

Archives of Revolution (June 20-22, 2024)

Hosted by the John Carter Brown Library & the McNeil Center for Early American Studies with The Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

Sayles Hall, Main Campus Green, Providence, RI 02912

Thursday, June 20 (Day 1):

Conference Welcome (4:30 - 5:00 PM): Emma Hart, Sean Quimby & Karin Wulf

Keynote Discussion (5:00 - 6:00 PM):

Chair: Anthony Bogues, Director of the Simmons Center, Asa Messer Professor of Humanities and Critical Theory, Professor of Africana Studies

"The Treasurer's Tale: A Lost Account of War, White Supremacy, and Black Radicalism in the Haitian Revolution"

Manuel Covo, University of California, Santa Barbara Christopher Hodson, Brigham Young University

RECEPTION (6:00 - 7:00 PM)

Friday, June 21 (Day 2):

Breakfast (8:30 - 9:00 AM)

PANEL 1 (9:00 AM - 10:30 AM): AMERICA 2026 – Archives of Revolution on both sides of the Atlantic

Chair: Sara Georgini, Massachusetts Historical Society
Introduction to AMERICA2026 and its European database project
Virginie Adane, Nantes Université

"Hidden American Revolutionary archives in France" Iris de Rode, Mount Vernon (remote)

"Benjamin Franklin and Charles Gravier de Vergennes: the improbable understanding between two Founding Fathers of the USA revealed by the study of French archives" Leïla Tnainchi, Université de Bourgogne-Franche Comté

"The American Revolution in the Tuscan Archives: An Essay Contest at the Accademia Etrusca di Cortona, 1786"

Irma Toti, Université Paris 8

Coffee Break (10:30 - 10:45 AM)

PANEL 2 (10:45 AM - 12:15 PM): Making Institutional Archives

Chair: Dorothy Berry, Smithsonian Institution

"Inheriting and Bequeathing the Revolution"

Ashley Cataldo, American Antiquarian Society

"Print, Manuscript, and Paper: How Archives Can Retell Diverse Revolutionary Voices" John J. Garcia, American Antiquarian Society

"The Huntington Library's Presidential Founders: Collecting, Processing, Cataloging"
Melissa Haley, The Huntington Library

Lunch (12:15 - 1:30 PM)

PANEL 3 (1:30 PM - 3:00 PM): Archives of Revolution, Slavery, and Enslaved Revolutionaries (Roundtable)

Chair: Cory Young, University of Iowa

Marcus P. Nevius, University of Missouri Adam McNeil, Rutgers University-New Brunswick María Esther Hammack, The Ohio State University Tara Bynum, University of Iowa

Coffee Break (3:00 - 3:15 PM)

PANEL 4 (3:15 PM - 4:45 PM): Beyond Battles: Reconsidering the Military Archive of the American Revolution (Roundtable)

Chair: Lauren Duval, University of Oklahoma

Friederike Baer, Penn State Abington Alec Zuercher Reichardt, University of Missouri John G. McCurdy, Eastern Michigan University Meg Roberts, University of Cambridge

Small Bites Break (4:45 - 5:30 PM)

PANEL 5 (5:30 PM - 7:00 PM): Local Archives in Revolution

Chair: Morgan Grefe, Rhode Island Historical Society

"Critical Localism in Northeastern Revolutionary Archives" Christine DeLucia, Williams College

"Buried Collections: Creating an Accessible Local History Archive for Rev250 and Beyond" William P. Tatum III, Dutchess County, New York

"Voices from the NHS Archives"

Rebecca Bertrand, Newport Historical Society

"Dinah's Story: A Revolutionary Narrative" Laura C. Keim, Stenton

END OF DAY 2

Saturday, June 22 (Day 3):

Breakfast (8:30 - 9:00 AM)

PANEL 6 (9:00 AM - 10:30 AM): How Collectors Shape Archives

Chair: Sean Quimby, University of Pennsylvania Libraries

"The Spirit of '76 a struggle of free men to remain free": The American Revolution Collection of Sol Feinstone"

David Gary, American Philosophical Society

"Collecting and Privilege: Before the Founding Fathers, there were the Signers"

Olga Tsapina The Huntington Library (remote)

"An Archive For Revolution: Institutions of Memory and Historical Connections" Nora Slonimsky, Iona University (remote)

PANEL 7 (10:45 AM - 12:15 PM): The Founders Archive(s)

Chair: Seth Rockman, Brown University

"Nationalizing Revolutionary Archives for the Cold War Public"
Michael D. Hattem, Yale-New Haven Teachers Institute

"Digitization and the History of Revolutionary Constitution-Making: New York as a Test Case"

Mark Boonshoft, Virginia Military Institute

"Slavery and the Archival Politics of "Founding Documents"" Mary T. Freeman, University of Maine

PANEL 8 (12:30 PM - 1:30 PM): Lunch-and-Learn, Digital Archives of Revolution

Chair: Darrell Meadows, National Historical Publications and Records Commission, National Archives and Records Administration (NHPRC)

Molly Nebiolo, Butler University Jessica Parr, Northeastern University

PANEL 9 (2:00 PM - 3:30 PM): Archives Beyond Borders

Chair: Holly Brewer, University of Maryland

"Charters As the Idols of American Origins"

Asheesh Siddique, University of Massachusetts-Amherst (remote)

"Finding Neutrality: Civil War and Revolution in National(ist) Archives"
Travis Glasson, Temple University

"The Problem of a Political Economy of Maroon Sovereignty in History: A View from the Archives"

Marcus P. Nevius, University of Missouri

Coffee Break (3:30 - 3:35 PM)

PANEL 10 (3:45 PM - 5:15 PM): Archives in Translation

Chair: Lynne Farrington, University of Pennsylvania Libraries

"Americanization without Anglicization: Historicizing Translations of American Revolutionary Documents Circa 1810"

Len von Morzé, University of Massachusetts Boston

"'Não possa alguem allegar ignorancia': Portugal in the Archives of Revolution" Emily Sneff, William & Mary

"Unsettling Revolutionary Archives through Collaborative and Community-engaged Research in and with Indigenous Nations"

Ann-Catherine "Anca" Wilkening, Harvard University

END OF CONFERENCE