

The newsmagazine of the American Historical Association

PERSPECTIVES ON HISTORY

Volume 57: 6
September 2019



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IN BUSINESS HISTORY



Hagley Museum and Library and the Business History Conference are pleased to announce the 2019 winner of the Hagley Prize: *Danish Modern Furniture, 1930-2016: The Rise, Decline and Re-emergence of a Cultural Market Category* (University Press of Southern Denmark, 2018) by Per Hansen, Professor, Copenhagen Business School. Hagley Museum and Library and the Business History Conference jointly offer the Hagley Prize awarded to the best book in Business History (broadly defined) and consists of a medallion and \$2,500. The prize was awarded at the Business History Conference annual meeting held in Cartagena, Colombia, March 15, 2019.



The prize committee encourages the submission of books from all methodological perspectives. It is particularly interested in innovation studies that have the potential to expand the boundaries of the discipline. Scholars, publishers, and other interested parties may submit nominations. Eligible books can have either an American or an international focus. They must be written in English and be published during the two years (2018 or 2019 copyright) prior to the award.



Four copies of a book must accompany a nomination and be submitted to the prize coordinator, Carol Ressler Lockman, Hagley Museum and Library, PO Box 3630, 298 Buck Road, Wilmington, DE 19807-0630. **The deadline for nominations is November 30, 2019.** The 2020 Hagley Prize will be presented at the annual meeting of the Business History Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, March 12-14, 2020.

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An Archive Goes Up for Auction, with an Astonishing Outcome

ALLISON MILLER



ON THE COVER

The Johnson Publishing Company, founded in the 1940s by John H. Johnson and his wife, Eunice, produced legendary magazines for African American readers, most prominently *Jet* and *Ebony*. But last April the company declared bankruptcy, and its remaining assets were put up for auction to the highest bidder. Over the summer, a dramatic series of events unfolded, in which historians played a vital role. Read the story that started the ball rolling.

Photo: John H. Johnson in 1974. Credit: Bettman.

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News magazine of the

AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

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Perspectives on History (ISSN 1940-8048) is published nine times a year, monthly September through May, by the American Historical Association, 400 A St., SE, Washington, DC 20003-3889. (202) 544-2422. Fax (202) 544-8307. **World Wide Web:** www.historians.org/perspectives. **E-mail:** perspectives@historians.org (editorial issues) or ppinkney@historians.org (membership and subscription issues). **Perspectives on History** is distributed to members of the Association. Individual membership subscriptions include an amount of \$7.04 to cover the cost of **Perspectives on History**. Institutional subscriptions are also available. For details, contact the membership department of the AHA. Single copies of **Perspectives on History**—if available—can be obtained for \$8 each. Material from **Perspectives on History** may be published in **Perspectives Online** (ISSN: 1556-8563), published by the American Historical Association at www.historians.org/perspectives. For information about institutional subscriptions, see www.historians.org/members/subscriptions.htm.

Articles, letters to the editor, and other items intended for publication should preferably be submitted online at www.historians.org/perspectives/upload. They may also be sent as attachments to e-mail messages addressed to perspectives@historians.org, or by regular mail (in which case, the hard copy text should be double-spaced). Manuscripts accepted for publication will be edited to conform to **Perspectives on History** style, space limitations, and other requirements. Prospective authors should consult the guidelines available at www.historians.org/perspectives/submissions.htm. Accuracy in editorial material is the responsibility of the author(s) and contributor(s). **Perspectives on History** and the American Historical Association disclaim responsibility for statements made by contributors.

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Periodicals class postage paid at Washington, DC, and at additional mailing offices.

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Postmaster: Send change of address to **Perspectives on History**, Membership Department, AHA, 400 A St., SE, Washington, DC 20003-3889.

PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

The American Historical Association is a nonprofit membership corporation founded in 1884 for the promotion of historical research, study, and education. The Association reserves the right to reject editorial material sent in for publication that is not consonant with the goals and purposes of the organization. The Association also assumes the right to judge the acceptability of all advertising copy and illustrations in advertisements published in Perspectives on History. Advertisers and advertising agencies assume all liability for advertising content and representation and will also be responsible for all claims against said publisher.



STATEMENT FROM THE AHA ON DOMESTIC TERRORISM, BIGOTRY, AND HISTORY



Shortly after the November 2016 presidential election, the American Historical Association noted with dismay the “continuing evidence of polarization to the point of harassment seldom seen in recent American history. Historians can say with confidence that this is not our nation’s finest hour. Language previously relegated to the margins has moved out of the shadows, emboldening elements of American society less interested in a more perfect union than in division and derision.”

That was the first time the AHA had issued a statement in response to an election. We were well aware of the dangers of seeming to be entering a political realm, venturing beyond our mission of promoting historical work, historical thinking, and the professional interests of historians. But we were equally aware of the responsibility we bear as part of the institutional matrix of civil society. As teachers, researchers, and citizens, historians bring to civic culture the values of “mutual respect, reasoned discourse, and appreciation for humanity in its full variety” that we emphasized in our 2016 statement. *As historians*, we recognized the dangers on the horizon, given what we have learned and taught about the histories of bigotry and its implications in the United States and elsewhere in the world.

And now, in the wake of mass homicide in Pittsburgh, El Paso, and elsewhere, our fears are being realized. These events rest on a long history of racist and xenophobic domestic terrorism, evident when taking a historical perspective but too seldom recognized in public discourse. Too few Americans, for example, frame the Ku Klux Klan within the context of a history of racially oriented terrorism that must be named and contextualized if we are to learn from the past and do better in the future.

The lack of public awareness of domestic terrorism’s place in American history stands in stark contrast to frequent contemporary references to immigration and immigration

policy. The United States has traditionally prided itself on being “a nation of immigrants.” This phrase is aspirational, but the historical reality is more complicated. Other than relatively recent immigrants, African Americans’ ancestors were brought here by force, and enslaved for generations. For many other people, the United States has been a land of hope and opportunity. Millions have come to our shores since the 16th century, some of them fleeing poverty and oppression, others displaced by war or economic collapse. Some intended to stay, some wanted only to earn enough to return to their home countries with added resources. Their struggles for respect and inclusion, although often marked by hostility and bigotry, have expanded and democratized our country’s definition of what it means to be American.

Increasingly in recent years, policy makers, political commentators, and even terrorists themselves have been drawing on and twisting history to oppose the expansive democracy immigration has helped to build. Many of them adopt the dark vision of early 20th-century exclusionist politics, which insisted that some people could never be real Americans. Some of them create a mythic “white” past rooted in a misreading of medieval Europe. And to one extent or another, many replace the nation’s complex experience of migration with dangerous talk of “invasion,” language that led directly to the El Paso assault and the deaths of 22 people. The rhetoric also elides the history of North America’s indigenous people, who are the only residents who can legitimately claim to have been “invaded.”

As the largest organization of professional historians in the world, the AHA condemns the recent deployment of histories invented in the interest of bigotry, violence, and division. Many critics of white nationalism have admirably insisted that “this is not who we are.” If the statements of white nationalists do not reflect who Americans are or

Continued on page 6



TO THE EDITOR

I was delighted to read AHA President John R. McNeill's bold column "Jargon in History Writing Shuts Out the Public" (May 2019). I have been concerned about the increase in postmodernist terminology since the late 1980s, and I encourage everyone to read Barbara Christian's groundbreaking essay "The Race for Theory," which appeared in *Feminist Studies* in spring 1988. Christian suggested that the language of critical theory ". . . is as hegemonic as the world it attacks. I see the language it creates as one that mystifies rather than clarifies our condition, making it possible for a few people who know that particular language to control the critical scene. That language surfaced, interestingly enough, just when the literature of peoples of color, black women, Latin Americans, and Africans began to move to 'the center.'"

Christian's argument informed my own awareness of the ways in which the field of women's studies adopted the language of critical theory in order to increase its legitimacy in the academy and a place at the scholarly table. I observed stylistic language changes in publications and discourse throughout the 1990s as a scholar with a doctorate in women's history, holding academic positions in both history and women's studies.

Christian made a particular point about the irony of inaccessible scholarly language becoming dominant even in women's studies, a field that sought to make working-class students and women of color feel welcomed and "heard" in the women's history classroom. In my book *The Disappearing L* (SUNY Press, 2016), I chart similar ways that the field of LGBT history has rapidly shut out grassroots community scholars in favor of the complex theoretical language of queer studies. I appreciate seeing this issue discussed front and center in *Perspectives*.

 BONNIE J. MORRIS
George Washington University (emerita)
University of California, Berkeley



TO THE EDITOR

AHA President John R. McNeill's critique "Jargon in History Writing Shuts Out the Public" (May 2019) humbly admits of his generation, "We pioneered—or at the very least normalized—the use of relentlessly abstract and obscure prose, often in imitation of models once current in literary criticism and philosophy." He cites as an example a current student's phrasing regarding "discursively imbricated ontologies." But the *American Historical Review* is itself too often guilty of this crime.

Regina Kunzel's admirably comprehensive, incisive article, "The Power of Queer History," in the December issue of the *AHR*, for example, could have used an editor's eye in making sense of the following excerpt:

Anthropologist Gayle Rubin insisted as well on the imbrication of sexuality with larger historical forces in her field-making 1984 essay "Thinking Sex: Notes for a Radical Theory of the Politics of Sexuality." Rubin made a powerful case for a new field of study that would focus on sexuality as a "vector of oppression," intersecting with but distinct from feminism's analysis of oppression based on gender, and one in which the study of non-normative sexuality would be central.

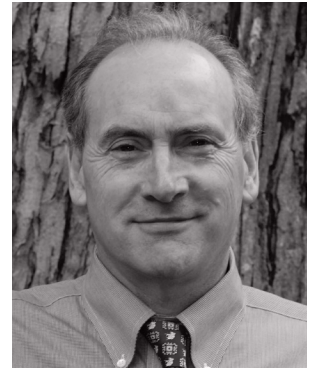
As a historian of sexualities embedded and, yes, *imbricated* (like a layered tile roof?) within the broader field of modern Europe/US socio-cultural evidence, and as an AIDS/LGBTQ/feminist activist who crafted Queer Nation LA's 1990 founding statement welcoming "queers of all sexual persuasions," I understand the academy's embrace of obscurantist writing. I resisted this trend in the 1980s while in grad school after a career in journalism, decrying it as a linguistic fetishization. Hayden White's magisterial 1973 *Metahistory: The Historical Imagination in Nineteenth-Century Europe* may have guided us historians into the so-called "linguistic turn," even if it supplied its own brakes against taking this route into an ahistorical theater of the absurd.

I'll take "the long 19th century" any day of the week!

 TY GELTMAKER
Los Angeles

JOHN R. MCNEILL

AHA INTERVIEWS, GOOD INTENTIONS, AND UNEXPECTED CONSEQUENCES



At its June meeting, the AHA Council voted to end the Association's practice of supporting job interviews at the annual meeting, after some 70 years. This decision, we hope, will have a positive effect on the atmosphere at the January 2020 gathering in New York, evident to everyone familiar with AHA meetings of the recent or distant past.

Interviews might still take place. The AHA's power to command or ban behavior is small, and it cannot prevent people from holding interviews in coffee shops or hotel rooms.

But it can, does, and will discourage the practice. In the short run, that means that starting in 2020 the space formerly devoted to interviews at annual meetings will be used in other ways. In only a year or two, I expect, the convention interview will go extinct. Like many historians, I will remember a couple of my interviews as long as I live, but one day the conference interview will be a forgotten ritual.

Few of us seem to be mourning its passing. When, in an earlier column, I noted that the AHA was considering this change, advocated it, and asked for opinions from AHA members, about 50 people wrote to register their views, and sentiment ran overwhelmingly in favor of ending AHA support for interviews at the annual meeting. The Professional Division and the AHA Council took this informal polling of membership into account in making their decisions.

Within three days of announcing the decision on social media, some 400 people offered responses, overwhelmingly endorsing the decision. Some said it was overdue. Many of the tweets came from people in other disciplines, expressing the wish that their professional associations would follow the AHA's lead—in at least one case clearly unaware that their association was *ahead* of the AHA and

had already done so. Since the announcement, a few people have written me as well to express gratitude for the change in policy (although credit belongs to the Professional Division and the Council). It seems that the AHA has done the right thing.

I do wonder, however, whether down the line there may be consequences of this decision that we failed to anticipate. As someone who pays attention to environmental and international history, I am an aficionado of unintended consequences. So what might we watch for in the future?

To begin with, it's possible that attendance at the annual meeting will fall. The AHA will need to reconsider the purpose of the meeting, and the incentives for attendance. This reconsideration has already started to happen, however, and in the long run, attendance might actually increase, because fewer people will associate the annual meeting with donning uncomfortable clothes, waiting nervously for the appointed hour, and worrying anxiously about how best to present themselves.

Like many historians, I will remember a couple of my interviews as long as I live, but one day the conference interview will be a forgotten ritual.

I am concerned about one thing: that eliminating the seasonality of academic hiring will work against job candidates. For seven decades academic hiring has been temporally anchored by the AHA annual meeting. Before the rise of videoconferencing, academic search committees conducted preliminary interviews at "the AHA," typically brought candidates to campus in late January or February, and made offers in late February or early March. Normally,

committees that lived up to their professional responsibilities let candidates know their situation by mid-March. The synchronization of the hiring process worked to the advantage of the fortunate few who got more than one offer, enabling them to make informed choices.

The rise of the videoconference interview has weakened the metronomic power of the annual meeting. It seems likely that structure will disappear entirely. Search committees henceforth will be constrained only by the internal calendars of their institutions—at colleges and universities, this means the time when deans and provosts authorize a search. Interviews, decisions, and offers will be spread out in time, although summer will likely remain quiet. Candidates fortunate enough to be offered a position will have to decide to take it or not without much knowledge about other options. Employers, especially those who calculate that they might make offers to people who will appeal to other employers, will require decisions from candidates who know little about what else they might have a chance at. This is often the prevailing situation outside the United States. I expect it to become the norm here with the pending extinction of the convention interview. Successful candidates—if all this comes to pass—will be in weaker negotiating positions.

I look forward to annual meetings
where everyone present is happy
to be there and no one is feeling
fretful about interviews.

This comes with a corollary. It is (I believe) surpassingly rare in our profession for people to accept an offer and then subsequently break that agreement in order to take a different offer. Part of the reason for this, I suspect, has been the synchronization of the hiring process. The new regime will, I suspect, create more situations in which job seekers accept a job and then, a couple of months later, find out they have a preferable option and are therefore tempted to break their word or even their formal, written agreement. If this happens, how will employers try to protect themselves against it?

This concern, even with its corollary, is not worrisome enough to make me reconsider my support for the policy shift. I still agree with the wisdom of the Twitterverse on this one, especially given the small likelihood of candidates getting multiple offers. I look forward to annual meetings

where everyone present is happy to be there and no one is feeling fretful about interviews.

Unintended consequences can also be favorable. If indeed seasonality evaporates in academic hiring, there will no longer be better and worse times of year to finish a PhD for those seeking academic employment. No PhD students will be tempted to rush to completion in the winter or to delay completion from May to November so as to hit the market with a fresh degree.

The scenarios I've sketched may or may not happen. But there probably will be unexpected consequences. Please let me know if you envision any unwelcome effect of the shift in policy. The AHA should be on the lookout for unintended consequences of its actions, and that task will be easier if it knows what to look for. The AHA will need to, and will be happy to, revise its guidelines on hiring (historians.org/hiring) as the procedures in our profession evolve. **P**

John R. McNeill is president of the American Historical Association.

Continued from page 3

STATEMENT FROM THE AHA

want to be, they do compose an undeniable part of our collective past. Those aspects of the nation's heritage should be exposed and overcome, rather than ignored or celebrated. Knowledge of history can help Americans achieve that goal. **P**

For a full list of signatories, please see the online version of this statement.

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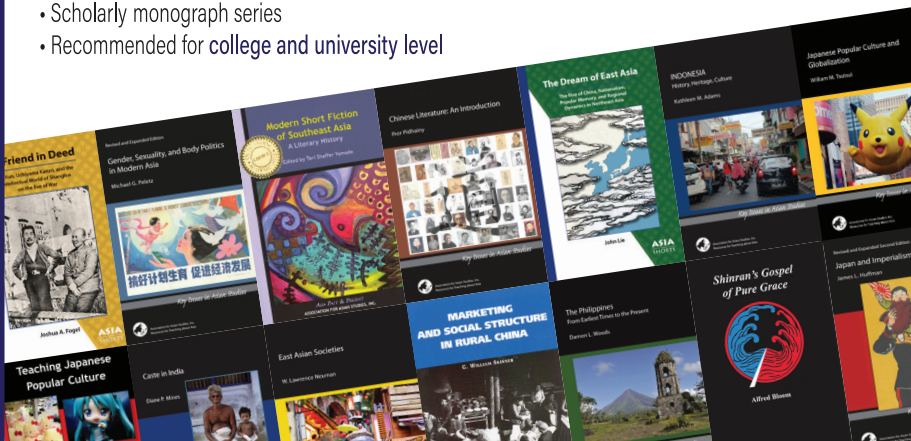
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FASHION FORWARD

Dress in the Age of Jane Austen

When fashion historian Hilary Davidson (Univ. of Sydney) was living in, as she put it, “Jane Austen’s heartland of Hampshire” in England, the senior keeper of decorative arts at the Hampshire County Museum Services and Archives asked her to make a replica of the novelist’s pelisse—a long women’s coat-dress that the novelist likely wore—which the museum owned. As both a curator and a sewer, Davidson was an ideal candidate to create a replica that could be loaned out without risking damage to the original. Through the project and the talks she gave on the pelisse, Davidson noticed that the public often learned what they knew about dress in Britain’s Regency era (1811–20) through such novels as *Pride and Prejudice* and *Sense and Sensibility* and the costume dramas based on them.

So when Davidson couldn’t find a scholarly monograph

on clothing from the early 19th century, she decided to write a single-volume survey of Regency dress with Austen at its center. The result was *Dress in the Age of Jane Austen: Regency Fashion* (Yale Univ. Press, 2019). Austen, she thought, would give a general audience an accessible entry point into Regency-era fashion history. And for scholars, Austen and her family would exemplify how

the English middling classes and gentry dressed and thought about clothing in this era. Davidson thus treats historical garments as material objects open to interpretation, helping scholars and fans alike add to the traditional Austen archive by turning textile to text.

The book relies extensively on Austen’s most renowned works—her letters and

novels—as its main groups of primary sources. “An exceptionally observant woman,” Davidson writes, Austen also happened to be “part of the best biographized, non-elite, late Georgian family.” Austen’s relatives provided Davidson with a ready-made archive of valuable primary sources and attendant scholarly analysis, while also providing windows into Regency life beyond England’s



All classes mingle at the Regency-era Oxford races. Note the ladies in the box on the upper right, wearing “the little white dress” Davidson describes in her book.

Charles Turner, An Extensive View of the Oxford Races, c1820, oil on canvas. Yale Center for British Art, Paul Mellon Collection, New Haven, Conn.

shores. Austen's aunt, for example, was born in Barbados; her sister-in-law was born in India and had been married to a French aristocrat; and her brothers served in the Navy, voyaging across the world. "The nature of British society at the time," Davidson told *Perspectives*, "was highly globally connected." Even a figure like Austen, who, Davidson says, is "often culturally represented as being the stay-at-home, afternoon tea [type] . . . actually had these extraordinary connections to the wider world."

Davidson also examined authentic historical dress, portraits, fashion magazines, diaries, laundry invoices, tailors' bills, satirical cartoons,

advertisements from stay-makers, account books by clergymen, watercolors of "street characters," and pattern books to consider how Austen's contemporaries, of all classes, discussed, maintained, and created clothing.

Piecing together the social history of fashion from such a variety of archival sources can be "a bit overwhelming" to those unfamiliar with material culture study, according to Davidson. "Because dress is such a central practice of humanity," she says, "if you're really looking for clothing and perspectives on clothing . . . [you find sources] through all the possible ranges of human culture." To organize the vast assortment of

sources and information in a way that would be accessible to students, the general public, and historians who

inmost sphere of "Self" to the furthest reaches of Regency England's trading networks, "World."

Davidson treats historical garments as material objects open to interpretation, helping scholars and fans alike add to the traditional Austen archive by turning textile to text.

don't have a background in fashion history, Davidson once again turned to Austen. Instead of a straight chronology, the seven chapters in Davidson's book reflect how Austen might have categorized the world, from the


One consistent trope in the book is what is perhaps the era's most famous garment type: the full-sleeved, ruffle-necked white linen shirt, which Davidson reads as evidence for the many ways shirts intersected with the overlapping social spheres after which she names her chapters.

In the Regency era, shirts were a foundational undergarment and were highly gendered. Men wore shirts, which reached to the mid-thigh and were to be tucked into breeches or trousers; women wore longer, tunic-like shifts that went down to the knees and were meant to give a smooth base for a gown. Even when women wore clothing cut like men's shirts, they were referred to as modified "habit-shirts," to be worn specifically under a riding habit. Shirts were personal body linens whose laundering was of constant concern. They were often sent out of the home to be laundered by village or city

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washerwomen. (In fact, the only mention of men's shirts in Austen's fiction is as part of a humorous laundry list in *Northanger Abbey*.)

In letters sent across England, Austen mentions sewing shirts with female relatives for her male relatives. Needlework gifts like these sustained Austen family bonds across long distances. Likewise, the material used to create the shirts shows the

borders, but also left them, as Austen's relations participated in Britain's imperial enterprise. Her brother Charles asked Austen in a letter to send the shirts she and her sister had stitched for him before he shipped out to serve abroad in the Napoleonic Wars. As Davidson writes, "Austen may never have travelled abroad but her stitching crossed oceans." "As an Australian," Davidson told *Perspectives*, "I

period. Davidson points out in her book that muslin was, however, for most of the Regency era, imported from India. She quotes one Regency military man who claimed that the "peshawar shalwar" was "the robe from which our ladies have taken their present dress." As Davidson writes, "Of all the styles existing in the British-connected world in the late eighteenth century, regional Indian variations on garments with high waists or skirts starting under the bust and made of muslin are the closest match." The style was evidence not just of Continental European ideas in Britain, but of South Asian ones as well.

Davidson finds that her students become very engaged when studying fashion history. In class, she uses the Australian Dress Register, a collaborative digital history project that documents Australian clothing. The class examines and discusses "one object for four hours, and we catalog it to go online." Afterward the students express surprise, saying, "I didn't know you could see that much." Digging into questions beyond "What is this fabric?" to "Where would this fabric have come from?" can help elucidate trade networks in a very hands-on and immediate way. "You can see them kind of get it, and get that spark," said Davidson.

Making explicit the implicit knowledge that goes into

creating a piece of needlework or other material object is a difficult but extremely useful skill to acquire, according to Davidson. It can make the underlying networks of empire, trade, class, and family—which allowed, say, a white shirt owned by Charles Austen to exist—more physically real to students. As Davidson writes, "Needlework filled women's lives in the age of Austen." And while examples of Austen's sewing are not as abundant, easily found, or famous as her novels and letters, they are objects that allow scholars to better understand who Austen was and how she spent her days.

Davidson hopes *Dress in the Age of Jane Austen* will help readers appreciate "the non-literate skills that we extremely literate people sometimes have trouble finding our way back into," such as needlework, and "give people different models of ways in" to history and to archives. "Dress is the place where I choose to stand and look at history," Davidson told *Perspectives*. "It's my filter, it's my perspective . . . everyone finds their own way into history, and clothing has been mine." **P**

Elyse Martin is associate editor, web content and social media, at the AHA. She tweets @champs_elyse.

Davidson hopes *Dress in the Age of Jane Austen* will help readers appreciate "the non-literate skills that we extremely literate people sometimes have trouble finding our way back into."

national networks of Regency Great Britain. In a 1798 letter, Austen describes purchasing Irish linen from a "Scotchman," a historic term for an itinerant trader. Ireland produced so much of the linen consumed by England that it was often referred to as "Irish." As Davidson jokes in her book, "Austen's purchase of Irish in England from the Overton Scotchman was an accidental minor act of union"—a very inside nod to the Acts of Union 1800, which created the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

These shirts were manufactured within Great Britain's

found it really interesting to take on the lessons from the global turn in history and say, 'Look how far we can track this supposedly very English, very cloistered, very stay-at-home iconic figure of British history.'"

Davidson demonstrates how to read different cultural trends and influences in another famous staple of costume dramas: the high-waisted white muslin dress. "The little white dress," as Davidson humorously terms it, is often interpreted as evidence of Rousseau's influence and his calls for simplicity of dress, or Classicism, the prevailing aesthetic trend during this

DEVON REICH

ADVOCACY BRIEFS

AHA Protests Funding Crises and Supports Historians around the Globe

The American Historical Association is committed to advocating on behalf of our global community of historians and safeguarding the centrality of history and humanities education in public life. Throughout the spring and summer, the Association backed federal programs, university departments, and archives facing critical proposed budget reductions or organizational restructuring.

Letter Protesting Cuts to Brazilian Humanities Programs

In March, the AHA signed on to a joint letter authored by the American Philosophical Association and the American Sociological Association in response to President Jair Messias Bolsonaro's proposal to defund philosophy and sociology programs in Brazil. The coalition emphasized not only the employable skills earned in a rigorous liberal arts education but also the grave danger that defunding such departments poses to academic inquiry and autonomy.

Action Alert to Protect Funding for US National Archives

On May 2, the Association shared an alert with its members in the United States in response to proposed precipitous reductions in the National Archives' budget and the suggested elimination of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. The AHA implored recipients to contact their representatives and members of the House Appropriations Committee and advise against this measure before fiscal deliberations were to begin.

Letter Warning against Stanford University Press Budget Cuts

In May, James Grossman, AHA executive director, wrote to Stanford University president Marc Tessier-Lavigne and provost Persis Drell to articulate concerns about the impact on historical scholarship as the university's press faced proposed funding adjustments. Grossman acknowledged the budgetary constraints that all universities must balance, but he cited Stanford University Press's reputation as a leading

publisher of influential works in the history discipline, particularly in the digital era, as vital to maintaining a diverse research community and therefore warranting university investment.

Letter Concerning Restructuring at the University of Tulsa

Grossman also sent a letter to Provost Janet Levit of the University of Tulsa to address the institution's suggested organizational plan to eliminate a

often produced by approaches of this nature, including decreases in history enrollments and pedagogical and research quality, and urged the administration to reconsider.

Joint Letter Supporting Congressional Title VI Funding

In May, the AHA endorsed a letter from the Coalition for International Education to Lamar Alexander (R-TN) and Patty Murray (D-WA) of the Senate Health, Education,

The AHA sent a letter to the University of Tulsa to address the institution's suggested organizational plan to eliminate a popular program and to subsume the history department under one larger humanities entity.

popular MA/MAT program and to subsume the history department under one larger humanities entity, an elimination of independence proposed largely without the input of history faculty. Grossman highlighted the troubling effects

Labor and Pensions Committee. The 30 signatories commended the bipartisan efforts for re-authorization of the Higher Education Act and encouraged incorporation of Title VI funding into the bill. As the United States' most

multifaceted body of international and foreign language education programs, Title VI is crucial to understanding and engaging in the increased global interdependence of the 21st century.

Joint Letter Endorsing Federal Funding of Foreign Language Programs

The Association joined over 25 other organizations in sending a letter to Roy Blunt (R-MO) and Patty Murray (D-WA) of the Senate Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies. Following a 43 percent reduction in funding resources since fiscal year 2011, the letter pressed for restoration of such resources for International Education and Foreign Language Studies and articulated the valuable international and employable skills curated by such programs as HEA-Title VI and Fulbright-Hays.

Letter Regarding Guatemalan Archives

In June, AHA president John McNeill contacted Jimmy Morales Cabrera, president of the Republic of Guatemala, with regard to the future of the Archivo Histórico de la Policía Nacional, as the current agreement concerning the housing and access of the collection was to terminate on June 30. McNeill argued that the archives, an indispensable resource of 60 million documents relating to the modern social history of Guatemala

and the Americas, should remain under the administrative purview of the Ministry of Sport and Culture and maintain its open access policies, which allow researchers around the world to conduct significant work.

Letter Supporting Hotel Chains' Refusal to Aid in ICE Arrests

Executive director Jim Grossman commended the CEOs of Hilton Worldwide, Hyatt Hotels Corporation, and Marriott International for denying US Immigration and Customs Enforcement the use of hotel space for temporary detention centers during planned raids on immigrant communities. The Association has frequently used these hotel chains for its annual meetings, and the rhetoric and tactics accompanying such raids violate the principles of an organization rooted in creating and advancing a safe, shared, and diverse member space. The letter of support also recognized the importance of immigrants in America's hospitality industries in both a contemporary and historical context.

Letter Supporting Right to Sign Academics for Peace Petition in Turkey

In July, the AHA was among 27 associations that sent a letter to the judges of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Turkey supporting scholars and academics' right to sign the Academics for Peace Petition. The coalition

noted that the Turkish courts have recently upheld the rights of freedom of expression and assembly in several similar instances and urged that the judges apply this precedent to pending criminal cases concerning signatories of the peace petition.

Letter Opposing Elimination of History Department at Gordon College

The Association also sent a letter to Gordon College in July, replying to a drastic restructuring plan put forth by the administration. The proposal would eliminate the autonomy of the history department with detrimental ramifications for faculty hiring, research standards, and pedagogical practices. Grossman strongly implored the college to reconsider subsuming the history department under an umbrella entity of Political Science, Philosophy, and History.

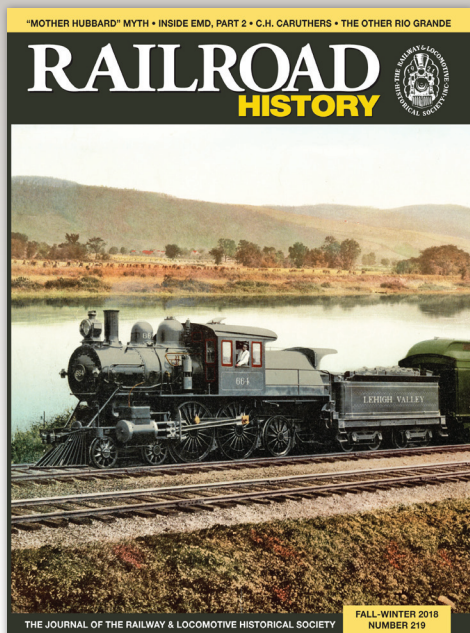
Statement on Domestic Terrorism, Bigotry, and History

On August 26, the American Historical Association released the *Statement on Domestic Terrorism, Bigotry, and History* in the wake of several months marked by mass homicides. Recognizing that the statement will probably prompt more questions than it answers, the AHA maintains its responsibility as an organization of historians to recognize "dangers on the horizon, given what we have

learned and taught about the histories of bigotry and its implications in the United States and elsewhere in the world." The statement condemns the invention and deployment of historical narratives created to achieve violent and divisive goals. As of September 3, a total of 42 fellow scholarly and professional organizations have endorsed the letter. See page 3 of this issue for the full text of this statement. **P**

Devon Reich is operations and marketing assistant at the AHA.

The R&LHS Scholarship Program



Founded in 1921, the Railway & Locomotive Historical Society is North America's oldest organization focusing on railroad history. Its purpose is to promote research, writing, and public knowledge about all aspects of railroading, including its development, operations, motive power, and workforce, as well as the industry's political, economic, and cultural impact.

The Society publishes RAILROAD HISTORY, the oldest journal in the United States devoted to the subject, containing original scholarship that sets the standard in railroad historical research. Archives of RAILROAD HISTORY are available through JSTOR under "Transportation."

The Railway & Locomotive Historical Society is proud to sponsor scholarships to promote the professional, academic study of railroad history and operations.

Scholarships are available for both advanced undergraduate (junior and senior levels) and graduate study. Information and application instructions may be found on the Society's web site: rlhs.org.



The Department of History at the
University of Rochester is pleased to welcome
new faculty members

Ruben Flores, Ph.D.

Associate Professor,
author of

Backroads Pragmatists: Mexico's Melting Pot and Civil Rights in the United States

(University of Pennsylvania Press, 2014), winner of the 2015 Society for U.S. Intellectual History Book Award,

and

Mical Raz, M.D., Ph.D., M.Sc.

Associate Professor, Charles E. and Dale L. Phelps Chair in Public Policy and Health,
author of

The Lobotomy Letters: The Making of American Psychosurgery (University of Rochester Press, 2013),

for which she was awarded the Pressman-Burroughs Wellcome Career Development

Award by the American Association for the History of Medicine;

and *What's Wrong with the Poor? Race, Psychiatry and the War on Poverty*
(University of North Carolina Press, 2013), a 2015 Choice Outstanding Academic Title.

Professors Flores and Raz are both accepting new graduate students for 2020-21.

For more information
about the department and our graduate offerings,
visit <http://www.sas.rochester.edu/his/index.html>.



UNIVERSITY of
ROCHESTER

Leadership

Rethinking History Education

- Published *Careers for History Majors* to help departments recruit students and to inform current and future undergraduates about the social and economic value of studying history, distributing 5,000 copies in six months
- Launched History Gateways, an initiative to revise introductory college history courses to better serve students from all backgrounds
- Engaged with more than 30 institutions to discuss strategies and spearhead cultural and curricular change in PhD programs as part of the AHA's Career Diversity for Historians initiative. Activities included 136 seminars, workshops, informal information sessions, visits, and conferences

Improving Data Transparency

- Expanded the annual jobs report to provide more context about academic hiring
- Collaborated with the Association of American Universities and the Council of Graduate Schools to collect improved data about doctoral career outcomes across disciplines
- Published "The History BA since the Great Recession" by Benjamin M. Schmidt in *Perspectives on History*, which sparked wide conversation about the future of historical knowledge in the United States

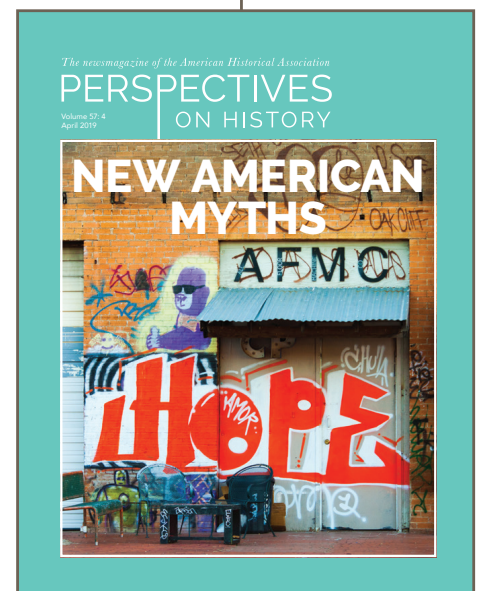
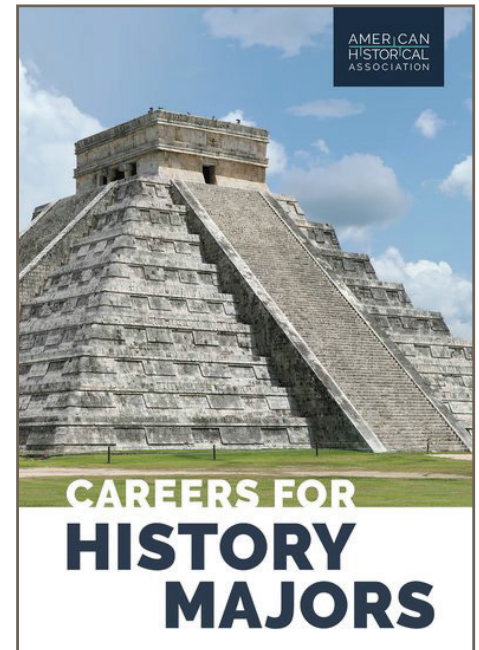
Raising the Bar for Diversity and Inclusion in the Discipline

- Partnered with the American Philosophical Association to collaborate with faculty at Historically Black Colleges and Universities to explore how scholarly associations can better serve these institutions
- Embarked on a broad range of initiatives to comprehensively diversify the *American Historical Review* with respect to article topics, contributors, peer reviewers, and more
- Developed policies and a code of conduct to safeguard our member spaces and to protect members from harassment and discrimination within the scope of AHA activity

Advocacy

Defending and Supporting the Work of Historians

- Issued a record-breaking number of letters and statements regarding academic freedom and the integrity of historical work in Saudi Arabia, Iran, Nicaragua, Hungary, and across the United States





We began renovation of the AHA headquarters building in Washington, DC, to enable access for all members and to create adequate meeting space for our Council and committees.



Join the AHA today.
To help support our continued leadership, advocacy, and community, join the world's largest organization of historians.
Visit historians.org/joinAHA to learn more.

- Mobilized members to protect federal funding for the humanities, higher education budgets, and history courses in public higher education systems
- Established a committee to advise on issues at the National Archives and Records Administration relating to the work of historians
- Played a leadership role in the National Humanities Alliance, National Coalition for History, and American Council of Learned Societies, in addition to continued participation in the Consortium of Social Science Associations and Social Science Research Council

Bringing Historical Thinking into Policy Debates

- Responded to current events with late-breaking sessions at #AHA19 related to such issues as Confederate monuments, threats to the collections and work of archives, and Brazil's presidential election
- The National History Center convened five congressional briefings by expert historians on the histories of federal agricultural policy, US refugee policy, congressional reform and rules changes, US gun rights and regulations, and US health care policy, which consistently attracted large audiences and were filmed and broadcast by C-SPAN
- A series of *Perspectives Daily* articles contextualized contemporary issues, including marijuana decriminalization, white supremacist nostalgia for the Middle Ages, and African American student activism
- A webinar with leading political historians discussed the historical implications of the 2018 midterm elections

Creating Community

Supporting Members with Professional Development

- Subsidized \$17,200 worth of graduate student travel to #AHA19 and provided childcare stipends to graduate students and non-tenure-track faculty
- Welcomed the participation of over 500 students at all levels at #AHA19, with an undergraduate lightning round and poster presentation
- Held the first annual Department Chairs' Workshop to develop leaders who can advocate for disciplinary priorities on campus
- Arranged dozens of informational interviews through Career Contacts, a database of nearly 250 history PhDs working beyond the professoriate
- Sponsored two large teaching conferences in Texas and California, connecting high school and undergraduate educators
- Launched *Perspectives on History* biweekly newsletter to better communicate with our readers
- Expanded the digital scope and reach of the *American Historical Review*

ALLISON MILLER

RESCUING PRICELESS VISUAL HISTORY

An Archive Goes Up for Auction, with an Astonishing Outcome



The publishing magnate John H. Johnson launched some of the most important magazines of the 20th century.
Bettmann

Editor's note: This article originally appeared online in Perspectives Daily on July 9, 2019. The story was then picked up by many other outlets, which brought historians' concerns to the attention of a national audience. The auction was held on July 17, and on July 25 it was announced that the archive was purchased by a consortium of four foundations—the J. Paul Getty Trust, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Ford Foundation, and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The archive will be donated to the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture and the Getty Research Institute, making the archive widely accessible to the public and to scholars for the first time.

CHICAGO PUBLISHING MAGNATE John H. Johnson wrote in his autobiography, “I wasn’t trying to make history—I was trying to make money.” But as a Black entrepreneur who launched two of the 20th century’s most important magazines, *Ebony* and *Jet*, he did both. Today, that twin legacy—history and money—is at the center of the fate of the remaining assets of his empire: the Johnson Publishing Company, which filed for Chapter VII bankruptcy this past April. The conversation is coming to a head as the pearl of its collection, its photography archive, appraised at \$46 million in 2015, readies to go up for auction later this month. The winning bidder will acquire some 4.5 million images of African American life, including nearly 2,800 “crown jewels,” as an asset listing calls them: from Ali to Wonder, from Montgomery, Alabama, to Washington, DC. And far beyond.

News coverage of the bankruptcy has focused on the details of the company’s demise and the impending auction, scheduled for July 17. But the archive’s unquestionable historical value means there’s more than money at stake in the process of finding a new home for it.

It’s “relatively unique” to even see an archive listed as an asset in a corporate bankruptcy filing, says attorney Rick Meller of the Chicago law firm Fox Swibel, which represents the trustee in this case. (Other Johnson Publishing assets that must be sold separately include a collection of couture dresses that were part of the company’s long-running Fashion Fair, an annual event launched by Eunice Johnson, Johnson’s wife and a tycoon in her own right, as well as the groundbreaking Fashion Fair cosmetics brand.) Many publishers don’t consider their photo archives worth the upkeep. But the Johnson Publishing Company did. It’s because of the efforts of an African American family running a business over generations that this massive visual documentation of American history has survived.

At the same time, the archive has been extraordinarily difficult for researchers to access over the years. A corporation

simply isn’t obliged to throw open its doors to the public, even if it’s well aware of the historical nature of its holdings. Now, however, if it’s bought by a philanthropist and donated to a public museum or library, there’s a possibility that everyone could gain access to a huge slice of American history.

That makes the intentions and values of a prospective buyer paramount. “In the scheme of this big world,” as Kurt Cherry, a businessman and native Chicagoan who in the early 2000s owned four African American newspapers, including the storied Chicago *Defender*, puts it, “what do you want to do with it, and why are you buying it, and are African Americans in the conversation about buying it?”

It’s impossible to overstate the significance of the Johnson Publishing Company, founded in Chicago in 1942. John and Eunice Johnson began with *Negro Digest*, a *Readers Digest* for an African American audience, which quickly reached thousands of households. *Ebony*, the company’s flagship monthly, launched in 1945, followed by the weekly *Jet* in ’51. Soon Johnson Publishing emerged as a beacon of African American enterprise, in no small part because Johnson himself poached some of the top journalistic, editorial, and

Many publishers don't consider their photo archives worth the upkeep. But the Johnson Publishing Company did.

design talent from around the country. One catch was the *Atlanta Daily World*’s Lerone Bennett Jr., who eventually became *Ebony*’s influential executive editor and a historian whose work resonated deeply with Americans who didn’t see themselves in the history taught in schools. Celebrities—the likes of Dorothy Dandridge, Ray Charles, and Aretha Franklin—were featured in the magazines as their careers were taking off: they were superstars in African American living rooms but nearly unknown to the readership of photo magazines targeting a mainstream white readership, like *LIFE*.

Covers in the early years steered risqué—all the better to increase sales and land major advertisers—but the pages inside also documented the Black freedom movement as well as everyday life. In each of his publications, Johnson wanted to emphasize positive stories (distinguishing him from the crusading publishers of African American newspapers), so readers encountered articles about people who ran businesses,



raised families, wrote poems and plays, ministered to congregations and to the sick, created artworks, and—as history nudged the publications to a more activist stance, though one careful enough not to alienate advertisers—organized against white supremacy. Importantly, every page was saturated with photography, which ventured far beyond formally composed portraits. The staff photographers of *Ebony* and *Jet* captured people in conversation, in motion, and taking up space on their own terms—at work, at home, in joy, and in struggle.

John H. Johnson died in 2005, around the time when the magazine industry was being battered by the new realities of the digital age. Eunice followed in 2010. With Desirée Rogers, who served as CEO from 2010 to 2017, Johnson’s daughter Linda Johnson Rice took the company through several calculated steps to stay afloat. Rice and Rogers loaned the company a combined total of nearly \$4.8 million between 2014 and mid-2015. But in 2015 the company put the photo archive up for sale; it also worked out a \$12 million loan from Capital Holdings V, a private investment firm owned by Melody Hobson and her husband, George Lucas, to use the

funds against the hoped-for sale of the archive. The next year Johnson Publishing sold *Ebony* and *Jet* to a private equity firm. When the company filed for Chapter VII bankruptcy this past April, the court put a trustee in charge of its assets. The law requires that those assets be sold for their maximum possible value—hence the pending auction.

“I’ve had anxiety about this for four years,” says Brenna W. Greer, an associate professor of history at Wellesley College who writes about race, business, and visual culture. Greer’s new book, *Represented: The Black Imagemakers Who Reimagined African American Citizenship*, makes the case that a key part of African Americans’ struggle for full citizenship after World War II centered on creating and managing commercial images of themselves. That made what the Johnson Publishing Company was doing crucial, she says.

Like many researchers and teachers who analyze 20th-century images of African Americans, Greer has encountered the paradox that the photography in *Ebony* and *Jet*, while of priceless historical significance, was created and preserved by a for-profit entity. In writing *Represented*, Greer found it difficult to even get her foot in the door, though her final book includes a number of images licensed from the Ebony Collection. “Johnson Publishing is notoriously closed off to researchers,” she says. “Even in terms of getting information about what’s there, it’s been hard to crack that inner sanctum.”

The photographers of *Ebony* and *Jet* captured people in conversation, in motion, and taking up space on their own terms—at work, at home, in joy, and in struggle.

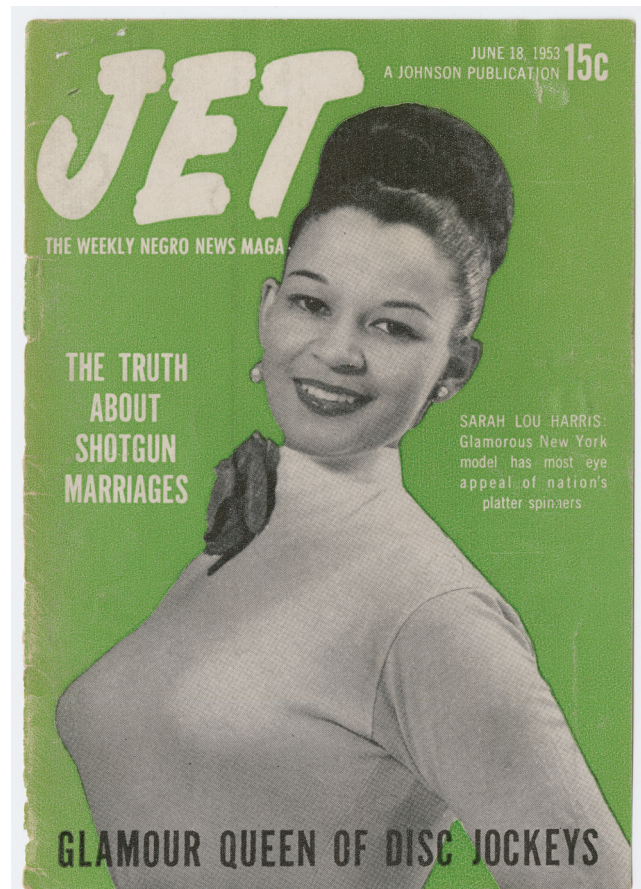
When the archive was first put up for sale back in 2015, Greer says, she harbored fantasies of writing to Oprah Winfrey to prevail on her to purchase it and donate it to a library or museum. That way it could shape the stories historians and educators like her tell. “One of the ways I kept pitching myself to Johnson Publishing to gain access, which kept falling into the void, was that the company was undermining its own cultural significance, because trained experts couldn’t come and help them establish or consider or promote their historical significance.”

While Greer would like to see the archive end up with a nonprofit entity with expertise in preservation, cataloging, curation, and digitization, she knows an image-licensing corporation or an entertainment network may very well acquire it instead. The consequences of such a sale could have significant ramifications. The archive contains many more images than were ever published; if they came to light, they could add to the stories already narrated on the page, or perhaps reveal ones that never made the final cut. But in other hands, there's no guarantee the public would be able to gain access to the full stories of the people in the magazines who weren't major celebrities. That's because were the images to be digitized and licensed by another for-profit company, it would likely focus on marquee names.

Cost realities are also at play. Academic books are typically published by nonprofit university presses, and a medium-size print run might be 1,500 copies. On the other hand, licensing a single image from a photo-licensing company can run to more than \$500. That's a lot of money in the academic world, and it might price researchers out of using more of the archive's image library in future publications. That's a detriment to scholarship overall. As Rhae Lynn Barnes, an assistant professor of American cultural history at Princeton University, points out, when entities that can afford high fees produce history-related work, it's more likely to be entertainment, even if it's a documentary. Those works have a different mission, she says, than one coming from, say, a graduate student piecing together a new interpretation in an archive or museum.

John H. Johnson himself was intimately involved in the decision to run David Jackson's photos of Emmett Till on two pages near the beginning of the issue.

But perhaps the most alarming question around licensing revolves around the possibility of charging a usage fee for sensitive items in the collection. Historians who have knowledge of what *Ebony* and *Jet* published will point, immediately, to David Jackson's photographs of Emmett Till lying in repose at his funeral, which first ran in the September 15, 1955, issue of *Jet*. Till was a 14-year-old boy from Chicago who was tortured and murdered while visiting relatives in Mississippi, for allegedly whistling at a white woman.



"If it wasn't in *Jet*, it didn't happen," as a saying had it. *Jet* was small enough to carry in your pocket, but its impact was huge.

Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture/NYPL Digital Collections

The publication of Jackson's photographs of Till's carefully dressed but badly decomposed body echoed like a thunder-clap among African Americans, particularly young people who became activists in the 1960s—the "Emmett Till generation," they would call themselves.

Barnes recalls how her undergraduate adviser was still visibly affected by the Till photographs when he mentioned them in a talk he gave over 50 years later. "[E]ven as a very senior scholar, he was teary-eyed when he remembered seeing those images," Barnes says. "You cannot deny this moment as salient of racial consciousness for so many people."

It's true that money was always involved with the publication. As editor and publisher of *Jet*, Johnson himself was intimately involved in the decision to run Jackson's photos of Till on two pages near the beginning of the issue. The

company may very well have profited from it; the issue sold out its run, and Jackson's images ran in other issues of *Jet* that fall, too. But the photographs, and the *Jet* editors' risk, also made history. Jackson's photographs of Till, the Loyola University Chicago historian Elliott Gorn points out, were famous to African Americans for a generation but all but unseen by white people until the *Eyes on the Prize* documentary series of 1987. This was a narrative, a history, created by African Americans for one another.

Most importantly, as Ruth Feldstein, a historian at Rutgers University Newark, has shown, Till's mother, Mamie Till Mobley, explicitly gave permission for *Jet* to circulate the horrific images: she said she wanted "the world to see" the kind of atrocity white supremacy enabled. Indeed, the photographs were themselves a collaboration between journalists and Till Mobley. David Jackson and the journalist Simon Booker met the grieving mother at the train station to meet her son's remains, then accompanied her to the funeral home, where they stood with her when the casket was opened.

Today, a listing of the archive's contents reveals that it contains not just the handful of images from the funeral that most people have seen, and that most historians know about. There are, in fact, as many as 80 images, shot by Jackson, Edward Bailey, and Isaac Sutton. The possibility that the most sensitive images among them could be licensed for profit today is cause for concern.

Barnes, who writes about the circulation of images of blackface minstrelsy, draws parallels to the past in the idea that a person or company could make money from images of a lynching today. For many years, she explains, there was a huge underground market for lynching memorabilia, from picture postcards to victims' body parts. "It would be sacrilegious to monetize them," says Barnes of the Till photographs. "I don't think we should be monetizing any photos having to do with lynching."

Another scholar who's given deep consideration to the fate of the archive is University of Chicago historian Adam Green. He is the author of the influential *Selling the Race: Culture, Community, and Black Chicago, 1940–1955* (2007), which analyzes how *Ebony* and *Jet* helped catalyze Black political, social, and cultural consciousness, including the role the Emmett Till photographs played in bringing African Americans together.

"I am very saddened and deeply disturbed that the likely outcome will be the transfer of these historical holdings [to

a for-profit entity]," Green says, before bringing up the elephant in the room. "[W]e can't address this story," he says, "without addressing the fact that the structural inequality of wealth in this country will play a role in the eventual outcome."

As a nation, he points out, the US is grappling with a radically inequitable distribution of wealth along racial lines; a recent Center for American Progress report found that the median net worth of non-retired African Americans in 2016 was \$13,460, just 9.5 percent of the median net worth of non-retired whites—a clear legacy of systemic racism. Because philanthropists, who are the lifeblood of public institutions like museums, need to be connected to networks of wealth that historically have excluded people of color, white people have an outsized influence on decisions influencing public knowledge, he says. The consequences of these structural forces have direct bearing on the fate of the Johnson Publishing Company photo archive.

Historians must do more to build bridges to the institutional and for-profit sectors, says Green, so that they can be part of conversations like those around this archive before they build to a perceived crisis. "I do not know of many conversations that have taken place, in the 10-plus years that Johnson Publishing has been concerned about its institutional security and assets, in which academics recognize not only the legal but also the legitimate business concerns of the private owners," he says. "Simply defining something as a 'public' archive is not necessarily good for everyone's interests." At the height of its influence, he says, "the Johnson Publishing Company could address the vast majority of African American people who didn't get to go to college, who wouldn't get to read historians' scholarship."

Cherry, the former *Defender* owner, can speak to that. Just last week, the current management of the *Defender* announced that it would cease publishing its print edition after over a century. The pressing financial concerns of running a newspaper, Cherry says, made it impossible to prioritize thinking about its history even when he was around. It wasn't that he didn't know what he had when he took over back in 2003. He can still vividly recall seeing the *Defender's* photo archive for the first time: "It was a rush. It was like, wow, what am I sitting on top of? I didn't realize the implications of what I bought." But reality forced the needs of the archive to the periphery. "It just wasn't a priority—preserving this stuff and doing the right thing by it," he says. "We're just trying to put out a paper every day. We're trying to survive."

The AHA offers grants to help graduate students and early-career historians attend the annual meeting.



CHILD CARE GRANTS: Up to \$250 to assist AHA members who have child-care costs during the meeting

JERRY BENTLEY WORLD HISTORY TRAVEL GRANTS: Between \$200 and \$400 to support graduate students who include world history among their major minor fields

AHA COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING TRAVEL GRANTS: Between \$200 and \$400 to support graduate students in any major or minor field

DOROTHY ROSENBERG PHI BETA KAPPA TRAVEL GRANTS: Up to \$400 to support graduate students in any major or minor field

The deadline for all grant applications is November 1.
Visit historians.org/grants#annual-meeting to learn more.

It's certainly possible that the photographs that make up the Johnson Publishing photo archive could wind up controlled by an institution that has substantial input from African Americans and is committed to public access. Meller says that Hilco Streambank, the law firm in charge of organizing the auction, has been soliciting interest from museums and members of the African American philanthropic community. Earlier this spring, Capital Holdings V expressed a desire to preserve the images for posterity. The company could win the auction (or foreclose on the archive) and donate the images to, say, the nonprofit Lucas Museum of Narrative Art, which recently broke ground in Los Angeles, or another institution. (Requests for comment from Capital Holdings and Rice were not returned.)

In the end, it will boil down to the intentions and values of the buyer. The archive is more than a “trophy,” Cherry says. “You can buy a Picasso, hang it on your wall, it sits there. But if you buy it with a purpose, to use it meaningfully, that is quite different.”

The conversation circles back to that twin legacy of John H. Johnson's empire: history and money. And what ends up winning out should concern everyone. As Barnes said: “This is not only Black history, this is American history and global American culture.” *Ebony* and *Jet* were at the center of it all. **P**

Allison Miller is editor of Perspectives. She tweets @Cliopticon.

ON TO NEW YORK

The 2020 Annual Meeting at a Glance

The 134th annual meeting of the American Historical Association will be held Friday through Monday, January 3–6, 2020, in New York City. The online **program** will be posted on the AHA website in mid-September, and members can look forward to receiving the printed program in mid-November. A meeting app will also be available for smartphones and tablets. Annual meeting sessions and events are scheduled at the New York Hilton and the Sheraton New York. The hotels are right across the street from each other.

Preregistration begins in mid-September. The lower preregistration rates will be in effect through December 13; after that, the higher on-site rates apply. Registration will be available online at historians.org/register from September 12 until the end of the meeting, and in person beginning at 11 a.m. on January 3 on the Second Floor Promenade of the New York Hilton.

Admission to the Exhibit Hall requires a 2020 meeting registration badge.


Hotel reservations: Attendees will make hotel reservations for both standard rooms and suites through the AHA's housing service, Experient. See the AHA's website at historians.org/hotels for detailed information. Reservations can be made online or by calling a toll-free number beginning September 12. AHA rates are available three days before and after the meeting dates, depending on the number of rooms available.

The last day to make or change reservations through the housing service is December 10, 2019. After that date, rooms will be available at the AHA's convention rates on a space-available basis, and all reservations, changes, and cancellations must be made directly with the hotels. Hotel no-show policies will apply for reservations not canceled at least 72 hours before the first night's stay.

Transportation information will be available online at historians.org/hotels and in the annual meeting program.

Group meetings and reunions: Societies and groups that have not already made arrangements to hold receptions or other meetings should send requests for room space as soon as possible to annualmeeting@historians.org.

Resolutions for the **business meeting** must be submitted to the executive director by November 1 to allow time for publication. They must be in proper parliamentary form; must be signed by at least 100 members of the Association in good standing; must not be more than 300 words in length, including any introductory material; and must deal with a matter of concern to the Association, to the discipline of history, or to the academic profession. Resolutions submitted by the deadline, and meeting the criteria for consideration, shall be published in the December issue of *Perspectives on History*. For complete information about business resolutions, please consult the AHA Bylaws at historians.org/constitution.

Refund policy: Advance registrants who are unable to attend the meeting may request a refund of their registration fee. Refund requests must be emailed to ltownsend@historians.org by December 13, 2019, and will incur a \$20 fee. *Refunds will not be processed after that date.* 

VALERIE PALEY

THE EPIC STORY OF 52ND STREET

An Icon Underfoot at the 2020 Annual Meeting

In 2020, the American Historical Association returns to New York City for its annual meeting, for the first time in five years. The diligent scholar of history (or Wikipedia) might already know that the meeting's headquarters hotels—the Sheraton New York Times Square and the New York Hilton—were both built to house tourists coming to the 1964 World's Fair. The Sheraton straddles the block between 52nd and 53rd Streets on Seventh Avenue, while the Hilton sits on Sixth Avenue between 53rd and 54th Streets, the very pavement that witnessed the first-ever handheld cellular phone call, in 1972. (Since 1945, Sixth Avenue has officially been Avenue of the Americas, though New Yorkers rarely use that name.) Fresh off their Ed Sullivan appearance in 1964, the Beatles slept at the Hilton, as has every sitting US president since John F. Kennedy. President Trump celebrated his election victory in the Hilton's Grand Ballroom.

The *AIA Guide to New York*—a building-by-building compendium of city architecture—is unimpressed. “The architecture is forgettable,” laments the indispensable volume, though it adds that the lobby's “carnival atmosphere” is worth a gander. Standing outside, a quick glimpse up and down Sixth Avenue yields a banal landscape of glass and steel, punctuated by the occasional architectural gem. But should you now have a sinking feeling that you're about to spend several days sequestered in the duller quarter-mile of the world's most exciting metropolis, fear not. “There are eight million stories in the Naked City,” the film noir declares, and the story of 52nd Street is an epic one.

Two miles long and bookended by the East and the Hudson Rivers, 52nd Street was once a study in stratification. “Block by block, the street changes, like a fancy layer cake,” suggested *Life* magazine in 1937, “from luxury [apartments] to tenements to smart shops to night clubs and back to tenements.” When one walks from east to west, the street begins at a spot memorialized in the 1935 play and film *Dead End*, which features a gang of street children who would go on to Hollywood under various monikers, including the Bowery Boys.

On either side of the street stand Art Deco-era luxury apartments, including River House, at number 435, one of the finest residential buildings in the city. Heading west, office towers cluster where tenements once stood. In 1955, Marilyn Monroe cooled herself over a subway grate at the southwest corner of Lexington Avenue, her white halter dress billowing, in *The Seven Year Itch*. At Park Avenue, two landmark buildings face each other in mano-a-mano fashion: Mies van der Rohe's masterpiece Seagram Building (1958) and McKim, Mead & White's Racquet and Tennis Club (1918).

Notable restaurants lined the block, including Gallagher's Steak House, whose two-dollar dinners were deemed “marvelous” but “not cheap” by a 1940 restaurant guide.

Moving along, you'll reach the four corners of Fifth Avenue, once dominated by Vanderbilts, whose houses included the Richard Morris Hunt chateau on the southwest side; in 1883, its splashy housewarming party became the arriviste family's ticket into high society. Five years earlier, across the street, noted abortionist Madame Restell committed suicide in her opulent home office after Anthony Comstock arrested her for selling birth control. At the corner stands the New York base of Cartier, a townhouse purchased by the jeweler in 1917 for \$100 and a pearl necklace. Heading west and skipping past the Hilton, two storied Broadway auditoriums occupy either side of the street. To the south, the stage at the Alvin Theatre (now the Neil Simon) showcased a dazzling array of musical premieres, from *Funny Face* (1927) to *Porgy and Bess* (1935) and *Company* (1970). Across the way, the Guild Theatre (now the August Wilson), built in 1925 by the Theatre Guild, premiered Eugene O'Neill's *Mourning Becomes Electra* in 1931. Notable restaurants once lined the block, including, between Broadway and Eighth Avenue, Gallagher's Steakhouse,

whose two-dollar dinners were deemed “marvelous” but “not cheap” by a 1940 restaurant guide.

Crossing Eighth Avenue lands you in “Hell’s Kitchen,” whose more benign name, “Clinton,” comes from the 19th-century New York statesman who dreamed up the Erie Canal. The hotel on the corner was once a Howard Johnson’s motor lodge; there, FBI agents arrested a fugitive Angela Davis in 1970. Heading farther west, small tenements stand alongside newer residential construction and broadcasting studios. Reaching the West Side Highway and the Hudson River, having now traveled the width of Manhattan, you’ll see the former New York Passenger Ship Terminal rising ahead, extending from 46th to 54th Streets. Cruise lines park where troop and transport ships abounded during World War II; the SS *Normandie* caught fire and capsized while docked at Pier 88 in 1942.

None of this explains why there are at least three songs, one album, and one film entitled *52nd Street*. But once upon a time, if you asked a New York City cabdriver to take you to “the Street,” he would know you meant 52nd between Fifth

and Sixth Avenues, a few blocks back to the east. “It was just a normal street,” goes the 1937 Sammy Cahn song, “till it got that off-time beat.”

Although it’s dressed today mostly in the uniform of glass office towers, a spirit of subversion permeates every chapter in the story of the “street that never slept.” During Prohibition, as the old neighborhood surrounding an emergent Rockefeller Center was changing, 52nd Street boasted the area’s largest concentration of speakeasies, housed in quarters that had long before been residential brownstones. After repeal, as many of them became less-illicit nightclubs or restaurants that catered to a broadening clientele, four pivotal venues reigned. Jack and Charlie’s 21 Club, or ‘21,’ was the go-to spot for high society and the political set; Tony’s hosted the Algonquin Round Table’s after-parties for literary and theater folks; Leon and Eddie’s catered to tourists and those turned away from ‘21’ or Tony’s, while the Onyx, and many clubs that followed, showcased the latest music. Columnists flocked to the Street and spread the word. It has been said that 52nd Street’s cramped rooms launched more musicians and 20th-century hit songs than anywhere else in the



Jazz columnist William P. Gottlieb captured the soul of Manhattan’s 52nd Street one rainy night in July 1948. In time, the skyscrapers came, and the magic disappeared.

William P. Gottlieb/Library of Congress

country, including Rush Street in Chicago, Bourbon Street in New Orleans, Beale Street in Memphis, and the Sunset Strip.

Some well-known “Swing Alley” venues—such as the second location of the nautically festooned Yacht Club, where Fats Waller frolicked—stood west of Sixth Avenue. Nevertheless, “Swing Street” unquestionably lay east, where players and their fans gathered to eat, drink, and jam. As Dizzy Gillespie once said, “52nd Street was a mother” who nurtured the speakeasy era’s Dixieland small-combo music that exploded into big-band swing in the 1930s and later melted into the bebop and cool of the 1940s. A partial list of performers reads like a who’s who of jazz history: from Billie Holiday to Ella Fitzgerald to Sarah Vaughan, and from Benny Goodman to Count Basie to Charlie Parker.

During Prohibition, the Onyx, an otherwise conventional speakeasy, provided a place for white male jazz musicians—from Goodman and the Dorsey brothers to freelance radio orchestra instrumentalists—to cut loose after hours without having to account for an audience’s restrictive tastes. Their sessions paid homage to African American musical innovation and bore a professional camaraderie and creative exchange that escaped the lockstep metronome of the popular dance music that paid the bills. After 1933, it all landed on 52nd Street. While the Midtown hotels and nightclubs favored by “café society” featured the commercial (and danceable) rhythms of all-white bands catering to an all-white, largely middle-aged clientele, the 52nd Street clubs nearby showcased the more dynamic sounds of recording artists like Basie, who built a broader white fan base from listeners who longed to hear live music south of Harlem (where swing was played just about everywhere).

Yet New Deal egalitarianism had its limits, even in New York City. With white musicians “swinging” from one end of 52nd Street to the other, no black faces could regularly be seen on either side of the stage in the mid-1930s, save for those of Teddy Wilson and Billie Holiday, who played intermissions at the Famous Door. “You can be up to your boobies in white satin, with gardenias in your hair and no sugar cane for miles, but you can still be working on a plantation,” Holiday wrote of the Street. “There was no cotton to be picked between Leon and Eddie’s and the East River, but man, it was a plantation any way you looked at it.” Between sets, restricted from mingling with white customers or fellow musicians, they would sit in the alley or in Wilson’s parked car. In time, according to Holiday, “the plantation owners” gave in, as the genre that developed in reaction to commercialism itself became mainstream. “They found they could make money off Negro artists and they couldn’t afford their

old prejudices,” the singer added. Down came barriers, and jobs for great black musicians proliferated.

Benny Goodman’s landmark 1938 Carnegie Hall performance had seen tuxedo-clad enthusiasts toe-tapping at their seats and swinging in the aisles. The mood at the city’s nightclubs was more intimate but equally appreciative, seizing a call-and-response spirit that carried over from performers to audience. By the 1940s, younger musicians—Charlie Parker, Miles Davis, Thelonious Monk, and Dizzy Gillespie among them—began appropriating this improvisational character, inflected with an instrumental virtuosity that pushed the creative limits of the genre in bebop, which was written to be heard, not danced to.

When jazz columnist William P. Gottlieb visited 52nd Street in 1948, his camera captured the club names and headliners blazing in neon lights against the night sky and reflected the sultry wetness of the rainy thoroughfare. Those iconic photographs memorialize not a moment of triumph but a street on the precipice of decline. That year, *Time* described not “a fancy layer cake” but a place “where nightclubs in sorry brownstones crowd each other like bums on a breadline.” It

Once upon a time, if you asked a cab driver to take you to “the Street,” he would know you meant 52nd between Fifth and Sixth Avenues.

was the end of an era: as jazz moved to other neighborhoods, burlesque made a comeback. “B-girls” and strippers replaced more discreet professional prostitutes, while sex shows, hit men, and stolen goods moved into former jazz dens.

By the mid-1950s, there was little point in preserving any remnant of the former musical mecca, even if crime hadn’t given city officials an excuse to shut it all down. Bemoaned one stripper about the rampant liquor-license suspensions: it was really “such a lousy little street” that it deserved to just be left alone. In time, the skyscrapers came and the former magic of 52nd Street faded and then disappeared altogether in the light of day. **P**

Valerie Paley is senior vice president and chief historian at the New-York Historical Society, where she also serves as director of the Center for Women’s History.

Hotel and Rate Information

	SINGLE	DOUBLE	TRIPLE	QUADRUPLE
New York Hilton 01 1335 Avenue of the Americas (hdqtrs.)	\$185	\$185	\$225	\$245
Sheraton New York 02 811 7th Ave. 53rd St. (co-hdqtrs.)	\$178	\$198	\$228	\$258

Rates are subject to hotel occupancy tax and will be honored three days before and three days after the official meeting dates of January 3–6 based on availability. Information on booking a room at the discounted rate is available at historians.org/annual-meeting.



ASL Interpretation at the 2020 Annual Meeting

The AHA offers complimentary sign-interpreting service upon request to our attendees.

Please notify the AHA of the sessions you plan to attend and register for the meeting by Nov. 1, 2019.

This service is also available upon request for the Presidential Address and Business Meeting.

Requests should be submitted to Debbie Doyle (ddoyle@historians.org) by Nov. 1, 2019.

Dates and Deadlines

September 12	Preregistration opens.
September 12	Housing opens.
September 30	Deadline to submit membership dues and address changes in order to receive the program in the mail.
November 1	Program mailed to members.
December 10	Last day to make hotel reservations through the housing service. Subsequent reservations taken on a space-available basis at the convention rate.
December 13	Last day for preregistration pricing.
December 13	Deadline to submit registration refund requests.
January 3, 2020	Annual meeting opens at 11 a.m. at the New York Hilton and Sheraton New York. Note that the 2020 meeting takes place from Friday, January 3 through Monday, January 6.

Meeting Registration

Take advantage of reduced rates by preregistering for the conference. Make sure your membership is up to date so you can enjoy member pricing at each level. Register online at historians.org/annual-meeting.

	MEMBER		NON-MEMBER	
	PREREGISTRATION	AFTER DEC. 13	PREREGISTRATION	AFTER DEC. 13
Attendee	\$183	\$220	\$298	\$358
Speaker	\$183	\$220	\$183	\$220
Student	\$84	\$101	\$128	\$155
Unemployed/Underemployed	\$45	\$56	\$140	\$168
Retired	\$87	\$106	\$149	\$180
K-12 Teacher	\$65	\$78	\$125	\$150
Bring your Graduate/ Undergraduate/K-12 student discount	For members only. Member rate plus \$15 per student (\$30 onsite). Bring as many high school, undergraduate, and graduate students as you want for only \$15 each!			

Advance registration must be completed by midnight EST on December 13, 2019. Thereafter, onsite rates will apply.

Everyone attending the meeting is expected to register. Admission to the Exhibit Hall requires a registration badge.

Special note for speakers: All US-based historians presenting on AHA sessions must be AHA members, and all participants must register.

A NEW FACE AT THE AHA

Meet Karen Lou

The AHA has a new editorial assistant: Karen Lou, who will work closely with AHA publications staff and support the AHA's Research Division. When asked what most attracted her to working at the AHA, Lou told *Perspectives*, "I knew I wanted to continue history learning outside of school, through either my career or free time. This job allows me to do that and to learn about the field of history and how it's changing."

"I've always had really positive learning experiences in history," Lou says. As a native of the Washington, DC, area, she spent much of her time visiting the museums and monuments of the area. (She has now visited all 17 Smithsonian museums.) "I was lucky enough to have really great teachers in middle and high school who really made it an exciting subject," Lou says.

"We were separated by so much: time, experience, language," Lou says of her study-abroad host, "and yet we were living together and sharing a room and plate."

Lou earned a BA in history and a second BA in international studies at Emory University in Atlanta. At first, she was interested in environmental history, but her interests took a new direction the more she studied: political history. In part, this was a response to the 2018 Georgia gubernatorial election. "I think on a state and local level so much was happening around me," she told *Perspectives*. "I became naturally interested in trying to understand those events from a historical standpoint." She took only one history course her first year, but it was by far her favorite, and it encouraged her to pursue a degree in history. She completed two capstone projects: one on environmental legislation during the Carter administration and another on the significance of soul and folk music during the civil rights era.

Lou was also an undergraduate research fellow for an interdisciplinary project, "Bankrupted Slaves," supervised by law professor Rafael I. Pardo. She collected quantitative data for the project, coding books that logged the sale of enslaved people in New Orleans.

Lou also spent one semester in Rabat, Morocco, where she participated in the School for International Training's Morocco: Multiculturalism and Human Rights program. She took classes at the Center for Cross Cultural Learning and researched the influence of colonialism on Moroccan art. She opted for a "homestay," allowing her to form a meaningful relationship with her homestay "mother." Her host told Lou about the events she had witnessed in her lifetime, which were shaped by the country's history of dictatorship. "We were separated by so much: time, experience, language," Lou says, "and yet we were living together and sharing a room and plate. Listening to her tell me about her past and family made me really understand the value of storytelling and gain respect for historians who study things outside of their own experiences."

Lou is most looking forward to reading *Perspectives on History* submissions and writing her own content. Outside of work, she still has a taste for public history and the environment. Building, perhaps, on her Smithsonian experiences, she is now working toward another ambitious goal: visiting all 58 national parks. **P**



Karen Lou is the new editorial assistant at the AHA.

Megan R. Connor is program associate at the AHA.

DEVON REICH

NOT YOUR PARENTS' METHODOLOGIES

Meet the AHA's 2019–20 Fellows

Editor's note: A version of this article was published online on June 6, 2019, under the title "Announcing the 2019–20 Jameson and NASA Fellows."

The AHA is proud to recognize the recipients of its J. Franklin Jameson Fellowship in American History and its Fellowship in Aerospace History for 2019–20. These two annual fellowships are intended to assist scholars at early stages in their career; they support full-time research and writing. This year's class of fellows engages various interdisciplinary perspectives to deliver particularly timely contributions to current conversations in American policy and culture.

The Jameson Fellowship, sponsored jointly by the AHA and the John W. Kluge Center at the Library of Congress, is awarded annually to support significant scholarly research in the library's collections. A stipend funds up to three months of full-time residence at the Kluge Center. The winner of the 2019–20 fellowship is David Andrew Johnson, who earned his PhD in history from Rice University in 2018, with focuses on the Atlantic world, early North America, and environmental history.

Johnson aims to finish his monograph, *Descent into the Low-country: Enslaved Native Americans and the Making of South Carolina, 1659–1750*, an investigation into enslaved Native Americans in a plantation context and the integral role that indigenous peoples played in the development of colonial slave societies. Contrary to much of the work that focuses on the movement and trading of Native Americans as a form of primitive accumulation of capital to purchase slaves from Central and West Africa, Johnson examines the contributions of enslaved indigenous men, women, and children to South Carolina's plantation societies and the development of African American culture.

Johnson notes that one of the largest obstacles to his research thus far has been the deficit of written narrative sources from colonial South Carolina in comparison to its northeastern counterparts. In order to fill in the gaps in the primary source material, Johnson has employed a notably

interdisciplinary approach, turning to both Geographic Information Systems mapping and the archaeological record. Combing through probate papers, Johnson has linked over 15,000 enslaved peoples and indentured servants to owners at a particular point in time before cross-referencing these findings with land-ownership records. The final product? A mapped, visual representation tracing the movements and concentrations of enslaved peoples on South Carolina's plantations throughout the 17th and early 18th century. Johnson hopes that homing in on the material culture of pottery production, which was gendered female in the majority of both eastern Native American and West and West-Central African societies, will corroborate his claims of cultural syncretism and indigenous contributions to early African American culture.

Johnson has demonstrated creativity in circumventing ethnographic gaps in evidence, and he is greatly excited by the opportunity to utilize the collections at the Library of Congress that contain rare anecdotal materials, including colonists' personal papers, letters, and sermons from early South Carolina, greatly excites Johnson. His published work will shed light on the marginalization of both Native and African Americans and ways in which the consequences of settler colonialism that America faces today, and Native peoples face continuously, intersect in many ways with the legacy of historical slavery.

The Fellowship in Aerospace History is supported by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and awards a stipend of \$21,500 to fund advanced research in aerospace history. The review committee has selected Stephen Buono, a PhD student in the history of science and technology at Indiana University, Bloomington, and a 2016 Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr. Research Fellow at the John F. Kennedy Library.

With the AHA's fellowship support, Buono plans to complete his doctoral dissertation, "The Province of All Mankind: Outer Space and the Promise of Peace, 1948–1970,"



David Andrew Johnson

an analysis of the early Space Age through the interrelated lenses of diplomatic, political, cultural, and intellectual history. Pivoting away from the commonly chronicled hostility, competition, and paranoia exhibited by the United States and the Soviet Union that has largely defined Cold War and Space Race historiography, Buono posits that outer space actually provided an avenue for the superpowers to explore peaceful initiatives and alternatives to nuclear war.

Contemporaneously, yet in stark contrast, the same nations that were waging arms races and colonial wars were enthusiastically collaborating on progressive, multilateral initiatives to preserve the autonomy of space. Proponents of “sanctuary diplomacy,” as well as many policy makers, space enthusiasts, writers, and commentators, were dedicated to protecting the cosmos from the technocratic rivalry and environmental exploitation that has plagued life on Earth. Buono’s manuscript probes deeper into the thinking of those who held that space exploration could foster a mindset transcending nationalism and uniting humanity against the unknowns of the universe. He says his work promises to demonstrate a trans-Atlantic consensus to handle outer space “more diplomatically, more morally, and more ethically than other areas of policy.” A large corpus of his evidence focuses on ideological currents in the 20th century prior to human exploration of space and on products of popular



Stephen Buono

culture, such as comic books, magazines, and science fiction novels. During his residence in Washington, DC, Buono plans to also scour sources at the National Archives, the National Air and Space Museum, and the Library of Congress.

Buono has paid thoughtful attention to simplifying the technical lexicon throughout his manuscript. He is optimistic that with the absence of jargon, his work will garner interest not just among space and diplomatic historians but from the wider public. Amid contemporary speculation surrounding commercial flight into the cosmos and the militarization of outer space, Buono delivers vital context for carefully calculated, multilateral rules already written about the realm of space.

Congratulations to Johnson and Buono! Applications for the AHA’s 2020–21 fellowships will open in February 2020. [P](#)

Devon Reich is operations and marketing assistant at the AHA.

CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AT OFFICIALLY SANCTIONED AHA ACTIVITIES

Editor's note: The AHA Council approved this code of conduct June 9, 2019.

The AHA annual meeting and other officially sanctioned AHA activities are convened for the purposes of professional development and scholarly and educational interchange in the spirit of free inquiry and free expression. Harassment of colleagues, students, or other conference participants at these events undermines the principle of equity at the heart of these professional forums and is inconsistent with those principles of free inquiry and free expression. Consequently, harassment is considered by the AHA to be a serious form of professional misconduct.

Ethics and norms outlined in the AHA's *Statement on Standards of Professional Conduct*, along with the principles articulated in this policy, apply as standards of behavior and interaction at all AHA-sanctioned activities.

Purpose

The AHA is committed to creating and maintaining a safe, welcoming, and harassment-free environment for all participants in the Association's activities, regardless of their actual or perceived sex, gender, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, race, ethnicity, nationality, ability, socioeconomic status, veteran status, age, or religion.

All members and participants, including employees, contractors, vendors, volunteers, and guests, are expected to engage in consensual and respectful behavior and to preserve the AHA's standard of professionalism at all times. The following Code of Professional Conduct pertains to all venues where officially sanctioned AHA conferences, meetings, and other activities occur, whether in person, by telephone, or through electronic communication. It complements, but does not replace the *Statement on Standards of Professional Conduct*.

Expected Behavior

All participants are expected to abide by this Code of Professional Conduct at all officially sanctioned AHA activities.

All participants are expected to abide by the norms of professional respect that are necessary to promote the conditions for free academic interchange.

If you witness potential harm to a participant, be diplomatically proactive in helping to mitigate or avoid that harm.

Alert staff, security personnel, or law enforcement if you see a situation in which someone might be in imminent physical danger.

Unacceptable Behavior

Persistent and unwelcome solicitation of emotional or physical intimacy.

Persistent and unwelcome solicitation of emotional or physical intimacy accompanied by real or implied threat of professional harm.

Intimidating, harassing, abusive, derogatory, or demeaning speech or actions by any participant in an officially sanctioned AHA activity.

Prejudicial actions or comments related to actual or perceived sex, gender, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, race, ethnicity, ability, socioeconomic status, age, or religion that coerce others, foment broad hostility, or otherwise undermine professional equity or the principles of free academic exchange. Harassment might also include unprofessional and unethical behaviors, such as intentionally misgendering someone, refusing to use a person's preferred pronouns, or making inappropriate remarks about a person's gender identity or sexual orientation.

Deliberate intimidation, stalking, or following.

Harassing photography or recording without permission.

Sustained disruption of presentations or other events, including yelling at or threatening speakers (verbally or physically).

Physical assault (including unwelcome touch or groping).

Real or implied threat of physical harm.

Unacceptable behavior includes sexual harassment. The AHA has no tolerance for sexual harassment in any setting. Sexual harassment is behavior (speech or actions) in formal or informal settings that demeans, humiliates, or threatens an individual on the basis of their sex, gender, gender expression, or sexual orientation. Sexual harassment can also take non-sexual forms and includes discriminatory remarks or actions based on an individual's sex, gender, gender expression, or sexual orientation. Sexual harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal comment or physical conduct of a sexual nature, including situations in which the request or conduct involves any implied or expressed promise of professional reward for complying; or the request or conduct involves any implied or expressed threat of reprisal or denial of opportunity for refusing to comply; or the request or conduct results in what reasonably may be perceived as a hostile or intimidating environment. Such examples are illustrative, not exhaustive. Sexual harassment does not refer to occasional compliments of a socially acceptable nature or consensual personal and social relationships without discriminatory effect. It refers to behavior that reasonably situated persons would regard as not welcome and as personally intimidating, hostile, or offensive.

According to US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) guidelines, the victim of harassment can be anyone affected by the offensive conduct, not just the individual at whom the conduct is directed.

Retaliation against a complainant is also a violation of this policy.

AHA Responsibilities

This policy and the structure for addressing violations will be clearly and prominently displayed on the AHA website. All participants in the annual meeting and other officially sanctioned AHA activities will be required to acknowledge this policy and their willingness to abide by it as part of the registration process.

The executive director will provide an annual report of aggregated data, which will be circulated to the full Council and made available to the membership upon request.

The AHA will maintain a team to receive complaints from and provide resources for any participant in the annual meeting or other AHA-sanctioned activity who has experienced or witnessed violations of this policy. The contact information for team members will be made available on the AHA website and in registration materials. Team members will be on-site at the annual meeting and available for other AHA-sanctioned activities. A member of this team can describe the reporting procedure and can outline available resources. Neither the team nor any other AHA official can provide legal advice to individuals who make reports under this policy.

Reporting an incident of unacceptable behavior does not obligate the reporter to pursue any further action. Depending upon the severity and nature of the report, and in compliance with local, state, and federal law, the AHA may be compelled to contact law enforcement and/or address the report with AHA officials or the AHA Council.

Procedures for Addressing Violations of the Code of Professional Conduct

Any participant in officially sanctioned AHA activities may pursue a complaint according to the procedures outlined in the *Procedures for Addressing Violations of the AHA Code of Professional Conduct* (online at historians.org/conduct#procedures).

ACTIONS BY THE AHA COUNCIL

January to June 2019

Through email conversation from January 24, 2019, to May 30, 2019, and at meetings on June 8 and 9, 2019, the Council of the American Historical Association took the following actions:

- Sent a letter to Coalition S expressing concerns about potential damage to scholarly publishing in history caused by its open access mandate.
- Sent a letter to the leadership of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences to reaffirm the Association's support for the academy and to caution against reforms that would subject academy funding to approval from ministerial authorities.
- Sent a letter to Mayor John O'Reilly of Dearborn, Michigan, protesting the dismissal of Bill McGraw, editor of the city's historical commission's journal, for publishing an article about Henry Ford's anti-Semitism.
- Appointed Lilly Tuttle (Museum of the City of New York) and Andrew Needham (New York Univ.) to co-chair the Local Arrangements Committee for the 2020 annual meeting in New York.
- Sent an action alert to AHA members in California urging them to contact their representatives to protest the California State University system's proposal to reduce the required general education credit hours of US history and government courses.
- Signed on to a letter from a group of scholarly associations to the Alaska governor and the state's three legislators in the US Congress cautioning against proposed higher education budget cuts in the state.
- Approved the following changes proposed by the Committee on Minority Historians to the Equity Awards' submission requirements: reduced the cover letter word count from 1,000 to 750 words, eliminated the need for reference letters, added a requirement to include the contact information of at least three references, and added a requirement of a short CV for nominations for the individual award.
- Approved affiliate status for the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies and the International Commission for the History of Representative and Parliamentary Institutions.
- Endorsed the bipartisan bill HR 1923, the Women's History and 19th Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin Program Act, to establish a program featuring women on coinage starting in 2021 to coincide with the centennial of the ratification of the 19th Amendment.
- Signed on to a letter from the Coalition for International Education endorsing S. 342, the Advancing International and Foreign Language Education Act, a bipartisan bill reintroduced this year by Senators Todd Yung (R-IN) and Tammy Baldwin (D-WI).
- Signed on to a letter from the American Philosophical Association and the American Sociological Association to protest Brazil's plans to cut philosophy and sociology programs.
- Sent a letter to the Stanford University president and provost regarding the university's continued support for Stanford University Press.
- Sent a letter to the president, provost, and board chair at the University of Tulsa, urging the university administration to reconsider its restructuring plan for the humanities disciplines.
- Signed on to a letter from the Coalition for International Education in support of federal funding efforts for the 2020 Title VI and Fulbright-Hays programs' budgets.
- Approved the minutes of the January 2019 Council meeting.
- Approved the interim minutes of the Council from January through May 2019.
- Reappointed AHA parliamentarian Kenneth Ledford (Case Western Reserve Univ.).
- Appointed Richard Immerman, chair (Temple Univ.), Matthew Connolly (Columbia Univ.), Edna Medford (Howard Univ.), Chris Prom (Univ. of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign), and Leslie Rowland (Univ. of Maryland, Coll. Park) to the ad hoc committee to monitor activities at the National Archives and Records Administration.
- Sent a letter to the president of Guatemala protesting the government's intention to close the

Archivo Histórico de la Policía Nacional.

- Authorized the AHA president to appoint a representative for the CIA's Historical Review Panel.
- Selected the recipients of the 2019 Awards for Scholarly Distinction (to be announced in fall 2019).
- Designated three members of the Council to consider whether to recommend that the AHA should explore issues relating to broadening definitions of historical scholarship.
- Approved maintaining the existing designation for the Bernadotte Schmitt fund, which supports research grants in the history of Europe, Asia, and Africa.
- Approved adding the AHA to the list of signatories of a friend-of-the-court brief in support of plaintiffs challenging the Trump administration's near-total ban on transgender individuals' service in the military.
- Established the *AHA Policy on Revoking Prizes and Awards*.
- Approved changes to the *AHA Prizes Policy*.
- Amended the AHA bylaws regarding procedures for the appointment and reappointment of the *American Historical Review* editor to reflect the 2018 elimination of the requirement that the editor of the AHR must be a faculty member at Indiana University.
- Clarified the role of the Research Division in its oversight of AHA publications in the *Organization, Jurisdiction, and Operation of Association Divisions and Committees* document.
- Declined to revise AHA constitutional clause requiring committee members to be members of the Association.
- Decided that official candidate biographies and statements are the only allowable platforms for candidate communications within the AHA web space.
- Appointed Sophia Rosenfeld, chair (Univ. of Pennsylvania); Paula Alonso (George Washington Univ.), Latin America; Sandra Greene (Cornell Univ.), Africa; Josh Piker (Coll. of William and Mary), US; and Anand Yang (Univ. of Washington), Asia, to the search committee for the editor of the *AHR*.
- Appointed Ana-Lucia Araujo (Howard Univ.), at large; Sunil Amrith (Harvard Univ.), South Asia; Rafe Blaufarb (Florida State Univ.), modern Europe; Keely Stauter-Halsted (Univ. of Illinois, Chicago), Russia/eastern Europe; Yoav Di-Capua (Univ. of Texas, Austin), Middle East; and Antoinette Burton (Univ. of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign), theory/methods, to three-year terms on the *AHR* Board of Editors.
- Appointed Farid Azfar (Swarthmore Coll.), early modern Europe; Julio Capó (Univ. of Massachusetts Amherst), modern US; Seth Cotlar (Willamette Univ.), early America; Rohan Deb Roy (Univ. of Reading), South Asia; and Dominique Reill (Univ. of Miami), modern Europe, to serve three-year terms as *AHR* associate review editors.
- Approved the fiscal year 2020 operating and capital budgets.
- Approved an up to 2 percent increase in institutional membership rates for the 2021 and 2022 fiscal years.
- Authorized the use of an additional \$100,000 to pay for remaining capital headquarters renovation expenses, if needed.
- Approved changes to the *Statement on Standards of Professional Conduct*, which identify intentional misgendering as a form of harassment.
- Approved a *Guide for Dealing with Online Harassment* and authorized AHA staff to add examples or links to the guide as needed.
- Approved elimination of the Job Center at the annual meeting.
- Adopted the *Guidelines for First-Round Interviews* to replace the AHA's previous policies, *Guidelines for the Hiring Process* and *Telephone and Video Interviews for the Academic Job Market*.
- Updated the AHA's *Statement on Right to Engage in Collective Bargaining* to include "all historians," not only academic employees.
- Adopted the *Guidelines for Historians for the Professional Evaluation of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning*.
- Extended the term of the Committee on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning an additional year to allow the committee to make recommendations for next steps and revise the committee charge.
- Approved the following AHA members to serve on the Program Committee for the 2021 annual meeting in Seattle: Yigit Akin (Tulane Univ.), Middle East, Islamic world; Robert Batchelor (Georgia Southern Univ.), digital, modern Britain, East Asia and Pacific; Monique Bedasse (Washington Univ.), Africa, Caribbean; Keisha Blain (Univ. of Pittsburgh), US, African diaspora, gender; Cristobal Borges (North Seattle Coll.), Latin America, US; Cary Collins (Tahoma Senior High School), US, Native American, Pacific Northwest; Emily Greenwald (Historical Research Associates), public history, environmental, Native American;

Continued on page 36

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July 1, 2018–June 30, 2019

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ACTIONS BY THE AHA COUNCIL

Carina Johnson (Pitzer Coll.), Europe, medieval/early modern; Laura Matthew (Marquette Univ.), Latin America, migration; Ritika Prasad (Univ. of North Carolina, Charlotte), South Asia, science, decolonization; Gautham Rao (American Univ.), US,

early Republic, legal; and Robert Weinberg (Swarthmore Coll.), Russia, eastern Europe, Jewish. These members join 2021 Program Committee chair Jared Poley (Georgia State Univ.), modern Europe, Germany, intellectual, and co-chair Lisa

Brady (Boise State Univ.), 19th-century US, environmental, military.

- Adopted the *Code of Professional Conduct at Officially Sanctioned AHA Activities* to replace and expand the AHA's previous *Sexual Harassment Policy*.

COMPILED BY LIZ TOWNSEND

2019 AHA ELECTION RESULTS

Laurent Dubois (Duke Univ.), chair of the Nominating Committee, announces the following results of the 2019 balloting for officers and committee members of the American Historical Association. The committee wishes to thank all candidates who stood for election; their willingness to serve is much appreciated.

President

Mary Lindemann, University of Miami

President-elect

Jaqueline Jones, University of Texas at Austin

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Rita C-K Chin, University of Michigan

Councilor, Profession

Reginald K. Ellis, Florida A&M University

Councilor, Research

Sara Georgini, Massachusetts Historical Society

Councilor, Teaching

Shannon T. Bontrager, Georgia Highlands College, Cartersville

Committee on Committees

Raúl A. Ramos, University of Houston

Nominating Committee

Slot 1: Carla G. Pestana, University of California, Los Angeles

Slot 2: John Thabiti Willis, Carleton College

Slot 3: Fahad Ahmad Bishara, University of Virginia

Liz Townsend is manager, data administration and integrity, at the AHA.

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David Brion Davis

1927–2019

Historian of Slavery

David Brion Davis, a towering figure in the study of slavery, died on April 14, 2019, in Guilford, Connecticut. He was Sterling Professor of History emeritus at Yale University, where he taught for over 30 years, as well as founder and director of the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition. Davis will be remembered not only for his superior scholarship but for his sustained engagement with profound moral questions, past and present.

Born in Denver on February 16, 1927, Davis had a peripatetic upbringing, shuttling from upstate New York to Los Angeles to New York City. He was drafted into the Army in 1945 and sent to occupied Germany.

This experience decisively shaped his subsequent career. The racism pervading the segregated Army, in the aftermath of a war fought in the name of freedom and democracy, shocked him. He also encountered “concentration camp survivors, Displaced Person camps, and cities reduced to piles of rubble that smelled of death,” as he later recalled. This devastation turned the 19-year-old toward the study of history. He wrote to his parents: “It strikes me that history, and proper methods of teaching it, are even more important at present than endocrinology and nuclear fission. I believe that the problems that surround us today are not to be blamed on individuals or even groups of individuals, but on the human race as a whole, its collective lack of perspective and knowledge of itself. That is where history comes in. . . . I think the basic principle of probing into the past, especially the hidden and subconscious past, for truths which govern and influence present actions, is fairly sound. Teaching history, I think, should be a similar process.”

The young Davis’s moral and philosophical concerns capture the sensibility that would inform his historical scholarship. Attuned to unresolved tensions within individuals and cultures, Davis was preoccupied by the tragic contradictions at the heart of existence—and suspicious of efforts to smooth them away with incantations of inevitable progress. He became a connoisseur of ambivalence.

Davis attended Dartmouth College on the GI Bill, majoring in philosophy and graduating in 1950. He entered the Harvard PhD program in American civilization, where he began to incorporate anthropological perspectives into his work, to formulate an approach to ideas that he called “cultural history.” Graduating from Harvard in 1956, he took a job at Cornell University, where he wrote *The Problem of Slavery in Western Culture* (1966), which won the Pulitzer Prize. This extraordinarily learned work, tracing ideas about slavery from Aristotle to the Quaker abolitionist John Woolman, demonstrated Davis’s fascination with contradiction—between the “brute fact” of American slavery and the rhetoric of liberty, and between the slave as commodity and the slave as human being.

After moving to Yale in 1970, Davis published *The Problem of Slavery in the Age of Revolution* (1974), which won the National Book Award and the Bancroft Prize. Its most controversial argument concerned the British abolitionists’ “highly selective response to labor exploitation,” which focused entirely on chattel slavery and ignored the “wage slavery” emerging under industrial capitalism, from which many of them were benefiting. Davis’s observations on the limits of antislavery pointed toward the third volume of the trilogy, *The Problem of Slavery in the Age of Emancipation* (2014). It was chosen for the National Book Critics Circle Award and made a major contribution by emphasizing the role of free blacks in hastening emancipation. Still, it ended on a note of doubleness: freed people remained among the most oppressed class of laborers, even in countries that claimed to be committed to racial equality.

Davis’s graduate students ranged beyond slavery and abolition, but they brought his sensibility to bear on their work. Many remember his intellectual generosity and his warmth—a “1,000-watt” smile (as one graduate student called it) that radiated when someone made an unexpected point. As another student said, Davis specialized in “seeing more in an idea than the person who originally thought it.” In reading dissertations, he resisted the tendency to urge a scaling back of ambition and instead often suggested fruitful new directions of inquiry.

In 2014, President Barack Obama awarded him the National Humanities Medal. It was a fitting coda to a career that embodied the deepest and most enduring significance of humanistic inquiry.

Jackson Lears
Rutgers University–New Brunswick

Photo: Gilder Lehrman Center for the
Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition



Frances Gouda

1950–2019

Historian of Colonialism

Frances Gouda, an imaginative scholar of Dutch, French, and comparative history, whose remarkable facility with languages led her to advance cross-cultural studies that traversed the globe, died on June 8, 2019, in the Netherlands. She was 69.

Gouda, who grew up in the Netherlands near Haarlem, was the youngest of four daughters. Her parents had lived briefly in the Dutch East Indies near the outset of the Second World War, an experience that shaped her interest in the region. She described these influences in *Dutch Culture Overseas* (1995), noting her desire to bring to “diffuse memories of childhood tales . . . the more disciplined intellectual queries of a historian interested in the particular nature of Dutch history or Dutch culture in diaspora.” This she did in an array of books and articles that ranged across continents as well as fields, including social, intellectual, cultural, gender, political, medical, and diplomatic history. Curious and cosmopolitan, Gouda was fluent in Dutch, English, French, and Indonesian, which allowed her to probe source materials rarely tapped by previous scholars of colonialism and contributed to her unusual skill in comparative history.

Gouda, who attended local schools in the Netherlands, spent much of her academic career in the United States. Arriving first as a high school exchange student, she later enrolled at the University of Washington, where she received her BA, MA, and PhD. She studied modern French history with David Pinkney, who, she later wrote, encouraged her to consider broad historical questions that cut across national boundaries. After completing a Fulbright scholarship in Paris and attending a Newberry Library research institute on quantitative history, she accepted a position as assistant professor of history at Wellesley College in 1980.

An immensely popular professor, Gouda earned a prize for teaching excellence at Wellesley and accepted an administrative appointment as class dean. Nonetheless, in 1988, she decided to move to Washington, DC, where she acquired a Victorian townhouse on Capitol Hill, became an administrator for two

years at the National Endowment for the Humanities, and taught part time at American University and George Washington University. She continued her research and writing throughout and, in 1990–91, served as a fellow at the Wilson Center. She published two books of comparative history in the 1990s, *Poverty and Political Culture* (1995) and *Dutch Culture Overseas*, as well as a volume co-edited with Julia Clancy-Smith, *Domesticating the Empire* (1998), which reflected her long-standing interest in gender history. She returned to the Netherlands in 1999 as professor of gender and postcolonial history at the University of Amsterdam. A study of US foreign policy and Indonesian nationalism between 1920 and 1942, titled *American Visions of the Netherlands East Indies/Indonesia* and co-authored with her nephew, military historian Thijs Brocades Zaalberg, appeared in 2002.

At Amsterdam, Gouda made her mark, according to her colleague Liza Mügge, as a US-trained “postcolonial feminist,” willing to challenge “institutionalized masculinity and whiteness” at the university. Teaching courses on gender, ethnicity, and postcolonial history, she “cheered for what she called the new generation of third-wave feminists.” Students admired “her colorful and rich lectures, filled with lively cross-references to her own work and to that of her colleagues and friends across the globe,” remembers Mügge. As she had at Wellesley and in Washington, DC, Gouda graciously opened her home to friends, students, neighbors, and visitors.

In 2013, Gouda returned to the United States, first as the Erasmus Lecturer on the History and Civilization of the Netherlands and Flanders and visiting scholar at the Center for European Studies at Harvard University. She then served as director of gender, sexuality, and women’s studies at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine, before retiring in 2016 to a 17th-century house she had lovingly restored in the northern Netherlands. Wherever she traveled, Gouda made lasting friends, who were drawn to her warmth, intellectual vitality, extraordinary generosity, quick sense of humor, keen interest in others, and dazzling presence. An avid gardener and classical music enthusiast, she shared the things she loved with those she loved in ways that enriched their lives. She leaves her sister, Els Brocades Zaalberg; her brother-in-law, Klaas; and nephews, nieces, and their children, most of whom reside in the Netherlands.

Ellen Fitzpatrick
University of New Hampshire

Laura Frader
Northeastern University

Sonya Michel
University of Maryland (emerita)

Photo: Carmen Freudenthal, Freudenthal/Verhagen



Fred L. Israel

1934–2019

Editor of Historical
Reference Books

Fred L. Israel, professor emeritus at the City College of New York (CCNY), died on June 15, 2019, in Pawlet, Vermont, at age 85. Born in Brooklyn, he graduated from CCNY in 1955, and received a master's degree in 1956 and a PhD in history from Columbia University in 1959. He studied under Richard Hofstadter but always credited the help he received from William Leuchtenburg. He returned to City College, where he spent his entire teaching career, retiring in 1996.

At CCNY, Fred taught a memorable historical methodology seminar that introduced aspiring historians to microfilm, oral history, and archival research. He pressed his students to look beyond the headlines for secondary items that revealed more about life at the time. Frustrated in his attempts to assign a Sears, Roebuck and Company catalog from the 1890s, he was surprised to find that neither the college library nor the Library of Congress held any copies. After hunting used book stores and antiques shops, he finally resorted to placing ads in midwestern newspapers. This produced a single copy of an 1897 catalog. Recognizing the volume as “an authentic part of American culture, sociology, and history, an invaluable record from which we can gain insight into a by-gone era,” he had it reprinted in 1968. It captured public attention and sold widely.

Similar interests led him to contact George Gallup for permission to edit past Gallup polls into reference volumes. Fred recalled what happened in 2009, in his keynote speech at the Organization of American Historians annual meeting. Gallup invited him to his Princeton office, leaned back in his chair, puffed on his cigar, and asked, “Tell me, what did I do wrong in 1948?” Fred said he responded to the best of his ability, after which Gallup announced: “Professor, go ahead, save my polls for the historians.” Fred Israel edited three volumes of Gallup's public opinion data covering 1935 to 1971 and then continued preparing annual reference books. He was also

one of the authors of the massive study *Winning the White House 2008: The Gallup Poll, Public Opinion, and the Presidency* (2009).

After publishing a biography, *Nevada's Key Pittman* (1963), Fred turned to editing reference works, beginning with *The War Diary of Breckinridge Long* (1966). With Leon Friedman, he edited *The Justices of the United States Supreme Court* (1969–2013), which received the Scribes Book Award from the American Society of Legal Writers. Joining with Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr., he edited *History of American Presidential Elections* (1971–2012), comprising original essays by leading scholars. His fruitful collaboration with Schlesinger produced many volumes, culminating in the richly illustrated *Running for President: The Candidates and Their Images* (1994), which reflected Fred's fascination with campaign memorabilia.

Fred Israel also wrote and edited scores of short books for younger readers, in series including Know Your Government, World Leaders Past and Present, The Peoples of North America, The Immigrant Experience, Chronicles from *National Geographic*, The World 100 Years Ago, and Looking into the Past: People, Places and Customs. His primary historical interests remained political, as indicated by *Ronald Reagan's Weekly Radio Addresses* (1987); *Student's Atlas of American Presidential Elections* (1997); *Presidential Documents: The Speeches, Proclamations, and Policies That Have Shaped the Nation from Washington to Clinton* (2000); and *My Fellow Citizens: The Inaugural Addresses of the Presidents of the United States* (2010).

Among his projects, *Taught to Lead: The Education of the Presidents of the United States* (2004) presented its essays as “a microcosm of American education since the 1750s.” He argued, “Teachers, tutors, parents, relatives, textbooks, novels, nonfiction and the Bible—each had an important part in the education of the presidents and therefore in shaping American history.”

Although an urbanite at heart, Fred left Manhattan for Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and finally to a remote and bucolic part of Vermont, its main drawback being its distance from New York City. Montreal was closer, however, and he came to appreciate that city as “a cosmopolitan oasis with an excellent symphony and a fairly good opera company.”

Donald A. Ritchie
US Senate Historian (emeritus)

AHA CAREER CENTER

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UNITED STATES



CALIFORNIA

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, BAKERSFIELD

Bakersfield, CA

African American. The History Department at California State University, Bakersfield, seeks to fill a tenure-track assistant professor position in African American history. A secondary field in gender history is desirable. In addition to teaching courses in one's area of specialty, candidates are expected to teach US survey courses, undergraduate and graduate methods courses, and graduate seminars. Normal teaching load is four courses per term, with an anticipated reduction to 3 courses per term in the first two years. PhD required at time of appointment, August 2020. Applicants should submit e-copies of a cover letter and CV. Letters of recommendation and a teaching portfolio will be solicited from candidates at a later date. Review of applications begins on October 30, 2019. A detailed vacancy announcement, requirements, qualifications, and application procedures may be found at <http://www.csub.edu/history>, or by contacting Dr. Douglas Dodd, Dept. of History, California State University, 10 HOB, 9001 Stockdale Hwy., Bakersfield, CA, 93311-1022. 661-654-6815. Email: ddodd@csb.edu. California State University, Bakersfield, is a Hispanic-Serving Institution and an EOE. Applicants will be considered without regard to gender, race, age, color, religion, national origin, sexual

orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, or covered veterans' status.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

Los Angeles, CA

Henry J. Bruman Endowed Chair in German History. The UCLA History Department seeks a senior historian of early modern or modern German-speaking central Europe. We are searching for a scholar with a distinguished research and publication record, who is also a leader in the field as well as a dedicated teacher and mentor. A PhD in history or related field is required. The department welcomes candidates whose experience in teaching, research or community service has prepared them to contribute to our commitment to diversity and excellence. All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply online at <https://recruit.apo.ucla.edu/JPF04767> to upload their information for this position. This position is subject to final administrative approval. Documents should include a letter of application, a curriculum vitae, and the name and contact information of three scholars who might be contacted for a letter of reference. A statement addressing the applicant's past and/or potential contributions to equity, diversity, and inclusion is also required. Please visit the UCLA Equity, Diversity and Inclusion website for Sample Guidance for Candidates on the Statement of Contributions to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: <https://equity.ucla.edu/programs-resources/faculty-search-process/faculty-search-committee-resources/sample-guidance/>.

The University of California is an AA/EOE. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age or protected veteran status. For the complete University of California nondiscrimination and affirmative action policy see: UC Nondiscrimination & Affirmative Action Policy.



CONNECTICUT

YALE UNIVERSITY

New Haven, CT

Medieval Europe. The Yale University Department of History intends to make an appointment in Medieval European history to begin on July 1, 2020. The successful candidate may be appointed at the rank of full or associate professor with tenure, or at the rank of untenured assistant professor. Applications are invited from senior scholars who have demonstrated exceptional scholarship and teaching as well as leadership in their field. Applications are also invited from early-career historians with strong potential for achievement in scholarship, undergraduate and graduate teaching, and intellectual leadership. We welcome applications from historians currently teaching at other universities, as well as from recent PhDs and those who expect their PhD or equivalent degree by the time of appointment. Yale University is an AA/EOE. Yale values diversity among its students, staff, and faculty and strongly welcomes applications from women, underrepresented minorities, protected veterans, and persons with disabilities.

All applicants should submit a letter of application, CV, a statement of research interests, a statement of teaching interests, and a chapter length writing sample prepared for anonymous reading at <http://apply.interfolio.com/66221>. Letters of reference are not required at this initial stage but may be requested later. Please contact Denise Scott (denise.scott@yale.edu) with any questions or Noel Lenski (noel.lenski@yale.edu) and Marci Shore (marci.shore@yale.edu). The review of applications will begin November 1, 2019, and continue until the position is filled.



GEORGIA

EMORY UNIVERSITY

Atlanta, GA

Sub-Saharan Africa. The Department of History at Emory University is seeking applications for the position of tenure-track assistant professor or associate professor in sub-Saharan African history. All regions and time periods will be considered. Applicants will be expected to teach courses at both the undergraduate and graduate levels and to participate in the activities of the Institute of African Studies. Please submit a letter of application, CV, and one short (chapter- or article-length) writing sample. Emory University is committed to student and faculty diversity, equity, and inclusion. In your cover letter or in a separate statement, please reflect upon your experience and vision regarding the teaching and mentorship of students from diverse backgrounds. Review of materials will begin September 15, 2019. The appointment

AD POLICY STATEMENT

Most job discrimination is illegal, and open hiring on the basis of merit depends on fair practice in recruitment, thereby ensuring that all professionally qualified persons may obtain appropriate opportunities. The AHA will not accept a job listing that (1) contains wording that either directly or indirectly links race, color, national origin, sex, gender, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, ideology, political affiliation, age, or disability to a specific job offer; or (2) contains wording requiring applicants to submit special materials for the sole purpose of identifying the applicant's race, color, national origin, sex, gender, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, ideology, political affiliation, veteran status, age, or disability.

The AHA does make an exception to these criteria in three unique cases: (1) open listings for minority vita banks that are clearly not linked with specific jobs, fields, or specializations; (2) ads that require religious identification or affiliation for consideration for the position, a preference that is allowed to religious institutions under federal law; and (3) fellowship advertisements.

The AHA retains the right to refuse or edit all discriminatory statements from copy submitted to the Association that is not consistent with these guidelines or with the principles of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The AHA accepts advertisements from academic institutions whose administrations are under censure by the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), but requires that this fact be clearly stated. Refer to www.aaup.org/our-programs/academic-freedom/censure-list for more information.

For further details on best practices in hiring and academic employment, see the AHA's Statement on Standards of Professional Conduct, www.historians.org/standards; Guidelines for the Hiring Process, www.historians.org/hiring; and Policy on Advertisements, www.historians.org/adpolicy.

will begin on September 1, 2020. PhD must be in hand by the appointment start date. Inquiries can be directed to the search committee chair, Clifton Crais, at ccrais@emory.edu. Emory is using Interfolio's Faculty Search to conduct this search. Applicants to this position receive a free Dossier account and can send all application materials, including confidential letters of recommendation, free of charge. Apply to <https://apply.interfolio.com/65056>. Emory University is an AA/EOE. It welcomes nominations of, and applications from, women, members of minority groups, protected veterans and individuals with disabilities, as well as others who would bring additional dimensions to the university's research and teaching missions.



ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO Chicago, IL

Environmental. The Department of History at the University of Chicago invites applications for a tenure-track assistant professorship in environmental history to begin on or after July 1, 2020. Specialization is open in terms of area and period. The department especially welcomes candidates working from a global, imperial, or transnational perspective. Candidates must have PhD in hand by the start of the appointment. Applicants must apply online at the University of Chicago's Academic Recruitment job board at <http://apply.interfolio.com/65689> and include a cover letter, a CV, a research statement, a teaching statement, an article or chapter-length writing sample, and three letters of reference. Consideration of applications will begin on September 1, 2019, and will continue until the position is filled or the search is closed; early submission is encouraged. The University of Chicago is an AA/disabled/veterans/EOE and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national or ethnic origin, age, status as an individual with a disability, protected veteran status, genetic information, or other protected classes under the law. For additional information please see the University's Notice of Nondiscrimination at https://www.uchicago.edu/about/non_discrimination_statement/. Job seekers in need of a reasonable accommodation to complete the application process should call 773-702-1032 or email equalopportunity@uchicago.edu with their request.

Slavery and Emancipation. The Department of History at the University of Chicago invites applications for a tenured appointment (associate or full professor) in the histories of slavery, emancipation, and the afterlives of slavery to begin on or after July 1, 2020. We seek applications from historians of Africa, the Atlantic world, the Caribbean, Latin America, North America, and the United States. We especially welcome candidates working on Afro-descendent slavery, and from scholars of race, ethnicity, empire, migration, gender, and sexuality, but will consider scholars from any subspecialty related to the search's core themes and scope. This search is part of a larger cluster hiring initiative in this field that will lead to multiple appointments. Among the goals of the search is increasing the diversity of the faculty in the Department of History, and we therefore welcome applicants who are from groups that are historically underrepresented in the academy. Applicants must apply online at the University of Chicago's Academic Recruitment job board at <http://apply.interfolio.com/65473> and include a cover letter, a CV, a research statement, a teaching statement, an article or chapter-length writing sample, and names of three potential referees. Consideration of applications will begin on September 1, 2019, and will continue until the position is filled or the search is closed; early submission is encouraged. The University of Chicago is an AA/disabled/veterans/EOE and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national or ethnic origin, age, status as an individual with a disability, protected veteran status, genetic information, or other protected classes under the law. For additional information please see the University's Notice of Nondiscrimination at https://www.uchicago.edu/about/non_discrimination_statement/. Job seekers in need of a reasonable accommodation to complete the application process should call 773-702-1032 or email equalopportunity@uchicago.edu with their request.



MARYLAND JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Baltimore, MD

Modern Life Sciences. The Department of the History of Science and Technology at The Johns

Hopkins University invites applications for the position of tenure-track assistant professor in the history of the modern life sciences with the anticipated start date of July 1, 2020. The position is open to all areas of scholarship within the history of modern life sciences in the 18th-21st centuries. Candidates should have a strong scholarly record and teaching experience, or show promise of excellence in both scholarship and teaching. The position involves undergraduate and graduate teaching, as well as supervision of graduate students at MA and PhD levels. Candidate must be able to teach our core undergraduate survey course in the history of modern science (18th-21st centuries) along with a parallel graduate reading course that prepares students for qualifying exams. A PhD is required, but we will accept applications from doctoral students expected to fulfill PhD degree requirements by September 1, 2020. The Department is committed to conducting a broad and inclusive search for a candidate who, through their research, teaching, and service, will contribute to the diversity and excellence of the academic community. Applications should include a cover letter, CV, a description of scholarly and teaching activity, and three letters of reference. All application material should be submitted online via Interfolio at <https://apply.interfolio.com/65504>. Review of applications will begin on October 15, 2019, and will continue until the position is filled. The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland, is an AA/EOE of women, minorities, protected veterans and individuals with disabilities and encourages applications from these and other protected group members. Consistent with the University's goals of achieving excellence in all areas, we will assess the comprehensive qualifications of each applicant.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK

College Park, MD

Ancient. The University of Maryland, College Park, invites applications from historians of the Roman imperial and late antique Mediterranean worlds within the broad geographical zone that extends into Asia, Africa, and Europe. While specialization is open, preference will be given to scholars whose work engages with the diversity of the Roman and late antique worlds

in such areas as ethnicity, gender, or identity. In addition to exceptional scholarly promise, the successful candidate will demonstrate excellence in teaching and will be able to teach broadly in the history and culture of the ancient and late antique periods. Responsibilities include teaching undergraduate lecture courses and upper-level undergraduate seminars as well as graduate seminars on specialized topics; advising graduate students; and engaging in curriculum development. Candidates must have a PhD in hand by August 1, 2020. Applications should include a letter of application with a brief statement of current and future research and teaching interests, CV, email addresses of three reference providers, and an article-length writing sample. For best consideration, please ensure that all application materials are uploaded to <https://ejobs.umd.edu/postings/71726> by October 1, 2019. The University of Maryland, College Park, an AA/EOE, complies with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations regarding non-discrimination and affirmative action; all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment. The University is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, physical or mental disability, protected veteran status, age, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, creed, marital status, political affiliation, personal appearance, or on the basis of rights secured by the First Amendment, in all aspects of employment, educational programs and activities, and admissions. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply. This search is contingent upon the availability of funds.



MASSACHUSETTS

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Cambridge, MA

Modern Germany. The Department of History seeks to appoint a tenure-track professor in modern German history, with an emphasis on the 20th century. The appointment is expected to begin on July 1, 2020. The appointee will teach and advise at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Doctorate or terminal degree in History or related discipline required by the time the appointment begins. Demonstrated

strong commitment to teaching is desired. Please submit the following materials through the ARIES portal (<http://academicpositions.harvard.edu>). Candidates are encouraged to apply by October 1, 2019; applications will be reviewed until the position is filled. Submit cover letter; CV; teaching statement (describing teaching approach and philosophy); research statement; names and contact information of 3-4 referees, who will be asked by a system-generated email to upload a letter of recommendation once the candidate's application has been submitted (three letters of recommendation are required, and the application is considered complete only when at least three letters have been received); publications, if applicable; and a statement describing efforts to encourage diversity, inclusion, and belonging, including past, current, and anticipated future contributions in these areas. Harvard is an EOE and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy and pregnancy-related conditions, or any other characteristic protected by law. For questions, contact Taylor Maurice, Faculty Coordinator, Department of History, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138. Email: tmaurice@fas.harvard.edu.

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Cambridge, MA

Environmental. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology's History Section seeks to appoint a full-time, tenure-track assistant professor in the field of environmental history effective July 1, 2020. Candidates working on any time period and area of the world are invited to apply. A successful candidate must have received a PhD or expect to do so by September 1, 2020. Applicants at the dissertation stage should be in a position to share a complete draft of the dissertation by November 1, 2019. To apply, please submit a cover letter; CV; and a statement outlining current research interests (of no more than two single-spaced pages) by October 1, 2019. The search committee expects to conduct first-round interviews through a

videoconferencing platform. Applications should be submitted through the Interfolio website: <http://apply.interfolio.com/65449>. Please do not send material by email. For technical issues, please contact Interfolio staff (877-997-8807) or help@interfolio.com. Other questions can be directed to Kathleen Lopes at kalopes@mit.edu.

BOSTON COLLEGE

Chestnut Hill, MA

Modern United States. The History Department at Boston College seeks to hire an assistant professor in modern US history, with particular research and teaching interests in post-1900 US political history. While all applications within this field will be considered, we encourage applications from scholars whose work examines the subject of race in 20th-century US politics. Candidates should have PhD by August 31, 2020. In addition to pursuing an active research program and making other contributions to our intellectual community and to the profession, the successful candidate for this position will be expected to teach four courses each academic year that encompass a balanced mix of undergraduate surveys suited to the departmental and university Core curricula; electives; and graduate colloquia. For further information on our History Core, see <http://www.bc.edu/schools/cas/history/core.html>. For news concerning our campus-wide Core Renewal project, see <http://www.bc.edu/sites/core/core-renewal>. Boston College is a Jesuit, Catholic university that strives to integrate research excellence with a foundational commitment to formative liberal arts education. Boston College is also an AA/EOE and does not discriminate on the basis of any legally protected category including disability and veteran status. To learn more, see <https://www.bc.edu/offices/diversity>. Applicants for this position should submit a cover letter; a CV; an article-length sample of research; and three letters of recommendation. Please address cover letters to the Chair of the Search Committee, History Dept., Boston College, 140 Commonwealth Ave., Chestnut Hill, MA 02467. In order to receive full consideration, applicants should ensure submission of their materials via Interfolio (webpage TBD) and by the final deadline of October 1, 2019.



UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Ann Arbor, MI

Bentley Professor of History.

The University of Michigan Department of History is seeking to fill the A.M. and H.P. Bentley Chair, an endowed chair for a distinguished historian with a demonstrated record of scholarly achievement, successful teaching, and strong graduate mentorship. Advanced associate or full professors are invited to apply. We are interested in innovative work in any field, with a preference for exceptional research, teaching, and scholarship that adds new dimensions to our department. Familiarity with digital methodologies, commitment to publicly oriented scholarship, and broad engagements with diversity work are all desired strengths. This is a university-year (9-month) appointment. The anticipated start date is September 1, 2020. Please send by email a letter of interest and a CV, along with evidence of teaching excellence, a statement of teaching philosophy and experience, and a statement of current and future research plans to Prof. James W. Cook, Chair, History Dept., University of Michigan, 1029 Tisch Hall, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1003 at hist.bentley-chair@umich.edu. The search committee will begin considering applications on October 10, 2019. Women, underrepresented minorities, protected veterans, and persons with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply. The University of Michigan is supportive of the needs of dual career couples and is an AA/EOE.



NIEHAUS CENTER FOR GLOBALIZATION AND GOVERNANCE, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Princeton, NJ

Postdoctoral Research Associate.

The Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance (NCGG) at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs invite applications for a postdoctoral or more senior research associate position from individuals

with a PhD or who expect to receive a PhD by September 1, 2020, for the 2020-21 academic year. These awards are designed to promote basic research in the broad areas of international and comparative political economy, international organization and global governance, and globalization. Research on the causes and consequences of globalization, the political economy of foreign trade, monetary and regulatory policies, the sources of international cooperation at the global and regional level, the domestic and international politics of economic development, the political economy of human security issues, the evolution and impact of international institutions, and the politics of international law and human rights policies is of relevance. Outstanding scholars anywhere in the world are eligible to apply. The Center invites candidates with a background in political science, economics, modern history, sociology, anthropology, law, business, and other disciplines bearing on the study of globalization to apply. Selected candidates will be required to be in residence for the duration of the fellowship (September 1, 2020–July 1, 2021). Applicants should apply by Friday, November 29, 2019 (11:59 p.m. EST), for full consideration; however, posting will remain open until filled. All candidates must use the online application process to submit materials at <https://www.princeton.edu/acad-positions/position/12561>. Applicants are required to hold a PhD or who expect to receive a PhD by September 1, 2020, in one of the above-mentioned disciplines. To apply, please provide cover letter explaining the candidate's scholarly career; prospective or actual doctoral defense date, and academic interests; current CV including publications; 2,000-word description of the proposed research project, including its specific objectives, importance, and research design; one writing sample (limit of 100 pages); and contact information for three references, who will be asked to comment specifically on the applicant's qualifications for the proposed research project. References will be contacted directly by email with instructions for submitting a confidential recommendation on your behalf. Letters of reference are to be submitted by the end of business day on Thursday, December 5, 2019. Complete your application well before the deadline so that references can be submitted in a timely manner. Rank and salary will be contingent on qualifications. NCGG

Fellows will receive applicable Princeton University benefits, a taxable moving allowance, and a \$5,000 research fund. Successful applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application in February 2020. These positions are subject to the University's background check policy. For more information about the Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance fellowship program, please contact Patricia Trinity, Assistant Director at ptrinity@princeton.edu. Princeton University is an AA/EOE and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.



NEW YORK

BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY, STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Binghamton, NY

Ottoman. The Department of History at Binghamton University, State University of New York, invites applications for a tenure-track assistant professorship in early modern Ottoman history (c. 1300–1800) beginning in Fall 2020. We seek applications from candidates whose research is grounded in Ottoman sources and archival materials, and especially encourage applications from scholars who take a trans-regional or trans-imperial perspective that incorporates the diverse religious groups, ethnicities, and regions that constitute the Ottoman world. Binghamton University has a strong international reputation in Ottoman and Turkish history. Furthermore, the Department of History, together with the Middle East and North Africa program, offers a wide range of undergraduate courses related to the fields of Ottoman, Middle East, Jewish, and Islamic history. The ideal candidate for this position, which is partly financed by the Institute of Turkish Studies, will enhance our undergraduate curriculum and provide expertise for the graduate history program that relates well to our other areas of strength beyond Ottoman and Middle East History, notably early modern Europe, medieval Europe, and global history. Candidates should have the PhD in hand or have completed all the

requirements for the PhD by summer 2020. It is the policy of Binghamton University to provide for and promote equal opportunity employment, compensation, and other terms and conditions of employment without discrimination on the basis of age, race, color, religion, disability, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, veteran or military service member status, marital status, domestic violence victim status, genetic predisposition or carrier status, or arrest and/or criminal conviction record unless based upon a bona fide occupational qualification or other exception. Applicants will submit a letter of application, CV, research statement, sample course syllabi, academic writing sample (dissertation chapter or article), and three recommendation letters to <http://binghamton.interviewexchange.com/jobofferdetails.jsp?JOBID=113830> by October 15, 2019. Candidates may include other materials they deem pertinent to the application. The committee will review applications for screening interview via Skype, and then bring a select number of finalists to campus in early December. Please direct any questions to the Chair of the Department of History, Dr. Kent Schull at kschull@binghamton.edu. Binghamton University is an AA/EOE. *The administration of this institution is on the AAUP censure list. Please refer to <http://aaup.org/AAUP/about/censuredadmins>.*



RHODE ISLAND

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

Providence, RI

20th-Century African American. The History Department at Providence College invites applications for a tenure-track assistant professorship in 20th-century African American history beginning fall 2020. As our student body grows increasingly diverse, experience and commitment to teaching and mentoring students from a range of economic, social, and cultural backgrounds is preferred. Scholars whose research places the African American experience in an interdisciplinary, comparative, and/or transnational perspective are particularly welcome. Competence to teach in the Development of Western Civilization program as part of the regular teaching load is required. Experience in interdisciplinary and/or team-teaching is desirable. PhD by date of appointment

required. Providence College, a Roman Catholic, four-year, liberal arts institution conducted under the auspices of the Dominican Friars, seeks candidates who can affirm and contribute to its mission. Providence College believes that cultural and intellectual pluralism is essential to the excellence of its academic program and strives to foster an academic culture and campus community that attracts and supports the development of a stellar and diverse faculty reflecting the global environment in which we live and work. As an AA/EOE, the College especially encourages applications from women and persons of color. Letter of application, CV, unofficial undergraduate and official graduate transcripts, and three letters of reference should be submitted electronically to <https://careers.providence.edu>. Deadline for completed applications is September 13, 2019.



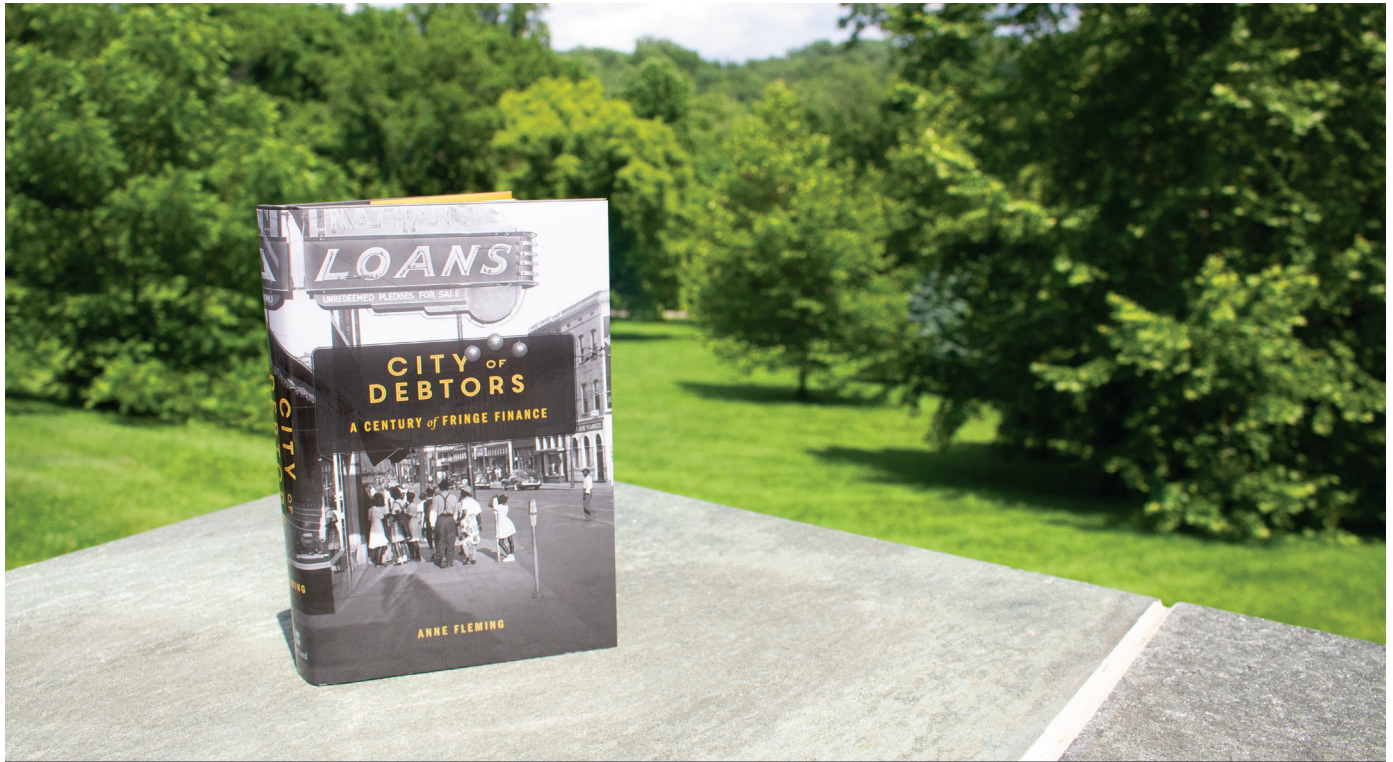
VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE

Lexington, VA

19th-Century US/American Civil War. The Virginia Military Institute seeks a beginning assistant professor in 19th-century US history. Candidates should have a strong commitment to and good preparation for teaching the American Civil War's causes, course, and consequences. Additional teaching responsibilities include both halves of the US history survey and upper-level courses in 19th-century topics that reflect the applicant's interest and expertise. The most attractive applicants will be those able to offer an array of courses demonstrating innovative approaches to or perspectives on the nineteenth century and the Civil War. VMI is a public, four-year, undergraduate military college of approximately 1,700 students, about half of whom accept commissions in the armed forces upon graduation. Teaching excellence in a liberal arts setting is our first priority. Faculty members who are United States citizens wear uniforms and adhere to military customs, but military experience among the faculty is neither required nor expected. For more information about VMI and the Department of History, please visit our web site at <http://www.vmi.edu>. Applicants must complete an online state application and submit letters of interest, CV, and an unofficial transcript of all graduate course work

online at <http://virginiajobs.peopleadmin.com/postings/157366>. In a continuing effort to enrich its academic environment and provide equal educational and employment opportunities, VMI encourages women, minorities, disabled individuals and veterans to apply. AmeriCorps, Peace Corps and other national service alumni are also encouraged to apply. VMI will provide reasonable accommodation to qualified individuals with documented disabilities to ensure equal access and equal opportunities with regard to employment, educational opportunities, programs and services. Minimal requirements include an earned PhD in history by May 2020. If the doctorate is not presently in hand, applicants should specifically address when the defense will be held and the dissertation completed. Initial interviews will be conducted via Skype. In addition to the materials submitted online, applicants should have three letters of recommendation (including comments on teaching) and samples of scholarship **not** readily available in electronic format sent directly to American History Search Committee, Dept. of History, Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, VA 24450. Please do not mail hard copies of letters of interest, CV, or application forms directly to the department. Applications will be accepted until 5:00 p.m., September 15, 2019.



The Ralph Gomory Prize

The 2019 Ralph Gomory Prize of the Business History Conference has been awarded to Anne Fleming, Associate Professor at Georgetown Law for her book, *City of Debtors: A Century of Fringe Finance* (Harvard University Press, 2018) at the Business History Conference annual meeting in Cartagena, Colombia, March 15, 2019.

The Ralph Gomory Prize for Business History (made possible by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation) recognizes historical work on the effect business enterprises have on the economic conditions of a country in which they operate. A \$5,000 prize is awarded annually. Eligible books are written in English and published two years (2018 or 2019 copyright) prior to the award. The 2020 Prize will be presented at the annual meeting of the Business History Conference to be held in Charlotte, North Carolina, March 12-14, 2020.

Four copies of a book must accompany a nomination and be submitted to the Prize Coordinator, Carol Ressler Lockman, Business History Conference, PO Box 3630, 298 Buck Road, Wilmington, DE 19807-0630 USA. Email: clockman@hagley.org.

The submission deadline is November 30, 2019.



www.thebhc.org

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Registered attendees who are AHA members in good standing can register their students for only \$10 each. This special pricing will be available with registration, beginning in mid-September. There is no limit on the number of students you can bring.

Information about the 2020 annual meeting is available online at historians.org/annual-meeting.