# Historical Nonfiction



# Women of the Pine Tree State: 25 Maine Women You Should Know

By Andrea Murphy, Joyce Ray, and Others Illustrated by Lisa Greenleaf

RL 5.5 – ages 9 and up Interest level: grades 5 and above (136 pages)

The spirit of Maine is defined by women of fortitude, strength, and courage. Authors, sports heroes, explorers, and scientists have all contributed to the unique character of the Pine Tree state.

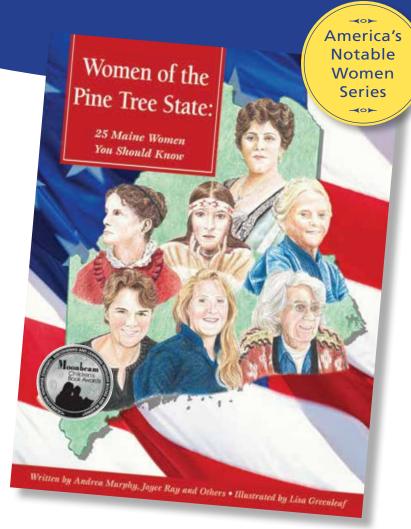
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# Featuring 25 Maine Women

Martha Ballard: Colonial Midwife
Molly Ockett: Abenaki Healer

Sally Barrell Keating Wood: Maine's

First Novelist

Kate Furbish: Botanic Artist

Celia Thaxter: Island Poet and Artist

Sarah Jane Foster: Teacher of Freed

Slaves

Helen Augusta Blanchard: Inventor

Cornelia "Fly Rod" Crosby: Queen

of the Anglers

Lillian Nordica: Yankee Diva

**Chansonetta Stanley Emmons:** 

Photographer

Fannie Hardy Eckstorm: Naturalist,

Author, and Folklorist

Gail Laughlin: Lawyer, Legislator, and

Suffragist

**Beatrix Jones Farrand:** Landscape

Gardener

**Dr. Edith Marion Patch:** Aphid Detective and Author

Margaret Chase Smith: First Woman Elected to Both Houses of Congress

**Louise Nevelson:** Prominent Modern

Mary Alice Nelson: "Molly Spotted

Miriam MacMillan: Arctic Explorer

Margaret Wise Brown: Writer of Songs

and Nonsense

Dr. Elizabeth "Tibby" Russell: Solving

Genetic Puzzles

Barbara Cooney: Caldecott-winning

Illustrator

**Dahlov Ipcar:** Creating Joy with

Magical Art

Joan Benoit Samuelson: Olympic

Marathon Legend

Linda Greenlaw: Swordfish Captain

and Writer

Elle Logan: Olympic Rower

# Tidbits from the Women of the Pine Tree State: Maine



Martha Ballard's diary about her days as a colonial mid-wife helped historians learn about the lives of Maine's early settlers.

Molly Ockett, an Abenaki woman, was known as a talented healer.

## Sally Barrell Keating Wood

was Maine's first novelist. Her books were written in the Gothic style popular during the 1800s.

When artist Kate Furbish completed her book on the Flora of Maine, she had painted over 1300 wild flowers and plants.

Poet Celia Thaxter's friends included Charles Dickens, Nathaniel Hawthorne, John Greenleaf Whittier, and Sarah Orne Jewett.

# Helen Augusta Blanchard's

inventions included the zig-zag sewing machine and a pencil sharpener.

# Cornelia "Fly Rod" Crosby

became one of the first professional female athletes to endorse products when she mentioned manufacturers' fishing tackle and hunting gear in her newspaper column.

Lillian Nordica, famed operatic soprano, died of pneumonia while touring countries in the Pacific.

#### Chansonetta Stanley Em-

mons' photographs of southern African-American farm families showed the contrast between their lives and those of the farmers she knew in Maine.

### **Fannie Hardy Eckstorm**

bravely traveled to docks, lumber camps, and jails to collect folk songs and write down their words and music before they were lost forever.

### **Beatrix Jones Farrand**

preferred to be called a "landscape gardener" rather than a "landscape architect."

#### Dr. Edith Marion Patch

organized the entomology department for the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station.

### **Margaret Chase Smith**

became the first woman to be elected to both Houses of the United States Congress.

When Polar explorer Miriam MacMillan joined the New York Explorers' Club in 1981 she was one of the few women accepted into the club at this time.

### Joan Benoit Samuelson

won gold in the first Olympic women's marathon in Los Angeles, California in 1984.