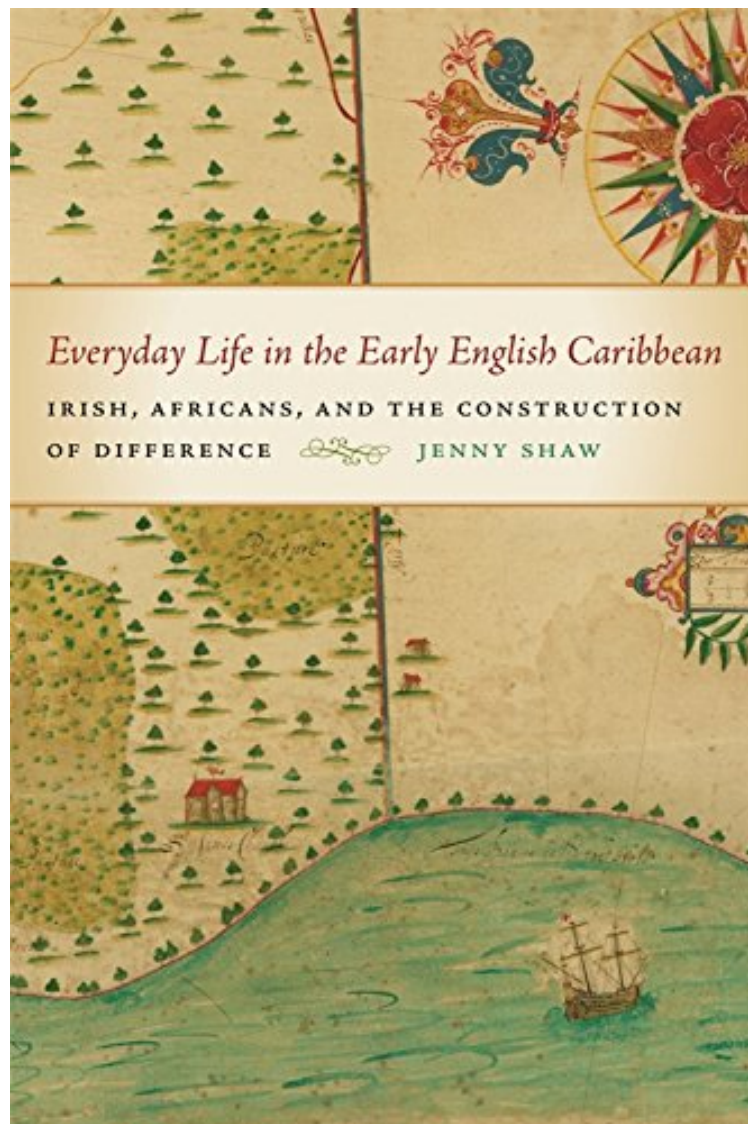


(Mobile ebook) *Everyday Life in the Early English Caribbean: Irish, Africans, and the Construction of Difference* (Early American Places Ser.)

Everyday Life in the Early English Caribbean: Irish, Africans, and the Construction of Difference (Early American Places Ser.)

Jenny Shaw

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#1860697 in Books Jenny Shaw 2013-11-15 2013-11-15 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.05 x .68 x 6.071, .86 #File Name: 0820346624280 pages *Everyday Life in the Early English Caribbean* | File size: 34.Mb

Jenny Shaw : *Everyday Life in the Early English Caribbean: Irish, Africans, and the Construction of Difference* (Early American Places Ser.) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Everyday Life in the Early English Caribbean: Irish, Africans, and the Construction of Difference* (Early American Places Ser.):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. insightful study of the early English CaribbeanBy hmf22Shaw illuminates the development of society in the seventeenth-century English Caribbean with deftness and sensitivity, tracing how Irish servants and African slaves lived and worked beside each other, sharing many things (work tools and diet, for example) while also maintaining cultural and religious differences from each other and from their English masters. Her main theme is the gradual shift from constructions of difference based on religion, culture, and free/unfree status towards a simpler model of difference based on race; official discussion and English record-keeping practices (e.g. in early Caribbean censuses) tended to obscure the large and (from the English point of view) problematic Irish presence in the seventeenth-century English Caribbean. Well-written and engaging, with plenty of human interest, as well as careful discussion of extant sources and a full bibliography.

The everyday lives of Irish and Africans are obscured by sources constructed by elites. Through her research, Shaw overcomes the constraints such sources impose by pushing methodological boundaries to fill in the gaps, silences, and absences that dominate the historical record.

Jenny Shaws nuanced study illuminates how divisions originating in Europe especially those that distinguished Irish Catholic servants from their English Protestant mastersshaped colonial society and ultimately the hierarchies of race that came to be the most important markers of difference. Shaw profitably lingers over the early period, when the early English Caribbean was in the process of becoming, and as a result she demonstrates that race and colonialism were negotiated, not preordained. (Carla Gardina Pestana author of Protestant Empire: Religion and the Making of the British Atlantic World)A nuanced and fascinating account of how Irish Catholics shaped the emergence of racial hierarchy in the English Caribbean. With meticulous attention to the constraints and possibilities of everyday life, Shaw explores the way that early settlers marked and ranked social difference, finding that status distinctions were surprisingly malleable, even in a society overwhelmingly organized by slavery and race. Offering close readings of fresh sources, this is both an important study and an impressive feat of the informed imagination. (Vincent Brown author of The Reapers Garden: Death and Power in the World of Atlantic Slavery)About the AuthorJenny Shaw is an Associate Professor of History at the University of Alabama.