

As this review appears in *Environmental History*, it is also worth noting that Burnstein does not appear to have set out to address the scholarship in the field broadly or in the study of urban environment particularly. As any good writer does, he gives the book a focus, an agenda—using sanitation as a case study to explore core issues in the historiography of Progressivism. He often uses “environment” very broadly, to refer to any of a number of problems and issues related to the wider societal context. These include socio-economic conditions such as poverty, as well as more literal matters of environment, such as litter and refuse. However, Burnstein pays relatively little attention to the ways that the physical and cultural world of the environment intersected and shaped reform. Nor is sufficient attention given to the contradictions, benefits, costs, and complexities of immigrants’ environmental practices as contrasted with those of reformers. This is not to say that Burnstein is not familiar with this literature. Quite the contrary, this study builds its foundation on the urban environmental literature. Even so, if environmental historians note such absences, they will nonetheless appreciate Burnstein’s efforts to integrate the field into more traditional historiographical concerns, and take note of the suggestively broad manner in which this book conceives of the environment.

Well researched, and at times both provocative and insightful, *Next to Godliness* offers a tendentious portrait of Progressive reformers; this book will certainly be welcomed by political and urban historians studying this era.

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**New Jersey’s Environment: Past, Present, and Future.** Edited by Neil M. Maher. New Brunswick, NJ, and London: Rutgers University Press, 2006. vi + 212 pp. Includes illustrations, notes, tables, maps, and index. Paper \$21.95.

With its prodigiously urban-industrial landscape, New Jersey has much to recommend it as a topic for environmental historians. And because so many other states have been following a similar path of overdevelopment, New Jersey’s historical trajectory offers valuable lessons for policy makers, scientists, and activists seeking to establish a viable relationship between densely populated areas and the natural world. Indeed, Neil Maher has assembled this compelling set of essays with the intention of reaching just such a diverse audience.

Given the Garden State’s reputation as an unmitigated ecological catastrophe, it may come as a surprise that the lessons Maher hopes to impart pertain as much to the healing and protection of the environment as to its destruction. As Maher notes, two-thirds of New Jersey is still farmland and forest, and the state not only sits atop one of the nation’s largest and cleanest aquifers but is blessed with a rich diversity of plant and animal species. And even if New Jersey’s aggressive plundering of its natural assets has led to

repeated environmental crises, residents have nevertheless mounted a surprisingly successful, if fragmentary, effort to defend and restore their state's ecological integrity. As the essays in this volume ably demonstrate, a significant number of New Jersey residents have devoted themselves to "putting the garden back into the Garden State" (p. 2).

Maher has organized the book into three sections focusing on the past, present, and future of New Jersey's diverse environments, which range from coastal and freshwater wetlands to the mountains of Sussex County. While these sections are devoted to historical, policy/legal, and scientific analysis respectively, and while the essays themselves represent a variety of disciplines, the authors write from an interdisciplinary perspective that lends the book ample coherence. Some of the more salient themes include the interaction of cities with their natural environments; the inherent limitations of attempting to solve postwar environmental problems without addressing the issue of mass consumption; the efforts of citizen activists to marshal the technical expertise necessary to fight political battles; the environmental injustices borne by low-income and minority populations; and the struggle to prevent privatization from undermining public access to and stewardship of the state's natural assets. One of the more familiar themes concerns the evolution of public perceptions of nature. In a state noted for its prolific wetlands, the prevailing image of which has shifted from wasteland to environmental and aesthetic asset during the last century, this is a particularly fruitful line of inquiry. Finally, the unusual inclusion of scientific essays in a book of this sort, while making for occasionally ponderous reading, highlights a variety of methods and sources useful to scholars and others while providing an opportunity to observe scientists grappling with the social and ethical implications of their data.

One of the great virtues of this book is that the contributors consistently place local issues in a national and global context. Consequently, the single-state focus lends the book a powerful concreteness without undermining its broader relevance. In short, this is a book that deserves the wide readership for which it aims.

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**The Urban Origins of Suburban Autonomy.** By Richardson Dilworth. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2005. x + 267 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, index. Cloth \$52.50; **The Code of the City: Standards and the Hidden Language of Place Making.** By Eran Ben-Joseph. Cambridge: MIT Press, 2005. xxi + 241 pp. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. Paper \$24.00.

According to Sam Bass Warner, Kenneth Jackson, and other urban historians, America's suburbs emerged in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries as the wealthier classes fled the city for the tranquility of rural life. First the streetcar