



The FEDERALIST

Society for History in the Federal Government Newsletter

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SHFG
www.shfg.org

2019 HEWLETT LECTURE

Celebrating 40 Years of the Society for History in the Federal Government

**October 24 at the Woodrow
Wilson Center for Scholars,
Washington, DC**

To celebrate the 40th anniversary of SHFG, the 2019 Hewlett Lecture will feature a roundtable of past presidents and founding SHFG members to discuss the achievements and evolution of the Society and federal government history over the past 40 years.

**Roundtable from 5:30 to 6:30 pm
Cocktail Reception 6:30 to 8 pm**

Please RSVP at shfg.org.
This event is free to SHFG members
and \$10 for non-members.



The Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS): The Nation's Oldest Federal Historic Preservation Program

By Catherine Lavoie

The Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) is the oldest federal historic preservation program, established in 1933-1934 through an unusual public-private partnership that spans both the legislative and executive branches of government to include the National Park Service (NPS), the Library of Congress (LoC), and the American Institute of Architects (AIA). HABS was created in response to a perceived need within all three organizations to preserve for future generations our nation's vanishing architectural heritage through the production of measured drawings, written histories, and large-format photographs. It marked the first time that historic resources were recorded on a national scale and to uniform standards. Under the terms of the tripartite agreement, NPS administers the program with a staff of architects, historians, photographer and collections manager. The LoC houses the collection and makes it available to the general public copyright-free through an online website. The AIA provides advice and support through the lens of private-sector practice, makes recommendations for the investigation of new methodologies, and supports program initiatives. HABS was further underpinned by the passage of the 1935 Historic Sites Act that among other initiatives called for NPS to "Secure, collate, and preserve drawings, plans, photographs, and other



Architects from the early days of the program measuring the Kentucky School for the Blind, Louisville, KY. HABS No. KY-20-19-7. Theodore Webb, photographer, March 16, 1934.

data of historic and archaeological sites, buildings, and objects."

As conceived, HABS documentation represents a "complete resume of the builder's art" encompassing high-style architect designed buildings as well as the vernacular and utilitarian to include everything from the ubiquitous log settler's cabin to the urban skyscraper. Also represented by the collection is a wide array of regionally and ethnically derived buildings such as Native American pueblos, Spanish Missions, and Southern Creole plantations to name but a few. HABS has recorded humble buildings that

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The Society is a national professional organization open to all who are interested in federal history programs. Annual membership fee is \$55, \$35 students, \$100 institutions and includes a subscription to *The Federalist*, *Federal History* journal, and other periodic publications. Contributors are encouraged to submit articles, news listings, and photographs to the editors.

Current and back issues are available to members at <http://shfg.wildapricot.org/Federalist>. Content listings for all issues are posted at <http://shfg.wildapricot.org/page-18090>.

Opinions expressed in articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the positions of *The Federalist*, the SHFG, or the agencies or organizations where the authors are employed.

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President's Message

Kristin Ahlberg

Strengthening our relationships with other professional organizations is one of the objectives the SHFG

Executive Council has set for itself during our 40th anniversary year. As I write this message, our first collaborative event for 2019–2020 is quickly approaching. SHFG and the National Council on Public History (NCPH) are co-hosting a networking event on September 10 here in Washington to bring together public historians from a variety of institutions. The NCPH and its Membership Committee developed this “After Work” model to encourage connection-building outside of the annual meeting, in this case, over pizza and hors d’oeuvres. I hope that this sort of gathering is something that SHFG can undertake with NCPH on a regular basis.

Planning for our March 2020 joint meeting with Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region (OHMAR), under the direction of SHFG Past President Jessie Kratz, is underway. The conference, “Stories from the Heart of Government: Politics and History,” will take place at the Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education at Shepherd University in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, March 12–14. The call for papers will be posted on the SHFG website (www.shfg.org) with a submission deadline of November 15. Please consider submitting a paper or a full panel and join us in Shepherdstown to celebrate our 40th anniversary year!

In addition to NCPH and OHMAR, the SHFG Executive Council is collaborating with the Organization of American Historians (OAH) to better incorporate federal history within the OAH annual meeting. Our members will be presenting papers and taking part in roundtables at the 2020 OAH meeting in Washington. SHFG historians will staff a SHFG table in the exhibit hall, discuss the work of their federal history programs at a Friday lunchtime event, and co-facilitate a jobs workshop for graduate students.

The Council is also actively pursuing

stronger connections with other historical organizations such as the American Historical Association (AHA) and the Western History Association (WHA), among others. Please let us know if there are other avenues of collaboration that we should pursue as a Society.

In the more immediate future, please remember to RSVP for this year’s Hewlett Lecture, which will take place at the Woodrow Wilson Center on October 24, beginning at 5:30 p.m. We will be commemorating the Society’s founding with a roundtable featuring past SHFG presidents and leadership. Please see the SHFG website for more details and to register. See you in October!

Join H-Fed Hist

Online at

<http://www.networks.h-net.org/h-fedhist>

Academic announcements • Book reviews
Job guide • Discussion logs

SAVE THE DATE

2020 Annual Meeting “Stories from the Heart of Government: Politics and History”

March 13–14

At the Robert C. Byrd Center for
Congressional History and Education,
Shepherdstown, WV

Call for papers and more information at
shfg.org

SHFG has room blocks reserved at the
Bavarian Inn and Clarion Hotel at special
group rates.

Please call to reserve rooms
at the group rate.

Editor's Note

Since the last issue of *The Federalist* went to print, I have been astonished by the public's thirst for federal history. Over the summer, families across the United States attended events and commemorations associated with the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing. The 100th anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment contextualized contemporary discussions of gender in society. The commemoration of 400 years of African American history inspired both thoughtful reflection and controversy. All of these events have been informed by the ongoing study of the history of the federal government, and serve as a reminder of the value of federal history.

This issue of *The Federalist* reflects the importance of work related to the history of the federal government across a variety of themes. **Catherine Lavoie**, Chief of the Historic American Buildings Survey, describes the work of the oldest federal historic preservation program—A collaborative partnership that preserves the architectural, engineering, and landscape heritage of the United States for future generations. **Elizabeth Harmon**, curator at the Smithsonian Institution Archives, highlights her research into the origins of the Smithsonian in context with the history of philanthropy and its founder James Smithson. **Cynthia Kelly**, founder and President of the Atomic Heritage Foundation, describes the

past, present, and future of her foundation in the History Professional feature, as the Atomic Heritage Foundation prepares to close its physical offices in Washington, DC, and embark on a new partnership with the National Museum of Nuclear Science & History in Albuquerque, NM.

This issue of *The Federalist* also features a new installment of Internships in Federal History, by **Alex Firestone**, who describes his oral history work at the Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training. In his From the Archives column, SHFG Archivist **Chas Downs** offers a timely history of the SHFG Archives as the Society makes preparations to move the Archives from its current location at NARA in College Park, MD, to American University. *The Federalist* also includes the story of the Robert “Bob” Wolfe collection on WWII captured German records at the National Archives, a reminder about the National Security Agency's 17th biennial Symposium on Cryptologic History, information on the National Postal Museum's biennial prizes for scholarship on the history of the U.S. postal system, and other federal history news.

Comments and suggestions are welcome at shfgfederalist@gmail.com or on Twitter [@faithtomfaith](https://twitter.com/faithtomfaith).

FEDERAL HISTORY Call for Papers

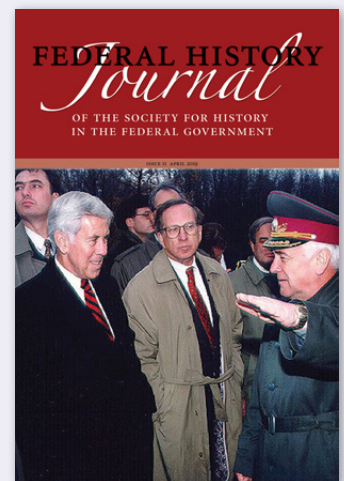
Federal History, journal of the Society for History in the Federal Government, seeks submissions for its April 2021 issue.

The journal promotes an interdisciplinary approach in its efforts to advance knowledge of the history of the federal government as well as of the professionals who produce historical work in government offices. It features scholarship on all aspects of the history and operations of the U.S. federal government, and of critical historical interactions between American society and the U.S. government, including the U.S. military, 1776 to the present.

It also publishes articles investigating contemporary issues and challenges in federal history work, including the areas of institutional history, interpretive work, museum work, records management, oral history, digital history, education, and library science. The journal highlights the research of historians working in or for federal agencies, in academia, and as independent scholars.

Federal History is an annual, peer-reviewed academic journal published both in print and online. It is indexed by Ebscohost. Read current and past issues at <http://shfg.wildapricot.org/page-18340>, and submission guidelines at <http://shfg.wildapricot.org/Submission-Guidelines>.

Send a draft and CV to the editors by Aug. 20, 2020, or earlier, at federalhistory@gmail.com for prompt consideration.



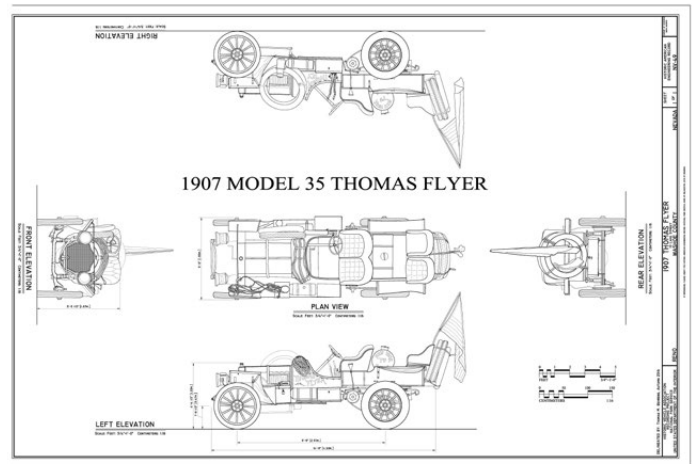
“HABS” from page 1

evoke the everyday lives of past generations as well as the nation’s most endearing monuments such as the Lincoln Memorial and Independence Hall. Buildings and sites significant for their associations with important persons, events, and social movements such as labor history and Civil Rights are recorded in an effort to tell all American stories. The collection currently includes documentation on over 44,000 sites. The website receives approximately 50,000 visitors per month, with K-thru-12 students and educators being the fastest growing user group.

While HABS believes that the preservation of historic sites is important as a means of providing tangible evidence of the nation’s architectural achievements as well as important persons and events, the program’s founders recognized that not all buildings can be saved. To ensure that they do not “pass into unrecorded oblivion” the documentation provides a record for future generations. It was likewise acknowledged that to be done properly and with a national perspective—as was stated in the original proposal — “a comprehensive and continuous national survey [of historic resources] is the logical concern of the Federal Government.”

The interested private-sector constituency responsible for HABS was matched in 1969 by the creation of a companion program, the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) when five engineering societies, NPS, and LoC signed a similar tripartite agreement. Although working within the same general guidelines, HAER documentation focuses on interpretive drawings and reports that make often complicated engineering and industrial processes understandable to the lay person. HAER has recorded sites such as textile mills, gold mines, electrical power plants and dams, maritime vessels, NASA rocket test stands, and iconic covered bridges. Likewise, the Historic American Landscape Survey was created in 2000 in partnership with the American Society of Landscape Architects to record important designed and cultural landscapes. These too range in scope from national parklands to formal gardens, including sites such as historic ranches in the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument, a sacred Hawaiian Heiau, and even World War I American cemeteries abroad.

Now recognized collectively as the Heritage Documentation Programs (HDP), the mission of HABS, HAER, and HALS today is multi-faceted. First and foremost is the generation of documentation for the LoC collection. HDP engages in agreements with other federal agencies and the private sector to create documentation that serves as baseline information used to rehabilitate and interpret historic resources. Recent recording projects include the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island Immigration Station, the National Mall’s Tidal Basin, and the NASA Space Shuttle. In some cases, the sites are recorded because they are threatened by forces such as development, urban renewal, or climate change. The program also serves as a

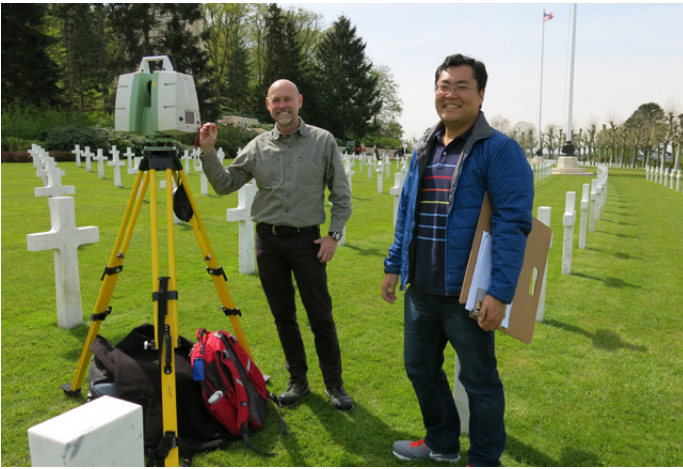


907 Model 35 Thomas Flyer, Reno, NV is an example of a car recorded for the Historic Vehicle Association. HAER No. NV-49. Thomas M. Behrens, architect, 2016.

clearing house for documentation produced to program standards generated by others. This generally takes the form of donations by students and professionals, and through compliance to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, which requires that significant historic buildings and sites negatively impacted by federal projects be recorded to program standards for inclusion in the LoC archive.

As the lead federal agency for such documentation HDP develops guidelines and standards that comply with the requirements set by the *Secretary of the Interior’s Guidelines for Architectural and Engineering Documentation* to ensure quality, uniformity, and long-term viability. This process is informed by the field testing of new recording technologies for use within the context of the *Secretary’s Standards*. At the same time, the programs create standard-setting documentation. For example, HAER is currently working with the Historic Vehicle Association to record the most important or path-breaking vehicles in American society such as the car that won the first Indianapolis 500, the first dune buggy, and the Cadillac retrofitted for used by the American Expeditionary Forces in Europe during World War I. In the process, HAER developed a prototypical design layout and formats for historical reports that address the particular qualities of automobiles.

All three programs routinely explore new recording methodologies and technologies to keep up-to-date and determine best practices. HDP methodology combines traditional hand-measuring with laser scanning, photogrammetry, and other technologies to accurately record historic sites. Because the *Secretary of the Interior’s Standards* demand clarity and long-term viability, the final product is the measured drawing printed on vellum rather laser scans alone. Only the drawings can guarantee a lasting record while at the same time being of use to our primary audience, the general public. In fact, due to the high-quality and online availability of the documentation it appears frequently in books, scholarly journals, and other forms of



Field Team members Dana Lockett and Daniel DeSousa using the Laser Scanner to record the Aisne-Marne World War I American Cemetery in France, 2016.

publication. As a byproduct of these technologies, HDP is able to produce digital animations. Although not part of the formal record, they are useful for educational purposes. Users can now visit sites such as Ellis Island, the Totem Pole Trail in Sitka National Historical Park in Alaska, or the Aisne-Marne American Cemetery and Memorial in Belleau, France virtually from the comfort of home through the HDP exhibits page (<https://www.nps.gov/hdp/exhibits.htm>).

Finally HABS/HAER/HALS trains the next generation of

preservationists through a student summer recording program, now in its sixty-first year. Teams of student architects, landscape architects, and architectural historians work under the direction of staff in the field and the Washington office to measure and draw, research and write about significant resources. The programs also support various prizes for the best set of measured drawings and for historical reports to encourage student and professional involvement.

More generally speaking HABS/HAER/HALS works in cooperation with other federal agencies and the private sector to underpin preservation efforts including rehabilitation, historical interpretation, and advocacy, and to increase awareness and appreciation for the nation’s architectural, engineering, and landscape legacy through the production of documentation make available to the public copyright free. HABS/HAER/HALS also maintains its own record group at the National Archives (RG 515) where information pertaining to the establishment and operations of the program are made available.

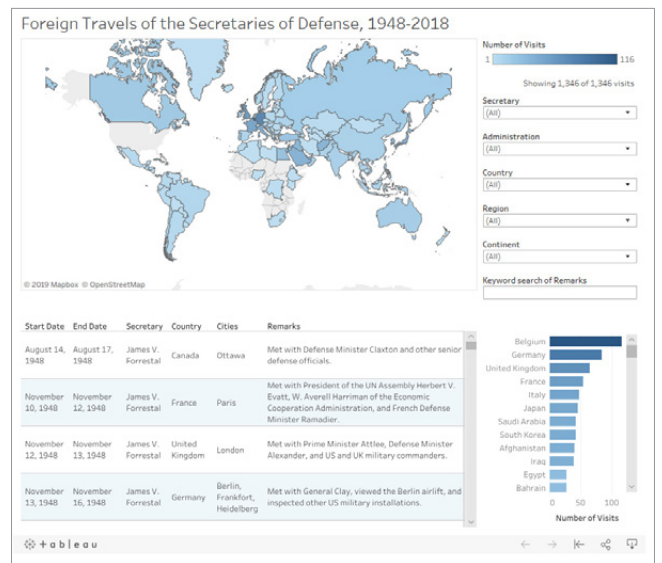
For more information about HABS/HAER/HALS visit the website at: <https://www.nps.gov/hdp/index.htm>, browse the online collection at: <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/hh/>, or contact HABS Chief Catherine Lavoie at: Catherine_Lavoie@nps.gov.

Catherine Lavoie is Chief of the Historic American Buildings Survey at the National Park Service.

Foreign Travels of the Secretaries of Defense at history.defense.gov

The Office of the Secretary of Defense Historical Office has launched an interactive online presentation of the foreign travels of the secretaries of defense from the origins of the position to the present. Designed as a user-friendly reference tool for defense professionals, historical researchers, journalists, and the public at large, the visual presentation and the wide variety of filters allows for quick answers to specific questions while also encouraging exploration and discovery. Users can drill down by secretary, presidential administration, country, continent, and region; they can combine these filters to build sophisticated queries with the click of a mouse and display the results on a color-coded map. A companion visualization allows for several different aggregations of the data and comparisons between secretaries. Details of each individual trip are displayed on each visualization, and users may export the visualizations or subsets of the raw data in multiple formats.

The secretary of defense’s role in foreign relations has evolved and expanded since the office was created in 1947, and the database of visits provides a window into this trend. Users will find both broad distinctions and subtle differences between



the travels of different secretaries and how presidential administrations deployed these policymakers. Unlike static presentations of data, this interactive visualization provides users with a tool to ask new questions and make new discoveries. The visualization is available at: <https://history.defense.gov/DOD-History/Secretary-of-Defense-Travels/>

Robert “Bob” Wolfe: Captured German Records Expert

The following was originally posted at the National Archives Blog Pieces of History on March 21, 2019, at <https://prologue.blogs.archives.gov/2019/03/21/robert-bob-wolfe-captured-german-records-expert/>:

For over 30 years Robert “Bob” Wolfe was the senior archivist for the captured German records at the National Archives seized during World War II. Now the Robert Wolfe Collection is available through the National Archives Library Information Center. (<https://www.archives.gov/research/alic/special-collections/wolfe-collection>) After Wolfe passed away in 2014, his family donated his collection of works on World War II, postwar Germany, and European history to the National Archives. To make arrangements to see the collection, send an email to alic@nara.gov.

Wolfe was born on March 2, 1921, in Burlington, Vermont, to Jewish immigrant parents from Lithuania. He earned a B.A. in history from the University of Vermont in 1942 and started graduate studies at Columbia University before leaving for World War II. He served in the U.S. Army in both Europe and the Pacific and earned a Purple Heart. After the war, he served as an official in the U.S. military government of Germany from 1945 to 1948. When he returned to the United States, he went back to Columbia to earn his M.A. in 1955, then began working as a member of the American Historical Association’s team to microfilm captured German records at the World War II Records Center in Alexandria, Virginia (the former U.S. Naval Torpedo Station). The National Archives hired Wolfe in 1961 on a temporary basis to review and describe Berlin Document Center microfilm. The following year the Archives hired him permanently, this time as a subject matter expert on the Captured German Records. Thus began his long and industrious career at the National Archives as the go-to guy on Holocaust, Nazi-era, and postwar military government records for a generation of historians.

In addition to helping countless researchers he assisted Israeli prosecutors in the trial of Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann who was convicted in the early 1960s. Wolfe also helped the Office of Special Investigations of the U.S. Department of Justice and Canadian, Australian, and British authorities prosecute former Nazis and Nazi collaborators who entered those countries. After he retired from the National Archives in 1995, he worked as an adviser to Chairman Elie Wiesel at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, and in 2001 he began working for the Nazi War Criminal Records Interagency Working Group (IWG). While there, he helped review millions of pages of newly declassified records on Nazi war criminals and crimes and co-authored the IWG’s final report, *U.S. Intelligence and the Nazis*, in 2004. Robert Wolfe died on December 9, 2014, in Alexandria, Virginia, at age 93.



Top: Robert Wolfe speaks about “Some Specialized Captured Records and Their Uses,” at the Conference on Captured German and Related Records in the National Archive theater; 11/12/1968. (National Archives Identifier 23855721)

Above: Robert Wolfe speaks at the Interagency Working Group (IWG) Press Conference on the release of previously classified material concerning Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records, 5/13/2004. (National Archives Identifier 66785354)

To learn more about Robert Wolfe read his chronology of the Captured Records Staff at <https://www.archives.gov/research/holocaust/articles-and-papers/symposium-papers/chronology-of-captured-records-staff.html>.

To learn more about foreign records seized read Sonia Kahn’s blog series in Pieces of History at <https://prologue.blogs.archives.gov/tag/foreign-records-seized/>.

Internships in Federal History

Hearing History First Hand at ADST

By Alex Firestone

The history of American diplomacy and the American diplomatic corps has always fascinated me. As a result, I guess it's natural that I was excited to land an internship at the Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training, or ADST. ADST is a repository for oral histories of Foreign Service Officers (FSOs), State Department personnel and American diplomats and is located on the Foreign Service Institute's campus. Although it is surrounded by federal buildings, ADST is housed in a quaint old schoolhouse. During my internship at ADST I aided in transcribing many of these interviews. I read and listened to first-hand testimony of historical events and information, some of which is not widely known to historians.

Perhaps the most exciting experience during my internship was getting to sit in on an interview with Beth Payne, an FSO who was U.S. Consul in Baghdad in 2003, just after Operation Iraqi Freedom. This was a truly special occasion, and I felt privileged to listen to someone who participated in an historical event describe what they did for the official historical record. Payne survived an attack on the American Consulate in Baghdad and helped to save the lives of others. For her actions, she was presented the State Department's Award for Heroism.

Some of the transcripts I reviewed contained information that I never found in other records and, to my knowledge, cannot be found anywhere other than the ADST archives. For example, a former FSO was part of the staff of the National Security Council. While there, he was asked to draw up plans for actions that the U.S. could take to confront Soviet influence during the Cold War. One of these was a bizarre idea that, had



Alex Firestone poses with Ben Franklin's portrait at the Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training.

it been carried out, would have been one of the strangest episodes of the Cold War. The plan was to invade Suriname, on the northern coast of South America. This scheme was to respond to a possible Marxist-Leninist coup in the country. The invasion would have been a joint action with the Netherlands, Suriname's former colonial power. The plan was shelved, but it nevertheless remains a fascinating footnote of cold war history that I had never previously seen described.

My time at ADST revealed to me how incredibly significant it is to have first-hand historical records concerning the careers of key government employees. This is not just valuable for historians – it is also a resource for both current and future members of the State Department, who can learn from the actions of their predecessors. For someone like me, who wants to use his knowledge of history for a career in the U.S. government, there was a no better place to start than an internship at ADST.

The National Postal Museum Awards for Scholarship in Postal History

The National Postal Museum sponsors three biennial prizes for scholarship on the history of the postal system in the United States and its territories, and their antecedents. These prizes – the National Postal Museum Awards for Scholarship in Postal History – are designed to encourage scholarship on the history of the American postal system and to raise awareness of the significance of the postal system in American life. Scholarship by graduate students is eligible for a \$1,000 award; scholarship



Smithsonian
National Postal Museum

by scholars and professionals (faculty members, independent scholars, and public historians) is eligible for a \$2,000 award; and public history scholarship presented online is eligible for a \$1,000 award.

Submissions are due by December 2, 2019. For more information, please see <https://postalmuseum.si.edu/research/NPM-Awards-for-Scholarship-in-Postal-History/>

The Smithsonian Institution and American Philanthropy

By Elizabeth A. Harmon

Historians often cite George Peabody as the “father” of modern American philanthropy—in large part because, in 1867, he established the Peabody Education Fund (PEF) to promote education in the South. Peabody endowed the PEF while living, and he personally selected the \$1 million in securities that comprised the fund’s original endowment, which he envisioned growing for generations to come. Rather than endowing a single educational institution, he selected a group of trustees to bring his vision to life, which they did by working with local schools and agencies across the South to build support for taxpayer-supported education.

All of these factors make the PEF a precedent-setting foundation in the history of American philanthropy. And so, when the field of philanthropy professionalized in the early twentieth century, its promoters cited the PEF as the first in a series of great foundations in American history, which included varying combinations of the Slater Fund (1882), the Carnegie Institution of Washington (1902), the General Education Board (1903), the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching (1906), the Russell Sage Foundation (1907), the Anna T. Jeanes Foundation (1908), and the Rockefeller Foundation (1913). It’s in this lineage that Peabody is understood as the “father” of modern American philanthropy.

When creating his precedent-setting foundation, though, Peabody and his advisers referenced an even earlier private foundation to help with their designs. That entity was the Smithsonian Institution, and although it was created from a posthumous bequest, it shared many of the characteristics of the PEF. Despite the fact that we most often hear about Peabody and his later successors, it’s actually Smithson and the Smithsonian that should be viewed as the origins of modern American philanthropy.

As readers of this newsletter will likely know, James Smithson—an Englishman—bequeathed almost all of his fortune to his English nephew in 1829, but in the event of his nephew’s death and in the absence of heirs, he left his fortune “to the United States of America, to found at Washington, under the name of the Smithsonian Institution, an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men.” Smithson’s nephew died in 1835 without progeny, and the fortune ultimately became the property of the United States. Subsequently, Congress was tasked with bringing Smithson’s bequest to life, and in 1846, Congress officially chartered the Smithsonian.

It was this example that was guiding Peabody’s philanthropic innovation from the very beginning. In fact, before Peabody had consolidated his status as a major philanthropist, according to one of his biographers, a friend chided him for not spending more of his money and asked: was Peabody trying to become the next James Smithson? Smithson’s bequest was so well known that it influenced the culture of nineteenth-century American philanthropy. Further, the year before Peabody chartered the PEF in 1867, he dined with the Smithsonian’s first Secretary, Joseph Henry. Henry



James Smithson, c. 1765–1829. National Portrait Gallery, NPG.85.44.

was a passionate advocate for endowed institutions in the United States, and he cautioned Peabody not to squander any portion of his future philanthropy on buildings—all of the money should be preserved in an endowment, so it could make a continued, lasting impact. Peabody, it’s clear, listened to Joseph Henry’s advice, and it’s also clear that Peabody was considering Smithson as he developed the PEF.

Today, one might wonder whether the Smithsonian could have really served as such a model. We do sometimes forget about Smithson when discussing the history of American philanthropy, because the Smithsonian is so often thought of as a government entity, rather than a private foundation. In 1858, the federal government started to make annual appropriations to the Smithsonian; by the 1880’s, a majority of its funding came from the federal government, and that trend continued across the next century.

There is, however, more to this story. While the Smithsonian may be thought of as a government entity today, its first leadership did not think of it as governmental. According to its founding leadership, the Smithsonian was a private foundation. William Rhees, the first keeper of the Smithsonian Institution Archives, explained in a 1879 collection of documents relating to the Smithsonian’s history: “The Smithsonian [was] not a Government Institution, as [was] often supposed, but [was] a private foundation, originating entirely in the bequest of an individual.” In fact, Joseph Henry had also emphasized that the Smithsonian originated in a private bequest in his 1847 “Programme of Organization,” which he created to guide the Smithsonian’s first trustees. “The institution is not a



George Peabody, 1795–1869. National Portrait Gallery, NPG.68.26.

national establishment, as is frequently supposed, but the establishment of an individual, and is to bear and perpetuate his name,” Henry explained.

When Congress used a corporate charter—the foundational document that defined the Smithsonian’s powers and purposes as a legal entity—to manage James Smithson’s bequest, it set the stage for Joseph Henry and William Rhees to make credible claims that the Smithsonian was a private foundation. What is more, the powers granted to the Smithsonian in its charter laid the groundwork for the expansive corporate privileges we associate with modern philanthropy. Congress granted the Smithsonian the right to exist in perpetuity, it created a board of trustees to manage Smithson’s \$500,000 gift so it would grow for generations to come, and it drew up a broad purpose for the Smithsonian in line with Smithson’s vision—one that could foster the “increase and diffusion of knowledge” through museums, archives, research centers, and libraries.

These corporate privileges were many of the hallmarks of the innovative form of the PEF, and references to the Smithsonian and Congressional charters are woven throughout the founding documents of the major philanthropic foundations that followed the PEF in the early twentieth century. The Carnegie Institution of Washington (CIW), the General Education Board, as well as the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, all received Congressional charters that can, in some sense, be traced back to the Smithsonian’s. In a letter, which can be found in the CIW’s Administration Records, John L. Cadwalader, the attorney



Procession at the Smithsonian’s 1965 James Smithson Bicentennial Celebration. Smithsonian Archives, SIA2009-3215.

who drafted the CIW’s 1904 charter, wrote that he “based it somewhat upon the act of incorporation the Smithsonian and similar acts which have passed Congress.” In short, the Smithsonian was an important archetype for the major foundations we know today.

In retrospect, Peabody’s friend could not have chosen a more apt framing for his ribbing—because Peabody would ultimately become the next James Smithson. Really, as a result, Peabody’s recognition as the “father” of modern American philanthropy is a title better bestowed on James Smithson. And it’s Smithson and the Smithsonian that should have a central place in the origin story of modern American philanthropy, because by examining some of the nation’s first philanthropic foundations’ articles of incorporation, as well as correspondence between foundation trustees and their legal and philanthropic advisers, another origin story emerges—one focused on the Smithsonian and the charter that Congress granted it.

Elizabeth Harmon, PhD, is a curator at the Smithsonian Institution Archives. You can contact her at harmone@umich.edu.

Feature Your Project!

Want to spread the word about your work? *The Federalist* newsletter prints information about federal history projects and issues affecting federal history programs.

If you or your organization have news items related to federal history that you would like printed in *The Federalist*, or if you have a press release, feature article, or profile you would like to contribute, email the editor at shfgfederalist@gmail.com.

The Federalist welcomes contributors with information highlighting news of the profession, or who are willing to describe their projects for the SHFG audience!

The History Professional *An Interview with Cynthia C. Kelly*

Cynthia C. Kelly is the founder and President of the Atomic Heritage Foundation. Before creating the Foundation, she served over twenty years as a senior executive with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Agency, receiving the Distinguished Career Service Award for her time at both agencies. She graduated with a bachelor degree in history from Wellesley College, earned a master's degree from Yale University, and taught history before her career with the Federal government.



Cynthia C. Kelly

Interview by Thomas Faith

When you founded the Atomic Heritage Foundation (AHF) in 2002, what did you hope you would be able to accomplish?

In February 2002, my immediate objective was to raise a little over a million dollars. In the late 1990s, the White House initiated the Save America's Treasures program and invited Federal agencies to apply for the grants to commemorate the millennium. The Department of Energy (DOE) where I was working received two grants.

One was for a cluster of dilapidated Manhattan Project properties at Los Alamos that had been slated for demolition. Hidden from public view, few people realized they existed. At my instigation, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation agreed to see them. One architectural historian declared them "monumental in their lack of monumentality." A National Park Service official said they were "National Historic Landmark" and possibly "World Heritage Site" caliber.

When the DOE received two Save America's Treasures grants in 1999, the Catch-22 was that the grant funds had to be matched with non-Federal funds. That challenge propelled me to leave the Federal government and found the Atomic Heritage Foundation.

In the spring of 2002, AHF received a \$250,000 grant to write a report for Congress analyzing how best to deal with the Department of Energy's remaining Manhattan Project properties. With this mandate, AHF launched a national effort to develop a strategy to preserve the Manhattan Project heritage. Exactly what would come of AHF's initiative was unclear but at least there was serious Congressional interest.

What aspect of your personal or professional experiences do you think most influences your approach to directing AHF?

I am a generalist who has spent many years immersed in technical fields. Working at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), I was responsible for regulating the chemical industry under the Toxic Substances Control Act. Chemists, physicists, and engineers inside EPA and from industry and environmental groups provided the expertise essential to crafting the regulations.

With this background, I became comfortable dealing with complex scientific issues and learning from technical experts.

The Manhattan Project began with fundamental discoveries of nuclear fission followed by a myriad of inventions. The Atomic Heritage Foundation has sought to capture the accounts of the inventors as well as the managers, construction workers, military police and others whose stories contribute to understanding the Manhattan Project.

What role did AHF play in the establishment of Manhattan Project National Historical Park?

The Atomic Heritage Foundation (AHF) led the efforts to create a Manhattan Project National Historical Park. In 2003, AHF convened public meetings in each of the three major Manhattan Project sites: Los Alamos, NM, Oak Ridge, TN, and Hanford, WA. At each site, AHF invited the National Park Service to participate and explain what the implications of creating a Manhattan Project national historical park were for the communities. This was the first time such a possibility had been publicly raised.

AHF briefed Congressional staff on the costs and benefits of a Manhattan Project National Historical Park. Then AHF helped draft the legislation and testified before Congress. In 2004, Congress passed legislation directing the National Park Service to study the feasibility of creating a Manhattan Project National Historical Park.

Over the next decade, AHF cultivated bipartisan support at all three sites and led a national coalition for the park. The National Trust for Historic Preservation and the National Parks and Conservation Association were important allies.

While it was touch-and-go, Congress agreed to an omnibus park amendment as part of the National Defense Authorization Act at the end December 2014. Responsible for jointly administering the new park, the Departments of Interior and Energy signed an agreement establishing the Manhattan Project National Historical Park in November 2015. With very limited funds available, the park is "open" but will be a work in progress for many years.

What online projects has AHF undertaken?

AHF has undertaken three major online projects. The first is the Atomic Heritage Foundation's main website at www.atomicheritage.org. This site has become a major resource for students with its detailed timeline and hundreds of articles on

different aspects of the history. One of the most popular features is the 14,000 profiles of Manhattan Project participants.

The “Ranger in Your Pocket” website (www.rangerinyourpocket.org) contains hundreds of short audio/visual vignettes that can be accessed on smartphones or home computers. These programs incorporate interviews with Manhattan Project participants who describe their work or what life was like in the top-secret project.

The “Voices of the Manhattan Project” website (www.manhattanprojectvoices.org) has over 600 oral histories. About half of these were taken by journalists between 1965 and 1995. These include interviews with the top-echelon scientists and military leaders. Other interviews were taken between 2002 and 2019 of younger participants whose stories are not usually told in official histories. These include members of the Special Engineer Detachment, women, African Americans, Hispanos, and Native Americans.

AHF’s websites are on track to have 2.4 million visitors in 2019, with the number increasing by nearly 50 percent each year. Over half of viewers are under 35 with the majority of these being students. Another 15 to 20 percent are international audiences.

What considerations do you make when conducting oral history interviews of scientific figures?

Over the past two decades, AHF has focused on collecting oral histories from a broad spectrum of participants. By 2005, most of the top-echelon scientists were no longer alive. Instead, AHF successfully worked to make available hundreds of interviews that were in university and private archives. This usually involved digitizing recordings made on older media, transcribing and publishing them online.

In addition, AHF conducted hundreds of interviews with Manhattan Project participants whose stories have generally not been told in official histories. AHF worked with local historical societies, national organizations and others to identify people who would be good interviewees. As a result, AHF traveled across the country to interview men and women who worked on the Manhattan Project. These interviews included African Americans, Hispanos, and Native Americans who either worked on the Manhattan Project themselves or whose lives were impacted by it.

What considerations do you make when helping a public audience interpret the history of atomic weapons?

The first question that people ask is whether the United States should have dropped the atomic bombs on Japan. Far removed from World War II and six horrific years of war, audiences are hard pressed to understand why President Truman agreed to use the new weapon.

AHF’s goal is to educate audiences about World War II and help them appreciate the difficulties of decision-making in the “fog of war.” Were the Japanese ready to surrender? What were Stalin and the USSR’s ambitions? What did President Truman know about radiation or the likely consequences of the atomic bomb?

These issues will be debated for generations to come. AHF provides testimony of experts as well as the reflections of the Manhattan Project participants. Audiences are encouraged to think critically and draw their own conclusions.

How did the idea for your partnership with the National Museum of Nuclear Science & History originate?

AHF has worked informally with the National Museum of Nuclear Science & History over the last two decades, collaborating on several initiatives. The missions of the AHF and the Museum are very complementary.

At the time that AHF was exploring possible partnerships with other organizations, the Museum was developing a strategic plan. The plan that emerged is to expand their educational and online presence. AHF’s strength and resources mesh perfectly with this vision.

How will the partnership work in practice?

AHF is committed to working with the Museum and its staff over the next two or three years. During this time, the Museum needs to raise funds to build their capacity to manage the existing resources and expand upon what AHF has begun.

Fortunately, there is much that can be done in the short term. For example, the Museum is integrating AHF’s library and archival collections into its own impressive library and archival collections. The Museum also has extensive interpretive displays and educational programs. With additional funding, the Museum may incorporate some audio/visual programs using AHF’s resources.

The Museum will be able to learn from what AHF has done and take advantage of AHF’s online resources to attract younger audiences. The Museum is interested in expanding upon AHF’s oral history collections to include veterans of the Cold War and other aspects of the Manhattan Project’s legacy.

What plans does the AHF have for the future?

AHF is committed to working with the National Museum of Nuclear Science & History and its staff over the next two or three years to ensure a smooth and successful transition. Among other things, AHF and the Museum plan to upgrade and integrate their respective websites and maintain an active presence on social media to reach new audiences.

This fall, AHF is publishing the third edition of its popular guidebook to the Manhattan Project in New Mexico. For the 75th anniversary of the Manhattan Project in 2020, AHF will be publishing a new edition of its well-received anthology, *The Manhattan Project: The Birth of the Atomic Bomb in the Words of Its Creators, Eyewitnesses, and Historians* (2007).

In addition, AHF will continue to work on interpreting the Manhattan Project from multiple perspectives and encouraging audiences to think critically when considering this complex and controversial history. The Manhattan Project left an indelible legacy. Understanding the history and reflecting upon its lessons will be essential for generations to come.

From the Archives

The SHFG's Executive Council Search for a Repository for the SHFG Archives

By Chas Downs

This summer the SHFG Executive Council voted to explore the possibility of placing the Society's Archives with American University. Members of that institution had expressed interest in obtaining the SHFG Archives because of its historical value, since it documented the only organization which focused on the practice of Federal history, and how the SHFG had influenced and supported professionalism and excellence in the in the historical programs of the Federal government. They took this action because, while it has existed for decades, incredibly the SHFG's Archives has never had a formal repository. The reason for this can be traced back to the Society's early years, since no formal provision had been made as to how or where the Society's records would be kept. Not surprisingly, in an organization replete with historians and archivists, records of both temporary and enduring value gradually accumulated. Dr. Paul J. Sheips, an Army historian, who had been appointed the Society's first Secretary, took it upon himself to gather together and carefully organize the records of the Society's early years. These records, along with his personal interviews with SHFG personalities, were the key sources for Dennis Ross, "The First Decade of the Society for History in the Federal Government" [unpublished manuscript, SHFG Archives and on SHFG website].

The creation of an SHFG archives was a key element in the 1986 Report of the Long Range Planning Committee, which specified the Society's administrative needs: clerical assistance, mail and publication distribution, telephone resources, and support for meetings and other events, as well as office space with room for storage of active and archival records. A resulting SHFG paper, titled "An Institutional Base for The Society for History in the Federal Government", concluded that the history department of a local university was the best option for providing the SHFG affordable administrative support. In addition, a close relationship with a major academic institution would benefit both parties by developing relationships between the public historians who were SHFG members and the university's academic historians. On June 11, 1986, a presentation before the Executive Council explored "the possibility of an institutional link between the SHFG and the University of Maryland". The University of Maryland's size, close proximity, and strong History Department made it seem an ideal choice. Unfortunately, after a couple of

successful years, the SHFG's first attempt at an "institutional relationship" with the University of Maryland lapsed. In *The Federalist* Winter 1990 issue, Roger Trask stated that the University of

Maryland SHFG Office had to close because the History Department lacked the financial support of the University. Trask hoped to make similar arrangements elsewhere, but in the Summer 1992 *Federalist*, Charlene Bickford, who had proposed a connection with George Washington University, noted that pressure on university budgets made such arrangements unlikely. Still, in 1994, a committee consisting of Jack Shulimson, Phil Cantelon, and Sam Walker began discussions with University of Maryland representatives to explore the possibility of resuming a jointly sponsored graduate fellowship. After extensive discussions with the University of Maryland it became clear by 1995 that the projected agreement would not happen.

By the late 1990s, the SHFG was undergoing a period of reevaluation, questioning and revising its purpose, goals, organization, bylaws, and procedures. During this process, the records retained in the SHFG Archives were used to provide background and guidance for proposed changes and revisions. Dick Myers, a senior National Archives staff member, became concerned that, while older SHFG records had been turned over to the Archives, more recent records were not coming in, creating gaps in SHFG's organizational memory. The reasons for records not coming into the SHFG Archives were varied, and Myers knew he had to act to deal with the situation. Seeking to remedy the lack of clarity in records management responsibilities, Myers encouraged former SHFG officers and other key members to send Society materials that they had retained to the SHFG Archives in hopes of acquiring missing or alienated SHFG records. In order to regularize the transfer of records, Myers wrote a Records Schedule for SHFG records, which was approved by the SHFG Executive Council in March 1997. This records schedule provided structure and guidance for SHFG members wishing to offer appropriate records to the SHFG Archives.



SHFG Archivist Dick Myers

Myers informed the Society's officers about the archives' utility as a resource for information and guidance, and tried to demonstrate its value to the SHFG members. At Annual Meetings, Myers often displayed and discussed significant and interesting archival documents to those present. He was also responsible for moving and maintaining the SHFG archives in the National Archives Building in College Park. With no agreements with local universities forthcoming, Myers encouraged the Society to donate its records to the National Archives, since the records were already physically at the National Archives, and their content reflected the SHFG's long relationship with NARA. Myers promised the Executive Council to have an agreement with The National Archives in place by June 2002, but it seems that no such agreement was ever reached. Illness ultimately prevented Myers from continuing his activities with the SHFG Archives.

Chas Downs eventually took over Myers' archival duties for the Society. Having recently retired after a career with NARA, Downs returned there as a volunteer. Coincidentally, at that time, the SHFG records were stored in a closet only a few feet from his desk. One of Downs' first tasks was to process several feet of materials that had been accumulated, rebox them, and create a finding aid for the entire collection. He also answered questions about the archives composition, furnished material required by SHFG officers to conduct the Society's business, and provide them with historical perspective. The Executive Council formally named Downs as SHFG Archivist in 2012. To inform the Society's members about the SHFG Archives' contents, a quarterly "From the Archives" feature, suggested by then editor Benjamin Guterman and written by Downs, has appeared in *The Federalist* since 2008.

Unsuccessful attempts to formalize the SHFG Archives' status continued over the next few years. Phil Cantelon, of History Associates Incorporated, suggested that his organization could house the archives at no charge. Proposals to recruit interns to work on the SHFG Archives also came to naught. While there was continued interest in resolving the problem of SHFG Archives, actions were sporadic and not followed through by the Society, at least not until recently. While she was SHFG President, Jessie Kratz worked with the SHFG Archivist to try to resolve the issue. An SHFG Archives Committee, consisting of Bruce Bustard, Richard Hulver, and Mattea Sanders, was formed to examine the matter, and it was discussed at the SHFG Business Meeting during the 2019 Annual Meeting. Then, on June 14, 2019, the Executive Council voted to pursue a possible solution presented by American University. The Council's rationale was that the SHFG Archives would be more accessible to Society members and researchers at American University than at its current location at the National Archives.

Once American University agreed to accept the SHFG materials, arrangements for the transfer were put in place by the NARA point-of-contact, Dawn Sherman-Fells. With the assistance of SHFG Archivist Chas Downs, NARA subject area expert Patrick Osborn and SHFG Past President Jessie Kratz are to review the materials to ensure they include no NARA holdings, and that all SHFG records are properly identified for transfer. Once designated as appropriate, these materials are scheduled to go to American University early in September 2019.

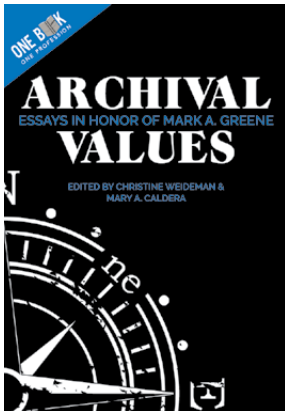
To learn more about the SHFG Archives, or if you have additional information or documentation on this or other SHFG matters, contact Chas Downs at chasdowns@verizon.net.

Symposium on Cryptologic History

The National Security Agency's 17th biennial Symposium on Cryptologic History will take place October 17-19, 2019 at the Kossiakoff Center on the campus of Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab in Laurel, MD. Since 1990, the Symposium has served as an opportunity to present historical discoveries found in unclassified and declassified Intelligence Community records and engage in scholarly discussion about their significance to cryptologic history. The 2019 Symposium programs offers over 20 educational sessions led by over 65 speakers. Topics include cryptologic history related to WWI, WWII, the Cold War, communications security, cyberspace and technology, international and diplomatic relations, counterintelligence and espionage, declassification and public engagement, and more.

To view the full preliminary program and register visit <https://cryptologicfoundation.org/what-we-do/educate/conferences/symposium.html>. Questions should be directed to cchevents@nsa.gov.

Recent Publications



Archival Values: Essays in Honor of Mark A. Greene, Edited by Christine Weideman and Mary A. Caldera. As a practitioner, administrator, teacher, theorist, and leader, Mark A. Greene (1959–2017) was one of the most influential archivists of his generation on US archival theory and practice. He helped shape the modern American archivist identity through the establishment of a core set of values for the profession.

In this exquisite collection of essays, twenty-three archivists from repositories across the profession examine the values that comprise the Core Values Statement of the Society of American Archivists. For each value, several archivists comment on what the value means to them and how it reflects and impacts archival work. These essays clearly demonstrate how core values empower archivists' interactions with resource providers, legislators, donors, patrons, and the public. For anyone who wishes to engage in thinking about what archivists do and why, *Archival Values* is essential reading. Available at https://mysaa.archivists.org/nc_store.



Check out the first three volumes in the Society of American Archivists' new seven-volume "Archival Fundamentals" series on best practices for archives and manuscripts:

- Volume 1, *Leading and Managing Archives and Manuscripts Programs*, edited by Peter Gottlieb and David W. Carmicheal, provides plentiful examples of successful leadership practices from the archives field for students, aspiring and newly appointed managers, those working alone or with few staff, and veteran practitioners.
- Volume 2, *Arranging and Describing Archives and Manuscripts*, by Dennis Meissner, provides a solid foundation in the history, theory, and standards supporting arrangement and description, as well as demonstrates the methods and mechanics required to process archival collections.
- Volume 3, *Advocacy and Awareness for Archivists*, by Kathleen D. Roe, will help you adopt an "advocacy frame of mind" and encourage you to do the work that will bring the change you seek.

The Archival Fundamentals Series and other Society of American Archivists publications are available at https://mysaa.archivists.org/nc_store.

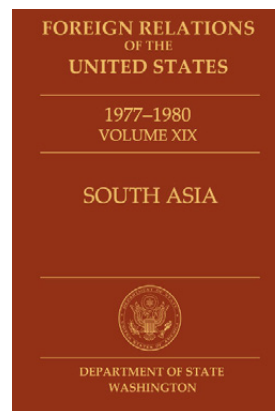


The Evolution of Forward Surgery in the US Army: From the Revolutionary War to the Combat Operations of the 21st Century. This volume in the Borden Institute's history series will describe forward US Army surgery from the 1700s to the present time. The book will look at advances in medicine and surgery that improved the lot of the American soldier. In particular, the book will examine the impact of disease upon troop strength, which had

special impact in the Revolutionary War through the post-Civil War period. Forward surgery in the modern sense came of age in World War I. The challenge of so many different theaters of conflict in World War II will be examined from the portable surgical hospital of the China-Burma-India Theater of Operations to the surgical evacuation hospital teams of the European Theater of Operations. The evolving care models will feature the story of the Korean War mobile army surgical hospital. The book also covers the following topics of interest:

- helicopter air evacuation in Vietnam,
- improved surgical techniques,
- advances of forward surgery from the post-Vietnam era to the present.

Free electronic copies of this volume and other products produced by the US Army Medical Department & Borden Institute can be found here: <https://bookstore.gpo.gov/agency/borden-institute>.



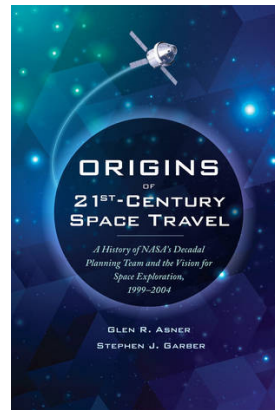
The Department of State released *Foreign Relations of the United States, 1977–1980, Volume XIX, South Asia*. This volume is part of a Foreign Relations subseries that documents the most important foreign policy issues of the Jimmy Carter administration.

This volume documents the Carter administration's approach to the South Asia region in response to the shifting political landscape at the end of the 1970s. During the first three years of Carter's presidency, U.S. relations with South Asia were shaped by three contextual factors: tensions over nuclear proliferation, the rivalry between India and Pakistan, and the Carter administration's preference for developing closer ties with democratically-elected governments. Under this preference, U.S. relations with India improved while relations with Pakistan withered. The Soviet invasion

of Afghanistan in late December 1979 led Carter to seek closer relations with Pakistan in order to thwart what his administration feared to be a new era of Soviet expansion. Carter's efforts to enlist support against the Soviet Union regarding Afghanistan eclipsed the administration's fear of nuclear proliferation, and U.S. sponsorship of India-Pakistan rapprochement suffered from the U.S. attempt to send Pakistan large scale military aid and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's refusal to condemn the Soviet invasion.

The volume also includes documentation on the Carter administration's policy towards Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Nepal. While issues such as the attempted coup d'état in Bangladesh in 1977 and Bangladesh's membership in the United Nations Security Council during the Iranian hostage crisis brought Bangladesh in conflict with the Carter administration, relations toward these countries were largely subject to policy objectives relating to India and Pakistan. The promotion of democratic governance and human rights, along with food aid, represented the significant policy initiatives towards these countries.

This compilation was compiled and edited by Seth A. Rotramel. The volume and this press release are available on the Office of the Historian website at <https://history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1977-80v19>. Copies of the volume will be available for purchase from the U.S. Government Publishing Office online at <http://bookstore.gpo.gov> (GPO S/N 044-000-02699-6; ISBN 978-0-16-095156-5), or by calling toll-free 1-866-512-1800 (D.C. area 202-512-1800). For further information, contact history@state.gov.



The NASA History Division is pleased to announce the publication of Glen Asner and Stephen Garber's new book *Origins of 21st Century Space Travel: A History of NASA's Decadal Planning Team and the Vision for Space Exploration, 1999-2004* (NASA SP-2019-4415).

On 14 January 2004, President George W. Bush announced that NASA would embark on a new Vision for Space Exploration, less than a year after the Columbia Space Shuttle accident. The President's ambitious agenda included resuming Shuttle flights, completing the International Space Station, and robotic and then human exploration of the Moon and Mars. The story starts in earnest in 1999, when NASA initiated a Decadal Planning Team to generate viable plans for humans and robots to explore beyond low-Earth orbit. This book provides a detailed historical account of the ideas, debates, and decisions that opened the way for a new generation of spaceflight at the start of the 21st century.

E-book versions are available for free downloading from https://www.nasa.gov/connect/ebooks/origins_detail.html online. Hard copies may be requested free from the NASA Headquarters Information Center, 300 E St. SW, Suite 1U72, Washington, DC 20546, 202-358-0000.

NEW

from the
NASA HISTORY DIVISION

Now available in digital and print formats,
**Origins of 21st-Century Space Travel:
A History of NASA's Decadal Planning
Team and the Vision for Space Exploration,
1999–2004** by Glen R. Asner and Stephen
J. Garber gives a detailed historical account
of the plans, debates, and decisions that
opened the way for a new generation of
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Making History

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

The US Senate voted to confirm Aimee Jorjani as the first full-time chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) on June 27, 2019. Ms. Jorjani will complete the four-year term that began in January 2017. The full-time chairman position was created through the December 2016 enactment of the National Park Service Centennial Act, which contained amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) converting the current part-time chairman to a full-time position. She was nominated by President Donald J. Trump. Ms. Jorjani has nearly 20 years of experience in the fields of government and cultural resources from a variety of perspectives including both executive and legislative branches, as well as the non-profit sector. Her career began on Capitol Hill working as a legislative aide to Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI). She later moved to the US Department of the Interior (DOI) and had several positions, including serving as the Deputy Secretary's Special Assistant for Historic Preservation and as DOI's first Department-wide Historic Preservation Officer. She has a Masters in Historic Preservation from Goucher College.

Atomic Heritage Foundation

With an agreement signed on June 28, 2019, the Atomic Heritage Foundation and the National Museum of Nuclear Science & History are



forging a new partnership to preserve the history of the Manhattan Project and the Atomic Age. This significant agreement will ensure that the Atomic Heritage Foundation's extensive collection of oral histories, interpretive vignettes, and articles about the Manhattan Project and its legacy will remain available to the public for the foreseeable future. The partnership with the Museum is very timely. After 17 years, AHF is closing its physical offices in downtown Washington, DC. With less than 3 percent of World War II veterans still alive, AHF has seen its base of Manhattan Project supporters dwindle over the past several years. With foundations favoring current weapons policy and advocacy organizations and little government support, AHF has found it increasingly difficult to sustain a fully staffed office in downtown Washington, DC. AHF will continue to be managed by President Cindy Kelly who plans to work with the Museum on the transition and selected projects. For more information visit <https://www.atomicheritage.org/news-and-articles>.

Center For Land Use Interpretation

New exhibit: *Voice of America: The Long Reach of Shortwave*. In 1943, the government built some of the largest radio stations ever made, to broadcast federally-produced programs to targeted nations around the world — programming that became known as

Voice of America. This broadcasting continued after the war, and expanded through the Cold War, growing to a network of five powerful shortwave transmitting plants in the USA, boosted by more than a dozen transmission and relay stations overseas. Today Voice of America is still broadcast around the world by shortwave radio from Greenville, North Carolina, along with other federally-produced programs aimed, especially, at Cuba. The facility called VOA Site B, also known as the Edward R. Murrow Transmitting Station, has been operating since 1963. It is the last of the old Voice of America radio transmission plants in the USA. The others were, essentially, abandoned in place, left as monuments to the power of radio. Currently on display at CLUI Los Angeles: <http://clui.org/section/voice-america-long-reach-shortwave>.

Council on Library and Information Resources

The Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) has received a \$149,880 grant from the US Embassy in Baghdad for a project to digitize collections of the Kurdish Heritage Institute (KHI) in Sulaymaniyah in Iraqi Kurdistan. The project, undertaken jointly with KHI, will digitize their extensive collection of books, culturally significant photos, and audio and video files. The Digital Library of the Middle East (DLME) will implement the project. DLME project director Peter Herdrich and Amed Demirhan of the Barzani National Memorial in Erbil, Kurdistan will oversee the 12-month project and work with the Kurdish Heritage Institute staff to catalog, document, digitize, and store the KHI collection of Kurdish language books and other cultural materials. The goal is to establish the first open, online portal for Kurdish heritage materials in Iraq. The DLME will also federate files into its digital platform (<https://dlme.clir.org/>), amplifying access to these materials for global users. Learn more at <https://www.clir.org>.

Department of Veterans Affairs

The Department of Veterans Affairs welcomes its first departmental historian, Col. (Ret.) Michael Visconage, on July 8, 2019. He was a Marine Corps field historian for the 3rd Marine Air Wing and Multi-National Forces West during the Iraq War and, most recently, served as Director of the Texas World War I Centennial Commemoration Association.

Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum

The all-new 25,000 square feet of museum exhibit space at the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum is now open. The most recent innovations in technological components and interactives are guaranteed to engage audiences of all ages and learning styles. Two new interactive displays help bring Ike and Mamie to life. The first, "Becoming Ike and Mamie," allows visitors to explore Eisenhower's pre-WWII career assignments. Another interactive will help visitors understand the impacts of the Cold War during the Eisenhower Administration. Visit us online at eisenhowerlibrary.gov for ticket pricing and to plan your visit today!

Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum

The Harry S. Truman Library and Museum is launching a significant renovation of its facilities and programs. This is the Truman Library's first major renovation in more than 20 years and the largest since the museum opened its doors in 1957. This \$25-million project is planned to coincide with the 75th anniversary of the start of Truman's presidency in 2020 and aims to dramatically transform the museum with updated technology, interactive displays, and participatory learning opportunities. To learn more about the project, visit the Truman Institute's website: trumanlibraryinstitute.org/capital-campaign.

Lepage Center for History in the Public Interest

The Lepage Center for History in the Public Interest has received a grant from The Lenfest Institute for Journalism to partner with *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and the Lenfest Center for Cultural Partnerships at Drexel University on infusing more historical scholarship into local journalism. The Lepage Center, Lenfest Center, and *The Inquirer* will collaborate through the grant on a pilot initiative that will bring together local historians and local journalists who each research and report on topics of critical import to society: the opioid crisis, immigration, and infrastructure. The initiative between historians and journalists is envisioned as an initial step in bringing these two professions into closer working relationship. The Lepage Center will seek additional support to fund similar collaborations in Philadelphia and other cities. For more information on the initiative, visit <https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/artsci/lepage/research/journalists.html>.

Library of Congress

For the first time in 16 years, the Library is rolling out an all-new Cataloging in Publication (CIP) database. It's called PrePub Book Link (PPBL), and it overhauls the sturdy-but-outdated 2003 system. The overhaul took more than one and a half years. Overhauling that system was complicated, as it had dozens of moving parts. More than 200 Library employees catalog CIP books. Thirty-one partner institutions – mostly academic institutions with university presses — also use the system to catalog their titles. Publishing houses, independent authors and small presses use it every day. At any one time, 4,000 or more books are in the pipeline. Creating the new program took the efforts of more than 30 staffers, plus contractors, working across four departments. The new system is faster, allows publishers to log-in by multiple accounts and attach a PDF file for the book, and provides auto-filled data boxes to streamline the process.

Michelle Light, formerly director of Special Collections and Archives at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, has been named director of the Library of Congress' Special Collections Directorate. She began work in her new position on May 28.

Light's professional career in libraries spans 26 years and includes positions of progressive responsibility: head of Special Collections Technical Services at the University of Washington; head of Special Collections, Archives and Digital Scholarship at the University of California, Irvine; and director of Special Collections and Archives at UNLV. Her service in these positions reflects extensive hands-on and management experience in such areas as special collections technical services, collection development, digital programs, public service and outreach programs, and fundraising.

In the July/August issue of the *Library of Congress Magazine*, *Library* kicks off the run-up year to the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage in the U.S. with a powerful new exhibition displaying the history of the struggle through photos, documents and the papers of the movement's greatest figures. Visit <http://www.loc.gov/lcm/> to download and read the issue.

National Archives and Records Administration

On June 13, the National Archives in partnership with the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress, presented a panel discussion with former members of Congress Donna Edwards (D-MD), Barbara Comstock (R-VA), and Connie Morella (R-MD) titled "The Female Candidate for Office: Challenges and Hurdles." This program was in conjunction with the National Archives celebration of the centennial of women's suffrage and its new exhibit, *Rightfully Hers: American Women and the Vote*. The program was live streamed on the National Archives YouTube channel at https://youtu.be/HzMNoaYx_7k.

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) is in the final stages of its records scheduling review process with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for schedule DAA-0567-2015-0013, Detainee Records. This schedule was originally proposed to NARA on October 26, 2015. NARA published notice of the pending schedule in the Federal Register on July 14, 2017. The schedule, which covers records related to deaths of detainees and allegations of sexual assault and abuse of detainees, received a record number of public comments. NARA has published a response in the Federal Register and consolidated reply to comments on Regulations.gov. This schedule will authorize the disposal of various categories of ICE records over an extended period of time and designate other records for permanent retention in the National Archives, including case files related to detainee deaths in ICE custody.

Now you can refine online catalog searches by record group or collection at catalog.archives.gov. Previously, users were only able to limit their search by record group or collection in the advanced search, and the number or identifier had to be known and entered manually. Under this new refinement option, you will see a list of the records group numbers and/or collection identifiers that have results responsive to their search terms. These record groups and collections are sorted in descending order based on which have the most relevant results – you will see the number of relevant results next to each record group or collection listed. This new refinement feature will help users narrow their results to the record groups or collections that are of interest to them.



The National Archives entered into an agreement Aug. 9 with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to digitize U.S. Navy and Coast Guard deck logs from vessels with Vietnam-era service. U.S. Naval and Coast Guard deck logs, in the custody of the National Archives, contain critical information required to validate the claims for those who served in Vietnam and establish service-connection for disability benefits. Beginning this month, the VA will begin scanning more than 20 million images from the U.S. Naval and Coast Guard deck logs. While the scanning project is underway this group of records will be closed to researchers at National Archives facilities, but access will be restored as soon as possible after the paper records are returned. The National Archives will also begin the process of making the digitized records available on [archives.gov](https://www.archives.gov), after images are transferred by the VA and the images are screened for privacy concerns. This project will support the processing of veterans' claims, including those related to the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019, and eventually facilitate increased access to these records by researchers in a digital format without having to travel to a National Archives facility. Through this partnership, National Archives will improve access to and discovery of these historically significant records.

National Declassification Center

On July 3, 2019, the NDC released a listing of 158 entries that completed declassification processing between April 1, 2019 and June 30, 2019. These records are now available for researcher requests. This release consists of textual and special media records from military and civilian agencies as well as the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum. The FY2019-Q3 Release List is available to view or download in PDF and Excel formats at <https://declassification.blogs.archives.gov/2019/08/05/new-records-released-2019-third-quarter-release-list/>.

Highlights from the released records include:

- Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Unabstracted Aircraft Intelligence Reports Regarding Japanese and USSR Aircraft
- Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Korean War Diaries, 1950-1953
- Department of State, Classified Passport Applications
- Department of State, Salk (Polio) Vaccine Files
- Department of the Army, Publications Background Files and Radio Frequency Files
- Office of the Secretary of Defense, "Pentagon Papers" Investigation Files
- Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum, White House Tapes: Sound Recordings of Meetings and Telephone Conversations of the Nixon Administration (February 16, 1971-July 18, 1973)

To request access to the newly released records or to order copies, please contact Archives 2 Reference at 301-837-3510 or archives2reference@nara.gov. For Nixon Tapes, please contact the Nixon Library at 714-983-9120 or nixonreference@nara.gov. Please note that some series may contain other restrictions such as privacy or law enforcement and may require screening or a FOIA

request prior to access. When making a request, please cite the Record Group/Collection Identifier, HMS Entry, and Series Title.

National Endowment for the Humanities

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) is partnering with the U.S. Department of Education (ED) to offer a special funding opportunity to bring together educators, national leaders, researchers, and other practitioners to assess how American history, civics, and government are taught in K-12 education. The two federal agencies have issued a joint request for proposals for a fifteen-month \$650,000 cooperative agreement to plan, develop, and implement a series of two national convenings focused on the assessment of the state of civics education and knowledge of American history in K-12 education, publish a report on the findings, and engage in a robust national publicity campaign, including a national forum to be held in Washington, D.C. to launch the report.

On August 2, NEH announced that sixteen prominent humanities scholars and advocates have been appointed to the National Council on the Humanities. The Council is NEH's 26-member advisory body, which meets three times a year to review grant applications and to advise the NEH chairman. The new Council appointees were nominated by President Donald J. Trump in 2018 and confirmed by the U.S. Senate on August 1, 2019. For the press release and names of the new Council members visit <https://www.neh.gov/news/sixteen-new-members-appointed-national-council-humanities>.

National Museum of the United States Army

The U.S. Army announced that the National Museum of the United States Army will open to the public on June 4, 2020. Admission to the Museum will be free of charge, though tickets must be requested through an online reservation system for a specific date and time. Ticket reservations are not yet open. More information about the online ticketing system will be available early next year. The Army Historical Foundation looks forward to welcoming every Soldier, Army Family, Veteran and citizen of our grateful nation to this magnificent Museum.



National Park Service

The National Park Service (NPS) announced on May 31 \$500,000 in grants to support 13 projects, which will help identify and nominate state, tribal, and local sites for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The NPS' Underrepresented Community Grant Program helps fund projects such as surveys and inventories of historic properties, and assists communities currently underrepresented in the National Register with developing their nominations. This year's funded projects include the development a historic context for women's suffrage sites in Nevada, documentation of significant tribal sites for the Pala,

Saginaw, Ysleta, and Muckleshoot Indians in California, and a survey of the Great Migration and its impacts on the development of African American neighborhoods in Detroit. For more information about the grants and the Underrepresented Community Grant Program, please visit, <https://go.nps.gov/urc>.

NPS also announced \$499,705.96 in grants from the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) to help protect 131.49 acres of America's battlefields threatened with damage or destruction by urban and suburban development. These grants will be used to acquire a portion of the Fort Blakeley Battlefield in Alabama, Champion Hill Battlefield in Mississippi, and Spotsylvania Court House Battlefield in Virginia, each a significant Civil War Battlefield.

Jeffrey P. Reinbold, a national park manager with 28 years' experience and expertise in public-private partnerships, has been selected by the National Park Service to serve as superintendent of National Mall and Memorial Parks. Reinbold has served as acting superintendent of National Mall and Memorial Parks since March. He will manage the iconic monuments and memorials of the nation's capital, and care for treasured neighborhood green space with a budget of approximately \$35 million and alongside a staff of nearly 300 and more than 6,000 volunteers. More than 35 million visitors to the National Mall contribute more than \$800 million to the local economy annually. Reinbold will also manage the National Mall's infrastructure improvement projects, ensuring the enjoyment of future park visitors.

National Security Archive

The latest addition to the award-winning publications series The Digital National Security Archive provides a trove of important historical documentation on global nuclear proliferation, including numerous new details and insights into the clandestine programs of India, China, Israel, and other would-be nuclear states. *U.S. Nuclear Nonproliferation Policy, 1954-1968: From Atoms for Peace to the NPT*, compiled and edited by National Security Archive nuclear expert William Burr, explores a crucial period in the nuclear era when many of the problems and challenges facing today's nonproliferation regime began to emerge. The new collection, totaling over 2,300 documents and 12,645 pages and distributed by the academic publisher ProQuest, fills significant research gaps for historians and offers a variety of document-based cases to help inform public debate as well as government decision-making about curbing the spread of nuclear weapons.

Office of Strategic Services Society

This year's William J. Donovan Award will be presented to General James Mattis, USMC (Ret.) in Washington, D.C., on October 12, 2019. It will mark the first time it has been presented to a Marine. We will also commemorate the 75th anniversary of D-Day. The OSS Society presents the William J. Donovan Award to an individual who has rendered distinguished service to the United States of America. The purpose of the award is to recognize someone who has exemplified the distinguishing features that characterized General Donovan's lifetime of public service to the United States of America as a citizen and a soldier.

Organization of American Historians

Executive Director Katherine Finley recently announced that she will be retiring on June 30, 2020, after more than 10 years with the OAH and over 40 years working in the nonprofit sector. A search committee has been appointed to find her replacement, who will begin on July 1, 2020. You can learn more about the position and application process at <https://careers.oah.org/jobs/12440584/executive-director>.

Senate Historical Office

Recently, the U.S. Senate Historical Office launched an online exhibit commemorating the centennial of the Senate's passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution (<https://www.senate.gov/artandhistory/history/People/Women/WomanSuffrage2019.htm>). "The U.S. Senate and Women's Fight for the Vote" joins a number of initiatives, commemorative activities, and celebrations focused on the national women's suffrage centennial that are occurring across the United States. "The U.S. Senate and Women's Fight for the Vote" complements public programs being offered by the Senate Historical Office in 2019 and 2020, including a series of lunchtime talks and special Capitol tours designed to interpret the Senate's 41-year road to passing the Nineteenth Amendment by highlighting historic spaces significant to this effort. In 2020, the Senate Historical Office will introduce a second digital exhibit documenting women's evolving role in the Senate since 1789. Tentatively titled "Women of the Senate," this exhibit will feature a short documentary and selected oral histories that explore the varied experiences of women senators and their top female staff.

Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative

The symposium "Towards a More Inclusive Women's Military History" was held at the National Portrait Gallery on July 18. Students, archivists, scholars and curators of women's military history—as well as veterans and active members of the military—convened to share their work, reflect on the past and future of women's military history, and develop a way forward for a more inclusive community across diverse institutions and audiences. This symposium was organized by the National Museum of American History, National Postal Museum, and National Portrait Gallery with support from the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative, and a recording of some of its proceedings can be viewed at <https://www.ustream.tv/recorded/123125019>.

Veterans Health Administration

Darlene Richardson, Historian for the Veterans Health Administration under the Department of Veterans Affairs, is retiring at the end of June 2019 after 17 years. She was the second historian hired by the National Cemetery Administration (2002-2006) and managed the first nationwide inventory of monuments and memorials there. In 2006 she became the first historian for the Veterans Health Administration. Since 2007 she has worked to bring about a departmental-wide history program and repository, conducted research to identify the first African Americans and women veterans, and shared the history of VA health care through traveling exhibits, articles, and an internal blog.



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Federalist Calendar

Sep. 19–20, 2019. McMullen Naval History Symposium. U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD. Visit <https://www.usna.edu/History/Symposium/>

Sep. 19–22, 2019. Society for the History of Technology. Annual Meeting. Milan, Italy. Visit <https://www.historyoftechnology.org/annual-meeting/>

Oct. 16–19, 2019. Oral History Association. Annual Meeting. “Pathways in the Field: Considerations for those Working In, On, and Around Oral History.” Salt Lake City, UT. Visit <http://www.oralhistory.org/annual-meeting/>

Oct. 17–18, 2019. Symposium on Cryptologic History. “From Discovery to Discourse.” Laurel, MD. Visit <https://www.nsa.gov/about/cryptologic-heritage/center-cryptologic-history/#symposium>

Oct. 24–25, 2019. Managing Scandal in the White House. Symposium. Mississippi State, MS. Visit <https://networks.h-net.org/node/73374/announcements/3671097/managing-scandal-white-house-october-24-25-2019>

Jan. 3–6, 2020. American Historical Association. 134th Annual Meeting. New York, NY. Visit <https://www.historians.org/annual-meeting>

Mar. 18–21, 2020. National Council on Public History. Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA. Visit <http://ncph.org/conference/2020-annual-meeting/>

Mar. 22–24, 2020. Veteran Studies Association. 5th Veterans in Society Conference. “Veteran Identity, Advocacy, and Representation.” St. Louis, MO. Visit <https://www.veteranology.org/conference>

Mar. 25–29, 2020. American Society for Environmental History. Annual Conference. Ottawa, Canada. Visit <https://m.aseh.net/conference-workshops/2020-conference-ottawa-canada>

Apr. 2–5, 2020. Organization of American Historians. Annual Meeting. “(In)Equalities.” Washington, DC. Visit <http://www.oah.org/meetings-events/oah20/>

Apr. 30–May 3, 2020. Society for Military History. 87th Annual Meeting. “Policy by Other Means.” Arlington, VA. Visit <http://www.smh-hq.org/smh2020/index.html>

June 18–20, 2020. Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR). Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA. Visit <https://www.shafr.org/conferences/annual/shafr-2020-annual-meeting>

July 16–19, 2020. Society for Historians of the Early American Republic (SHEAR). 42nd Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA. Visit <http://www.shear.org/annual-meeting/>