Seven Virginians
The Men Who Shaped Our Republic

“Boles has eloquently synthesized a massive amount of material into a narrative history peppered with lucid explanations of complicated events and issues, along with some surprising insights and tidbits.”—CYNTHIA A. KIERNER, George Mason University, author of Martha Jefferson Randolph, Daughter of Monticello: Her Life and Times

“John Boles pours a lifetime of scholarly insight and clarity into this stellar history of seven Virginians who helped create the liberal revolutionary American experiment. In a necessary corrective of recent efforts to paint the American Revolution as a reactive or conservative movement, Boles places these founding fathers in their eighteenth-century context and properly shows that they helped establish ideals that we still aspire to achieve. A timely and important book.”—DOUGLAS BRADBURN, President and CEO of George Washington’s Mount Vernon

Seven Virginians, the culmination of a lifetime of erudition by one of America’s leading historians, reveals the integral role played by seven major Virginians before, during, and after the American Revolution: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, George Mason, Patrick Henry, and John Marshall.

Most accounts of the founding generation focus only on the activities of the “big three”—Washington, Jefferson, and Madison—but Boles incorporates the key contributions of these other four important figures to the political and legal structures that govern the United States to this day. At the same time, Boles is clear-eyed about the Revolutionary generation’s problems and their fading from the scene, inaugurating the beginnings of Virginia’s political decline in the early nineteenth century. In so doing, Boles provides the crucial Virginian piece to the ongoing reevaluation of the United States’ founding moment.


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Saving Snakes
Snakes and the Evolution of a Field Naturalist

“Anyone who appreciates the natural world and has a passion for the outdoors—from bird-watchers to hikers, from hunters to land managers, and especially anyone interested in herpetofauna—will find connections with Saving Snakes.”
—J. Whitfield Gibbons, University of Georgia, author of Keeping All the Pieces: Perspectives on Natural History and the Environment

“This book could do for snakes what Silent Spring did for birds.”—David A. Steen, author of Secrets of Snakes: The Science beyond the Myths and Rewilding: Bringing Wildlife Back Where It Belongs

Snake populations are declining around the globe, but calls for their conservation are muted by fear and prejudice. Saving Snakes offers a new approach to understanding snakes—one built on respect. From Cuba and Nicaragua to Costa Rica and Australia, Nicolette Cagle has traveled the world in search of snakes. She also has spent decades conducting natural science research on snake activity, specifically in regions of the U.S. where urban development encroaches upon their habitat.

Beautifully written, Saving Snakes entwines Cagle’s personal narrative with deep scientific and historical research. By tracing the author’s evolution as a field naturalist, it provides a blueprint for developing a conservation consciousness among young people and paves the way for increased inclusivity in the male-dominated field of herpetology. Fundamentally a book about snakes, this is also the story of one woman’s pursuit of her passion as she searches for, studies, and advocates for these enigmatic creatures.
Yard Birds
The Lives and Times of America’s Urban Chickens

“This is a cultural phenomenon worth the telling, written with a clear and engaging authorial voice. It is erudite, sophisticated, witty, and accessible.”—GARRY MARVIN, author of Wolf

In 2009, the New Yorker declared chickens the “it bird” and heralded “the return of the backyard chicken.” This honor occurred as a host of American cities were changing their laws to allow chickens in residents’ backyards. Philip Levy, a sometime chicken keeper himself, mixes cultural history with husbandry to chronicle the weird and wonderful story of Americans’ urban chickens. From the streets of Brooklyn to council chambers in Albany to the beat of Key West’s Chicken Nuisance Patrol, yard birds are an important and growing part of American city life.

Part history, part travelogue, and part reportage, Yard Birds takes the reader on a tour-de-force journey across America, past and present, to profile its urban chickens housed in luxury coops or dying at yearly rituals. What emerges is a compelling picture of city chickens that can both serve as hipster status symbols and guarantee that the families keeping them have at least something to eat. Levy’s smart and entertaining investigation of the contemporary urban chicken craze reveals that poultry flocks were historically an integral part of America’s urban spaces; chickens have simply returned home now, some to very fancy roosts.

Philip Levy is Professor of History at the University of South Florida and the author of The Permanent Resident: Excavations and Explorations of George Washington's Life (Virginia).
Solastalgia
An Anthology of Emotion in a Disappearing World

“The essays gathered in this collection provide intimate looks at beloved places—the birds and hills, the skies and first snowfalls—even as the places shift and change. It’s brave to write into the vastness of our climate crisis and still understand the role of celebration. These authors offer the full complexity of what it means to love a place while it’s being forever shifted. They provide witness and beauty and a way forward, despite despair.”—TONI JENSEN, author of Carry: A Memoir of Survival on Stolen Land

“One of the penalties of an ecological education,” wrote Aldo Leopold, “is that one lives alone in a world of wounds.” As climate change and other environmental degradations become more evident, experts predict that an increasing number of people will suffer emotional and psychological distress as a result. Many are feeling these effects already. In the pages of Solastalgia, they will find a source of companionship, inspiration, and advice.

The concept of solastalgia comes from the environmental philosopher Glenn Albrecht, who describes it as “the homesickness we feel while still at home.” It’s the pain and longing we feel as we realize the world immediately around us is changing, with our love for that world serving as a catalyst for action on its behalf.

This powerful anthology brings together thirty-four writers—educators, journalists, poets, and scientists—to share their emotions in the face of environmental crisis. They share their solastalgia, their beloved places, their vulnerability, their stories, their vision of what we can create.

Contributors: Glenn Albrecht • Lauren K. Alleyne • Jennifer Atkinson • Cynthia Belmont • Paul Bogard • Taylor Brorby • Nickole Brown • Erica Cavanagh • Alison Hawthorne Deming • Laura Erin England • Ben Goldfarb • Leah Naomi Green • Genevieve Guenther • Ken Hada • Holly Haworth • Douglas Haynes • Sean Hill • Joan Naviyuk Kane • J. Drew Lanham • Kathryn Miles • Kathleen Dean Moore • Kathryn Nuernberger • Elena Passarello • Angela Pelster • Roopali Phadke • Janisse Ray • Sarah Jacquette Ray • Suzanne Roberts • Scott Russell Sanders • Priya Shukla • Meera Subramanian • Jennifer Westerman • Marco Wilkinson • Priscilla Solis Ybarra
“Former prison chaplain Russ Ford offers the reader a harrowing look inside Virginia’s death row. Anyone who wants to understand the moral and spiritual carnage of capital punishment needs to read this book.”—SISTER HELEN PREJEAN, author of Dead Man Walking

The Reverend Russ Ford, who served as the head chaplain on Virginia’s death row for eighteen years, raged against the inequities of the death penalty—now outlawed in Virginia—while ministering to the men condemned to die in the 1980s and 1990s. Ford stood watch with twenty-eight men, sitting with them in the squalid death house during the final days and hours of their lives. In July 1990 he accidentally almost became the 245th person killed by Virginia’s electric chair as he comforted Ricky Boggs in his last moments, a vivid episode that opens this haunting book.

Many chaplains get to know the condemned men only in these final moments. Ford, however, spent years working with the men of Virginia’s death row, forging close bonds with the condemned and developing a nuanced understanding of their crimes, their early struggles, and their challenges behind bars. His unusual ministry makes this memoir a unique and compelling read, a moving and unflinching portrait of Virginia’s death row inmates. Revealing the cruelties of the state-sanctioned violence that has until recently prevailed in our backyard, Crossing the River Styx serves as a cautionary tale for those who still support capital punishment.

Russ Ford is a retired chaplain. Charles Peppers is an independent writer and educator. Todd C. Peppers is the Henry H. and Trudye H. Fowler Professor of Public Affairs at Roanoke College and a Visiting Professor of Law at Washington and Lee University.

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Poplar Forest
Thomas Jefferson’s Villa Retreat

“McDonald demonstrates that, even if he had never entered politics, Thomas Jefferson would be regarded as one of the greatest pioneer architects in early America. Here, in this work of a lifetime, McDonald has produced a definitive study of Jefferson’s retirement retreat.”—ANDREW J. O’SHAUGHNESSY, University of Virginia

Poplar Forest is one of two personal residences that Thomas Jefferson designed for himself, the other being Monticello. Jefferson’s wife, Martha Wayles Skelton Jefferson, inherited the land—originally a 6,861-acre parcel—at her father’s death in 1773, but Jefferson did not begin construction on the house until 1806, and at his death in 1826, he was still working on his little “getaway.” Despite its audacious design—it was the first documented octagonal residence in America—and the fact that it is one of the very few extant Jeffersonian structures, Poplar Forest is not nearly so well-known today as its sibling seventy miles to the northeast. Undoubtedly, this is due in large part to its more remote location in Bedford County. Additionally, the house remained in private hands until 1984.

Travis McDonald situates the site in its rightful position as a historically important Virginia house, and he documents its story as central to Jefferson’s life and approach to architecture, including details of the enslaved community at his western retreat. This new, informed account will appeal to architectural historians and visitors to the villa retreat, as well as to those interested in Jefferson’s work and legacy.
The Row House in Washington, DC
A History

With *The Row House in Washington, DC*, the architectural historian and preservationist Alison Hoagland turns the lucid prose style and keen analytical skill that characterize all her scholarship to the subject of the Washington row house. Row houses have long been an important component of the housing stock of many major American cities, predominantly sheltering the middle classes comprising clerks, tradespeople, and artisans. In Washington, with its plethora of government workers, they are the dominant typology of the historical city. Hoagland identifies six principal row house types—two-room, L-shaped, three-room, English-basement, quadrant, and kitchen-forward—and documents their wide-ranging impact, as sources of income and statements of attainment as well as domiciles for nuclear families or boarders, homeowners or renters, long tenancy or short stays. Through restrictive covenants on some house sales, they also illustrate the pervasive racism that has haunted the city. This topical study demonstrates at once the distinctive character of the Washington row house and the many similarities it shares with row houses in other mid-Atlantic cities. In a broader sense, it also shows how urban dwellers responded to a challenging concatenation of spatial, regulatory, financial, and demographic limitations, providing a historical model for new, innovative designs.
Faith, Race, and the Lost Cause
Confessions of a Southern Church

“A well-told slice of southern religious history that should serve as a model for any congregation committed to confronting its racist past. I hope this book finds its way into the hands of pastors and church leaders around the country.”—John Fea, Messiah University, author of Was America Founded as a Christian Nation? A Historical Introduction

**Faith, Race, and the Lost Cause** is a new history of Richmond’s famous St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, attended by Robert E. Lee and Jefferson Davis during the Civil War and a tourist magnet thereafter. Christopher Alan Graham’s narrative—which emerged out of St. Paul’s History and Reconciliation Initiative—charts the congregation’s theological and secular views of race from the church’s founding in 1845 to the present day, exploring the church’s complicity in Lost Cause narratives and racial oppression in Richmond.

Graham investigates the ways that the actions of elite white southerners who imagined themselves as benevolent in their treatment of Black people through the decades obscured the actual damage to Black bodies and souls that this ostensible liberalism caused. Placing the legacy of St. Paul’s self-described benevolent paternalism in dialogue with the racial and religious geography of Richmond, Graham reflects on what an authentic process of recognition and reparations might be, drawing useful lessons for America writ large.
Mourning the Presidents
Loss and Legacy in American Culture

“This is a valuable volume on meaning and memory. By exploring the public reactions to the deaths of several American presidents, the editors and contributors shed light on the shifting legacies of our national leaders—and on the often complicated feelings of the led.”—Jon Meacham, Rogers Chair in the American Presidency at Vanderbilt University

The death of a chief executive, regardless of the circumstances—sudden or expected, still in office or decades later—is always a moment of reckoning and reflection. Mourning the Presidents brings together renowned and emerging scholars to examine how different generations and communities of Americans have eulogized and remembered US presidents since George Washington’s death in 1799. Over twelve individually illuminating chapters, this volume offers a unique approach to understanding American culture and politics by uncovering parallels between different generations of mourners, highlighting distinct experiences, and examining what presidential deaths can tell us about societal fissures at various critical points in the nation’s history, right up to the present moment.

Lindsay M. Chervinsky is a presidential historian and author of The Cabinet: George Washington and the Creation of an American Institution. Matthew R. Costello is the Vice President of the David M. Rubenstein National Center for White House History, Senior Historian for the White House Historical Association, and the author of The Property of the Nation: George Washington’s Tomb, Mount Vernon, and the Memory of the First President.
Making #Charlottesville
Media from Civil Rights to Unite the Right

“Bodroghkozy makes a timely and original connection between the power of media and both contemporary racial unrest and the civil rights movement. A pleasure to read and a flat-out good book.”—Julian Maxwell Hayter, University of Richmond, author of The Dream Is Lost: Voting Rights and the Politics of Race in Richmond, Virginia

The 2017 “Summer of Hate” in Charlottesville became a worldwide media event, putting at center stage the resurgence of emboldened and empowered white supremacy and “alt-right” extremism, as well as the anti-racist movement opposing it. Aniko Bodroghkozy’s trenchant study examines this formative moment in recent U.S. history by juxtaposing it against two other epochal moments that put American racism and the struggle against it on worldwide display: the 1963 Birmingham and 1965 Selma campaigns of the civil rights movement.

Making #Charlottesville investigates the historical “rhymes” in the mass media’s treatment of these events, separated by half a century, along with the ways that activists on both sides made use of the new media environment of their day to organize and amplify their respective messages. Bodroghkozy teases out the connections, similarities, and resonances among these events—from the ways all three places were consciously chosen as stage sets for media campaigns, to the similarly iconic and heavily circulated images they produced, to the sustained cultural purchase they continue to hold in the United States and around the world.

Aniko Bodroghkozy is Professor of Media Studies at the University of Virginia and the author of Equal Time: Television and the Civil Rights Movement.
Danger Sound Klaxon!
The Horn That Changed History

“A welcomed and original contribution to the growing field of sound studies, Danger Sound Klaxon! shows convincingly that our modern sound perception is learned and highly culturally encoded. Jordan writes in an engaging, clear, and readable style.”—Stefan Krebs, Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History (C2DH), coauthor of Sound and Safe: A History of Listening behind the Wheel

Danger Sound Klaxon! reveals the untold story of the Klaxon automobile horn, one of the first great electrical consumer technologies of the twentieth century. Although its metallic shriek at first shocked pedestrians, savvy advertising strategies convinced consumers across the United States and western Europe to adopt the shrill Klaxon horn as the safest signaling technology available in the 1910s. The widespread use of Klaxons in the trenches of World War I, however, transformed how veterans heard this car horn, and its traumatic association with gas attacks ultimately doomed this once ubiquitous consumer technology.

By charting the meteoric rise and eventual fall of the Klaxon, Matthew Jordan highlights how perceptions of sound-producing technologies are guided by, manipulated, and transformed through advertising strategies, public debate, and governmental regulations. Jordan demonstrates in this fascinating history how consumers are led toward technological solutions for problems themselves created by technology.

Matthew F. Jordan is Associate Professor of Communications at the Pennsylvania State University.
Drawing Liberalism
Herblock’s Political Cartoons in Postwar America

“Simon Appleford has written a defining study of arguably twentieth-century America’s most important political cartoonist. Well researched and convincingly argued, Drawing Liberalism recovers Herblock’s impassioned defenses and criticisms of Cold War liberalism and anticommunism. This is a must-read book for understanding the political and cultural life of modern America.”—Blake Scott Ball, Huntingdon College, author of Charlie Brown’s America: The Popular Politics of Peanuts

“This book gets high marks for originality and is very likely to appeal to those interested in political history of the postwar period, political communication, and cartooning in general. An important work.”—Matthew J. Costello, Saint Xavier University, author of Secret Identity Crisis: Comic Books and the Unmasking of Cold War America

Drawing Liberalism is the first book-length critical examination of the political and social impact of the political cartoonist Herbert Block—popularly known as Herblock. Working for the Washington Post, Herblock played a central role in shaping, propagandizing, and defending the ideals of postwar liberalism, a normative set of values and assumptions that dominated American politics and culture after World War II.

Best remembered for his unrelenting opposition to and skewering cartoons of Joseph McCarthy and Richard Nixon, Herblock introduced the term “McCarthyism” into the American political lexicon. With its unstinting and unapologetic support for the liberal agenda across a career spanning over fifty years at the Post, Herblock’s work affords a unique lens through which to interpret and understand the shifts and contours of twentieth-century American political culture, from the postwar period through the civil rights era into the Nixon presidency.
The New Dominion
The Twentieth-Century Elections That Shaped Modern Virginia

“Milliken and Rozell have given us a readable book tracing a path through the tumultuous changes that drove the politics of Virginia in the last half of the twentieth century and showing the impact that population growth and an expanding electorate have had in shaping the politics of modern Virginia.” —Senator Mark Warner

“This timely and important book takes us through Virginia’s long evolution from machine-controlled, patronage plutocratic government and segregation to the ‘modernization’ of Virginia politics.” —Ronald Keith Gaddie, University of Oklahoma, coauthor of Georgia Politics in a State of Change

The New Dominion analyzes six key statewide elections to explore the demographic, cultural, and economic changes that drove the transformation of the state’s politics and shaped the political Virginia of today. Countering the common narrative that the shifting politics of Virginia is a recent phenomenon driven by population growth in the urban corridor, the contributors to this volume consider the antecedents to the rise of Virginia as a two-party competitive state in the critical elections of the twentieth century that they profile.

Contributors: Frank Atkinson, McGuireWoods LLP • Sally Burkley, William & Mary • Wendy Chen, Texas Tech University • Stephen J. Farnsworth, University of Mary Washington • Warren Fiske, VPM Public Radio • Stephen P. Hanna, University of Mary Washington • Julian Hayter, University of Richmond • Ronald L. Heinemann, Hampden-Sydney College • Robert Holsworth, Decide Smart

John G. Milliken is Senior Fellow in Residence at the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University. Mark J. Rozell is the Dean and Ruth D. and John T. Hazel Faculty Chair in Public Policy at the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University and coauthor of The South and the Transformation of US Politics.
The Garden in the Machine
Planning and Democracy in the Tennessee Valley Authority

“The Garden in the Machine promises to make a significant contribution to the scholarship of the Tennessee Valley Authority, particularly in terms of the landscape planning and the research agenda of the TVA ‘atelier.’”—CHRISTINE MACY, Dalhousie University, author of Dams

The Tennessee Valley Authority was the largest single agency created under the auspices of the New Deal legislation. Until 1933, when the project was initiated, the Tennessee Valley was known romantically as “a region of untapped potential” and, less romantically, as one of the most impoverished and isolated areas of the country. The TVA was responsible for three large-scale environmental projects—the river, land, and power machines—but the project also had social, even utopian, goals. In service to the latter, the TVA put together a cadre of regional planners, architects, and landscape architects that Avigail Sachs calls the “atelier TVA.” These professionals contributed to the design of the system of multipurpose dams, arranged visitor centers and scenic routes, built housing and communities (although both were segregated), and instigated a regional recreation industry. In addition to its planning and design history audience, this volume will be of interest to environmental historians and historians of the Progressive Era.

Avigail Sachs is Associate Professor of Architecture and Landscape History and Theory in the College of Architecture and Design at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and the author of Environmental Design: Architecture, Politics, and Science in Postwar America (Virginia).
Exuberance
Dialogues in African American Abstract Painting

Exuberance celebrates African American painters and challenges commonly held mindsets about abstract art and who makes it. This focused presentation of paintings features a range of works from the 1950s to present day, forging cross-generational dialogues about racial identity, dynamics of color and of pattern, as well as space, rhythm, and movement. Featured artists include Charles Burwell, Nanette Carter, Lisa Corinne Davis, Lamerol Gatewood, Rico Gatson, Felrath Hines, Norman Lewis, Erika Ranee, Ronald Walton, Benjamin Wigfall, and Susan Zurbrigg.

Susan Zurbrigg is Assistant Dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts and Professor of Art at James Madison University. Beth Hinderliter is Associate Professor of Art History and Director of the Duke Hall Gallery of Art at James Madison University.

DISTRIBUTED FOR DUKE GALLERY AT JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

STEVEN M. REISS

Frank Lloyd Wright’s Pope-Leighey House

In Frank Lloyd Wright’s Pope-Leighey House, architect Steven M. Reiss presents the updated and detailed story of one of Wright’s few Virginia commissions. Designed and built for Loren and Charlotte Pope and later purchased by Marjorie and Robert Leighey, the Pope-Leighey House stands as a stunning example of an innovative form of shelter—which Wright called Usonian—for families beset by the Great Depression. Here, and elsewhere, Wright offered a unique and unprecedented approach for homes that would be small yet architecturally significant, carefully sited, and constructed of readily available local materials. He believed that anyone with an acre of land should have the opportunity to own a Usonian home. In this richly illustrated book, Reiss echoes Wright’s reminder that small, carefully built structures should be the starting point of sustainable and environmentally responsible house design.

Steven M. Reiss is an architect, author, and lifelong student of Frank Lloyd Wright.
How did white Southerners in the nineteenth century reconcile a Christian faith that instructed them to turn the other cheek with a pervasive code of honor that instructed them to do just the opposite—to demand satisfaction for perceived insults? In Edgefield, South Carolina, in the 1830s, white Southerners combined these seemingly antithetical ideals to forge a new compound: a wrathful moral ethic of righteous honor. *Dueling Cultures, Damnable Legacies* investigates the formation and proliferation of this white supremacist ideology that merged masculine bellicosity with religious devotion.

In 1856, when Edgefield native Preston Smith Brooks viciously beat the abolitionist Charles Sumner on the Senate floor, the ideology of righteous honor reached its apogee and took national center stage. Welborn analyzes the birth of this peculiar moral ethic in Edgefield and traces its increasing dominance across the American South in the buildup to the Civil War, as white Southerners sought to cloak a war fought in defense of slavery in the language of honor and Christian piety.
The Civil War Political Tradition
Ten Portraits of Those Who Formed It

“The Civil War Political Tradition offers cogent analysis and the clear, concise pen of a practiced master of the American historical profession. Especially appropriate for undergraduate students who might be approaching serious study of these pivotal political figures for the first time.”—BARTON A. MYERS, Washington and Lee University, author of Rebels against the Confederacy: North Carolina’s Unionists

Modeling his latest book on Richard Hofstadter’s 1948 classic The American Political Tradition and the Men Who Made It, the renowned historian Paul Escott has composed ten concise but deeply learned and incisive biographies of key Americans in the years leading up to the Civil War. Escott profiles Henry Clay, John C. Calhoun, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Frederick Douglass, Stephen A. Douglas, Jefferson Davis, Abraham Lincoln, Horace Greeley, Albion Tourgée, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, illustrating how these men and women established, embodied, and advanced the opposing political and cultural trends that culminated in the great crisis of the nineteenth century.

Covering figures from across a wide political spectrum, Escott reveals numerous streams and facets of nineteenth-century American political thought to illuminate the forces, from slavery to suffrage, underlying this greatest of conflicts. Written accessibly and with a magisterial command of the subject, The Civil War Political Tradition is both a perfect introduction to this history and a penetrating new meditation on its players.

Paul D. Escott is Reynolds Professor of History Emeritus at Wake Forest University and author of numerous acclaimed books, including Slavery Remembered: A Record of Twentieth-Century Slave Narratives, winner of the Mayflower Cup, and Black Suffrage: Lincoln’s Last Goal (Virginia).

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A NATION DIVIDED: STUDIES IN THE CIVIL WAR ERA
“‘Historiography matters,’ according to Trevor Burnard, and I wholeheartedly agree! His even-handed new book offers an interesting approach to the genre by analyzing hundreds of articles from academic journals. Burnard here presents a nuanced account of trends in historical writing, finding much attention to slavery, Indigenous peoples, and empire, alongside other more persistent topics such as gender and the American Revolution. This work gives much food for thought.”—CARLA PESTANA, UCLA

To join a conversation, one must know what is being said. Writing Early America is a field report on the current state of the historiography on the colonial era—from the time of the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713 to the end of the American Revolution around 1784.

Based on a close reading of nearly four hundred articles in leading journals published over the past decade, Trevor Burnard provides an unprecedented analysis of the direction of the field encompassed by the popular hashtag #VastEarlyAmerica. He examines scholarship on the most important areas of current research—Indigenous history, slavery and race, and gender. Burnard also demonstrates how important imperialism has become in providing a framework for colonial American history, especially for new scholarship on the American War of Independence, which historians increasingly see in its context as part of a broader Age of Revolutions.

This is the first book in over thirty years to offer advanced undergraduate and graduate students and scholars a comprehensive guide to the historiography of early America.
Plain Paths and Dividing Lines
Navigating Native Land and Water in the Seventeenth-Century Chesapeake

“There is much to admire about this book, including the quality of the research—the excellent use of archaeology is especially commendable—and the persuasiveness of its arguments. Taylor has made several signal contributions to long-standing historiographical debates.”—MATTHEW KRUIER, University of Chicago, author of Time of Anarchy: Indigenous Power and the Crisis of Colonialism in Early America

It is one thing to draw a line in the sand but another to enforce it. In this innovative new work, Jessica Lauren Taylor follows the Native peoples and the newcomers who built and crossed emerging boundaries surrounding Indigenous towns and developing English plantations in the seventeenth-century Chesapeake Bay region.

In a riverine landscape defined by connection, Algonquians had cultivated ties to one another and into the continent for centuries. As Taylor finds, their networks continued to define the watery Chesapeake landscape, even as Virginia and Maryland’s planters erected fences and forts, policed unfree laborers, and dispatched land surveyors. By chronicling English and Algonquian attempts to move along paths and rivers and to enforce boundaries, Taylor casts a new light on pivotal moments in Anglo-Indigenous relations, from the growth of the fur trade to Bacon’s Rebellion.

Most important, Taylor traces the ways in which the peoples resisting colonial encroachment and subjugation used Native networks and Indigenous knowledge of the Bay to cross newly created English boundaries. She thereby illuminates alternate visions of power, freedom, and connection in the colonial Chesapeake.
Forms of Relation
Composing Kinship in Colonial Spanish America

“A thoroughly documented and theorized book, of the highest intellectual and interpretive caliber. Goldmark’s authoritative rapport with current as well as more historical publications in the field is stunning. A first-order contribution to colonial studies.”—EDUARDO GONZÁLEZ, Johns Hopkins University, author of Cuba and the Fall: Christian Text and Queer Narrative in the Fiction of José Lezama Lima and Reinaldo Arenas

Drawing on literary texts, conversion manuals, and colonial correspondence from sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Spain and Peru, Forms of Relation focuses on nonprocreative and nonbiological kinship ties, revealing the importance of these relationships to debates and struggles over colonial governance and identities.

Goldmark analyzes these ties as forms of kinship forged outside of the well-studied paradigms of sex, biology, and procreation. He demonstrates how colonial actors—Spanish and Indigenous—vied for power when they argued that identity could be shaped by spiritual fatherhood, standardized education, or the regulation of doctrine.

Forms of Relation illustrates why we must and how we can interrogate the dominant paradigms of mestizaje, heterosexuality, and biology that are too often left unchallenged in studies of Spanish colonialism, demonstrating how nonprocreative kinships proved critical to the creation of that regime.

Matthew Goldmark is Assistant Professor of Spanish at Florida State University.
Rumors of Revolution
Song, Sentiment, and Sedition in Colonial Louisiana

“Clearly and concisely executed, Rumors of Revolution makes an important contribution to the study of French writing about the Louisiana colony in the 1700s. There has not been a book like this published for more than fifty years.”—GORDON M. SAYRE, University of Oregon, coeditor of The Memoir of Lieutenant Dumont, 1715–1747: A Sojourner in the French Atlantic

In 1682 the French explorer René-Robert Cavelier de La Salle claimed the Mississippi River basin for France, naming the region Louisiana to honor his king, Louis XIV. Until the United States acquired the territory in the Louisiana Purchase more than a century later, there had never been a revolution, per se, in Louisiana. However, as Jennifer Tsien highlights in this groundbreaking work, revolutionary sentiment clearly surfaced in the literature and discourse both in the Louisiana colony and in France with dramatic and far-reaching consequences.

In Rumors of Revolution, Tsien analyzes documented observations made in Paris and in New Orleans about the exercise of royal power over French subjects and colonial Louisiana stories that laid bare the arbitrary powers and abuses that the government could exert on its people against their will. Ultimately, Tsien establishes an implicit connection between histories of settler colonialism in the Americas and the fate of absolutism in Europe that has been largely overlooked in scholarship to date.
In March 1781, General Washington anticipated a campaign to drive the British from New York City, but difficulties mandating enlistments and outfitting recruits forestalled this opportunity. Meanwhile, a storm damaged British ships and provided an opening for the French to sail from Newport to the Chesapeake Bay to help trap British forces commanded by Brig. Gen. Benedict Arnold in Virginia. To Washington’s disappointment, however, the British fleet recovered in time to fight the French at the Battle of Cape Henry, prompting Captain Destouches to withdraw and leaving the British to control the bay. Undeterred, Washington encouraged major generals Nathanael Greene and Baron von Steuben in the southern states, where Continental forces bloodied the British at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. His mounting personal frustrations regarding Mount Vernon and his mother’s efforts to secure financial relief from the Virginia legislature were lightened by Martha Washington’s presence at the winter encampment.
An Age of Hubris
Colonialism, Christianity, and the Xhosa in the Nineteenth Century

“An accessibly written and compelling synthesis that makes important contributions to several bodies of scholarship that have preoccupied generations of scholars interested in South African history as well as the intersections of empire and Christian evangelism.”—Fiona Vernal, University of Connecticut, author of The Farmerfield Mission: A Christian Community in South Africa, 1838–2008

An Age of Hubris is the first comprehensive overview of the impact of missionary enterprise on the Xhosa chiefdoms of South Africa in the first half of the nineteenth century, chronicling a world punctuated by war and millenarian eruptions, and the steady encroachment of settler land hunger and colonial hegemony. With it, Timothy Keegan contributes new approaches to Xhosa history and, most important, a new dimension to the much-trodden but still vital topic of the impact—cultural, social, and political—of missionary activity among African peoples.

The most significant historical works on the Xhosa have either become dated, foreground imperial-colonial history, or remain heavily theoretical in nature. In contrast, Keegan draws fruitfully on the rich Africanist comparative and anthropological literature now available, as well as extant primary sources, to foreground the Xhosa themselves in this crucial work. In so doing, he highlights the ways in which Africans utilized new ideas, resources, and practices to make sense of, react to, and resist the forces of colonial dispossession confronting them, emphasizing missionary frustration and African agency.

Timothy Keegan is the author of Colonial South Africa and the Origins of the Racial Order (Virginia).

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Peter DeGabriele makes original use of the drone and contemporary drone warfare to open up new readings of the early Enlightenment natural-right tradition, as well as using that tradition to reread the drone to examine its relation to questions of sovereignty, occupation, and the right to kill. The book straddles Enlightenment philosophy, British literature, warfare, and colonialism past and present, breathing fresh life into an often asthmatic area of scholarship.”—TONY C. BROWN, University of Minnesota, author of The Primitive, the Aesthetic, and the Savage: An Enlightenment Problematic

Drone warfare raises far-reaching questions about responsibility, war, and sovereignty. Who can be held accountable for drone strikes? How do wars conducted by drone disrupt ideas of national territories and sovereign boundaries? What does the occupation of a land or people look like if there are no boots on the ground? Focusing specifically on the United States’ use of killer drones during the War on Terror, Drone Enlightenment argues that this kind of warfare has its intellectual, ideological, and practical roots in the way the Enlightenment imagined moral agency, occupation, race, and sovereignty. By seeing drone warfare as a creature of the Enlightenment, and through innovative readings of Hobbes, Locke, Grotius, Pufendorf, Barbeyrac, and Swift, the book also reevaluates the Enlightenment itself.
Regenerating Romanticism
Botany, Sensibility, and Originality in British Literature, 1750–1830

“An important contribution to the ongoing work of expanding and reconsidering our understanding of Romantic-era literary history, this book details canonical male writers’ successful efforts to recode sensibility so as to exclude women from literary recognition.”—ELIZABETH A. BOHLS, University of Oregon, author of Slavery and the Politics of Place: Representing the Colonial Caribbean, 1770–1833

Within key texts of Romantic-era aesthetics, William Wordsworth, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, and other writers and theorists pointed to the poet, naturalist, and physician Erasmus Darwin as exemplifying a lack of originality and sensibility in the period’s scientific literature—the very qualities that such literature had actually sought to achieve. The success of this strawman tactic in establishing Romantic principles resulted in the historical devaluation of numerous other, especially female, imaginative authors, creating misunderstandings about the aesthetic intentions of the period’s scientific literature that continue to hinder and mislead scholars even today.

Regenerating Romanticism demonstrates that such strategies enabled some literary critics and arbiters of Romantic-era aesthetics to portray literature and science as locked in competition with one another while also establishing standards for the literary canon that mirrored developing ideas of scientific or biological sexism and racism. With this groundbreaking study, Melissa Bailes renovates understandings of sensibility and its importance to the late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century movement of scientific literature within genres such as poetry, fiction, travel writing, and children’s literature that obviously and technically engage with the natural sciences.

Melissa Bailes is Associate Professor of English at Tulane University and the author of Questioning Nature: British Women’s Scientific Writing and Literary Originality, 1750–1830 (Virginia).
Exemplary England
Historical Inquiry and Literary Recompense in Pope, Gray, and Richardson

“Exemplary England offers an original and thought-provoking analysis of texts that are not typically read in combination. Grant achieves a fresh and novel take on overlapping themes and strategies that would be much harder to discern within the conventional fault lines of genre that have tended to shape criticism of the period. A substantive contribution to eighteenth-century studies.”—Margaret Koehler, Otterbein University, author of Poetry of Attention in the Eighteenth Century

What meaning does the past hold for the present? History writing often prioritizes the ethos and actions of the “great men” of the past, those connected to formal expressions of power, as models worthy of imitation. The problem with such exemplars is that they craft a limited view of national identity, drawn from political, economic, religious, and social institutional superstructures. Inherently exclusionary, narratives of exemplary men inadequately represent the complexities of a metropolitan and diverse society.

In Exemplary England, Sarabeth Grant explores three canonical texts of 1740s England that critique the class, geography, and gender assumptions of the exemplar model. Through original readings of Alexander Pope, Thomas Gray, and Samuel Richardson, she locates practices of constituting history and registering national identity in eighteenth-century England beyond that tradition. Her book argues that these literary texts offer recompense for the national injustices endured by the disenfranchised, charting the development of inward historical consciousness as necessary to civic stability.
They Run with Surprising Swiftness
The Women Athletes of Early Modern Britain

“A pioneering book based on original and painstaking scholarship. The research will challenge preconceived popular and academic notions about the role and status of women in early modern British society.”—NEIL CARTER, De Montfort University, Leicester, author of Cycling and the British: A Modern History

Women have battled for a place in the male-dominated world of sports throughout the twentieth and early twenty-first centuries, overturning obstacles and highlighting the changing position of women in societies around the world. This has become one of the defining stories of our age and the central story of women’s sports. They Run with Surprising Swiftness tells a different and much older, forgotten story with many of the same themes.

Sports have never been the sole preserve of men; women athletes have always been there. As this book shows, throughout the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries in Britain, women of all ages ran, fought, rode, played football, cricket, tennis, and other sports. They competed in tough, head-to-head events that required extraordinary endurance and skill. Though not labeled “athletic” at the time, these women performed feats that in our age would certainly earn that descriptor. They Run with Surprising Swiftness recognizes these remarkable athletes and their achievements and aims to restore them to their rightful place in the long history of women in sport.
Driven to the Field
Sharecropping and Southern Literature

“Comprehensive and well argued, Driven to the Field moves comfortably among disciplines as diverse as literature, politics, economics, history, sociology, and the visual arts to explore a subject that has been ‘hiding in plain sight’ for far too long.”
—Christopher Metress, Samford University, editor of The Lynching of Emmett Till: A Documentary Narrative

Driven to the Field traces the culture of sharecropping—crucial to understanding life in the southern United States—from Emancipation to the twenty-first century. By reading dozens of works of literature in their historical context, David A. Davis demonstrates how sharecropping emerged, endured for a century, and continues to resonate in American culture. Following the end of slavery, sharecropping initially served as an expedient solution to a practical problem, but it quickly developed into an entrenched power structure situated between slavery and freedom that exploited the labor of Blacks and poor whites to produce agricultural commodities.

Sharecropping was the economic linchpin in the South’s social structure, and the region’s political system, race relations, and cultural practices were inextricably linked with this peculiar form of tenant farming from the end of the Civil War through the civil rights movement. Driven to the Field analyzes literary depictions of this system to explain how it defined the culture of the South, revealing multiple genres of literature that depicted sharecropping, such as cotton romances, agricultural uplift novels, proletarian sharecropper fiction, and sharecropper autobiographies—important works of American literature that have never before been evaluated and discussed in their proper context.
TISHA M. BROOKS

Spirit Deep
Recovering the Sacred in Black Women’s Travel

“The literal and literary ‘crossings and connections’ Brooks cites align perfectly with the fluid line between sacred and secular that characterizes this study and its contents. Spirit Deep further considers the contemporary ways in which the same enduring issues of power raised by nineteenth-century women on the move continue to haunt African Americans’ movements in the present.”—KIMBERLY RAE CONNOR, University of San Francisco, author of Imagining Grace: Liberating Theologies in the Slave Narrative Tradition

What would it mean for American and African American literary studies if readers took the spirituality and travel of Black women seriously? With Spirit Deep: Recovering the Sacred in Black Women’s Travel, Tisha Brooks addresses this question by focusing on three nineteenth-century Black women writers who merged the spiritual and travel narrative genres: Zilpha Elaw, Amanda Smith, and Nancy Prince. Brooks hereby challenges the divides between religious and literary studies, and between coerced and “free” passages within travel writing studies, to reveal meaningful new connections in Black women’s writings. Bringing together both sacred and secular texts, Spirit Deep uncovers an enduring spiritual legacy of movement and power that Black women have claimed for themselves in opposition to the single story of the Black (female) body as captive, monstrous, and strange. Spirit Deep thus addresses the marginalization of Black women from larger conversations about travel writing, demonstrating the continuing impact of their spirituality and movements in our present world.

Tisha M. Brooks is Associate Professor and Interim Associate Dean in the College of Arts and Sciences at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

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Criminal Cities
The Postcolonial Novel and Cathartic Crime

“There are many things to admire about this book. It is capacious in scope, while the close readings in the case studies provide instructive commentary on novels both highly canonical and less well known. It will make a significant contribution to postcolonial studies of criminality and crime fiction.”—Peter J. Kalliney, University of Kentucky, author of The Aesthetic Cold War: Decolonization and Global Literature

Why does crime feature at the center of so many postcolonial novels set in major cities? This book interrogates the connections that can be found between narratives of crime, cities, and colonialism to bring to light the ramifications of this literary preoccupation, as well as possibilities for cultural, aesthetic, and political catharsis.

Examining late-twentieth- and twenty-first-century novels set in London, Belfast, Mumbai, Sydney, Johannesburg, Nairobi, and urban areas in the Palestinian West Bank, Criminal Cities considers the marks left by neocolonialism and imperialism on the structures, institutions, and cartographies of twenty-first-century cities. Molly Slavin suggests that literary depictions of urban crime can offer unique capabilities for literary characters, as well as readers, to process and negotiate that lingering colonial violence, while also providing avenues for justice and forms of reparations.

Molly Slavin is Assistant Professor of English at Clark Atlanta University.
Skimpy Coverage
Sports Illustrated and the Shaping of the Female Athlete

“Gracefully written, brilliantly argued, thematically coherent, and a real pleasure to read.”—Derek Katsam, The University of Texas Permian Basin, author of Flashpoint: How a Little-Known Sporting Event Fueled America’s Anti-Apartheid Movement

Skimpy Coverage explores Sports Illustrated’s treatment of female athletes since the iconic magazine’s founding in 1954. The first book-length study of its kind, this accessible account charts the ways in which Sports Illustrated—arguably the leading sports publication in postwar America—engaged with the social and cultural changes affecting women’s athletics and the conversations about gender and identity they spawned.

Bonnie Hagerman examines the emergence of the magazine’s archetypal female athlete—good-looking, straight, and white—and argues that such qualities were the same ones the magazine prized in the women who appeared in its wildly successful Swimsuit Issue. As Hagerman shows, the female athlete and the swimsuit model, at least for the magazine, were essentially one and the same. Despite this conflation, and the challenges it poses, Hagerman also tracks the distance that sportswomen—including Wilma Rudolph, Billie Jean King, Serena Williams, and Megan Rapinoe—have traveled both within Sports Illustrated’s pages and without. Blending sports with gender history, Skimpy Coverage profiles numerous sportswomen who have used athletics and the platform sport offers to push for empowerment, freedom, equality, and acceptance in ways that have complemented and inspired broader feminist agendas.

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The Queerness of Water
Troubled Ecologies in the Eighteenth Century

“Chow makes an original and substantial contribution to at least three fields: eighteenth-century literary studies, ecocriticism and the environmental humanities, and queer studies. Such a multipronged contribution is rare and important. The Queerness of Water also features many excellent close readings, including of authors—such as Jonathan Swift—who have rarely been read through a queer lens.”—NICOLE SEYMOUR, California State University, Fullerton, author of Bad Environmentalism: Irony and Irreverence in the Ecological Age

This highly original book reconsiders canonical long eighteenth-century narratives through the conjoined lenses of queer studies and the environmental humanities. Moving from Daniel Defoe’s Robinson Crusoe and Jonathan Swift’s Gulliver’s Travels to Gothic novels including Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein, Jeremy Chow investigates the role that bodies of water play in reading these central texts.

Chow navigates various representations and phases of water to magnify the element’s furtive yet pronounced effects on narrative, theory, and identity. Water, Chow reveals, is both a participant and a stage upon which bodily violation manifests. The sea, rivers, pools, streams, and glaciers all participate in a violent decolonialism that fractures, revises, and reshapes notions of colonial masculinity emerging throughout the long eighteenth century.

Through an innovative series of intermezzi, The Queerness of Water also traces the afterlives of eighteenth-century literature in late twentieth- and twenty-first-century film, television, and other popular media, opening up conversations regarding canon, literary criticism, pedagogy, and climate change.
Climate Change and Original Sin
The Moral Ecology of John Milton’s Poetry

“A major contribution to the critical understanding of early modern notions of climate and climate change. This is an extremely impressive work of scholarship, and one of the very best works on Milton in recent years. Thorough, creative, and compelling.”—CHRISTOPHER KENDRICK, Loyola University Chicago, author of Milton: A Study in Ideology and Form

Prior to the Enlightenment era, how was the human-climate relationship conceived? Focusing on the most recent epoch in which belief in an animate environment still widely prevailed, Climate Change and Original Sin argues that an ecologically inflected moral system assumed humanity’s responsibility for climate corruption and volatility.

The environmental problem initiated by original sin is not only that humans alienated themselves from nature but also that satanic powers invaded the world and corrupted its elements—particularly the air. Milton shared with contemporaries the widespread view that storms and earthquakes represented the work of fearsome spiritual agents licensed to inflict misery on humans as penalty for sin. Katherine Cox’s work discerns in Paradise Lost an ecological fall distinct from, yet concurrent with, the human fall. In examining Milton’s evolving representations of the climate across several of his major poems, this book also traces the gradual development of ideas about the atmosphere during the seventeenth century—a change in the intellectual climate driven by experimental activity and heralding an ecologically devastating shift in Western attitudes toward the air.
LYNN PASQUERELLA

What We Value
Public Health, Social Justice, and Educating for Democracy

In What We Value, acclaimed bioethicist and educator Lynn Pasquerella examines urgent issues—the trauma of the COVID-19 pandemic, the student debt crisis, and racially motivated violence—with which Americans wrestle daily, arguing that liberal education is the best preparation for work, citizenship, and life in a future none of us can predict. Pasquerella addresses medical ethics and public health in the context of the pandemic, unpacks the current challenges surrounding free speech and inclusion on American campuses, and examines the growing racial and economic segregation in higher education. The author makes a forceful case for the value of a liberal education in providing the skills and competencies, alongside the habits of heart and mind, required to address the issues facing us all.

Lynn Pasquerella is president of the American Association of Colleges and Universities, former president of Mount Holyoke College, and coauthor of Ethical Issues in Home Health Care.

COLIN EDWARD WOODWARD

Marching Masters
Slavery, Race, and the Confederate Army during the Civil War

“Richly researched, intellectually cogent, and prolifically documented.”—America’s Civil War

Slavery was essential to the Confederate war machine, and Rebels strove to protect it just as they did Southern cities, towns, and railroads. In Marching Masters, Colin Woodward explores the forced labor of tens of thousands of enslaved men and how they propped up the fighting capacity of Confederate armies and contributed to the inflated postwar reputation of the Confederate war effort. By following Rebel troops’ continued adherence to notions of white supremacy into the Reconstruction and Jim Crow eras, this book carries the story well beyond the moment of surrender.

Colin Edward Woodward is a historian based in Richmond, Virginia.
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We have all been taught how to read books. But what can we learn by looking closely at their material forms? This richly illustrated volume walks readers through the unique collections of Rare Book School at the University of Virginia, an international institute founded by MacArthur Fellow Terry Belanger that brings together leading curators, librarians, book historians, curators, and collectors from around the world to teach and learn about books as physical objects. Featuring images of more than two hundred artifacts that illustrate the changing forms of the book over more than two millennia, Building the Book from the Ancient World to the Present Day offers a close and deep look into how books are constructed, decorated, and marked over the course of their sometimes long and varied lives. The descriptions of these carefully curated objects—which range from papyrus and clay inscriptions to artists’ books and e-readers—are detailed in their research and collaborative in their scope, documenting key methods and techniques used at Rare Book School to teach today’s cultural heritage professionals how to identify, date, and describe important works from the past, the bedrock of the world’s cultural memory.

At the same time, Building the Book calls attention to how books are valued in different ways and how they continue to be redefined—featuring rarely seen works from communities and makers, past and living—including some who have been forgotten or silenced within the historical record. Inclusive in its approach, this illuminating volume will prove engaging and instructive for cultural heritage professionals and general booklovers alike.

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