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Education

Ph.D. Early American & Atlantic History, New York University, 2007.
M.A. Early American & Atlantic History, New York University, 2001.
M.A. Winterthur Program in Early American Culture, University of Delaware, May 1991.
B.A. History, Barnard College, Columbia University, New York, May 1988.

Dissertation: “*Nature's Currency: The Atlantic Mahogany Trade, 1725-1825*”

Received the Nevins Prize for “Best-written Dissertation on an American Subject,”
Society of American Historians, 2007. Advisor: Dr. Karen O. Kupperman

Publications

“A Laudable Spirit of Enterprise: Re-Negotiating Land, Natural Resources, and Power on Post-Revolutionary Long Island,” *Early American Studies* (Spring 2015).

Mahogany: The Costs of Luxury in Early America, Harvard University Press (2012).

“The Card Family and the Mahogany Trade: From New England to the Bay of Honduras,” *New England and the Caribbean*, ed. Peter Benes (Dublin Seminar for New England Folk Life, 2012), pp. 15-32.

“New England Merchants and the Circum-Caribbean Slave Trade,” in *Paths of the Atlantic Slave Trade: Interactions, Identities, and Images*, ed. Ana Lucia Araujo (Cambria Press, 2011), 21-48.

“Better Judges of the Situation: Environmental Realities & Problems of Imperial Authority in the Bay of Honduras,” *Itinerario*, special issue: “Geographies of Empire,” 30: 3 (2006), pp. 55-75.

“Nature's Currency: The Atlantic Mahogany Trade and the Commodification of Nature in the 18th Century,” *Early American Studies*, 2:1 (Spring 2004), pp. 47-80.

Received 2004 prize for “Outstanding Journal Article in Early American Economic History,” *Program in Early American Society and Economics*.

“Better Judges of the Situation: The Problem of Imperial Authority in the Bay of Honduras,” Working Paper, Atlantic History Seminar, Harvard University, 2005.

“Bounding Oceans, Encompassing Forests: Mobility & Dislocation in the Atlantic Mahogany Trade,” Working Paper, Atlantic History Seminar, Harvard University, 2004.

“American Horticulture Observed: An Annotated Bibliography of Travel Literature,” in *People and Plants*, Peter Benes, ed., Boston: Boston University Scholarly Publications, 1995.

Essays and Book Reviews

Review of Nancy Shoemaker's *Native American Whalers and the World* and *Living with Whales: Documents and Oral Histories of Native New England Whaling* in *Long Island History Journal* (forthcoming 2016).

Review of Simon Gikandi's *Slavery and the Culture of Taste* and Catherine Molineaux's *Faces of Perfect Ebony: Encountering Atlantic Slavery in Imperial Britain* for *Early American Literature* in *Early American Literature* (50: 2, 2015).

"Mahogany," in Trevor Burnard, ed., *Oxford Bibliographies Online* (Oxford University Press, 2014).

"Forest Resources," in Joseph Miller, ed., *Princeton Companion to Atlantic History* (Princeton University Press, 2014).

Review of David Hancock's *Oceans of Wine: Madeira and the Emergence of American Trade and Taste* in *Winterthur Portfolio* 46:1 (Spring 2012), pp. 102-103.

Review of J. R. McNeill's *Mosquito Empires: Ecology and War in the Greater Caribbean, 1620-1914*, in *European History Quarterly* 42:1 (2012), pp. 184-185.

Review of N. Draper's *The Price of Emancipation: Slave-Ownership, Compensation, and British Society at the End of Slavery* on Economic History Association (EH.net/ 2010-10-06).

Review of Beinart and Hughes's *Environment and Empire* in *Continuity and Change* (Cambridge University Press), 24:3 (December 2009), pp. 561-563.

Review of S.D. Smith's *Slavery, Family, and Gentry Capitalism in the British Atlantic* in *The Journal of Economic History*, (Cambridge University Press), 67:4 (December 2007), pp. 1079-1081.

Teaching Experience

Associate Professor of Atlantic History, Department of History, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY (September 2007- current; tenured 2013).

Guest Lecturer, aboard brig *Corwith Cramer* for Caribbean voyage, Sea Education Association, Woods Hole, MA (December 2004).

Graduate Teaching Assistant, History Department, New York University, NY (2000-2003)

Head Tutor, Historic Deerfield Summer Fellowship Program, Deerfield, MA (2000-2001)

Adjunct Professor, Bard College Center for Studies of the Decorative Arts, NY (1993-1995)

Consulting Projects

Historical Research Coordinator, *Traces of the Trade: The History of Slavery in the Deep North*.

Feature-length documentary about the Northern slave trade and contemporary issues of race and memory. Ebb Pod Productions/WGBH, Boston (premiered on PBS "Point of View" series, 2008).

Consulting Historian, Sylvester Manor, Shelter Island Historical Society, NY (2003-2005)

Researched site's history as a 17th-century plantation worked by enslaved Africans.

Assistant Program Director, *Neighborhood History Walking Tour Project*, Fortes Elementary School, Providence, RI (2004).

Coordinated an innovative NEH-funded local history program produced by and for kids.

Exhibition Coordinator, South Street Seaport Museum (2002-2003)

Assisted Senior Curator to develop exhibition themes, historical research, and public programs.

NEH Advisor, King Manor Museum, NYC Parks & Recreation Department, NY (2003)

Proposed strategies to improve museum's public programming, interpretation, and research.

Curatorial Consultant, New Castle Historical Society, Chappaqua, NY (2003)

Evaluated facilities to improve collections care and display. Recommended planning goals.

NEH Project Director, Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site, Yonkers, NY (2000-2001)

Coordinated NEH Planning Project to evaluate interpretation of 18th century historic site.

Employment History

Site Director, Philipsburg Manor, Historic Hudson Valley, Sleepy Hollow, NY (1995-1999)

Project Director for NEH Planning Grant to reinterpret historic site in the context of 18th-century commerce and Northern slavery; developed a wide range of staff training, educational programs, and public events; managed daily operations; supervised 40 full- and part-time staff and volunteers.

Curator, Abigail Adams Smith Museum, New York, NY (1991-1995)

Project Director to develop new furnishing and interpretive plans for site; responsible for all curatorial functions, historic preservation, and temporary exhibitions; developed curriculum and secured funding for innovative educational programs; established a successful grant-writing record.

Lois McNeil Intern, Curatorial Division, Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, DE (1990-1991)

Served on design team for "Perspectives on the Decorative Arts in America."

Awards

- ~ Emmy Nomination for *Outstanding Individual Achievement in a Craft: Research*, as part of the research team for the “Traces of the Trade,” 2009.
- ~ Nevins Dissertation Prize for “Best-written Doctoral Dissertation on an American Subject,” Society of American Historians, 2007.
- ~ Penfield Award, New York University, 2005.
- ~ Prize for “Outstanding Journal Article in Early American Economic History” from the Program in Early American Economy and Society, 2004.

Fellowships

- ~ Provost’s Research Fellowship, Stony Brook University, 2015.
- ~ FAHSS Individual Summer Research Grant, Stony Brook University, 2014.
- ~ Drescher Fellowship, Stony Brook University, Spring 2011.
- ~ FAHSS Individual Summer Research Grant, Stony Brook University, 2010.
- ~ UUP Individual Development Grant, Stony Brook University, 2009 and 2010.
- ~ Mellon Post-Dissertation Fellowship, American Antiquarian Society, 2006-2007.
- ~ Margaret Brown Fellowship, New York University, NY, 2004-2005.
- ~ Research Fellowship, American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA, 2004 (short-term).
- ~ Fellowship for Comparative New World Studies, John Carter Brown Library, 2003.
- ~ Patricia Dunn Lehrman Fellowship for Outstanding Work on the Arts in American Society, New York University, NY, 2002-2003.
- ~ New England Regional Museum Consortium Fellowship, 2001-2002.
- ~ Benjamin Stevens Fellowship, Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, 2001 (short-term).
- ~ The Library Company PEAES Fellowship, Philadelphia, PA, 2001 (short-term).
- ~ Smithsonian Institution Fellowship in Museum Practice, Washington DC, 1995-96.
- ~ Lois McNeil Internship and Fellowship, Winterthur Museum, Wilmington DE, 1988-1990.
- ~ Historic Deerfield Fellowship, Historic Deerfield, Deerfield, MA, 1987.

Professional Activities

- ~ Manuscript Reviewer for *Business History Review*.
- ~ Manuscript reviewer for Johns Hopkins University Press (on-going).
- ~ Fellowship Selection Committee, American Antiquarian Society (2015).
- ~ Manuscript Reviewer, New York University Press (on-going).
- ~ Manuscript Reviewer, *William and Mary Quarterly* (on-going).
- ~ Editorial Board, *Long Island History Journal* (on-going).
- ~ Board Member, Dublin Seminar for New England Folk Life (on-going).

Lectures, Conferences, and Public Talks:

Roundtable Participant, "Non-human Histories," Organization of American Historians, Providence RI (scheduled April 2016).

Invited Speaker, Winterthur Furniture Forum, Winterthur Museum, Wilmington DE (scheduled April 2016).

"Launching New York: The Maritime Roots of the Global City," SUNY-Orange (Oct. 2015).

"Long Island's Sugar Barons: Revisiting Colonial New York's Caribbean Connections," Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Stony Brook University (Oct. 2015).

"Sugar in Early America," Long Island University, Brookville NY (Sept. 2015) and Rock Hall Historic Site (Oct. 2015).

Conference Paper on "Agency and Environment in Early America," Society of Early Americanists, Chicago, IL (June 2015).

"New Research on Slavery in the North," Rock Hall Historic Site, Lawrence NY (June 2015).

Commentator on "Environments of Economy," Association of Caribbean Historians, Nassau, Bahamas (May 2015).

Commentator for Early American History Seminar, Boston, MA (May 2015).

Conference paper at conference, "Things Recalled: Memory and Materiality across the Disciplines." Yale University, New Haven CT (Nov. 2014).

Panelist, "Americans in the South Pacific," at conference entitled, "Enlightened Powers: American, French and British Interactions in Botany Bay," Martin Luther University, Germany (Sept. 2015).

Lecture, Cleveland Historical Society, Cleveland, OH (Sept. 2014).

"Mahogany and the Pursuit of Natural Knowledge in Eighteenth-Century London," Society of Early Americanists, London (July 2014).

Conference paper at conference "Global Encounters in Early America," College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA (April 2014).

"Adjudicating Luxury in Early America," Institute for Law and the Humanities University of Chicago-Kent College of Law, Chicago IL (April 2014).

“Oceans Past: Teaching Maritime History from a Global Perspective,” Society of Eighteenth Century Studies, Williamsburg, VA (March 2014).

“New Research on Slavery on Long Island,” presented at Suffolk County Libraries (Patchogue, Port Jefferson, Smithtown, Levittown, and Bellport), 2014.

“Mahogany in a Sea of Cane: The Challenges of Competing Land Uses in the 18th-century Caribbean,” John Carter Brown Library, Brown University (Oct. 2013).

“Mapping Mahogany Depletion in Belize,” Society of Caribbean Historians, Belize (May 2013).

Exhibition: “Sylvester Manor: Food and Power on a Northern Plantation,” Fales Library, New York University (April-June 2013).

“From Rainforest to Parlor: Mahogany in Early America,” Newport Historical Society (April 2013); Newport Public Library (May 2014); and Rhode Island Historical Society (June 2014).

“From Rainforest to Parlor: Mahogany in Early America,” New York Public Library (Jan. 2013).

“In the Wake of Extraction: Reconfiguring Landscapes and Natural Resource Depletion, 1600-1800,” American Society of Environmental History Annual Conference (March 2012).

“The Geopolitics of the Mahogany Trade in an Atlantic Context,” Circum-Atlantic Studies Seminar, Vanderbilt University (Nov. 2012).

“The History of Northern Slavery,” Junior Historian Forum, sponsored by the Gilder-Lehrman Foundation (Nov. 2011).

Coastlines: Navigating between the Sciences and Humanities – co-organized interdisciplinary lecture series, sponsored by History Dept, English Dept., SOMAS, and the Humanities Institute (Fall 2011).

“From American Rainforests to New England Parlors: The 18th century Mahogany Trade,” Bard Graduate Center for Studies in the Decorative Arts (April 2011).

Commentator, “Acceptable Luxuries: The Pursuit of American Horticulture,” Organization of American Historians Annual Conference, Washington D.C. (April 2010).

“New England Merchants and the Circum-Caribbean Slave Trade,” American Historical Association Annual Conference, San Diego, CA (Jan. 2010).

“New Research on the History of Slavery in New York,” Rocky Point Historical Society (Jan. 2010).

“The Quest for Mahogany & the Globalization of the Tropical Timber Trade in the 18th Century,” featured speaker at the Global History Seminar, Georgetown University (Oct. 2009).

Moderator, “Waterways and Byways, 1600-1890,” Dublin Seminar for New England Folk Life, Deerfield, MA, co-sponsored by Boston University (June 2009)

“Deforestation & Environmental Debates in the British West Indies,” featured speaker at the American History Seminar, John Hopkins University (April 2009).

“Mahogany, Consumption, and the Memory of Destruction” at the American Society of Environmental History Annual Conference, Tallahassee, FL (March 2009).

“From American Rainforests to New England Parlors: The Mahogany Trade in the 18th Century,” Historic Deerfield, Deerfield, MA (July 2008).

“The Card Family and the Mahogany Trade, From New England to the Bay of Honduras,” Dublin Seminar for New England Folk Life, Deerfield, MA, co-sponsored by Boston University (June 2008).

“Mastering Nature, Mastering Bodies: Controlling Knowledge in the 18th century Caribbean,” Latin America & Caribbean Studies Center, Stony Brook University (May 2008).

“Hardly a Tree Now to be Found: Deforestation & Environmental Debates in the British West Indies,” American Historical Association, Washington D.C. (Jan. 2008).

“Devouring the World from Our Parlors: An Environmental Perspective on 18th Century Consumption,” Institute of Historical Research, University of London (June 2006).

“Colliding Geographies and the Problem of Imperial Authority: Roundtable,” American Historical Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA (Jan. 2006).

“Loyalist Legacies: The Chew Family's Reconstruction of the Colonial Past,” *Historical Fictions Symposium: Constructing the Past in Gilded-Age America*, Yale University Art Gallery (2005).

“Better Judges of the Situation: Environmental Realities and the Problem of Imperial Authority in the Bay of Honduras,” Atlantic History Seminar, Harvard University (2005).

“Veneers of Deceit: Surface and Substance in Mahogany,” Bard College Center for Studies of the Decorative Arts, New York, NY (2005).

“The Environmental Impact of the Mahogany Trade in the British West Indies,” Sea Education Association, Wood's Hole, MA (2004).

“Mastering Nature and the Boundaries of Knowledge in the Atlantic Mahogany Trade,” John Carter Brown Library, Brown University, RI (2004).

“Introduction to the Archives of Sylvester Manor,” American Antiquarian Society, Worcester MA (2004).

“The Siren Song of Haiti: African American Emigration to Haiti, 1820-1830,” Eugene Levy Memorial Conference, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA (2000).

“Nineteenth Century Resort Hotels,” Claremont, New York State Historic Site, NY (1999).

“Unseen Faces, Unheard Voices: New Historiography on the History of Slavery in the North,” Conference Moderator, Historic Hudson Valley, Tarrytown, NY (1997).

“The Nursery of Living Thought: The History of Public Education at the Smithsonian Institution,” Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C. (1997).