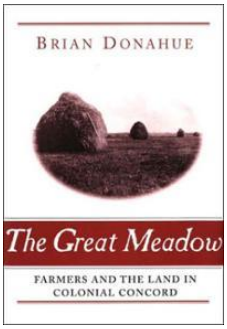
Environment & Society Portal

Multimedia Library Collection: Books & Profiles

The Great Meadow: Farmers and the Land in Colonial Concord

Donahue, Brian



All rights reserved. © 2004 Yale University Press

The copyright holder reserves, or holds for their own use, all the rights provided by copyright law, such as distribution, performance, and creation of derivative works.
https://rightsstatements.org/page/InC/1.0/?language=en .

Donahue, Brian. *The Great Meadow: Farmers and the Land in Colonial Concord*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2004.

Brian Donahue offers an innovative, accessible, and authoritative history of the early farming practices of Concord, Massachusetts, and challenges the long-standing notion that colonial husbandry degraded the land. In fact, he argues, the Concord community of farmers achieved a remarkably successful and sustainable system of local production. Donahue describes in precise detail—using among other tools an innovative historical geographical information system (GIS) method—how land was settled and how mixed husbandry was developed in Concord. By reconstructing several farm neighborhoods and following them through many generations, he reveals the care with which farmers managed the land, soil, and water. He concludes that ecological degradation came to Concord only later, when nineteenth-century economic and social forces undercut the environmental balance that earlier colonial farmers had nurtured. — Yale University Press website .

Related links:

- H-Environment, H-Net Reviews, reviewed by Jeff Filipiak
  http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php
- Yale University Press site featuring this book
  http://yalepress.yale.edu/yupbooks/book.asp

Websites linked in this text:

- http://yalepress.yale.edu/yupbooks/book.asp?isbn=9780300123692

Websites linked in image captions:

- https://rightsstatements.org/page/InC/1.0/?language=en