In the Province of History has emerged from six years of intensive collaboration between the co-authors. Earlier versions of some discussions, such as that on Angus L. Macdonald and the Scottish tradition in chapter 5 and on historic sites and monuments in chapter 6, appeared in 1992 and 1993 articles by Ian McKay in Acadiensis, whose editors are thanked for permitting their inclusion in this book.¹

As our prologue suggests, the present work can legitimately be read as a sequel to the investigation into the cultural contradictions of capitalism in Nova Scotia initiated in Quest of the Folk (1994). All the remaining material, incorporating radical revision of the earlier work, was prepared by both authors together, and this book not only continues, but in many ways transforms the argument of its 1994 predecessor. In particular, it analyses at greater depth the relations between tourism/history, liberal order, and the logic of commodification in capitalist society.

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