FORTY-FIFTH
ANNUAL MEETING

JULY 18-21, 2024

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA
CONFERENCE PLANNING

Program Committee 2024

Honor Sachs, University of Colorado, Boulder, co-chair
Christina Snyder, Pennsylvania State University, co-chair
Zara Anishanslin, University of Delaware
Ashley Cataldo, American Antiquarian Society
Alexander Chaparro-Silva, University of Texas at Austin
Samuel Davis, Texas Christian University
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Michael Dickinson, Virginia Commonwealth University
Elizabeth Ellis, Princeton University
Jesse Gant, University of Madison-Wisconsin
Katherine Grandjean, Wellesley College
Scott Heerman, University of Miami
Hidetaka Hirota, University of California – Berkeley
Katherine Johnston, Montana State University
Kariann Akemi Yokota, University of Colorado, Denver

Local Arrangements Committee 2024

Jen Manion, Amherst College, chair
Zara Anishanslin, University of Delaware
Bruce Dorsey, Swarthmore College
Jim Downs, Gettysburg College
David Gary, American Philosophical Society
Sally Gordon, University of Pennsylvania
Emma Hart, MCEAS, University of Pennsylvania
Beth Hessel, The Athenaeum of Philadelphia
Brenna Holland, American Philosophical Society
Whitney Martinko, Villanova University

National Conference Coordinator

Erika Huckestein, Widener University
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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Wednesday, July 17
12:00-2:00 pm Graduate Research Workshops (online)

Thursday, July 18
9:00 am-4:00 pm Biography Workshop
11:00 am-12:30 pm Tour: Philly Gayborhood Tour: Telling LGBTQ Stories with Pride
12:30-4:30 pm Second-Book Writers’ Workshop
2:00-4:00 pm Tour: Religious Diversity and the Struggle for Freedom in the Nation’s Birthplace
1:00-4:00 pm SHEAR Advisory Council Meeting
4:00-6:30 pm Conference Registration
5:00-6:30 pm President’s Plenary
6:30-8:00 pm Plenary Reception

Friday, July 19
8:00-9:00 am Perk Up with the JER Editors
8:30 am-4:00 pm Conference Registration
8:30 am-5:00 pm Book Exhibit
9:00 am-12:45 pm Sessions
11:30 am-12:30 pm Tour: Rare Books Tour at the Parkway Central Branch, Free Library of Philadelphia
12:45-2:15 pm JER Editorial Board Meeting
1:00-2:00 pm Graduate Student Lunch
1:00-2:00 pm Public Historians Lunch
2:15-6:00 pm Sessions
6:00-7:00 pm Early Career Mentorship Reception
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, July 20
7:30-9:00 am    Boydston Women’s Breakfast
8:30 am-4:00 pm  Conference Registration
8:30 am-5:00 pm  Book Exhibit
9:00 -10:30 am  Tour: Carpenters’ Hall
9:00 am-12:45 pm Sessions
12:45-2:15 pm    2025 Program Committee Meeting
2:15-3:45 pm    Forum: Women at the Center
4:30-6:00 pm    Presidential Address & SHEAR Prizes
6:00-7:30 pm    Awards Reception

Sunday, July 21
7:45-8:45 am    SHEAR business meeting - open to all
8:30-10:30 am   Conference Registration
8:30-11:00 am   Book Exhibit
9:00 am-12:45 pm Sessions

Thursday, August 8
9:00am-2:00pm    Conference Paper to Journal Article
workshop with the JER (online)
LOCATIONS

**Awards Reception**: Athenaeum of Philadelphia, 219 S. 6th Street, Philadelphia

**Biography Workshop**: TBD

**Boydston Women’s Breakfast**: Orchestra

**Early Career Mentorship Reception**: Balcony

**Exhibit Hall**: Symphony Ballroom

**Graduate Student Lunch**: Library Company of Philadelphia, 1314 Locust Street

**JER Editorial Board Meeting**: TBD

**Lactation Room**: Backstage Room (Mezzanine Level)

**Tours**:
- Philly Gayborhood Tour: Meet at corner of 13th and Locust, by Bud & Marilyn’s restaurant, Philadelphia
- Religious Diversity Tour: Meet at Independence Visitors Center at 599 Market Street, Philadelphia
- Rare Books Tour: Meet at Parkway Central Branch, Free Library of Philadelphia, 1901 Vine Street
- Carpenters’ Hall Tour: Meet at Carpenters’ Hall, 320 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia

**Perk Up with the JER Editors**: Assembly E

**Presidential Address**: American Philosophical Society, 104 S. 5th Street, Philadelphia

**Presidential Plenary**: Ormandy East

**Presidential Plenary Reception**: Kimmel Center, 300 S. Broad Street, Philadelphia

**Public Historians Lunch**: TBD
LOCATIONS

Registration: Overture
Second-Book Writers’ Workshop: TBD
SHEAR Advisory Council Meeting: TBD
SHEAR Business Meeting: Orchestra
THE ATHENÆUM OF PHILADELPHIA
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philaathenaeum.org
It is a delight to welcome the members of SHEAR back to Philadelphia, for the second year in a row. The past several years (to say nothing of the past several months) have been difficult times for those of us who work on college campuses, and for everybody connected to the world of the humanities. Now more than ever it is important to take the chance to gather together, share our research, and to participate in the energy that scholarly community can generate. I hope that each of you will take advantage of this SHEAR conference not only as an opportunity to connect with long-time friends and colleagues, but also to have conversations with members of SHEAR who you don’t already know.

This year has been one of transition for SHEAR, in many ways. Our administrative home has shifted from the McNeil Center at the University of Pennsylvania to the Omohundro Institute at William & Mary. Everyone at SHEAR is grateful for the long partnership that we enjoyed with the McNeil Center, just as we are excited about the possibilities of our new partnership with the Omohundro Institute. This year we also have a new national conference coordinator, Erika Huckestein, who succeeded Robyn Lily Davis after her many years of service. Erika is an Assistant Teaching Professor of History at Widener University, and is an absolutely brilliant organizer. I’m deeply appreciative of all that she has done to put together a remarkable program for all of us.

Philadelphia is a familiar destination for many members of SHEAR, which is why serving on the Local Arrangements
Committee for this conference can be a particular challenge. This year’s committee has done a spectacular job of bringing us to some new destinations around the city for our events, including the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts (right across Broad Street) for our Thursday night reception and the Philadelphia Athenaeum for our Saturday reception. The Presidential Address and Award Ceremony on Saturday will take place at the American Philosophical Society. I would like to thank the incomparable Jen Manion for chairing this year’s local arrangements committee, as well as all of the members of the committee who contributed so much to our schedule of events this year: Zara Anishanslin, Bruce Dorsey, Jim Downs, David Gary, Sally Gordon, Emma Hart, Beth Hessel, Brenna Holland, and Whitney Martinko. Many of them provided lists of specific local recommendations, which can be found in the program.

Particular thanks go to Michelle Craig McDonald for hosting us at the APS on Saturday evening, and to Beth Hessell for welcoming us to the newly renovated Athenaeum. Thanks are also due to Amherst College, the Massachusetts Historical Society, and the University of Michigan’s William L. Clements Library for their sponsorship of this year’s receptions. There are also four outstanding tours on offer this year. On Thursday, members can take part in tours of the Philadelphia Gayborhood and of sites related to religious diversity and the struggle for freedom. Friday offers a visit to the rare book room at the Central Branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia. And on Saturday, members can visit Carpenters’ Hall, home to the First Continental Congress.

As for the program... well, just have a look at it. Program Committee Co-chairs Honor Sachs and Christina Snyder led a group that put together a program that puts on full display the richness of the scholarship that is currently under way on the early American republic. All of the members of the
Program Committee—Zara Anishanslin, Ashley Cataldo, Alexander Chaparro-Silva, Samuel Davis, Angela Diaz, Michael Dickinson, Elizabeth Ellis, Jesse Gant, Katherine Grandjean, Scott Heerman, Hidetaka Hirota, Katherine Johnston, and Kariann Akemi Yokota—contributed time and talent to help assemble this outstanding program.

There are countless highlights on the program this year, including a wealth of sessions that point toward the upcoming 250th anniversaries associated with the American Revolution. I want to call your attention to two elements of the program in particular. The first, on Thursday afternoon, is a session organized in partnership with National History Day. No doubt there are current members of SHEAR who first caught the research bug while working on a National History Day project in middle school or high school. The second is a stream of panels running throughout the conference that deal with the question of how historians of early America can communicate with wider audiences. It’s something that we all say we want to do, but these sessions promise to actually help us learn more about how to do it.

I hope that you will all join us for the official opening of the program on Thursday night with the Presidential Plenary, “The Thrill of the Old; or, Reframing Research on Early America.” In my day job at the William Clements Library, I often give tours of the library to visitors who are not academics, and who have never before seen people doing archival research. I have come to realize that this lack of familiarity with what it is that humanities scholars actually do is central to many of the larger crises facing the humanities. Much of the intentional opposition to the humanities grows out of a refusal to see humanities disciplines as research-driven fields. In many cases, cuts in support for humanities research have presaged future reductions in funding in other areas. How can people who
work on the early American republic—K-12 teachers, college and university faculty, museum and library professionals, and public historians—foreground the research that supports all of our work? What research methodologies do the members of SHEAR use? And how can we convey both the excitement of the work of research and the importance of the infrastructure that supports that research to a general audience? The plenary will feature four outstanding scholars who each do research on the Early Republic, yet all of their research work looks dramatically different. We are also fortunate to be joined by Rob Townshend, the longtime Director of the Humanities Indicators Project at the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. Nobody has done more research on public perceptions of the humanities in the U.S., and we are fortunate that he is able to join us.

The *JER* Roundtable on Saturday afternoon offers an extension of the thread taken up by the Presidential Plenary. If the general public does not always understand what people who research early America do, they also often have a mistaken impression of who we do research on. Namely, as a result of the way that many people have been taught early American history, they expect that scholars in the field mostly study men. This roundtable, “Women at the Center: Rethinking the Place of Women in the Early Republic,” will give the participants the opportunity to reflect on how the story of the Early Republic might be told differently.

Serena Zabin’s presidential address last year put us at the very beginning of SHEAR’s period, in March 1776. This year’s address, “Revolutionary Gothic: A Philadelphia Story,” will bring us to the tail end of our period, looking at how one writer from Philadelphia made a career out of telling the story of the American Revolution, and asking what we might learn from earlier modes of commemoration. After the address we will have the opportunity to celebrate the
spectacular work of our colleagues as we award SHEAR’s annual prizes.

SHEAR’s commitment to not just supporting the work of new generations of scholars but also finding opportunities to involve those scholars in our organization’s work is one of the most exciting things about being part of SHEAR. This year’s program offers many opportunities for graduate students and early career scholars to meet one another as well as to engage with other members of SHEAR. Through the Graduate Research Seminars to introductory sessions with *JER* editors, early career scholars will have numerous opportunities to discuss their work. They will also have the chance to socialize, at the Graduate Student Lunch on Friday generously sponsored by the Library Company of Philadelphia’s Program in African American History and the Early Career Mentorship Reception, sponsored by the Institute for Thomas Paine Studies at Iona University.

Serving as the president of SHEAR has been an honor and a privilege. It is also something that I cannot imagine having taken on without the incredible network of support that exists within SHEAR, from previous presidents to members of the Advisory Council and Nominations Committee to everyone involved with editing and producing the *Journal of the Early Republic* and *The Pano*. I want to thank all of them, as well as Cathy Kelly, Martha Howard, Laurel See, and the rest of the team at the Omohundro Institute, for making this year a pleasure. I look forward to seeing all of you in Philadelphia!

Paul Erickson
SHEAR President
ABOUT SHEAR

Established in 1977, the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic is an association of scholars dedicated to exploring events and meanings of United States history between 1776 and 1861.

SHEAR’s mission is to foster the study of the early republican period among professional historians, students, and the general public. It upholds the highest intellectual standards of the historical profession and encourages the broad diffusion of historical insights through all appropriate channels, including schools, museums, libraries, electronic media, public programming, archives, and publications. SHEAR cherishes a democratic ethos in scholarship and cultivates close, respectful, and productive exchanges between serious scholars at every level of experience and recognition.

SHEAR membership is open to all. Most members are professional historians employed in colleges, universities, museums, and historical parks and agencies, as well as independent scholars and graduate students.

The ideas and institutions of the United States’ founding era are part of the cultural legacy of every American. The Society for Historians of the Early American Republic seeks to enrich that legacy with the deepest insights of historical research, combined with a spirit of intellectual democracy best expressed in ongoing communication with the public. For more information, please visit www.shear.org.
FRIENDS OF SHEAR

Becoming a FRIEND of SHEAR is easy. Select a level of giving and either pay online at http://www.shear.org/friends-of-shear/ or return your check, made payable to SHEAR, to the address below. FRIENDS’ membership includes a subscription to the Journal of the Early American Republic.

Sojourner Truth Friend $500
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Nicholas Biddle Friend $150

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Donations are tax deductible, less the cost of the journal subscription.

The Society for Historians of the Early American Republic is committed to fostering a democratic ethos in scholarship and cultivating close, respectful, and productive exchanges between scholars at every level of experience and recognition. If you experience or witness an adverse event, please submit an incident description using the online form accessible from the QR code. You may choose to include your name or report anonymously.
SHEAR PRIZES

SHEAR presents six awards after the Presidential Address on Saturday, July 20th.

The SHEAR Book Prize is awarded to an original monograph published in the previous year that deals with the period 1776-1861 in America.

The James H. Broussard Best First Book Prize is awarded to the best monograph by a new author published in the previous calendar year and dealing with any aspect of the history of the early American republic.

The Mary Kelley Prize in the History of Women, Gender, and Sexuality honors the best book published on the history of women, gender, or sexuality in the early American republic.

The James C. Bradford Biography Prize is awarded to the author of an original biography, broadly defined, of a person active during the early republic.

The Ralph D. Gray Article Prize honors the best original article published in the previous volume of the JER.

The SHEAR Dissertation Prize is presented in cooperation with the University of Virginia Press to an exceptional unpublished dissertation pertaining to the history of North America from 1776 to 1861.

The SHEAR Distinguished Service award recognizes generous and enduring service on behalf of the goals and programs of the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic. It recognizes the kind of commitment without which voluntary organizations such as SHEAR could not thrive. Since it was established in 2014, the award has been presented nine times.

Citations of award recipients are at https://shear.org/awards/
Welcome to Philadelphia for SHEAR 2024!

We are fortunate to be gathering in the heart of Center City with so much great food, nightlife, art, architecture, and history within walking distance. Be sure to get out of the conference hotel and enjoy the surrounding neighborhood! We have arranged for a variety of tours to help you explore including tours of the Philadelphia gayborhood, religious diversity in early Philadelphia in Old City, rare books collection at the Free Library of Philadelphia on the Parkway, and Carpenters’ Hall. Attendees are all invited to the opening night reception at the Kimmel Center following the Thursday night plenary. Friday evening is free for people to venture out on their own. On Saturday evening, we will head to the American Philosophical Society for the Presidential Address and Awards Ceremony, followed by a reception at the Philadelphia Athenaeum. If only the Phillies were playing at home this weekend! Our local arrangements committee has shared some of their favorite spots for you as well and I’ll be available all weekend to answer any questions you might have. Philadelphia has so much to offer – let us help you make the most of your time at SHEAR 2024!

Jen Manion, Local Arrangements Chair

Recommendations from some of your 2024 Local Arrangements Committee Members:

From Zara Anishanslin:
Great coffee shop: La Colombe
Great restaurant: Zama (sushi)
Great dessert spot: Embrace your inner French person and go have cheese at Tria
Great bookstore: Head House Books
Great historic site: Powel House
Great museum: Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts
Great archives: American Philosophical Society
Great place to walk: Schuylkill River Trail
Great bar: Charlie was a Sinner
Great musical venue: Tavern on Camac
Great neighborhood: Chestnut Hill
Favorite thing about SHEAR: SHEARites! No more sociable bunch around
Anything else: Philly is a great walking city--just go out and explore

*From Bruce Dorsey:*
Great coffee shop: Good Karma Cafe
Great restaurant: Suraya
Great dessert spot: Federal Donuts
Great bookstore: The Book Trader
Great bar: The Ranstead Room
Great musical venue: Chris’ Jazz Café, Twisted Tail
Great cocktail Bar: Writer’s Block Rehab
Great mocktails: Wilder
Great breakfast/brunch: Sabrina’s Café, The Dandelion, Green Eggs Café

*From Beth Hessel:*
Great coffee shop: Talula’s Daily
Great restaurant: Freida
Great dessert spot: Gran Caffe L’Aquila
Great bookstore: Head House Books
Great neighborhood: Chestnut Hill/Wissahickon Park/Forbidden Drive
Favorite thing about SHEAR: Opportunities to meet, learn, and share research and ideas with amazing scholars

*From Jen Manion:*
Great coffee shop: Rival Bros.
Great restaurant: Sally’s Pizza; Kalaya
Great lunch: Middle Child
Great prepared foods: Talula’s Daily
Great dessert spot: John’s Water Ice
Great bookstore: House of Our Own
Great historic site: Eastern State Penitentiary
Great museum: The Barnes; The Fabric Workshop and Museum
Great archives: Historical Society of Pennsylvania
Great place to walk: Rittenhouse Sq. to look at dogs
Great musical venue: Union Transfer
Great neighborhood: Art Museum/Fairmount
Favorite thing about SHEAR: the people
Anything else: Rent a bike from Fairmount Bicycles or use the bikeshare Indego and ride from the Philadelphia Museum of Art along the Schuylkill River (8-mile loop).
My favorite unique activity is sitting in the café at Ikea on Columbus Blvd. and staring out at the SS United States, the 1952 ocean liner docked at Pier 82. I also love sitting in the gardens outside the Rodin Museum with a cappuccino.

From Whitney Martinko:
Great coffee shop: Newer: Habitat Coffee House; Classic: Last Drop
Great restaurant: Rex at the Royal
Great dessert spot: P.S. & Co. (allergen friendly)
Great bookstore: A Novel Idea
Great historic site: Sparks Shot Tower
Great museum: Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center
Great archives: Philadelphia City Archives
Great place to walk: Spruce Street, east, to Spruce Street Harbor Park
Great bar: Hi: Andra Hem; Lo: Dirty Frank's
Great musical venue: Solar Myth
Great neighborhood: Spruce Hill - Cedar Park
Favorite thing about SHEAR: All the fellow nerds!
Anything else: Feel free to flag me down or email for local recommendations
Conference Highlights

Graduate Research Seminars, Wednesday 17 July. Continuing SHEAR’s long tradition of mentoring graduate students, senior scholars will lead research seminars for advanced graduate students and recent graduates, devoted to different scholarly topics in the history of the early United States and its world. To promote accessibility and broad participation, these will be held online before the conference opens.

Biography Writers’ Workshop, Thursday 18 July. Presenters will cover topics related to historical biography followed by breakout working groups that have read and will offer feedback on each other’s projects.

Philly Gayborhood Tour: Telling LGBTQ Stories with Pride, Thursday 18 July. Get under the skin of queer Philly. Discover the controversies, paradoxes, and hidden histories of the only formalized Gayborhood in the country. Let’s talk and spill all that historical tea hunny! Led by a Beyond the Bell Tours co-founder. Tour begins at 11:00 am. $30 per person. Registration required.

Second-Book Writers’ Workshop, Thursday 18 July. Senior scholar mentors will each facilitate a workshop session for historians of the early American republic who are currently working on second book projects.

Tour: Religious Diversity and the Struggle for Freedom in the Nation’s Birthplace, Thursday 18 July. This tour of historic Philadelphia highlights the religious and cultural diversity of the city where the nation’s founding documents were written. This tour covers sites in Old City Philadelphia and will include visits to several religious sites representing the presence of Protestants,
Catholics, Jews, Freethinkers, and Muslims. The tour will be led by Dr. David Krueger, historian of American religion and executive director of the Dialogue Institute at Temple University. Tour begins at 2:00 pm. $25 per person. Registration required.

**SHEAR Advisory Council, Thursday 18 July.** The Advisory Council meets at 1:00 pm.

**President’s Plenary, Thursday 18 July.** SHEAR’s 45th annual conference opens at 5:00 pm with the President’s Plenary, “The Thrill of the Old; or, Reframing Research on Early America,” at the DoubleTree.

**President’s Plenary Reception, Thursday 18 July.** Immediately following the President’s Plenary, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm, Kimmel Center, 300 S. Broad Street, Philadelphia. *Co-sponsored by the William L. Clements Library and Amherst College.*

**Perk Up with the JER Editors, Friday 19 July.** Ronald Angelo Johnson and Johann Neem invite graduate students and early career scholars to meet for coffee and an informal early-morning conversation.

**Rare Books Tour at the Parkway Central Branch, Free Library of Philadelphia, Friday 19 July.** Since its opening in 1949, the Rare Book Department of the Philadelphia Free Library has offered free tours of its collections. Take a tour of this remarkable trove to see 5,000-year-old clay tablets, the raven that inspired Poe's famous poem, paintings by N.C Wyeth and Kate Greenaway, relics of Beatrix Potter and Charles Dickens, and an original engraving by Paul Revere. Tour led by Alison Freyermouth, head of the Rare Book Department. FREE. Registration required.
**JER Editorial Board Meeting, Friday 19 July.** The JER editorial board meets at 12:45 pm.

**Graduate Student Lunch, Friday 19 July.** Graduate students at the conference can meet for lunch and conversation from 1:00 to 2:00 pm at the Library Company of Philadelphia, 1314 Locust Street. *Sponsored by the Library Company’s Program in African American History.* FREE. Registration required.

**Public Historians Lunch, Friday 19 July.** Join SHEAR’s public historians to network and share creative approaches to interpreting and preserving the Early Republic as the U.S. 250th approaches. *Sponsored by Saratoga 250.* FREE. Registration required.

**Early Career Mentorship Reception, Friday 19 July.** Reception from 6:00 to 7:00 pm for those participating in the mentorship program or interested in participating in the future. *Sponsored by the Institute for Thomas Paine Studies at Iona University.* Registration required.

**Boydston Women’s Breakfast, Saturday 20 July.** The women of SHEAR will gather from 7:30 to 9:00 am for their fifteenth annual breakfast honoring the life and career of long-time SHEAR member and supporter Jeanne Boydston. *Sponsored by the Omohundro Institute.* Tickets $35.00. Registration required.

**Tour: Carpenters’ Hall, Saturday 20 July.** Join your fellow SHEAR attendees for a private tour of historic Carpenters’ Hall, the site of the First Continental Congress in 1774, where delegates including George Washington, John Adams, Samuel Adams and Patrick Henry formed the colonial coalition that declared independence, fought the Revolution and founded a new nation. Tour led by Michael
Norris, Carpenters’ Company Executive Director. $25 per person. Registration required.

2025 Program Committee Meeting, Saturday 20 July. The Program Committee for the 2025 SHEAR conference in Providence, RI will meet at 12:45 pm.

Presidential Address, Saturday 20 July. The 2024 presidential address begins at 4:30 pm. SHEAR President Paul Erickson will discuss “Revolutionary Gothic: A Philadelphia Story” at the American Philosophical Society, 104 S. 5th Street, Philadelphia.

Awards Ceremony, Saturday 20 July. The SHEAR awards ceremony will immediately follow the Presidential Address.


Coffee & Business Meeting, Sunday 21 July. Join us at SHEAR’s business meeting, open to all.

From Conference Paper to Journal Article Workshop, Thursday 8 August. The JER editors and peers will meet online to discuss feedback and plans for revising conference papers into publishable journal articles. Post-conference online workshop.
The ITPS is proud to sponsor the Early Career Mentorship Reception

THE INSTITUTE FOR THOMAS Paine STUDIES (ITPS) AT IONA UNIVERSITY IS EXCITED TO SHARE DETAILS FOR “TEACHING AMERICAN AND DIGITAL REVOLUTIONS,” A CONFERENCE MARKING THE PUBLICATION OF AMERICAN REVOLUTIONS IN THE DIGITAL AGE, AN OPEN-ACCESS COLLECTION FROM CORNELL UNIVERSITY PRESS.

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EDITED BY NORA SLININSKY, MARK DOORNHOUT, AND BEN WRIGHT

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SOCIAL MEDIA

OFFICIAL ANNUAL MEETING HASHTAG: #SHEAR2024

SHEAR welcomes real-time social media posting and sharing during the conference. Presenters who wish for their content NOT to be shared on social media should make an announcement at the start of the session.

Follow SHEAR on social media:

@SHEARites @SHEARites @SHEARites.IG @SHEARites
Society for Historians of the Early American Republic

COVID-19 INFORMATION

Masks encouraged.

Under current guidelines the city of Philadelphia encourages all residents and visitors to be vaccinated, including booster shots as appropriate, and suggests that all assess individual risks and consider face coverings in public.

SHEAR will follow local guidelines and encourages all attendees, speakers, exhibitors, and staff to continue to wear masks in any SHEAR designated space (breakout rooms, exhibit hall, lobby areas outside these spaces) for the safety of others. We will update this as necessary in response to changing health guidelines.
Check out these Journal of the Early Republic forums at the 2024 SHEAR Conference

Women at the Center: Rethinking the Place of Women in the Early Republic, Saturday afternoon plenary

Despite an outpouring of new work on women, gender, and sexuality, women’s history in the early republic is still dominated by decades-old understandings. Why? How does new work on women, gender, and sexuality change our understanding of the early republic? How can scholars construct a new narrative incorporating new work that recasts our views of women’s history? In short, what does putting women at the center do to the history of the era of the early republic?

Composing the Early Republic: Music and Community-Making in Early America and Today

Music served as a form of belonging and distinction. This panel brings together scholars from history, musicology, and digital humanities to consider the ways in which musical traditions simultaneously contributed to the formation of the early republic while preserving the individual and collective sovereignty of people not included in that project.

Fourth Annual Conference Paper to Article Workshop, Summer 2024

The JER editors will convene a workshop to help scholars turn their conference papers into articles! Our goal is to demystify the process and provide every participant concrete advice on how they might revise their papers. This is a great opportunity for junior scholars. Contact the editors.

Join the conversation at The Panorama
https://thepanorama.shear.org/
@TheJERPanorama, #JERPano, and #SHEAR2024
Thursday, July 18  5:00–6:30 PM

President’s Plenary: The Thrill of the Old; or, Reframing Research on Early America
Location: Ormandy East

Welcome:
Paul Erickson, The William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan in Ann Arbor
Honor Sachs, University of Colorado, Boulder
Christina Snyder, Pennsylvania State University

Chair: Paul Erickson, The William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan in Ann Arbor

Panelists:
Christine DeLucia, Williams College
Rob Townsend, American Academy of Arts & Sciences
Jennifer Van Horn, University of Delaware
Karin Wulf, John Carter Brown Library, Brown University
Jason Young, University of Michigan

Comment: Audience
FRIDAY, JULY 19  9:00–10:45 AM

Walter Johnson’s Soul by Soul at 25
Location: TBD (hybrid)
Chair: Kimberly Welch, Vanderbilt University

The Hinge: Soul by Soul at 25
  Eric Herschthal, University of Utah

The Markets that Made New Orleans: Reflections on Soul by Soul at 25
  Rashauna Johnson, University of Chicago

Writing New Orleans, with Empathy & Precision
  Kathryn Olivarius, Stanford University

Comment: Walter Johnson, Harvard University

Roundtable: Pedagogy & Digital Tools
Location: TBD
Chair: Lindsay Keiter, Pennsylvania State University-Altoona

Using the 1790 Census for Studying Slavery in a Small Northern Town
  Sherri Cash, Utica University

Evidence and the AI Essay: Addressing the Limits of ChatGPT
  Lindsay Keiter, Pennsylvania State University-Altoona

Pocket Photogrammetry for the Classroom
  Jessica Parr, Northeastern University

Building Bridges K-16 via Digital Scholarship
  Annie Evans, University of Richmond

Why TikTok Needs Historians: Assessing Sources in the Past and Present
  Susan Gaunt Stearns, University of Mississippi

Comment: Audience
FRIDAY, JULY 19  9:00–10:45 AM

The Nature of Knowledge: Environments, Ecologies, & Foodways
Location: TBD

Chair: Christopher M. Parsons, Northeastern University

‘In common use amongst us’: Almanac Marginalia & Horticultural Knowledge
   Holly Grunter, College of William & Mary

The Built Environment of Foodways in New York’s Public History
   Sara Evenson, University of Albany

Environmental Knowledge & Nation-Making in Revolutionary New York
   Blake McGready, City University of New York

   Kathryn Benjamin Golden, University of Delaware

Comment: Audience

The Haitian Revolution & its Impact & Afterlives in Early American History
Location: TBD

Chair: Julia Gaffield, College of William & Mary

Haiti & 1898
   Anne Eller, Yale University

“Haiti Must Be Acknowledged”: The Fight for Haitian Recognition in the United States
   Leslie M. Alexander, Rutgers University

Island Interrupted: The Impact of the Caribbean Revolutions in the Island of Trinidad (1789–1797)
   Cristina Soriano, University of Texas-Austin
FRIDAY, JULY 19  9:00–10:45 AM

1804/1806 and the Origins of the Haitian Republic
Chelsea Stieber, Tulane University

Comment: Julia Gaffield, College of William & Mary

Roundtable: Reconsidering the First Continental Congress at the Semiquincentennial
Location: TBD

Chair: Peter S. Onuf, University of Virginia

“If they may be called laws”: Abolitionism and Resistance to Independence
Jane E. Calvert, The John Dickinson Writings Project

The First Continental Congress as a Diplomatic Encounter
Karen Barzilay, Massachusetts Historical Society

“That we may serve and guard her as our mother”: John Dickinson’s Affective Theory of Imperial Union
Ian Iverson, The John Dickinson Writings Project

The Challenge of Moderation at the Time of the First Continental Congress
Nathan Kozuskanich, Nipissing University

Comment: Peter S. Onuf, University of Virginia

National History Day Session
Location: TBD

The Fall of the Second American Republic
Manisha Sinha, University of Connecticut
FRIDAY, JULY 19  11:00 AM–12:45 PM

The American Hemisphere as Political Laboratory: The Production, Collection, and Circulation of Republican Ideals, Part 1
Location: TBD (hybrid)

Chair: Lina del Castillo, University of Texas-Austin

Constituting Socially Heterogenous Republics: Political Languages and Social Difference in Colombia during the Age of Revolutions
   Francisco A. Ortega, Universidad Nacional de Colombia-Bogotá

Debating ‘the Paper Question’ in Early Republican Mexico
   Corinna Zeltsman, Princeton University

Centennial Threads: Archival Diplomacy, Repatriation Negotiations, & the Tapestry of Mexico-U.S. Diplomatic Relations (1846–1941)
   Camila Ordorica, University of Texas-Austin

Comment: Audience

Roundtable: Public History Perspectives on the U.S. 250th
Location: TBD

Chair: Anne Lindsay, Consulting Historian

Panelists:
   Amy Speckart, Independent Scholar/Rare Book School at University of Virginia
   Kristin O'Brassill-Kulfan, Rutgers University
   Sara Evenson, University at Albany
   Hilary Miller, National Park Service

Comment: Audience
Friday, July 19  11:00 AM–12:45 PM

Roundtable: Twin Sins: The Intertwined Histories of Slavery & Indigenous Dispossession
Location: TBD

Chair: Alexandra E. Stern, City College of New York

Beyond Slavery Freedom, & Expansion
  John Craig Hammond, Pennsylvania State University-New Kensington

Before Morrill: Native Dispossession and American Education in the Early Nineteenth Century
  Lucas Kelley, Valparaiso University

Dispossession and Slavery in the Antebellum Missouri River Valley
  Robert Lee, Cambridge University

Racial Categories and Native Stories in the Southeast
  Nikki Locklear, Duke University

States’ Rights Ideology & Indigenous Nationalism in the Removal Era
  Joel Walker Sturgeon, University of Mississippi

Comment: Audience

Constructing Useful Knowledge in Early America
Location: TBD

Chair: Tamara Plakins Thornton, SUNY-Buffalo

Plants “Of Great Service to Poor Slaves”: Enslaved Peoples’ Botanical Knowledge of Alimentary Plants in the Caribbean and American South
  Hannah Anderson, University of Arkansas-Little Rock

“Inestimable Acquisitions and Common Commodities”: Muskets and the Making of Middle Grounds in Southeastern America and the Gold Coast
  Beth Pryor, SUNY-Buffalo
FRIDAY, JULY 19  11:00 AM–12:45 PM

“To Extirpate from the Face of the Earth Such a Race of Monsters”: Enslaved Experts, Fédon’s Rebellion, and the Limits of Commodity Substitution
  Jordan Smith, Widener University

Recategorizing Early American Law: Legal Literature and Knowledge Formation in the Early Republic
  Sarah Winsberg, Brooklyn Law School

Comment: Jim Downs, Gettysburg College

Forgotten Histories of the American Revolution
Location: TBD

Chair: Andrew Shankman, Rutgers University-Camden

Erasing the Loyalists: The Revolutionary Tradition and Political Conflict in the Early American Republic
  Eileen Ka-May Cheng, Sarah Lawrence College

Whatever Happened to the Requisitions?
  Charlotte Crane, Northwestern University

Petitions & Passes: Women & State Authority during the American Revolution
  Camille Kaszubowski, Seton Hill University

Illusions of Security, Geographies of Care: Protecting Black Children in the Aftermath of the American Revolution
  Erica Duncan, New York University, 2023-2024 SHEAR DEI Fellow

Comment: Audience

Other Abolitions: Slavery & Abolitionist Policies in the U.S., Mexican, & Colombian Republics
Location: TBD

Chair: Leslie M. Alexander, Rutgers University
**FRIDAY, JULY 19  11:00 AM–12:45 PM**

*Reclamando su Libertad: Black American Liberation Practices under Mexican Law*

Maria Esther Hammack, The Ohio State University

*“Take Refuge Under the Laws of [Colombia]”: Slavery, Emigration, and Political Abolitionism in the Hemispheric 1850s*

Yesenia Barragan, Rutgers University-New Brunswick

*Slavery in Late Antebellum Washington, D.C: Evidence from the Compensation Petitions*

Adam Rothman, Georgetown University

Comment: Caitlin Fitz, Northwestern University

**FRIDAY, JULY 19  2:15 –4:00 PM**

**Indigenous Republics**

Location: TBD

Chair: Lori Daggar, Ursinus College

*“My Land Overwhelmed by Strangers From All Parts”: Cherokee Nation-Building in Arkansas & Missouri Territories*

Frankie Bauer, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

*“All the power ought not to be in the hands of one man, nor all the money at the control of a few”: Choctaw Removal as Domestic Crisis, 1820-1833*

Edward P. Green, Pennsylvania State University

*Refusing the Republic: Native Nations against Kansas Taxation, 1854-1868*

Emilie Connolly, Brandeis University

Comment: Maggie Blackhawk, New York University
FRIDAY, JULY 19  2:15 –4:00 PM

The American Hemisphere as Political Laboratory: The Production, Collection, and Circulation of Republican Ideals, Part 2
Location: TBD (hybrid)

Chair: Caitlin Fitz, Northwestern University

From Columbia to Colombia: The Poetics & Politics Making a ‘Liberated’ Hemisphere Imaginable
Lina del Castillo, University of Texas-Austin

An Arduous Peregrination Through the Shelves: Books, Catalogs, & the Public Library of Bogotá, 1790-1897
Javier Ricardo Ardila, University of Pennsylvania

Hemispheric Objects in a Revolutionary City
Ashli White, University of Miami

Comment: Audience

What Comes Next: Commemoration After 2026?
Sponsored by The New England Quarterly
Location: TBD

Chair: Joseph M. Adelman, Framingham State University

A Movement or a Moment: Commemorating the Long Revolution
Morgan Grefe, Rhode Island Historical Society

Commemorating Black Women, Remembering Slavery
Kyera Singleton, Royall House & Slave Quarters

“Every one of us feels more Important than ever”: Remembering When Independence was Declared in New England
Emily Sneff, Historian of the Declaration of Independence

Comment: Audience
FRIDAY, JULY 19  2:15 –4:00 PM

**Roundtable: Environment & the Age of Revolutions**
Location: TBD
Chair: Joyce Chaplin, Harvard University
Panelists:
  Jennifer Anderson, Stony Brook University
  Woody Holton, University of South Carolina
  David Hsiung, Juniata College
  Matthew Mulcahy, Loyola University Maryland
  Ryan Quintana, Wellesley College
Comment: Audience

**Material History of Slave Resistance & Rebellion**
Location: TBD
Chair: Vanessa M. Holden, University of Kentucky
“What they could save”: Black Home & Community during Slave Rebellions, 1811-1832
  Marley Lix-Jones, Harvard University

Fragments of Freedom: Crafting Afro-Crucian Legacies of Freedom & Resistance
  Gabrielle Miller, National Museum of African American History & Culture

“The Darkey Did not Take to Machinery”: Exploring Unconventional Pathways to Resistance
  Alexis Morris, National Park Service

Insurgent Making: Tools as Weapons in Slave Revolts
  Hampton Smith, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Comment: Vanessa M. Holden, University of Kentucky
FRIDAY, JULY 19 4:15 – 6:00 PM

Roundtable: Composing the Early Republic: Music and Community-Making in Early America & Today
Location: TBD (hybrid)

Chairs: Nora Slonimsky, Iona University & Ronald Angelo Johnson, Baylor University

Music & the Politics of Possibility in Early America
Billy Coleman, University of Missouri

Using & Refusing Protestant Hymnody
Glenda Goodman, University of Pennsylvania

Exploring the Hymnody Tradition of the African Methodist Episcopal Church
Matthew Morrison, New York University

Building & Teaching the Colonial Music Institute
David Hildebrand, George Washington Presidential Library, Alexandra Montgomery, George Washington Presidential Library, Adam Rosado, Iona University

Comment: Audience

Slavery, Personhood, & Political Power in the Early U.S. Constitution
Location: TBD

Chair: Dana Elizabeth Weiner, Wilfrid Laurier University

“Three-Fifths of This Southern Stock is Represented on the Floor of Congress”: Federalist Backlash Against the Three-Fifths Clause in the Aftermath of the “Revolution of 1800”
Nathaniel C. Green, Northern Virginia Community College

Many Ways to Count: How Revolutionary-Era Americans Considered Categories of the Represented
Andrew Schocket, Bowling Green State University
FRIDAY, JULY 19  4:15 –6:00 PM

The Administration of the Constitution and the Participatory Nature of the Constitution in Federalist Political Thought
  Tingfeng Yan, University of Chicago

Comment: Todd Estes, Oakland University

Race, Gender, & Nationhood: Visual & Material Culture in Early America
Location: TBD

Chair: Emily Owens, Brown University

“They give to Statues, Passion, Life & Thought”: The Lovell Sisters & the Business of Waxwork Exhibitions in the Eighteenth Century
  Laura Earls, Independent Scholar

Vanderlyn’s Jane McCrea: A Neoclassical Heroine for the New Republic?
  Blake Z. Grindon, John Hopkins University

Bodies of Knowledge: Race, Gender, & Labor in 18th-Century Craft Recipes
  Alexandra Macdonald, McNeil Center for Early American Studies

Comment: Emily Owens, Brown University

State of the Field Roundtable: Slavery, Race, & the University
Location: TBD

Chair: Craig Steven Wilder, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Yale, Andover Theological Seminary, & Racial Separatism
  Andy Hammann, University of Virginia
FRIDAY, JULY 19  4:15 –6:00 PM

Is There a Finish Line? Fifteen Years & Counting
   Jody Allen, College of William and Mary

Beyond Our Campus Gates: Exploring the Legacies of
   Slavery at the University of the South
   Tiffany Momon, University of the South

Slavery & Higher Education: Beyond & Between Campuses
   Anne Twitty, Stanford University

Rethinking the Public University’s Historic Relationship to
   American Democracy—Slavery, Racism, & Education at
   UVA
   Kirt von Daacke, University of Virginia

Comment: Audience

New Histories of the Body in Early America
Location: TBD

Chair: Kanisorn Wongsrichanalai, Massachusetts Historical
   Society

Undone Bodies and Bodies Undone: The Gendered
   Disablement of Early Modern Reproduction
   Jennifer W. Reiss, University of Pennsylvania

The Consequences of Coquetry: Disease, Desire, and
   Menstruation in the Early Republic
   Julia Bouwkamp, University of Pennsylvania

Gay Bodyminds: An Early National Genealogy
   Don James McLaughlin, University of Tulsa

Mouth to Mouth: The Tooth Trade in George Washington’s
   World
   Lucy Smith, University of Michigan
SATURDAY, JULY 20  9:00 –10:45 AM

Comment: Rachel Walker, University of Hartford

Extraction & Resistance in the Early Republic
Location: TBD (hybrid)

Chair: Tatiana Seijas, Rutgers University

A Long View: Lead and Its Impact on the Village des Mines Community and Beyond
  Mark Chambers, Stony Brook University

Come By Water and Not By Land: Water Sovereignty & Rival Ecologies in Mid-Atlantic Iron Country
  Sophie Hess, University of Maryland

Extraction, Resistance, and the Costs of Fleeing Enslavement in the Great Dismal Swamp
  Christy Hyman, Cornell University/Mississippi State University

Comment: Tatiana Seijas, Rutgers University

Native American Turning Points: Existence, Persistence, & Resilience, 1763-1848
Location: TBD

Chair: Jason Herbert, United States Forest Service

The Metaphysical in the Cherokee Resistance to Christianization and ‘Civilization,’ 1794-1828
  Dixie Ray Haggard, Valdosta State University

“The supply of ammunition will have a great effect on the Indians”: Gunpowder and Native Diplomacy during the Long Revolutionary Period
  Jennifer Monroe McCutchen, University of St. Thomas-Minnesota

Remembering Solomon Wood’s Fort: Georgia’s Landscapes of Indigenous Erasure
  F. Evan Nooe, University of South Carolina-Lancaster
SATURDAY, JULY 20  9:00 –10:45 AM

“Educating them in their own country & among their own people”: Muskoke Language Interpreters and Christian Conversion during the Era of Forced Removal
Keely Smith, Princeton University

Comment: Kristalyn Marie Shefveland, University of Southern Indiana

Roundtable: Chains of the Past & the Present: The Afterlives of Slavery & Reparative Justice
Location: TBD

Chair: Dexter Gabriel, University of Connecticut

Panelists:
Westenley Alcenat, Fordham University
Elsa Mendoza, Middlebury College
Tyler Parry, University of Las Vegas
Kyera Singleton, University of Michigan
Adrienne Whaley, Museum of the American Revolution

Comment: Dexter Gabriel, University of Connecticut

Roundtable: Queering Early American History: Archiving and Interpreting the LGBTQ+ Past
Location: TBD

Chair: Nick Syrett, University of Kansas

Panelists:
Em Ricciardi, Library Company of Philadelphia
Greta LaFleur, Yale University
Chip Badley, University of California, Davis
Scott Larson, University of Michigan

Comment: Audience
SATURDAY, JULY 20  9:00 –10:45 AM

Founding Memories: Constructing Histories of the Revolution and the Constitution in the Early United States
Location: TBD

Chair: Sarah J. Purcell, Grinnell College

How the Constitution Got its Fathers: Making Popular Constitutional Memory in the Early Republic
    Aaron Hall, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Rejecting the Revolution: Peace Reformers’ Critiques of the War for Independence
    Margot Minardi, Reed College

The Memory of Lexington and Concord and the Making of a White Man’s Democracy
    Eran Zelnik, California State University-Chico

Comment: Sarah J. Purcell, Grinnell College

SATURDAY, JULY 20  11:00 AM–12:45 PM

On Gradations of Freedom & Labor before the Civil War
Location: TBD

Chair: Richard Bell, University of Maryland-College Park

“Turbulent and Vicious”: Enslaved Labor Negotiations in Maryland
    Griffin A. Brunk, University of California-Berkley

Slavery Planted in Free Soil
    Kyle DeLand, University of California-Berkley

    Young In Jang, Binghamton University
SATURDAY, JULY 20   11:00 AM–12:45 PM

Comment: Seth Rockman, Brown University and Kevin Waite, Durham University

Transnational Perspectives on Black Childhood in the Nineteenth Century
Location: TBD (hybrid)
Chair: Corinne Field, University of Virginia

The Adultification of Black Children within New York’s Colored Orphan Asylum
Kathryn Angelica, Purdue University Fort Wayne

“I Ain’t Forgot What They Teach Me in Sunday School”: Black Childhood and Religious Agency in Antebellum America
Elise Leal Henreckson, Whitworth University

Honorable Black Girlhood in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1870-1880
Constance Holden, University of Connecticut

Locating Black Children in the U.S. Abolition Movement
Michaël Roy, Université Paris Nanterre

Comment: Corinne Field, University of Virginia

Roundtable: Ghost River: Restorative Storytelling and Indigenous Consultation
Location: TBD
Chair: Nicole Eustace, New York University
Panelists:
Will Fenton, Independent Scholar
Katelyn Lucas, Temple University
Curtis Zunigha, Lenape Center
Mark Stetina, The Shipley School

Comment: Audience
SATURDAY, JULY 20   11:00 AM–12:45 PM

Seeking—and Finding—Wider Audiences: A Roundtable
Location: TBD

Chair: Serena Zabin, Carleton College

Panelists:
Carolyn Eastman, Virginia Commonwealth University
Tamika Nunley, Cornell University
Maurizio Valsania, University of Turin
Johann Neem, Western Washington University

Comment: Audience

Sheriffs, Magistrates, and Citizens: Local Law Enforcement & the Day-to-Day Work of American Justice
Location: TBD

Chair: Jane Manners, Temple University

“As if to shew the obligation of coolness”: Sheriffs and Public Violence during the Jacksonian Era
Chad Holmes, West Virginia University

Isaac Sherman, Bounty Hunter; or, how an amoral, libertarian, capitalist helped defeat the slave trade in early national Boston, New York, and Philadelphia (but not Newport, R.I.)
Andrew J. B. Fagal, Princeton University

Modern Local Justice: The County Magistrate in the Early Republic, Reconsidered
Hannah Farber, Columbia University

Comment: Jane Manners, Temple University
SATURDAY, JULY 20  11:00 AM–12:45 PM

Interrogating the Category of ‘Im/migrant’ in the Early Republic
Location: TBD

Chair: Emily Conroy-Krutz, Michigan State University

Immigrant or Internationalist? Christopher Oscanyan & the Language of American Immigration (1834-1861)
Nora Lessersohn, Harvard University

Would a Migrant by Any Other Name Plan to Settle Permanently? Addressing Terminology & Immigration Scholarship in the Early American Republic
John O’Keefe, Ohio University-Chillicothe

Reimagining Migration: Giles, Dexter, & the 1795 Naturalization Act
Connie Thomas, Queen Mary University of London

Comment: Samantha Seeley, University of Richmond

SATURDAY, JULY 20  2:15–3:45 PM

JER Roundtable: Women at the Center: Rethinking the Place of Women in the Early Republic
Location: TBD

Chair: Jessica Roney, Temple University

Panelists:
  Lauren Duval, University of Oklahoma
  Laura Edwards, Princeton University
  Elizabeth (Liz) Ellis, Princeton University
  Ellen Hartigan O’Connor, University of California-Davis
  Emily Owens, Brown University

Comment: Audience
SATURDAY, JULY 20  4:30-6:00 PM

Presidential Address
Location: American Philosophical Society
Chair: Manisha Sinha, University of Connecticut

Revolutionary Gothic: A Philadelphia Story
Paul Erickson, The William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan in Ann Arbor

SHEAR Awards Reception Immediately to Follow
- The James H. Broussard Best First Book Prize
- The Ralph D. Gray Article Prize
- The SHEAR Dissertation Prize
- The Mary Kelley Prize in the History of Women, Gender, and Sexuality
- The James C. Bradford Biography Prize
- The SHEAR Best Book Prize
SUNDAY, JULY 21  9:00–10:45 AM

Southern Borderlands in the Revolutionary Era  
Location: TBD (hybrid)

Chair: Kate Haulman, American University

“You Come to Lengthen Our Petticoats”: Recentering Cherokee Women’s Role in Rebuilding After the Chickamauga Wars  
  Patricia Dawson, Mount Holyoke University

Plants for Pounds and Progress: John and William Bartram’s Visions of Perfectibility from Philadelphia to Florida  
  Shannan C. Mason, University of Missouri

Walking the Crooked Path: Chota and Augusta in the Summer of 1773  
  Christopher Thrasher, Pennsylvania State University

The Kidnapping of Charles Thomas: A Black Seafarers’ Diplomatic Struggle in the Gulf of Mexico  
  Zaria Sawdijah El-Fil, University of Chicago, 2023-2024 SHEAR DEI Fellow

Comment: Bryan C. Rindfleisch, Marquette University

Roundtable: Understanding Washington Politically & Personally through His Relationships  
Location: TBD

Chair: Craig Bruce Smith, National Defense University

An Unlikely Military Family: George Washington & Tench Tilghman  
  Jessica J. Sheets, Marine Corps History Division

When a Quiet Man Finally Speaks: Key Moments from 1772–1775 in Washington’s Political Transformation  
  Camille Marie Davis, Center for Presidential History
SUNDAY, JULY 21  9:00–10:45 AM

Giving Meaning to the Revolution: The Post-Revolutionary Experience of Washington & Veterans of the Continental Army
Rachel Engl, Moravian Academy

Ending the War in Peace: George Washington’s Political Skill in the Revolution’s Last Days
David Head, University of Central Florida

Inventing Friendship: Indian Diplomacy and the Indigenous Cooptation of George Washington's Legacy
John C. Winters, University of Southern Mississippi

Comment: Audience

Roundtable: History at Work
Location: TBD

Chair: Michelle McDonald, American Philosophical Society

Engaging Public Memory
Kristin O’Brassill-Kulfan, Rutgers University-New Brunswick

How We Use Marketing Techniques to Bring People to History
Michiko Quinones and Morgan Lloyd, The Philadelphia 1838 Black Metropolis

Whose Revolution: Interpreting the American Revolution at 250
Reed Gochberg, Concord Museum

Public Engagement: The Slavery Adverts 250 Project
Carl Robert Keyes, Assumption University

NPS Strategies for America’s 250th
Taylor Brookins, National Park Service

Comment: Audience
Forging National Identity in Music & Drama
Location: TBD

Chair: Martha J. King, Princeton University

Madame Celeste’s Frontier Maids: Gender in Anglo-Atlantic “Indian” Drama
   Sara E. Lampert, University of South Dakota

Before He Was Bloody Bloody: Andrew Jackson Onstage
   Jason Shaffer, United States Naval Academy

Compositions for Lafayette in Women’s Music Collections
   Virginia E. Whealton, Texas Tech University

Festivals of White Identity and Black Suffering: The Blackface Bands of the 1840s
   Ric N. Caric, Morehead State University

Comment: Audience

Revolution Revisited: Diverse Approaches in Cornerstone Archival Collections
Location: TBD

Chair: Maggie Vanderford, University of Michigan

Contested Liberty: Black Tidewater Women’s Refugee Experiences in a Revolutionary Age
   Adam McNeil, Rutgers University

American Timelines: Imperial Communications, Colonial Time-Consciousness, and the Coming of the American Revolution
   Helena Yoo Roth, City University of New York

Documenting Citizenship: How Early Americans Understood the Concept of Citizenship, 1776-1868
   Emily Yankowitz, Yale University

Comment: Scott Larson, University of Michigan
Complicating the Politics of Slavery and Anti-Slavery
Location: TBD
Chair: Manisha Sinha, University of Connecticut

“Mr. Van Buren-No Abolitionist”: The 1836 Presidential Campaign in the South
   Jason K. Duncan, Aquinas College
Absence Enslavement and Jeffersonian Antislavery: Albert Gallatin’s Unknown Plantation in Dutch Suriname
   Sean P. Harvey, Seton Hall University
Commerce & Agriculture: The Vision of the Charleston Empire
   Khalid Rosenbaum, Lehigh University
Comment: Manisha Sinha, University of Connecticut

The Built Environment of Cities
Location: TBD
Chair: Whitney Martinko, Villanova University

On Complaint: Architects, Failure, and Capitalism in the 1840s
   Bryan E. Norwood, University of Texas
   Donald Dostie, Temple University
The Age of Renovation: Maintaining Federal Structures in Antebellum Philadelphia
   Moyra Williams Eaton, Pennsylvania State University
Comment: Audience
SUNDAY, JULY 21  11:00 AM–12:45 PM

The Aftermath of Loyalism: Memory, Migration, and Loss
Location: TBD (hybrid)
Chair: Kacy Tillman, University of Tampa

The Second Exile: Scottish Loyalists in British Canada after the American War for Independence
James Ambuske, George Mason University

“Wishes for Pictures”: Silhouettes, Portraits, and a Loyalist Family’s Desire for Likenesses
Sarah Beth Gable, Brandeis University

Walking the Crooked Path: Chota and Augusta in the Summer of 1773
MaryKate Smolenski, Boston University

“Extremely Painful in the Recollection”: Refugee Memories of Religious Violence in the American Revolution
Peter Walker, University of Wyoming

Comment: Rebecca Brannon, James Madison University

Roundtable: Enslavement in Bristol, RI, on the Eve of the American Revolution
Location: TBD
Chair: Catherine W. Zipf, Bristol Historical & Preservation Society
Panelists:
   Lynn Smith, Linden Place Museum
   Isabelle J. Courtney, College of William and Mary
   Courtney Garrity, Providence College
   Eleanor Dobson, Research BIPOC History
Comment: Audience
Sunday, July 21  11:00 AM–12:45 PM

Productive Public Engagement in an Era of Polarization: A Roundtable Discussion
Location: TBD

Chair: Spencer McBride, The Joseph Smith Papers

Panelists:
Kate Carté, Southern Methodist University
Adam Jortner, Auburn University
Joseph P. Slaughter, Wesleyan University
Tara Thompson Strauch, Centre College

Comment: Audience

Empire, Statecraft, & Identity from the Imperial Crisis through the War of 1812
Location: TBD

Chair: Kieran John O’Keefe, Lyon College

Subjects of the Empire: Examining Loyalist perception of Empire from the Pamphlet Debates between Seabury & Hamilton
Cho-Chien Feng, Fu Jen Catholic University

Markets, Trade, & the Problem of Empire in the 1790s
Keith Harris, Kenyon College

South Carolina Jeffersonians, the Neutrality Proclamation, & the Federal Government
Benoit Leridon, University of Birmingham

Merchants & Diplomats: Reassessing U.S.-Russian Relations Through the War of 1812
Jamie Weiss, University of Georgia

Comment: Kieran John O’Keefe, Lyon College
CALL FOR PAPERS
SHEAR
Providence, Rhode Island
17-20, July 2025

The 46th annual meeting of the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic will convene in Providence, Rhode Island from 17 to 20, July 2025.

As our members are well aware, 2025 marks the 250th anniversary of the beginning of the American Revolutionary War. As such, the Program Committee would like to encourage papers and panels that focus on the Revolutionary and early republic periods as sites of contestation, conflict, and contingency.

The Program Committee also invites proposals for sessions and papers exploring all aspects of the history and culture of an expansive early American republic, its transnational connections, and Indigenous nations.

We particularly encourage submissions that:

- Analyze conflicts over politics, economics, race, sovereignty, gender, rights and other values in the early republic.
- Explore the contested meanings and consequences of the American Revolution.
- Feature interdisciplinary methods and wide-ranging sources.
- Examine unfamiliar historical figures and re-examine familiar ones.
- Critically interrogate the archives that form the bases of our histories.
- Reflect the diversity of the past and expand narratives of the early American republic.
- Focus on pedagogy, the historical profession, or public history, including digital humanities and other alternative methodologies.
SHEAR is committed to inclusion and diversity and encourages panels that feature members of groups who have been historically underrepresented within the organization. Potential panelists should seek gendered, racial, institutional, interpretive, and career diversity, and each panel proposal should include a statement about how the panel furthers SHEAR’s commitment to diversity. Individual proposals will be considered, but the Program Committee prioritizes proposals for complete panels including a chair and commentator. The committee will consider proposals for traditional panels (3-4 papers plus chair and comment), roundtables (4-5 presenters plus chair/moderator), or other creative formats. In select cases, the committee may choose to alter or rearrange proposed panels and participants. Refer to the guidance available at https://shear.org/annual-meeting/proposal-guidelines/ as you prepare your proposal.

All submissions should be filed as a single document (Word doc preferred), labeled with the first initial and surname of the contact person (e.g., “SmithJ2025”). All proposals must include:

- Panel title, one-paragraph description of panel topic, and one-paragraph panel diversity statement
- Email addresses and institutional affiliations (if applicable) for all participants
- Title and 100-word abstract for each paper
- One-page curriculum vitae for each participant, including chairs and commentators
- Indication of any needs for ADA accommodation
- Indication of any audio-visual requests (please request only if A/V is essential to a presentation)

The deadline for submission is December 1, 2024. Please submit your proposals by uploading your materials at https://www.shear.org/call-for-papers/.

Kabria Baumgartner, Northeastern University, co-chair
Peter Wirzbicki, Princeton University, co-chair
Nicole Breault, University of Texas at El Paso
Tara Bynum, University of Iowa
Erik Chaput, Western Reserve Academy
Brian Delay, University of California, Berkeley
Tom Foster, Howard University
Jonathan Gienapp, Stanford University
Sarah Gronningsater, University of Pennsylvania
Maria Hammack, The Ohio State University
Eric Herschthal, University of Utah
Michael Jirik, University of Missouri
Ousmane Power-Greene, Clark University
Joshua Rothman, University of Alabama
Samantha Seeley, University of Richmond
Jameson Sweet, Rutgers University, New Brunswick