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Education

PhD Early American & Atlantic History, New York University, 2007.
MA Early American & Atlantic History, New York University, 2001.
MA Winterthur Program in Early American Culture, University of Delaware, May 1991.
BA History, Barnard College, Columbia University, New York, May 1988.

Dissertation

“*Nature's Currency: The Atlantic Mahogany Trade, 1725-1825*”
* Received Allan Nevins Prize for Best-written Dissertation, Society of American Historians, 2007.
Advisor: Dr. Karen O. Kupperman

Publications

Guest Editor, special issue on “Empowering Appetites: The Political Economy & Culture of Food in the Early Atlantic World,” for *Early American Studies* (anticipated 2020).

“Caribbean Ecology and Society” in *Cambridge History of the Caribbean*, vol. 1, ed. Kristen Block (Cambridge University Press, in progress).

“American Environments,” in *Cambridge History of America and the World*, vol. 1, eds. Carla Pestana, Eliga Gould, and Paul Mapp (Cambridge University Press, in progress).

“Paul Revere and Sourcing Silver in Early America,” in *Beyond Midnight: Paul Revere*, ed. Nan Wolverton and Lauren B. Hewes (Worcester, MA: American Antiquarian Society, 2019).

“Barbuda and the Provisioning of the Codrington Estates on Antigua” in *Plowing Paradise: The Historical Archaeology of Betty's Hope Plantation, Antigua*, ed. Georgia Fox (Univ. Press of Florida, forthcoming 2020).

Editor/Contributing Author to Dean F. Failey, et. al., *Elias Pelletreau, Long Island Silversmith and Entrepreneur* (Cold Spring Harbor, NY: Preservation Long Island, 2018).

Editor of special issue on Long Island whalers in *Long Island History Journal* 25: 1 (2016).

“A Laudable Spirit of Enterprise: Re-Negotiating Land, Natural Resources, and Power on Post-Revolutionary Long Island,” *Early American Studies* (Spring 2015).
Winner of John M. Murrin Prize (2016), McNeil Center for Early American Study.

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,” in *New England and the Caribbean*, ed. Peter Benes (Dublin Seminar for New England Folk Life, 2012): 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 (Amherst, NY: 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): 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): 47-80.

Winner of “Award for Outstanding Journal Article in Early American Economic History” (2004), *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*, ed. Peter Benes (Boston: Boston University Scholarly Publications, 1995).

Book Reviews and Editorials

Op-Ed: “Hurricane Irma’s Caribbean Victims Need US Help Now,” *Fortune Magazine* (Sept. 8, 2017).

Review of Patricia E. Kane, et al, *Art and Industry in Early America: Rhode Island Furniture, 1650-1830* in *Winterthur Portfolio* 51: 4 (Winter 2017): 251-252.

Review of Hazareesingh and Maat, *Local Subversions of Colonial Cultures: Commodities and Anti-Commodities in Global History* in *Agricultural History* 91: 2 (Summer 2017): 259-261.

Review of Matthew J. Crawford, *The Andean Wonder Drug: Cinchona Bark and Imperial Science in the Spanish Atlantic* in *European History Quarterly* 47: 3 (July 2017).

Review of Nancy Shoemaker, *Native American Whalers and the World* and *Living with Whales* in *Long Island History Journal* 25: 1 (2016).

Review of Simon Gikandi, *Slavery and the Culture of Taste* and Catherine Molineaux, *Faces of Perfect Ebony* in *Early American Literature* 50: 2 (2015).

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

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

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

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

Review of N. Draper, *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, *Environment and Empire* in *Continuity and Change* (Cambridge University Press), 24: 3 (December 2009): 561-563.

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

Teaching Experience

Associate Professor of Atlantic History, Department of History, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY (September 2007-current; tenured 2013); Graduate Director (Fall 2016-Spring 2019).

Guest Lecturer aboard *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).

Public History Consulting and Museum Employment

Historical Adviser for exhibition: “Long Road to Freedom: Surviving Slavery on Long Island,” Long Island Museum (2019).

Historical Adviser/Editor for Preservation Long Island and Long Island Museum collaborative exhibition and publication, *Elias Pelletreau: Long Island Silversmith and Entrepreneur* (2017-2018).

Researcher, Floyd Manor Historic Site Report, National Park Service/Organization of American Historians (2017–current).

Guest Curator, “Sylvester Manor: Land, Labor & Power on a New York Plantation,” New York University (2013).

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

Assistant Program Director, *Neighborhood History Project*, Fortes Elementary School, Providence, RI (2004): worked with students on an innovative NEH-funded public history program.

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

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.

Site Director, Philipsburg Manor, Historic Hudson Valley, Sleepy Hollow, NY (1995-1999): served as Project Director for NEH Planning Grant to interpret the history of slavery at the site; prepared a successful NEH Implementation Grant; developed educational programs and public events; managed daily operations, including supervising approx. 40 staff (full-time, part-time, and volunteers).

Curator, Abigail Adams Smith Museum, New York, NY (1991-1995): developed new furnishing and interpretive plans for site; responsible for curatorial functions, historic preservation, and temporary exhibitions; developed and secured funding for innovative educational programs; established successful fundraising and grant-writing record.

Lois McNeil Intern, Curatorial Division, Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, DE (1990-1991): served on design team for exhibition, entitled “Perspectives on the Decorative Arts in America.”

Awards

- ~ John Murrin Prize for “Best Article,” McNeill Center in Early American History, 2016.
- ~ Stony Brook University College Outreach Award for Faculty-Community Engagement, 2016.
- ~ 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.
- ~ Lehrman Fellowship for Outstanding Work on American Arts, New York University, 2002-2003.
- ~ New England Regional Museum Consortium Fellowship, 2001-2002.
- ~ Benjamin Stevens Fellowship, Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, 2001 (short-term).
- ~ 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.

Departmental and University Service

- ~ Graduate Director, Department of History (2016–2019).
- ~ Faculty Liaison to History Graduate Student Association
- ~ Job Preparation Workshop for PhD Students (biweekly 2017-2018)
- ~ History Awards Committee (2016-current).
- ~ Selection Committee, Guiliano Fellowship Program, Graduate School (2019).
- ~ Public Humanities Fellowship Committee, NY Humanities Council/SBU (2016-2017).
- ~ Graduate School AHLSS Fellowship Committee, Graduate School (2016-2018).
- ~ Board Member, Stony Brook University Humanities Center (2015-current).
- ~ History Liaison, Career Diversity Institute, American Historical Association (2016-2018).
- ~ Tenure Committee for Africana Studies Department (2016-2018).
- ~ University Environment Committee (2013-2016).
- ~ Chair, Search Committee for Gardiner Endowed Chair in American History (2015-2016).
- ~ Search Committee for Humanities Institute Director, College of Arts and Sciences (2017-2018).

- ~ Co-organizer, *Coastlines: Navigating between the Sciences & Humanities* (Fall 2011).
- ~ Search Committee for Africanist, History Department.
- ~ Search Committee for Latin Americanist, History Department.
- ~ Search Committee for Assistant to the Dean, College of Arts and Sciences.
- ~ Search Committee for Digital Humanist, History Department/Provost's Office.
- ~ History Undergraduate Committee.
- ~ History Library Committee.
- ~ History Strategic Planning Committee.

Professional Activities

- ~ Awards Committee, Forest History Society (2018).
- ~ Grant Reviewer, National Endowment for the Humanities NEH (on-going).
- ~ Associate Editor, *Long Island History Journal* (on-going).
- ~ Manuscript Reviewer, *Business History Review*.
- ~ Manuscript Reviewer, *Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies* (on-going).
- ~ Manuscript Reviewer, *William and Mary Quarterly* (on-going).
- ~ Manuscript Reviewer, *Early American Studies* (on-going).
- ~ Manuscript Reviewer, University of North Carolina Press (on-going).
- ~ Manuscript Reviewer, Princeton University Art Museum Press (2018).
- ~ Manuscript Reviewer, Johns Hopkins University Press (on-going).
- ~ Manuscript Reviewer, New York University Press (on-going).
- ~ Manuscript Reviewer, University of Pennsylvania Press (on-going)
- ~ Manuscript Reviewer, Omohundro Institute in Early American History (on-going).
- ~ Board Member, Cold Spring Harbor Whaling Museum and Education Center (on-going).
- ~ Board Member, Dublin Seminar for New England Folk Life (on-going).
- ~ Selection Committee, Dissertation Fellowship, American Antiquarian Society (2015, 2017).
- ~ External Reader, dissertation committee, Bard Graduate Center.
- ~ Tenure Review for History Department, University of Pittsburgh.
- ~ Tenure Review for History Department, Indiana University-Purdue University.

Lectures, Conferences, and Public Talks

“Investigating Mid-Atlantic Plantations: Slavery, Economies, and Space,” McNeill Center in Early American History, Philadelphia (Oct. 2019).

Chair, “Roundtable: Environmental History from the Early Modern Atlantic World to the 19th Century,” Organization of American Historians Annual Conference, Philadelphia (April 2019).

Invited Lecturer, “Pathways to Freedom: Developing Free Black Communities on Long Island,” for *Long Road to Freedom Symposium*, Long Island Museum (March 2019).

Invited Lecturer, “A New Species of Elegance: Developing the Mahogany Trade in the Eighteenth-Century Atlantic,” Berlin National Museum of Decorative Arts and Crafts, Berlin (Feb. 2019).

Key Note Lecturer, *The Matter of Slavery in Scotland*, Edinburgh University and the National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh, Scotland (Nov. 2018).

Invited Lecturer, “The Mahogany Trade in Early New England,” Yale University Art Gallery (Nov. 2018).

Co-Organizer with Anya Zilberstein, “Empowering Appetites: The Political Economy and Culture of Food in the Early Atlantic World,” Huntington Library, San Marino, CA (Oct. 2018).

Invited Lecturer, “The Thompson Mahogany Company & the Globalization of the Timber Trade, 1840s-1940s,” Society of American Period Furniture Makers (July 2018).

Organizer & Chair, “Roundtable: Hurricane Impacts on Caribbean Educational & Heritage Sites,” Association of Caribbean Historians Annual Conference (June 2018).

“Managing Trans-Colonial Agricultural Ventures: Josiah Martin’s New York-Antiguan Estates, 1730s-1770s,” Agriculture History Society Annual Conference, St. Petersburg, FL (May 2018).

Commentator, “Slavery and Mobility,” Berkshire Annual Conference on the History of Women, Gender, and Sexualities,” Hofstra University (June 2017).

Invited Lecturer, Detroit Institute of Arts (May 2017).

Commentator, “What’s American about American Material Culture?,” Organization of American Historians Annual Conference, New Orleans LA (March 2017).

Invited Lecturer, “Rhode Island Craftsmen and the Emerging Mahogany Market,” Yale University Art Gallery (Dec. 2016).

Invited Lecturer, “Long Island’s Sugar Barons: Revisiting Colonial New York’s Caribbean Connections,” Atlantic Seminar, New York University (Oct. 2016).

Invited Lecturer, “Slavery, History, and Memory: The Challenges of Interpreting Race and Racism at Historic Sites” for *Politics of Preservation Conference*, Chicago-Kent College of Law (April 2016).

Panelist, “Non-human Histories,” Organization of American Historians Annual Conference, Providence RI (April 2016).

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

Moderator, “Slavery on Long Island,” Brooklyn Historical Society (Feb. 2016).

Symposium Organizer, “Long Island Whalers: Navigating a Changing World,” Stony Brook (April 2016); also edited papers for special issue of *Long Island History Journal* 25: 1 (2016).

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

Public Talks, “Sugar in Early America,” Long Island University, Rock Hall Historic Site, Three Village Historical Society, Stony Brook, NY (2015- 2016).

“Agency and Environment in Early America,” Society of Early Americanists Annual Conference, Chicago, IL (June 2015).

Public Talks, “New Research on Slavery in the North,” presented at public libraries in North Babylon, Babylon, Patchogue, Port Jefferson, Smithtown, Levittown, Bellport, Northport, Setauket (2015-2019).

Commentator on “Environments of Economy,” Association of Caribbean Historians Annual Conference, Nassau, Bahamas (May 2015).

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

Invited Lecturer, “Things Recalled: Memory and Materiality across the Disciplines Conference.” Yale University (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 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).

“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).

Public Talks, “From Rainforest to Parlor: Mahogany in Early America,” Newport Historical Society, New York Public Library, Newport Public Library, Rhode Island Historical Society (2013-2014).

“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).

“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 DC (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).

Invited Speaker, "The Quest for Mahogany & Globalization of the Tropical Timber Trade," 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)

Invited Speaker, "Deforestation & Environmental Debates in the British West Indies," 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 DC (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 Sylvester Manor's Archives," 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).