

America's Forgotten Colony

America's Forgotten Colony examines private U.S. citizens' experiences on Cuba's Isle of Pines to show how American influence adapted and endured in republican-era Cuba (1902–58). This transnational study challenges the notion that U.S. territorial ambitions ended after the nineteenth century. Many Americans, anxious about a “closed” frontier in an industrialized, urbanized United States, migrated to the Isle and pushed for agrarian-oriented landed expansion well into the twentieth century. Their efforts were stymied by Cuban resistance and reluctant U.S. policymakers. After decades of tension, however, a new generation of Americans collaborated with locals in commercial and institutional endeavors. Although they did not wield the same influence, Americans nevertheless maintained a significant footprint. The story of this cooperation upsets prevailing conceptions of U.S. domination and perpetual conflict, revealing that U.S.–Cuban relations at the grass roots were not nearly as adversarial as on the diplomatic level at the dawn of the Cuban Revolution.

Michael E. Neagle is an assistant professor of history at Nichols College in Dudley, Massachusetts. His work has appeared in *America in the World* (Cambridge University Press), *A Companion to Woodrow Wilson*, *The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*, and *Latino America: A State-by-State Encyclopedia*. He has won grants from the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, the Tinker Foundation, the University of Connecticut Humanities Institute, and the University of Connecticut Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

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Cuba's Isle of Pines

MICHAEL E. NEAGLE

Nichols College



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*For Susan,
my wife, partner, and friend*

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Abbreviations

ACS	American Central School
AHM	Archivo Histórico Municipal de la Isla de la Juventud
ANC	Archivo Nacional de Cuba
CSL	Connecticut State Library
IHS	Indiana Historical Society
LOC	Library of Congress
NARA	U.S. National Archives and Records Administration
SFA	Swetland Family Archives
TDC	Tropical Development Company
YCGHS	Yates County (NY) Genealogical and Historical Society