FROM THE DIRECTOR

JANUARY 1, 2018

History is a primary context for every decision we make; our understanding of the past—our own as individuals and collectively—is background, framework, presumption, and rationale. Yet history is rarely simple. First, there is no unitary, single past. History is highly dependent on a multiplicity of experiences and perspectives. And second, there is no simple way to recover the past in all its complexity. History does not exist inside a cabinet we can open to see what’s inside. Rather, through the essential processes of discovery and debate, we struggle towards a fuller historical accounting. This is the work that animates the Omohundro Institute’s mission: to support scholars and scholarship focused on early America.

Our annual report is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the work undertaken through the OI over the past year. The OI’s staff, Board, and Council join with the extraordinary community of readers, listeners, authors, teachers, researchers and supporters who have made it such a success. I encourage you to take a look back, too, at the OI’s blog, Uncommon Sense. In 2017 colleagues, editors, fellows, and book and William and Mary Quarterly authors, have written over fifty posts about such varied subjects as their research, the writing process, holidays in early America, and teaching with episodes of the Doing History: To the Revolution podcast series.

As we reflect on 2017, we also look forward to an important year ahead. The occasion of the OI’s seventy-fifth anniversary in 2018 offers us an opportunity to reflect deeply on our history as an organization, and challenges us to be ambitious in the ways we continue to serve and support scholars and scholarship in the vast early American field.

Karin Wulf
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Since its establishment in 1943, the Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture (now the OI) has played a crucial role for scholars working in the fields of “early America,” defined in the broadest possible way. The areas of our research have expanded geographically to include the Caribbean, Latin America, Europe, and Africa and chronologically to reach from about 1450 to 1820. The wealth of opportunities available in the fast-paced digital environment affects all that we do to fulfill our scholarly mission. Fellowships, the William and Mary Quarterly, the books program, conferences, and public lectures, are vastly different in the world that we now inhabit. Searching archives and consulting journals and books have changed dramatically over the last decade. Forms of publication differ from what they were and the dissemination of new findings to large and varied audiences has seen radical change. We are committed to encouraging new directions and methods while maintaining our commitment to excellence that prevailed in 1943.

2017 was an extraordinary year for the OI’s expanding presence in the digital universe. The Lapidus Initiative, begun in the fall of 2014, has generously provided the resources not only to maintain our regular Lapidus fellowship program but to add to it the Lapidus Fellowships for Digital Collections that will bring together scholars and collection specialists to enable them to make their collections accessible online. The first three fellowships awarded under this initiative supported the digitization of surveys mapping land claims in Louisiana, diaries and correspondence that document Native–Quaker relations in eighteenth-century Pennsylvania, and mid-eighteenth-century records associated with two sugar plantations in Jamaica. The year also saw our role as a podcast producer expand through our partnership with Liz Covart, host of Ben Franklin’s World—a show in the top 5% of the most downloaded shows in the iTunes store—and now the full-time Digital Projects Editor for the OI, and our role as a leader in digital humanities projects expand as well via our international partnership with the Royal Collection Trust, King’s College London, and William & Mary in the Georgian Papers Programme, which offers scholars the opportunity to do research in the Royal Archives at Windsor Castle as part of a massive digitization effort centered on the some 350,000 documents left to us by the Georgian monarchs. You can read more about both of the projects in this report.

In 2018 the OI will celebrate its 75th anniversary at the annual conference, to be held in Williamsburg in June. Events throughout the year will recognize the significance of that anniversary and point toward our future. We are grateful for your support and welcome your participation in the celebration of our anniversary as well as in the anticipation of our exciting future.

Barbara B. Oberg, Chair of the Executive Board, Omohundro Institute
The Omohundro Institute Executive Board
Alan Taylor, Sid Lapidus, Barbara Oberg (Chair), Paul Sperry, and Michael Halleran.
FALL 2016 AND SPRING 2017 CONFERENCES

SEPTEMBER 1–4, 2016
British Group in Early American History
Ben Marsh, Program Chair

OCTOBER 6–9, 2016
Region and Nation in American Histories of Race and Slavery
Ira Berlin, Scott E. Casper, James Sidbury, and Stephanie Smallwood, Program Chairs

MARCH 3–4, 2017
8th Annual Rio de la Plata Conference
William & Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia
Fabrício Prado, Organizer

MARCH 16–18, 2017
Pocahontas and After: Historical Culture and Transatlantic Encounters, 1617–2017
The British Library and the Institute of Historical Research, London

MARCH 17–18, 2017
7th Annual Lemon Project Spring Symposium
“Black Revolutionary Thought from Gabriel to Black Lives Matter”
William & Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia
Jody Allen, Organizer

MAY 19–20, 2017
12th Annual WMQ–EMSI Workshop
Early American Environmental Histories
James Rice, Convener

JUNE 15–17, 2017
23rd Annual Institute Conference
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan
David Hancock, Patrick Griffin, Margaret Newell, and Joseph Rezek, Program Chairs
Danielle Allen at the 2017 OI Annual conference in Ann Arbor, Michigan.
This past May, the Omohundro Institute and the University of Southern California–Huntington Library Early Modern Studies Institute held the twelfth in a series of *William and Mary Quarterly*–EMSI workshops designed to identify and encourage new trends in understanding the history and culture of early North America and its wider world. As in past workshops, participants discussed a pre-circulated chapter-length portion of their current work in progress along with the work of other participants.

“Early American Environmental Histories” highlighted new approaches to the study of early American environmental histories. The organizers aimed to generate a lively conversation about both the history and the future of the field. Among the questions asked were: How and in what ways does environmental history expand the archive? What theories of historical causation does environmental history privilege? How does environmental history challenge or support the accepted chronologies and geographic scales that frame our histories? What new light does environmental history shed on topics of abiding interest to early Americanists? What contributions can early Americanists make to the field of environmental history as a whole?
Our annual conference in June 2017 brought more than 250 scholars together on the campus of the University of Michigan for three days of multi-disciplinary conversation and consideration.

In homage to the first annual Omohundro Institute conference, held on the same campus in 1995, the conference’s theme was “Taking Stock.”

Plenary talks by Peter Mancall—“In the Beginning: An American Origins Story”— and Tiya Miles—“Slavery and Freedom in the Detroit River Region”— capped two days of panels, roundtables, and discussions of how three decades of research from many disciplines have reshaped the field of early American history and what new approaches are on the horizon.

In addition to the academic sessions, Liz Covart, host of Ben Franklin’s World and Doing History, conducted a TThis Camp workshop on how to create a podcast, and Aeon’s Sam Haselby offered a tutorial on how to write op-ed pieces that get noticed by trade-publication editors.

David Hancock (University of Michigan) chaired the program committee along with co-chairs Patrick Griffin (University of Notre Dame), Margaret Newell (Ohio State University), and Joseph Rezek (Boston University). Members of the program committee included Terri Snyder (California State University–Fullerton), Greta LaFleur (Yale University), Sandra Gustafson (University of Notre Dame), Karen Marrero (Wayne State University), and John McCurdy (Eastern Michigan University).
REGION AND NATION IN AMERICAN HISTORIES OF RACE AND SLAVERY

Mount Vernon, Virginia
October 6–9, 2016

Held in conjunction with the Fred W. Smith Library for the Study of George Washington at Mount Vernon in recognition of the opening of “Lives Bound Together,” the first major exhibition interpreting slavery at George Washington’s Mount Vernon

Chaired by Ira Berlin (University of Maryland), Scott E. Casper (University of Maryland, Baltimore County), James Sidbury (Rice University), and Stephanie Smallwood (University of Washington), this conference invited fresh examination of the role of regional histories of race and slavery and their contributions to a national history of “American” slavery. Classic historical works on the origins and development of hereditary slavery tended to view the problem of labor and race in early Maryland and Virginia as an “American paradox,” or a “peculiar institution.” Yet slavery was not peculiar to America, and, far from paradoxical, was inherent to American development. By the time of the American Revolution, the Upper South held one of the largest slave populations in the Americas; their labor, and that of their descendants born into the system of hereditary slavery built by early Chesapeake law, helped fuel the expansion of the American nation in its first half century.

Over 50 scholars of slavery gathered at the conference. Several public-facing events brought participants from around the region for robust and often moving exchanges.

I WAS HONORED AND DELIGHTED TO WORK WITH KARIN WULF AND HER BRILLIANT TEAM ON THE REGION AND NATION CONFERENCE. FROM THE BEGINNING WE WANTED THE EVENT TO BE IMPORTANT, RELEVANT, AND IMPACTFUL, AND TO LIVE UP TO THE HIGH STANDARD SET BY THE SIGNIFICANT CONFERENCES ON THE HISTORY OF SLAVERY SPONSORED BY THE OI. THE OI REPRESENTS EXCELLENCE IN THE HISTORICAL PROFESSION, AND WORKING WITH THEM IS ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EARLY YEARS OF THE WASHINGTON LIBRARY AT MOUNT VERNON.

DOUGLAS BRADBURN, FOUNDING DIRECTOR, THE FRED W. SMITH NATIONAL LIBRARY FOR THE STUDY OF GEORGE WASHINGTON AT MOUNT VERNON; PRESIDENT AND CEO, THE MOUNT VERNON LADIES’ ASSOCIATION
The Omohundro Institute sponsors four or five colloquia a semester in order to discuss a variety of projects in progress. The OI provides overnight lodging and modest travel support to the presenting scholars. Persons interested in presenting their work are invited to contact Karin Wulf.

SEPTEMBER 13
Ed Countryman, Southern Methodist University
“The Central Themes of Ambiguous Revolution”

OCTOBER 11
Simon Newman, University of Glasgow
“Hidden in Plain Sight: Escaped Slaves in Jamaica”

NOVEMBER 1
Amanda Herbert, Folger Shakespeare Library
“Bathing in the British Atlantic: Colonial Health, Travel, and Medicine in the Long Eighteenth Century”

NOVEMBER 15
Allison Madar, California State University, Chico
“Delivered of a Bastard Child: Bastardy, Servitude, and the Law in Eighteenth-Century Virginia”

NOVEMBER 29
John Sweet, University of North Carolina
“Rape, Recourse and the Law of Seduction in the Early Republic”

FEBRUARY 7
Greta LaFleur, Yale University
“The Complexion of Sodomy”

FEBRUARY 14
Matthew Krue, University of Oklahoma
“The Time of Anarchy, 1675–1685”

FEBRUARY 28
Phillip Stern, Duke University
“A Wild Chimera of Visionary Brain: Land Companies and Colonial Sovereignty in the Anglo-Atlantic World”

MARCH 14
David Konig, Washington University in St. Louis
“Nature’s Advocate: Thomas Jefferson and the Republic of Law”
This session was held in conjunction with the W&M Law School.

MARCH 21
Johann Neem, Western Washington University
“Liberal Education Confronts the Rise of Democracy: Yale’s Reports of 1828”

APRIL 4
Deborah Hamer, 2015–2017 OI–NEH Postdoctoral Fellow
“Marriage and the Problem of Governance in the Seventeenth-Century Dutch Atlantic World”

APRIL 25
Anya Zilberstein, Concordia University
“The Bottom of the Universe: The Shape of the Earth in Early Modern Thought”
On Saturday, May 6, 2017, the Omohundro Institute welcomed Peter C. Mancall for the 4th annual OI Council Lecture, entitled “Art and Violence in Early North America.”

Professor Mancall is currently writing a biography of the New England colonist and writer Thomas Morton, to be published by Yale University Press in 2018, and American Origins, which will be volume one of the Oxford History of the United States. His Council Lecture drew on his research for that book and covered the period from the early sixteenth century until c. 1680.

Peter C. Mancall is Andrew W. Mellon Professor of the Humanities and the Linda and Harlan Martens Director of the USC–Huntington Early Modern Studies Institute at the University of Southern California Dornsife College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences. His research focuses on the history of early America, the early modern Atlantic world, environmental history, and early Native American history. He has written five books, including Fatal Journey: The Final Expedition of Henry Hudson—A Tale of Mutiny and Murder in the Arctic (Basic Books, 2009) and Hakluyt’s Promise: An Elizabethan’s Obsession for an English America (Yale University Press, 2007) and is the editor or co-editor of ten others, including The Atlantic World and Virginia, 1550–1624 (Omohundro Institute, 2007). In 2012 he delivered the inaugural Mellon Distinguished Lectures in the Humanities at the University of Pennsylvania, which will be published in revised form in late 2017 by the University of Pennsylvania Press as Nature and Culture in the Sixteenth–century Atlantic Basin.
Some of the top business and government officials from the United States and Spain — including the defense leaders of both countries — gathered at William & Mary on Saturday as part of the 2017 U.S.–Spain Council Forum.

The Sept. 22-23 event included sessions at locations throughout Williamsburg and was brought to the city by U.S. Sen. Timothy M. Kaine (D-VA), who serves as honorary chairman of the council. The group, which aims to strengthen ties between the U.S. and Spain, includes leaders in business, government, education and culture from both countries.

“It’s grand that the 22nd running of the United States–Spain Forum has come to Williamsburg and especially nice for William & Mary that the forum is meeting on our campus today,” said President Taylor Reveley.

During a luncheon held at the Muscarelle Museum of Art, Karin Wulf, director of the university’s Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture, discussed the work of the OI. Paul Mapp, associate professor of history, and Molly Warsh, an assistant professor of history at the University of Pittsburgh — both of whom held National Endowment of the Humanities postdoctoral fellowships at the OI — shared insights from their research in Spanish archives.

“Early America was vast — chronologically and geographically,” Wulf said. “Here in Virginia we sit at the very center of that vast early America, at the eastern edge of North America, and the western edge of an expansive Atlantic world, for example, in which Spain played a critical role. Because the Omohundro Institute is the leading research and publication organization for the study of this expansive early America, the U.S.–Spain Council meeting was a wonderful opportunity to share award-winning research by two of our scholars.”
NEW EVENTS AT THE OI

WMQ PRIZE LECTURE

Thanks to a bequest from the late Michael (Mike) McGiffert, the first William and Mary Quarterly Prize Lecture took place on Tuesday, October 4, 2016. Mike served as editor of the WMQ at the Omohundro Institute from 1972–1997 and also taught at William & Mary. WMQ Prize Lectures will feature authors of award-winning articles published in the William and Mary Quarterly (WMQ) each fall.

2016 Lester J. Cappon Award winner Sarah Barringer (Sally) Gordon inaugurated the series with her talk “The First Wall of Separation between Church and State: Slavery and Disestablishment in Late Eighteenth-Century Virginia.”

Professor Gordon is the Arlin M. Adams Professor of Constitutional Law and Professor of History at the University of Pennsylvania. She studies the legal history of religion in America, especially the history of constitutional protections of religious liberty and separation of church and state. Her first book, The Mormon Question: Polygamy and Constitutional Conflict in Nineteenth-Century America (Chapel Hill, 2002), was followed by The Spirit of the Law: Religious Voices and the Constitution in Modern America (Cambridge, MA, 2010). She is currently at work on a study of separation of church and state from independence through Reconstruction, titled “Freedom’s Holy Light: Disestablishment in America, 1776–1876.” Her talk at the OI was drawn from that project, and designed to revisit and revise long-accepted narratives of how separation of church and state became politically popular in the 1780s.

EARLY AMERICAN READING SEMINAR (EARS)

Born after an enthusiastically received continuing education class from the Christopher Wren Association at William & Mary, EARS met twice a semester last academic year for discussions of classic texts in early American history. Moderated by Karin Wulf, the discussions have generated a loyal—and growing—following of Williamsburg-area residents.
#VASTEARLYAMERICA LECTURE

In addition to new public-facing events, the OI sponsored several campus events as well. The 1st annual #VastEarlyAmerica lecture took place on September 19, 2016.

Miles P. Grier, Assistant Professor of English, Queens College, City University of New York, gave a talk titled “Inkface: or, Learning to Read Racial Character in the English Atlantic.” Professor Grier’s talk blended aspects of the history of slavery, tattooing, stage cosmetics, and the properties of inks and dyes—as they bore on day-to-day life in England’s Atlantic empire.

Co-sponsored with the departments of History, Anthropology, and English, and the American Studies and Africana Studies programs, the #VastEarlyAmerica series features an OI author whose work has strong cross-disciplinary appeal to scholars of history, literature, gender and sexuality, race and identity, and cultural studies. While created with the William & Mary student and faculty community in mind, the lecture is open to all.

OMEKA WORKSHOPS

In collaboration with the Lemon Project and W&M’s Equality Lab, the OI sponsored several workshops for graduate students, faculty, and librarians on the use of Omeka. A product of the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media at George Mason University, Omeka is a web publishing platform for museums, historical societies, scholars, enthusiasts, and educators. Omeka provides cultural institutions and individuals with easy-to-use software for publishing collections and creating attractive, standards-based, interoperable online exhibits. Free and open-source, Omeka is designed to satisfy the needs of institutions that lack technical staffs and large budgets. The OI hosted senior Omeka instructor Megan Brett for two fully subscribed workshops at the beginner and intermediate levels.

EARLY AMERICAN READING GROUP

Graduate students in History and American Studies had the opportunity to read the latest scholarship available in the field of #VastEarlyAmerica and discuss it with Karin Wulf, Paul Mapp, and Josh Piker. The group met for pizza lunches and robust discussion four times during the 2016-2017 academic year.
In March 2017, the OI was the lead applicant for a successful $40,000 planning grant from the NEH Humanities Collections and Reference Resources. The OI, along with colleagues at William & Mary and Royal Collection Trust and King’s College London are working together on the HCRR grant for planning and pilot work in preparation for comprehensive, robust online discovery of the Georgian Papers in the Royal Archives at Windsor Castle. This includes creating a technical infrastructure and process for transcription and metadata enrichment to allow digital humanities research and analysis.

The Georgian Papers Programme (GPP), an interdisciplinary project capitalizing on the mutual work of scholars, librarians, technologists, and digital specialists, is a partnership between the Royal Collection Trust and King’s College London and is joined by primary United States partners the Omohundro Institute and William & Mary. In a long-range initiative, the GPP will digitize, disseminate and interpret approximately 350,000 items, from the reigns of George I through William IV (c. 1713–1820) from the Royal Archives at Windsor Castle.

Early exploration by scholars, archivists, and librarians since the project’s launch in April 2015 has confirmed the significance of the Georgian Papers for understanding political and military aspects of the American Revolution as well as other, wide-ranging aspects of Atlantic, North American and English and European history.

The first 30,000 digitized items were made available in January 2017, and a second group of digitized materials with complementary academic interpretive content launched in November 2017.

With funding from the Lapidus Initiative, the OI has awarded 15 fellowships since its partnership with the GPP began in 2015. Additional fellowships will be awarded over the next three years with three rounds of applications per year and funding for up to eight scholars annually for month-long residences at the Royal Archives.
Arthur Burns, Karin Wulf, Douglas Bradburn, Joanna Newman (back row), Barbara Oberg, and Oliver Urquhart-Irvine at the March 3 screening of the BBC documentary in Washington D.C.
2017 GPP EVENTS

JANUARY 28
Launch of the GPP portal and U.K airing of a new BBC Two documentary film—*George III: The Genius of the Mad King* that explores the early stages of this ground-breaking project.

MARCH 3
Private screening of the documentary in the William & Mary Washington, D.C., office hosted by the OI, William & Mary, King’s College London, and the Royal Collection Trust for a group of 60 people.

MARCH 28
On-campus screening of the documentary hosted by the OI and William & Mary Libraries in conjunction with a workshop and introductory project tutorial by King’s College London colleagues Patricia Methven, GPP manager for King’s and metadata and technical lead for the GPP, and James Smithies, head of King’s Digital Labs, for W&M staff, faculty, and students interested in the GPP.

SEPTEMBER 4
One-day symposium convened at Windsor featuring 13 of the first GPP fellows to discuss their research and findings with colleagues from the Royal Archives, King’s College London, the OI, William & Mary, Mount Vernon, and the Library of Congress.
2017 OI-GPP FELLOWS

- CASSANDRA GOOD (Marymount University) researched the effects of George III’s public presentation of his family on George Washington’s ideas of family.

- DAVID HANCOCK (University of Michigan) researched the life of Lord Landsdowne, Britain’s first Irish-born Prime Minister.

- ANN M. LITTLE (Colorado State University) continued research on women’s fashions on both sides of the Atlantic during the revolutionary period.

- BROOKE NEWMAN (Virginia Commonwealth University) researched the evolution in the Georgian monarchs’ response to contentious national and imperial debates regarding African slavery, liberty, and subjecthood.

- ROBERT PAULETT (Southern Illinois University Edwardsville) researched British imperial policies from 1762–64 and their effect on the borders which defined British North America at that time.

- ANYA ZILBERSTEIN (Concordia University) researched George III’s engagement with the sciences of agriculture, ornithology, and climate and the relationship of these topics to contemporary ideas of slavery and race.
The following is an excerpt from “Current Research in The Georgian Papers: A Symposium To Take Stock, Windsor, 4 September 2017” by Arthur Burns, Academic Director of the Georgian Papers Programme, King’s College London. See www.georgianpapersprogramme.com for the full post. The Georgian Papers Programme aims to digitize, disseminate, and interpret the approximately 350,000 items in the archives at Windsor Castle pertaining to the Georgian monarchs. The program is an international collaboration between the Royal Collection Trust, King’s College London, the Omohundro Institute, and William & Mary.

On 4 September 2017 the Royal Archives at Windsor Castle hosted a one-day symposium for the Georgian Papers Programme, organized by the Omohundro Institute. It provided an opportunity for those associated with the program—whether as members of the core project team at King’s, the Royal Archives and the Omohundro, representatives of participating institutions such as the Library at George Washington’s Mount Vernon and the Library of Congress, or as fellows of the project—to hear extended reports from a significant proportion of the now more than thirty scholars whose research into the Georgian papers has been supported by fellowships from the Omohundro, King’s, Mount Vernon and the Sons of the American Revolution.

To all of those present it felt as if a significant and exciting milestone had been reached. The event not only demonstrated the extent and the range of the research already undertaken, but also made clear that this research has indeed begun to realize the Programme’s ambition of unlocking the potential of this unique archive to support new interpretations of important themes in eighteenth-century history across the globe. It also embodied a further ambition: to forge a community of scholars meeting on the common ground of a single archive to discuss the intersections and insights of their research in ways that highlight aspects of their projects which might not otherwise appear significant.…

The symposium made apparent what those already familiar with the archives suspected, but which, in the absence of full indexes and catalogues (which the project will produce), has hitherto been hidden from those who have not physically visited the Round Tower: the sheer range of research projects for which the archives contain significant materials. —Arthur Burns, Academic Director of the Georgian Papers Programme, King’s College London
Scholars and guests arrive for the Georgian Papers Programme symposium at Windsor Castle on September 4.
While serving as interim books editor, my goal has been to turn over a well-running program to the permanent books editor to come. I first wanted to make sure that the projects acquired and developed under longtime Editor of Publications Fredrika Teute came to fruition. They have been. In 2017, we’ve published Douglas L. Winiarski’s *Darkness Falls on the Land of Light: Experiencing Religious Awakenings in Eighteenth-Century New England*; Jennifer Van Horn’s *The Power of Objects in Eighteenth-Century British America*; Martin Brückner’s *The Social Life of Maps in America, 1750–1860*; Alexander B. Haskell’s *For God, King, and People: Forging Commonwealth Bonds in Renaissance Virginia*; Nicole Eustace—and Fredrika J. Teute’s!—edited *Warring for America: Cultural Contests in the Era of 1812*; and Gideon Mailer’s *John Witherspoon’s American Revolution*.

Even two years after Fredrika’s retirement, we continue to benefit from her work. We’ll continue to do so in 2018, when books we’re currently finishing up like Daniel Livesay’s *Children of Uncertain Fortune: Mixed-Race Jamaicans in Britain and the Atlantic Family, 1733–1833*; Molly A. Warsh’s *American Baroque: Pearls and the Nature of Empire, 1492–1700*; and Susan Sleeper-Smith’s *Indigenous Prosperity and American Conquest: Indian Women of the Ohio River Valley, 1690–1792* will all be coming out, with more to follow.

I also wanted to make sure that the new editor would have a set of early-stage projects underway, so he or she wouldn’t have to cope with any gaps in projection or the need to start everything from scratch. Here too, we’ve done well in 2017. 2017–2019 OI–NEH Postdoctoral Fellow Carolyn Arena has joined us with her excellent project on Indian slavery in the southern Caribbean, which we workshoped at a roundtable that included outside experts Melanie Newton (University of Toronto) and Benjamin Schmidt (University of Washington) in September. In addition, we’ve acquired, or are in the process of acquiring, other really promising projects as well. We continue to publish on traditional topics of interest while simultaneously pushing out to the reaches of “vast early America.” We’re involved with studies of Spanish America, the French Atlantic, the Caribbean, and New England, and with examinations of slavery and abolition, of medicine and affliction, of gender history and captivity narratives, of smuggling and sieges. I’m happy with 2017, and I expect this happiness to extend well into the future.

Finally, and here the initiative comes more from Director Karin Wulf and Associate Editor Nadine Zimmerli than from the current denizen of the book editor’s office, the books program has been experimenting with ways to share our manuscript development and editing techniques with a wide array of authors. One outreach effort has been a two-week summer Scholars’ Workshop in which books (and *William and Mary Quarterly*) editors work intensely with chapter-length submissions from a group of young scholars to give them a sense of what our publication process involves and how they and the field can benefit from it and similar processes elsewhere. We’ve also been offering to middle-stage authors the opportunity for an Omohundro Institute manuscript roundtable discussion with local scholars and outside experts. The first of these, with Gabriel Rocha of Drexel University and his manuscript on “Empire from the Commons: Making Colonial Archipelagos in the Early Atlantic,” took place in March. We’ve also dispatched Nadine to the University of Wisconsin and the Clements Center at Southern Methodist University to share our editing philosophy and to pick up ideas for how to improve it.

Most importantly, I wanted the incoming editor to find the books editing team Fredrika assembled still in place and working happily. The books that have appeared in 2017 and will appear in 2018 are only possible because Nadine Zimmerli in acquisitions, Virginia Chew, Kathy Burdette, and Kaylan Stevenson in editorial, and our office manager Kelly Crawford feel like sitting at their desks, poring over text, and corresponding with authors, outside readers, and our colleagues at the University of North Carolina Press. The work of the occupant of the interim editor’s office is only useful if the books team is working well. No team, no books. The books are coming out. —Paul W. Mapp, Interim Editor, Books
THE WHOLE OI TEAM WERE NOT JUST THOUGHTFUL EDITORS, BUT THEY WERE HIGHLY ENGAGED EDITORS—ALL THEIR COMMENTS SHOWED THAT THEY WERE INTELLECTUALLY INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT, FROM THINKING ABOUT IT AS A WHOLE AND OF COURSE DOWN TO THE NITTY GRITTY STUFF THAT HAPPENS IN THE TEXT AND ENDNOTES. THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS I FELT THE PROJECT WAS HELD TO THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF PUBLISHING BE IT CLARITY OF PROSE, VALIDITY OF ARGUMENT, AND PROOF OF EVIDENCE. I COULDN’T HAVE ASKED FOR A BETTER TEAM TO WORK WITH.

MARTIN BRÜCKNER, AUTHOR OF *THE SOCIAL LIFE OF MAPS IN AMERICA, 1750–1860*

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<td><strong>BOOKS PUBLISHED 2012–2017</strong></td>
<td><strong>AWARDS WON 2012–2017</strong></td>
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In 1768, John Witherspoon, Presbyterian leader of the evangelical Popular party faction in the Scottish Kirk, became the College of New Jersey's sixth president. At Princeton, he mentored constitutional architect James Madison; as a New Jersey delegate to the Continental Congress, he was the only clergyman to sign the Declaration of Independence. Although Witherspoon is often thought to be the chief conduit of moral sense philosophy in America, Mailer’s comprehensive analysis of this founding father's writings demonstrates the resilience of his evangelical beliefs. Witherspoon’s Presbyterian evangelicalism competed with, combined with, and even superseded the civic influence of Scottish Enlightenment thought in the British Atlantic world.

*John Witherspoon’s American Revolution* examines the connection between patriot discourse and long-standing debates—already central to the 1707 Act of Union—about the relationship among piety, moral philosophy, and political unionism. In Witherspoon’s mind, Americans became different from other British subjects because more of them had been awakened to the sin they shared with all people. Paradoxically, acute consciousness of their moral depravity legitimized their move to independence by making it a concerted moral action urged by the Holy Spirit. Mailer’s exploration of Witherspoon’s thought and influence suggests that, for the founders in his circle, civic virtue rested on personal religious awakening.

MAILER’S TOUR DE FORCE OF RESEARCH HAS PRODUCED A CORNUCOPIA OF INSIGHTS INTO A KEY BUT UNDERAPPRECIATED LEADER OF THE EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY ATLANTIC WORLD. WITH CAREFUL PROBING OF WITHERSPOON’S SCOTTISH CAREER AND PAINSTAKING EXAMINATION OF HIS CENTRAL ROLE IN THE COLONIAL BREAK FROM BRITAIN, MAILER CORRECTS WHAT OTHER HISTORIANS, INCLUDING MYSELF, HAVE WRITTEN ABOUT THIS INFLUENTIAL MINISTER, EDUCATOR, AND PUBLIC SERVANT. A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION IS MAILER’S DEMONSTRATION THAT WITHERSPOON, ALTHOUGH WITH SOME AMBIGUITY, SUSTAINED FOUNDATIONAL EVANGELICAL CONVICTIONS IN HIS CAREER ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC.

MARK A. NOLL, UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME
PUBLICATIONS

Published March 2017
Douglas L. Winiarski

Darkness Falls on the Land of Light: Experiencing Religious Awakenings in Eighteenth-Century New England

An award-winning book:
- 2017 Book of the Year, Jonathan Edwards Center, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

This sweeping history of popular religion in eighteenth-century New England examines the experiences of ordinary people living through extraordinary times. Drawing on an unprecedented quantity of letters, diaries, and testimonies, Douglas Winiarski recovers the pervasive and vigorous lay piety of the early eighteenth century. George Whitefield’s preaching tour of 1740 called into question the fundamental assumptions of this thriving religious culture. Incited by Whitefield and fascinated by miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit—visions, bodily fits, and sudden conversions—countless New Englanders broke ranks with family, neighbors, and ministers who dismissed their religious experiences as delusive enthusiasm. These new converts, the progenitors of today’s evangelical movement, bitterly assaulted the Congregational establishment.

The 1740s and 1750s were the dark night of the New England soul, as men and women groped toward a restructured religious order. Conflict transformed inclusive parishes into exclusive networks of combative spiritual seekers. Then as now, evangelicalism emboldened ordinary people to question traditional authorities. Their challenge shattered whole communities.

FILLED WITH FRESH DISCOVERIES AND ATTUNED TO THE EXPERIENCES OF A FASCINATING CAST OF CHARACTERS, DARKNESS FALLS ON THE LAND OF LIGHT OFFERS A COMPELLING NARRATIVE OF RELIGIOUS REVIVAL AND SOCIAL DISCORD IN EARLY NEW ENGLAND. BEAUTIFULLY WRITTEN, COGENTLY ARGUED, AND ASTONISHINGLY RESEARCHED, THIS IS THE MOST RIVETING BOOK ON AMERICA’S EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY REVIVALS TO APPEAR IN DECADES.

MARK VALERI, WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS
Over the course of the eighteenth century, Anglo-Americans purchased an unprecedented number and array of goods. *The Power of Objects in Eighteenth-Century British America* investigates these diverse artifacts—from portraits and city views to gravestones, dressing furniture, and prosthetic devices—to explore how elite American consumers assembled objects to form a new civil society on the margins of the British Empire. In this interdisciplinary transatlantic study, artifacts emerge as key players in the formation of Anglo-American communities and eventually of American citizenship. Deftly interweaving analysis of images with furniture, architecture, clothing, and literary works, Van Horn reconstructs the networks of goods that bound together consumers in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Charleston.

Moving beyond emulation and the desire for social status as the primary motivators for consumption, Van Horn shows that Anglo-Americans’ material choices were intimately bound up with their efforts to distance themselves from Native Americans and African Americans. She also traces women’s contested place in forging provincial culture. As encountered through a woman’s application of makeup at her dressing table or an amputee’s donning of a wooden leg after the Revolutionary War, material artifacts were far from passive markers of rank or political identification. They made Anglo-American society.

**The Best Book I’ve Read in Years in Any Field of Early American Studies; I Cannot Imagine a More Thorough, Innovative, and Riveting Account of the Challenge of Crafting Civility in This Period. Van Horn Dexterously Combines Art History and Material Culture Studies, Showing a Keen Sensitivity to the Way American Civility Was Tenuously Defined Both by Aesthetic Models in the High-Style Metropole and by More Proximate Examples of Native and African American Material Culture. The Writing Is Elegant and Lucid and Crackles with Saucy Humor.**

JENNIFER L. ROBERTS, HARVARD UNIVERSITY
IN PROVOCATIVELY REEXAMINING THE LITERATURE OF COLONIZATION AND STATE FORMATION, HASKELL BRILLIANTLY DESTABILIZES CONVENTIONAL WISDOM ABOUT THEIR GENESIS. THE ENGLISH COMMONWEALTHS FOUNDED ACROSS THE ATLANTIC WERE THE CONCEPTUAL CREATOR, NOT CREATION, OF STATE AND EMPIRE.

PETER THOMPSON, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
The War of 1812 was one of a cluster of events that left unsettled what is often referred to as the Revolutionary settlement. At once postcolonial and neoimperial, the America of 1812 was still in need of definition. As the imminence of war intensified the political, economic, and social tensions endemic to the new nation, Americans of all kinds fought for country on the battleground of culture. The War of 1812 increased interest in the American democratic project and elicited calls for national unity, yet the essays collected in this volume suggest that the United States did not emerge from war in 1815 having resolved the Revolution’s fundamental challenges or achieved a stable national identity. The cultural rifts of the early republican period remained vast and unbridged.
In the age of MapQuest and GPS, we take cartographic literacy for granted. We should not; the ability to find meaning in maps is the fruit of a long process of exposure and instruction. A "carto-coded" America—a nation in which maps are pervasive and meaningful—had to be created. The Social Life of Maps tracks American cartography’s spectacular rise to its unprecedented cultural influence.

Between 1750 and 1860, maps did more than communicate geographic information and political pretensions. They became affordable and intelligible to ordinary American men and women looking for their place in the world. School maps quickly entered classrooms, where they shaped reading and other cognitive exercises; giant maps drew attention in public spaces; miniature maps helped Americans chart personal experiences. In short, maps were uniquely social objects whose visual and material expressions affected commercial practices and graphic arts, theatrical performances and the communication of emotions.

This lavishly illustrated study follows popular maps from their points of creation to shops and galleries, schoolrooms and coat pockets, parlors and bookbindings. Between the decades leading up to the Revolutionary War and the Civil War, early Americans bonded with maps; Martin Brückner’s comprehensive history of quotidian cartographic encounters is the first to show us how.

Eric Slauder, University of Chicago
NEW IN PAPER

RELEASED IN PAPER IN FEBRUARY 2017
Kevin Joel Berland, ed.
The Dividing Line Histories of William Byrd II of Westover
“An impressive, meticulously edited volume that reintroduces scholars to one of early America’s most engaging authors. . . . Highly recommended to all scholars of colonial America.”
—Journal of Southern History

Andrew Cayton
Love in the Time of Revolution: Transatlantic Literary Radicalism and Historical Change, 1793–1818
An award-winning book:
• 2017 Bentley Book Prize, World History Association
“A well-written imaginative re-creation, based on historical research, of the motives, thoughts, arguments, and interrelationships of important British and American radicals.”
—American Historical Review

Jonathan Eacott
Selling Empire: India in the Making of Britain and America, 1600–1830
An award-winning book:
• 2017 Bentley Book Prize, World History Association
“Supplies the reader, in every paragraph on every page, with a way of thinking between and across the scales of historical experience. Not one detail is insignificant.”
—Winterthur Portfolio
RELEASED IN PAPER IN FEBRUARY 2017
Patrick M. Erben
A Harmony of the Spirits: Translation and the Language of Community in Early Pennsylvania
An award-winning book:
• 2013 Dale Brown Book Award, Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies
“Erben brilliantly demonstrates how religion, language, and affect come together in the interrelationships among nations, faiths, and individuals. . . . [This book] redefine[s] the parameters of discussion for colonial English and German literary culture in early Pennsylvania.”
— Journal of American Studies

RELEASED IN PAPER IN SEPTEMBER 2017
Cécile Fromont
The Art of Conversion: Christian Visual Culture in the Kingdom of Kongo
An award-winning book:
• 2017 Arnold Rubin Outstanding Publication Award, Arts Council of the African Studies Association
• 2015 Best First Book in the History of Religions, American Academy of Religion
• 2015 Albert J. Raboteau Book Prize, Journal of African Religions
• Finalist, 2015 Melville J. Herskovits Award, African Studies Association
“Meticulously researched, beautifully written, and lavishly illustrated, The Art of Conversion is one of the best books ever published about Central African religious history.”
— Journal of Interdisciplinary History

RELEASED IN PAPER IN APRIL 2017
Mark G. Hanna
Pirate Nests and the Rise of the British Empire, 1570–1740
An award-winning book:
• 2016 Frederick Jackson Turner Award, Organization of American Historians
• 2016 John Ben Snow Book Prize, North American Conference on British Studies
• Honorable Mention, 2015 John Lyman Book Award, North American Society for Oceanic History
“[An] ambitious investigation into the political role of pirates in shaping colonial British American society in the seventeenth century. . . . A valuable addition to a sparse literature on politics in this period.”
— Journal of Southern History
Bernard Herman
*Town House: Architecture and Material Life in the Early American City, 1780–1830*

An award-winning book:
- 2006 Abbott Lowell Cummings Award, Vernacular Architecture Forum

“*Town House* . . . is a most remarkable guided tour of the early American city in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. . . . Herman has dramatically extended the boundaries of our knowledge of the early American city, has provided an important model for future studies, and has made a fresh and compelling case for the scholarly significance of material culture.”

— *Winterthur Portfolio*

Audrey Horning
*Ireland in the Virginian Sea: Colonialism in the British Atlantic*

An award-winning book:
- 2014 James Mooney Award, Southern Anthropological Society
- a 2015 *Choice* Outstanding Academic Title

“In producing this accessible yet sophisticated account of two overlapping but distinct colonial enterprises, Horning offers a subtle interpretation of the complex early modern English plantation experience.”

— *American Historical Review*

Susanah Shaw Romney
*New Netherland Connections: Intimate Networks and Atlantic Ties in Seventeenth-Century America*

An award-winning book:
- 2014 Berkshire Conference of Women Historians Book Prize
- Annual Hendricks Award for 2013, New Netherland Institute
- 2013 Jamestown Prize, Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture

“[Romney] has given historians a new way of conceptualizing and understanding Atlantic world empires.”

— *American Historical Review*
RECENT HONORS

JONATHAN EACOTT
Selling Empire: India in the Making of Britain and America, 1600–1830
• 2017 Bentley Book Prize, World History Association

CÉCILE FROMONT
The Art of Conversion: Christian Visual Culture in the Kingdom of Kongo
• Winner of the 2017 Arnold Rubin Outstanding Publication Award, given by the Arts Council of the African Studies Association

ROBERT G. PARKINSON
The Common Cause: Creating Race and Nation in the American Revolution
• Winner of the 2017 James A. Rawley Prize, given by the Organization of American Historians
• Recipient of the 2017 AEJMC History Division Book Award, given by the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

DAVID WHEAT
Atlantic Africa and the Spanish Caribbean, 1570–1640
• Winner of the 2017 James A. Rawley Prize, given by the American Historical Association
• Recipient of the 2017 Harriet Tubman Book Prize, given by the Lapidus Center for the Historical Analysis of Transatlantic Slavery at the Schomburg Center

DOUGLAS L. WINIARSKI
Darkness Falls on the Land of Light: Experiencing Religious Awakenings in Eighteenth-Century New England
• Named a 2017 Book of the Year by the Jonathan Edwards Center at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School
The William and Mary Quarterly’s core mission remains the same: to publish the best scholarship in the field of early American history. Our acquisitions process continues to center on being open to unexpected new approaches that come over the transom while also being proactive in recruiting and refining important interventions in the field.

The journal remains a venue for scholars at all career stages. In 2017, as in past years, advanced graduate students and newly minted assistant professors found their work appearing alongside articles by mid-career and senior scholars.

On average, we receive one hundred submissions a year. Approximately seventy-five percent of those are ready to enter the peer-review process. The average author of a manuscript that goes out for peer review receives a detailed decision letter and five readers’ reports in three and a half months.

Since we only publish between fifteen and twenty articles in a given year, much of the Editor’s time is spent recruiting reports for and providing written evaluations of article submissions that will never see the light of print in the Quarterly. Modified versions of these essays often go on to be published in other venues. This work is a critical, but invisible, part of the journal’s service to the field.

In 2017, we tackled database and workflow issues that had long hindered our ability to publish more book reviews. The staff of the journal also wrestled the journal’s many publication platforms—hardcopy, JSTOR, Muse, and the OI Reader—into a schedule that has shaved two to three weeks off the old production time for a given issue.

Thanks to all of you who submitted, assessed, read, and reviewed the scholarship which flowed through our offices this year. We are honored to be part of the Vast Early America you collectively create.

—Joshua Piker, Editor
I haven’t worked with such an engaged editor in a long time, and I’d forgotten what a joy it was to have someone read your work so closely. [Josh Piker] managed to find every single weak point in the piece, every clumsy transition and under-conceptualized argument. I wasn’t able to fix everything, but the essay is much stronger for [his] editorial interventions.

People often talk about the rigor of WMQ’s editorial process, but say less about what a pleasure it is to have people engaged enough in your work to ask questions, push you on your claims, and save you from some embarrassing mistakes. I’m really grateful that I had the opportunity to publish at The Quarterly. This was my first article, and I think the experience is going to have spoiled me for future journals.


Susan Juster, author of “Planting the ‘Great Cross’: The Life, and Death, of Crosses in English America” in the April 2017 issue
The first reviewers of William Robertson’s landmark 1777 History of America tended towards rapturous praise. In June of that year, a review appeared in both the Scots Magazine and the Monthly Review exclaiming that “From the close of the fifteenth century we date the most splendid era in the history of modern times… but hitherto no author has bestowed the mature and profound investigation which such a subject required, or has finished, upon a regular plan, that complete narration and perfect whole which it is the province of the historian to transmit to posterity.” 1 Robertson, the reviewer gushed, had fulfilled this urgent need.

Robertson was a paragon of the Scottish Enlightenment, while his text descended from a robust tradition of European inquiries into the shrouded American past, his philosophy granted unique significance to New World history as the brightest beacon illuminating the whole of “universal history,” that favored Enlightenment subject. For him, the main arc of this story was Europe’s political and religious “civilization” of the American peoples he saw as embodying humanity’s essential nature. This relentlessly philosophical history nonetheless rested on a sturdy bedrock of research, for he collected rare (European) manuscripts and circulated questionnaires to (European) experts.

Robertson's reviewers recognized his ambitions and labors, and they took as their task the articulation of his achievement for their readers. They enthused over different aspects—all praising the philosophical system he built from his historical inquiry, many others lauding the scope of his research and the quality of the prose, and others appreciating more minor aspects like his attention to oft-disbelieved accounts of ancient discoveries of the New World.

But despite their raves, no aspect of Robertson’s work elicited universal acclaim. The London Review lampooned the archival work that impressed most reviewers, instead dismissing it as merely “the purchase of old books or manuscripts, containing facts and details which he might have searched for in vain, in works that have been made public.” Robertson’s efforts to draw attention to this labor, the reviewer claimed, distracted from the philosophical significance of this work. And yet, the reviewer further grumbled that “there are few matters of fact, related in the course of this volume, which are not generally known to most historical readers.”

Complaints that did not contradict themselves might still seem alien to historians today. The Critical Review found most fault in “the ambiguity which frequently prevails in the language, from an improper or careless use of the relatives. In the same sentence the same pronouns often refer to different antecedents, and the reader is obliged to relinquish the expression, and to have recourse to the sense before he can comprehend the meaning.”

The Gentleman’s Magazine lamented that Robertson had not queried, “whether the present race of Americans, the few in comparison who now survive, have derived most happiness or misery from their intercourse with Europeans?”

Few contemporary historians would endorse Robertson’s system of history or prioritize his reviewers’ criticisms (though they might see reviews of their own work as similar to the above samples). Other aspects of Robertson’s reviews might seem peculiar as well. For one, they were almost all anonymous—a convention that would kill reviewing within today’s academic credit economy. They were often spread out over multiple issues, and in one case noted above, shared between two publications. Even more strikingly, most contained little original material, instead consisting predominantly of lengthy extracts from Robertson. In general, they more closely resembled a Googlebooks preview than a scholarly book.
functions. One imperative aspect of this project entails showing how expanding the boundaries of early America—whether geographical, chronological, or evidentiary—helps better explain all aspects of it. The best book reviews do this in part by looking backwards, putting previous visions and present scholarship in dialogue to generate future possibilities.

Robertson’s *History*, perhaps surprisingly, indicates the value of this enterprise. The revolt in the colonies delayed his studies of British America, and the work’s consequent focus on the sixteenth-century conquest of Latin America he saw as part of the British engagement suggests that the British myopia of Anglo-American scholarship only emerged in subsequent generations; the current vasting of early America is both a revelation and a recovery. I am grateful for the opportunity to work with reviewers to continue the project of enhancing our community of scholars and advancing knowledge of this most “splendid era.”

— Nicholas Popper, Book Review Editor, *William and Mary Quarterly*

Despite these differences, these curious and sometimes conflicting essays balanced several functions that still resonate: to summarize, contextualize, criticize, and publicize. Each of these prioritize servicing the books’ potential audience, for the genre of the book review emblematizes a conception of scholarship as collaborative, imbricated in community. The genre was invented in the late seventeenth century at a time when scholars, scarred by almost two centuries of European warfare many attributed to unfathered or unmethodical learning, sought to quell disorder through reasoned critique and polite communication. As they worked to propagate this understanding of learning to broader publics, the book review crystallized as a forum for mediating knowledge to a wider readership while at the same time moderating learned dispute and conflict.

Hierarchies of importance change over time, but our reviews today should still orient readers to the sources, scope, narrative and argument of a book; frame it in relation to similar studies and identify its unique contribution; provide a sense of the strengths and weaknesses of its conceptualization and execution; and encourage and give direction to future scholarship. By attributing importance to such reflections, we exhibit respect to the author of the book in question, but we also acknowledge that the reader is part of the life of the book. This valuation of readership reflects a conception of knowledge as open-ended, continually subject to revision and improvement—a collective good.

As new Book Review Editor at the WMQ, I am eagerly looking forward to working with authors to fulfill these ideals. I am deeply grateful to my predecessor Brett Rushforth (and Karin Wulf and Robert Gross before him), who has performed this role with brilliance and vision. I inherit the conviction that the WMQ should elevate probing, sustained consideration of new scholarship over their other

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WILLIAM AND MARY QUARTERLY, VOLUME 73

JANUARY 2017
TRANQUEBAR: CHARTING THE PROTESTANT INTERNATIONAL IN THE BRITISH ATLANTIC AND BEYOND
By Edward E. Andrews

FORUM: QUAKERS AND THE LIVED POLITICS OF EARLY AMERICA
QUAKERS AS POLITICAL PLAYERS IN EARLY AMERICA
By Geoffrey Plank

ELIZABETH HOOTON AND THE LIVED POLITICS OF TOLERATION IN MASSACHUSETTS BAY
By Adrian Chastain Weimer

“FIX’D ALMOST AMONGST STRANGERS”: CHARLESTON’S QUAKER MERCHANTS AND THE LIMITS OF COSMOPOLITANISM
By Benjamin L. Carp

A “CLASS OF CITIZENS”: THE EARLIEST BLACK PETITIONERS TO CONGRESS AND THEIR QUAKER ALLIES
By Nicholas P. Wood

APRIL 2017
FORUM: WORLD AND GROUND
WORLD AND GROUND
By Christopher Grasso and Peter C. Mancall

THERE’S NO SUCH THING AS “PREHISTORY”: WHAT THE LONGUE DURÉE OF CADDIO AND PUEBLO HISTORY TELLS US ABOUT COLONIAL AMERICA
By Juliana Barr

PLANTING THE “GREAT CROSS”: THE LIFE, AND DEATH, OF CROSSES IN ENGLISH AMERICA
By Susan Juster

SLAVERY’S CONVERGING GROUND: CHARLESTON’S SLAVE TRADE AS THE BLACK HEART OF THE LOWCOUNTRY
By Gregory F. O’Malley

PUTTING THE LYDIA TO SEA: THE MATERIAL ECONOMY OF SHIPPING IN COLONIAL PHILADELPHIA
By Cathy Matson
JULY 2017
BLOODY MINDS AND PEOPLES UNDONE: EMOTION, FAMILY, AND POLITICAL ORDER IN THE SUSQUEHANNOCK-VIRGINIA WAR
By Matthew Kruer

A "WICKED COMMERCE": CONSENT, COERCION, AND KIDNAPPING IN ABERDEEN'S SERVANT TRADE
By Timothy J. Shannon

THE WEIGHT OF NECESSITY: COUNTERFEIT COINS IN THE BRITISH ATLANTIC WORLD, CIRCA 1760–1800
By Katherine Smoak

WITNESSING AFRICAN WAR: SLAVERY, THE LAWS OF WAR, AND ANGLO-AMERICAN ABOLITIONISM
By Jeffrey Glover

OCTOBER 2017
WRITING TO AND FROM THE REVOLUTION
INTRODUCTION:
EXPAND OR DIE: THE REVOLUTION'S NEW EMPIRE
By Alan Taylor

REVOLUTION IN THE QUARTERLY? A HISTORIOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS
By Michael A. McDonnell and David Waldstreicher

ATLANTIC CULTURES AND THE AGE OF REVOLUTION
By Nathan Perl-Rosenthal

WRITING WOMEN'S HISTORY THROUGH THE REVOLUTION: FAMILY FINANCES, LETTER WRITING, AND CONCEPTIONS OF MARRIAGE
By Sara T. Damiano

DEPENDENCE AND INTERDEPENDENCE: THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AND THE PROBLEM OF POSTCOLONIAL NATIONHOOD, CIRCA 1802
By Eliga Gould

CONCLUSION: WRITING TO AND FROM THE REVOLUTION
By Serena R. Zabin
The Omohundro Institute partners with William & Mary’s Lyon G. Tyler Department of History and the American Studies program to administer the Editorial Apprenticeship Program. The decades-long program introduces entering graduate students to the practices of scholarly publishing and historical editing. Each year, students receive full-time training in August, followed by part-time work during the academic year on OI books and the *William and Mary Quarterly*.

Apprentices for the 2016–2017 academic year were Frances Bell, Rebecca Capobianco, Holly Gruntner, Cody Nager, Mitch Oxford, Kaila Schwartz, Chris Slaby, Ravynn Stringfield, and Emily Wells.

*THE OMOHUNDRO INSTITUTE’S EDITORIAL APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM GAVE ME SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE IN HISTORICAL RESEARCH AND EDITING THAT I WOULD HAVE BEEN HARD-PRESSED TO FIND ANYWHERE ELSE. NOT ONLY DID THE EXCELLENT TRAINING THAT I RECEIVED GIVE ME AN INSIDER’S VIEW INTO THE WORLD OF ACADEMIC PUBLISHING, IT ALSO IMPROVED MY ABILITIES AS A RESEARCHER AND WRITER. IT WAS THANKS TO THE SKILLS THAT I CULTIVATED THROUGH MY APPRENTICESHIP THAT I WAS ABLE TO SECURE MY CURRENT POSITION AS A RESEARCH ASSISTANT WHO SPECIALIZES IN FACT-CHECKING AND EDITING.*

NICOLE PENN
AMERICAN HISTORY RESEARCH ASSISTANT, AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE, WASHINGTON, D.C.
EDITORIAL APPRENTICE, 2015–2016
APPRENTICES for 2016–17 (from left to right) Chris Slaby, Cody Nager, Emily Wells, Kaila Schwartz, Holly Gruntner, Frances Bell, and Ravynn Stringfield. Not pictured are Rebecca Capobianco and Mitch Oxford.
Since its debut three years ago, the OI Reader has grown to contain not only every issue of the William and Mary Quarterly since 2014 but also digital exhibits that illustrate the articles, chapters from OI books, and supplemental materials for the Doing History podcast series, part of Ben Franklin’s World with host Liz Covart.

The OI Reader permits users to comment directly on WMQ articles and export saved notes to a Word document. And now the OI Reader is also available on Android platforms and on smart phones including all iPhones and Android phones.

Many of the folios feature free content for anyone to download. These include interactive versions of the constitution, an annotated version of The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere, copies of paintings and other artwork mentioned in articles or on podcast episodes, and digital copies of letters, many with added interactive features.

WE BELIEVE VAST EARLY AMERICA NEEDS TO BE VAST BOTH IN SCOPE—COVERING THE ATLANTIC WORLD AND THE LONG PERIOD OF IMPERIAL COLONIZATION THERE BETWEEN APPROXIMATELY 1490 AND 1820—AND IN FORMAT. NEW METHODS OF PRESENTATION SHAPE NEW WAYS OF UNDERSTANDING, LEARNING, AND TEACHING, AND THE OI IS COMMITTED TO BRINGING THE SAME PROCESS OF EDITORIAL COLLABORATION AND RIGOROUS SCHOLARSHIP TO THESE NEW FORMS THAT HAVE BEEN THE FOUNDATION OF OUR PUBLISHING PROGRAM SINCE IT BEGAN 75 YEARS AGO. AT THREE YEARS OLD, THE OI READER IS STILL IN ITS INFANCY BUT WE ARE EXCITED FOR THE CONTRIBUTION IT IS BRINGING TO THE EARLY AMERICAN COMMUNITY. WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THE LAPIDUS INITIATIVE AND ADOBE SYSTEMS INCORPORATED FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE OI READER.

KARIN WULF
2017 has been an extraordinary year for the Omohundro Institute’s burgeoning role as a podcast producer:

Liz Covart, creator and host of Ben Franklin’s World, joined the OI full-time as Digital Projects Editor. While they remain based in Boston much of the year, Liz, her partner Tim, and their companion Sprocket, planted a Red Sox flag in front of their place in Williamsburg this past August, making the move official.

Ben Franklin’s World won “Best History Podcast” at Podcast Movement, the leading industry conference, beating Malcolm Gladwell’s Revisionist History, Dan Carlin’s Hardcore History, and Aaron Mahnke’s Lore, among others.

Ben Franklin’s World surpassed 3,250,000 downloads total, ranking it in the top 5% most frequently downloaded from the iTunes store. A week-long feature on the iTunes store “Recommended” banner pushed interest in July 4’s episode over the 75,000 download mark for a single episode.

Doing History: To the Revolution! explored both the history and histories of the American Revolution in 20 wide-ranging episodes, featuring over 40 guest scholars.

Liz also taught would-be podcasters the basics at a number of workshops this past year, including a teachers’ retreat at Mount Vernon, a class of history undergraduates at Brandeis, and a group of early American scholars at the OI’s annual conference in Ann Arbor.

You can stream Doing History episodes from the OI website at http://oieahc.wm.edu/lapidus/doinghistory or download all of Ben Franklin’s World, including the Doing History series, from the Apple Podcasts store or via your favorite podcast provider.

You can also find free supplemental content, including articles, interactive digital exhibits, and more, on our app, the OI Reader.

EPISODES IN DOING HISTORY: TO THE REVOLUTION!

“The Tea Crisis of 1773” with Mary Beth Norton
“Revolutionary Allegiances” with Sara Georgini, Maya Jasanoff, Vin Carretta, and Kathleen DuVal
“Paul Revere’s Ride Through History” with Sarah J. Purcell, Jane Kamensky, Patrick Leehey, and Christoph Irmischer
“A Declaration in Draft” with Danielle Allen, Patrick Spero, and Peter Onuf
“Defining the Revolution” with Philip Mead
“Origins of the American Revolution” with Bernard Bailyn
“Committees and Congresses: Governments of the American Revolution” with Mark Boonshoft, Benjamin Irvin, and Jane Calvert
“The Freedoms We Lost” with author and Smithsonian curator Barbara Clark Smith
“Pauline Maier’s American Revolution” with Mary Beth Norton, Joanne Freeman, Todd Estes, and Lindsay Chervinsky
“Information and Communications” with Alyssa Zuercher Reichardt, Eric Slauter, Seth Cotlar, and Trish Loughran—co-hosted by Joseph Adelman
“The Revolution’s African American Soldiers” with Judith Van Buskirk
“The Revolutionaries’ Army” with Fred Anderson, Randy Flood, and Brooke Bauer
“The Revolutionary Economy” with Serena Zabin
“The Politics of Tea” with Jane Merritt, Jennifer Anderson, and David Shields
“Smuggling and St. Eustatius” with Wim Klooster, Christian Koot, and Fabrício Prado
“Dunmore’s New World: The British Empire and the American Revolution” with author and strategic communications consultant James Corbett David
“Continental North America” with Alyssa Mt. Pleasant and Claudio Saunt
“Revolution in the Caribbean” with Laurent Dubois
“Revolutions Around the World” with Paul Mapp and Janet Polasky
“David Walker’s Appeal” with Christopher Cameron

Liz Covart recording live interviews at the 2017 Annual OI conference in Ann Arbor, Michigan
FELLOWSHIPS

NEW IN 2017

OI–FOLGER INSTITUTE SHORT-TERM FELLOWSHIP

As part of our ongoing mission to support scholars, we inaugurated a short-term fellowship with the Folger Institute at the Folger Shakespeare Library in 2016. The OI-FI fellowship supports scholars—from advanced graduate students to senior scholars—with strong interests in Atlantic history, colonial history, literary studies, performance history, and material culture.

Fellows make use of the collections at the Folger Shakespeare Library for one month as well as participate in the Folger Institute’s intellectual community. The first Fellow appointed will participate in a one-day workshop at the Folger, planned for Spring 2018, to discuss the breadth of early American resources available at the Folger.
POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS

The OI annually offers a two-year residential postdoctoral fellowship in any area of early American studies. A principal criterion for selection is that the candidate’s completed dissertation or other manuscript has significant potential as a distinguished, book-length contribution to scholarship.

During the appointment, fellows devote most of their time to research and writing, work closely with the editorial staff, and participate in colloquia and other scholarly activities of the Omohundro Institute. In addition to a stipend, the fellowship provides office, research, and computer facilities as well as some travel funds for conferences and research. Fellows have access to all research facilities, lectures, and events at William & Mary. Fellows hold concurrent appointment as visiting assistant professor in the appropriate department at William & Mary and teach a total of six semester hours during the two-year term.

The Omohundro Institute is committed to its two-year postdoctoral fellowship package as the centerpiece of a program of support for young scholars. In addition, the Omohundro Institute has offered, with great success, a one-year fellowship initially funded through the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation but now funded out of the Omohundro Institute’s endowment, including income from the Ronald Hoffman Fund for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture One-Year Postdoctoral Research Fellowship.
I am a historian of the Atlantic World, focusing on comparative histories of slavery and indigenous peoples in the Americas. I recently completed my Ph.D. at Columbia University with funding from Fulbright, FLAS, the London School of Economics and the Folger Shakespeare Library Seminars.

My book manuscript describes the paradox of how indigenous autonomy from colonial powers often made native people the target of enslavement. In the seventeenth century, many European maps featured the label “Caribana” inside the Caribbean coastline of South America. To English, Dutch, and French colonists, Caribana denoted a space where they sought native alliances with “Caribs” (Kalina and Kalinago peoples) against the Spanish. These colonists spread rumors that the native people were cannibals and fierce warriors, but nevertheless hoped to win sovereignty over them. However, the Kalina and Kalinago considered the colonists to be the predatory party, and their reality of the southern Caribbean was more expansive and staunchly autonomous than Europeans imagined through their cartography. Native merchants and warriors only selectively allied with colonists, preferring to rely on their own indigenous military and diplomatic networks between Guiana and the Lesser Antilles. As colonies grew larger and more aggressive, native partnership and trade often turned into resistance and violent battles. In these battles, Europeans captured native peoples, and transshipped them elsewhere in the Caribbean. There, they became slaves alongside people of African descent in Barbados, Curacao, Suriname and other colonies. Colonial laws eventually attempted to limit native enslavement, realizing its connection to warfare and instability. Yet, indigenous captives were not freed. Both enslaved natives and African peoples suffered from increasingly racialized legal culture throughout Caribbean and North American colonies. This enslavement did not constitute the complete destruction of native Caribbean communities, however, and many reconfigured and retained their autonomy from European colonies.

During my OI-NEH fellowship, I will learn how to digitally map the networks of indigenous people in the Guianas. One of my aims is to publish these maps online as interactive and accessible features of my research. These maps will help illustrate a geographical space unfamiliar to many students and readers and present both archaeological and historical markers of space. I am also researching intersections between mythologies of native Caribbean people, as recorded by anthropologists, and the historical record, to approach an indigenous perspective on Caribbean colonization. I will also do further research in French archival sources to complement my previous research in English and Dutch archives.

— Carolyn Arena
At the Omohundro Institute in 2016-2017 I have been working on reorganizing my manuscript and extending the chronological scope back to 1655, the date of Jamaica’s conquest by the British. In doing so, I am examining the early origins of provisions farming and trading on the island and the ways in which indigenous groups—including the Taino—passed on knowledge of cultivating local crops and methods of cooking to recently arrived enslaved Africans. Since arriving at the OI, I’ve written a new chapter on the relationship between Jamaica’s internal marketing system and the British military and colonial militia in the late-eighteenth century. This chapter examines the ways in which the informal economy supported and sustained slavery and military operations even as it provided enslaved women with subversive social relationships and new sources of income. I also presented and received feedback on this chapter at the Triangle Early American History Seminar at the Humanities Institute in Durham, North Carolina. During summer 2017, I conducted archival research at the New-York Historical Society, the New York Public Library, the Beinecke Library, the John Carter Brown Library, and the American Antiquarian Society. I look forward to presenting a new chapter at the Omohundro Institute’s April 2018 colloquium. Also in Spring 2018, I am also very much looking forward to presenting new research at the Columbia University Atlantic History Workshop, “The Old History of Capitalism” Seminar at the Radcliffe Institute, and at the Omohundro Institute’s 24th Annual Conference in June.

— Shauna Sweeney
I continue to make progress on my book manuscript, “Uniting Nations: Marriage, Sex, and the Foundations of the Dutch Atlantic World” and published an article related to the project, “Marriage and the Construction of Colonial Order: Jurisdiction, Gender, and Class in Seventeenth Century Dutch Batavia,” in the November 2017 issue of Gender & History. In the coming year, I expect to work in Amsterdam’s notarial archive and in the Dutch East India Company archive in The Hague, both of which contain wonderful and untapped material that is crucial for understanding the role that Dutch trading companies envisioned for marriage in securing their respective territories and empires. I also will be presenting new work on the ways that marriage in the Dutch colonies served to construct ideas about race in the Dutch Republic at the American Historical Association’s annual meeting and sharing work at New York University’s Atlantic history seminar which argues that Dutch authorities went to great length to prevent Calvinist consistories from putting their complaints about violations of marriage law into manuscript letters to the Dutch Republic. With the goal of bringing the Dutch Atlantic to a wider audience, I am at work with Evan Haefeli and Danny Noorlander on a documentary history of the Dutch Atlantic world for classroom use.

— Deborah Hamer

Deborah Hamer is the 2015–2017 OI–NEH Postdoctoral Fellow at the Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture.
Thanks to the Lapidus Initiative, the Omohundro Institute convened the third annual Scholars’ Workshop July 10–19, 2017. With the goal of helping untenured scholars improve their manuscripts or articles in progress, the workshop enabled scholars to work both as a group and individually with OI editors and staff. The weeks included seminar-style meetings on conceptual development, manuscript editing, and source verification as well as time for writing, revising, and consulting.

THE SCHOLARS’ WORKSHOP PROVIDED INVALUABLE INTELLECTUAL COMMUNITY AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET SOME SIGNIFICANT WORK DONE, BOTH OF WHICH CAN BE RARE DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR. IT WAS A HIGH POINT OF MY SUMMER TO BE SURE.

ZACHARY DORNER, STANFORD UNIVERSITY

THE SCHOLARS’ WORKSHOP WAS AN EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH INSTITUTE EDITORS AND STAFF ON MY ARTICLE-IN-PROGRESS. IT WAS INCREDIBLY MOTIVATING TO SPEND SEVERAL WEEKS READING, DISCUSSING AND CRITIQUING THE WORKS WRITTEN BY THE OTHER FELLOWS, AND RECEIVING FEEDBACK IN RETURN.

KATE MULRY, CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY AT BAKERSFIELD
FELLOWSHIPS

PREDICTORAL FELLOWS

Lapidus-OI Fellowships for Graduate Research in Early American Print Culture

With the ongoing support of Sid and Ruth Lapidus and a gift in memory of Dr. William Pencak, the OI offered seven $500 fellowships to support advanced graduate student research related to early American and transatlantic print culture. The fifth group of fellowships was awarded in Spring 2017 to the following individuals:

2017 LAPIDUS–OI SLAVERY AND PRINT CULTURE FELLOWS

Sean Morey Smith (Rice University), “Debating Slavery and Making Race Scientific: A Scientific and Medical History of Abolition in the Anglophone Atlantic, 1733–1833”


2017 LAPIDUS–OI EARLY AMERICAN AND TRANSATLANTIC PRINT CULTURE FELLOWS

Louis Gerdelan (Harvard University), “Calamitous knowledge: understanding disaster in the British, Spanish and French Atlantic worlds, 1666–1765”


Shira Lurie (University of Virginia), “Politics at the Poles: Liberty Poles and the Popular Struggle for the New Republic”

Nicole Mahoney (University of Maryland), “Liberty, Gentility, and Dangerous Liaisons”

Anna Vincenzi (University of Notre Dame), “Imagining An Age of Revolutions? A Study of the Reception of the American Revolution in the Italian States (1765–1809)”

FELLOWSHIPS IN HISTORICAL EDITING

The Fellowships in Historical Editing offer talented history and American Studies graduate students who have served as OI apprentices and completed OI apprentice training the opportunity to build upon their skills through additional editorial work during William & Mary’s winter and summer breaks. The fellowships recognize exemplary work by apprentices as well as support the OI’s ability to maintain the high standards for which all of its publications are known.

The Colonial Dames of America has supported the OI’s Fellowships in Historical Editing since 1996 and made a gift of $5,000 in FY2017, which supported one fellowship. The OI is very grateful to the Colonial Dames of America for more than two decades of support. A gift of $3,000 from William & Mary’s Christopher Wren Association funded a Fellowship in Historical Editing in 2017. This gift was the Wren Association’s eleventh in support of the editing fellowship. The Order of Americans of Armorial Ancestry (OAAA) renewed its support for a tenth year and provided two $1,000 OAAA Grace DeuPree Fellowships.

The recipients of the 2017 Fellowships in Historical Editing were:

Colonial Dames of America Fellow Mitchell Edward Oxford
Christopher Wren Association Fellow Holly Grunster
OAAA Fellow Frances Bell
OAAA Fellow Christopher J. Slaby
SHORT-TERM VISITING FELLOWSHIPS

OI–JAMESTOWN REDISCOVERY FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIPS

Since the OI-JR program’s inception in 2015, nine scholars at the pre and postdoctoral levels have been awarded fellowships. Topics of research have included colonial history, historical archaeology, Atlantic history, Native American history, African American studies, early Jamestown, the Chesapeake, and material culture, 1500–1720. Fellows makes use of William & Mary’s Swem Library and collections at Historic Jamestowne as well as other resources in the Historic Triangle and Richmond region.

2017 FELLOWS

Luciano Figueiredo (Fluminense Federal University, Brasil), “Jamestown and Rio de Janeiro by the Atlantic: compared perspectives of Bacon’s Rebellion and the Revolt of Rio in the seventeenth century”


OI–FOLGER INSTITUTE FELLOWSHIP AT THE FOLGER SHAKESPEARE LIBRARY

We are excited to announce the first OI-Folger Institute Fellow. This program supports scholars—from advanced graduate students to senior scholars—with strong interests in early America, broadly understood. Scholars of Atlantic history, colonial history, literary studies, performance history, and material culture are encouraged to apply.

Heather Miyano Kopelson (University of Alabama) was awarded the inaugural fellowship for her proposal, “Idolatrous Processions: Music, Dance, and Cultural Exchange in the Atlantic World, 1500–1700.”

I LEARNED ABOUT EUROPEAN THEORIES OF DANCE AND HARMONY FROM SIXTEENTH-CENTURY EUROPEAN BOOKS AND MODERN MONOGRAPHS, AND DEVELOPED A LONG LIST OF UNREAD SOURCES THAT BECAME THE CORE OF MY CURRENT CHAPTER.

HEATHER MIYANO KOPELSON, 2017 OI–FOLGER INSTITUTE FELLOW
With the help of the Lapidus Initiative Advisory Group, three projects were awarded Lapidus Initiative Fellowships for Digital Collections in 2017. These included projects to:

- Digitize the approximately 1,400 surveys housed by Louisiana State University Libraries that mapped land claims in Spanish Louisiana at the close of the eighteenth and opening of the nineteenth centuries.
  — Lauren Coats and Andrew Sluyter with Gina Costello, Louisiana State University

- Digitize, transcribe, and encode diaries and correspondence from members of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends in the course of establishing and supporting a Quaker mission to the Seneca Country between the years 1795 and 1820.
  — Nicholas Gliserman and Sarah Horowitz, Haverford College

- Digitize a collection of mid-eighteenth-century records, such as invoices, letter and account books, associated with two sugar plantations in Jamaica—Hampden in St. James and Frontier in St. Mary.
  — Stephen Mullen and Irene E. O’Brien, Glasgow City Archive

THE SCANNING AND TEI ENCODING WERE DONE BY A HAVERFORD UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT UNDER THE DIRECTION OF STAFF FROM QUAKER & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP. AS PART OF THE PROCESS, THE STUDENT SCANNED EACH PAGE OF MANUSCRIPT, CREATING BOTH AN ARCHIVAL STORAGE AND USE FILE. HE THEN TRANSCRIBED EACH DOCUMENT, AND ENCODED PEOPLE, ORGANIZATIONS, AND PLACES INTO OUR ALREADY-DEVELOPED TEI SCHEMA, CHECKING FOR EXISTING TERMS AND ADDING NEW ONES…. HE DEScribed HIS EXPERIENCE working WITH THE DOCUMENTS AS A “SOURCE OF INTEREST AND INSPIRATION FOR US TO EMPATHIZE WITH BEINGS AND CONTRIBUTE TO OUR CURRENT WORLD.”

NICHOLAS GLISERMAN, HAVERFORD COLLEGE
The award of a Georgian Papers Programme Fellowship, funded by the Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture, provided an invaluable opportunity to trace how leading members of the British royal family and household responded to debates on slavery, Africa and abolition in the aftermath of the American War of Independence. Whilst the value of collections in the Royal Archives for tracing dynastic matters and affairs of State is well-known, my research in the Round Tower at Windsor Castle focused on the way in which the Georgian Papers provide an insight into contemporary debates on slavery and other aspects of social, economic and colonial history…. The period I spent at the Royal Archives only scratched the surface of the contents of the Georgian Papers, but demonstrated nonetheless their rich potential for tracing attitudes to slavery and the slave trade.”—Suzanne Schwarz

Funding from the OI’s Lapidus Initiative has supported the GPP fellowships since 2015. Additional support for the GPP has come from the NEH Humanities Collections and Reference Resources in March 2017 to support planning and pilot work in preparation for comprehensive, robust online discovery of the Georgian Papers in the Royal Archives at Windsor Castle.
Respected friend,

I am now going to tell you the very warm weather here.

In the summertime, corn grows very good. I also have potatoes and beets, wheat, and beans. We have not had any school at corn place.

I come some times to School at corn place. I want to learn my letters.
The Omohundro Institute appreciates the generosity and dedication of its supporters. Since 1943, we have collectively led early American scholarship through a series of innovations in approach and dissemination while upholding an unwavering standard of scholarly excellence. Annual gifts from OI Associates as well as gifts directed to support specific projects and programs are essential to continuing this mission. Thank you.

SUPPORT FOR SPECIFIC PROJECTS
In FY2017, fund raising for specific projects included expendable and endowment gifts and pledges in support of innovative programming and outreach, conferences, and postdoctoral and predoctoral fellowships.

THE OI READER
With support from the Lapidus Initiative and with an important partnership with Adobe Systems Incorporated, in November 2014 the OI announced the OI Reader. In July 2017, Adobe renewed its partnership with the OI in support of the OI Reader for an additional two years.

THREE-YEAR EXPENDABLE FUND
In early 2015, the OI launched its effort to raise expendable bridge funding of $975,000 over three years to reshape programming, budgeting, and development in response to the significant loss of support following Colonial Williamsburg’s decision to end its sponsorship of the OI.

The OI received a $300,000 leadership commitment from former Executive Board Member Richard Gilder and the Gilder Foundation, a $200,000 grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, and, in December 2015, a $150,000 1:1 matching grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. These grants, along with gifts from nearly three dozen individuals, brought the OI to 89 percent of its goal as of June 30, 2017.

OI-NEH POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP
The OI annually offers a two-year residential postdoctoral fellowship in any area of early American studies, which it has done since 1945. The OI gratefully acknowledges the partnership of the National Endowment for the Humanities. In March 2017, the OI was awarded a new $167,700 grant (January 1, 2018–June 30, 2021) for its residential postdoctoral fellowships from the NEH Fellowship Programs at Independent Research Institutions.

GEORGIAN PAPERS PROGRAMME
The OI was the lead applicant in a successful $40,000 planning grant from the NEH Humanities Collections and Reference Resources in March 2017 to support The Georgian Papers Programme: Transatlantic Access and Discovery Planning Stage. The OI and William & Mary are the primary U.S. partners for the GPP with Royal Collection Trust and King’s College London.

OMOHUNDRO INSTITUTE POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP FUND
To recognize the retirement of OI Director Ronald Hoffman in 2013, the Executive Board decided to honor his two decades of leadership by seeking support for the OI’s one-year postdoctoral fellowship. We gratefully acknowledge below the donors who made expendable and endowment gifts in support of this initiative between July 1, 2016–June 30, 2017, including gifts in support of the Ronald Hoffman Fund for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture One-Year Postdoctoral Research Fellowship at the William & Mary Foundation. Thank you.

Anna Burwash
Meredith Carter Deeley
Anya Zilberstein
FELLOWSHIPS IN HISTORICAL EDITING
The Fellowships in Historical Editing offer talented History and American Studies graduate students who have served as OI apprentices the opportunity to build upon their skills through additional editorial work during William & Mary’s winter and summer breaks. The Colonial Dames of America renewed its annual support for the OI’s Fellowship in Historical Editing in 2017 with a gift of $5,000. Gifts from the Colonial Dames have supported the fellowship program since 1996. A gift of $3,000 from William & Mary’s Christopher Wren Association funded a Fellowship in Historical Editing in 2017. This gift was the Wren Association’s eleventh in support of the editing fellowship. The Order of Americans of Armorial Ancestry (OAAA) renewed its support for a tenth year and provided two $1,000 OAAA Grace DeuPree Fellowships.

OMOHUNDRO INSTITUTE CONFERENCE FUND
The OI invites conference participants and others to consider making a contribution to help support the costs associated with the OI’s scholarly meetings. In FY2017, 15 individuals contributed $935 to the OI Conference Fund. We thank the individuals listed below for contributions to this fund.

MEMORIAL GIFTS TO THE OI
In FY2017, the OI received gifts in memory of former OI staff members, for which the OI is most grateful.

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Annual Giving by OI Associates

We are deeply grateful to the individuals and organizations listed on these pages for your support for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture in 2017.

Annual gifts from OI Associates help sustain the OI’s mission of supporting early American scholars and their work. Contributions by OI Associates account for 8 percent of the OI’s budget. From July 1, 2016, through June 30, 2017, 836 Associates made gifts totaling $161,458.

With thanks for your participation as a fellow member of this community dedicated to the enduring value of excellent scholarship,

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Robert C. Ritchie
Chair, OI Associates
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OI-NEH POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS
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Deborah Hamer, 2015–2017 (dehamer@wm.edu)
Shauna Sweeney, 2016–2018 (sdsweeney@wm.edu)
The Omohundro Institute is an independent research organization sponsored by William & Mary and housed on its campus in Williamsburg, Virginia. Established in 1943 as the Institute of Early American History & Culture, we are the oldest organization in the United States exclusively dedicated to advancing the study, research, and publication of scholarship bearing on the history and culture of early America. We added the name of benefactors Mr. and Mrs. Malvern H. Omohundro, Jr., in 1996 in recognition of their generous support.

Collectively, the OI is a leading community of scholars exploring Vast Early America. Our award-winning monographs and journal, the William and Mary Quarterly, span topics from 1450 to 1820, and all points in the Atlantic World. This expanding body of work, in tandem with our collaborative editorial process and a rigorous training program for editorial apprentices, continues to advance our mission to support scholars, scholarship, and a dynamic early American history.

In addition to our publication program, the OI supports scholars by hosting dozens of fellowships and several conferences a year, and promotes lifelong learning through our reading group, our podcast, Doing History—a part of Ben Franklin’s World with host Liz Covart—and a lecture series.
GOVERNING BOARDS

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE OMOHUNDRO INSTITUTE, FY2016–2017

Members of the Omohundro Institute’s Executive Board determine matters of policy and have responsibility for the financial and general management and for resource development of the Institute. The Executive Board consists of five members: three elected by the Board and two ex officio members (the chief academic officer of William & Mary and the chair of the Council).

Michael R. Halleran, William & Mary
Sidney Lapidus
Barbara B. Oberg, Princeton University (Chair)
Paul S. Sperry
Alan S. Taylor, University of Virginia

THE COUNCIL OF THE OMOHUNDRO INSTITUTE, FY2016–2017

Members of the Council are typically drawn from the academic community. Councilors advise the OI director and the Executive Board on policy, programmatic, and professional matters of concern to the OI and serve on one of the Council’s three standing committees: the William and Mary Quarterly Editorial Board, the Book Publications Committee, or the Programs Committee. OI Associates and William and Mary Quarterly subscribers are annually invited to submit nominations for consideration by the Council.

Juliana Barr, Duke University
Rosalind J. Beiler, University of Central Florida
Sharon Block, University of California, Irvine
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OTHER ARTWORK

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Map Orbis terrarum nova et accuratissima tabula by Nicolaes Visscher, ca. 1690
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Thanks to Haverford College Libraries, Quaker & Special Collections and Digital Scholarship, for use of an image from Halliday Jackson’s correspondence, 1799-1824.
History is a primary context for every decision we make; our understanding of the past—our own as individuals and collectively—is background, framework, presumption, and rationale. Yet history is rarely simple. First, there is no unitary, single past. History is highly dependent on a multiplicity of experiences and perspectives. And second, there is no simple way to recover the past in all its complexity. History does not exist inside a cabinet we can open to see what's inside. Rather, through the essential processes of discovery and debate, we struggle towards a fuller historical accounting. This is the work that animates the Omohundro Institute's mission: to support scholars and scholarship focused on early America.

Our annual report is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the work undertaken through the OI over the past year. The OI's staff, Board, and Council join with the extraordinary community of readers, listeners, authors, teachers, researchers and supporters who have made it such a success. I encourage you to take a look back, too, at the OI's blog, Uncommon Sense. In 2017 colleagues, editors, fellows, and book and William and Mary Quarterly authors, have written over fifty posts about such varied subjects as their research, the writing process, holidays in early America, and teaching with episodes of the Doing History: To the Revolution podcast series.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

JANUARY 1, 2018

As we reflect on 2017, we also look forward to an important year ahead. The occasion of the OI's seventy-fifth anniversary in 2018 offers us an opportunity to reflect deeply on our history as an organization, and challenges us to be ambitious in the ways we continue to serve and support scholars and scholarship in the vast early American field.

Karin Wulf