NEHA NEWS  
The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association  

VOL XXXII  NO. 2  FALL ISSUE  OCTOBER 2006

FALL CONFERENCE AT UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS-DARTMOUTH

Saturday, October 14, 2006  
SECOND CALL

The 77th meeting of the Association will be held on October 14 at the University of Massachusetts in Dartmouth (508-999-8305). The program is listed on pages 3-6 of this issue and was mailed earlier to all members along with registration, motel and travel instructions.

Vice-President Luci Fortunato (Bridgewater State College) arranged this fine program. Gerald Koot and the UMass-Dartmouth History Department made local arrangements with the splendid assistance of Executive Secretary James P. Hanlan. This is our first meeting at UMass-Dartmouth and it should be a popular location. We are very grateful for their hospitable efforts on our behalf. Please see our web pages for other details:  
http://www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEHA.

The Fall conference begins with registration and continental breakfast on Saturday at 8:00 A.M. in the College of Visual and Performing Arts Building lobby. Members are invited to bring copies of their own recent publications as well as timely professional literature for display or distribution at the book exhibit.

Please note that registration fee payment is required for everyone on the program (panelists, chairs and commentators) and all who attend the conference. Pre-registration by mail prior to October 1 is strongly recommended, but registration at the conference is possible. Please feel free to photocopy the conference registration form on the back page when inviting colleagues, graduate students and friends.

Luncheon will be served in Woodlands Commons on Saturday at 12:15, but seating is limited. Please reserve your place at lunch when you register by mail. Even if you do not join us in Kingston, please use this form to pay your 2006 membership dues. Lunch will be followed by presentation of the NEHA Book Award and the introduction of the new Association officers.
OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS

The Association suggests that members make motel reservations by phone and early because this will be a busy weekend. Ask for a NEHA discount rate when you phone for a reservation by October 1. We recommend the Comfort Inn in North Dartmouth (508-996-0800) for $85.00, and the Quality Inn in Somerset (508-678-4545).

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Driving from Boston and points North: take I-93/Route 128 South to Exit 12 then Route 140 South to Exit 2, Route (-195 west to Exit 12A. Continue as below.

Driving from Providence: take I-195 West through Fall River to Exit 12 and continue as below.

From Cape Cod and points East: follow Route 195 West through New Bedford to Exit 12A. Continue from Exit 12 or 12A to the UMass Dartmouth campus. Take a right off the exit onto Faunce Center Road. Proceed south traveling across Route 6 onto Old Westport Road. At the fork, bear right staying on Old Westport Road. The campus is one mile on the left. Follow the signs to visitor parking.

ADVANCE NOTICE

The Spring meeting will be held at Southern New Hampshire State University in Manchester on May 5, 2007. Vice-President Luci Fortunato (Bridgewater State College) will organize the program. The deadline for submitting proposals (one-page abstract and a brief C.V.) is January 15, 2007. For information about the program or submissions, contact the program chair, Luci Fortunato, NEHA, Bridgewater State College, History Department, Bridgewater, MA 00000; fortunato@bridgew.edu

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

George Branigan, Stonehill College
Jacqueline Carr, University of Vermont
Janet Greenlees, University of Manchester, U.K.
Eric Kimball, University of Pittsburgh
Rob Lawson, Dean College
Maggie Lowe, Bridgewater State College
Kate Martin, Boston University
Brian Regal, TCI College of Technology
Cornelia Sexauer, University of Wisconsin
Douglas Slaybaugh, St. Michael's College
Bethany Tanis, Boston College
SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 14, 2006  
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, DARTMOUTH  
DARTMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS  

FALL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Registration and Continental Breakfast: 8:00-8:30 a.m. – Lobby, College of Visual and Performing Arts Building

ALL SESSIONS IN THE COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS BUILDING

FIRST MORNING SESSIONS: 8:30-10:00:

8:30 Session 1: Transcendental and Victorian New England: Literature, Landscape and Art – Room 101
Chair and commentator: Joshua Greenberg, Bridgewater State College
1. Louis Mazzari, Fatih University, Istanbul, Turkey: “A Collision of Everything: Emerson’s Significant Relationship with his Aunt, Mary Moody”
2. Dale E. Potts, University of Maine, Orono: “‘Woods enough still;’ The Transformation of Henry David Thoreau’s Recreational Landscape in Popular Tourist Literature of Maine in the Late-Nineteenth Century”

8:30 Session 2: The Adventurers Who Would Be King and Prophet: American Visions for Reordering Turkey, Iran and Afghanistan, 1830-1850 – Room 103
Chair and commentator: Len Travers, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth
1. Brian G. Williams, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth: “Josiah Harlan, a Pennsylvania Quaker in Afghanistan: Parallels between Harlan’s Experiences and Current American Objectives in Post-Taliban Afghanistan”
2. Steven J. Baden, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth: “The Activist Eschatology of Massachusetts Native, Rev. Justin Perkins, Deputized Missionary of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions to Persia”
3. Cemal Yetkiker, CUNY: “A.B.C.F.M. Missionary Rev. William Goodell’s Efforts to Convert Muslim Turks and Armenians of the Ottoman Empire, the Effects of His Efforts in Shaping Ottoman Policies in Asia Minor, and on U.S. Perceptions of Ottoman Treatment of the Armenians”
8:30 Session 3: A “Burden” and a “Nuisance” to the Nation: African Americans and the American Colonization Society’s Liberia Project – Room 105
Chair and commentator: Kevin R. Gutzman, Western Connecticut State University
1. Eddie Wong, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey: “National Affect, African Colonization, and Local Histories of Antebellum Black St. Louis”
2. Ousamane K. Power-Greene, University of Massachusetts, Amherst: “Too Long Have Others Spoken for Us: African Americans, the American Colonization Society, and the Public Sphere”

8:30 Session 4: A Quaker and a Second Adventist’s Narrative Told Against the Backdrop of the Second Great Awakening – Room 107
Chair and commentator: Joan Pope Melish, University of Kentucky, Lexington
2. Elaine Gompers Parmett, University of Massachusetts, Amherst: “Turning Darkness to Light: The Religious Struggles of Father Silas Lamson—Inventor, Preacher and Social Reformer of the Nineteenth Century”

8:30 Session 5: Civil Rights and Minority Education in the Twentieth Century – Room 156
Chair and commentator: Valerie Cunningham, University of New Hampshire
1. Jill Ongle, University of Massachusetts, Amherst: “Education in Black and White: Alternatives to Public Schools in Prince Edward County, Virginia, 1959-1961”
2. Steve Amerman, Southern Connecticut State University: “Urban Public Schools and Ethnic Assimilation: A Late-Twentieth Century Native American Perspective”

10:00-10:30: Break for Book Exhibit & Refreshments Lobby, College of Visual and Performing Arts

SECOND MORNING SESSIONS: 10:30-12:00:

10:30 Session 6: Conflict, Assimilation and Transition in three New England Communities – Room 101
Chair and commentator: Gerard Koot, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth
2. Glenn Gordinier, Munson Institute, Mystic Seaport, Connecticut: “Change and Continuity: Two Hundred and Fifty Years of Commercial Fishing Out of Stonington, Connecticut”
3. Cristina Mehrten, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth: “Illegal Dreams: Brazilian Immigrant Women in the New Bedford Region”

10:30 Session 7: 1956 Fifty Years Later: Lessons, Losses, Legacies – Room 103
Roundtable leader: Rudolph Binion, Brandeis University
1. Rudolph Binion, Brandeis University: “Guilt in Europe: 1956”
3. Richard Murphy, Emmanuel College: “America 1956: The Organization Man Howls”
10:30  Session 8: Slaves, Writers, Prostitutes and Mathematicians: Finding History in People (biography, autobiography and memoir) – Room 105
Chair and commentator: Patricia Herlihy, Brown University
1. Mary Jo Foley, Independent Scholar/Rhode Island Skills Commission: “Family Skeletons: Memoir and History”
2. Jane Lancaster, Pembroke Center, Brown University: “The Life of a Myth: Writing Biography without Sources”

10:30  Session 9: Immigrant Labor in Rhode Island and Massachusetts, 1780-1920 – Room 107
Chair and commentator: Marc Stern, Bentley College
1. Gail Fowler Mohanty, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth: “‘Keep Idle/Odd Hours’: The Impact of Early Textile Mechanization on Handloom Weaving and Weavers in Rhode Island Prior to 1800”
3. Paula Noversa Rioux, University of New Hampshire: “How can we be both Portuguese and American at the same time?”

10:30  Session 10: Philosophical Medical Discourse, Law and Immigrant Society in the Progressive Era – Room 156
Chair and commentator: George Dameron, St. Michael’s College, Vermont

12:15-1:30   LUNCHEON & BUSINESS MEETING: Woodlands Common

1:30-3:00: AFTERNOON SESSIONS

1:30  Session 11: Visions of Slavery and Freedom in the Middle and High School Classroom: A Panel Discussion on Teaching Local History – Room 101
Session Leader: Laurie Robertson-Lorant, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth Panelists:
1. Joan Beaubian, New Bedford Historical Society
2. Lee Blake, South Coast Educational Compact & New Bedford Historical Society
3. Carl Cruz, Independent Scholar
4. Anne Taylor Kirschmann, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth
5. Len Travers, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth

1:30  Session 12: Providence Reform School 1850-1880: Rediscovering and Revisiting the Records – Room 103
Chair and Commentator: Margaret Lowe, Bridgewater State College
1. George Branigan, Stonehill College: “Unearthing Buried Records: Social Archaeology as Historical Reconstruction”
2. Joanna Channell, Stonehill College, research assistant: “Pink in a Providence Patriarchy: Rehabilitation in a Co-Educational Context”


4. Kayla O’Malley, Stonehill College, research assistant: “Home is Where the Heart Aches: Family Instability and the Family Model of Rehabilitation”

1:30 Session 13: Adventurous Nineteenth-Century Women of Purpose – Room 105
Chair and Commentator: Luci Fortunato, Bridgewater State College
2. Robert J. Robertson, Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas: “Louisa Catherine Adams Kuhn, Florentine Adventures, 1859-1860”

1:30 Session 14: Wartime: The Civil War and World War II: Interpretations and Experiences – Room 107
Chair and Commentator: Thomas Turner, Bridgewater State College
1. William P. Leeman, Providence College: George Bancroft’s Civil War: Abraham Lincoln and the Union through the Eyes of America’s Historian
3. Maura Bridget Delaney, Lesley University, Cambridge, Massachusetts: “Medals Never Worn: Honoring a World War II Soldier Posthumously”

1:30 Session 15: Gender and Ethnicity in Eighteenth and Nineteenth-Century Boston – Room 156
Chair and Commentator: Jean Stonehouse, Bridgewater State College
2. Brooke Barbier, Boston College: “We meet for the improvement of the mind and not for amusement: The Boston Gleaning Circle and the Gendering of the Early Nineteenth-Century Public Sphere”

3:00 Adjournment

3:15 Executive Committee Meeting
REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee announced the following candidates were elected by the ballot on April 22:

President: George Dameron (St. Michael's College)
Vice-President: Luci Fortunato (Bridgewater State College)
Secretary: Peter C. Holloran (Worcester State College)

Executive Committee:
  Ronald Dufour (Rhode Island College)
  Cynthia Van Zandt (University of New Hampshire)

Nominating Committee:
  Sean Perrone (Saint Anselm's College)
  Gayle V. Fischer (Salem State College)

We congratulate those candidates elected and those nominated and thank those who made nominations. Any member may nominate himself, herself, or another member for election to any Association office by writing to the Executive Secretary. All dues-paying members are eligible to vote by mail or in person at the annual business meeting in April. Self-nominations are encouraged. Write-in candidates are permitted for any position on the slate. Those members interested in serving on the Executive Committee, Nominating Committee, NEHA Prize Committee, or NEHA Book Award Committee should contact the Executive Secretary.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee met at Bridgewater State College at the conclusion of the April 22 meeting. The next meeting will at the end of the Fall conference on October 14. The December 2 meeting agenda will include reports on the treasury, membership, Nominating Committee, selection of future meeting sites, programs, website, newsletter, NEHA Book Award, NEHA Prize, planning the Spring conference, as well as NEHA panels at the AHA and OAH. Association members may submit a question or agenda item for the next Executive Committee meeting by writing to the Executive Secretary.

THE NEHA PRIZE

At the April meeting, we did not present the annual NEHA Prize for the most outstanding paper presented at a recent conference but we will do so on October 14. The winner is Eric Kimball (University of Pittsburgh) for his outstanding paper Measuring Portsmouth's Atlantic Trade, 1768-1775 which was presented at our April 2006 meeting.
Each session chair may nominate one paper for this prize and a committee of three members appointed by the president judges all nominations. The criteria are scholarship, presentation and originality. This year the committee members are; Ross W. Beales, Jr. (College of the Holy Cross), chair; Anni P. Baker (Wheaton College); and Daniel Williamson (University of Hartford). The prize is intended to encourage and recognize outstanding research papers by graduate students at our conferences. Session chairs are invited to recommend papers presented by a graduate student at the Spring or Fall meetings. Contact the Executive Secretary for details.

jphanlan@wpi.edu by June 1, 2007. Monographs on any historical topic, time or place published in 2006, written by an author who lives or works in New England (or has done so in the past two years), are eligible for the annual NEHA Book Award presented at the October 2007 conference. The nominated book should represent the best historical writing and scholarship in any era or field of history. The award certificate and $200.00 stipend are presented to the winner at the conference each Fall.

The members of the NEHA Book Award Committee for 2006 are: Sean T. Perrone, chair (Saint Anselm College); Susan Ouellette (St. Michael’s College); Charles Lansing (University of Connecticut); Kathryn Tomasek (Wheaton College); and Michael Nolan (Western Connecticut State University).

CONFERECE REPORT

The 77th meeting of the Association at Bridgewater State College on April 22 was well attended with 100 historians registered for 16 sessions with 43 papers. We were pleased to hear from twelve of our former Association presidents at an afternoon session on the occasion of the Association’s 40th anniversary. At lunch Bridgewater State College president Dana Mohler-Faria greeted us with some remarks followed by the election and a brief business meeting.

This meeting was made possible by the splendid efforts on our behalf by the program chair, Vice-President George Dameron (St. Michael’s College), Executive Secretary James P. Hanlan (Worcester Polytechnic Institute), and a very cooperative local arrangements committee headed by Luci Fortunato.
NEWS OF THE PROFESSION

Brooke L. Blower (Princeton University) was appointed assistant professor of American history at Boston University.

Rosa E. Carrasquillo (Assumption College) was appointed assistant professor of Latin American history at the College of the Holy Cross.

Ariane Chernock (University of California, Berkeley) was appointed assistant professor of British history at Boston University.

Aldo Vladimir Garcia Guevara (University of Texas at Austin) was appointed assistant professor of Latin American history at Worcester State College.

John B. Hench has retired after working as director of the American Antiquarian Society since 1973.

Joseph M. McCarthy (Suffolk University) has retired and is now professor emeritus.

Eugenio Menegon (Boston University) was awarded an An Wang Post-Doctoral Fellowship at Harvard's Fairbank Center for East Asian Research.

Fritz Ringer, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of the Humanities at the University of Pittsburgh, passed away on February 3. He taught German history at Boston University from 1970 to 1984.

Raymond H. Robinson (Northeastern University) received an honorary degree in May after teaching history for 50 years at Northeastern.

Daniel Boone Schirmer, best known for his book Republic or Empire: American Resistance to the Philippine War (1972) and as a leader of the “Bay State Reds” in 1957, died in Cambridge on April 21.

Julian Zelizer (Boston University) was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship to research “National Security Politics from the Cold War to the war on Terrorism”.

BOOK NEWS

Houchang Chehabi (Boston University) published Distant Relations: Iran and Lebanon in the Last 500 Years (I. B. Taurus Press).


Cathal Nolan (Boston University) published The Age of Wars of Religion, 1000-1650, the first two of ten volumes of the Encyclopedia of Global Warfare and Civilization (Greenwood Press).

Beth A. Salerno (St. Anselm's College) published *Sister Societies: Women's Antislavery Organizations in Antebellum America* (Northern Illinois University Press).

James Edward Smethurst (University of Massachusetts, Amherst) published *The Black Arts Movement: Literary Nationalism in the 1960s and 1970s* (University of North Carolina Press) which won the OAH Avery O. Craven Award.

The North East American Society for 18th Century Studies holds its 2006 conference on November 9-12 at Salem State College. Contact the program chair: Elizabeth Blood, Salem State College, Salem, MA 00000; eblood@saalemstate.edu

The New England American Studies Association (NEASA) holds its annual conference at the University of Southern Maine in Portland on September 15-16, 2006 on the theme *Homeland Security: Race and Citizenship in the U. S.* For information email renee.bergland@simmons.edu or see the NEASA website: www.neasa.org

The North American Victorian Studies Association (NAVSA) holds its third annual conference at the University of Virginia on September 30-October 2, 2005. For information, contact Harold Tucker, Department of English, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22904-4121; tucker@virginia.edu or see the website www.navsa2005.org

The Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association (NEPCA) holds its 28th annual conference at Rivier College in Nashua, New Hampshire on October 27-28, 2006. Contact the NEPCA program chair, Martin Menke, Rivier College, Department of History, Nashua, NH 00000; mmenke@rivier.edu. For more information, see the NEPCA website: www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEPCA.html. The 2007 NEPCA conference will be at Clark University in Worcester on October 26-27.

**CALLS FOR CONFERENCE PAPERS**

Salve Regina University hosts the 10th annual Conference on Cultural and Historic Preservation on September 14-16, 2006.
The theme is *Ritual Spaces and Places: Memory and Commemoration in 19th Century America*. Contact Catherine W. Zipf, Salve Regina University, 100 Ochre Point Avenue, Newport, RI 02840; (401) 341-3205; Catherine.Zipf@salve.edu or see the website: www.salve.edu/chp2006/

SHEAR, the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, holds its 29th annual conference at the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester in July, 2007. Contact Catherine Kelly, SHEAR Program Committee, University of Oklahoma, Department of History, Norman, OK 73019; cathy.kelly@ou.edu by December 5. The 2008 SHEAR conference will meet in Philadelphia in July.

The **American Conference for Irish Studies** (ACIS) holds its annual conference at the University of Missouri in St. Louis on April 19-22, 2006 on the theme *Old Age Pipers to New Age Punters*. Proposals may be submitted to Eamonn Wall, Center for International Studies, University of Missouri, St. Louis, MO 63121 (email: walle@umsl.edu) by November 15.

The 2007 [Popular Culture/American Culture Association](http://www.popularculture.org) national conference will meet on April 4-7 in Boston. For information about the program, contact Michael Schoenecke, PCA/ACA Secretary-Treasurer, Box 43901, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX 79409-3091; MKSchoene@aol.com or www.popularculture.org

**CONFERENCES MEETING ABROAD**

The **European Society for Environmental History Fourth Conference** meets on June 5-9, 2007 in Amsterdam. For more information, contact the ESEH website at www.let.vu.nl/conference/esrh/index.html

The American Studies Association and the Japanese Association for American Studies invite proposals on the themes *Migrating Cultures and Whose America in American Studies* for the annual June 2007 JAAS meeting. Two delegates will be selected and provided with funding or a two week visit to Japan. For more information email asa-jaas@covad.net

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**AUTHORS WANTED**

The [Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association](http://www.popularculture.org) (NEPCA) offers its annual book award for the best book on any American culture or pop culture topic published in 2006 by an author in New England or New York. Publishers may nominate one book by June 1, 2007. The award certificate and $200 prize will be presented to the winner in October 2007 at the annual NEPCA conference. Contact the NEPCA Executive Secretary: Robert E. Weir, NEPCA, 15 Woods Road, Florence, MA 01062; weir.r@comcast.net

The [National Council on Public History](http://www.ncph.org) offers an annual award for the best book published on public history in the past two years. Contact David Vanderstel, NCPh Executive Director, 425 University Blvd., Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis, IN 46202; dvanders@iuu.edu or ncph@iuu.edu

*The Historian*, the quarterly journal of Phi
Alpha Theta History Honor Society solicits
the submission of article-length manuscripts
dealing with all areas and all era.
Submissions should be of interest to a wide
readership not only in North American and
European history, but also in Asian, African,
Australian and Latin American history.
Contact David R. Carr, Editor, *The
Historian*, University of South Florida, 4202
East Fowler Avenue, Tampa, FL 33620-
8100; carr@stpt.usf.edu or see the website:
www.blackwellpublishing.com/hisn

The Society for History in the Federal
Government offers the Henry Adams and
George Pendleton Book Awards, two annual
awards for the best books published in 2006.
Also eight awards are offered that recognize
and encourage excellence in the study of the
history of the U.S. government. For more
information contact launiurs@si.edu or see
the website www.shfg.org/tawards.html

The *Journal of American Culture*, a
scholarly quarterly published by the
American Culture Association since 1975,
seeks contributions (articles, book reviews
and essays). For more information, contact
the editor: Kathy Merlock Jackson, Virginia
Wesleyan College, 1584 Wesleyan Drive,
Norfolk, VA 23502-5599; email:
kmjackson@vwc.edu

*Film & History: An Interdisciplinary
Journal of Film and Television Studies* is
seeking reviewers for a wide variety of films.
Film reviews are 500-750 words, and in
keeping with our readers’ interests in film
and society, pay attention to the social and
historical context, intersections and impact
of the work under review. To obtain list of
films available for review, contact Cynthia
Miller, Film Review Editor, Emerson
College, Boston, MA;
cynthia_miller@emerson.edu

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

The North American Conference on British
Studies offers dissertation year fellowships
for research in the British Isles on British
(Irish, Scottish or Imperial) history topics by
Ph.D. students from the U.S. or Canada.
Contact Andrew August, NACBS Executive
Secretary, Abington College, Penn State
University; axa24@psu.edu

The Social Science Research Council and the
American Council of Learned Societies
announce the 2007 competition of the
International Dissertation Research
Fellowship program to support fifty
distinguished graduate students in the
humanities and social science researching
dissertations outside the U.S. For more
information contact the IDRF staff at
idrf@ssrc.org

The Massachusetts Historical Society
offers long-term MHS-NEH awards each
year. Each grant provides a $40,000 stipend
for six to twelve months of research plus a
housing allowance of $500 per month to
applicants who have completed their
academic training. For information about this
or other MHS Fellowships, contact by
January 15, 2007 Cherylinne Pina at
Massachusetts Historical Society, 1154
Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02215;
cpina@masshist.org; or
www.masshist.org/fellowships.html
BOOK REVIEWS


In this book Michelle Mart, who teaches history at Penn State University, Berks, offers images of the “new Jew” in postwar American culture, building on the legacies of anti-Semitism, the Holocaust, and the founding of Israel in 1948. After World War II, conventional attitudes and opinions changed in terms of how Jews were perceived and treated. The most notable change, arguably, was that anti-Semitism came to be viewed as un-American. Jews everywhere came to be seen as heroes rather than victims. They also garnered American support for the idea that Jews deserved the land of Israel after all of the persecution they had suffered. Collectively, the U. S. public expressed great respect and admiration for the progress that Israel had made after its inception in 1948. These views and sentiments were expressed in American public opinion and popular culture, including the film The Juggler (1953).

President Truman saw the creation of the state of Israel very positively because he appreciated the pioneering efforts of the Jewish people. Many Americans identified with the Israeli people, especially the native born “sabras”. Indeed, the media was quite taken with Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion (1886-1973) for his rugged strength and steadfast devotion to his country. The fact that the Jewish nation was able to build something out of nothing with the land was considered remarkable and laudable in America.

In general, Jews in the U. S. assimilated into American life, socially, politically, and commercially. The Jews became seen as much more sympathetic as Americans began to overcome their prejudices and indeed felt guilty as a result of the Holocaust and wartime experiences. Gerald Green’s novel (1956) and sentimental film The Last Angry Man (1959) criticized prejudice in postwar suburban middle-class America. A few years later popular literature like the novel Exodus (1958) by Leon Uris reflected less anti-Semitism in the U.S. than Israel’s conflict with the Arab world.

Alternatively, the “Arab States” were lumped in together as the dark-skinned peoples in the Middle East who were not Israeli. They were indistinguishable as far as most Americans were concerned, and therefore dramatically less relatable. From a religious standpoint, the Jewish Israelis seemed more embraceable, given a Judeo-Christian brotherhood which excludes Muslims. This may have originated in the legacy of the Puritans and more recent Fundamentalists who identified with the Old Testament. Organizations like the American Christian Palestine Committee encouraged support for Israel in the U.S. political sphere.

Although America expressed criticism of both sides of the Israeli-Arab conflict, there was a definite effort to remain in the good graces of both sides. Despite the consideration given to the Arab side, it was
impossible to ignore Israel’s firm contention that it must be able to defend itself and indeed exist. Americans could not help but agree because that resonated with the American spirit and traditions.

Michelle Mart notes the definite sense in America that there is a special relationship, in fact an important bond, which is shared with Israel. This is a result of a similar history and culture and common sentiments and sensibilities. This view was encouraged by the strong and positive presence of Jews in American daily life. There was a shift in how the Jewish people were perceived and this change endeared them more because they were seen as stronger and more proactive, the way that Americans view themselves. Significantly, as Jews became more powerful and vocal in the American government and were able to affect policy as it related to the state of Israel. Despite recent criticism of the Israel Lobby in the U.S., support for Israel remains a cornerstone of American foreign policy in the Middle East.

Michael Gesin
Worcester State College

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*Culture and Customs of Afghanistan.*

In this book, Hafizullah Emadi describes Afghanistan, its inhabitants, and their way of life. He starts with the rugged topography of the country and its importance to the people of the region. He points out the protection it offers, and the mosaic of benefits and goods that ranged from a well diversified plant life that fed the people and built their homes, and the minerals that enriched their lifestyle. He also writes about the rich variety of the region’s inhabitants and their many roots, beliefs, languages, and school of thoughts. He points out the positive and negative sides of Afghanistan’s multilateral society. At the top of its social ladder is the wealthy, landowning, sophisticated elite, and at the bottom are the peasants, who make up the majority of the population, where their strength lies only in their numbers. Emadi seals the connection between man and environment by taking us on a journey through the literature, arts, and architecture of the nation. Religion, different ethnicities, peaceful times and many wars through history played a key role in shaping Afghanistan. He weaves and connects so many unknown and sophisticated aspects of the communities and the regions in this complex argument. Even poetry, music, and films connect the environment and the people in so many social factors in Afghanistan through the years, but especially in the twentieth century.

The author surveys the customs, dress, and cuisine of the people, and tries to weave another social connection together, by relating man to geography and the abundance of colors, and food in this next part of his book. He takes us on a journey to the bazaars, and the teahouses (*chai khanahs*) of the country, where he invites us to use all our senses. Walking with him in the bazaar is like listening to the many languages and dialects of the people, as the different tones of music make us wonder if it is Persian, Indian, Arabic or Chinese. He stresses that food is an art in Afghanistan and
an important part of the customs of the people. They celebrate life by consuming the food they spend so much time and effort to prepare. The author repeatedly claims that foods, like the dress, the languages, and the beliefs, are a product of so many invading armies and connections with bordering states like China, Persia, and the Arabs.

At the end of his book, Hafizullah Emadi focuses on a crucial part of life in Afghanistan, the social order of the country, where family, women and education are the pillars of his discussion. He starts by stressing on the fact that Afghanistan is a patriarchal society, where men are the authority in their homes, and where individual honor, social status, and a personal code of conduct are largely determined by the institution of the family. He also focuses on the fact that women in this society are victims of their own culture, and environment, especially in later years of chaos and civil wars. He sees that the social structure in Afghanistan affects all sides of daily life, including education and lifestyle, where it developed into so many different arenas and venues depending on the political or the military condition of the country through the past century. Emadi draws a very rich, and sophisticated although troubled picture of this region and the nation of Afghanistan, one which we hope is finally settled into a peaceful and more practical social order.

Rami Khalaf
Worcester State College


In 1989 Virginia d’Albert-Lake, an unassuming elderly American woman, was awarded the Legion of Honor, the highest award given to civilians in France, for her work in the French Resistance during World War II. A short piece on ABC evening news caught the attention of journalist Jim Calio, who visited Ohio-born Virginia and her French husband in France and wrote an article on the couple. Later, the story came to the attention of Bryant University historian Judy Barrett Litoff, and this meticulously edited book is the result. It brings together for the first time the story of d’Albert-Lake’s wartime work, and her experiences as a prisoner of war in some of Germany’s worst concentration camps, including the notorious Ravensbrück.

Virginia’s story is in two parts. The first is her diary, kept from October 1939 to April 1944, in which she details the day-to-day irritations and privations of living in occupied France. One of the highlights is her month-long bicycle ride through German-occupied France. She necessarily does not mention the work she was doing for the Resistance: it would have been dangerously foolish to do so, but in her Memoir, written in 1946, she explains how Allied airmen were smuggled to the Spanish border, and how, later, they were kept in a secret camp in the woods. Perhaps the most harrowing part of the Memoir details her experiences during eleven months of imprisonment in a series of German concentration camps, suffering bitter cold, starvation rations, heavy work, vermin and the casual violence of the guards.

These two sections are situated firmly in the literature on war in Europe and the French Resistance by a detailed introduction by Litoff, who is an expert on women in World War II. Some exceptionally effective footnotes placed conveniently at the foot of the page explain French and German geography, translate foreign terms, and most usefully, trace the development of the war.
and historians’ accounts of the war. The story is brought up to date by an essay by Virginia’s only son, and an account by journalist Jim Calio on his meetings with the d’Albert-Lakes in the late 1980s and 1990s.

This book is a compelling read for anyone interested in World War II, the history of women, or the notion of quiet bravery under terrible circumstances. The combination of Virginia’s graphically-told personal experiences and Litoff’s exceptional knowledge of the scholarly literature on the period make this very accessible to students, and as a useful classroom text, it is highly recommended.

Jane Lancaster
Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women
Brown University


It has been argued since the Vietnam conflict that the media have been responsible for serious distortions regarding the war. More recently, the present administration has directed a similar accusation concerning the war in Iraq. This media criticism is the focus of this book by J. David Slocum, a dean at New York University.

The collection of fifteen essays by scholars from several disciplines deals with the various media outlets such as newspapers, the cinema, radio, television, and the Internet. Some of the essays address the cinematic presentation of the Mau Mau war and the Malayan insurgency of the 1950s, or the battle of Algiers, or Iran, Islam and the terrorist threats from 1979 to 1989. By making videotapes available to the media nearly simultaneously with the event, the terrorists learned how make certain that the news media pay close attention to their cause.

During the Iranian hostage crisis of 1979 to 1987, and subsequent hostage situations in and around Beirut throughout the 1980s, the captors repeatedly produced videotapes that reported the plight of the American hostages. Well aware of the news media’s appetite for featuring violence as terrorism, the terrorists have staged shocking, deadly acts with the knowledge that news coverage will further their goals. They believe that the most spectacular and most bloody events will result in the most extensive media coverage.

While publicity is one of the universal goals of terrorists, it is never the only one ultimate objective. But they are well aware that publicity is absolutely necessary for their political goals. Each terrorist group wants maximum publicity. We learn from Slocum’s collection that there are three goals in particular that tie terrorists to news coverage and other forms of communication. First, they want attention. Second, they want their grievances, demands and objectives recognized. Third, they want to win respect and even gain legitimacy in some circles, cultures or regions.

The attention-getting goal is achieved when terrorist strikes are especially dramatic, shocking and offer plenty of human interest. The recognition goal is accomplished when people around the world learn about the
grievances and demands of the terrorists. During the Iranian hostage crisis, the Iranian captors granted interviews to U.S. correspondents in order to air their grievances against the United States. Terrorists also force their hostages to speak out in support of their cause. The media, especially television, can grant respectability and even legitimacy for the terrorists simply by interviewing them in the same way they interview legitimate political actors.

One area of controversy pertains to the media becoming an accomplice of terrorism. It is true that the media want dramatic, shocking stories that keep readers, listeners, and viewers captivated and that enhance the circulation of the printed media. Considering the importance of ratings to the electronic media, under these circumstances it is unrealistic to expect that the media could curb their appetite for the vivid scenes that terrorism provides. It should also be remembered that the media, especially radio and television, are as essential for the management of a terrorist attack as they are during natural and man-made disasters. Radio and television offer crisis managers the opportunity to directly address the public whenever they desire.

This reviewer suggests that, in reading this volume, both terrorism specialists and the general readers will gain a better understanding of the role the media plays in terrorism today, and the so-called war on terrorism. Slocum offers a thoughtful book that could be useful in upper level and graduate courses in history, political science or sociology.

Emmett Shea
Worcester State College


Baseball, more than any other sport, tends to spawn large amounts of reference works, whether statistical or biographical. In Baseball: An Encyclopedia of Popular Culture, Edward J. Rielly, an English professor at St. Joseph's College in Maine, argues that baseball is "a manifestation of popular culture in the United States, as well as a shaper of that culture." (xvii) Furthermore, baseball "is a vivid example of how folk culture (viewed as arising from the people themselves) and mass culture (viewed as presented to the people by others with a vested interest in having their offerings purchased or otherwise accepted) coalesce in popular culture." (xiii) Rielly sorts his entries by two criteria; importance to baseball and importance to a broader popular culture. As a result, many Hall of Fame players who made no discernable popular culture impact are left out, while Rielly focuses on other cultural aspects of the game.

Rielly recognizes that his entries, like any other list of the best players, the worst teams, or any other aspect of baseball, are bound to be subjective. He largely succeeds in presenting a representative selection of players, teams, owners, announcers and other cultural aspects of the game. He includes the obvious players, such as Babe Ruth and Ted Williams, legendary announcers Mel Allen and Red Barber, as well as the other leading lights of the game's history. Rielly also includes essays on a wide range of cultural aspects of baseball, including baseball cards, rotisserie leagues, memorabilia, fiction, movies, and baseball in other countries.
An encyclopedia rises or falls on the quality and relevance of its entries, and the one under review is no different. One the one hand, there are curious omissions based on some of the inclusions. There are essays on Wrigley Field and Yankee Stadium, but not Fenway Park or the Astrodome, the Polo Grounds but not Ebbets Field, railroads but not air travel. Also, some inclusions seem questionable, based on the dual criteria of importance to baseball and to a broader popular culture. Certainly Ralph Kiner and Joe Torre have sufficient baseball importance, but it is difficult to see any broader popular culture impact. Ernest Hemmingway is included and vigorously defended, but still seems of somewhat marginal baseball relevance. Some selections seem self-consciously academic. A. Bartlett Giamatti rates as much space as Kennesaw Mountain Landis. An essay on “Perfection” seems esoteric. An essay on “Ritual” includes an extended discussion of the baseball stadium as a church, which is just the sort of thing that sends normal people running away, wishing the academics would butt out. Sometimes Rielly descends into obscure trivia with the inclusion of Joe Bauman, who hit 72 home runs in the Longhorn League in 1954, which stood as the record on any professional level until 2001.

A discussion of who or who not to include is part of the normal discussion of any baseball topic. However, Joe Bauman leads to a more serious problem. This encyclopedia was first published in 2000 and reprinted in 2005 without any revision. When Barry Bonds hit 73 home runs in 2001, he dislodged Bauman from his tenuous hold on history. Some entries require minor updating. The entry on Ted Williams could include the squabble over his remains, and the essay on Little League should include the Danny Almonte controversy of 2001. Other problems are more serious. Steroids are included in the “Substance Abuse” entry but should be moved to the “Cheating” entry. The entry on Mark McGwire concludes that he “helped make it fashionable to talk once again about heroes.” (203) That remark, characteristic of Rielly’s treatment of the 1998 home run record chase, seems a little silly in light of McGwire’s 2005 congressional testimony. Rielly has produced a thought-provoking volume, but it should be revised if it is to have a long shelf life.

Robert W. Smith
Bridgewater State College


This collection on Portland, Maine includes thirteen essays organized both chronologically and topically, and provides an interesting examination of Portland from a wide variety of points of view. The essays focus on recurring themes in the city’s history: the influence of the sea, the diversity of its communities, and its importance as a “New England cultural center. (xxiii) Editor Joseph A. Conforti, professor of American and New England Studies at the University of Southern Maine, has written five books on New England and
brings an appreciation for both the insularity and the internationalism of the area to this task, a work he calls a “crossdisciplinary study of place.” (xviii)

The pieces on the importance of Portland’s maritime heritage include a fascinating analysis of Portland’s history in the 17th century when the area was subject to complex interactions between the native peoples and the incoming English settlers, a conflict analyzed by Emerson W. Baker, in “Formerly Machegonne, Dartmouth, York, Stogummor, Casco, and Falmouth: Portland as a Contested Frontier in the Seventeenth Century.” The essay by James S. Leamon, “Falmouth, the American Revolution, and the Price of Moderation,” evaluates the struggle Falmouth faced between upcountry hostility and local timidity in taking a stand on the embargo, resulting in the 1775 burning of Portland by the HMS Canceaux, a fire that set the town back for nearly a decade but resulted in the creation of Portland from the ashes of Falmouth.

Several of the essays delve into the complexity of Portland’s ethnic heritage. David Carey, Jr. provides an insightful analysis of connections between Portland and the Caribbean in “Comunidad Escondida: Latin-American Influences in Nineteenth-and Twentieth-Century Portland,” starting with the West Indies trade in which Portland was the one of the most important trading partners with Cuba but including an insightful point that Portland’s merchants, by the time of the Civil War, were deeply involved with the products of Cuban slavery yet were against slavery in the Southern states. Eileen Eagan’s examination of working-class Portland: “Working Portland: Women, Class, and Ethnicity in the Nineteenth Century,” claims that immigrant labor built Portland and that among the immigrants the first and largest group were the Irish. In contrast, Maureen Lee’s essay “What They Lack in Numbers”: Locating Black Portland, 1870-1930” evaluates the experience of Black residents in Portland in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, claiming that despite the relative scarcity of Blacks, they made an important impact on the life of this city.

The essays on the influence of the arts in Portland range from the maritime legacy of Portland native Henry Wadsworth Longfellow to the importance of the artistic community. Charles Calhoun in “Longfellow’s Portland” interpolates the early influence of the Portland maritime community on themes later evident in Longfellow’s poems. An engaging collection of images of landscapes and portraits accompanies Donna M. Cassidy’s “Picturing Place: Portland and the Visual Arts,” a multi-layered analysis of the various artistic identities of Portland, an evaluation that ranges from eighteenth-century portraiture through twentieth century artists. The influence of the “City Beautiful Movement” on nineteenth-century Portland is evident in Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr.’s essay “Creating and Preserving Portland’s Urban Landscape, 1885 -1925.”

Overall, this useful and well-written collection of essays succeeds in informing the reader of the complexity of Portland’s past and the potential for its future. Because of the diversity of the topics covered within the history of a single community, this book will appeal more to the specialist than the general reader, and it will make a good addition to any library.

Nancy Hathaway Steenburg
University of Connecticut

"Contradictions and ironies abound (256)," is how Diarmaid Ferriter describes the period of the Irish Civil War, but that phrase could be applied to his view of Irish history during the entire course of the twentieth century. A young, but well-known historian at Dublin City University, Ferriter has produced an ambitious and wide-ranging study of the history of the last century of his native country. Because this book covers so much ground a brief summary would be impossible, but one repeated feature of the work is that it points out the many contradictions in Irish history. The republican nationalists who staged the Easter Rising in 1916 were a small unpopular minority, but Sinn Fein, the political party that adopted the ideology of the Irish Republican Brotherhood after the rising, completely displaced the moderate Irish Parliamentary Party in the general election of 1918. The Anglo-Irish Treaty of 1921 gave Irish nationalists their long-sought goal of political independence, but at the price of the partition of the island. While an independent Ireland was formed as a result of the revolutionary guerilla campaign of the Irish Republican Army, the resulting Irish state proved to be very politically and socially conservative and tended to centralize power in Dublin rather than promote local democratic government. The losing side in the Irish Civil War formed the political party, Fianna Fail, which has dominated the Irish government since the 1930s. The Irish Free State, and later Republic, prided itself on its Catholic ethos, and indeed the population was very deeply committed to Catholicism. However, Ferriter points out that the public displays of religion were not matched by a Christian concern for the care of the poor, the elderly, the young, or other marginalized groups by the state or society as a whole. The revelations about the long-hidden abuse of abandoned children at work-house-like industrial schools caused a major scandal in the 1990s. The booming economy of the last decade has earned Ireland the nickname "Celtic Tiger," but the country still has high rates of poverty and cultural critics fear that a new materialism is destroying the traditional Irish way of life. Even the consumption of alcohol in Ireland contains contradictions, as a society known for heavy drinking and a pub-centered social life is also home to the Pioneers, a very popular temperance movement.

As the title indicates, this book looks at the changes that have taken place in Ireland over the last century. Ferriter blends the various specializations of history together, with politics, economics, society, and culture all receiving his attention. The work is a very impressive synthesis of the large historiography created by the many historians of Ireland. While this book might not be suitable as an introduction to Irish history, Ferriter’s clear writing style makes it a very readable piece of historical literature. For anyone who studies Irish history, The Transformation of Ireland is a work of great value. Ferriter not only lays out the most recent interpretations of events, but also calls attention to those areas that need further investigation. Happily, the author seems to have no specific ax to grind and he examines both the successes and failures of Irish society with equal insight.

Daniel C. Williamson
Hillyer College, University of Hartford
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2007 * Atlanta * 4-7 January
2008 * Washington * 3-6 January
2009 * New York City * 2-5 January
2010 * San Diego * 7-10 January
2011 * Boston * 6-9 January
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2007 * Minneapolis * 29 March-1 April
2008 * New York * 28-31 March
2009 * Seattle * 26-29 March
2010 * Washington * 7-10 April

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2007 * Philadelphia * 11-14 October
2008 * Albuquerque * 16-19 October
2009 * Washington, DC * 5-8 November

American Conference for Irish Studies
2006 * St. Louis * 19-22 April

Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association
2007 * Boston * 4-7 April
2008 * San Francisco * April

Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association
2006 * Rivier College * 27-28 October
2007 * Clark University * 26-27 October

Oral History Association
2006 * Little Rock * 25-29 October

National Conference on Public History
2007 * Santa Fe * 11-15 April

North American Conference on British Studies
2007 * San Francisco * 9-11 November
2008 * Cincinnati * 3-5 October

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2006 * Minneapolis * 2-5 November
2007 * Chicago * 15-18 November
2008 * Miami * 23-26 October
2009 * Long Beach * 12-15 November
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