**Reconstruction at 150: Beyond Impeachment***final program 2019*

Friday, November 15

**Total War: Ecological Ruin from East to West** (8:15-9:45)

Benjamin Fagan (chair)

Andrew Kopec, “The Erie Canal and the Ruin of Poetry”

Timothy Sweet, “Total War and Extinction: Phil Sheridan Goes West”

Jamie Jones, “The Invention of Quaintness: Infrastructural Ruin and Seaside Tourism in New England”

John Levi Barnard, “Feedlots, Wildfires, and the Atmosphere of History”  
  
  
**Nineteenth-Century Bad Actors: Anachronistic Reflections** (10:00-12:15)

*Martin T. Buinicki (chair)*

*White Male Mediocrity*

Rachel Banner, “Herman Melville”

Brigitte Fielder, “The Mediocre White Suitor Trope”

Jeffrey Insko, “William Wilberforce”

Michael Stancliff, “John C. Fremont”

*Mansplaining*

Elizabeth Duquette, “Alexis de Tocqueville”

Christopher Hanlon, “Ralph Waldo Emerson”

Justine S. Murison, “Henry Ward Beecher”

Kristen Treen, “Oliver Wendell Holmes”

**Assembling *Visions of Glory*: The Caucus at Work** (2:15-3:45)

*Jane E. Schultz (chair)*

Kathleen Diffley, “Witnessing the ‘Blind Ruck of Event’”

Aston Gonzalez, “Stealing Freedom: Robert Smalls and Modeling Citizenship”

Sarah E. Gardner, “Reading, Infirmity, and Suicide”

Nathan L. Grant, “The Architecture of Transnational Contingencies: Julia Collins’s *The Curse of Caste* and the Legend of the   
 Lindaraja Mirador”

Benjamin Fagan, “Afterimage: The Alabama State Capitol”

**A Readings Roundtable: African American Responses to the Civil War (4:00-5:30)**

***Nathan L. Grant (chair)***

Christine Hedlin, “Ruth G., ‘Our Future,’ *Christian Recorder* (December 16, 1865)”  
Gregory Laski, “Frederick Douglass, ‘The Assassination and Its Lessons’ (February 13, 1866)”  
Tess Chakkalakal, “William Wells Brown, *The Negro in the American Rebellion* (1866)”  
Julia A. Stern, “Elizabeth Keckley, *Behind the Scenes; or, Thirty Years a Slave, and Four Years in the*

*White House* (1868)”

Crystal S. Donkor, “Frances E. W. Harper, *Minnie’s Sacrifice* (1868)”  
Shirley Samuels, “Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins, *Contending Forces: A Romance Illustrative of Negro Life*

*North and South* (1900)”  
Melissa Daniels-Rauterkus, “Charles W. Chesnutt, *The House Behind the Cedars* (1900)”

Saturday, November 16

**Plotting Reconstructions: A Roundtable** (8:15-9:45)

Vanessa Steinroetter (chair)

Faith Barrett, “Representing the Homeland in Frances Harper’s *Forest-Leaves*”

Mary Wheeling, “Reconstructing an Appalachian Farm Wife: The Civil War Letters of William R. Barlow to his Wife,

Elizabeth”

Marla Anzalone, “‘Who cared for the sick and dying’: African American Nurses and Surgeons”

Emily Donaldson Field, “Slavery in New England Memory: The Case of Toby Talbert of Bridgewater, MA”

Timothy Donahue, “Mathias Carvalho, Louis Riel, and a Hemispheric History of the US Civil War”  
  
  
**Frances Harper Studies: States of the Field and Provocations** (10:00-11:30)

Derrick R. Spires *(chair)*

Eric Gardner, “Frances E. W. Harper, the Mission of the War, and the Midwest”

Brigitte Fielder, “Frances Harper’s Reconstruction”

Denise Burgher, “Frances Ellen Watkins Harper and the Colored Conventions Movement: A Study of Words, Images, and

Politics of the Spectacular”

Cierra Humphrey, “Frances Harper and Black Bibliography”

Koritha Mitchell, “The Role Model We Ignore at Our Peril: Frances E. W. Harper”  
  
  
**Texts Forgotten and Forsaken: Civil War & Reconstruction Pedagogy** (11:45-12:15)

*Benjamin Cooper (chair)*

Rebecca Entel, “Mattie Jackson's *The Story of Mattie J. Jackson:* ‘written and arranged by,’ ‘as given by,’ and ‘another volume  
 from my own pen’  
Vanessa Steinroetter, “John Whittaker Watson’s ‘No Letter’ (1865): The ‘Vampyre Clutch’ of the Postal Worker and the Civil War Post Office”  
Eric Gardner, “Walter Stowers and William Anderson's *Appointed*: Lynching and the War’s Remnants”

**A Question of Monuments: A Roundtable** (2:15-3:45)  
*Kristen Treen (chair)*

Elizabeth Young, “The Transmedia Monument”  
Sam Graber, “The Foley Statue in Richmond”  
Michael LeMahieu, “‘Never to be Forgotten’: Redemption, White Supremacy, and the Anderson County Courthouse

Confederate Monument”

Jill Spivey Caddell, “‘A Caring Man’: The John W. Jones Monument in Elmira, New York”

Kirsten Paine, “A Failure of Sentiment: 19th-Century Cemeteries, 21st-Century Spaces, and the Project of Memorializing Civil

War Women”  
  
**New & Noteworthy: In Print / In Circulation** (4:00-5:30)

*Kathleen Diffley (chair)*

Derrick R. Spires, author of *The Practice of Citizenship: Black Politics and Print Culture in the Early*

*United States*Eliza Richards, author of *Battle Lines: Poetry and Mass Media in the US Civil War*

Samuel Graber, author of *Twice-Divided Nation: National Memory, Transatlantic News, and American*

*Literature in the Civil War Era*

Elizabeth Renker, author of *Realist Poetics in American Culture, 1866-1900*