

# NEHA NEWS

The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association

VOL XXXII NO. 1

SPRING ISSUE

APRIL 2006

## SPRING CONFERENCE AT BRIDGEWATER STATE COLLEGE

### 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting Saturday, April 22, 2006 SECOND CALL

The 76th meeting of the Association, and our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, will be held on April 22 at Bridgewater State College in Bridgewater, Massachusetts (508-531-1000). The program is listed on pages 3-6 of this issue and was mailed earlier to all members along with registration, motel and travel instructions. Come and meet many of the Association's former presidents who have been especially invited to this 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference.

Vice-President **George W. Dameron** (St. Michael's College) arranged this fine program. **Luci Fortunato De Lisle** and the Bridgewater History Department made local arrangements with the expert assistance of Executive Secretary **James P. Hanlan**. This is our first meeting at this college and it should be a convenient location. We are very grateful for their hospitable efforts on our behalf. Please see our web pages for other details:

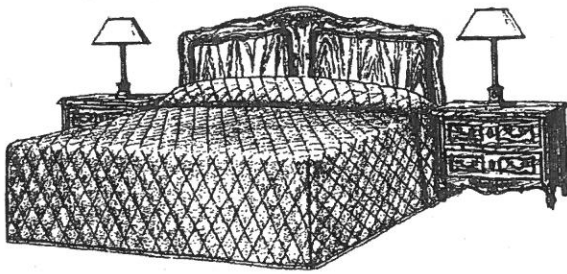
<http://www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEHA>.

The Spring conference begins with registration and continental breakfast on

Saturday at 8:00 A.M. in Harrington Hall. Members are invited to bring copies of their own recent publications as well as timely professional literature for display or distribution at the book exhibit.

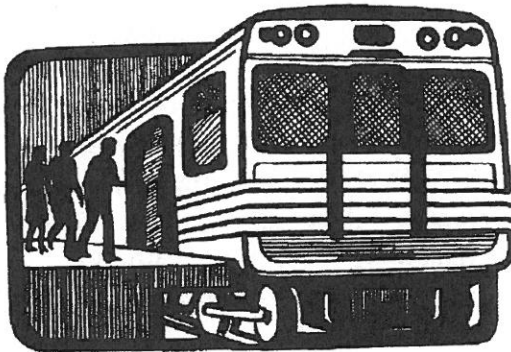
Please note that *registration fee payment is required for everyone on the program* (panelists, chairs and commentators) and all who attend the conference. Pre-registration by mail prior to April 14 is strongly recommended, but registration at the conference is possible. Please feel free to photocopy the conference registration form on the back page when inviting colleagues, graduate students and friends.

Luncheon will be served in Rondileau Campus Center on Saturday at 12:15, but seating is limited. Please reserve your place at lunch when you register by mail. Even if you do not join us in Bridgewater, please use this form to pay your 2006 membership dues. Lunch will be followed a brief business meeting, and the election of the new Association officers.



## OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS

The Association suggests that members make motel reservations by phone and early because this will be a popular meeting. Ask for any NEHA discount rates when you phone for a reservation by April 9. We recommend the **Hampton Inn** in Raynham-Taunton (508-822-6222, and the Days Inn in Middleboro (508-946-4400).



## TRAVEL INFORMATION

**Driving from the North:** take I-93 to Route 24 South to Exit 15 (Bridgewater-Raynham-Route 104). Take Rt. 104 East to the stop sign (3 miles) and turn left to the rotary in Bridgewater Center. Turn onto Summer Street, take the second right onto Grove Street and turn at the first left to the Harrington parking lot.

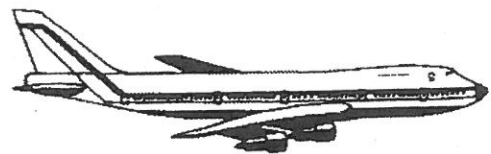
**Driving from the West:** take I-90 to I-495 to Exit 7A (Rt. 24 North). Follow Rt. 24 North to Exit 15 (Bridgewater-Raynham-Rt. 104). Take Rt. 104 East to stop sign (3 miles) and turn left at traffic island marked Summer Street. Take the second right onto Grove Street and the first left into the Harrington parking lot.

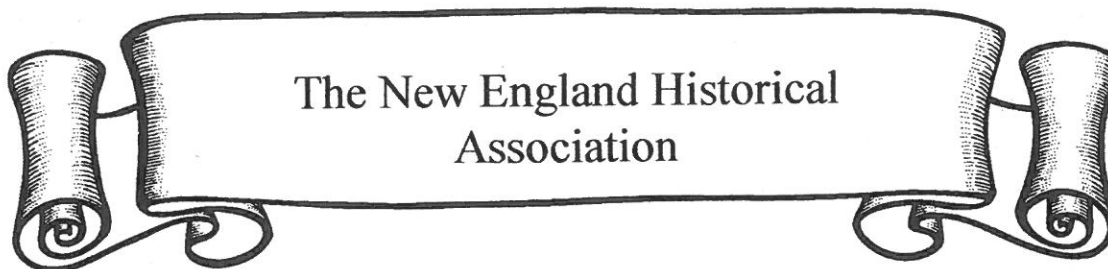
**From the East:** follow Route 106 West to Rt. 104. Turn left at traffic island marked Summer Street and take the second right onto Grove Street and the first left into the Harrington parking lot.

**By Plane:** the nearest airports are Logan in Boston and T. F. Green in Providence.

## ADVANCE NOTICE

The Fall meeting will be held at the **University of Massachusetts** in Dartmouth on October 14, 2006. Our new vice-president will organize the program. The deadline for submitting proposals (one-page abstract and a brief C.V.) is June 15, 2006. For information about the program or submissions, contact the Executive Secretary, **James P. Hanlan**, WPI, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609-2280; [jphanlan@wpi.edu](mailto:jphanlan@wpi.edu)





**The New England Historical Association**  
*A Regional Professional Association for all Historical Specializations since 1965*

**SATURDAY**  
**APRIL 22, 2006**

**BRIDGEWATER STATE COLLEGE**  
**BRIDGEWATER, MA**

**SPRING CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

**Registration and Continental Breakfast: 8 a.m. -- Harrington Hall**  
**Most sessions will be in Harrington Hall.**

**8:00-8:30 REGISTRATION: Harrington Hall.**

**First Morning Session, 8:30-10:00:**

**8:30 Session 1: *World War II Letters and the Local Experience* Harrington 201**

Chair and commentator: Judy Barrett Litoff, Bryant University

1. Maura Delaney, Leslie University: "Meeting Cpl. James G. Delaney, USAAF, Through War Time Letters"
2. Janet E. Schulte, Lesley College, "'Join the Navy and see the world'/'See the other side in the Army': Broadening the Boundaries of Scarborough, Maine and Its Service Members During World War II"
3. Kristin Lynch, Bryant University: "The War in the Pacific and the Transformation of WAAC/WAC Martha Alice Wayman, 1942-1946"

**8:30 Session 2: *The Construction (and Constriction) of Public Memory in American Life* Harrington 202**  
Chair and commentator: Thomas Turner, Bridgewater State College

1. Edward T. O'Connell, State University of New York at Stony Brook: "Battle Lost and Memory Won: The Virginia Memorial and the Constriction of Public Memory at Gettysburg"
2. Brian Regal, TCI College of Technology: "American Histories: Changing Views of American Origins as Taught in Schools and Colleges, 1800-1900"
3. Sarah K. Nytroe, Boston College: "Pentecost at Azusa Street, 1906-1908: Re-Constructing Religious Memory"

**8:30 Session 3: *Social Reform, Social Work, and Healthcare in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century New England* Harrington 204.**

Chair and commentator: Margaret Lowe, Bridgewater State College

1. Janet Greenlees, University of Manchester (UK): "Healthcare in a 19<sup>th</sup> Century New England Cotton Town"

2. George H. Branigan, Stonehill College: "Behind Closed Doors: Peeking into the Providence Reform School, 1850-1880"
3. Amy Dahlberg Chu, Brandeis University: "Fighting the Public Enemy: Hospital Social Work and the Anti-Tuberculosis Campaign in Boston, 1905-1912"

**8:30 Session 4: Catholicism and Anti-Catholicism in the Forging of National Identities: Three Case Studies**

- Chair and commentator: Chris Hannan, Massachusetts Maritime Academy **Harrington 205**
1. Patrick J. Hayes, Marymount College of Fordham University: "'In the Twinking of an Eye, All Pain Left Me': Georgetown's Miracle Cures, 1824-1825"
  2. Bethany Tanis, Boston College: "Anti-Catholicism in Late-Victorian and Edwardian Britain"
  3. Dixie Dillon, The Huntington Library: "Catholic American or American Catholic? The Education and Identity of Roman Catholics in Middlebury, Vermont, 1900-2005"

**8:30 Session 5: Ethnicity, Abolitionism, and Slavery in 19<sup>th</sup> Century America** **Harrington 213**

- Chair and commentator: Mark Cheatham, Southern New Hampshire University
1. Joshua R. Greenberg, Bridgewater State College: "'Kill-the-Damned-Irish' and 'Poland Shall Be Free': The Catholic Conundrum in 1830's New York City"
  2. Karen Woods Weierman, Worcester State College: "'The Scorn of Nations': British Abolitionism and Revolutionary Ideals in the *Liberty Bell*"
  3. Monique J. Carraby-Valentine, University of California, Long Beach: "'Us Colored women had to go through a plenty': Black Women's Sexual Exploitation and Vulnerability during Enslavement"

**8:30 Session 6: Colonial New England and the Construction of the Atlantic World**

- Chair and commentator: Robert W. Smith, Bridgewater State College **Harrington 214**
1. Patrick Spero, University of Pennsylvania: "The Early New England Almanac and the Creation of a British Atlantic World"
  2. Eric Kimball, University of Pittsburgh: "Measuring Portsmouth's Atlantic Trade, 1768-1775"
  3. Michael Gabriel Gunther, Lehigh University: "Unsettled Marchland: The Politics of Land in the Upper Hudson-Champlain Corridor at War's End, 1760-1770"

**Break for Book Exhibit & Refreshments: 10:00-10:30**

**Morning Session II: 10:30-12:00**

**10:30 Session 7: Strategies of Assistance: Dimensions of Race, Class, Gender, and Religion in Benevolent Work** **Harrington 201**

- Chair and commentator: Hal Goldman, Carleton University
1. Elizabeth Duclos-Orsello, Salem State College: "Strategic Fundraising at the House of Seven Gables: Gender, the Colonial Revival and Settlement Work"
  2. Patricia Fanning, Bridgewater State College: "'Serving the Sick, the Poor, and the Children': The Many Missions of the Society of Saint Margaret"
  3. Heather Cole, Salem State College: "'Wielding a Mighty Force for Civic Righteousness': A Case Study of a Community Center in the Progressive Era"



**10:30 Session 8: *Envisioning the New England Landscape***

**Harrington 202**

Chair and commentator: Joseph Cullon, Dartmouth College

1. Anna M. Dempsey, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth: "A Cottage Industry: Female Painters of South Coast Rural New England Landscapes"
2. Jill Mudgett, University of Massachusetts, Amherst: "Mountains and Highland Identity in Nineteenth Century New England"
3. Philip D. Birge-Liberman, Syracuse University: "Mending the Necklace: Finding Significance in Historic Landscape Preservation"

**10:30 Session 9: *Pioneering Women in Public Life in Modern America and Israel***

Chair and commentator: Charlotte Haller, Worcester State College

**Harrington 204**

1. Cornelia F. Sexauer, University of Wisconsin-Marathon County: "A New England Woman Who Made A Difference"
2. Cyndy Bittinger, The Calvin Coolidge Memorial Foundation: "Before Eleanor Roosevelt Changed the Office Forever: Assessing the Impact of First Ladies in the 1920's"
3. Kimberly Long, San Diego State University: "Henrietta Szold: Gender and Education in the Yishuv"

**10:30 Session 10: *Religious Crises and Political Conflict in Colonial New England***

Chair and commentator: Jean Stonehouse, Bridgewater State College

**Harrington 205**

1. Jennifer Bernstein, The Citadel: "The Antinomian Controversy as New England's First Epistemological Crisis"
2. Nicholas Klaiber, The College of William and Mary: "Native Usurpers: Political Transformations in New Netherland and Southern New England during the 1640's"
3. J. Patrick Mullins, independent scholar: "Jonathan Mayhew's Theory of Multiple Religious Establishments in the First Bishop Controversy"

**10:30 Session 11: *Fresh Perspectives on New England Historic Houses and Buildings***

Chair and commentator: Patrick Leehey, Paul Revere House

**Harrington 213**

1. & 2. Mark Schmidt, Director (Historic Winslow House Association), and Karin Goldstein, Curator (Historic Winslow House Association): "Does Penelope's Ghost Haunt the Bridal Chamber or the Borning Room? Overcoming Colonial Revival Myths at Historic Winslow House"
3. Christopher Harris, Northeastern University: "Faneuil Hall as a Mirror of Boston"

**10:30 Session 12: *Explorations in 20<sup>th</sup> Century US Political and Labor History***

Chair and commentator: Doug Slaybaugh, Saint Michael's College

**Harrington 214**

1. Philip A. Grant, Pace University: "The Presidential Election of 1940 in Massachusetts"
2. Bruce Cohen, Worcester State College: "From Norton to Saint-Gaubin (1885-2005): Grinding Labor Down"
3. Eric R. Crouse, Tyndale University College: "Senator Margaret Chase Smith's 'Declaration of Conscience,' McCarthyism, and Main Street America"

**12:15 - 1:30 LUNCHEON & BUSINESS MEETING--Council Chambers, Rondileau Campus Center**

*Note: Annual elections will take place at the luncheon. If you are a member in good standing, but will not attend the luncheon, you may request an absentee ballot from the Executive Secretary.*

**1:30 - 3:00: AFTERNOON SESSIONS**

**1:30 Session 13: The Future of NEHA (former Presidents of the New England Historical Association participating) Crimson & White Room, Rondileau Campus Center**

Chair: Altina Waller, University of Connecticut (current President, NEHA)

Comment: the audience

**1:30 Session 14: Towards a Culture of Inclusion: The Blues, Interracial Marriage, and Racial Politics in 20<sup>th</sup> Century America** **Harrington 201**

Chair and commentator: David Culver, Bridgewater State College

1. Rob Alan Lawson, Dean College, "From Exclusion to Inclusion: Southern Blues Music's Chapter in the Story of American Freedom"
2. Zebulun Miletsky, Monmouth University: "The Boston NAACP and the Dilemma of Intermarriage, 1912-1927"
3. Emily Wexler, independent scholar: "An Issue of Context: Interracial Love on the Street, Screen, and Docket"

**1:30 Session 15: New Englanders in 19<sup>th</sup> Century China: Fredrick Townsend Ward and Henry A. Burgevine and the Rise of Shanghai** **Harrington 202**

Chair and commentator: Jonathan Chu, University of Massachusetts, Boston

1. Thomas E. Williams, Green Mountain College: "Henry A. Burgevine and the American Experience in China"
2. Gordon Knight, Green Mountain College: "Re-examining the Heroic Myth of Salem's Would-Be Emperor of Ch'ing China"
3. Ke-wen Wang, Saint Michael's College: "The *Dagongbao* and Wartime Chinese Politics, 1937-1945"

**1:30 Session 16: Political Legitimacy and the Problem of Factionalism in Pre-modern Societies: The Case Studies** **Harrington 213**

Chair and commentator: Ron Smith, Massachusetts Maritime Academy

1. John F. Shean, LaGuardia Community College (CUNY): "The Religious Policy of the Severans"
2. Richard M. Koch, Hillyer College (University of Hartford): "The Bayeux Tapestry and the Anglo-Norman World"
3. James Kences, Independent Scholar: "Salem Village and Newbury: Political Alignments, Kinship, and the Origins of Factional Conflict"

**3:00 Adjournment**

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## REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee announced the following candidates were selected for the ballot on April 22:

President

**George W. Dameron**  
(St. Michael's College)

Vice President

**Luci Fortunato**  
Bridgewater State College)

Secretary

**Peter Holloran**  
(Worcester State College)

Executive Committee:

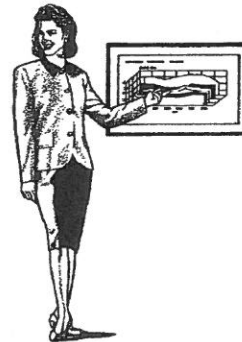
**Ronald Dufour**  
(Rhode Island College)  
**Marc J. Stern**  
(Bentley College)  
**Cynthia Van Zandt**  
(University of NH-Durham)

Nominating Committee:

**Marcia Schmidt Blaine**  
(Plymouth State University)  
**Sean Perrone**  
Saint Anselm College  
**Gayle V. Fischer**  
Salem State College

We congratulate those candidates nominated and thank those who made nominations. Any member may nominate himself, herself, or another member for election to any Association office by writing to the Executive Secretary. All

dues-paying members are eligible to vote by mail or in person at the annual business meeting in April. Self-nominations are encouraged. Write-in candidates are permitted for any position on the slate. Those members interested in serving on the Executive Committee, Nominating Committee, NEHA Prize Committee, or NEHA Book Award Committee should contact the Executive Secretary.



## REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee held its annual meeting in Worcester on December 3. The agenda included reports on the treasury, membership, Nominating Committee, selection of future meeting sites, programs, website, newsletter, book review guidelines, NEHA Book Award, NEHA Prize, planning future conferences, as well as NEHA panels at the AHA and OAH. Certain revisions to the constitution and by-laws will be submitted to the membership for ratification.

Association members may submit a question or agenda item for the next Executive Committee meeting by writing to the Executive Secretary.



### THE NEHA PRIZE

At the April 2006 meeting, will present the annual NEHA Prize for the most outstanding paper presented at a recent conference. Each session chair may nominate one paper for this prize and a committee of three members appointed by the president judges all nominations. The criteria are scholarship, presentation and originality. This year the committee members are; **Ross W. Beales, Jr.** (College of the Holy Cross); **Anni P. Baker** (Wheaton College); and **Daniel Williamson** (University of Hartford). The prize is intended to encourage and recognize outstanding research papers by graduate students at our conferences. Session chairs are invited to recommend papers presented by a graduate student at the Spring or Fall meetings. Contact the Executive Secretary for details.

### NEHA BOOK AWARD COMMITTEE

At the Fall meeting on October 14, 2006 the chair of the NEHA Book Award Committee will present the 2006 NEHA Book Award. The winner receives a \$200 honorarium and a framed certificate for his/her outstanding book.

Any publisher may nominate one book each year by writing to Executive Secretary **James P. Hanlan**, WPI, Department of Humanities, 100 Institute Road, Worcester,

MA 01609-2280 or email him at [iphanlan@wpi.edu](mailto:iphanlan@wpi.edu) by June 1, 2006. Monographs on any historical topic, time or place published in 2005, written by an author who lives or works in New England (or has done so in the past two years), are eligible for the annual NEHA Book Award presented at the October 2006 conference. The nominated book should represent the best historical writing and scholarship in any era or field of history.

The members of the NEHA Book Award Committee for 2006 are: **Sean Perrone**, chair (St. Anselm College); **Susan Ouellette** (St. Michael's College); **Charles Lansing** (University of Connecticut); **Kathryn Tomasek** (Wheaton College); and **Michael Nolan** (Western Connecticut State University).

### NEHA PANEL AT THE 120<sup>TH</sup> AHA

The American Historical Association's 120th annual meeting in Philadelphia on January 5-8, 2006 included a session sponsored by NEHA, *Assessing PBS's Colonial House: A Roundtable*. This panel was presented at our 73rd meeting at the College of St. Joseph in Vermont in October 2004 and became a joint AHA-NEHA session. Several NEHA members attending the AHA meeting found time to participate in this panel on January 6 at 9:00 a.m. It was an analysis with some judges and participants of the popular PBS television series, *Colonial House*. The panelists included **Peter Holloran** (Worcester State College), **Emerson Baker** (Salem State College), **Liz Lodge** (Plimoth Plantation) and **Julia Frieze**. NEHA also had an information table among the affiliated societies at the AHA staffed by **Robert Imholt** and **Peter Holloran**.

## CONFERENCE REPORT

The 75th meeting of the Association at the University of Rhode Island on October 22 was well attended with 109 historians registered for 18 sessions with 49 papers. We were pleased to hear URI President **Robert Carothers** speak at lunch. At the luncheon on campus, 97 members joined us for food, drink and a brief business meeting.

This meeting was made possible by the splendid efforts on our behalf by the program chair, Vice-President **George Dameron** (St. Michael's College), Executive Secretary **James P. Hanlan** (Worcester Polytechnic Institute), and a very cooperative local arrangements committee headed by **Evelyn Sterne**.



## NEWS OF THE PROFESSION

**Constance Clar** (University of Colorado) was appointed an assistant professor of the History of Science and Technology at WPI.

**Marian Kamil Dziewanowski**, who taught Russian and East European history at Boston University from 1965 to 1979, died at his home in Milwaukee in February 2005.

**William M. Fowler**, director of the Massachusetts Historical Society for the past eight years, has returned to Northeastern University as professor of History. His successor is **Dennis A. Fiori**, formerly at the Maryland Historical Society and earlier at the Concord Museum.

**Jan Golinski** (University of New Hampshire) was elected to the AHA Nominating Committee.

**Howard Gottlieb**, the founder and director of the Archival Research Center at Boston University for 42 years, died in Boston in November.

**Thomas A. Horrocks** (Countway Library) was appointed Associate Librarian of Houghton Library for Collections at Harvard University, and elected as a member of the American Antiquarian Society.

**Vera Laska**, who taught European history at Regis College for more than twenty years, died in December.

**James McCann** (Boston University) was named a fellow at Harvard University's W.E.B. Du Bois Institute and won a Rockefeller Foundation grant.

**Scott Marr** (Boston University) was awarded the John Tracy Ellis Dissertation Award by the American Catholic Historical Association.

**Adam Mendelsohn** (Brandeis University) won the Southern Jewish Historical Society quadrennial prize for his article *Two Far South: Rabbinical Responses to Apartheid and Segregation in South Africa and the American South in Southern Jewish History*.

**Thomas Robertson** (University of Wisconsin) was appointed an assistant professor of History at WPI.

**Bryan Thrift** (Boston University) was appointed assistant professor of history at Tougaloo College.

**Ellen Umansky** (Fairfield University) won the Southern Jewish Historical Society prize for her article *Christian Science, Jewish Science, and Alfred Geiger Moss* in the *Southern Jewish History* journal.





## BOOK NEWS

**Robert J. Allison** (Suffolk University) published *Stephen Decatur: American Naval Hero, 1779-1820* (University of Massachusetts Press).

**Arlene Voski Avakian** (University of Massachusetts-Amherst) and **Barbara Haber** (Harvard University) published *From Betty Crocker to Feminist Food Studies* (University of Massachusetts Press).

**Shelley Barber** (Boston College) published *The Prendergast Letters: Correspondence from Famine-Era Ireland, 1840-1850* (University of Massachusetts Press).

**Christopher Benfey** and **Karen Remmler** (Mount Holyoke College) published *Artists, Intellectuals, and World War II: The Pontigny Encounters at Mount Holyoke College, 1942-1944* (University of Massachusetts Press).

**Sheila Tully Boyle** and **Andrew Bunie** (Boston College) published *Paul Robeson: The Years of Promise and Achievement* (University of Massachusetts Press).

**Jacqueline Glass Campbell** (University of Connecticut) published *When Sherman Marched North from the Sea: Resistance on the Confederate Home Front* (University of North Carolina Press).

**Rosa E. Carrasquillo** (Assumption College) published *Our Landless Patria: Marginal Citizenship and Race in Caguas, Puerto Rico, 1880-1910* (University of Nebraska Press).

**Catherine Clinton** and **Nina Silber** (Boston University) published *Battle Scars: Gender and Sexuality in the American Civil War* (Oxford University Press).

**Joseph A. Conforti** (University of Southern Maine) published *Creating Portland: History and Place in Northern New England* (University Press of New England) and *Saints and Strangers: New England in British North America* (Johns Hopkins University Press).

**Barbara Diefendorf** (Boston University) published *From Penitence to Charity: Pious Women and the Catholic Reformation in Paris* (Oxford University Press), which won the AHA J. Russell Major prize for the best book in French history.

**Jeffry M. Diefendorf** (University of New Hampshire) and **Kurk Dorsey** (University of New Hampshire) published *City, Country, Empire: Landscapes in Environmental History* (University of Pittsburgh Press).

**Rebecca Edwards** (Vassar College) published *New Spirits: Americans in the Gilded Age, 1865-1905* (Oxford University Press).

**Saul Engelbourg** (Boston University) and **Gustav Schachter** (Northeastern University) published *Cultural Continuity in Advanced Economies: Britain and the U.S. Versus Continental Europe* (Ashgate Publishing).

**Paul A. Fideler** (Lesley College) published *Social Welfare in Pre-Industrial England: The Old Poor Law Tradition* (Palgrave Macmillan).

**Luis A. Figueroa** (Trinity College) published *Sugar, Slaves, and Freedom in Nineteenth-Century Puerto Rico* (University of North Carolina Press).

**Robert M. Fogelson** (MIT) published *Bourgeois Nightmares: Suburbia, 1870-1930* (Yale University Press).

**Anna Geifman** (Boston University) published *La mort sera votre Dieu: Du nihilisme russe au terrorisme islamiste* (La Table Ronde).

**Merle Goldman** (Boston University) published *From Comrade to Citizen: The Struggle for Political Rights in China* (Harvard University Press).

**Beverly Carolease Grier** (Clark University) published *Invisible Hands: Child Labor and the State in Colonial Zimbabwe* (Heinermann).

**Allen Guttman** (Amherst College) published *Sports: The First Five Millennia* (University of Massachusetts Press) which won the 2005 book award of the North American Society for Sport History.

**Evan Haefeli and Kevin Sweeney** published *Captive Histories: English, French, and Native Narratives of the 1704 Deerfield Raid* (University of Massachusetts Press).

**Patricia Hills** (Boston University) and **Melissa Renn** (Boston University) published *Syncopated Rhythms: 20<sup>th</sup>-Century African American Art from the George & Joyce Wein Collection* (Boston University Art Gallery).

**Daniel Horowitz** (Smith College) published *The Anxieties of Affluence: Critiques of American Consumer Culture, 1939-1979* which won the 2005 Eugene Kayden Press book award.

**Lori J. Kenschaft** (Boston University) published *Reinventing Marriage: The Love and Work of Alice Freeman Palmer and George Herbert Palmer* (University of Illinois Press).

**Stephen Lassonde** (Yale University) published *Learning to Forget: Schooling and Family Life in New Haven's Working Class, 1870-1940* (Yale University Press).

**Maureen Elgersman Lee** (University of Southern Maine) published *Black Bangor: African Americans in a Maine Community, 1880-1950* (University Press of New England).

**James McCann** (Boston University) published *Maize and Grace: Africa's Encounter with a New World Crop, 1500-2000* (Harvard University Press) which won the American Society for Environmental History George Perkins Marsh Prize.

**Gerald W. McFarland** (University of Massachusetts-Amherst) published *Inside Greenwich Village: A New York City Neighborhood, 1889-1918* (University of Massachusetts Press).

**Jeffrey D. Marshall** (University of Vermont) published *The Inquest* (University Press of New England).

**Bradford D. Martin** (Bryant College) published *The Theater Is in the Street: Politics and Performance in Sixties America* (University of Massachusetts Press), which won the 2005 New England American Studies Association book award.

**Dane A. Morrison and Nancy L. Schultz** (Salem State College) published *Salem: Place, Myth, and Memory* (Northeastern University Press), which won the American Association for State and Local History book award.

**Cathal J. Nolan** (Boston University) published *The Age of Wars of Religion, 1000-1650* (Greenwood Press).

**Charles O'Brien** (Western Illinois University) published an historical mystery novel set in Paris in 1787, *Lethal Beauty* (Severn House).

**Thomas H. O'Connor** (Boston College) published *The Athens of America: Boston, 1825-1845* (University of Massachusetts Press).

**Troy Paddock** (Southern Connecticut State University) published *A Call to Arms: Propaganda, Public Opinion, and Newspapers in the Great War* (Praeger).

**John E. Schrecker** (Brandeis University) published *The Chinese Revolution in Historical Perspective* (Praeger).

**Howard P. Segal** (University of Maine) published *Recasting the Machine Age: Henry Ford's Village Industries* (University of Massachusetts Press).

**Mary Beth Sievens** (SUNY Fredonia) published *Stray Wives: Marital Conflict in Early National New England* (New York University Press).

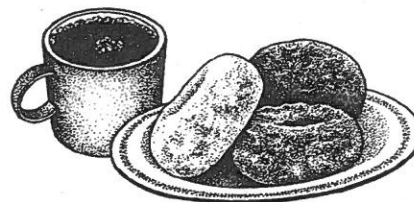
**Cathy Stanton** (Tufts University) published *The Lowell Experiment: Public History in a Postindustrial City* (University of Massachusetts Press).

**Bruce M. Stave** (University of Connecticut) published *Red Brick in the Land of Steady Habits: Creating the*

*University of Connecticut, 1881-2006* (University Press of New England) in celebration of UConn's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**Len Travers** (University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth) published *Encyclopedia of American Holidays and National Days* (Greenwood Press).

**Julian Zelizer** (Boston University) published *The American Congress* (Houghton Mifflin).



## CONFERENCES MEETING

The North American Conference on British Studies (NECBS) will hold its 2006 annual meeting with the Northeast Conference on British Studies (NECBS) in Boston on November 17-19, 2006. Contact Steven Pincus, NACBS Program Chair, Yale University, Department of History, 320 York Street, New Haven, CT 06520; [NACBS@yale.edu](mailto:NACBS@yale.edu) or see the webpages: [www.nacbs.org](http://www.nacbs.org)

The New England American Studies Association (NEASA) annual conference meets at the University of Southern Maine in Portland on September 15-16, 2006. The theme is *Homeland Security: Race and Citizenship in the United States*. Proposals may be submitted to Eve A. Raimon, University of Southern Maine, 51 Westminster Street, Lewiston, ME 04240; [raimon@usm.maine.edu](mailto:raimon@usm.maine.edu)

The Tenth Annual Salve Regina University Conference on Cultural and Historic Preservation meets in Newport on September 14-16. Contact Catherine Zipf, Salve Regina University, 100 Ochre Point Avenue, Newport, RI 02840; [Catherine.Zipf@salve.edu](mailto:Catherine.Zipf@salve.edu)

The annual **Conference on Northern New England** meets at the Washburn Humanities Center in Maine on June 8-10, 2006 focused on the theme *Northern New England: Seen from Within and from Without*. This unusual conference provides free lodging for all participants at the Washburn-Norlands Living History Center in Livermore, Maine. Contact Billie Gammon, 42 Hathaway Hill Road, Livermore, Maine 04253; (207) 897-2236; [egammon@exploremaine.com](mailto:egammon@exploremaine.com)

The **Northeast Victorian Studies Association** holds its 32<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting at Drew University in Madison, New Jersey on April 7-9, 2005 on the theme *Victorian Fatigue*. Contact Eileen Gillooly, English Department, 602 Philosophy Hall, Columbia University, New York, NY 10027; [eg48@columbia.edu](mailto:eg48@columbia.edu)

The **28<sup>th</sup> Annual North American Labor History Conference** meets at Wayne State University on October 19-21, 2006 on the theme *Technology, Environment and Work*. Contact Janine Lanza, NALH Conference, Department of History, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI 48202; email: [aol605@wayne.edu](mailto:aol605@wayne.edu)

The joint conference of the **American Association for Netherlandic Studies (AANS)** and the **New Netherland Institute (NNI)** meets in Albany on June 8-10, 2006. For more information see their website: [www.nnp.org/conferences/aansnnijoint.html](http://www.nnp.org/conferences/aansnnijoint.html)

The **Third Biennial Urban History Association Conference** meets at Arizona State University in Phoenix on October 20-22, 2006. The goal is to explore urbanism and urban regions across time and space. Queries may be directed to Janet R. Bednarek, the Urban History Association executive secretary at [Janet.Bednarek@uayton.edu](mailto:Janet.Bednarek@uayton.edu)

The **15th Annual World History Association** conference meets at California State University at Long Beach on June 22-25, 2006 on the themes *Teaching World History* and *The Americas in World History*. Contact the World History Association, 2530 Dole Street, Honolulu, HI 96822; [thewha@hawaii.edu](mailto:thewha@hawaii.edu) or [www.thewha.org](http://www.thewha.org) by January 10.

The **Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association (NEPCA)** holds its 29th annual conference at Rivier College in Nashua, NH on October 27-28, 2006. Contact the NEPCA Executive Secretary, Robert E. Weir, [weir.r@comcast.net](mailto:weir.r@comcast.net) or for more information, see the NEPCA website: [www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEPCA.html](http://www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEPCA.html).

The **2006 OAH Midwest Regional Conference** on the theme *Historic Heartland: Celebrating a Century of the OAH* meets in Lincoln, Nebraska on July 6-8, 2006. For more information see the website: [www.oah.org/meetings/2006regional/](http://www.oah.org/meetings/2006regional/)

**Charming and Crafty: Witchcraft and Paganism in Contemporary Media** is an interdisciplinary conference meeting at Harvard University on May 18-21, 2006. Papers will be on representations of witchcraft and paganism in film, television and other media from 1900 to 2006. Contact Hannah Sanders by email to [charmingcrafty@aol.com](mailto:charmingcrafty@aol.com)

The **Agricultural History Society** will hold an annual meeting at MIT on June 15-17, 2006. The conference theme is *Agrarian Societies*. Contact Sara M. Gregg, Iowa State University, Department of History, Ames, IA 50011-1202; [greggs@iastate.edu](mailto:greggs@iastate.edu) or see the AHS website, <http://agriculturalhistory.ualr.edu/>



**SHEAR, the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic**, holds its 28<sup>th</sup> annual conference at the University of Montreal on July 20-23, 2006. The conference theme is *National Histories, International Engagements* in the 1780-1860 era. Contact Catherine Kelly, SHEAR Program Committee, University of Oklahoma, Department of History, Norman, OK 73019; [cathykelly@ou.edu](mailto:cathykelly@ou.edu).

The 31st annual meeting of the **Social Science History Association** will be on the theme *Audiences and Publics* in Minneapolis on November 2-5, 2006. For more information see the SSHA website: <http://www.ssha.org>

The **Society of Early Americanists** and the **Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture** will hold a joint conference, SEA's fifth biennial and the Institute's thirteenth annual, on June 7-10, 2007 at the College of William and Mary. Contact Mendy Gladden, OIEAHC, Box 8781, Williamsburg, VA 23187; [mcglad@wm.edu](mailto:mcglad@wm.edu)

The 11<sup>th</sup> **Annual War College of the Seven Years' War** meets at Fort Ticonderoga on May 20-21, 2006. The program commemorates the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the French & Indian War. For more information see the website: [www.fort-ticonderoga.org](http://www.fort-ticonderoga.org) or contact Karl Crannell, Fort Ticonderoga, PO Box 390, Ticonderoga, NY 12883; [Karl@fort-ticonderoga.org](mailto:Karl@fort-ticonderoga.org) by May 1.

The **American Italian Historical Association** holds its 2006 conference at the University of Central Florida in Orlando on October 26-29. The theme is *Italian Americans in the Third Millennium*. Contact the program chair Paolo Giordano at [pgiordan@mail.ucf.edu](mailto:pgiordan@mail.ucf.edu)

The **American Antiquarian Society** will hold its Summer Seminar in the History of the Book in American Culture on June 12-15, 2006. This seminar is entitled *Books and Their Readers to 1800 and Beyond*. Contact Joanne D. Chaison, American Antiquarian Society, 185 Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA 01609; [jchaison@mwa.org](mailto:jchaison@mwa.org) or see the AAS webpages: [www.aamerianantiquarian.org/sumsem06.htm](http://www.aamerianantiquarian.org/sumsem06.htm)

The 2007 **Popular Culture/American Culture Association** national conference will meet on April 4-9 in Boston. For information about the program, contact Michael Schoenecke, PCA/ACA Secretary-Treasurer, Box 43901, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX 79409-3091; [MKSchoene@aol.com](mailto:MKSchoene@aol.com)



## CONFERENCES MEETING ABROAD

The **History of Education Society** will hold its 2006 annual meeting with the Canadian History of Education Association at the University of Ottawa on October 26-29. Contact the program chair Nancy Beadle, University of Washington, Box 353600, Seattle, WA 98195 or email [hes2006@u.washington.edu](mailto:hes2006@u.washington.edu)

The **Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference** meets on July 6-9, 2006 at the University of Durham, UK. Longer versions of INCS papers may be published in the journal *Nineteenth-Century Contexts*. Proposed papers on the theme *Nineteenth-Century Creativity* may be submitted by November 1 to [Bennett.Zon@durham.ac.uk](mailto:Bennett.Zon@durham.ac.uk)



The **XIV<sup>th</sup> International Oral History Conference** meets on July 12-16, 2006 at the University of New England in Sydney, Australia. For more information on the conference theme, *Dancing with Memory: Oral History and Its Audiences* see the website: [www.une.edu.au/ioha2006](http://www.une.edu.au/ioha2006) or email [ioha@uts.edu.au](mailto:ioha@uts.edu.au)

## AUTHORS WANTED

**The Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association (NEPCA)** offers its annual book award for the best book on any American culture or pop culture topic published in 2005 by an author in New England or New York. Publishers may nominate one book by June 1, 2006. The award certificate and \$200 prize will be presented to the winner in October 2006 at the annual NEPCA conference. Contact the NEPCA Executive Secretary: **Robert E. Weir**, NEPCA, 15 Woods Road, Florence, MA 01062; [weir.r@comcast.net](mailto:weir.r@comcast.net)

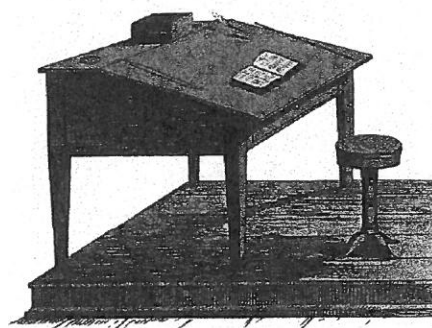
The editors of the *New England Quarterly* announce the **2006 Herbert Ross Brown Prize in New England Literary History, 1820-2000**. The prize of \$2,000, established in memory of Herbert Ross Brown, editor of the *NEQ* from 1945 to 1980, will be awarded for a distinguished essay in New England literary history in the 1820-2000 era. Contact Linda Smith Rhoads, Brown Prize Committee, *The New England Quarterly*, Northeastern University, Boston, MA 02115; [lrobbins@newenglandquarterly.org](mailto:lrobbins@newenglandquarterly.org) or see the website: [www.newenglandquarterly.org](http://www.newenglandquarterly.org)

The journal *Film & History* seeks new film reviewers. Proposals for short movie reviews (500 words) or longer review articles are welcome, and inquiries about new films available for reviews. Reviewers

must be *Film & History* subscribers at the time of submission. Contact Cynthia Miller, *Film & History*, Film Review Editor, Emerson College, Boston, MA 02116; [cynthia\\_miller@emerson.edu](mailto:cynthia_miller@emerson.edu)

**The Center for French Colonial Studies** offers awards each year (\$1,000) to further French-language research related to the French presence in the upper Mississippi Valley. Grantees publish their research in *Le Journal*, the Center's quarterly publication. Contact the CFCS, Department of History, CM 321, North Central College, 30 North Brainard, Naperville, IL 60540-4690 or see the CFCS website: [www.noctrl.edu/cfcs](http://www.noctrl.edu/cfcs)

The *Journal of American Culture*, a scholarly quarterly published by the American Culture Association since 1975, seeks contributions (articles, book reviews and essays). For more information, contact the editor: Kathy Merlock Jackson, Virginia Wesleyan University, Norfolk, VA 23502-5599; email: [kmj@vwu.edu](mailto:kmj@vwu.edu)



## GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

**The North American Conference on British Studies** offers dissertation year fellowships for research in the British Isles on British (Irish, Scottish or Imperial) history topics by Ph.D. students from the U.S. or Canada. Contact Andrew August, NACBS Executive Secretary, Abington College, Penn State University; [axa24@psu.edu](mailto:axa24@psu.edu)

The New England History Teachers Association offers the annual Laska Award, a \$2000 prize for any American college student who is an American history major in New England. For details about this award contact Philip Whitbeck, Laska Award Committee, 29 Princess Road, West Newton, MA 02465.

The New England Regional Fellowship Consortium, a collaboration of sixteen major cultural agencies and libraries, offers eight awards each year. Each grant provides a \$5,000 stipend for forty days of research at three or more participating institutions. For information about this or other MHS Fellowships, contact Cherylinne Pina at Massachusetts Historical Society, 1154 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02215; [cpina@masshist.org](mailto:cpina@masshist.org); [www.masshist.org/fellowships.html](http://www.masshist.org/fellowships.html)



## BOSTON MUSEUM PROJECT

The Boston Museum Project will establish a network of graduate students who are working on topics related to the Boston area. They plan a series of lunches to share information, research, and resources. This will identify students interested in developing content for the museum to be built in the wake of the Big Dig. The Boston Museum will tell the stories of all of Boston's people through interactive multimedia programs and changing exhibits of the extraordinary hidden collections in the region. For more information see [www.bostonmuseum.org](http://www.bostonmuseum.org) or email Cory Cresiski, [ccresiski@bostonmuseum.org](mailto:ccresiski@bostonmuseum.org)

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

**John Bracey**

University of Massachusetts-Amherst

**Samuel Brenner**

Brown University

**Romuald K. Byczkiewicz**

Central Connecticut State University

**Michael Connolly**

St. Joseph College

**Ron DuFour**

Rhode Island College

**Eileen Eagan**

University of Southern Maine

**Rachel Habicht**

University of Rhode Island

**Thomas Head**

Hunter College, CUNY

**Daniel McClure**

Smith College

**Alison Mann**

University of New Hampshire

**Joanne Pope Melish**

University of Kentucky

**Zebulon Miletsky**

Monmouth University

**Maureen O'Gorman**

Providence College

**Steven Park**

University of Connecticut

**Ousmane Power-Greene**

University of Massachusetts-Amherst

**Michael Quinlin**

Boston Irish Tourism Association

**Patricia M. Schaefer**

New London County Historical Society

**Patricia Thevenet**

A. S. Connecticut History

**Peter Van Do**

University of Massachusetts- Boston

## PRESIDENTS OF THE NEW ENGLAND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 1966-1967 | Frank Friedel, Harvard University                    |
| 1967-1968 | Reinhold Dorwart, University of Connecticut          |
| 1968-1969 | Louis Morton, Dartmouth College                      |
| 1969-1970 | Daniel Thomas, University of Rhode Island            |
| 1970-1971 | J. H. Hexter, Yale University                        |
| 1971-1972 | Helen Mulvey, Connecticut College                    |
| 1972-1973 | Sidney A. Burrell, Boston University                 |
| 1973-1974 | Kenneth F. Lewalski, Rhode Island College            |
| 1974-1975 | John G. Gagliardo, Boston University                 |
| 1975-1976 | Jane Pease, University of Maine                      |
| 1976-1977 | Robert Lougee, University of Connecticut             |
| 1977-1978 | Giles Constable, Harvard University                  |
| 1978-1979 | Gordon Jensen, University of Hartford                |
| 1979-1980 | Neil Stout, University of Vermont                    |
| 1980-1981 | Fred A. Cazel, Jr., University of Connecticut        |
| 1981-1982 | Darrett Rutman, University of New Hampshire          |
| 1982-1983 | John Voll, University of New Hampshire               |
| 1983-1984 | Emiliana P. Noether, University of Connecticut       |
| 1984-1985 | Ronald P. Formisano, Clark University                |
| 1985-1986 | Ridgway F. Shinn, Jr., Rhode Island College          |
| 1986-1987 | Catherine M. Prelinger, Yale University              |
| 1987-1988 | Paul A. Fideler, Lesley College                      |
| 1988-1989 | Roger Howell, Jr., Bowdoin College                   |
| 1989-1990 | Barbara Solow, Harvard University                    |
| 1990-1991 | Richard D. Brown, University of Connecticut          |
| 1991-1992 | Alan J. Reinerman, Boston College                    |
| 1992-1993 | Richard Buel, Wesleyan University                    |
| 1993-1994 | Neal R. Shipley, University of Massachusetts-Amherst |
| 1994-1995 | Bruce M. Stave, University of Connecticut            |
| 1995-1996 | Patricia Herlihy, Brown University                   |
| 1996-1997 | Roland Sarti, University of Massachusetts-Amherst    |
| 1997-1998 | James S. Leamon, Bates College                       |
| 1998-1999 | Borden W. Painter, Jr., Trinity College              |
| 1999-2000 | Alan Rogers (Boston College)                         |
| 2000-2001 | Joanne Schneider (Rhode Island College)              |
| 2001-2002 | Joseph Conforti (University of Southern Maine)       |
| 2002-2003 | James O'Toole (Boston College)                       |
| 2003-2004 | Paul Monod (Middlebury College)                      |
| 2004-2005 | Robert J. Imholt (Albertus Magnus College)           |
| 2005-2006 | Altina Waller (University of Connecticut)            |

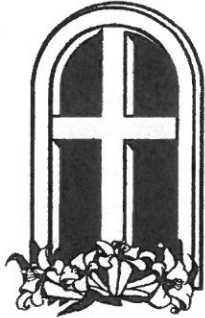


## MEETINGS OF NEHA

|      |   |      |  |
|------|---|------|--|
| 1966 | University of Connecticut               | 1987 | Historic Deerfield   |
| 1967 | Harvard University                      | 1988 | Albertus Magnus College  |
| 1968 | University of Massachusetts-<br>Amherst |      | Salem State College  |
| 1969 | Boston University                       | 1989 | University of Hartford   |
| 1970 | University of Rhode Island              |      | University of Lowell   |
| 1971 | University of Massachusetts-<br>Amherst | 1990 | Smith College  |
|      | Yale University                         |      | Pine Manor College   |
| 1972 | University of New Hampshire             | 1991 | St. Joseph's College   |
|      | University of Hartford                  |      | American Antiquarian Society<br>&<br>Worcester Polytechnic Institute |
| 1973 | Bentley College                         |      | John F. Kennedy Library &<br>University of Massachusetts-<br>Boston  |
|      | Connecticut College                     | 1992 | Assumption College   |
| 1974 | Rhode Island College                    |      | Rhode Island College   |
|      | Clark University                        | 1993 | University of Southern Maine   |
| 1975 | Pine Manor College                      |      | John Carter Brown Library &<br>Brown University                      |
|      | University of Maine, Portland           | 1994 | Bentley College  |
| 1976 | St. Joseph's College                    |      | University of Hartford   |
|      | Exeter Academy                          | 1995 | Mount Holyoke College  |
| 1977 | Harvard University                      |      | Saint Anselm College   |
|      | University of Connecticut               | 1996 | Amherst College  |
| 1978 | University of Massachusetts,<br>Amherst |      | Roger Williams University  |
|      | University of Lowell                    | 1997 | Northeastern University  |
| 1979 | Boston College                          |      | University of Connecticut  |
|      | Colby-Sawyer College                    | 1998 | University of Vermont  |
| 1980 | Old Sturbridge Village                  |      | Connecticut College  |
|      | Rhode Island College                    | 1999 | Rivier College   |
| 1981 | Mount Ida College                       |      | Suffolk University   |
|      | Albertus Magnus College                 | 2000 | Tufts University   |
| 1982 | College of the Holy Cross               |      | Stonehill College  |
|      | University of New Hampshire             | 2001 | Salve Regina University  |
| 1983 | Fitchburg State College                 |      | Saint Michael's College  |
|      | Roger Williams College                  | 2002 | Massachusetts Maritime<br>Academy                                    |
| 1984 | American Antiquarian Society            |      | Rhode Island College   |
|      | Framingham State College                | 2003 | Bentley College  |
| 1985 | Bowdoin College                         |      | College of the Holy Cross  |
|      | University of Connecticut               | 2004 | Newbury College  |
| 1986 | American Antiquarian Society            |      | College of Saint Joseph  |
|      | Boston College                          | 2005 | Regis College  |
|      |   |      | University of Rhode Island   |
|      |   | 2006 | Bridgewater State College  |
|      |   |      | University of Massachusetts-<br>Dartmouth                            |

## BOOK REVIEWS

*NEHA members interested in writing a book review or suggesting a new book for review should contact the Book Review Editor, Robert E. Weir, [weir.r.@comcast.net](mailto:weir.r.@comcast.net)*



**Jon S. Sensbach. *Rebecca's Revival: Creating Black Christianity in the Atlantic World*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2005.**

*Rebecca's Revival: Creating Black Christianity in the Atlantic World* weaves a fascinating account that takes the reader from the small sugar island of St. Thomas to the Moravian church center in Germany and finally to the Gold Coast of Africa. Gaining her independence at sometime between the age of ten and fifteen, the former slave Rebecca was instrumental in evangelizing to the enslaved population of St. Thomas. In 1738, she married a white Moravian missionary and eventually became an ordained minister in the Moravian Church.

In 1736, when Rebecca was eighteen, German-Moravian missionaries arrived on St. Thomas "to preach the Gospel" (45). For Rebecca and other "black women and men of St. Thomas" who were converted by the Moravians, "Christianity became a religion in motion, a church on foot," as they "fanned out along rugged roads to bring their teaching to the people" (69). Despite brutal abuse from planters who opposed this work "Black evangelists" were especially important to the mission as they "used their credibility to take the message where white missionaries

could not go..." including numerous plantations, the fields where they slaves worked, and their quarters (74). "The Path", a road encircling the island, soon had symbolic religious meaning, and represented for Rebecca, on a deeply spiritual level, her connection to the work of the apostles in the New Testament Book of Acts.

As the evangelizing of Rebecca and her husband gained slave converts to Christianity the concern of planters peaked, leading to the imprisonment of the Moravian missionaries. As Sensbach speculates, the cross-racial marriage of Rebecca and Matthäus Freundlich probably exacerbated the desire to remove the Moravians and crush their influence. Instead, the suffering and Christian convictions of the prisoners mirrored those of the early church apostles leading to even more slave conversions. The intervention of Count Zinzendorf, founder of the German Moravians, led to the release of Rebecca and her husband. Broken in health, they departed for Germany, where Rebecca soon found herself widowed.

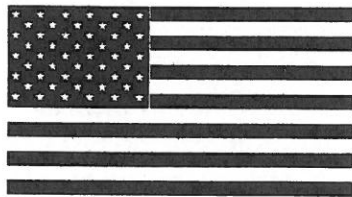
Rebecca's years in the German Moravian community were exciting and rich with spiritual encouragement. The presence of men and women of color, Sensbach notes, was "emblematic of an emerging triangle of black Moravian communities in the West Indies, Bethlehem [Pennsylvania] and Germany, with St. Thomas the source of them all (174)." Eventually Rebecca married Christian Proctor, a fellow "mixed blood" Moravian who took her to his homeland on the Gold Coast of Africa. Here in Fort Christianburg as a missionary and teacher, Rebecca began the third and last phase of her life.

*Rebecca's Revival* draws together many threads of the early eighteenth-century world including Protestant evangelicalism, slavery and Christianity, and the emergence of the black church in the Americas. This is a fine example of Atlantic World history, providing a lens



into the world of slavery and evangelical religion at the onset of an era of revivals that would have a critical impact on early modern church and society. Arguably the most important theme running through *Rebecca's Revival* is the fact that despite being black and female Rebecca found ways to empower herself in the face of incredible odds. During her time in Germany, she and another woman from St. Thomas whom Rebecca had helped lead to conversion, were ordained by the Moravian Church, making them perhaps the "first black women to be ordained in western Christianity, signaling the power of this form of evangelical religion to take any and all into its bosom" (188). Furthermore, two former slaves now "administered Communion and ... spiritual authority over white women" (189). *Rebecca's Revival* clearly demonstrates that no less than "an emerging spiritual revolution" was already undermining "the subordination of women and people of color" (189). One is left wondering how many more "Rebeccas" there may have been. Sensbach has provided a valuable book for the general reader and for those teaching courses on the history of the Atlantic World, religion, slavery, women and the West Indies.

**Jacqueline Barbara Carr**  
University of Vermont



**Rusty L. Monhollon. "This is America?"**  
*The Sixties in Lawrence, Kansas.* New  
York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2004.

Rusty Monhollon contends that Lawrence, Kansas, in the 1960s was a "community in turmoil, experiencing rapid transformation during a time of great social and political upheaval" (4). Seeking to better understand how individuals within

this community were influenced by the wider political changes occurring in the United States, specifically the civil rights movement and the movement against the war in Vietnam, Monhollon argues that "The sixties was made in the homes, the streets, and the minds of citizens in places like Lawrence, as they and other Americans gave meaning to the rhetoric and symbolism that came from their experiences" (7). Monhollon utilizes local sources such as published letters to the editors of Lawrence papers, oral histories, letters to Kansas representatives and senators, and newspaper articles to examine Lawrence's political and cultural transformation(s) over the course of the decade. The result is an informative study that offers a relevant example of how a period replete with politics and discontent forever changed a Midwestern college town.

Arguably the most influential institution in Lawrence in the 1960s was the University of Kansas, described by Monhollon as a "liberalizing influence" in a "politically conservative" town of fewer than 55,000 residents (5). For the locals, the university was a window into the political movements prevalent across the country. From Black Power advocates and New Left-anti-war activists to radical feminists, the university was host to numerous political viewpoints (and dramas) throughout the decade. Particularly useful within his analysis of Lawrence is Monhollon's inclusion of conservative responses to political actions. For today's undergraduates studying the period in question, the consideration of these viewpoints is critical to understanding just how radical some 1960s' viewpoints truly were. Monhollon indicates that in Lawrence, as in other towns across the nation, the demands of campus liberals and radicals sharply contradicted the working-class values of the men and women who populated the neighborhoods beyond the campus borders.

Monhollon examines turmoil through the compelling saga of July 1970, when Lawrence residents tried to come to grips with changing political ideologies and cultural identities. In that tragic month, two young men – one white, one black – died at the hands of the Lawrence Police Department. Nick Rice, a nineteen-year-old white college student was fatally shot in the head by Lawrence police as they sought to quell community outrage over the shooting death of Black Power activist Rick Dowdell, who was killed just days before by a white police officer. Race, Monhollon argues, was the critical factor influencing relations among the people of Lawrence in the 1960s. “Most whites,” Monhollon contends, “refused to acknowledge that a problem had ever existed, or if they did, they charged blacks for creating it” (185). In the end, however, the deaths of Dowdell and Rice were symptomatic of a town-wide dilemma. “Blacks and whites,” Monhollon concludes, “shared responsibility for Lawrence’s troubles... Together they, along with apathetic citizens and misguided liberals, helped to create the conditions in which Rick Dowdell and Nick Rice were killed” (186).

*“This is America?”* would be particularly useful in undergraduate and graduate courses focusing specifically on the 1960s, race relations in the United States, campus politics in the post-World War II era, and dissent in the twentieth century. This book moves beyond the oft-considered elite campuses and considers how politicization and cultural transformations influenced an American town not previously examined by historians of the turbulent Sixties.

**Suzanne Kelley McCormack**  
Independent Scholar



**George W. Dameron. *Florence and Its Church in the Age of Dante*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2005.**

In this important book, George Dameron examines the pivotal role of the church in the transformation of Florence from a minor Tuscan city to a major European economic and financial center. In contrast to earlier scholarship, which saw the church as an obstacle to change and peripheral to new political and economic developments, Dameron argues that ecclesiastical institutions and church teachings actually facilitated the rapid ascent of Florence between 1250-1330. He develops his argument in five chapters – “Institutions,” “Vocations,” “Economy,” “Piety,” and “Commune.” Each chapter is based on meticulous archival research and a thorough reading of the most recent scholarship on the Florentine church.

Dameron links aspects of church history that have been studied separately. Consequently, individual chapters have much that is familiar to specialists in church history (e.g., the Catholic Church was not monolithic and Jacques Le Goff’s thesis connecting the idea of purgatory to the rise of capitalism). Nevertheless, specialists will find much to ponder in this book, and non-specialists will find it to be a valuable primer on the church and religious life in medieval Florence. For instance, Dameron’s superb discussion of the various ecclesiastical institutions within the diocese (monasteries, hospitals, cathedral chapters,

etc.) and his clear delineation of the complex and often conflictive relations between these ecclesiastical bodies will be useful to specialists and non-specialists alike.

Dameron's close analysis of ecclesiastical institutions and the "spiritual" economy has also led him to rehabilitate the secular clergy. By focusing on the urban religious experience, earlier scholarship highlighted the contributions of mendicant friars to the religious and economic life of Florence and consequently obscured the contributions of the secular clergy. Using account books, testaments, and other sources, Dameron demonstrates that the secular clergy met the economic and spiritual needs of their parishioners during the age of Dante. Two examples illustrate this point. First, the secular clergy assisted struggling rural parishioners by lending them church property at favorable rates and being lenient on collecting rents. Second, in their wills, the laity did not forget the spiritual and economic assistance of the secular clergy, leaving as many testamentary legacies to them as to the mendicants between 1255 and 1330. Ecclesiastical institutions, secular and mendicant, were vibrant organizations that used their economic resources to aid those adversely affected by the transformation of Florence and their spiritual resources (e.g., Catholic teachings on purgatory) to offer solace to those who benefited from this transformation. The church then helped to assuage the social conflicts created by economic growth and dislocation. A final point Dameron draws from his study of ecclesiastical institutions is that ecclesiastical lordships in the countryside helped Florence to consolidate its hold over the *contado*. Thus, to understand the creation of the Florentine state fully, we need to bring the church back in.

The book is readable and neatly organized. The use of subheadings within chapters makes the material more

accessible to readers. The book also includes useful maps, images, tables, and appendices. Dameron has made an important contribution to our understanding of the church in the medieval commune, and this book will be indispensable for future research on the subject.

Sean T. Perrone  
Saint Anselm College



**Cheryl J. Fish. *Black and White Women's Travel Narratives: Antebellum Explorations*. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2004.**

In the mid-nineteenth century three women published books about their transnational travels: Nancy Prince (*A Narrative of the Life and Travels of Mrs. Nancy Prince*), Mary Seacole (*Wonderful Adventures of Mrs. Seacole in Many Lands*), and Margaret Fuller (*Summer on the Lakes, in 1843*). Cheryl J. Fish argues in *Black and White Travel Narratives: Antebellum Explorations* that these women's journeys provide a "site to study the conjunctions of mobility, domesticity, and labor, intersecting with discourses of nationality and race" (5-6). Fish distinguishes her travelers from others most often found in travel or tourism literature who primarily seek adventure. Prince, Seacole and Fuller traveled for specific reformist purposes. They engaged in benevolent work, thought critically about the people and places they observed, and explored new meanings of "foreignness" and "home." Fish's stance toward the three women neither "celebrates" nor "condemns." Instead, she seeks to "illuminate and recover the multiple accomplishments, silences, and historical

meanings created by their works and personas" (9).

Fish first follows the journeys of Nancy Prince, the freeborn daughter of first generation African American parents from Massachusetts. She worked in Boston as a domestic servant and left in 1824 for Russia with her new husband who served as a guard for the czar. Prince established a "garment-making business" including the Russian Empress Alexandra among her customers. Perhaps because of her closeness to the Russian court, Prince did not write in any detail about the condition of Russian serfs although she perceived that peasants "till the land, most of them are slaves and are very degraded. The rich own the poor, but they are not suffered to separate families or sell them off the soil" (46). Widowed within nine years, Prince traveled to Jamaica to do missionary work and teach emancipated Afro-Jamaicans. Wanting to establish a "manual labor" school for orphans she made a difficult journey back to the United States to raise funds. Only a Russian document of "protection" saved her when her ship unexpectedly docked in New Orleans. She returned to unrest in Jamaica lacking sufficient funds to open her school.

Mary Seacole was born to a Creole mother and Scottish father in Kingston, Jamaica. She married in Jamaica and became a "doctress" with knowledge gained from Afro-Jamaican women healers, including her mother. At the age of 45, widowed and accompanied by two servants, she left for Panama. Observing relations between the races, and how she was perceived by others, Seacole identified as "'yellow' to define herself as other than black and not quite white" (73). She practiced medicine and healing, treating rich and poor for cholera, performing an autopsy on a baby to learn more about the disease. Seacole moved on to the Crimea to care for British soldiers but was denied

official posts to serve as a nurse. Rejected, she opened a hotel and store, Spring Hill, where she took in guests and patients. With "kindness and her portly, old, brown working body", Seacole went out with her medicine chest on "forays to hospitals and battle sites" to nurse soldiers (84). She became a "celebrated person" in the Crimea, compared to Florence Nightingale (86). As the war ended, she lost her business and resumed traveling, establishing homes in Jamaica and London.

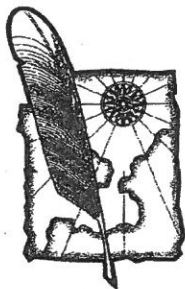
Margaret Fuller, a white New England Protestant, struggled much of her life both to support herself financially and to practice the role of public intellectual. She embraced Transcendentalism and German Romanticism, and in 1843 left Massachusetts to learn about westward migration and "the results of empire building" in the Niagara, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin territories (102). During her travels, Fuller sympathized with Native Americans during the Indian Removal yet was unable to see beyond categories of civilized and uncivilized. She decried the harshness of life for women on the frontier although her four-month journey was too short for her to experience the life of a woman settler. Fuller "obsessed" about "who was most 'fit' to be part of the hybrid race of westerners from which American genius would someday emerge" (100).

Fish's study is interdisciplinary, incorporating methodologies from at least three fields: American studies, African American and women's studies. Likewise, she explores three literary traditions: Anglo-American, African American, and Anglo-Caribbean. The study reflects significant research in archival records and incorporates "textual, historical and material analysis" (10). This work illustrates most importantly for teachers who employ themes of "identities" that we should go beyond the more commonly used primary documents of captivity, conversion



and slave narratives. Travel narratives, especially those of women and nonwhites, tell other stories of historical of individuals actively participating in American and transnational cultures.

**Jennifer Tebbe-Grossman**  
**Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences**



**Gloria L. Main. *Peoples of a Spacious Land: Families and Cultures in Colonial New England.. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2001.***

Gloria Main has written a survey of colonial New England from the perspective of social, economic and cultural history rather than the more usual political approach. Her book is a synthesis of much recent and social and cultural history but it is also based on her own research, some of it previously published, in which she challenges some pervasive historiography. Thus, it is a useful book for use in graduate as well as undergraduate courses on colonial and family history.

Main is careful to interweave Native American history into her analysis of the English settlement of New England. Her two opening chapters contrast Native American economy and culture with that of the newcomers, then moves on through five chapters in which she describes and contrasts Native Americans and newcomers in areas such as sexuality, courtship and marriage, bearing and losing children, childrearing, youth, and old age. She finishes with two chapters entitled "Transitions" that discuss changes in Narragansett (as representative of all Native Americans) society and culture with

changes in English society and culture. This "life stage" approach is very revealing and sums up a host of recent literature. However, it is clear that the bulk of analysis pertains to the English – even the two chapters that are supposed to be fully devoted to Indians tend to be co-opted into discussions of English culture. In the comparative chapters, there is an obvious imbalance – perhaps not surprising given the sources available and the focus of Main's own research. Despite this imbalance Main has summarized much scholarship on Native Americans and is to be commended for bringing it front and center.

Main's title, *Peoples of a Spacious Land*, is emblematic of her challenge to some of the accepted historiography of colonial New England. Disagreeing with accepted wisdom that the newcomers stole the land and destroyed the culture of Native peoples, Main insists indigenous cultures were already undergoing significant economic and demographic changes that were causing "political rivalries, social competition, and tensions between the sexes" (18). She concludes that contact and trade "merely...turned up the heat" (18) rather than causing decline. Hers is a relatively positive view of the English land taking activities as well as their social and cultural impact on Indians, thus the optimistic word "spacious" in the title.

In Main's treatment of changes in English economy, society and culture, she also takes on several standard interpretations. One, for example, is the research advanced by Cornelia Dayton (*Women Before the Bar*, 1995) and Carol Shammas (*A History of Household Government*, 2002) that patriarchy strengthened in the eighteenth century, limiting women's ability to seek redress in court or to challenge fathers and husbands on any level. Main argues the contrary, that

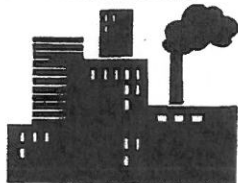


patriarchy weakened in the eighteenth century, thus allowing women more latitude and children more opportunities to choose when and whom they married. Despite this argument, which is based mostly on marital patterns of children, Main equivocates enough to allow for doubt as to the overall conclusion. In another example, Main rejects a long-held interpretation of eighteenth century economic change – i.e. that the population was expanding so rapidly that by the eighteenth century, young men had little chance to become property owners and prosperous farmers. Many historians have used this population-land crisis to explain migration to cities, westward movement, and war with Indians and finally, the American Revolution. Main, however, insists that because of the still “spacious” land in the eighteenth century, young men who were willing to work hard could still become prosperous farmers or artisans. She writes, “For a poor but honest young man with good health, good fortune, and good connections, the sky was the limit...” (203). Thus, in some ways, Main seems to be returning to an older, more filiopietistic argument about unbounded opportunity in the new world. Whether that argument will hold up as more research is done is another question.

Despite my quibbles, this is an extremely well researched and well written book which should prove indispensable reading for colonial historians.

**Altina Waller**

**University of Connecticut**



**Laura Hapke. *Sweatshop: The History of an American Idea*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2004.**

With the possible exceptions of meatpacking and mining, few images from American industry conjure as much horror as sweatshops. Everybody knows what a sweatshop is, right? Well, don't be too sure. As Laura Hapke reveals, the sweatshop is as much an “idea” as a reality, one that has been shaped by journalists, reformers, artists, novelists, radicals, and even industrialists. Each group employs the sweatshop trope to make the case for its vision or agenda. In clever hands, the same needle trades conditions that led to the tragedy of the Triangle Shirtwaist fire of 1911 can reemerge as an upward mobility path for the poor.

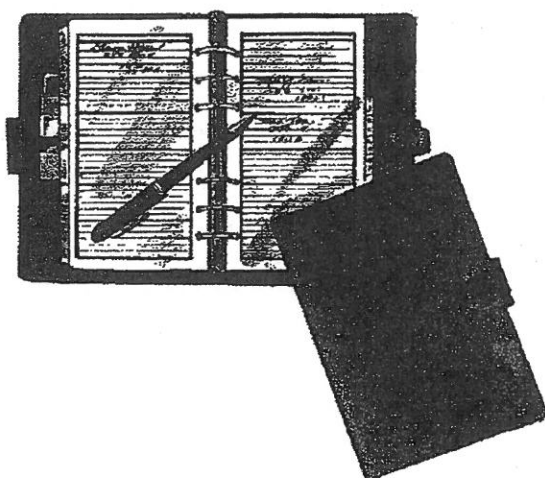
Hapke confines her analysis to how reformers, artists, and industrial managers have envisioned sweatshops. As one can imagine, the ideology of the narrator has shaped the meaning of sweatshops. This extends to the very definition of a sweatshop; as she argues, eliding grueling homework with Dickensian sewing factories often had the effect of further marginalizing needle trades women. Artists like William Gropper and writers such as Sholem Asch often used male images to depict sweatshops, though women made up the vast preponderance of sweated labor. Even worse, locating sweatshops in factories rather than homes allowed nativists to dismiss sweated labor as degraded and dirty immigrant work and moralists to associate women workers with street prostitution or begging.

Many Progressive Era activists and Depression-era artists alike also misrepresented sweatshops; both tended to treat it as a past relic, hence a trope against which reforms could be justified or a “newsreel of memory” could be replayed. (69) Ironically, this was also the conclusion of some post World War II unions that (too) readily bought into rhetoric that workers were becoming middle class. Hapke praises artists such as Ralph

## NOTES

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**Robert E. Weir**  
**Smith College**



## **PLAN AHEAD**

### **American Historical Association**

2007 \* Atlanta \* 4-7 January  
2008 \* Washington \* 3-6 January  
2009 \* New York City \* 2-5 January  
2010 \* San Diego \* 7-10 January  
2011 \* Boston \* 6-9 January  
2012 \* Chicago \* 5-8 January  
2013 \* New Orleans \* 3-6 January  
2014 \* Washington, DC \* 2-5 January

### **Organization of American Historians**

2006 \* Washington, DC \* 20-23 April  
2007 \* Minneapolis \* 29 March-1 April  
2008 \* New York \* 28-31 March  
2009 \* Seattle \* 26-29 March  
2010 \* Washington \* 7-10 April

### **American Studies Association**

2006 \* Oakland \* 12-15 October  
2007 \* Philadelphia \* 11-14 October  
2008 \* Albuquerque \* 16-19 October  
2009 \* Washington, DC \* 5-8 November

### **American Conference for Irish Studies**

2006 \* St. Louis \* 19-22 April

### **Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association**

2006 \* Atlanta \* 12-16 April  
2007 \* Boston \* 4-7 April  
2008 \* San Francisco \* April

### **Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association**

2006 \* Rivier College \* 27-28 October  
2007 \* Clark University \* October

### **Oral History Association**

2006 \* Little Rock \* 25-29 October

### **National Conference on Public History**

2006 \* Washington, DC \* 19-22 April

### **Social Science History Association**

2006 \* Minneapolis \* 2-5 November  
2007 \* Chicago \* 15-18 November  
2008 \* Miami \* 23-26 October  
2009 \* Long Beach \* 12-15 November  
2010 \* Chicago \* 18-21 November

### **Society of Historians of the Early American Republic**

2006 \* Montreal \* 20-23 July  
2007 \* Worcester, MA \* 19-22 July  
2008 \* Philadelphia \* July  
2009 \* Lowell \* July

### **Southern Historical Association**

2006 \* New Orleans \* 17-20 November  
2007 \* Richmond \* 31 October-3 November

[illegible]

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# NEHA NEWS

## The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association

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The New England Historical Association is a comprehensive organization for professional and avocational historians in all disciplines and fields. Membership is open to all persons or organizations interested in studying, teaching or writing history. It is *not restricted* to New England history or American Studies. The Association is affiliated with the American Historical Association.

Annual dues (calendar year) for regular members are \$15.00, or \$7.50 for graduate students and adjunct or retired faculty members. Life membership for individuals or organizations is \$150. An Association Fund assists in supporting the work of the Association. All dues and contributions to the Association Fund are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Please address all correspondence to the Executive Secretary.

## CALENDAR

★★★★★

Fall Meeting  
UMass-Dartmouth  
October 14, 2006

Spring Meeting  
Southern New  
Hampshire University  
April 2007

★★★★★



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