerns in the Indian Ocean world remains largely unwritten. Scholars who focus on the region have mostly ignored American involvement, despite arguments for the ocean’s importance in powering global connections during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Historians of the United States likewise have failed to examine the western Indian Ocean because of a preoccupation with US interests in Asia and the Pacific. Failing to understand the scale of American trade in the Indian Ocean has led to a fixation on European commercial struggle to the exclusion of other maritime networks. Instead, this book reveals how the people of Madagascar and East Africa helped the United States briefly dominate commerce and whaling. This book investigates how and why Americans were drawn to the western Indian Ocean years before the United States established a formal overseas empire in the late nineteenth century. Ship logs, sailor journals, and travel narratives reveal how American men transformed foreign land- and seascapes into knowable spaces that confirmed American conceptions of people and natural resources; these sources also provide insight into the complex social and ecological worlds of the Indian Ocean during this critical time.

Building Zves Neil Harris 1999-01-01 Drawing on sources including Masonic manuals, tourist guidebooks and religious texts, this illustrated study explores the rites of building passage over the past 150 years. The author suggests that architecture is a performing art as well as a fine art.