

“话说美国”英语阅读系列之二

Stories of American 50 States



美国风情：地理与文化

主编 陈立凯



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序

这套“话说美国”英语阅读系列共有三册,内容选自美国国会图书馆“美国故事”栏目。该栏目载有近千篇关于美国历史、社会、文化等小故事。我们征得该栏目负责人 Guy Lamolinara 先生允许,选用了其中一部分故事加以整理、改编、注释,编辑成本套丛书。

本套丛书第一册是《美国往事:记忆与历史》,第二册是《美国风情:地理与文化》,第三册是《美国性格:人物与趣闻》,分别选编了“美国故事”的部分内容,向读者介绍美国历史、社会、文化、工业、农业、少数民族等美国历史和社会发展中的人和事。故事的篇幅短小精悍,内容丰富、语言简单、生动易懂,是我们进一步认识美国、了解美国的有益读物。

本套丛书提供了一般的教科书上所没有的知识和逸闻趣事,注释详细、客观。它既适合作为大学英语专业低年级学生的课外读物,也可以作为同等英语水平的读者学习英语的材料。另外,建议读者朋友将本套丛书参照来读,因为许多篇章都是相互联系的。

在编辑过程中有些故事的注释参考了公开发表的著作中的内容。在此,特向有关作者表示感谢。注释中另有许多句子的译文都是注释者自己的个人翻译,错误在所难免,欢迎读者朋友提出批评指正。

编 者

二〇〇六年十二月

前 言

本书是“话说美国”英语注释读物系列的第二册，它向读者提供了美国五十个州的风土文化故事，内容涉及各种民间传说和真实事件，篇幅从一百多字到二百多字不等，内容丰富、短小精悍、生动有趣、浅显易懂，是我们了解美国各州民俗民情的有用材料。这些故事从印第安人的土风舞蹈到各地巡演的流浪艺人；从新英格兰地区人们的生活传统到西部各州人们的庆典活动；佛罗里达州的诱人海滩，华盛顿州的火山公园；东部的钢铁洪流，中部的广袤平原，西部的幽深峡谷，等等，里面充满了引人入胜的传说、故事、奇闻、轶事，是一本深入了解美国各地民俗民情的有益读物。其中有的故事和本套丛书的其它两本互为参照，内容相连。

本书不同于美国概况类的教材，它采用故事的形式向读者介绍美国的历史事件、社会变革、风土人情和地理概貌。

本书依然采用注释的方式，对每篇故事里涉及到的知识性的难点尽可能地提供详尽的介绍，以帮助读者在欣赏美文的过程中更深入地了解美国人民的文化。另外，注释中还对一些难的词句作了注解，有的句子提供了译文。当然这只是注释者个人的理解，难免有误，敬请读者朋友批评指正。

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Part I New England (6 States)

新英格兰地区



Slater Mill, Pawtucket,
Rhode Island.

一、Maine 缅因州

The largest of the **New England**¹ states in area, Maine, in 1820, was the 23rd state to join the Union. Its name comes from an ancient French province of the same name. **The most sparsely populated state**² east of the Mississippi River, it's appropriately called the "**Pine Tree State**",³ as 90 percent of its land is forest. Not surprisingly,

1. 新英格兰

2. 人口最少的州

3. 人们把它叫做“松树州”，这个名称很恰当。

most of Maine's economy is related to timber and the production of paper and paper products although the millions of tourists who **flock**⁴ each summer to "Vacationland" are **a significant source of revenue**.⁵ The capital is Augusta; the state flower is **the white pine cone and tassel**.⁶

4. v. 蜂拥而至
5. 一项重要的税收来源
6. 白松果和缨

Notes:

新英格兰从地理上讲,通常指的是美国东北部的六个州:缅因(Maine)、新罕布什尔(New Hampshire)、佛蒙特(Vermont)、马萨诸塞(Massachusetts)、罗得岛(Rhode Island)和康涅狄格(Connecticut)。

1. A Port to Target, the Port of Portland, Maine¹

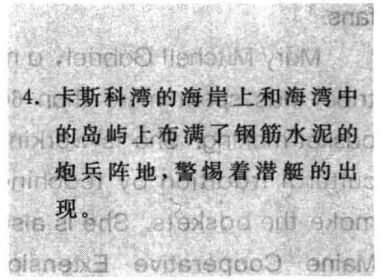
Would you ever guess that the closest U. S. port city to Europe is in Maine? Well, it is.

The coastline of Maine totals about 3 500 miles and consists of **sandy beaches, peninsulas, islands, inlets, bays, coves and harbors**.² Portland Harbor is one of many harbors on the Maine coast. The city was built on two hilly peninsulas overlooking Casco Bay. The harbor became a major shipbuilding and mast building center in the 18th century. By 1806, Portland ranked as the sixth largest port in the country. Its success made it a target for attack by the British during the War of 1812 and by the Confederates during the Civil War. Portland was also a target for **German U-boats**,³ or submarines, during

1. 缅因州的波特兰港
2. 它包括多沙的海滩、半岛、岛屿、各岛间的水域、大、小海湾和港口。

3. 德国潜艇 (U-boats) 经常用来特指二次世界大战中的德军潜艇, 英文是 undersea boat, 取第一个字母 U 加上 boat 构成。

World War I. It was rated the most important harbor in the continental U. S. during World War II, since it was the closest one to Europe. **The coastline and islands of Casco Bay were ringed with artillery bunkers on the alert for submarines.**⁴ Some fishermen and divers claim that there are sunken German U-boats somewhere in Casco Bay.



4. 卡斯科湾的海岸上和海湾中的岛屿上布满了钢筋水泥的炮兵阵地,警惕着潜艇的出现。

2. Baskets by “People of the Dawn” Wabanaki Basketry—A Local Legacy¹

The Penobscot, Passamaquoddy, Micmac, and Maliseet tribes of Maine are known as the Wabanaki Indians, or “People of the Dawn”. They are known for their baskets that they **weave with the leaves of sweet grass and thin strips of an ash tree (splints).** These Indian tribes share a common story that tells how their ancestors emerged from an ash tree when the Creator split it with an arrow.² So, for thousands of years, they have used ash splints to make baskets for both personal and community use. Today, many people collect them as beautiful works of art.

The baskets fall into two categories: work baskets, which are used for gathering, storing, and transporting goods, and fancy baskets, ones that are crafted for the public, with decorative designs. **Intricate shapes and designs and bold colors are used to make woven handkerchief baskets, powder puff holders, purses, vases, wastebaskets, thimble baskets, candy dishes, knitting baskets, cradles, and**

1. “黎明之地人”编织的篮子
瓦巴纳基人的篮子编织术,一种地方性遗产 ②:缅因州是美国最早看到日出的州。
2. 缅因州的佩诺布斯科特族、帕萨马科迪族、密克马克族和玛利希特族印第安人统称为瓦巴纳基印第安人,或者“黎明之地人”。他们以用香草叶和细细的桉树条(编织篮子等用的藤条)编的篮子而著称。这些印第安部落有着一个共同的传说,那就是:造物主用一支箭把一棵桉树射开时,他们的祖先就出现了。
3. 他们用复杂的形状和设计以及醒目的颜色来编织盛手帕的编织篮、粉扑支架、女用手提包、花瓶、废物筐、顶针篓、

fans.³

Mary Mitchell Gabriel, a member of the Passamaquoddy tribe, has spent more than 60 years perfecting the art of basket making. She is working to preserve this important cultural tradition by teaching her two daughters how to make the baskets. **She is also teaching others through the Maine Cooperative Extension Service and the Maine Basketmakers Alliance.**⁴

糖盘、毛线篮、摇篮以及扇子。

4. 她还通过缅因州合作推广服务体系 and 缅因州编织篮制造商联盟来教其他人这种编织技术。

3. Bean-Hole Beans—A Local Legacy¹

What's a bean-hole bean? No, it's not a bean with a hole in it. Bean-hole beans get their name because they are baked in a hole. For hundreds of years, the Penobscot Indians of Maine cooked their food in a hole in the ground. The first thing you need to cook bean-hole beans is a shovel!

Recipe² for bean-hole beans:

—Dig a hole in the ground 3 feet deep and **line it with rocks.**³

—**Build a fire in the hole and let it burn down to large embers and ash.** (This can take half a day before enough coals are produced to cook the beans properly.)⁴

—Use dry beans such as Great Northern, Yellow Eye, Jacob's Cattle, or Soldier.⁵

—Other ingredients include onions, salt pork, ham hock, bacon, tomatoes, brown sugar and molasses.⁶

Put the beans and other ingredients in a cast iron

1. 豆洞豆，一种地方性遗产

2. n. 烹饪方法

3. 用石块把坑底砌平整。

4. 在坑中生上火，让火烧至只剩下余火和炭灰。（这需要半天的时间，这样才会产生足够的木炭把豆子煮熟。）

5. 要用“大北方”、“黄眼”、“雅各的老牛”或者“士兵”这类的干豆。

6. 其它的佐料包括洋葱、咸猪肉、猪火腿肉、熏猪肉、西红柿、红糖和糖蜜。

pot⁷ and cover with water and a lid. Place the pot in the hole, **cover with a wet dish towel or burlap sack, shovel some of the embers and ashes on top of the pot,**⁸ and then cover with dirt. Cooking time varies depending on which recipe is used but it can take as long as 16 hours. Then get ready with a shovel and a bowl!

7. 铸铁锅

8. 用湿的擦碗布或者粗麻布把罐子盖上,用铁锹把一些余炭和炭灰盖在铁锅顶部。

Notes:

“大北方 (Great Northern)”、“黄眼 (Yellow Eye)”、“雅各的老牛 (Jacob's Cattle)”、“士兵 (Soldier)”,这些都是北美印第安人种植的数千种豆类作物中的几种。印第安人根据这些豆类种子的外观颜色、形状和种植的地区在种植这些豆子的过程中给它们命名。文中提到的这几种豆类都是生活在缅因州的印第安部落佩诺布斯科特族 (Penobscot), 帕萨马科迪族 (Passamaquoddy) 和玛利希特族 (Maliseet) 等种植的。“大北方”是一种个头较大、全白色的豆子,印第安人把它叫做“大北方”主要是因为这种豆子产于北方。“黄眼”是一种白色的带有黄色斑点的豆子,这种黄色斑点看上去很像是眼睛,但有的品种斑点是棕色的。“雅各的老牛”是一种白色带有棕色斑点的豆子,这种斑点就像是我们在奶牛身上经常看到的那种斑点。“雅各”这个名字取自《圣经》里面的那个“雅各”。“士兵”也是一种白色的蚕豆,上面的斑点很像是一个士兵。

二、New Hampshire 新罕布什尔州

One of the original 13 states (it entered the Union in 1788), New Hampshire was named after the English county of Hampshire. **New Hampshire is called the “Granite State” because of its numerous granite quarries;**¹ the nickname may also reflect the state's attachment to tradition and its history of **a frugal government.**² **There are no general sales or individual income taxes, which fits**

1. 由于新罕布什尔州有为数众多的花岗岩矿,人们就把新罕布什尔州叫做“花岗岩州”。
2. 一个简朴的政府
3. 没有一般销售税或者个人收

with the state motto of “Live free or die”.³ A relatively small state, New Hampshire plays a major role every four years in the presidential election, as it holds the first primary election. **New Hampshire's state bird is the purple finch and its capital is Concord.**⁴

人所得税,这符合该州的箴言“不自由,毋宁死”。

4. 新罕布什尔州的州鸟是紫梅花雀,州府是康科德市。

1. Hancock Old Home Days¹

Do you like picnics? The people of Hancock, New Hampshire, like them so much that what started as a family picnic in 1879 has grown into a picnic that includes the whole town and anyone who has ever lived there!

Hancock has celebrated Old Home Day for more than 120 years. The celebration includes the Hancock Town Picnic and a parade. **In 1999, the Old Home Day parade included a Y2K Bug float!**² Townspeople see the gathering as a way to encourage others who have moved away to come back and visit. Apparently, other people in the state thought it was a good idea as well. Today, invitations are sent out across the country to relatives and **New Hampshire descendants**³ to return for the statewide celebration. In 1899, **New Hampshire Governor Frank Rollins**⁴ made Old Home Day a state holiday.

1. 汉考克的“家乡节”

2. 汉考克镇在举行 1999 年的“家乡节”游行时还有一辆“千年虫”彩车!

3. 新罕布什尔州人的后裔

4. 新罕布什尔州州长弗兰克·罗林斯 (1860—1915), 麻省理工学院毕业, 后入哈佛学习法律并当律师。1885 从政, 1899—1901 担任州长。

Notes:

1. “家乡节”是新罕布什尔州当地的一个传统节日,它起源于 19 世纪后期。当时,正值美国开发西部的热潮,大批的美国人涌入西部,寻找新的生活。新罕布什尔州的许多人也加入了西进的行列。

可是,人们在涌往西部的同时,也带走了资金和技术,人才也在流失。在新罕布什尔州,田园荒芜,农场无人耕种,房子废弃,州政府和一些地方政府陷入财政困难。1897年,新罕布什尔州参议院主席弗兰克·罗林斯号召“老家”是新罕布什尔州的美国人“回家来看看”,意图使那些走出去的人回来再把荒芜的农场买回去,以助政府财政一臂之力。1899年当上州长后,罗林斯正式决定将“家乡节”定为新罕布什尔州的一个节日。第一个正式的“家乡节”在1899年的8月份举行,时间是一个星期,所以“家乡节”又叫“家乡周”。州长弗兰克·罗林斯成功了。全州各地积极响应,纷纷举办“家乡周”活动,主要是家庭团聚、野餐旅游、观光、探亲、访友等。“家乡周”活动引起了美国各地的注意,大批原家乡在新罕布什尔州的人纷纷回到“老家”来观光、游览、置房、买地、捐款等。新罕布什尔州专门成立了“家乡周协会”,州长弗兰克·罗林斯亲自担任会长多年。新罕布什尔州又逐步恢复了昔日的辉煌。

汉考克镇是新罕布什尔州东南部汉考克县的一个小镇。早在1879年汉考克镇就开始举行类似的活动,是新罕布什尔州最早举行这种活动的一个地方。那时的活动仅限于家庭团聚和全镇性的野餐之类。州长弗兰克·罗林斯在1899年发出号召后,该镇积极响应,在“家乡周”期间举行各种活动,以增进在外地的新罕布什尔州人对“老家”的感情。

2. Y2K Bug: 千年虫。“Y”是“Year”的第一个字母,“2”代表“2000年”,“K”是 Kilo-(千)的第一个字母。“千年虫”在英语里还有一个名称,就是“millennium bug”。

2. Strawberry Banke

Have you ever been in a house that's older than the United States? If you go to Strawberry Banke, a historic area in **Portsmouth**,¹ New Hampshire, you can see this 300-year-old house plus a lot of other very old buildings. Strawberry Banke is an outdoor museum of historic buildings. They are being preserved because they help us learn how people lived hundreds of years ago.

One of the buildings in Strawberry Banke is Sherburne House, which was built in 1695 by Captain John Sherburne.²

1. 朴茨茅斯市, 是新罕布什尔州的港口城市。

2. 约翰·舍伯恩船长

The architecture of the house (the way it's built) tells us that the early European settlers of Portsmouth were English. **On the ceiling in one of the rooms are brightly colored spots that had been sponge-painted.**³ The spots make the room look more cheerful. **We tend to think of the early settlers as being very serious.**⁴ Perhaps this simple decoration—bright ceiling spots—lets us see them as more good-natured than we thought and, maybe, even more like ourselves.

3. 在其中一间屋子的天花板上可以看到用海绵涂上的色彩鲜明的斑点。
4. 我们倾向于认为早期的定居者们是非常严肃的。

3. Northern Forest Heritage Park

There's plenty to do besides camping in **White Mountain National Forest**,¹ such as fishing, hiking, **spying on moose**,² and skiing. But it's also a good place to learn about local history. Within this New Hampshire National Forest is **the Northern Forest Heritage Park**³. The park has a museum and other buildings that tell visitors about the local **logging industry**.⁴ **In fact, Northern Forest Heritage Park runs the oldest continuous logging operation in the United States.**⁵

Considered a “working forest”, the Northern Forest Heritage Park is located along **the Androscoggin River**.⁶ This was a major area in the logging and paper industry in the mid-19th and early-20th centuries. The Northern Forest offered a large supply of trees, and the Androscoggin River provided water power for the **sawmills**.⁷ Immigrants from many countries including Norway, Russia, Ireland,

1. 怀特山国家森林公园
2. 骑着驼鹿进行侦察
3. 北方森林遗产公园 ①: 位于新罕布什尔州北方森林中心地带, 建立于 1994 年。
4. 木材加工业
5. 实际上, 北方森林遗产公园经营着美国历史最悠久的木材工业, 现在依然在生产。
6. 安德罗斯科金河 ②: 发源于新罕布什尔州东北部的一条河流。
7. n. 锯木厂

and Italy worked in the mills. As a result, the area **boomed**⁸ and several companies were established to take advantage of the wood and paper industries. At the same time, efforts were made to keep a forest growing, including the establishment of the first industrial forestry program in the nation.

Next time you are in a forest, think about all the things you can do there, as well as all the natural resources around you.

4. Danbury Grange and Community Fair¹

How much pie can you eat in a single sitting?² The **Blazing Star Grange Number 71** in Danbury, New Hampshire, has a **pie-eating contest** as part of its community fair,³ which has been held annually since 1914.

Do you know what a Grange is? **It is a family-oriented, social organization that focuses on agriculture and rural life**⁴ and was founded by farmers in the 19th century. The word comes from “grain”. There are local granges all over the country. Today, granges are involved in community service projects such as **raising money for charities**⁵ and increasing public awareness of local issues. The Blazing Star Grange community fair **also includes live music, auctions,**⁶ a parade—and a lot of pies.

Not everyone in Danbury gets excited about the community fair parade. **One year, two huge oxen, Ike and Mike,**⁷ were a part of the parade. After a while, they

8. v. 繁荣

1. 旦伯里保护农业社和社区博览会

2. 你一口气能吃多少个派(馅饼)?

3. 新罕布什尔州旦伯里的“71号光辉之星保护农业社”举行“吃派大赛”作为它的社区博览会活动的一部分……

4. 它是一个以家庭为单位的
社会组织,活动的中心内容是农
业和农村生活……

5. 为慈善事业筹款

6. 还包括现场演奏的音乐、拍卖
……

7. 有一年,一头叫艾克和一头叫
麦克的庞大的公牛……

decided they had had enough, so they simply turned off the street and went straight home. Ike and Mike didn't want any part of the parade— **they just wanted their barn and their hay!**⁸

8. 它们只是想回到牛棚去吃草!

Notes:

Grange: “保护农业社”, 是美国农民于 1867 年成立的全国性农民组织, 目的是保护农民的利益, 反对当时对农民经济利益的侵害, 开办教育项目, 促进农民社会交往。当初它的会员组织遍布全美各地。“保护农业社”通过各种活动, 包括政治活动, 在一定程度上保护了农民的利益。现在, “保护农业社”所起的作用已大为减弱, 只是从事社会及文化活动, 并且主要是在新英格兰一带活动。

旦伯里是新罕布什尔州中南部的一个小镇。这个小镇每年都要举行“保护农业社”以及“社区博览会”活动。举办日期一般是 9 月 1 日“劳工节”(Labor Day)后的第一个星期六。在这一天, 人们展出自己生产的农产品、花卉、食品以及其它产品, 同时还有其它活动, 如拍卖、讲故事、音乐会、游行、舞蹈及各种比赛, 热闹非凡。本文讲述的是 1999 年秋季在旦伯里举办的“保护农业社”以及“社区博览会”活动。旦伯里的这一活动由一个叫做“71 号光辉之星”的“保护农业社”发起进行。1999 年的活动又增加了一个“吃派(馅饼)大赛”。

三、Vermont 佛蒙特州

In 1609, French explorer Samuel de Champlain came upon a large lake in the area we know today as Vermont and named it after himself.¹ The state's name comes from two French words *vert* (green) and *mont* (mountain), which explains Vermont's nickname, the “Green Mountain State”. Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys defended their homeland from the British during the Revolutionary War.² Vermont is one of the six New England states and became the 14th state in 1791. Some

1. 1609 年, 法国探险家塞缪尔·德·张伯伦在我们现在的佛蒙特州这个地区碰见了一个大湖, 于是他用自己的名字给这个湖命名。

2. 伊桑·阿伦和“绿岭青年军”在革命战争时期保护了他们的家乡免遭英国军队的侵扰。

②: 伊桑·阿伦(1738—1789), 美国独立战争时期的英雄。

of Vermont's major industries are **dairy farming**³ and tourism. One of the most **picturesque**⁴ states, Vermont has millions of visitors each year who come to see the leaves turn colors in the fall and the snow-covered mountains in the winter. **The state flower is the red clover and the tree is the sugar maple.**⁵ Vermont **maple syrup**⁶ is one of the state's most popular products.

3. 乳品业

4. *adj.* 独特的, 别具一格的

5. 州花是红苜蓿, 州树是糖槭树。

6. 槭糖浆

1. The Secret Flame of Democracy? The Town Meeting¹

What are town meetings in Vermont? Town meetings are a popular form of local government in Vermont and elsewhere.

During these meetings, all citizens are welcome to discuss local issues such as the cost of running the schools and government. Taxes are almost always an issue. Should they be raised or lowered? What type of computers should be purchased? **What to do about overdue property taxes?**² These are just some of the topics that could be discussed and voted on at a town meeting.

University of Vermont political science professor Frank Bryan³ calls the town meeting the "Secret Flame of Democracy". **But some people think the town meeting has outgrown its usefulness.**⁴ They say that American society has grown too large and complex for the town-meeting style of government. Others think that town meetings are "alive, but troubled". They say that town meetings are

1. 民主的秘密之火? 镇务会议

2. 对于那些过期未付的财产税怎么办?

3. 佛蒙特大学政治学教授弗兰克·布来恩

4. 可是, 有些人却认为镇务会议不如从前的用处那么大了。