

# SUSAN MACKENZIE ANDERSEN

**Independent Investigative Researcher & Writer  
Philosopher & Ceramic Artist**

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**Substack Newsletter:** The Individual vs The Empire

**ORCID:** [Mackenzie Andersen Researcher ID](#)

**Academia.edu:** Available upon request

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## INVESTIGATIVE RESEARCH FOCUS

Fifteen years of independent research documenting Maine's systematic violation of state constitutional provisions, specifically Home Rule and Article IV Part Third Sections 13 & 14, through the establishment and expansion of a centrally managed economy beginning in 1976 under Governor Longley. This research traces the legislative mechanisms by which public-private partnerships have supplanted constitutional governance and redirected public resources to private industry.

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## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### Independent Investigative Researcher | 2009–Present

#### Maine's Unconstitutional Economic Development Apparatus

Initiated research in 2009 after direct encounter with public-private partnership grant requirements that mandated "exit strategies" requiring business sale within seven years as qualification for minimal funding. This experience prompted systematic investigation of enabling legislation, revealing patterns of constitutional violation spanning five decades.

#### Primary Research Methods:

- Statutory analysis and legislative tracking
- Historical document research (Maine Legislative Library)
- Newspaper archive investigation
- Primary source document analysis
- Pattern identification across legislative sessions
- Constitutional law analysis

#### Research Documentation:

- Over 1,000 published research essays and investigative articles (2009–present)

- Comprehensive tracking of legislative mechanisms enabling state economic intervention
- Documentation of funding flows from constitutionally designated purposes to private industry partnerships
- First draft of book **titled Public Private Relationships and the New Owners of the Means of Production**, contextualization connecting contemporary policy to broader historical economic transformation

#### **Key Investigative Publications:**

"How AMI Became HMI - Using Linguistics to Change the Purpose of Affordable Housing Law" (2025)  
 - Investigation documenting how unelected commissioner with financial interest wrote housing law redirecting public funds from low-income affordable housing to market-rate development

"I Am a Babyboomer and This Is How My Generation Let the Great Wealth Divide Happen!" (2020)

"How The Morrill Act Gave Birth to Public Ownership of Private Intellectual Property in the USA"

"The Boothbay Regional Development Corporation is T13 B Corporation. Here is What That Means."

"A Little Known Secret: When The Maine Legislature Chartered Multiple Municipalities Into A Single Development Corporation"

"Black Holes Found in the Informational Field of the Wealth Concentration & Redistribution Industrial Complex"

"What Do Lessons from the Industrial Revolution Have to Tell Us Today?"

"Were Itinerant Craftsmen Free Agents During the Bronze Age and Why Does it Matter?"

"The Ever Flexible Political Victimization Strategy Of The Anti-Establishment Right"

**Published Monograph:** *Public Private Partnerships and the New Owners of the Means of Production* (first draft), available on Academia.edu

#### **Research Recognition:**

- Newsletter documentation of history rejected by mainstream sources
- Selected for feature by Tealfeed (India-based knowledge sharing platform), 2023
- Invited to join Upcarta (Turkey-based content sharing platform), 2023
- Listed on Paved Newsletter Sponsorship in Books category, 2023

## **ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS**

**Peer Reviewer | Humanities and Social Sciences Communications | 2020–Present**

Active peer reviewer for multidisciplinary academic journal (formerly Palgrave Communications). Completed seven reviews across two publications/grants, evaluating research in political science, economics, history, and social sciences. [Orcid ID](#)

## **Fiscal Sponsorship | The Field | 2022**

Received fiscal sponsorship through The Field, demonstrating capacity for grant-funded work and professional arts administration. (Currently inactive but available for reactivation)

**Profile:** <https://app.thefield.org/profile/Mackenzie-Andersen/630440>

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## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **Research Director, Photographer, Writer, Marketing Director | Andersen Design | 1993–2019**

Family-owned ceramic design and hand-crafted production business, established 1952. Managed all aspects of business operations while documenting intersection of family enterprise with Maine's evolving economic development policies.

#### **Relevant Skills Developed:**

- Business research and analysis
- Financial record keeping and analysis
- Marketing and communications
- Database development
- Website design and content management
- Photography and graphic design
- Published business blog: *Andersen Design Evolution Diaries*

#### **Direct Experience with Maine Economic Development Programs:**

- Navigation of public-private partnership grant requirements
- Documentation of regulatory and economic pressures on independent manufacturers
- First-hand observation of legislative impacts on small business operations

### **Sole Custodian, Andersen Design Legacy | 2019–Present**

Following loss of production facility and death of business co-founder (2019) and sister/business partner (May 2023), assumed sole responsibility for preserving legacy of significant midcentury ceramic design collection.

#### **Ongoing Documentation Work:**

- Comprehensive photography and cataloging of vintage ceramic collection
- AirTable database development for historical inventory

- Website maintenance: andersendesign.com
- Integration of business history with political-economic research
- Marketing of vintage collection

**Research Integration:** The Andersen Design experience provides case study documentation of how Maine's economic development policies impact family businesses and independent craftspeople, directly informing broader constitutional research.

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## PUBLICATION PLATFORM

**Newsletter:** *The Individual vs The Empire* | Substack | 2019–Present

Ongoing investigative journalism combining historical research, constitutional analysis, extremely local Maine politics contextualized within global economic transformation, and personal narrative of maintaining family business legacy against systemic economic pressures.

### Topics Covered:

- Maine constitutional violations and legislative overreach
- Public-private partnership expansion and wealth redistribution mechanisms
- Historical analysis from Bronze Age through Industrial Revolution to contemporary policy
- Economic philosophy and individual liberty vs. centralized control
- Generational wealth transfer and the Great Divide

**Publishing Frequency:** Regular (ongoing)

**Reach:** International recognition through platform partnerships in India and Turkey

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## TECHNICAL SKILLS

### Research & Analysis:

- Legislative and statutory research
- Primary source historical research
- Constitutional law analysis
- Pattern recognition and systemic analysis
- Long-form investigative writing

### Documentation & Publishing:

- Web design and content management
- Database development (AirTable)
- Photography (Adobe Lightroom, Photoshop)
- Graphic design (Adobe Creative Suite)

- Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, Acrobat)
- Digital publishing platforms (Substack)

### **Specialized Knowledge:**

- Maine legislative history (1976–present)
- Constitutional law (Maine and federal)
- Economic development policy
- Public-private partnership structures
- Ceramic design and production (technical knowledge applicable to manufacturing policy analysis)

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## **EDUCATION**

**Pratt Institute** | Brooklyn, New York | 1966–1970  
Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA)

Studied painting, drawing, sculpture, book-making, and art history

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## **CORE COMPETENCIES**

- **Systemic Thinking:** Ability to identify and trace patterns across decades of legislative action
- **Self-Directed Research:** Fifteen years of independent investigation without institutional support
- **Primary Source Analysis:** Direct engagement with legislative records, statutes, and historical documents
- **Long-Form Investigative Writing:** Sustained documentation through over 1,000 published research pieces
- **Interdisciplinary Synthesis:** Integration of constitutional law, economic history, political philosophy, and direct business experience
- **Archival Research:** Experience with legislative libraries and preparation for newspaper archive investigation
- **Persistence:** Maintained research program across significant personal and family challenges

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## **CURRENT INVESTIGATIVE PROJECT**

**Proposed:** Systematic documentation of Maine Legislature's five-decade pattern of constitutional violations regarding Home Rule and Article IV Part Third Sections 13 & 14, utilizing newspaper archives to establish public record of legislative actions and their impacts on Maine communities and businesses.

This investigation builds on fifteen years of statutory research and personal documentation, expanding into comprehensive historical journalism that makes visible what has been systematically excluded from official histories.

"This investigation could uncover that Maine's constitutional protection of local authority was deliberately undermined through economic development structures designed to exploit constitutional loopholes. My recent investigation into [HP1489](#) documented how unelected 'commissioners' with direct financial interests wrote housing law that systematically redirects public funds intended for low-income affordable housing toward market-rate development - a pattern consistent with the centralized economic control the Home Rule Amendment was designed to prevent."

**"Current Seed Grant Project:** Investigation into the origins of Maine's 1969 Home Rule Amendment and whether it emerged as grassroots response to expanding federal economic management. This research will utilize newspaper archives, Constitutional Commission proceedings, and legislative records to document the movement that led voters to constitutionally protect local authority - and trace how that protection has been systematically undermined through economic development structures designed to exploit constitutional loopholes."

This project will become the first chapter of my book, The first draft was completed ten years ago as [Public Private Relationships and the New Owners of the Means of Production](#). It will also be publishable as stand-alone article,