Fact and Fiction: The Fire of ‘47

SOUTHWEST HARBOR – Suspense novelist Matty Dalrymple and MDI researcher Sean Cox will discuss "Fact and Fiction: The Fire of ’47” at the Southwest Harbor Public Library on Tuesday, August 14, 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Dalrymple will read from her MDI-based suspense novel, The Sense of Reckoning, and Cox will use historical documents and photographs to illustrate the tremendous destruction resulting from the devastating blaze that burned over 17,000 acres on Mt. Desert Island.

Author and screenwriter Robert Blake Whitehill says of Dalrymple's The Sense of Reckoning: "Her depiction of the great Bar Harbor fire of 1947 is so exactly and emotionally rendered, I could feel the blasts of heat from the pages. It rivals Norman MacLean’s smoke-jumper classic, Young Men and Fire, for poetic detail."

Signed copies of Dalrymple's book will be available after the talk.

Matty Dalrymple is the author of the Ann Kinnear Suspense Novels The Sense of Death and The Sense of Reckoning, the Ann Kinnear Suspense Shorts, including Close These Eyes and May Violets Spring, and the Lizzy Ballard Thrillers Rock Paper Scissors and Snakes and Ladders. Matty lives with her husband, Wade Walton, their two Labrador Retrievers (Juno and Sophie), and their terrier (Griffin) in Chester County, Pennsylvania, which is the setting for much of the action in The Sense of Death and Rock Paper Scissors. They enjoy vacationing on Mt. Desert Island, Maine, where The Sense of Reckoning takes place, and Sedona, Arizona, the setting for much of Snakes and Ladders. Matty is a member of Mystery Writers of America, Sisters in Crime, International Thriller Writers, and the Brandywine Valley Writers Group.

Sean Cox is a graduate of the University of Maine at Orono, with a BA in American History. Although technically "from away," Sean grew up in Bar Harbor, spent six seasons as an interpretive ranger in Acadia National Park, and wrote his Honors Undergraduate Thesis entitled “Acadia National Park and the Efforts of George Bucknam Dorr: How the Preservation Frontier Moved East and the Challenges for Acadia's Second Century.” Sean is an Honors Associate at UMaine, assisting and teaching for the Honors College while applying to graduate schools for a PhD in Environmental History.

This event is free and open to all. For more information, contact the Library: 244-7065.