



FEAR AND THE SHAPING OF EARLY AMERICAN SOCIETIES

Sous la direction de Lauric Henne-ton et L.H. Roper

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Fear and the Shaping of Early American Societies is the first collection of essays to argue that fear permeated the colonial societies of 17th- and 18th-century America and to analyse its impact on the political decision-making processes from a variety of angles and locations.

Indeed, the thirteen essays range from Canada to the Chesapeake, from New England to the Caribbean and from the Carolina Backcountry to Dutch Brazil. This volume assesses the typically American nature of fear factors and the responses they elicited in a transatlantic context.

The essays further explore how the European colonists handled such challenges as

Indian conspiracies, slave revolts, famine, “popery” and tyranny as well as werewolves and a dragon to build cohesive societies far from the metropolis.

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Lauric Hennenon est maître de conférences au sein du laboratoire Dypac de l'Université de Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines. Il est notamment l'auteur d'*Histoire religieuse des États-Unis* (Flammarion, 2012).

L.H. Roper est Professeur à SUNY-New Paltz.