



The FEDERALIST

Society for History in the Federal Government Newsletter

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SHFG
www.shfg.org

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!

Conserving and Exhibiting the Work of the CDC

By Louise E. Shaw

Documenting the work of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) since its founding in 1946 has always been on the mind of CDC’s leaders and the agency’s public affairs officers. But for many years, gathering that history was less than systematic. Unlike some other federal departments and agencies, CDC did not establish a formal history office. Important collections, including the papers of past CDC directors, are housed at the Federal Records Center at NARA’s Southeast Headquarters in Morrow, GA. Elizabeth W. Etheridge’s *Sentinel for Health: A History of the Centers for Disease Control*, published in 1992 by the University of California Press, heavily drew upon these collections, as well as other relevant collections scattered throughout the agency, including scrapbooks and oral history interviews with CDC leaders. But a central CDC depository, beyond NARA and the boundaries of federal records management, didn’t exist.

Discussions of opening a CDC visitor center began in 1991 after delegates from the American Public Health Association’s annual meeting, held that year in Atlanta, visited CDC to view booths showcasing the work of the agency’s centers. That exercise made clear to CDC leadership that the agency needed a place to tell its story and to educate people about the importance of public health to their lives. It also underscored the importance of preserving CDC’s history.

Planning for a “learning center” began in earnest in 1995, and people across CDC interested



The Story of CDC shares the history of the Center for Disease Control at the David J. Sencer CDC Museum in Atlanta, GA. Courtesy of the David J. Sencer CDC Museum.

in preserving CDC history, including former directors Dr. David J. Sencer, Dr. William Foege, and Dr. William Roper, contributed objects, documents, photographs, and advice. These contributions, as well as sources accessed by Dr. Etheridge, became the foundation of the CDC Museum collection and archives.

On July 1, 1996, on CDC’s 50th anniversary and in time for the Olympic Games, Dr. David Satcher, then CDC Director, opened the Global Health Odyssey (GHO) in a former cafeteria space. Limited by the space available, its displays underscored the possibilities of an expanded museum. This concept was integrated into the 2000 vision for a scientific communications center on the expanding headquarters campus adjacent to Emory University.

See “Work of the CDC” cont’d on page 4

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The **FEDERALIST**

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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

Mattea Sanders

Welcome to the Winter Issue of *The Federalist*! The Society has been very busy in the last few months with changes within

our Executive Council and preparations for our 2022 conferences. First, I would like to honor the passing, in October, of Cold War and nuclear weapons historian, Marty Sherwin. SHFG especially mourned his loss after asking him to be our 2021 Richard G. Hewlett Lecturer. Given this and the other COVID setbacks in the last few months, the Executive Council decided to postpone our Hewlett Lecture until the spring, when we hope to hold it either virtually or potentially in person.

The Award Committees have been hard at work collecting submissions for our new, renamed, prizes. We decided earlier this fall to do away with our named prizes, and instead utilize the type of each award as the title. The Executive Council hopes that this initiative will make our organization more inclusive, and better focus each award on the types of federal history work being recognized. We are also always open to suggestions about

how to better advertise our awards to obtain a wider pool of submissions.

The 2022 Annual Meeting Program Committee is hard at work planning the logistics for next year's conference. They are discussing questions such as whether it is possible to have a hybrid meeting, whether virtual panels will be live or pre-recorded, and how to ensure the dissemination of the Call for Papers. I would like to thank the outpouring of support we have received from SHFG members during this planning process and in considering all of these issues.

I look forward to hopefully seeing some of you at the upcoming conferences in winter and spring. SHFG will be represented at the American Historical Association meeting in New Orleans in January, and at the Organization of American Historians meeting in Boston in March. I look forward to seeing the variety of panels and workshops our members will present at these conferences.

Lastly, I hope everyone is able to have a pleasant holiday season. I know for me it does not seem like a proper holiday season without our annual SHFG Holiday Party but I hope we can renew this tradition soon. As always if there is anything I or the Executive Council can do for you please reach out.

Updating SHFG Awards

Dear SHFG Members:

To further SHFG Awards' goal of recognizing and promoting excellence in the federal history community, we would like to announce some changes coming to our annual awards.

First, we are working to modernize the names of several prizes—the Henry Adams, James Madison, and John Wesley Powell Prizes—to better reflect and honor the work of our membership community. We will be sharing surveys as we move through the process to get your feedback and opinions on this issue. We hope to have this completed for next year's awards.

Also, based on community feedback, we have altered the guidelines for the Award for Historic Preservation and Exhibitions (formerly, the John Wesley Powell Prize), going into effect for the 2021–2022 cycle. These changes clarify eligibility and simplify the parameters for entry. Details can be found at shfg.org.

If you have any questions or comments, or would like to get more involved with awards, please let us know! We can always be reached at shfg.award@gmail.com.

Editor's Note

Historical work is collaborative work, and this issue of *The Federalist* features several projects and achievements related to federal history that were made possible through professional collaborations and collective action. In this issue, the **African American History Curatorial Collective** at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History discusses the origins, evolution, and accomplishments of their collective. The **Government Accountability Office's History Community of Practice** explains how they collaborated to coordinate organization-wide commemorative activities for their agency's centennial. **Tim Frank** and **Allison Finkelstein** highlight the significant and varied accomplishments of the staff at the Arlington National Cemetery History Office through the pandemic years, 2020 and 2021. And **Louise E. Shaw** describes the early partnerships that resulted in the establishment and growth of the David J. Sencer Museum at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

I am also privileged to announce a new, ongoing, collaborative feature in this issue of *The Federalist*. "From the Library's Manuscript Collections" is a newly conceived column where staff of the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress can highlight different subject areas and collections within their holdings. This column is made possible through the support and combined efforts of Josh Levy, Barbara Bair, Liz Novara, the LOC Manuscript Division and its Chief, Janice E. Ruth, and JJ Harbster of the LOC's Science, Technology & Business Division. Historian **Barbara Bair** describes the Manuscript Division's fascinating collections related to literature, culture, and the arts, in this edition of "From the Library's Manuscript Collections." I hope you enjoy reading it and look forward to future installments!

Comments and suggestions are welcome at shgffederalist@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 (SHFG), seeks articles for its 2023 issue.

Federal History features scholarship on the history of the federal government, including military history, 1776–present. The journal also welcomes articles on methodological issues in federal historical work, including institutional history, archival science, museum studies, oral history, web-based history, and other related areas.

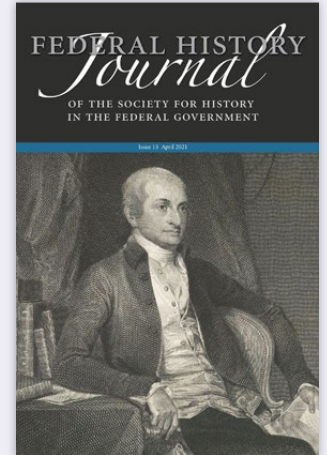
We welcome manuscripts from SHFG members and others working in the federal government, as well as historians working in academia and public history, and independent scholars. *Federal History* is an open-access journal, with print copies sent to SHFG members.

See <http://www.shfg.org/page-18363> for current issue, past issues, and details on submissions, which should be sent to federalhistory@gmail.com.

Federal History is a peer-reviewed journal, and submissions should be 5,000–7,000 words, footnoted, and formatted according to *Chicago Manual of Style* (17th edition).

For additional information, please contact federalhistory@gmail.com.

Deadline: March 20, 2022



Special Thanks to Members who help Sustain SHFG at the Patron Level!

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“Work of the CDC” from page 1

In 2005, the Global Health Odyssey Museum opened in the Global Communications Center—a stunning contemporary building that serves as the gateway to CDC’s Edward R. Roybal campus. Visitors are welcomed by the *Global Symphony*, a 100’ wide media installation. Along with video collages, narrative stories about CDC’s significant work, such as the 1976/77 Legionnaires’ disease investigation, provide an excellent introduction to CDC and public health methodologies.

In 2011, the museum was renamed the David J. Sencer CDC Museum, in honor of CDC’s longest serving director and his unwavering commitment to preserving the history of CDC. Today, the CDC Museum includes 10,000 square feet of exhibition space, 5,000 of which is dedicated to permanent exhibits about the history of CDC.

Highlights of *The Story of CDC* include CDC’s roots in the U.S. Public Health Service; CDC’s role in the global effort to eradicate smallpox; the unfolding of the AIDS epidemic in the 1990s; and how CDC is addressing health equity challenges in the U.S. It was also important to showcase how CDC grew out of the Public Health Service’s Malaria Control in War Areas (MCWA) that was headquartered in Atlanta during WWII, explaining how the Communicable Disease Center—as it was known then—came to be established in Atlanta in 1946. CDC remains one of the few federal agencies not headquartered in the Washington, DC area.

A robust temporary exhibition program encourages repeat visits by CDC employees and the public. Our exhibitions, primarily history-based with some occasional art, explore the work of CDC and the complexity of public health overall. Notable past exhibitions include *Health Is a Human Right: Race and Place in America* and *EBOLA: People + Public Health + Political Will*. Awaiting visitors when we reopen to the public once the COVID-19 pandemic subsides is the timely and relevant *Influenza: Complex Virus/Complex History*.

Over the years, the professional staff has expanded to include collections management specialists, as well as archivists and oral historians. As the keeper of CDC history, the CDC Museum has greatly expanded our historic holdings. As alluded to, we hold a significant smallpox eradication collection. We actively solicit and archive the papers of key CDC public health professionals, and collect physical and digital materials representative of CDC initiatives, such as the early 2000s VERB program that promoted physical activity among tweens.

In addition, the CDC Museum has developed a robust oral history program to capture CDC’s founding history, including initial work with polio and global efforts to eradicate the disease; malaria and CDC beginnings, Guinea worm disease eradication; the early days of HIV/AIDS; and the Ebola epidemic in West Africa.

As early as 1979, CDC’s Office of Public Affairs began recording interviews with CDC employees to document the early history of CDC. In 2006, Dr. David J. Sencer, working with



EBOLA: People + Public Health + Political Will, a temporary exhibit at the David J. Sencer CDC Museum. Courtesy of the David J. Sencer CDC Museum.

National Institutes of Health historian Dr. Victoria Harden, spearheaded an ambitious project to capture voices of the global effort to eradicate smallpox. Dr. Sencer and the CDC Museum oral history program, in collaboration with The Carter Center, then worked to gather recordings of public health workers participating in the effort to eradicate Guinea worm disease.

Using these three projects as a foundation, the CDC Museum launched the *Global Health Chronicles* in 2009 as an online public health archive to preserve and share these oral histories. As new oral history projects are undertaken and archival materials are collected, the website’s collection of materials on public health efforts to prevent, control and eradicate global disease will continue to grow. An in-depth COVID-19 oral history program is currently being implemented.

In terms of engagement with the public, our education programs, led by professional educators, teach the public about the importance of CDC’s work in the field of public health. The CDC Museum Disease Detective Camp has been the centerpiece of the Museum’s education programs since launching in 2005. This highly competitive summer camp has invited more than 1,100 rising high school juniors and seniors from across the world for an immersive one-week CDC experience. In 2020, the Museum launched the Public Health Academy, which includes digital programs and online courses, in addition to the onsite experience, and has expanded our reach to more than 2,000 students to date. In addition, the Museum is currently expanding its STEM lesson offerings that encourage inquiry-based, hands-on activities for students working in teams or independently.

Lastly, the education department oversees a truly unique docent program comprised of CDC staff and retirees who bring their CDC professional experiences and public health perspectives to our 500 yearly tours for groups ranging from middle-school

students to senior citizens. We look forward to relaunching on-site tours when the Museum reopens to the public.

CDC was officially founded on July 1, 1946 and is now 75 years old. Although the commemoration has been postponed due to COVID-19, we nonetheless are planning a major exhibition—*CDC at 75*. That exhibition primarily draws upon our

archives and collections that will not only showcase the work of CDC, but also will reflect the accomplishments of the David J. Sencer CDC Museum as stewards of CDC history.

Louise E. Shaw has served as curator of the David J. Sencer CDC Museum in Atlanta, Georgia since 2002.

Call for Papers

The 2022 Society for History in the Federal Government Annual Meeting: “The Resiliency of Institutions”

Deadline: January 15, 2022

The Society for History in the Federal Government (SHFG) will hold its annual meeting on June 2-3, 2022, at the Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Research at Shepherd University, Shepherdstown, WV.

The Program Committee encourages a broad interpretation of the conference theme “The Resiliency of Institutions” and welcomes submissions that deal with any aspect of federal government history.

Possible topics for the 2022 meeting could include:

- How do federal history programs and institutions operate during global pandemics?
- What type of historical analysis or content do federal historians provide in times of change and crisis?
- How do the oral history programs maintained by federal history offices capture and record individual histories during times of change and crisis to ensure that underrepresented voices are heard?

The SHFG annual meeting is open to all scholars interested in federal history, including those working outside of the Federal Government and the Washington, D.C. area. We encourage the submission of proposals from federal historians, graduate students, public historians, archivists from varied institutions, curators, oral historians, digital archivists, and scholars from other disciplines. We also encourage and welcome panels composed of practitioners from a variety of backgrounds and experiences.



The Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Research.

Submission Process

The Program Committee invites proposals for full panels and roundtables, as well as for individual papers. The Program Committee will consider proposals for entire panels and roundtables before reviewing individual papers.

Panel and roundtable proposals should include a panel title and session abstract (200-300 words), brief abstracts of each presentation (200-300 words), and biographical paragraphs and contact information for each participant. Individual paper proposals should include a brief abstract (200-300 words), a brief biographical paragraph for the presenter, and contact information. All proposals should be submitted using the google form at <http://shfg.wildapricot.org/2022-Annual-Meeting>.

Please direct any questions to the Program Committee at: shfg.primary@gmail.com

Donate to SHFG

Support New SHFG Events

Please donate to SHFG's current efforts to organize and promote new events and workshops. These events will provide opportunities for professional development: to meet colleagues, exchange ideas, and learn more about the federal community. We urge you to contribute to our General Fund. You can donate the amount of your choice, either by check or online payment (at <http://shfg.wildapricot.org/Donate>).

Your donations also support all activities of the Society, including publication of *The Federalist* newsletter, *Federal History* journal, and stories and news for our website; our annual conference, the Richard G. Hewlett Lecture; and programming such as occasional tours, workshops, and social events that help students and historians develop in their careers.

GAO Celebrates 100 Years

In its hundred-year history, since its inception on July 1, 1921, the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) has examined nearly every major federal expenditure: from the creation of the interstate highway system to the prospect of automated trucking on that highway system, from contracting during World War II to Afghanistan, and expenditures related to immigration, foreign aid, weapon systems, the Moon landing, public health programs, and technology dating back to the earliest federal uses of computers. Telling this story as part of GAO's centennial celebrations in 2021 involved a number of challenges, some anticipated, others unforeseen, but the result was a series of well-received events that raised awareness of GAO's proud history of non-partisan, fact-based government oversight.

When GAO began planning in 2018 for the centennial, the GAO History Community of Practice anticipated an agency-wide effort featuring each part of the agency, including both in-person and virtual events with employees from GAO's headquarters and 11 field offices across the country. But the COVID-19 pandemic interrupted these plans in early 2020, as GAO joined other federal agencies in having people work virtually from home.

Mission teams (organizational units that conduct audits of federally administered programs) and administrative offices began collecting photos and stories to help maintain their sense of connectedness from a distance. For example, team newsletters assembled virtual albums of such things as gardening experiments, wellness activities, pets, and photos from past vacations. The Center for Library Science also spearheaded efforts to create a GAO-wide virtual exhibit of stories and photos to help record employees' work and lives during the COVID-19 pandemic. Individual employees across the agency sent in stories of conducting audit work as facilities closures were announced, as well as stories about how the pandemic had impacted their work now that they had family members and pets as onsite "coworkers," and volunteer work that employees performed in their communities.

Staff in GAO's Records and Privacy Office led a new effort to organize the agency archives in preparation for a major digitization program expected to expand access to GAO's archival materials in our centennial year. This entailed intensive archival work: creating indexes, tracking the provenance of collections, updating former history program resources, and checking all documents against GAO's NARA-approved records retention schedule. These efforts provided a valuable "snapshot" of GAO's archival holdings. This would complement the agency's extensive collection of reports, testimonies, bill reports, and appropriations decisions available to the public online.

As the date of our return to the office grew more uncertain, GAO's centennial activities increasingly focused on events that could be held virtually. Each of GAO's 15 mission teams, 11 field offices, and various administrative offices undertook their



Audit clerks in the great hall of the Pension Building—GAO's home from 1926 to 1951—reviewing paperwork documenting expenditures from across the federal government.

own historical research projects to better understand how their specific units had changed over time and share that information to foster connectedness across the work unit based on a shared history. For each unit, GAO's Center for Library Science assembled collections of historical material to give them a starting point for their research. Librarians compiled team and office histories based on agency documents and communications, GAO reports, congressional reports, and published material about the agency. Librarians reviewed 100 years of annual reports and supplemental material to help each mission team and office trace its organizational origins. Staff were also able to draw on a number of resources to help document their histories, including GAO's collection of historical documents and photographs, published histories of our agency, and the perspectives of former employees on working at GAO.

Agency-wide events included an online ceremony held in the summer marking the opening of GAO's doors in July 1921. Streamed live and open to the public, the event included video tributes from Members of Congress; historical perspectives from the current Comptroller General, Gene Dodaro, and two of his predecessors; and remarks from various GAO executives. The contributions of GAO's diverse staff to the agency's mission and future direction were also highlighted.

The Center for Library Science also created an internal webpage, called the GAO@100 LibGuide, as a key resource for

those interested in researching the agency's past. The guide started as a way to organize notes, ideas, and research for the committees supporting and organizing centennial work, but as the pandemic wore on it soon became apparent that there was a strong interest in GAO's history outside of this group. The guide was then retooled to support all GAO employees interested in doing research.

Built using the LibGuide platform with access limited to agency employees, the guide has become a central hub for historical material during the pandemic as in-person access to print material in GAO's historical collection became difficult. The guide includes bibliographies of internal and external GAO publications and guidance for staff on locating the material. Another section pulls together internal and published works on GAO's past and present field offices. The Center for Library Science also created a map of GAO's past international offices with information and resources linked to each location. Individual mission teams have also posted videos from their own history events to the page, where future employees can conveniently access related documents.

In the past year and a half, there were more than 4,700 views of the GAO@100 LibGuide, and the Center for Library Science engaged directly with dozens of staff who wanted assistance researching their team's history. This research formed the basis for formal discussions about various teams' histories, as well as weekly trivia games and bingo events with historical themes. Once the centennial year is over, the Center for Library Science plans to maintain the guide.

During the pandemic, Records and Privacy Office employees continued their in-person work, scheduling time in the agency's archive to digitize key material essential for centennial projects.



President Truman laying the cornerstone of GAO's new Washington, DC headquarters in 1951.

The initial work they carried out before the pandemic was essential, allowing employees to swiftly identify and share relevant material. Although GAO's archival collections will not be completely digitized until after GAO's 100th anniversary observations have concluded, the strong staff interest and investment in GAO's history supports the creation of a digital repository of the agency's historical records.

GAO has not yet announced a date for all staff to return to in-person work. But when it does, we will be able to build on our extensive digital resources—both internal and public-facing—and a renewed appreciation for the flexibility and creativity needed to collect, organize, and share our history as we enter our second century.

Photo Submissions—Help Needed!

Since 2013, SHFG has been supplying photos for the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) newsletter, entitled "The Way We Worked." NARFE is starting an online version of the newsletter at <https://new.narfe.org/blog/category/centennial/way-we-worked-photo/>.

We need your photo submissions, please! SHFG would like to keep this feature and relationship going... but we are running out of photos.

The feature highlights a historical photograph of federal government employees at work. They are interested in historical photographs showing a variety of federal work throughout history, although it must be civilian employees at work, not the military.

The requirements are:

- high resolution scans (at least 300 dpi)
- public domain



A photo of staff at the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in the 1980s, featured by NARFE's "The Way We Worked."

- includes a short caption describing the photo and (if possible) how that work is being done today
- photo credit

Please send photo submissions to jessie.kratz@nara.gov.

Commemorations and New Programs at the Arlington National Cemetery History Office

By Tim Frank and Allison Finkelstein

2020 and 2021 were busy and exciting years for the Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) History Office. The ANC History Office consists of four federal personnel and two contractors: Dr. Stephen Carney, Command Historian; Dr. Allison Finkelstein, Senior Historian; Mr. Roderick Gainer, Curator; Mr. Tim Frank, Staff Historian; Mr. Kevin Hymel (contractor); and Dr. Jenifer Van Vleck (contractor). Due to the pandemic, the History Office transitioned to telework on March 13, 2020, when the cemetery closed to the public. Through the pandemic, we have been documenting our response to the COVID-19 pandemic through oral histories, written sources, photos, and more.

In the midst of the first months of the pandemic during the spring of 2020, ANC celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the opening of Memorial Amphitheater with a virtual exhibit, lecture, and blog posts. The team found creative ways to transform the planned events into virtual formats. Learn more here: <https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Memorial-Amphitheater-100>

As part of this commemoration, in March 2020, ANC opened a 105-year-old “Memorabilia Box” or time capsule that had been placed in the cornerstone of Memorial Amphitheater by President Woodrow Wilson on October 13, 1915. We had planned a grand opening on May 15, the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the Memorial Amphitheater, but COVID-19 curtailed those plans. Instead, a small group of staff including Tim Frank, ANC Conservator Ms. Caitlin Smith, and facilities maintenance specialists gathered in the basement of the Amphitheater to carefully open the copper box. View more on C-Span: <https://www.c-span.org/video/?475857-1/arlington-national-cemetery-1915-memorabilia-box>

Read more about the memorabilia box and what was found inside on our blog: <https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Blog/Post/10776/Memorial-Amphitheater-s-100-Years-of-History-A-Firsthand-Look>

In July 2020, we announced the launch of our first-ever Education Program. Developed over the past several years by a team of educators, historians, and instructional designers, the Education Program provides free resources to help students, teachers, and lifelong learners of all ages learn about the cemetery’s rich history and cultural significance. Materials are designed for both virtual and in-person learning.

Over the next four years, ANC will develop and distribute a total of 27 educational modules on topics ranging from the United States’ military conflicts to the contributions of American service members in the arts, medicine, politics, science and technology, and more. The following four modules are available now:

- The **African American History at ANC** module features lesson plans about African American life after emancipation, the Freedman’s Village that once existed on ANC’s property, the



ANC Conservator Caitlin Smith (L) and Staff Historian Tim Frank (R) open the Memorial Amphitheater Memorabilia Box. April 9, 2020. Credit: U.S. Army photo by Elizabeth Fraser / Arlington National Cemetery / released

civil rights movement, and the achievements of segregated military units such as the Tuskegee Airmen, among other topics.

- The **Spanish-American War** module enables audiences to understand how this important yet often overlooked conflict in 1898 transformed American society and the world.
- The **Exploring Arlington** module offers downloadable guides on the cemetery’s history, traditions and operations.
- The **Tomb of the Unknown Soldier** module immerses the public in the history and meanings of ANC’s most iconic memorial and helps them understand its significance.

Resources for teachers and students include primary-source readings, worksheets, and lesson plans for elementary, middle, and high school students, as well as lifelong learners. For students and teachers, lesson plans align with national and state social studies standards and can be easily adapted for homeschool or virtual learning. For families and “lifelong learners” (anyone curious to know more about ANC or American history), the modules also offer curated readings and walking tours. The walking tours may be used either during an in-person visit or for virtual explorations of the cemetery. To learn more about the Education Program, please visit www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/education

In addition to the education program, the History Office also launched ANC’s first Interpretation Program. The program began with a visitor survey and the development of a Long Range Interpretation Plan to create a blueprint for a robust program of interpretive programs and products in the coming years. These will include interpretive signs, exhibits, virtual content, and other projects to inform and educate visitors about our rich history.

Throughout the past several years, the History Office has also been preparing for the 2021 commemoration of the centennial of the creation of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. ANC

served as the designated government leader of this commemoration and the entire cemetery team supported the effort, with several major projects led by the History Office.

First, in late 2020 and early 2021, we opened two exhibits about the Tomb, one in the Welcome Center and the other in the Memorial Amphitheater Display Room. They are open to the public and we released virtual video tours of each.

Watch the virtual tours here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BsMA0rj5-Ks> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VDPF-i7-23Y>

Throughout 2021, we produced a variety of virtual content to include the public in the centennial. This included blogs, social media posts, walking tours, our monthly event series, and much more. For our monthly events series, we produced recorded videos for some months while for other months, we collaborated with outside organizations on live webinars. Partners included the National World War I Museum and Memorial, the American Battle Monuments Commission, the National Archives and Records Administration, the National Cemetery Administration, the National Park Service, the National Museum of the American Indian, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), and the National World War II Museum and Memorial. By pivoting to a virtual format, thousands of people were able to watch these events or view the recordings later.

The recordings of those webinars can be found here: <https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Tomb100/Centennial-Events/Monthly-Programs>

The ANC Blog can be accessed here: <https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Blog>

Tomb Centennial walking tours can be found here: <https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Tomb100/Walking-Tours>

ANC's Tomb Centennial Resource Guide includes information on the commemorative program and events, and can be found here: <https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Tomb100/Resource-Guide>

The History Office is also producing two publications about the Tomb with the US Army Center of Military History. The first, released in November 2021, is a richly illustrated commemorative guide to the Tomb, titled: *A Century of Honor: A Commemorative Guide to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier*. In 2022, we will release a monograph that will be the official history of the Tomb's creation.

To download the Commemorative Guide, please visit: <https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Tomb100/Commemorative-Guide>

During the week of the centennial, the ANC History Office played leading role in the events on the ground. On November 9 and 10, for the first time in decades, the public was able to walk onto the Tomb Plaza and lay flowers in tribute to the Unknowns.



ANC Senior Historian Allison Finkelstein giving an interpretive talk about diversity in the American Expeditionary Forces at Memorial Amphitheater during the Tomb Centennial, November 9, 2021. Credit: Photo by Jenifer Van Vleck

This event opened with speeches by ANC Executive Director Karen Durham-Aguilera and historian Tim Frank, and included a special ceremony led by representatives of the Crow Nation. The Crow were invited because at the Tomb's creation in 1921, Chief Plenty Coups left his war bonnet and coup sticks as a tribute to the Unknown Soldier. Throughout this two-day event, the History Office led tours of the display room exhibit and gave hourly public interpretive talks. Speakers also included members of ANC's horticulture team, cultural resources and conservation team, and guests from the National Park Service, the American Battle Monuments Commission, the National Museum of American History, and the USCIS History Office and Library.

On November 11, a joint full honors procession and flyover occurred as part of the centennial, prior to the presidential wreath laying at the Tomb. ANC historian Allison Finkelstein served as one of the narrators and provided the context about the history of the Tomb to a world-wide audience throughout the procession and flyover.

Videos of these events can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=71o5Xk-JiPE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EjVobCyeX0I>

<https://www.dvidshub.net/video/821533/tomb-unknown-soldier-centennial-commemoration>

<https://www.dvidshub.net/video/821530/procession-commemorates-100th-anniversary-tomb-unknown-soldier>

More centennial information, such as event photographs can be found here: <https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Tomb100/News-Photos-Videos>

Tim Frank is the Staff Historian and Allison Finkelstein is the Senior Historian at the Arlington National Cemetery History Office.

From the Library's Manuscript Collections

The Literature, Culture, and the Arts Manuscript Collections at the Library of Congress

By Barbara Bair

There are currently some 70 million items in approximately 12,000 collections in the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress, together addressing a wide range of subject matter. From its beginning, the Library of Congress collected not only books but manuscripts and manuscript maps, art works and other materials. In helping to create the Library of Congress, James Madison felt it was important that members of Congress be well versed in international issues of constitutions and diplomacy and foreign policy, but also in all things of the world.

Today the idea of various formats and resources representing a broad range of statecraft, creativity, and knowledge is manifested across more than twenty reading rooms of the Library. It is reflected in the wealth of digitized collection materials and programming the Library increasingly offers to those with access online—including our National Book Festival webcasts, concerts, and educational offerings—and in the Library as a whole, which remains a resource for Congress but also for the nation, and indeed the world.

The Manuscript Division came into its own after the opening of the newly constructed Thomas Jefferson building in 1897 offered expanded room to collect, organize, provide access to, and store rare primary materials, and as items like presidential papers were transferred from other federal agencies to “the nation’s library.” Today the Manuscript Division is one of several format-based divisions in the Library. Others include Music; Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound; Rare Book and Special Collections; Prints and Photographs; and Geography and Map; as well as the American Folklife Center. There are divisions that specialize in Serial and Government Publications, Science, and Law. Area studies divisions represent multicultural heritages and parts of the world beyond United States borders, with materials in many languages. For more information, see <https://www.loc.gov/rr/>.

Within the Manuscript Division, I curate and serve as historian for collections in Literature, Culture, and the Arts. My background in multidisciplinary studies has served me well in this capacity, as the collections I recommend for acquisition, explain to members of Congress and researchers, and help make the basis of educational and public outreach by the Library, are personal papers or organization records that cover a variety of subject categories. They include collections in literature, philosophy, and poetry; ethnology, linguistics, and storytelling; design and architecture; entertainment (humor, television, radio, film and theater); and the arts, from illustration and graphic art, to painting and photography, as well as the records of select professional organizations in the humanities. I also serve as the exhibition liaison for the division, which puts me in collaborative

working relationships with colleagues in our Conservation Division and Exhibits Office, as well as staff who serve a similar function in the other special collections divisions of the Library, and curators and researchers who work on exhibition projects at other institutions, including federal agencies.

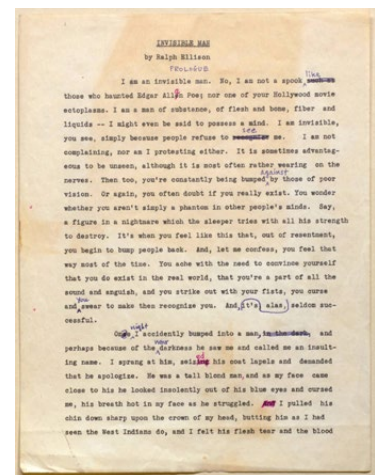
Where to start describing the collections in Literature, Culture and the Arts available to students, professors, journalists, film makers, documentary editors, costume designers, biographers, exhibit planners, writers and researchers of all types? I can just highlight for you some of my favorites which also delight and intrigue researchers and provide the subject matter for outreach Library staff do in various ways every day.

Literary collections available in the Manuscript Division include the work of poets and writers like James Emanuel, Daniel Hoffman, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Muriel Rukeyser, Louis Simpson, and Walt Whitman. Novelists range from literary greats and masters of popular fiction like Dee Brown, James M. Cain, Truman Capote, Ralph Ellison, Ernest Hemingway, Shirley Jackson, Bernard Malamud, and Philip Roth. We hold play-scripts by Zora Neale Hurston and Mae West, and muckraking essays by urban reformer Jacob Riis.



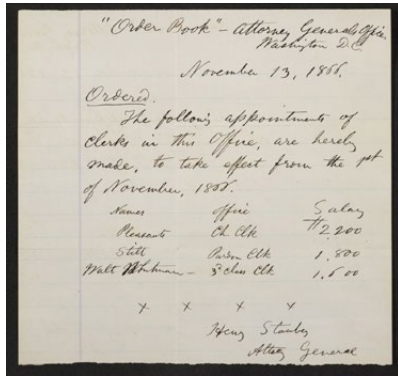
Above: Visit the Jacob Riis: Revealing “How the Other Half Lives” virtual exhibition online at <https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/jacob-riis/index.html>

Right: Ralph Ellison, draft manuscript, *Invisible Man*, c. 1950. *Ralph Ellison Papers*, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress.



Ralph Ellison trained in music and sculpture and was a photographer as well as a writer. He gained experience and financial support as a writer and folklore field researcher with the Federal Writers Project in Harlem, part of the genesis of what became his masterpiece, the 1952 novel *Invisible Man*.

It is important to remember that when Walt Whitman lived in Washington, D.C., he was a federal worker. He was employed as a civil servant in the Army paymaster's office, Bureau of Indian Affairs with the Interior Department, and the Attorney General's Office in the Treasury Building.



Left: Order Book, Walt Whitman's appointment as clerk, U.S. Attorney General's Office, 1866. Feinberg-Whitman Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress. <https://www.loc.gov/collections/feinberg-whitman/about-this-collection/>

Entertainment figures represented in the collections include theater and film directors Joshua Logan and Rouben Mamoulian, comedian Groucho Marx, and writers and actors Hume Cronyn, Eva Le Gallienne, Ruth Gordon, Garson Kanin, and Jessica Tandy. Humorists, playwrights, and popular writers, cartoonists, and columnists known for their social commentary on national issues include Jim Bouton, Art Buchwald, Jules Feiffer, and Bill Maudlin.



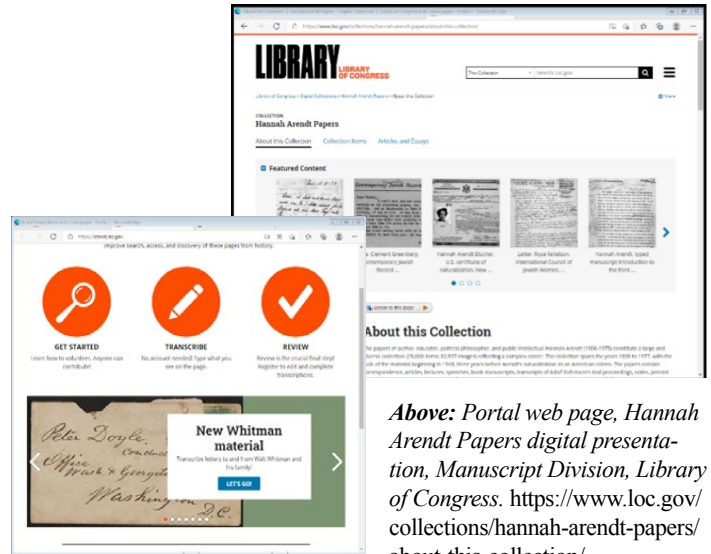
Caricature of Richard Nixon, detail from Christmas card by Jules Feiffer, 1972. Jules Feiffer Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress. Featured in the Hope for America virtual exhibition <https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/hope-for-america/cartoons-and-satire.html#obj11>

Designers range from the marvelous husband-and-wife duo of Charles and Ray Eames, to the landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted and his sons, to urban planner Victor Gruen and architects Cass Gilbert and I. M. Pei. Painters and photographers include F. Holland Day, Frances Benjamin Johnston, Georgia O'Keeffe, Gordon Parks, Gertrude Quastler, Alfred Stieglitz, John Vachon, and John D. Whiting.

Select manuscript collections in Literature, Culture, and Arts are available online, including the papers of political philosopher Hannah Arendt.

Selections from digitized Walt Whitman collections are part of the "Whitman Campaign" of the Library's By the People crowdsourcing transcription program. (<https://crowd.loc.gov/>) Public campaigns to transcribe writings in the Manuscript Division's art and design collections will soon include the Olmsted Papers and the Georgia O'Keeffe-Alfred Stieglitz

Correspondence, both of which are already available as digital humanities presentations. <https://www.loc.gov/collections/>



Above: Portal web page, Hannah Arendt Papers digital presentation, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress. <https://www.loc.gov/collections/hannah-arendt-papers/about-this-collection/>

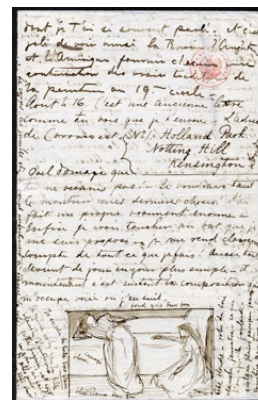
Left: Participate as a volunteer in the By the People crowdsourcing transcription Whitman Campaign. <https://crowd.loc.gov/campaigns/walt-whitman/>

A virtual cornucopia of self-expression, documentation, and life stories exists in these figures' letters, diaries, draft publications, and manuscripts and other related materials they saved. A single collection can hold promise for many types of researchers, and items that relate closely to holdings at other federal institutions.

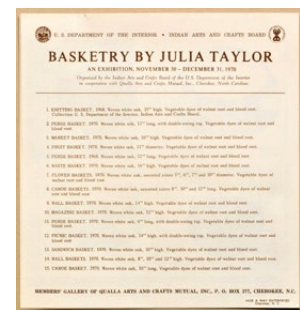
The Manuscript Division's Pennell-Whistler collection, for example, holds items related to Whistler's Peacock room at the Smithsonian's Freer Gallery of Art, and sketches in letters to be featured in an upcoming exhibition of the National Gallery of Art.

Vincent Price may be best known as an actor in the horror genre, but he was also active in promoting Native American literacy and the arts through the Department of Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs Indian Arts and Crafts Board.

See "LOC" cont'd on page 12



Left: James McNeill Whistler to H. Fantin-Latour, with sketch study for Symphony in White, No. 3. Pennell-Whistler Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress.



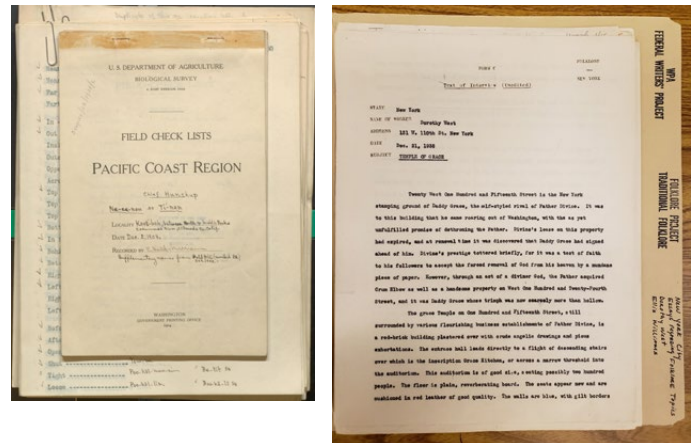
Right: "Basketry by Julia Taylor" printed exhibit notice, Cherokee, N.C., 1970. Vincent Price Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress.

“LOC” from page 11

The papers of ethnologist C. Hart Merriam include extensive vocabulary fieldwork for Indigenous bands of tribal communities of California that relate to language revitalization programs of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian, National Anthropological Archives, and the *Recovering Voices* project, and to knowledge repatriation projects of Native nations themselves.

The American Guide materials, folklore and special projects files, and narratives of formerly enslaved persons in the Federal Writers Project, U.S. Works Progress Administration collection chart the work of writers, editors, and fieldworkers as they documented the literary, social, and cultural history of the country under the Federal One New Deal program, and relate to records of the WPA held by the National Archives and Records Administration.

Architect Charles McKim’s papers include work he did with the U.S. Senate Commission for the Improvement of the District of Columbia, and the Olmsted collections have evidence of Frederick Law Olmsted’s work designing the grounds of the U.S. Capitol and his son’s later role as a member of the McMillan Commission, redesigning parkland and roadway areas under federal management in Washington, D.C. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund Records elucidate memorialization and monuments of the National Mall and honor military service. In addition to manuscript materials, the Funds’ web site is preserved as part of the Library’s Web Capture program, at <https://www.loc.gov/item/lcwaN0010621/>



Left: Field Check Lists, Pacific Coast Region, 1904. C. Hart Merriam Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress.

Right: Dorothy West, “Temple of Grace” essay, 1938. U.S. WPA Records, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress.

You can find more online about these and other collections through the Manuscript Division web site, which contains information about conducting research in the Manuscript Reading Room and provides links to collection finding aids and virtual exhibitions containing manuscript collection items. <https://www.loc.gov/rr/mss/>

Barbara Bair is a historian and curator in the Manuscript Division at the Library of Congress.

The African American History Curatorial Collective at the National Museum of American History

The African American History Curatorial Collective (AAHCC) is an organization dedicated to advancing the study and interpretation of African American history at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History (NMAH). The members of the AAHCC are curators who specialize in African American history and are based in several divisions across the museum. Their work—conducting research, collecting objects, developing exhibits, and creating programs that elevate narratives of Black life—is in fulfillment of NMAH’s mission: “Empowering people to create a just and compassionate future by exploring, preserving, and sharing the complexity of our past.”

The lineage of interpreting Black history at NMAH dates to shortly after the museum opened in 1964. The African American educators, archivists, and curators in NMAH’s history include Smithsonian Secretary Lonnie Bunch, James Horton, and Niani Kilkenny. Spencer Crew not only curated the groundbreaking



The Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History, Kenneth E. Behring Center. Photo: Harold Dorwin, Smithsonian.

exhibition *Field to Factory: Afro-American Migration, 1915–1940*, but also was the NMAH’s director for nine years. Singer, activist, and curator Bernice Johnson Reagon founded the Program in Black American Culture (later Program in African American Culture) which was a vibrant forum for generations of cultural producers and activists.

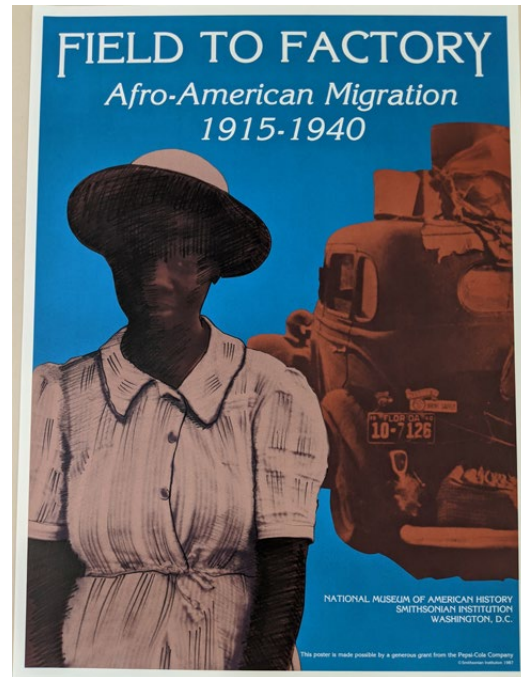
The idea of a collective emerged in the fall of 2019 when the four Black curators who specialize in African American

history started meeting regularly to get to know one another. Fath Davis Ruffins, curator of African American history and culture, began working at NMAH in the 1980s, but the other three curators were relatively new to the museum. Tsione Wolde-Michael specializes in African American social justice history and began her Smithsonian career at the National Museum of African American History and Culture. The other curators came to NMAH after careers in higher education. Crystal Moten, who researches Black women's history and African American business and labor history and Modupe Labode, a curator of African American social justice history, began working at the museum in August 2019. Krystal Klingenberg, a scholar of African American music, and global Black popular musics, and Tony Perry, who researches the environmental history of slavery, joined NMAH in March 2021.

In the curators' initial discussions, they found that they were contending with similar issues, such as developing strategies for approaching the museum's vast collections and fielding consultation requests from their colleagues. Out of these conversations and informal problem-solving sessions, the idea of the Collective emerged. The curators characterized their group as a collective because they intended to pool their labor in order to be more efficient and to undertake work that none of them could undertake individually. They also consciously acknowledged the powerful cooperative organizations in African American history, including the Colored Farmer's Alliance, the Kamoinge Workshop, formed in the 1960s by photographers, and the Black feminist Combahee River Collective. The ways that these and other collectives created space for analysis, activism, and creativity are an ongoing inspiration to the curators.

The AAHCC has intentionally crafted its guiding missions and values, and resolves to pursue its work with an ethic of care. They have deliberately experimented with several ways of administering the group and distributing labor, particularly as they participate in the AAHCC in addition to their other curatorial responsibilities. Within the collective, they collaborate on practical matters and share the excitement of interpreting Black history. The AAHCC also is aware of the place they occupy in the landscape of Black public history. The members consider what it means to curate Black history in a general history museum and in a region filled with powerhouses of Black public history, including the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture, and the Anacostia Community Museum.

The primary labor of the AAHCC is driven by curatorial work. The members are working on identifying and interpreting Black history collections in the museum, a complicated project given that there has not been a consistent standard for identifying objects relevant to African American history. By sharing strategies, they are working toward the long-term goal of making these collections more usable, both for museum colleagues and the public. Further, they are experimenting with ways to work more efficiently. For example, the curators share requests for information and direct the queries to the person with the time and



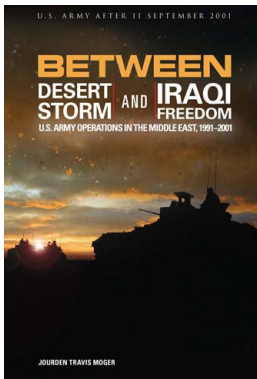
Poster for the exhibition *Field to Factory: Afro-American Migration, 1915-1940*. Accession 15-199, Smithsonian Institution Archives. Image courtesy of Mitch Toda.

expertise to address the concern. They have also undertaken projects as a group. In 2020, the AAHCC commissioned "Black Life in Two Pandemics," an interdisciplinary essay series for NMAH's blog about the history of anti-Black violence in the Midwest. This series provided historical context for the murder of George Floyd by police officers in Minneapolis and the United States' experience of the global COVID pandemic. In the fall of 2021, the members of the AAHCC welcomed two interns. A podcast on the ongoing significance of Black feminist thought will launch in 2022.

The members of the African American History Curatorial Collective are working in a museum sector that for decades has consistently advocated greater racial diversity among its staff, yet has made only halting gains in achieving those goals. They are also at the nation's history museum when many in the United States believe African American history is essential for understanding today's world, even as small raucous groups try to reduce opportunities to learn about this country's complete past, including Black history. This complicated time also provides important opportunities for interpreting African American history. The curators of the AAHCC are working together to challenge the museum and the public to think more deeply about equitable representations of American history and the breadth of the American experience.

For more information, please visit the AAHCC's web page at <https://americanhistory.si.edu/about/aahcc>. The African American History Curatorial Collective can be reached at AAHCC@si.edu.

Recent Publications



Between Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom: U.S. Army Operations in the Middle East, 1991–2001, by Jourden Travis Moger. From 1991 to 2001, the U.S. Army deterred Iraqi aggression and maintained a high tempo of operations, despite a decade of downsizing and consolidation. Even as the Army’s personnel numbers shrank to their lowest level since 1940, and the service reduced its number of active duty divisions from eighteen to

ten, the potential for war in the Middle East persisted. The U.S. military was compelled to maintain a modest forward presence and developed the capability to deploy troops rapidly to the region. The Army rushed brigades to Kuwait repeatedly to serve as a deterrence force, although no fighting took place between American and Iraqi ground combat units in the interwar period.

By the end of the decade, Iraq retained the ability to threaten its neighbors with conventional arms, and concerns about its illicit weapons programs persisted. To counter these twin dangers, the international community used a combination of economic sanctions and weapons inspections, while the United States and its allies applied military pressure. When the United States deposed Saddam Hussein in 2003, it was able to do so because of

the new power projection capabilities that the Army had developed between DESERT STORM and IRAQI FREEDOM. This title has been published as CMH Pub 57–1–1. It is available electronically on the CMH website. <https://history.army.mil/catalog/pubs/57/57-1-1.html>.

Dr. Jourden Travis Moger received his PhD in history from the University of California, Santa Barbara. A veteran of Operation DESERT THUNDER, discussed in this monograph, and Operation IRAQI FREEDOM Moger is now a historian at the U.S. Army Center of Military History. He has published two articles about U.S.-led operations against Iraq in *Army History*.

The Center of Military History (CMH) provides the United States Army, from senior civilian and military leaders to individual soldiers, with an awareness of history. The purposes are to educate and inform. Other military services, policymakers, government agencies, and the public at large also benefit from the Center’s history program. To those ends, CMH produces publications on the history of the United States Army for worldwide distribution, administers the Army’s far-ranging field history operations, and manages the Army’s museums both stateside and abroad. CMH publishes books, monographs, pamphlets, historical map posters, electronic media, and the quarterly professional bulletin *Army History*. For more about the Center, go to www.history.army.mil; the home page also provides a link to CMH’s online publications catalog.

PEP Announces New Website

The Public Education Project (PEP) of SHFG is proud to announce that its new website is now live at PublicEducationProject.org!

User-friendly and copiously illustrated with historical photos, PEP’s website highlights our mission, our goals, and plans for the future. And it provides rich and engaging content, with historical videos and a searchable library of agency history webpages. The videos are PEP productions previously hosted at SHFG.org. They feature the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service’s “Beagle Brigade,” the challenging early years of the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission’s (NRC) response to the 1979 Three Mile Island crisis, as vividly recounted to Senate Historian Emeritus Don Ritchie by former NRC historian Sam Walker.

An “Agency Histories” page allows users to browse the full list of history pages, users can search for agencies by functional categories and keywords. They will also see a list with the available contact information for

federal history offices. That list is very short at present, and we encourage any history office that isn’t represented there to send their contact information to pep.shfg@gmail.com. PEP will be happy to add it to the list.

The new PEP website will be the principal platform for our ambitious plans to encourage the foregrounding of federal history in K-12 school curricula and to project a nationwide historical messaging campaign. For more, see the “Major Projects” page.

PEP would like to acknowledge the invaluable help of the PEP Team’s excellent web group in planning the website and overseeing the work of our design firm, Web Maven. Watch the PEP website for new features in the coming months.

PEP is convinced that their website will advance a key original and continuing SHFG purpose: to further public knowledge of federal history. It will also offer federal historians a new and dynamic vehicle for reaching a wider audience with their online projects.

Making History

America250 Foundation

As we recognize our nation's veterans, America250 is proud to unveil the 2021 November Salute commemorative photo mosaic depicting WWI hero Sgt. Henry Johnson. Created by The People's Picture, the 14-foot art installation at the National WWI Museum and Memorial in Kansas City, Missouri, includes over 3,500 photos telling the stories of active-duty service members, reservists, guard members, and veterans. The photos were submitted by Americans across the country and are alongside images from the Museum and Memorial's collection. The mosaic was unveiled on November 11 during a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Sgt. Henry Johnson was selected in honor of the centennial of the dedication of the grounds of the National WWI Museum and Memorial and the unveiling of the National WWI Memorial in Washington, DC. Johnson enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1917 and was assigned to the all-Black unit that became the Army's 369th Infantry Regiment, known as the "Harlem Hellfighters." In addition to the public display, the 2021 mosaic is available for viewing through America250's interactive online gallery, where you can explore and learn more about the photos and stories within the artwork: <https://america250.org/engage/events/november-salute/>.



DC History Center

The DC History Center is delighted to announce that this fall we are partnering with The Parks at Walter Reed to identify historical facts and stories from past and present residents of the historically Black neighborhoods surrounding the Walter Reed campus. This community-based project will seek to honor and elevate the stories of people who worked, lived, and played on and around the 110-acre site. Though many books have been written about notables treated on site, this exciting collaboration will put the people and communities whose lives have been shaped by the campus at the center of the narrative. We are proud to preserve and share the stories of Washingtonians who have witnessed its historic evolution, and now its carefully planned transformation. Visit <https://theparksdc.com/events/neighborhood-history-project/> for more information.

Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) held its first-ever joint repatriation and wreath laying ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, Sept. 22, 2021. The strong and long-lasting partnership and shared noble effort between DPAA and the Ministry of National Defense Agency for Killed In

Action Recovery and Identification (MAKRI) to return the Korean War fallen made the ceremony possible. During the ceremony, three transfer cases were exchanged between DPAA and MAKRI. One transfer case, bearing the remains of a U.S. soldier, represented the six sets of remains repatriated to the United States from the care and custody of the ROK. MAKRI received two transfer cases each containing the remains of a recently identified ROK soldier, recovered from the Battle of Chosin Reservoir area, representing the 68 sets of remains repatriated to South Korea. President of the Republic of Korea, His Excellency Moon Jae-In, was the principal speaker at the ceremony and accepted the remains on behalf of his country. To view the ceremony, please visit the archived link at: <https://www.facebook.com/dodpaa>

Department of the Interior

Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland formally established a process to review and replace derogatory names of the nation's geographic features. She also declared "squaw" to be a derogatory term and ordered the Board on Geographic Names—the federal body tasked with naming geographic places—to implement procedures to remove the term from federal usage.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Library hosted *Examining American Responses to the Holocaust: Digital Possibilities*, from October 12 to October 15. Examining American Responses to the Holocaust was a groundbreaking, first-ever live (virtual) international conference using new technologies to examine tough issues including "Myths and Realities of American responses to the Holocaust" and "What Did We Know and When?" Recorded conference sessions are available through the Library's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yzNhUZa1uXY>.

Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site

The Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site, in partnership with the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT), will host a three-day symposium as part of Olmsted 200, the national bicentennial commemoration of the birth of Frederick Law Olmsted, social reformer and founder of American landscape architecture. The symposium will be held in Boston, home to the Emerald Necklace, Olmsted's last great public project. Adjacent to Boston is Brookline where the Olmsted firm's home and office resided through 1980. For Olmsted, "nothing else compares in importance to use with the Boston work...I would have you decline any business that would stand in the way of doing the Best for Boston all the time." Through events, education, and advocacy at the local and national levels, Olmsted 200 ensures that the legacies of the Olmsted's live on across the country by renewing public and

policy commitments to the preservation and maintenance of our historic parks and places.

George Washington’s Mount Vernon

A new podcast series explores the history and interpretation of slavery at Mount Vernon. *Intertwined* tells the story of the more than 577 people enslaved by George and Martha Washington. Told through the biographies of Sambo Anderson, Davy Gray, William Lee, Kate, Ona Judge, Nancy Carter Quander, Edmund Parker, Caroline Branham, and the Washingtons, this eight-part podcast series explores the lives and labors of Mount Vernon’s enslaved community, and how we interpret slavery at the historic site today. Available at <https://www.georgewashingtonpodcast.com>.

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum

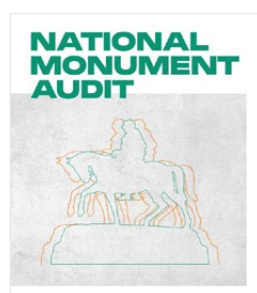
The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) announced the appointment of Brooke L. Clement as the Director of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum, effective September 26, 2021. Ms. Clement returns to the Ford Library and Museum after starting her NARA career there in 2004. Since that time, she has worked in senior management and archival positions at the George H.W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum, the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum, and most recently the Barack Obama Presidential Library. Ms. Clement has served as acting director of the Gerald R. Ford Library and Museum since September 2020. Ms. Clement holds a Master of Liberal Arts in American Studies from Columbia University and a Bachelor of Arts in American History and American Culture from the University of Michigan.

Institute of Museum and Library Services

The National Park Service, in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Humanities, announced \$15,500,000 in Save America’s Treasures grants to fund 49 preservation and conservation projects in 29 states. These grants and the matching funds support the preservation of nationally significant historic properties and collections across America. IMLS will administer 24 of the awards, totaling \$5,547,021. For more information and examples of awarded grant projects visit <http://www.imls.gov/news/announcing-155-million-grants-save-americas-treasures>.

Monument Lab

Monument lab is excited to announce the launch of *The National Monument Audit*, produced in partnership with The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The audit assesses the current monument landscape across the United States. Monument Lab’s



research team spent a year scouring almost a half million records of historic properties created and maintained by federal, state, local, tribal, institutional, and publicly assembled sources. For our deepest investigations, we focused on a study set of approximately 50,000 conventional monuments representing data collected from every US state and territory. *The National Monument Audit* allows us to better understand the dynamics and trends that have shaped our monument landscape, to pose questions about common knowledge about monuments, and to debunk falsehoods and misperceptions within public memory. The National Monument Audit is meant to inform Mellon’s landmark Monuments Project, a \$250 million investment designed to “transform the way our country’s histories are told in public spaces and ensure that future generations inherit a commemorative landscape that venerates and reflects the vast, rich complexity of the American story.” See it at <https://monumentlab.com/audit>.

National Building Museum

On November 6, the National Building Museum opened a major new exhibition, *The Wall/El Muro: What is a Border Wall?* Always in the news, but rarely well understood, the US-Mexico border wall looms large on the landscape, and in the American consciousness. This multi-media exhibition provides a timely examination of the role of design, architecture, planning and engineering in today’s border issues and challenges, as well as the border wall’s many impacts. Featuring a broad range of photographs, artifacts, video and other immersive elements, *The Wall/El Muro* takes visitors on an unprecedented journey, creating a broader context for understanding the 21st-century application of an ancient theme: building walls in the name of national security. The exhibition is presented in both English and Spanish.

The year-long *The Wall/El Muro* installation will serve as an anchor for a suite of related and interactive programming. Topics will include the history of the physical border, its impact on the environment and local communities, and the ethics around designing structures of exclusion. The Museum begins these discussions with its first program in November/December, which will be an historical overview of the U.S./Mexico border, its impact on the architecture and planning in the region, and the organic responses to its presence.

National Capital Planning Commission

Federal agencies face a range of risks related to climate change. As part of NCPC’s mission to preserve and enhance the extraordinary resources and federal assets of the National Capital Region, the agency is committed to anticipating climate change impacts and responding effectively. In response to President Biden’s Executive Order on Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad, NCPC released its *Climate Action Plan*, which identifies how climate change may impact the agency’s work and highlights opportunities to incorporate adaptation and resilience planning. NCPC is considered a “contributing agency,” as it has a smaller operational footprint and does not manage

facilities or vehicle fleets like other larger agencies. The scope of NCPC's role in addressing climate change is focused on facilitating and encouraging other federal agencies to improve their climate resilience; and by participating in interagency efforts that advance and formalize adaptation strategies. NCPC was pleased that its plan was selected by the Council of Environmental Quality to be presented alongside plans submitted by major federal agencies, even though it has different reporting responsibilities. For more information and to read the plan, visit NCPC's website <https://www.ncpc.gov/news/item/158/>.

National Declassification Center

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) is pleased to announce that on Sept 29, 2021, the National Declassification Center (NDC), in coordination with the Nixon Presidential Library, re-released a total of 10 Nixon White House Tapes. These re-released tapes include formerly redacted audio withheld during the process of chronological review and recently re-reviewed and processed digitally. These audio recordings are from the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum and are fully available online on the Library's website (<https://www.nixonlibrary.gov/white-house-tapes>). These tapes continue NARA's comprehensive digital preservation and access project for the entirety of the Nixon Tapes. NDC staff, working from a complete digital preservation copy completed in 2018, worked with equity agencies to review classified content. NDC archival staff also re-reviewed other withheld content under the Presidential Recordings and Materials Preservation Act and the 2007 deed of gift with the Nixon Foundation. Throughout the re-review and digital processing, the NDC works in coordination with the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum—part of the Presidential Libraries system—and custodian of the records. For questions related to these and all Nixon Tapes, please contact the Nixon Library at 714-983-9210 or nixonreference@nara.gov.

National Endowment for the Humanities

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) announced it has awarded \$2.8 million in funding to the 56 state and jurisdictional humanities councils and interim partners to support civics education and American history programs that deepen audience understanding of and commitment to our nation's core principles of our nation's constitutional government and democracy. Each council and interim partner will receive \$50,000 to develop scholar-led humanities projects that engage local communities, educators, and students in reflection, study, and discussion of American and community history, and the rights and responsibilities of active citizenship. These funds are awarded under NEH's special initiative, "A More Perfect Union," which is designed to demonstrate and enhance the critical role the humanities play in our nation and support projects that help Americans commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in 2026. The "A More Perfect Union" initiative supports projects that explore, reflect on,

and tell the stories of our quest for a more just, inclusive, and sustainable society throughout our history. For more information visit <https://www.neh.gov/news/neh-awards-28-million-state-and-jurisdictional-humanities-councils-history-and-civics>.

The NEH also announced \$87.8 million in American Rescue Plan funding to nearly 300 cultural and educational institutions to help them recover from the economic impact of the pandemic, retain and rehire workers, and reopen sites, facilities, and programs. Grant awards were made in all 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and Northern Mariana Islands. The grants are supported by \$135 million in supplemental funding allocated to NEH by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. NEH has already distributed \$52.6 million of this funding to state and jurisdictional humanities councils to support humanities organizations, programs, and professionals at the local level. For more information visit <https://www.neh.gov/news/neh-awards-878-million-arp-relief-funding>.

President Biden announced his intent to nominate Shelly Lowe as the 12th Chair of the NEH. Shelly C. Lowe is a citizen of the Navajo Nation and grew up on the Navajo Reservation in Ganado, Arizona. She is currently a member of the National Council on the Humanities, the 26-member advisory body to the NEH, an appointment she received from President Obama. Lowe's career in higher education has included roles as Executive Director of the Harvard University Native American Program, Assistant Dean in the Yale College Dean's Office, and Director of the Native American Cultural Center at Yale University. Prior to these positions, she spent six years as the Graduate Education Program Facilitator for the American Indian Studies Programs at The University of Arizona.

National Historical Publications and Records Commission

Archivist of the United States David S. Ferriero will award 36 grants totaling \$2,975,339 for historical records projects in 27 states and the District of Columbia, pending appropriations of a final budget for FY 2022. The National Archives grants program is carried out through the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC). The NHPRC also approved six projects, with \$717,766 in funding from the Mellon Foundation, for Start-Up Grants for Collaborative Digital Editions in African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, and Native American History. Learn more about this incredible initiative to expand cultural diversity in American history at <https://www.archives.gov/press/press-releases/2021/nr-21-24>.

National Museum of African American History and Culture

The National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) is proud to invite you to visit our new web-based resource, the Searchable Museum (<https://www.searchablemuseum.com>). The Searchable Museum is your opportunity for a rich digital experience that includes a multimedia presentation of NMAAHC's historical research, stories, collections, and educational resources. It's one of the Museum's largest digital

undertakings, designed to bring our evocative content and immersive in-person visitor experience directly into homes around the world—including yours. The Searchable Museum is made possible through the generous support of Bloomberg Philanthropies. The first phase of the Searchable Museum launches with our *Slavery and Freedom* exhibition, a foundational feature of our David M. Rubenstein History Galleries, entirely reimagined for the digital space. We draw from the transformative narrative structure and tone of the in-person gallery experience while offering virtual visitors like you the flexibility to explore and revisit exhibition content at any pace.

National Security Archive

In an effort to advance a novel foreign policy tool known as “Declassification Diplomacy,” the National Security Archive posted key administrative papers on the Argentina Declassification Project (ADP), begun by President Barack Obama and completed during the Trump administration. The records, which include the original White House “taskers” initiating the project, supplement a special set of essays written by the key government and nongovernment players involved in the ADP that were published in a joint Archive project, by the leading diplomatic history website, H-Diplo, at <https://issforum.org/forums/Forum-2021-1.pdf>.



The H-Diplo posting on September 16, “The Argentina Declassification Project: A Model of ‘Declassification Diplomacy’ to Advance Human Rights—and History,” provides a behind-the-scenes set of after-action reports on one of the most consequential discretionary declassification projects in recent memory. In his introduction to the essays, Archive Senior Analyst Peter Kornbluh described them as extraordinary “debriefings” on the “lessons learned” from the ADP that “will provide future officials, policy actors, academics, and right-to-know activists with a detailed, multi-faceted assessment of how the project began, progressed, and dramatically concluded.”

The H-Diplo forum includes presentations by former Obama White House officials, State Department historians, NSC records managers and Argentine diplomats who played a key role in organizing and advancing the ADP. The centerpiece of the forum is a detailed memoir by John Powers, the former NSC Director for Access and Information Management who supervised the ADP for the first two years. “The ADP can serve as an exemplar for future declassification projects,” Powers concluded in his essay, “Reflections on Leading the U.S. Declassification Project for Argentina: Challenges, Triumphs, and Lessons for the Future.” The ADP “demonstrated how important records can be for processes of justice and accountability.”

National Trust for Historic Preservation

In 2019, Color of Change, the country’s largest online racial justice organization, raised important issues regarding the practice of hosting weddings and other celebrations at historic slave plantation sites. In response, the National Trust for Historic Preservation hosted in December 2020 the Plantation Weddings Symposium, which brought together staff who work at the National Trust’s sites of enslavement, descendants of slavery, and public historians to work collectively to come up with new strategies, solutions, and questions on how to ethically steward sites of enslavement. The symposium was a collaboration between the National Trust’s Historic Sites Department and the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund.

Reconsidering Celebrations at Sites of Enslavement (<https://savingplaces.org/reconsidering-celebrations>) is a new project that continues that conversation by chronicling the history of sites of enslavement in the National Trust portfolio and the resulting actions taken by the National Trust to ethically steward those sites, while also providing initial guidance for other historic properties addressing similar considerations across the country. The first three stories, written by Elon Cook Lee, the director of interpretation and education for the National Trust’s historic sites, shares her personal history with this work, positions the National Trust’s legacy with sites of enslavement within the broader historical context, and outlines future plans and actions for our work on these issues. Additional stories provide a look at wedding practices of enslaved men and women, guidelines for sites regarding marketing on online wedding platforms, and concludes with a case study from National Trust Historic Site Woodlawn and Pope-Leighey House. This series is the next step in a series of conversations, trainings, and convenings that the National Trust is committed to producing around this issue in the years to come.

National Women’s History Museum

In celebration of 25 years of service and dedication to amplifying women’s distinct contributions to our nation’s history both past and present, the National Women’s History Museum is pleased to launch the third exhibit in a four-part virtual exhibit series, *Feminism: The Four Waves*. Like the exhibits on the first and second waves of feminism, which debuted earlier this year, *Feminism: The Third Wave* is available on our website (womenshistory.org) in both English and Spanish. This series of exhibits seeks to delve into the complex history of the feminist movement and breaks feminism down into each “wave”. The final remaining exhibit on the fourth “wave” will launch in December 2021 and all exhibits are complimented by virtual programming.

Pinckney Papers Projects

The editors at the Pinckney Papers Projects are delighted to announce to the editing community the release/publication by the University of Virginia Press of Volume 3 of the *Papers of the Revolutionary Era Pinckney Statesmen* “Experienced Statesmen in War, Politics, & Diplomacy (1799–1811).” This

550-document volume of our born digital edition, part of the Rotunda “Founding Era Collection” of digital editions, covers the roles of Charles Cotesworth Pinckney as the major general for the southern army during the Quasi War with France 1798–1799, the politics of the election of 1800 when Charles Cotesworth Pinckney was the Federalist candidate for president, and the diplomatic mission of his cousin Charles Pinckney to Spain 1801–1805. It also contains correspondence of their wives and children, and records of their management of plantations, including several extensive inventories of enslaved people that provide data of plantation family relationships as well as the skills, health, and work assignments of the enslaved.

Smithsonian Institution

As part of an ongoing effort to steward thoughtful conversations about race, the Smithsonian has launched “Our Shared Future: Reckoning with Our Racial Past.” This Institution-wide initiative offers a wealth of programming and resources that explore how Americans understand, experience, and confront the critical issues of race and racism and the lasting impact they have on the health, economy, and social fabric of the nation. “Our Shared Future” provides an ecosystem of resources and experiences, both digital and live, featuring real conversations from local communities to national events. Confronting race and racism is difficult, but necessary work. The Smithsonian strives to amplify your voices in our commitment to building a more equitable path toward our shared future.

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

The Smithsonian Libraries and Archives is pleased to announce Tamar Evangelestia-Dougherty as our new director, effective November 6. An expert in the stewardship, interpretation, and acquisition of collections, Evangelestia-Dougherty brings a rich background driving public outreach and cultivating robust print and digital collections across diverse subject matters. Evangelestia-Dougherty will bring strategic leadership to the recently integrated Smithsonian Libraries and Archives, which is responsible for nearly 3 million library volumes and over 44,000 cubic feet of archival materials chronicling the history of the Smithsonian. She will oversee 137 employees, a national advisory board of 15 members, an annual budget of over \$16 million, and 22 library branches and reading rooms located in Washington, D.C., New York City, Maryland, Virginia, and the Republic of Panama. Evangelestia-Dougherty succeeds Nancy Gwinn, who was the director of Smithsonian Libraries from 1997 to 2019, and Tammy Peters, who was the interim director of Smithsonian Institution Archives after the retirement of Anne Van Camp in 2018. Scott Miller, the Smithsonian’s Chief Scientist, has served as the interim director of Smithsonian Libraries and Archives since 2020.

Trust for the National Mall

The Trust for the National Mall was awarded a multimillion-dollar grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to

support “Beyond Granite,” a pilot project to create a new model for temporary commemorative works in Washington, DC. The project will bring a series of commemorative installations on and around the National Mall and in Washington, DC neighborhoods that fully engage the community in conversation and reflect and honor the diversity of the American people. The project, part of the Mellon Foundation’s “Monuments Project,” will be a partnership between the Trust, the National Capital Planning Commission (NCP), and the National Park Service along with contributing organizations including the District of Columbia, Smithsonian Institution, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the National Endowment for the Arts. The 27-month grant will support community outreach, development, and the installation of 8-10 temporary commemorative works. The goal of “Beyond Granite” is to elevate underrepresented national and local stories in the commemorative landscape.

Internships in Federal History

The Federalist Seeks Early-Career Professionals!

The Federalist needs graduate students and early-career professionals to participate in a feature on internships and early-stage career opportunities in the federal government: “Internships in Federal History.”

If you are a current or recent federal history student who served in an internship, fellowship, pathways, or similar appointment, and you’d like a short description of yourself and your work featured in an upcoming issue of *The Federalist*, please email the editor at shfgfederalist@gmail.com. If you currently work with interns or other early-career individuals, please tell them about this opportunity to raise awareness about themselves and the work they do across the federal history community!





The FEDERALIST

Society for History in the Federal Government Newsletter

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Federalist Calendar

Jan. 6–9, 2022. American Historical Association. 136th Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA. Visit <https://www.historians.org/annual-meeting/>

Mar. 23–26, 2022. National Council on Public History. Annual Meeting. “Crossroads.” Montreal, Quebec. Visit <https://ncph.org/conference/2022-annual-meeting/>

Mar. 31–Apr. 2, 2022. DC History Conference. 48th Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. Visit <http://dchistory.org/conference/>

Mar. 31–Apr. 3, 2022. Organization of American Historians. Annual Meeting. “Indigenous/American Pasts and Futures.” Boston, MA. Visit <https://www.oah.org/meetings-events/oah22/>

Apr. 28–May 1, 2022. Society for Military History. 88th Annual Meeting. Fort Worth, TX. Visit <https://www.smh-hq.org/annualmeeting/index.html>

May 11–13, 2022. Center for Cryptologic History. 18th Cryptologic History Symposium. “Icons and Innovation.” Laurel, MD. Visit <https://cryptologicfoundation.org/what-we-do/educate/conferences/symposium.html>

June 2–3, 2022. Society for History in Federal Government. Annual Meeting. “The Resiliency of Institutions.” Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education. Shepherdstown, WV. Visit <http://www.shfg.org/Annual-Meeting>

June 16–18, 2022. Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR). Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA. Visit <https://shafir.org/content/shafir-2022-call-papers>

July 21–24, 2022. Society for Historians of the Early American Republic (SHEAR). 43rd Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA. Visit <https://www.shear.org/annual-meeting/>

Aug. 20–Aug. 27, 2022. Society of American Archivists. 86th Annual Meeting. Boston, MA. Visit <https://www2.archivists.org/conference/>

Sep. 21–24, 2022. Northern Great Plains History Conference. Annual Meeting. Fargo, ND. Visit <https://www.ngphconference.org/>

Oct. 19–22, 2022. Oral History Association. Annual Meeting. Los Angeles, CA. Visit <https://www.oralhistory.org/annual-meeting/>

Jan. 5–8, 2023. American Historical Association. 137th Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA. Visit <https://www.historians.org/annual-meeting/>

Mar. 30–Apr. 2, 2023. Organization of American Historians. Annual Meeting. “Confronting Crises: History for Uncertain Times.” Los Angeles, CA. Visit <https://www.oah.org/meetings-events/oah23/>