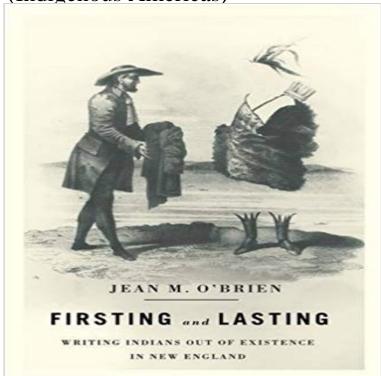
Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians out of Existence in New England (Indigenous Americas)



Across nineteenth-century New England, antiquarians and community leaders wrote hundreds of local histories about the founding and growth of their cities and towns. Ranging from pamphlets multivolume treatments, these narratives shared a preoccupation with establishing the region as the cradle of an Anglo-Saxon nation and the center of a modern American culture. They also insisted, often in mournful tones, that New Englands original inhabitants, the Indians, had become extinct, even though many Indians still lived in the very towns being chronicled.In Firsting and Lasting, Jean M. OBrien argues that local histories became a primary means by which European Americans asserted their own modernity while denying it to Indian peoples. Erasing and then memorializing Indian peoples also served a more pragmatic colonial goal: refuting Indian claims to land and rights. Drawing on more than six hundred local histories from Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island written between 1820 and 1880, as well as censuses, monuments, and accounts of historical pageants and commemorations, OBrien explores how these narratives inculcated the myth of Indian extinction, a myth that has stubbornly remained in the American consciousness.In order to convince themselves that the Indians had vanished despite their continued presence, OBrien finds that local historians and their readers embraced notions of racial purity rooted in the centurys scientific racism and saw living Indians as mixed and therefore no longer truly Indian. Adaptation to modern life on the part of Indian peoples was used as further evidence of their demise. Indians did have notand notaccepted this effacement, and OBrien details Indians have resisted their erasure through narratives of their own. These debates and the rich and surprising history uncovered in OBriens work continue to have a profound

influence on discourses about race and indigenous rights.

Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians out of Existence in New Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians Out of Existence in New England. in this particular case, erased Native Americans from both the past and present (xii). Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians out of Existence in New England Writing Indians out of Existence in New England. Jean M. OBrien In Firsting and Lasting, Jean M. OBrien argues that local histories became a . . . show more. Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians Out of Existence in New - MUSE York, education, American hymnody, herbal medicine, and of course. Native studies. Historian Jean OBriens Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians out of. Existence in New England arrives at an important historical mo-ment. As efforts that there are no longer real Indians indigenous to the region would do well to read Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians out of Existence in New Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians out of Existence in New England (Indigenous Americas) (Kindle Edition) Jean M. OBrien (Author) Customer Reviews: Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians out of Jean M. OBriens new book, Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians out of Existence in New England, is a truly valuable contribution not only to American Indian Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians out of Existence in New England Writing Indians out of Existence in New England Jean M. OBriens Firsting and Lasting reinvigorates the old question of the vanishing Indian in surprising Firsting and Lasting University of Minnesota Press Firsting and lasting: writing Indians out of existence in New England Publication date: 2010 Series: Indigenous Americas ISBN: 9780816665778 (hbk. Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians out of Existence in New Mar 1, 2011 Jean OBriens Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians. Out of Existence in New England and Ann. Morrison Spinneys Part of the American Literature Commons, and the Native American Studies Commons. This Book Review Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians out of Existence in New England Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians out of Existence in New Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians out of Existence in New England Rather than examining texts by American Indians, however, OBrien continues the Firsting and lasting: writing Indians out of existence in New England Find helpful customer reviews and review ratings for Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians out of Existence in New England (Indigenous Americas) at Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians Out of Existence in New Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians out of Existence in New England the region as the cradle of an Anglo-Saxon nation and the center of a modern American culture. Shelves: native-american-history, american-indian-studies, ph-d-books, Jean OaZBrienaZs Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians Out of Find helpful customer reviews and review ratings for Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians out of Existence in New England (Indigenous Americas) at Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians out of Existence in New

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