

NEHA NEWS

The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association

VOL XXVII NO. 1

SPRING ISSUE

APRIL 2001

SPRING CONFERENCE IN NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND AT SALVE REGINA UNIVERSITY

Saturday April 21, 2001
SECOND CALL

The 66th meeting of the Association will be held on Saturday, April 21 at Salve Regina University in Newport, Rhode Island (401-847-6650). The program is listed on pages 3-5 of this issue and was mailed earlier to all members along with registration, motel and travel instructions.

Vice-President **Joseph Conforti** arranged this splendid program. George Antone at Salve Regina University made local arrangements with the customary assistance of Executive Secretary **James P. Hanlan**. This is the Association's first meeting in scenic Newport and we are very grateful for the hospitable efforts on our behalf. Please see our web page for other details:
<http://www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEHA>.

The Spring conference begins with registration on Saturday at 8:00 A.M. in the **O'Hare Academic Center**. 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. *Registration fee and annual membership dues payment is required for*

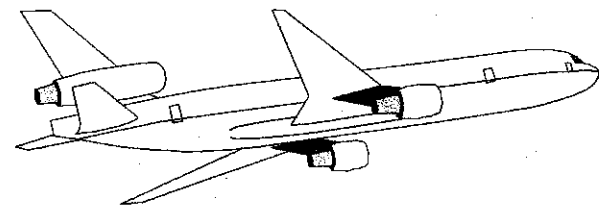
everyone on the program (panelists, chairs and commentators) and all who attend the conference. Pre-registration by mail prior to April 15 is strongly recommended but registration at the conference is possible. Please feel free to photocopy the conference registration form on the back page when inviting colleagues, graduate students and friends.

Luncheon will be served at **On the Campus**, but seating is limited. Please purchase your lunch ticket when you register by mail before April 15. Even if you do not join us in Newport, please use this form to pay your annual membership dues. The newly elected Association officers will be introduced at lunch during a brief business meeting, annual election and our first annual NEHA Prize presentation.

OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS

The Association suggests that members make motel reservations by calling Newport Reservation (1-800-842-0102). Please note we are meeting on a busy weekend, so

reservations should be made well in advance to assure availability.



TRAVEL INFORMATION

Driving from Boston: follow Rt. 128 to Route 24 South to Fall River. Follow signs to Newport. Take Route 24 South over the Sakonnet River Bridge, take the third exit (Exit 1) marked Newport/Middletown Beaches-Route 138. Turn right at the end of the exit ramp. Continue on Route 138, turn right at the first traffic light. Continue past the state police barracks to Middletown, turn left onto Route 138A (Acquidneck Avenue). Follow signs to Newport Beaches, turn left at the second light at the bottom of the hill. Bear right at the next light, Acquidneck Avenue becomes Memorial Blvd. in Newport. At the top of the hill turn left onto Bellevue Avenue at the light on the top of the hill. Turn left onto Narraganset Avenue at the next light. Turn right onto Ochre Point Avenue. Enter the campus.

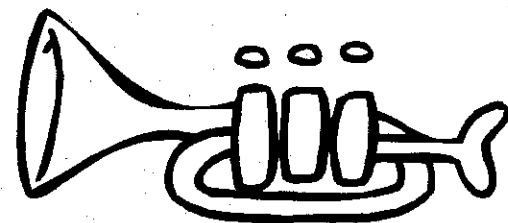
Driving from Route 195 West: follow Route 195 West to Fall River. Take Exit 8A for Newport-Route 24 South. Follow this over the Sakonnet River Bridge and take the third exit (Exit 1) marked Newport/Middletown Beaches-Route 138. Continue through Portsmouth on Route 138, turn right at the first light. Follow directions above past the state police barracks.

Driving from South of Newport: Take I-95 to Exit 3 for Route 138 East through Richmond and Kingston to signs for Route 1. Turn left at the light where Route 138 and

Route 1 join. Drive on Route 138 East/Route 1, take right at exit for Route 138 East to Newport. Follow sign for Jamestown/Newport Bridges. Take 138 East over the Jamestown Bridge to the Newport (Pell) Bridge (\$2.00 toll). Take the first exit, turn right at the bottom of the ramp onto Farwell Street, turn right at second light onto America's Cup Avenue. Up the hill (Memorial Avenue), turn right at light onto Bellevue Avenue. Turn left at the next light onto Narraganset Avenue, turn right onto Ochre Point Avenue. Enter the campus.

Parking on the campus is available in parking lots marked with the familiar NEHA signs leading to the O'Hare Building.

Airlines serve Newport at Boston at the T. H. Green Airport in Providence. Taxi, limo, or car rental from the airport should be made in advance. For Amtrak information call 800-872-7245. Bus service to Newport is by Greyhound (800-231-2222).



ADVANCE NOTICE

The Fall meeting will be held at St. Michael's College in Colchester, Vermont on October 20, 2001. Our new Vice-President will be the program chair, and organize the program. The deadline for submitting proposals (one-page abstract and a brief c.v.) is June 15, 2001. For information about the program or submissions contact the Executive Secretary, James P. Hanlan (jphanlan@wpi.edu).

The New England Historical Association

SATURDAY
APRIL 21, 2001

SALVE REGINA UNIVERSITY
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

SPRING CONFERENCE PROGRAM

All sessions will be held in the O'Hare Academic Center. Room Locations will be posted at the conference.

8:00-8:45 REGISTRATION: O'Hare Academic Center.

First Morning Session, 8:45-10:15:

8:45 Session 1: Perspectives on African-American History

Chair/Commentator: Joanne Pope Melish, University of Kentucky
James Allegro, Johns Hopkins University, "Legislating Whiteness, Empowering Englishness: Slave Law, Self-Government and Political Identity in Massachusetts Bay Colony"
Robert Hall, Northeastern University, "Foodways in the African Diaspora: Continuity and Transformation"
John Saillant, Western Michigan University, "Islam in Early Black Abolition"

8:45 Session 2: Problems of Identity in English History

Chair/Commentator: Paul Monod, Middlebury College
Kathryn Mapstone, Boston College, "Royal Reputations and Historical Identity in Early Modern England"
John Morgan, Ryerson Polytechnic Institute, "Science and Isrrael: Thomas Sprat, the Early Royal Society, and the Changing Idiom of a Chosen Nation"
Kurt Gingrich, Radford University, "The Molasses Act, Pamphlets, and the English Image of New England"

8:45 Session 3: New Directions in Modern European Intellectual History and Biography

Chair/Commentator: Troy Paddock, Southern Connecticut State University
Christopher Mauriello, Salem State College, "H. W. Nevison: Public Intellectual"
Stephen Russell, University of Connecticut, "Voices of *Les villageois*: Emile Guillaumin's Novels as Sources for Economic History"
Lawrence Davis, Salem State College, "Considering Context: The Case of George Lefebvre"

8:45 Session 4: New England in the Early Republic: Politics, Society & Economic Development

Chair/Comment: Richard Buel, Wesleyan University
Jason Opal, Brandeis University, "The Gentlemen before the Crowd: Work, Justice, and Self Creation in Shay's Rebellion"
Matthew McKenzie, University of New Hampshire, "Marine Societies, New England Navigation, and Core/Periphery Relations in the Atlantic Basin, 1770-1800"
Robert Martello, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, "Patriot in the Copper Mill: Paul Revere and Proto-Industrial Evolution in the Early Republic"

8:45 Session 5: Beyond Conversion: Nineteenth-Century American Missionaries as Cultural Agents
Chair/Commentator: Clifford Putney, Bentley College
Jennifer Fish Kashay, University of Arizona, "Missionaries and Native Labor in Hawaii"
Paul Burlin, University of New England, "From Religion to Business: Maine Missionaries in Hawaii"
Howard Wach, Bronx Community College, "Missionary to Calcutta: Rev. Charles Dall, the Sepoy Rebellion, and the American Civil War"

8:45 Session 6: Sex and Gender in Progressive America
Chair/Commentator: Judy Barrett Litoff, Bryant College
Hal Goldman, University of Illinois - Springfield, "Sex in the Courthouse: Vermont's Judicial System Confronts Deviant Sexuality, 1865-1920"
Peter Laipson, Concord Academy, "The Aging of the Bachelor: Defining Single Manhood, 1880-1930"
Douglass Slaybaugh, Saint Michael's College, "From New Womanhood to Compassionate Marriage: The Case of Francis Cochran MacDaniels"

Break for Book Exhibit & Refreshments: 10:15-10:45

Morning Session II: 10:45-12:15

10:45 Session 7: Maps as Cultural Artifacts and Political Texts: Great Britain and France
Chair/Commentator: Thomas Conley, Harvard University
Matthew Edney, University of Southern Maine, "Configuring New England: Dr. William Douglass and the 'Plan of the British Dominions of New England' (ca. 1750)"
Christine Petto, Southern Connecticut State University, "Privilege, Printing, and Patronage in French Map Making"
Lucy Chester, Yale University, "Boundary-Making at the End of Empire: The 1947 Partition of South Asia"

10:45 Session 8: Church/State Relations in Mexican History
Chair/Commentator: Ben Fallaw, Colby College
John Chuchiak, Assumption College, "Ecclesiastical Jurisdictions and the Extirpation of Idolatry in Yucatan: Church/State Conflicts on a Colonial Frontier, 1573-1579"
Randall Hanson, Colby-Sawyer College, "Revolutionary Conservatives: The Mexican Revolution, Catholic Social Action, and the Transformation of Mexican Conservatism, 1891-1929"
David Espinosa, Rhode Island College, "Student Politics and National Politics: Jesuit Catholic Youth Groups and their Impact on Mexican History, 1917-1943"

10:45 Session 9: Militarism and Culture in the Early Republic: Constructing the Memory of Soldiers, Veterans and Martyrs
Chair: James Leamon, Bates College
Comment: Mark Tacyn, U. S. Naval Academy
Robert Cray, Montclair State University, "Militarism and the Politics of Sepulture"
John Resch, University of New Hampshire at Manchester, "Militarism and Culture: The Image of the Suffering Soldier"

10:45 Session 10: Reading Women's Lives: Dress and Diaries in the Early Republic
Chair/Commentator: Donna deFabio Curtin, Plymouth Antiquarian Society
Astrida Schaeffer, Independent Scholar, "Women Fashioning Identity: The Continuing British Influence in Federal America"
Rich Stattler, Rhode Island Historical Society, "Women's Diaries at the RIHS: Prospects and Problems"
Jane Lacaster, Independent Scholar, with Ruthie Goldman, Actress, "Julia and Friends: Teenage Girls' Diaries from the Early Republic"

10:45 Session 11: Slavery and Politics in the American South
Chair/Commentator: Julie Winch, University of Massachusetts, Boston
Christopher Doyle, Trinity College, "Imagining Justice: Revolutionary Virginians' Dreams and Fantasies of Retribution for Slavery"
Constantine Gutzman, John Jay College, "Edmund Randolph, Ratification of the Constitution, and the Southern States Rights Tradition"
Susan Wyly-Jones, Harvard University, "The Abolitionist Challenge and the South's 'Peculiar Interpretation' of the U. S. Constitution, 1835-1844"

10:45 Session 12: Nativism, Identity and Community in Ethnic America
Chair/Commentator: George Kellner, Rhode Island College
Patricia Fanning, Bridgewater State College, "The American Protective Association in Massachusetts: Nativist Activity in the 1890's"
Stefano Luconi, University of Florence, "Buy Italian: Consumerism and Ethnic Identity Among Italian Americans in the 1920s and 1930s"
Benedicte Deschamps, University of Paris, "Asserting Ethnic Identity: The Italian-American Press and Prohibition"
James Fonseca, Ohio University - Zanesville, "The Portuguese-American Cultural Landscape of Southern New England"

12:15-12:45 RECEPTION

1:00-1:50 Luncheon & Business Meeting

2:00-3:30: PLENARY SESSION:

New Horizons in Atlantic History: A Roundtable Discussion

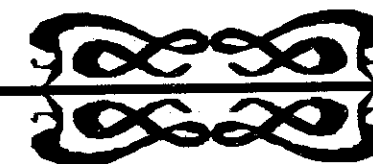
Moderator: Jack Greene, Brown University - Johns Hopkins University

Participants:

**Wim Klooster, University of Southern Maine
Cynthia Van Zandt, University of New Hampshire
Alison Games, Georgetown University**

Response: The Audience

3:30 Adjournment



REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Ballard Campbell (Northeastern University), chair of the Nominating Committee, announced the following candidates were nominated:

President **Joseph Conforti**
(University of Southern Maine)
Vice-President **James O'Toole**
(Boston College)
Treasurer **Robert Imholt**
(Albertus Magnus College)
Executive Committee:
Marc Stern
(Bentley College)
George Dameron
(St. Michael's College)
Jennifer Klein
(Smith College)
Kevin Boyle
(University of Massachusetts-Amherst)
Public History **Conrad Wright**
(Massachusetts Historical Society)
Gail Fowler Mohanty
(Slater Mill)
Nominating Committee:
John McClymer
(Assumption College)
Irene Brown
(University of Connecticut)
Gerard Koot
(University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth)
Sarah McMahan
(Bowdoin College)

We congratulate those nominated for office, thank those members who stand for election and all those who made nominations. Any member may nominate himself or herself or another member for election to any Association office by writing to the Executive Secretary. All dues-paying members are eligible to vote in person at the annual business meeting in April. Self-nominations are encouraged. Write-in candidates are permitted for any position on the slate.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee held its annual

meeting on December 2 at WPI. The agenda included planning the Spring conference and reports on the treasury, membership, nominating committee, NEHA Prize and NEHA Book Award committees, the newsletter, the website, AHA and NCC affiliation, cooperation with the Massachusetts Historical Society for the AHA meeting in Boston, and selection of meeting sites. The Executive Committee voted that all who are on the conference program are required to pay conference registration fees and annual membership dues.

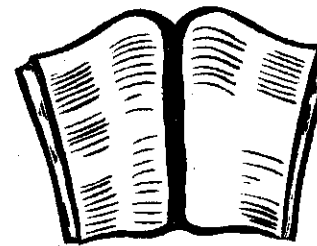
Any member may send a question or agenda item for the next Executive Committee meeting by writing to the Executive Secretary.



THE NEHA PRIZE

In April the Association announced the *NEHA Prize*, a new annual award for the best paper presented by a graduate student at our Spring or Fall conferences. The prize is a certificate of merit and a \$200.00 honorarium presented to the winner at the Spring meeting. Each session chair may nominate one paper for this prize and all nominations will be judged by a committee of three members appointed by the president. The criteria are scholarship, presentation and originality. This year the committee members are **Peter Holloran** (Worcester State College), chair; **Alan Rogers** (Boston College); and **Cynthia L. Lyerly** (Boston College). The prize is intended to encourage and recognize outstanding research papers by more graduate students at our conferences. The first prize will be presented at the April 15, 2001 meeting.

The new NEHA Prize Committee members will be **Jane Lancaster** (Independent Scholar); **Steven Corvi** (Northeastern University); and **Peter Holloran**, chair. Session chairs are invited to recommend papers presented by a graduate student at the Spring or Fall meetings. Contact Peter Holloran or the Executive Secretary for details.



NEHA BOOK AWARD COMMITTEE

The Book Award Committee presented the 1999 NEHA Book Award on October 21 to the winner, **David Haward Bain** (Middlebury College) for his outstanding book, *Empire Express: Building the First Transcontinental Railroad* (Viking Books).

The committee members were **James P. Hanlan** (WPI), chair; **Ruth-Ann Harris** (Boston College); **Martin Menke** (Rivier College); **Clifford Putney** (Bentley College); and **Mark Schneider** (Tufts University).

In December President **Joanne Schneider** appointed the new Book Award Committee members: **Martin Menke**, chair (Rivier College); **Steven Corey** (Worcester State College); **Clifford Putney** (Bentley College); **William Leonard** (Emmanuel College); and **Joanne Schneider** (Rhode Island College).

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

jphanlan@wpi.edu by June 1, 2000. Monographs on any historical time, topic or place published in 2000, 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 to be presented at the October 2000 conference. The nominated book should represent the best historical writing and scholarship in any era or field of history. The award certificate and \$200.00 stipend is presented to the winner at the conference each Fall.

AT THE SESSIONS

The 65th meeting of the Association at Stonehill College on October 21 was very well attended with 105 historians registered for 12 sessions with 32 papers. At the luncheon on a warm and sunny North Easton Autumn afternoon, 80 members joined us in the impressive Martin Institute Building. Following the presentation of the newly elected Association officers, President **Alan Rogers** held a brief business meeting and **Alan Brinkley** (Columbia University) gave a thoughtful address on *Imagining the Twentieth century: Perspectives from the Last Fin-de-Siecle*.

This 65th meeting of the Association was made possible by the splendid efforts on our behalf by the program chair, Vice-President **Joseph Conforti** (University of Southern Maine), Executive Secretary **James P. Hanlan** (Worcester Polytechnic Institute), and an industrious local arrangements committee headed by **Kenneth Branco** with the Stonehill College History Department.

The program concluded a very well attended plenary session on *The Classroom of the 21st century: Interactive, On-Line Textbooks for Western Civilization and American History Surveys* moderated by **Charles**

Maier (Harvard University). It featured a demonstration and discussion by **Ronald Smith** (Massachusetts Maritime Academy), **Robert Fisher** (Digital Learning Interactive) and **Natalie Danner** (Digital Learning Interactive). This session proved to be quite popular and successful, and Association members may look forward to others at future meetings. Suggestions on roundtable topics and panelists are invited.

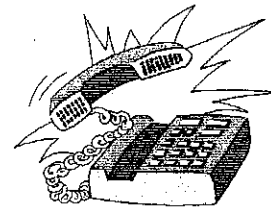


NEHA AT THE AHA

Four thousand historians arrived in Boston last January for the 115th annual meeting of the American Historical Association. As an affiliate of the AHA, our Association rolled out the red carpet to greet and meet our colleagues. The NEHA reception on a snowy January 5 at the splendid *Massachusetts Historical Society* on Boston's Fenway was very popular and successful. We are grateful to the MHS director, **William Fowler** and his staff for their hospitality and fine efforts and to our executive Secretary, **Jim Hanlan**, for his customary skillful services. NEHA also had a table at conference headquarters in the Marriott Hotel distributing Association information. Thanks to those members who staffed the table or dropped by to say hello.

Three NEHA walking tours provided popular. **Keith N. Morgan** (Boston University) and **Peter Holloran** (Worcester State College) guided a group exploring *Back Bay Architectural History*. **Robert Allison** (Suffolk University) and **Robert Ballinger** (Suffolk University) guided another group on *The Many Slopes of Beacon Hill*. **Lisa Simpson** (Boston History

Collaborative) took others on the *Literary Trail of Boston*.



NEWS OF THE PROFESSION

Reggie Blaszczyk (Boston University) was awarded a grant from the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan to study color stylists in the auto industry.

Lisa Krissoff Boehm (Worcester State College) received the Bordin/Gilette Travel Fellowship at the University of Michigan to research *Attempting Double Victory: African-American Domestic Workers in Grand Rapids and Detroit*.

Joseph Boskin (Boston University), who has taught American social history at BU since 1969, will retire in May.

Steven H. Corey (Worcester State College) was promoted an associate professor of urban studies.

Barbara Diefendorf (Boston University) was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship to complete a book on *Pious Women and the Culture of Devotion in Counter-Reformation Paris*.

Kenneth S. Greenberg (Suffolk University) received a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to produce a documentary film, *Nat Turner: A Troublesome Property*.

Lillian Guerra (Bates College) was elected to the American Historical Association Council.

Michael Lerner (New York University) won the Urban History Association award for the best dissertation in urban history, *Dry Manhattan: Class, Culture, and Politics in Prohibition-Era New York City, 1919-1933*.

Carla Lovett (Boston University) was awarded a fellowship to the Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen (IWM) in Vienna for doctoral dissertation research on secularization in late 19th and early 20th century in Vienna.

Herbert Mason (Boston University) received the United Methodist Teacher of the Year Award and was named to the new William Goodwin Aurelio Professorship of History and Religious Thought.

Dietrich Orlow (Boston University) is a Fellow-in-Residence at the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Studies in Holland to research *Unequal Siblings: Relations Between the German Nazis and Dutch and French Fascists, 1933-1939*.

Jeffrey Rubin (Amherst College) was appointed an associate professor of Latin American History at Boston University.

Adam Sweeting (Boston University) was elected president of the New England American Studies Association.



BOOK NEWS

Peter C. Baldwin (De Paul University) won the Urban History Association award for the

best book in urban history, *Domesticating the Street: the Reform of Public Space in Hartford, 1850-1930* (Ohio University Press).

Betsy Beattie (University of Maine) published *Obligation and Opportunity: Single Maritime Women in Boston, 1870-1930* (McGill-Queen's University Press).

George K. Behlmer (University of Washington) and **Fred M. Leventhal** (Boston University) published *Singular Continuities: Tradition, Nostalgia, and Identity in Modern British Culture* (Stanford University Press).

Mary H. Blewett (University of Massachusetts-Lowell) published *Constant Turmoil: The Politics of Industrial Life in Nineteenth-Century New England* (UMass Press).

David W. Blight (Amherst College) published *Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory* (Harvard University Press).

Alexander Bloom (Wheaton College) published *For What It's Worth Looking Back at Sixties America* (Oxford University Press).

Louise A. Breen published *Transgressing the Bounds: Subversive Enterprises Among the Puritan Elite in Massachusetts, 1630-1692* (Oxford University Press).

Nancy F. Cott (Yale University) published *Public Vows: A History of Marriage and the Nation* (Harvard University Press).

Peter Dear (Cornell University) published *Revolutionizing the Sciences: European Knowledge and Its Ambitions, 1500-1700* (Princeton University Press).

Thomas A. Desjardin published *Stand Firm Ye Boys from Maine: The 20th Maine of the Gettysburg Campaign* (Oxford University Press).

Joseph J. Ellis (Mount Holyoke College) published *Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation* (Knopf).

Richard B. Finnegan (Stonehill College) and **Edward T. McCarron** (Stonehill College) published *Ireland: Historical Echoes, Contemporary Politics* (Westview Press).

David Frankfurter (University of New Hampshire) published *Religion in Roman Egypt: Assimilation and Resistance* (Princeton University Press).

J. Matthew Gallman (Gettysburg College) published *Mastering Wartime: A Social History of Philadelphia During the Civil War* (University of Pennsylvania Press).

Glenda Gilmore (Yale University) was awarded a Radcliffe Fellowship at the Schlesinger Library.

David Glassberg (University of Massachusetts-Amherst) published *Sense of History: The Place of the Past in American Life* (UMass Press).

Merle Goldman (Boston University) and **Andrew Gordon** (Harvard University) published *Historical Perspectives on Contemporary East Asia* (Harvard University Press).

James Green (University of Massachusetts-Boston) published *Taking History to Heart: The Power of the Past in Building Social Movements* (UMass Press).

John J. Hennessy published *Fighting with the Eighteenth Massachusetts: The Civil*

War Memoir of Thomas H. Mann (Louisiana State University Press).

Ruth Wallis Herndon published *Unwelcome Americans: Living on the Margin in Early New England* (University of Pennsylvania Press).

Robert V. Hine (University of California, Riverside) and **John Mack Faragher** (Yale University) published *The American West: A New Interpretive History* (Yale University Press).

Andrew C. Holman (Bridgewater State College) published *A Sense of Their Duty: Middle-Class Formation in Victorian Ontario Towns* (McGill-Queen's University Press).

Evelyn Fox Keller (MIT) published *The Century of the Gene* (Harvard University Press).

Kevin Kenny (Boston College) published *The American Irish: A History* (Longman).

Fred M. Leventhal (Boston University) and **Roland Quinault** published *Anglo-American Attitudes: From Revolution to Partnership* (Ashgate Press).

Patrick Manning (Northeastern University) published *Migration in Modern World History, 1500-200 CD ROM* (Wadsworth).

Lisa McGirr (Harvard University) published *Suburban Warriors: The Origins of the New American Right* (Princeton University Press).

James McLean published *California Sabers: The 2nd Massachusetts Cavalry in the Civil War* (Indiana University Press).

Raymond T. McNally (Boston College) and **Radur Florescu** (Boston College)

published *In Search of Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde* (Renaissance Books).

Timothy J. Meagher published *Inventing Irish America: Generation, Class and Ethnic Identity in a New England City, 1880-1928*. (University of Notre Dame Press).

Franco Mormando (Boston College) published *The Preacher's Demons: Bernardino of Siena and the Social Underworld of Early Renaissance Italy* (University of Chicago Press), which won the 26th annual Howard R. Marraro Prize of the American Catholic Historical Association at the AHA meeting in Boston.

Bruce Nelson (Dartmouth College) published *Divided We Stand: American Workers and the Struggle for Black Equality* (Princeton University Press).

Charles H. O'Brien published an historical novel, *Mute Witness* (Poisoned Pen Press).

Thomas H. O'Connor (Boston College) published *Boston A to Z* (Harvard University Press).

James T. Patterson (Brown University) published *Brown v. Board of Education: A Civil Rights Milestone and its Troubled Legacy* (Oxford University Press).

Nancy Lusignan Schultz (Salem State College) published *Fire and Roses: The Burning of the Charlestown Convent, 1834* (Free Press).

Graham Shorrocks (Memorial University) published volume two of *A Grammar of the Dialect of the Bolton Area* (Peter Lang).

Jeff Singleton (Boston College) published *The American Dole: Unemployment Relief and the Welfare State in the Great*

Depression (Greenwood Press).

Edmund Sullivan (University of Hartford), **Barry Mushlin** and **Robert E. Colt** published *Campaigning with James Michael Curley* (Christopher Publishing).

Tony Smith (Tufts University) published *Foreign Attachments: The Power of Ethnic Groups in the Making of American Foreign Policy* (Harvard University Press).

Jay Taylor (Harvard University) published *The Generalissimo's Son: Chiang Ching-Kuo and the Revolution in China and Taiwan* (Harvard University Press).

Peter Temin (MIT) published *Engines of Enterprise: An Economic History of New England* (Harvard University Press).

Camilla Townsend (Colgate University) published *Tales of Two Cities: Race and Economic Culture in Early Republican North and South America: Guayaquil, Ecuador, and Baltimore, Maryland* (University of Texas Press).

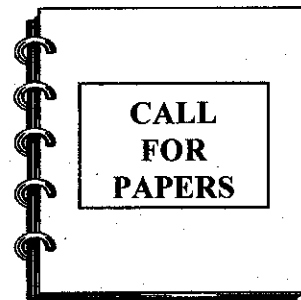
Lawrence J. Vale (MIT) published *From the Puritans to the Projects: Public Housing and Public Neighbors* (Harvard University Press).

Robert E. Weir (Bay Path College) published *Knights Unhorsed: Internal Conflict in a Gilded Age Social Movement* (Wayne State University Press).

Patricia West (SUNY Albany) published *Domesticating History: The Political Origins of America's House Museums* (Smithsonian Institution Press, 1999).

Lisa Wilson (Connecticut College) published *Ye Heart of Man: The Domestic Life of Men in Colonial New England* (Yale University Press), which won the Homer D.

Babbidge Award from the Association for the Study of Connecticut History.



The Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association (NEPCA) holds its 24th annual conference at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven on November 2-3, 2001. Proposed papers (one page abstract & brief cv) on any American culture or pop culture topics may be submitted by June 15 to the program chair, Virginia Metaxas, SCSU, History Department, New Haven, CT 06515; phone: (203-392-5607; fax: 203-392-5670); email: metaxas@scsu.ctstateu.edu. or see the Northeast PCA/ACA web site: www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEPCA.html

The 2001 meeting of the Northeast Conference on British Studies will be held on November 16-17 at Worcester Polytechnic Institute and the American Antiquarian Society. Proposals may be submitted by April 20 to the program chair: Deborah Valenze, Barnard College, Department of History, 3009 Broadway, New York, NY 10027; dvalenze@barnard.columbia.edu or see the web site: www.wpi.edu/~phansen/necbs.html

The 9th Annual Conference on Northern New England in the 19th Century meets on June 7-9 at the Norlands Living History Center in Livermore, Maine. The theme for 2001 is *Finding Sustenance in a Challenging Environment: Food, Drink, Family, Community, and Spirituality*. Free

lodging and breakfast is provided to all panelists. Send proposals to Washburn Humanities Center, 42 Hathaway Hill Road, Livermore, ME 04253; phone: (207) 897-2236; fax: (207) 897-7064; email: egammon@exploremaine.com by March 14.

The Center for Millennial Studies at Boston University invites proposals for its November 3-6 conference on *Unbinding Prometheus to Build the New Jerusalem: Millennialism, Power and Technology*. Contact Beth Forrest, Center for Millennial Studies, Boston University, 704 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215 by June 1.

The Historical Society holds its third national conference in Atlanta on May 16-19, 2002 on the theme "Historical Reconstructions." Proposals may be submitted by April 3, 2001 to The Historical Society, 2002 Program Director, 658 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02215-2010; (617) 358-2010; historic@bu.edu.

The History of Education Society invites proposals for its annual meeting at Yale University on October 18-21. Contact Mary Ann Dzuback, Washington University, Campus Box 1183, St. Louis, MO 63130.

The American Italian Historical Association holds its 34th annual conference in Las Vegas on October 25-27 on the theme *Go West, Paesani, Go West: The Impact of Locale on Ethnicity*. Contact Janet E. Worrall, University of Northern Colorado, History Department, Greeley, CO 80639; (970) 351-2595; jworrall@bentley.unco.edu

The Association for the Study of Connecticut History (ASCH) sponsors a conference on "Murder in New England: Crime and Punishment in the Northeast, 1600-2001" in Wethersfield, CT on November 10, 2001. Proposals may be

submitted by December 1 to Lawrence Goodheart, 455 N. Bigelow Road, Hampton, CT 06247-1200; goodheart@snet.net.



CONFERENCES TO MEET

Fort Ticonderoga hosts its Sixth Annual War College of the Seven Years' War on May 19-20, 2001. Registration for the two-day seminar is \$50.00. For more information, contact Karl Crannell, Special Events Coordinator, Fort Ticonderoga, PO Box 390, Ticonderoga, NY 12883-0390; email: rstrum@fort-ticonderoga.org; phone: (518) 585-2821, or see the website: www.fort-ticonderoga.org

The French Colonial Historical Society meets in East Lansing, Michigan on May 31-June 2, 2001. Contact James Pritchard, Department of History, Queen's University, Ontario, Canada K7L 3N6; fax: 613-533-6298; email: jp@post.queensu.ca by October 15.

The New England American Studies Association (NEASA) annual conference meets at the University of New Hampshire in Manchester on April 27-29, 2001 on the theme "Making Spaces: Travels, Tourism, Geographies, and the Construction of Place in the Americas and Abroad." Contact the NEASA president Adam Sweeting at sweeting@bu.edu.

The 12th Berkshire Conference on the History of Women meets on June 6-9, 2002 at the University of Connecticut in Storrs on the theme "Local Knowledge--Global Knowledge." Contact Claire Potter, Center

for the Americas, 255 High Street, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT 06457; cpotter@wesleyan.edu or see the web site for more information: www.berksconference.edu.

SHEAR, the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, holds its 23rd annual conference in Baltimore on July 19-22, 2001 on the theme "Lived Lives in the Early Republic." Contact Andrew Cayton, Miami University, Department of History, Oxford, OH 45056; caytonar@muohio.edu; (513) 529-5542.

The American Conference for Irish Studies (ACIS) holds its annual meeting on June 6-9, 2001 at Fordham University. Contact Michael Patrick Gillespie, Department of English, Marquette University, PO Box 1881, Milwaukee, WI 53201-1881; Michael.Gillespie@marquette.edu

The Oral History Association annual conference meets in St. Louis on October 16-21. Contact Leslie Brown, Program in African and Afro-American Studies, Washington University, St. Louis, MO 63130-4899.

The 16th annual Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Conference meets in Eugene, Oregon on April 19-21 on the theme *Exhibiting Culture/Displaying Race*. Contact Richard Stein, English Department, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403; incs2001@oregon.uoregon.edu

Historic Deerfield will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2002 and the 300th anniversary of the Deerfield Massacre of 1704 with a major conference, lecture series, publications, special events and tours in Deerfield, Massachusetts from 2002 to 2004. Interested parties are encouraged to contact the executive director, Donald R. Friary at

(413) 775-7166 or by email:
dfriary@historic-deerfield.org

The **New England American Studies Association (NEASA)** annual conference meets at the University of New Hampshire in Manchester on April 27-29, 2001 on the theme "Making Spaces: Travels, Tourism, Geographies, and the Construction of Place in the Americas and Abroad." Contact the NEASA president Adam Sweeting at Boston University, sweeting@bu.edu.

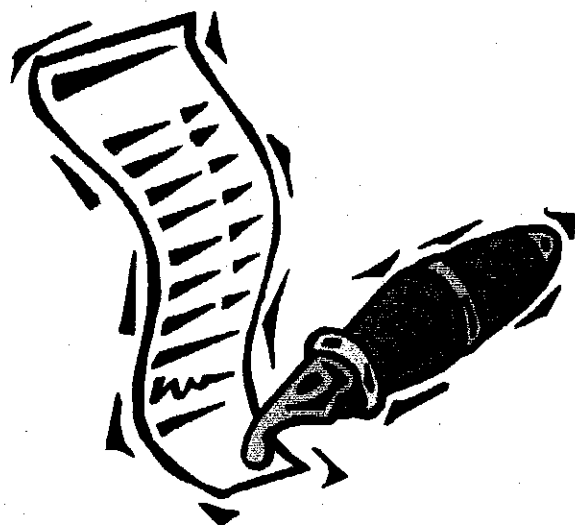
CONFERENCES MEETING ABROAD

"**The Renaissance in the 19th Century**" is an international, interdisciplinary conference at the University of Toronto on October 4-6, 2001 sponsored by the Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies and the Joseph Sable Centre for 19th century French Studies. Contact Yannick Portebois, Director, Centre for 19th Century French Studies, John M. Kelly Library, University of Toronto, 113 St. Joseph Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5S 1J4; yannick.portebois@utoronto.ca

The **11th International Conference of Historical Geographers** meets in Quebec on August 12-18, 2001. Proposed papers may be submitted by email to ICHG2001@cieq.ulaval.ca. For information contact Marc St-Hilaire, Laboratoire de géographie historique, Université Laval, Sainte-Foy, Quebec, Canada G1K 7P4; phone: 418-656-3770; fax: 418-656-3960; or see the web site: <http://www.cieq.ulaval.ca/>

The **International Medieval Congress** meets at the University of Leeds in the UK on July 9-12, 2001. For more information contact International Medieval Institute, University of Leeds, Parkinson Building, Room 103, Leeds LS2 9JT, UK; imc@leeds.ac.uk

"**Memory and Identity: Past and Present**," an interdisciplinary conference sponsored by the Canadian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies and the Eighteenth-Century Scottish Studies Society meets at the University of Toronto on October 19-21, 2000. Contact John Baird, Victoria College, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1K7 Canada; email: john.baird@utoronto.ca or see the web site: www.c18.org/scedhs-csecs.



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 2000 by an author in New England or New York. Publishers may nominate one book by June 1, 2001. The award certificate and \$200 prize will be presented to the winner at the November 2-3, 2001 Northeast PCA/ACA conference at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven. Contact the NEPCA Executive Secretary: **Peter Holloran**, Worcester State College, History Department, Worcester, MA 01602; pch@world.std.com.

The Colonial Society of Massachusetts offers the **Walter Muir Whitehill Prize in Early American History** for the best essay on early American history, not previously published. The prize is \$2,000.00 and the winning essay may be published in the *New England Quarterly*. Contact the Whitehill Prize Committee, *New England Quarterly*, Linda Smith Rhoads, Northeastern University, Boston, MA 02115.

The **John Ben Snow Foundation Prize** (\$1,000) is offered annually for the best book in British Studies in the period from the Middle Ages to the 18th century. Contact Derek Hirst, Washington University, Department of History, St. Louis, MO 63130-4899.

The **Society for Historians of the Early American Republic (SHEAR)** awards an annual prize for the best book on American history in 1789-1850 and a prize for the best first book. For information contact Jan Lewis at (973) 353-1469 or email janlewis@andromeda.rutgers.edu

The **Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era (SHGAPE)** announces a new quarterly journal, *The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*, as a new venue for scholarship on issues in the period 1865-1920s. The inaugural issue will appear in January 2002, and senior and younger scholars or advanced graduate students are invited to submit original essays. Contact the editor, Maureen A. Flanagan, *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*, Department of History, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824; JGAPE@jgape.hst.msu.edu.

The **Berkshire Conference First Book Prize**, which offers a \$1000 award, is a prize for a first book in any field of history written by a woman who lives in North America. Books published in 2000 may be nominated

by the publisher. Contact Kathryn Kish Sklar, Department of History, SUNY Binghamton, Binghamton, NY 13902-6000; kksklar@binghamton.edu or see the web site: www-berks.aas.duke.edu

The **Massachusetts Historical Review**, published by the Massachusetts Historical Society, is a new annual journal offering original essays, photo-essays, historical documents, and review articles spanning the full spectrum of Massachusetts history from its founding to the 21st century. To subscribe or contribute, contact Erin Pipkin, Massachusetts Historical Society, 1154 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02215; (617) 646-0505; epipkin@masshist.org.



BOSTON AREA SEMINAR IN EARLY AMERICAN HISTORY

The **Massachusetts Historical Society** has hosted since 1989 the *Boston Area Seminar in Early American History*. Proposals may be submitted for the 2001-2002 series by March 15. Programs take place on the first Thursday evening of most months between September and April. The organizing committee welcomes suggestions for papers dealing with all aspects of American history and culture from the era of first contact to the Civil War. Programs are not confined to Massachusetts topics, nor are they limited to the research of historians. Each session focuses on the discussion of precirculated paper. The essayist and an assigned commentator will each have an opportunity for remarks before the discussion is opened to the floor. Papers must be available for

duplication and circulation t least a month before the seminar.

If you wish to be considered, send your CV and a one-page précis of the paper to Jean Powers, Massachusetts Historical Society, 1154 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02215, or to jpowers@masshist.org



GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

The **Peabody Essex Museum** in Salem accepts applications for fellowships to support use of its library and museum collections for research and publication on New England history and culture. Fellowships are open to advanced scholars, graduate students, independent scholars, and library or museum professionals. Stipends (\$750 per month) are awarded for up to two months and free housing is available.

The collections include 400,000 books, pamphlets, broadsides, manuscripts, family papers, institutional and business records, diaries, maps and photographs, as well as pre-1860 furniture, decorative arts, ship models, figureheads, carvings, ceramics, jewelry, textiles, tools, weapons, children's games, books and toys, and extensive Asian art objects.

Contact the Fellowship Committee, Phillips Library, Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem, MA 01970, or see the website: www.pem.org

The **Women's Studies Program at Northeastern University** offers annual

Research Associate positions to scholars researching topics on women or gender issues. Scholars are in residence for the academic year (or shorter) at Northeastern University in Boston but must have their own financial support. They are provided with office space, library privileges, free computer time on the university mainframe, and limited support for photocopy, fax and postage expenses related to research. By April 15 scholars may apply by sending a brief statement of the project, dates of expected residency and a current C.V. to Professor Chris Gilmartin, Director, Women's Studies Program, Northeastern University, 360 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115; phone: (617) 373-4984; fax: (617) 373-2688; email: cgilmart@lynx.neu.edu

The **Gerald R. Ford Library** offers annual travel grants (\$2,000) for research in its collections on federal policy, politics, institutions, economics and foreign affairs in the 1970s. Contact Geir Gundersen, Gerald R. Ford Library, 1000 Beal Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48109; Phone: (734) 741-2218; fax: (734) 741-2341; email: library@fordlib.nara.gov

The **Newberry Library**, an independent research library in Chicago, invites applications for its annual fellowships in the humanities. Long-term residential fellowships are available to postdoctoral scholars for six to eleven months. The stipend is up to \$30,000. Short-term fellowships are also offered with \$1200 monthly stipends. For more information visit the web site at: www.newberry.org or write to Newberry Library, Committee on Awards, 60 West Walton Street, Chicago, IL 60610-3380 or email research@newberry.org or call (312) 255-3666.

The **Francis Clark Wood Institute for the History of Medicine** offers short-term

grants (to \$1,000) for scholars using its collections. Contact Sofie Sereda, College of Physicians of Philadelphia, 19 South 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103; (215) 563-3737; sereda@collphhyphil.org

The North American Conference on British Studies offers the annual **NACBS-Huntington Library Fellowship** to aid dissertation research in the collections of the Huntington Library. The award is \$2,000 for those in residence at the library. Contact Lena Cowen Orlin, University of Maryland-Baltimore County, 1000 Hilltop Circle, Baltimore, MD 21250.

The **American Antiquarian Society** will award qualified scholars a number of fellowships supporting research in the AAS collections. Requests for application forms and information about the AAS collections and these fellowships for scholars, writers and creative artists should be directed to John B. Hench, American Antiquarian Society, 185 Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA 01609-5813; (508) 752-5813; cfs@mwa.org

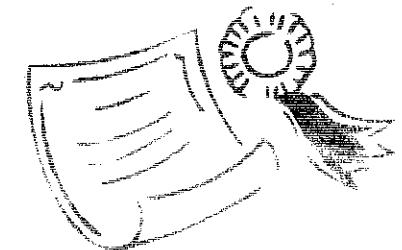
The **Massachusetts Historical Society** offers twenty research fellowships each year to independent scholars, advanced graduate students or Ph. D.s with stipends (\$1500.00) for four weeks of research in its collections. For further information see the web site at www.masshist.org or contact Erin Pipkin, Massachusetts Historical Society, 1154 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02215; (617) 646-0505.

The **International Migration Program** fosters innovative research on voluntary and forced international migration to the USA, the process of settlement and outcomes for immigrants, refugees, and native-born Americans. Contact the International Migration Program, Social Science Research Council, 810 Seventh Avenue, New York,

NY 10019; migration@ssrc.org.

The Association for Canadian Studies offers the **Thomas O. Enders Fellowship** to support advanced scholarship on Canadian and Canadian-US relations. The annual awards (to \$30,000) are for periods up to 9 months for US citizens. Contact the ACUS, 1317 F Street NW, Suite 920, Washington, DC 20004-1151; info@acus.org.

The **Friends of the German Historical Institute** are pleased to announce the new Fritz Stern Dissertation Prize for the best doctoral dissertation in German history, German-American relations, or the history of Germans in North America. The two joint winners will present their research at the annual symposium of the German Historical Institute in Washington, DC, and receive a \$2,000 award and travel funds. Dissertation supervisors may nominate a student by contacting Peter Fritzsche, Wiesbadener Strasse 18, 14197 Berlin, Germany.



NOMINATIONS FOR THE NANCY LYMAN ROELKER AWARD

The American Historical Association announced a call for nominations for the tenth *Nancy Lyman Roelker Mentorship Award*. This award was established in memory of the late Professor Roelker, a loyal member of NEHA while teaching French history at Boston University and Brown University. It honors teachers of history who taught, guided and inspired their students in a way that changed their lives.

Mentoring is as important to the discipline of history as scholarship and teaching. The ideal mentor is forthright, supportive and constructively committed to the student.

While it is difficult to formulate a precise definition of this multifaceted process, there are some essential elements:

* belief in the value of the study of history and commitment to and love of teaching it to students regardless of age or career goals

* consistent personal commitment by the mentor to the student as a person

* honesty and integrity of the mentor

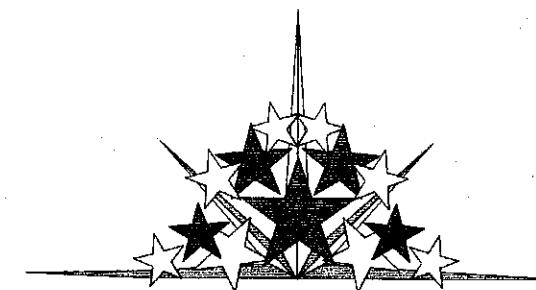
* mentor's contribution to the process of mentoring as a one-to-one partnership in learning that is comfortable to both, that is likely to endure, and develop beyond the initial context as each learns from, gives to, and shares with the other, enriching both professional and personal lives.

This award is given on a three-year cycle to graduate mentors; undergraduate mentors; and secondary school teachers. The 2001 award will be for secondary school mentors and includes a cash prize. If you would like to nominate a history teacher for this award, or need details about the award or application process, contact Roelker Mentorship Award, 400 A Street SE, Washington, DC 20003; (202) 544-2422; flilly@theaha.org; or see the AHA website: www.theaha.org/prizes/roelker.htm by March 30.



MEETINGS OF NEHA

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



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)

BOOK REVIEWS



Legal Executions in New England, 1623-1960. By Daniel Allen Hearn. Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company, 1999; and *Murdered by his Wife.* By Deborah Navas. Amherst, MA: University of Massachusetts Press, 1999.

Murder mysteries and executions regularly attract a large popular audience, but interest only a handful of scholars. It would be a mistake, however, for anyone to dismiss as books intended only for the whodunit crowd Deborah Navas's *Murdered by his Wife* or Daniel Allen Hearn's *Legal Executions in New England*. Navas combines a novelist's insight into the human character with an historian's commitment to context and analysis to tell the story of Bathsheba Spooner's murder-for-hire of her husband in 1778. Hearn's sketches of executed murderers are more matter-of-fact, yet he offers details and interesting nuggets about murderers and victims that enrich our understanding of New England history from 1623 to 1960.

Murdered by his Wife is a well-written story about sex, murder, betrayal, revenge and a grim and questionable judicial execution. Bathsheba Spooner was a proud, beautiful thirty-two year old mother of two children, but she felt an "utter aversion" to her husband Joshua. He was a well-to-do farmer and businessman just five years older than Bathsheba, but he may have looked and acted considerably older. On occasion, he may have beaten her when he stumbled home drunk. By chance, sixteen-year-old Ezra Ross walked into Bathsheba's life. He was a battle-hardened veteran who had fought with General George Washington in New Jersey and was on his way home to Ipswich. She took the youngster into her home and nursed him back to health. The following summer when Ross returned to Brookfield he and Bathsheba became lovers, an illicit relationship that led in January 1778 to her pregnancy. She was desperate. They might have joined her father Timothy Ruggles, the former Chief Justice of the Worcester Court of Common Pleas, who had fled from Massachusetts to Long Island to join the British army. She might have tried to divorce her husband or to abort the child she carried. Instead, she urged Ross to murder her husband. When he failed, Bathsheba wooed two British deserters from General Burgoyne's defeated army into doing the cruel job. Crouching in the dark near the Spooner's kitchen door, the three men pounced on Joshua, knocked him unconscious and threw his body into a well. Their pockets filled with Joshua's silver, the soldiers got only as far as Worcester before they were caught and confessed to the murder. Bathsheba and Ross also were indicted for murder. All four were found guilty by a

jury of Worcester County men and sentenced to death.

In jail the soldiers found Christ and calmly accepted their fate. Ross expressed deep remorse. To the chagrin of the Rev. Thaddeus Mccarty, Bathsheba was unrepentant. She sought stay of execution to deliver the baby, a routine request that the Massachusetts Council denied on two occasions. John Avery Jr., the victim's stepbrother, signed the death warrant. On July 2, 1778, the three men walked slowly to the gallows behind carts carrying their coffins. Bathsheba was "exceedingly unwell," and rode in Mccarty's buggy from the jail to the gallows. Before a crowd of 5,000, the four were "turned off." Contrary to earlier reports by two panels of midwives, an autopsy revealed Bathsheba was pregnant with a five-month old male fetus. "The state of Massachusetts," Navas writes, "was guilty of committing murder while in the act of punishing a murder."

While no single one of Hearn's capsule accounts of executed murderers manifests as much historical acumen as Navas's handling of Spooner's case, Hearn reaches deep into the available records of every executed New England murderer. He routinely provides the age and race of the culprit and the victim and describes and dates the crime and execution. Two randomly chosen examples manifest Hearn's format: Hugh Stone, a white, Andover, Massachusetts farmer slashed his wife's throat on April 20, 1689 after an argument over the purchase of a piece of land. Stone plead guilty and was hanged on January 2, 1690; Howard Long, a white, 32-year-old pederast abducted a nine-year-old Dover, New Hampshire boy, who jumped to his death from Long's car. Long later admitted his crime and was hanged in 1939. Occasionally Hearn shows flashes of style. He writes, for example, that Boston Brahmin George Parkman, the victim of John Webster's rage in 1850, "was every inch a character out of Charles Dickens novel."

Hearn does not create the historical context within which the murders he lists took place, nor does he say anything about the legal importance, if any, of the trials he covers. We're not told that Judge Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. denied Luigi Storti's appeal that electrocution was cruel and unusual punishment and should be prohibited, nor that in *Palko v. Connecticut* (1937) the United States Supreme Court rejected the argument that the Fourteenth Amendment incorporated the Bill of Rights.

Both of these books will interest and instruct, albeit in different ways for different audiences. The casual reader as well as scholars of early America will learn a great deal from reading Deborah Navas's wonderful retelling of Bathsheba Spooner's compelling story. Likewise, Daniel Hearn's clear, concise record of who was executed in New England provides an accurate starting point for scholars and activists interested in the debate about capital punishment.

Alan Rogers
Boston College



Leonard Bacon: New England Reformer and Antislavery Moderate. By Hugh Davis. Baton Rouge: Louisiana University Press, 1998.

Hugh Davis' earlier biography of *Joshua Leavitt, Evangelical Abolitionist* (1990) is appropriately complemented by the present study of Leonard Bacon (1802-1881), the Congregationalist cleric who sought a middle path in a number of reform efforts, most notably in opposition to slavery. The perennial quandary of why during the 1830s some evangelicals became radical abolitionists (such as Leavitt) while most did not (such as Bacon) does not readily lend itself to an easy answer. This well written study of Bacon, however, does exemplify how this pastor of Center Church in New Haven sought moderation in a long life that engaged many of the pivotal issues of the nineteenth-century.

The author persuasively concludes that Bacon was in a sense an everyman for those like his well to do white congregation who identified with his steady helmship that steered between radical and conservative positions. "In the final analysis," Davis writes, "Bacon reflected and spoke to the ambivalence that many northerners felt as they confronted a rapidly changing, diverse society that held out the promise of social progress and individual liberty yet also generated deep-seated anxieties and social conflict." (252-3) Nowhere is this assessment more true than in Bacon's efforts to confront the national paradox of slavery and freedom.

No friend of slavery, Bacon was nevertheless cautious on how best to proceed. Coming of age at the time of the sectional tension of the Missouri Compromise and the abortive insurrection of Denmark Vesey, he warned that a racial conflagration, not unlike that in St. Domingo (Haiti), might engulf the United States. He was mindful too of the imperative of his evangelical mentors that gradual improvement, not radical transformation, was best. Nathaniel Taylor at Yale College, Moses Stuart and Leonard Woods at Andover Seminary, and Lyman Beecher and Jedediah Morse in their benevolent activities were models of restraint that Bacon emulated. Unlike those evangelical men and women who rallied to William Lloyd Garrison's denunciation of the American Colonization Society and indictment of the sin of slavery, Bacon likened such fervor to fanaticism. He remained a

colonizationist and later endorsed the American Union for the Relief and Improvement of the Colored Race, temperate alternatives to immediate abolitionism. He hoped that over time "good slaveholders" could see the wisdom of manumission.

Closer to home, Bacon failed to endorse the controversial efforts during the early 1830s to educate free blacks in New Haven or at Prudence Crandall's school in Canterbury, both of which had raised the wrath of whites. Although he played a minor role in the *Amistad* case, Bacon was more governed by pragmatic concerns than moral outrage. So too during the Civil War, he espoused "emancipation for war, not war for emancipation," and during Reconstruction, his support of states' rights and restrictions on suffrage worked at cross-purposes to the empowerment of the freedpeople.

On a variety of other issues Bacon sought the often elusive golden mean that would balance morality and social change with a modicum of disruption. His capacity for moderation was reflected in his forty-year tenure at Center Church that in turn sustained his position as one of New England's leading churchmen. He sought to bridge differences over slavery in the relations between Presbyterians and Congregationalists despite his free soil inclinations; and he thought conservative theologians Bennet Tyler and Asahel Nettleton were too wedded to the past in their impassioned attacks on the Arminianism of Taylor, whose doctrine of free agency he largely accepted. A generation later he sought to calm the sexual scandal involving Henry Ward Beecher and Theodore Tilton although he favored the former over the latter. Bacon played the role of arbiter, but his own partisanship unwittingly complicated conciliation. On other issues he endorsed positions that reflected conventional evangelical thought, such as abstinence from alcohol, separate spheres for women, and the conversion of pagans.

Davis suggests that Bacon's response to his family's early hardships left an enduring mark, both positive and negative. The son of New England missionaries to Native American in Michigan, his parents' failed dreams, poverty, and responsibility for his widowed mother and siblings left him with a heavy burden. Serious, self-restrained, and successful, he embodied a Victorian masculinity that tempered tenacious ambition and religious principles with practical caution. Grounded in primary sources and reasoned arguments, Davis has written the definitive biography of Leonard Bacon.

Lawrence B. Goodheart
University of Connecticut/Hartford



***New World Babel: Languages and Nations in Early America.* By Edward G. Gray.
Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1999.**

In *New World Babel*, Edward G. Gray traces the Euro-American perception of Native American languages from conquest to antebellum America. Gray's book builds like most recent studies of Euro-American writing on Indians on the assumption that these sources tell more about the authors themselves than about the indigenous people. European ideas of Native American languages shaped the European image and treatment of the Indian. Gray argues convincingly that the white Americans' idea of Indian languages as an indicator for savagery was an Enlightenment invention.

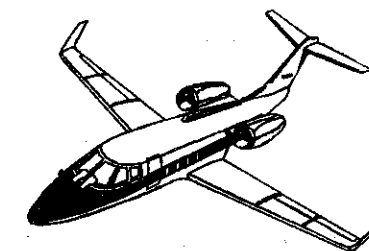
Columbus and other explorers in the 16th and 17th century, however, were impressed by the linguistic diversity of the New World and the fact that Native languages were not related with distinct cultures. Indians used language as a secret code to define kin identity, "a sign of shared ancestry, shared traditions, and common memories" (p. 20). Europeans explained this religiously with the story of the Tower of Babel or influenced by early Enlightenment ideas as a failure to follow natural law and distinguish themselves from other ethnicities. Jesuit missionaries thought that Indian languages were not abstract enough to teach the Christian faith, but they needed to learn Indian tongues and use

symbolic language because they depended on the Native Americans for shelter and trading. Puritans, in contrast, were convinced of the necessity of an individual bible interpretation and Indian literacy became thus their major goal. John Eliot even translated the bible in the Natick dialect of the Massachusetts language.

In the 18th century bilingual instruction came to an end. Language was no longer perceived as a divine endowment but as a human innovation. John Locke replaced the belief in the Tower of Babel with the idea that language reflected the social and intellectual experience of its speaker. According to Enlightenment thinkers the diversity of Native languages resulted from the failure to create expansive states. They compared Indian speech to infant babble and concluded that it was an indicator of savagery. In the early 19th century, the belief that the intellectual gap between whites and Indians was too profound to be bridged through translation helped to legitimize President Andrew Jackson's policy of extinction of Indian languages and people. The emerging European nationalism turned the diversity of indigenous languages into an intellectual problem for the young American republic. While Europeans equated nation, language and race, the United States lacked a distinct American language and white Americans had no organic connection with land and language. Using European characteristics as antithesis for their own collective identity, Americans envisioned their democratic nation as a single-language society to be created in contrast to "aristocratic" European nations where speech indicated social status.

Gray's study gives some transatlantic context, it is interdisciplinary and covers a wide time span. The discussions of abstract linguistic concepts are understandable and readable. More agency could have been given to the Indians. What was the Native Americans' perception of their language and how did they use them to negotiate with white Americans?

**Stephanie Kermes
Boston College**



PLAN AHEAD

American Historical Association

2002 * San Francisco * 3-6 January
2003 * Chicago * 2-5 January
2004 * Washington * 8-11 January

Organization of American Historians

2001 * Los Angeles * 26-29 April
2002 * Washington * 11-14 April
2003 * Memphis * 3-6 April
2004 * Boston * 25-28 March

American Studies Association

2001 * Washington * 8-11 November
2002 * Houston * 14-17 November
2003 * Hartford * 16-19 October

Social Science History Association

2001 * Chicago * 15-18 November
2002 * St. Louis * 24-27 October

Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association

2001 * Philadelphia * 11-14 April
2002 * Toronto * 13-16 March

Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association

2001 * So. Connecticut State University * 2-3 November
2002 * Colby-Sawyer College * 25-26 October

Oral History Association

2001 * St. Louis * 16-21 October

American Conference for Irish Studies

2001 * Fordham University * 6-9 June

National Conference on Public History

2001 * Ottawa * 18-22 April

Association for Asian Studies

2001 * Chicago * 22-25 March

Society of Historians of the Early American Republic

2001 * Baltimore * 19-22 July

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PRE-REGISTRATION FORM**

NEHA CONFERENCE
April 21, 2001

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NEHA NEWS

The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association

ASSOCIATION OFFICE

Worcester Polytechnic Institute
100 Institute Road
Worcester, Massachusetts 01609-2280
Phone: (508) 831-5438
Fax: (508) 831-5932
Email: jphanlan@wpi.edu
Web site: www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEHA

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Annual dues (calendar year) for regular members are \$20.00, or \$5.00 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
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St. Michael's
College
◆◆◆
October 20, 2001

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