TWENTIETH ANNUAL MEETING

SOCIETY FOR HISTORIANS OF THE EARLY AMERICAN REPUBLIC

HARPERS FERRY, WEST VIRGINIA
JULY 16-19, 1998
1998 SHEAR ANNUAL MEETING

President
Richard L. Bushman, Columbia University

Program Committee
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Paul Finkelman, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law
Joanne Freeman, Yale University
Mitchell Snay, Denison University
Tamara Thornton, SUNY-Buffalo
Constance Schulz, University of South Carolina
John Lauritz Larson, Purdue University
Barbara Clark Smith, National Museum of American History
Bruce J. Noble, Jr., Harpers Ferry National Historical Park

Local Arrangements Committee
Bruce J. Noble, Jr., Chair, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park
Leo Hirrel, Catholic University of America
Deborah Piscitelli, Harpers Ferry Historical Association
Marie Tyler McGraw, National Park Service
T. Stephen Whitman, Mount Saint Mary's College

Book Exhibit
Gregory M. Britton, Madison House Publishers, Inc.

SHEAR wishes to express thanks to the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, the History Department of Mount St. Mary's College, Madison House Publishers, and the staff of the Journal of the Early Republic for their generous assistance and support.

THURSDAY, JULY 16, 1998

Plenary Session 8:00 PM–10:00 PM

Public History and the Early Republic
Curtis Freewill Baptist Church 8:00 pm–10:00 pm

Chair
Dwight T. Pitcaithley, Chief Historian, National Park Service

Discussants
Barbara Clark Smith, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution
Dianne Swann-Wright, Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation, Monticello
Bruce J. Noble, Jr., Harpers Ferry National Historical Park

Presentations followed by audience response.

FRIDAY, JULY 17, 1998

Session I 8:30 AM–10:30 AM

The Newest Political History: A Roundtable
Potomac Room 8:30 am–10:30 am

Chair
John M. Murrin, Priceton University

Discussants
Joanne Freeman, Yale University
Richard John, University of Illinois, Chicago
Jeffrey L. Pasley, Florida State University
David Waldstreicher, Yale University
Antislavery Women and Nationalism

Tap Room 8:30 am–10:30 am

CHAIR
James Brewer Stewart, Macalester College

PAPERS
Beth Salerno, University of Minnesota
*An Expanding Vision of an Expanding Nation: Antislavery Women's Changing Sense of Nationalism*

Stacey Robertson, Bradley University
*Western Women and the Execution of John Brown: Violence, Gender, and Nationalism*

COMMENTS
Laura McCald, Metropolitan State College of Denver
James Brewer Stewart

Artisanal Claims to Nationalism in the Early Republic

John Brown Room 8:30 am–10:30 am

CHAIR
Howard Rock, Florida International University

PAPERS
L. Diane Barnes, West Virginia University
*Southern Artisans, Organization, and the Role of National Consciousness in Petersburg, Virginia*

Thomas Carney, West Virginia University
*Artisan Republicanism: A Claim to Ownership*

COMMENTS
James Watkinson, Library of Virginia
Howard Rock

Construcing National Identity: Revolutionary War Veterans and Widows

Board Room 8:30 am–10:30 am

CHAIR
Robert Cray, Montclair State University

PAPERS
Wayne Franklin, Northeastern University
*The Widows' War: Memories of the Revolution in Antebellum New York*

John Resch, University of New Hampshire
*Suffering Soldiers: Moral Sentiment, Political Culture, and Public Policy, 1800–1818*

COMMENTS
Sarah Purcell, Central Michigan University

Away from Home in the Early Republic

Shenandoah Room 8:30 am–10:30 am

CHAIR
Shirley Teresa Wajda, Kent State University

PAPERS
Molly W. Berger, Case Western Reserve University
*Creating a National Architecture: America's Luxury Hotel*

Wendy Gamber, Indiana University
*Tarnished Labor: The Home, the Market, and the Boardinghouse in Antebellum America*

COMMENTS
Scott C. Martin, Bowling Green State University
Shirley Teresa Wajda

SESSION 2 FRIDAY, 10:45 AM–12:45 PM

Land, Class, and Political Culture in Antebellum America

Potomac Room 10:45 am–12:45 pm

CHAIR
William J. Rorabaugh, University of Washington

PAPERS
Jamie Bronstein, New Mexico State University
*"Under their Own Vine and Fig Tree": The Culture of Land Reform in Britain and America*
Reeve Huston, University of Arizona
*Land and Freedom: The New York Anti-Rent Wars and the Construction of Free Labor in Antebellum New York*

Jonathan Earle, University of Kansas

**COMMENTS**
Christopher Clark, University of Warwick
William J. Rorabaugh

**Coming of Age in the Antebellum South**

**Tap Room**  
*10:45 am – 12:45 pm*

**CHAIR**
Jan Lewis, Rutgers University, Newark

**PAPERS**
Charlene Boyer Lewis, Widener University  
*Learning to be Ladies and Gentlemen: The Circle of Young Adults at the Virginia Springs, 1790–1860*

Anya Jabour, University of Montana  
*Albums of Affection: Female Friendship and Coming of Age in Antebellum Virginia*

**COMMENTS**
Cita Cook, State University of West Georgia
Jan Lewis

**Religion, Respectability, and Antislavery Action**

**John Brown Room**  
*10:45 am – 12:45 pm*

**CHAIR**
Christopher Waldrep, Eastern Illinois University

**PAPERS**
Bridget Ford, University of California, Davis  
*Evangelical Alliances: Antislavery and Respectability in the Antebellum West*

Randolph Scully, University of Pennsylvania  
*Contesting Respectability: David Barrow and the Southern Antislavery Movement*

**COMMENTS**
John McKivigan, West Virginia University
Christopher Waldrep

**Pennsylvania Radicalism in the 1790s**

**Board Room**  
*10:45 am – 12:45 pm*

**CHAIR**
Paul D. Newman, University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown

**PAPERS**
Whitman H. Ridgway, University of Maryland  
*Fries in the Federalist Imagination: A Crisis in Republicanism*

Margaret McAleer, Library of Congress  
*In Defense of Civil Society: Irish Radicals in Philadelphia during the 1790s*

**COMMENTS**
Owen S. Ireland, State University of New York, Brockport
Paul D. Newman

**James Monroe and John Quincy Adams: Restrained Nationalists**

**Shenandoah Room**  
*10:45 am – 12:45 pm*

**CHAIR**
Mary A. Giunta, National Historical Publication and Records Commission

**PAPERS**
Michael S. Fitzgerald, Pikeville College  
*James Monroe and the Conduct of American Foreign Policy*

William Earl Weeks, San Diego State University  
*John Quincy Adams, American Nationalism, and the Suppression of the Slave Trade*

**COMMENT**
Lawrence Kaplan, Kent State University
J.C.A. Stagg, University of Virginia
SESSION 3  FRIDAY, 2:30 PM–4:30 PM

Distant Neighbors? The Problem of Economic Sectionalism in the Mid-Atlantic Region

Potomac Room  2:30 pm–4:30 pm

CHAIR
Peter S. Onuf, University of Virginia

PAPERS
John Bezis-Selfa, Wheaton College
Slavery, Free Labor, and Paternalism in the Early National Iron Industry

Sean Patrick Adams, University of Wisconsin, Madison
A Northern or Southern Prometheus: Virginia Bituminous versus Pennsylvania Anthracite Coal in the Early Republic

COMMENTS
Cathy Matson, University of Delaware
Peter S. Onuf

Rethinking the Political History of the Early Republic: Old Sources, New Narratives

Tap Room  2:30 pm–4:30 pm

CHAIR
John Andrew, Franklin and Marshall College

PAPERS
Seth Cotlar, Northwestern University
The Rise and Demise of Popular Cosmopolitanism, 1790–1800

Albrecht Koschnik, University of Virginia
Constructing Male Identities and Political Personas in the Early Republic

Marion Nelson Winship, University of Pennsylvania
Jefferson's Western Men: Puzzles of Identity and Placement

COMMENT
Andrew Robertson, University of California, Los Angeles

Gender in the Making of Abolitionism

John Brown Room  2:30 pm–4:30 pm

CHAIR
Dickson D. Bruce, University of California, Irvine

PAPERS
Anna M. Speicher, National Underground Railroad Freedom Center
The Role of Gender in Setting the Abolitionist Stage: An Analysis of 1830s Antislavery Conventions

Carol Lasser, Oberlin College
Abolitionist Appeals to Women: Gender and Rhetoric in the Early Writings of James Thome and Angelina Grimké

COMMENTS
Deborah Van Broekhoven, Ohio Wesleyan University
Dickson D. Bruce

Religion and Nationalism

Board Room  2:30 pm–4:30 pm

CHAIR
Ruth Alden Doan, Hollins College

PAPERS
Patrick Rael, Bowdoin College
Black Nationalism in the Antebellum North

Jonathan Sassi, College of Staten Island, City University of New York
Nationalism, Regionalism, and Public Christianity: Thoughts on the Protean Nature of New England’s Religious Nationalism

Mark G. Jaede, State University of New York at Buffalo
Republican Priests? North Americans View Catholic Republicanism in Spanish America, 1810–1830

COMMENTS
Lewis Perry, Vanderbilt University
Ruth Alden Doan
Dilemmas of Nationalism in Nineteenth-Century Historiography

Shenandoah Room 2:30 pm–4:30 pm

CHAIR
Pauline Maier, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

PAPERS
Michael Batinski, Southern Illinois University
Local History in the Age of George Bancroft: Deerfield, Massachusetts, 1800–1850

Jonathan Tucker Boyd, The Johns Hopkins University
German Historicism in the American Republic: The Providential Nationalism of George Bancroft’s Historiography

Edward Tang, Colgate University
Mending the Fractured Community: The Remembrance of New England Loyalists in Nineteenth-Century Political Culture

COMMENT
Pauline Maier

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1998

Session 4 Saturday, 8:30 am–10:30 am

Religion and Southern Nationalism

Potomac Room 8:30 am–10:30 am

CHAIR
Drew Gilpin Faust, University of Pennsylvania

PAPERS
Robert Bonner, University of Southern Maine
Benjamin Morgan Palmer and the Theology of Southern Nationalism

Thomas J. Brown, University of South Carolina
Church, State, and the School of Secession in South Carolina

COMMENT
Robert McColley, University of Illinois

Markets & Politics in the Making of the Second Middle Passage

John Brown Room 8:30 am–10:30 am

CHAIR
Robert McColley, University of Illinois

PAPERS
Steven Deyle, University of California, Davis
A Most “Un-Peculiar” Form of Commerce: The Rise of a National Slave Market and the Market Revolution

Adam Rothman, Columbia University
The Diffusionist Argument for the Expansion of Slavery

COMMENT
Robert Forbes, Wesleyan University
Robert McColley
Busy Bees and Learned Pigs

Board Room 8:30 am–10:30 am

Chair
Chandos Brown, College of William and Mary

Papers
Jon Paul Dyson, State University of New York, Buffalo
“The Busy Little Bee”: Educating Children through Nature in the Early Republic

David Brett Mizelle
“The knowledge he apparently possesses”: William Frederick Pinchbeck, the Pig of Knowledge, and Human Identity in the Early Republic

Comments
David Ward, The Papers of Charles Willson Peale
Chandos Brown


Shenandoah Room 8:30 am–10:30 am

Chair
Robert F. Jones, Fordham University

Papers
Matthew Rainbow Hale, Brandeis University
“Neither Britons nor Frenchmen”: The Shaping of Early American Nationality, 1789–1793

Samuel J. Watson, University of St. Thomas
Travel and the Formation of American Nationalism: The Experience of U.S. Army Officers, 1815–1830

Comments
Lori Bogle, United States Naval Academy
Robert F. Jones

Divided Loyalties in Jeffersonian America

Tap Room 10:45 am–12:45 pm

Chair
Joyce Appleby, University of California, Los Angeles

Papers
Robert McDonald, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
A Conditional Love: Jefferson as “Man of the People”
Rosemarie Zagarri, George Mason University
Romeo, Juliet, and the First Political Parties

Comments
Cynthia A. Kierner, Univ. of North Carolina, Charlotte
Joyce Appleby

Reconsidering Denmark Vesey

Potomac Room 10:45 am–12:45 pm

Chair
John Sensbach, University of Southern Mississippi

Papers
Edward Pearson, Franklin and Marshall College
“Not to spare one white skin alive, as this was the plan they pursued in Santo Domingo”: Denmark Vesey and the Revolutionary Tradition in the Late Eighteenth-Century Black Atlantic

Douglas Egerton, Le Moyne College
“Why they did not preach up this thing”: Denmark Vesey and Revolutionary Theology

Comments
Norrece T. Jones, Virginia Commonwealth University
Alan Gallay, Western Washington University
The Political and Social Consequences of Economic Crises

John Brown Room
10:45 am–12:45 pm

Chair
Harry Watson, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Papers
- Daniel S. Dupre, University of North Carolina, Charlotte
  The Panic of 1819 and the Political Transformations of the Era of Good Feelings
- Edward E. Baptist, University of Miami
  White Crisis, Black Consequences: Credit, Slavery, and the Panic of 1837

Comments
John L. Larson, Purdue University
Harry Watson

Indian Relations in the Early Republic

Board Room
10:45 am–12:45 pm

Chair
Nancy Shoemaker, University of Connecticut

Papers
- Greg O'Brien, University of Kentucky
  A Sacred Encounter: Choctaw Diplomacy with the United States and the Treaty of Hopewell, 1786
- Kathleen DuVal, University of California, Davis
  "The Good of the Nation": Power and Democracy in the Arkansas Territory, 1803–1830

Comments
Daniel Richter, Dickinson College
Nancy Shoemaker

Saturday

Art and Culture in Early Nineteenth-Century America

Shenandoah Room
10:45 am–12:45 pm

Chair
Alan Wallach, College of William and Mary

Papers
- V. Scott Dimond, University of Pennsylvania
  "Eloquent Representatives": The Native American Figure in the Early Works of Thomas Cole and the Cultural Politics of Solitude
- Elisabeth Roark, Chatham College
  Paint for the Many? William Sidney Mount’s The Painter’s Triumph and Johannes Oertel’s The Country Connoisseurs and Popular Taste

Comments
Joy Sperling, Denison University
Alan Wallach

Session 6 Saturday, 2:30 pm–4:30 pm

John Brown at Harpers Ferry:
A Roundtable

Potomac Room
2:30 pm–4:30 pm

Paul Shackel, University of Maryland
Bruce Olds, author of Raising Holy Hell
Hannah Geffert, Shepherd College
Peter Wallenstein, Virginia Polytechnic Institute
Peggy Russo, Penn State University at Mount Alto
The Shaping of a Burgeoning Nation: Taxation, Politics, and Economic Development in the Early Republic

Tap Room
2:30 pm–4:30 pm

CHAIR
Edwin Perkins, University of Southern California

PAPERS
Mark Kaplanoff, Pembroke College, Cambridge University
The Hamiltonian Moment
Andrew Shankman, Princeton University
Mark Cachia-Riedl, University of California, Berkeley
Albert Gallatin and the Formation of a Moderate Republican Political Economy

COMMENT
Edwin Perkins

Regional Consciousness and Sectional Loyalties in Early National Virginia

Shenandoah Room
2:30 pm–4:30 pm

CHAIR
David Moltke-Hansen, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

PAPERS
Phillip Hamilton, Lindenwood University
Patriots Rous’d and Cool’d: The War of 1812, the St. George Tucker Family, and the Beginnings of Southern Nationalism
David James Kiracofe, University of Connecticut
State, Section, and Union: The Jamestown Jubilees and Virginia Identity in the Nineteenth Century

COMMENTS
Len Travers, Massachusetts Historical Society
David Moltke-Hansen

The Cultural Dimensions of Federalist Boston

John Brown Room
2:30 pm–4:30 pm

CHAIR
Ronald Story, University of Massachusetts

PAPERS
Heather S. Nathans, Tufts University
"There you will find your friends": Choosing Sides and Creating Identities in the Boston Theater Wars
Catherine O. Kaplan, University of Michigan
Sweet Refuge: Boston’s Anthology Society and the Retreat from Politics

COMMENTS
Peter S. Field, Tennessee Technical University
Ronald Story

SUNDAY, JULY 19, 1998

SESSION 7

Whose Land and Whose Cash? Reinterpreting Democracy in the Early Republic

Potomac Room
9:30 am–11:30 am

CHAIR
Marjoleine Kars, University of Maryland, Baltimore Co.

PAPERS
Tom Humphrey, Northwestern University
Property, Liberty, and Life: Trying to Fulfill One-third of the Revolutionary Dream in the Hudson Valley
**Abolitionism, Activism, and the Constitution**

*John Brown Room*  
9:30 am–11:30 am

**CHAIR**  
Donald Nieman, Bowling Green State University

**PAPERS**

Richard Newman, Clarion University  
"Our Shield and Not Our Opponents":  
The Abolitionist Constitution, 1830–1840

Michael Vorenberg, State University of New York at Buffalo  
Written Constitutions, Racial Constitutions, and Constitutional Permanence in Antebellum America

**COMMENTS**

Michael Morrison, Purdue University  
Donald Nieman

**Violence in the Family and Community: Two Studies**

*Tap Room*  
9:30 am–11:30 am

**CHAIR**  
Paul Gilje, University of Oklahoma

**PAPERS**

Randolph Roth, Ohio State University  

Joshua D. Rothman, University of Virginia  
Sexual Violence, Slave Crime, Law, and the White Community in Antebellum Virginia

**COMMENTS**

Graham Hodges, Colgate University  
Paul Gilje

**Juxtaposed Identities: Bermuda and Baltimore, 1783–1814**

*Shenandoah Room*  
9:30 am–11:30 am

**CHAIR**  
Don Hickey, Wayne State College

**PAPERS**

Michael Jarvis, College of William and Mary  
The Consequences of U.S. Nationhood: The Erosion of Nascent American Nationalism in Bermuda, 1783–1814

Richard S. Chew III, College of William and Mary  

**COMMENTS**

James E. Lewis, Jr., Louisiana State University  
Don Hickey

**Sources of African American Communities**

*Board Room*  
9:30 am–11:30 am

**CHAIR**  
Robert Cottrol, George Washington University

**PAPERS**

John Wess Grant, Florida State University  
Black Manifest Destiny and Black Nationalism:  
An Evaluation of the American Colonization Society  
Auxiliary in Richmond, Virginia, 1823–1832

Scott Hancock, University of New Hampshire  
Delivering Justice, Shaping Identity: The Lower Courts and Black Identity Formation in Boston, 1806–1820

**COMMENTS**

Julie Winch, University of Massachusetts, Boston  
Robert Cottrol
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