

Rachel Crockett Kirby

Lecturer in History & Literature, Harvard University

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Lecturer, History & Literature, Harvard University, 2022-Present

EDUCATION

Ph.D. American Studies, Boston University, May 2022

M.A., Folklore, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, May 2016

B.A., Art History, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, May 2013

PUBLICATIONS

See www.rachelckirby.com for available hyperlinks

Peer Reviewed

Kirby, Rachel C. "Unenslaved through Art: Rice Culture Paintings by Jonathan Green," *Panorama: Journal of the Association of Historians of American Art* 6, no. 1 (Spring 2020).

Kirby, Rachel C. and Anthony Bak Buccitelli, "'The Quintessence of the Humanities': Folklore and Mythology at Harvard." In *Folklore in the United States and Canada: An Institutional History*, eds. Patricia Sawin and Rosemary Lévy Zumwalt. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2022.

Book Reviews

Review of *Hear Me Now: The Black Potters of Old Edgefield, South Carolina*, edited by Adrienne Spinozzi and *Praise Songs for Dave the Potter: Art and Poetry for David Drake, with Artwork by Jonathan Green and Poetry by Glenis Redmond*, edited by P. Gabrielle Foreman and foreword by Kwame Dawes. Afterword by Evie Shockley. *Journal of Southern History*, (forthcoming).

Web-Based Publications

Kirby, Rachel. "Multisensory Material Culture: Tasting Place in Objects and Images," *Ampersand: An American Studies Journal*. Vol. 1, Issue 2 (February 2022).

Kirby, Rachel. "The Life and Times of Mr. Peanut," *Contingent Magazine*, February 13, 2020.

Kirby, Rachel C. "Melanie Newman & Suzie Cool: Salem Red Sox' New Female Broadcast Team Making History." *Red Sox Magazine*. 4th edition (September 2019).

Kirby, Rachel C. "Putting Some Real Juice in the Game." *Medium.com* blog. July 31, 2019.

Kirby, Rachel C. "The Green Behind the Monster." *Medium.com* blog. July 18, 2019.

Kirby, Rachel C. and Gordon Edes. "The Great Popcorn Machine Fire of '74." *Medium.com* blog. June 12, 2019.

Kirby, Rachel. "UNC's Ambiguous Memorial: A Living List of Names," *Names in Brick & Stone: Histories from the University's Built Landscape*. 2015.

Kirby, Rachel. "'Carr Building Presented: A Monument to Julian Shakespeare Carr," *Names in Brick & Stone: Histories from the University's Built Landscape*. 2015.

Kirby, Rachel Crockett. "Boat by James 'J.P.' Scott," *Grace the Table: An Exploration of Food and Civil Rights in Southern Folk Art from the Collection of Ann Marshall and Scott Blackwell*, Southern Foodways Alliance Symposium. 2014.

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, and AWARDS

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| 2023 | "Reconstructing the Black Archive. South Carolina as Case Study 1739-1895,"
National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute |
| 2022 | Mary Kelley Prize, New England American Studies Association |
| 2021 | Johnson Grant, Boston University |
| 2020-2021 | P.E.O. Scholar Award |
| 2019 | John Furr Fellowship for JWT Research, J. Walter Thompson Archives,
Hartman Center, Duke University |
| 2019 | Chase Family Travel Grant for Visiting Graduate Scholars, P.K. Yonge Library
of Florida History, University of Florida |
| 2019 | Boston University Graduate Student Organization Travel Grant |
| 2018 | PhD Oral Qualifying Exam passed with honors, Boston University, American &
New England Studies Program |
| 2018 | Ambassadors Award, Vernacular Architecture Forum Annual Meeting |
| 2017 | Pamela H. Simpson Presenter's Fellowship, Vernacular Architecture Forum
Annual Meeting |
| 2016-2017 | Dean's Fellowship, Boston University |
| 2015 | Archie Green Fellowship in Occupational Folklife |

2015 The Daniel W. Patterson Fellowship for Folklore Fieldwork

PRESENTATIONS and PANELS

Panels Organized

- 2023 Co-organized, “At the Edges of Food Studies,” Association for the Study of Food and Society. Boston, MA. May 31 – June 3.
- 2022 “Methodologies from the Multisensory South,” American Studies Association. New Orleans, LA. Nov. 2-5.
- 2019 Co-organizer, “Documenting Sense of Place” roundtable, Vernacular Architecture Forum. Philadelphia, PA. May 29 - June 1.

Papers Presented

- 2023 “Tobacco and Terroir,” Association for the Study of Food and Society. Boston, MA. May 31 – June 3.
- 2022 “Tasting the South: Multisensory Explorations of Visual and Material Culture,” American Studies Association. New Orleans, LA. Nov. 2-5.
- 2022 “‘I’ll Admit that Black is White’: Mr. Peanut’s Accessorized Shell as a Racialized Body.” New England American Studies Association. Pittsfield, MA. June 11.
- 2021 “The Materiality of Mr. Peanut: Agriculture, Aristocracy, and Minstrelsy in Planters’ Anthropomorphic Nut.” American Studies Association. Virtual. Oct. 11-14. (rescheduled from 2020 due to COVID).
- 2019 “Exporting Citrus, Importing Tourists: The Florida Orange as an Icon of Commodified Labor-Turned-Leisure.” American Studies Association. Honolulu, HI. Nov. 7-10.
- 2019 “Documenting Sense of Place” roundtable. Vernacular Architecture Forum. Philadelphia, PA. May 29 - June 1.
- 2019 “Painting Away the Shackles of Slavery: Exploring Jonathan Green’s Depictions of an ‘Unenslaved’ Lowcountry.” The Vesey Conspiracy at 200: Black Antislavery and the Atlantic World, College of Charleston, SC. Feb. 8-10.
- 2018 “Painting the ‘Unenslaved’: Jonathan Green’s Visualizations of Land, Labor, and Life in the Lowcountry.” Southern Studies Conference. Auburn University Montgomery. Montgomery, AL. Feb. 9-10.
- 2017 “From Maids to Mary King: Stories and Spaces of the Nichols House Employees.” Nichols House Museum. Boston, MA. September 21.
- 2017 “An Island of Opportunity: The Boston Farm School and the City’s Civic Landscape.” Vernacular Architecture Forum. Salt Lake City, UT. May 31 –

June 3.

2015 “Working and Eating in the Piedmont.” Carolina Cornucopia: A Conference on Foodways of the Tar Heel State. Chapel Hill, NC. May 29-30.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lecturer, History and Literature, Harvard University

The South: Histories of a U.S. Region (Fall 2023)

Sophomore Tutorial: Archive, Memory, and Imagination in North America (Spring 2023, co-taught)

Junior Tutorial (Fall 2022; Spring 2023; Fall 2023)

Senior Tutorial (Fall 2022; Spring 2023; Fall 2023)

Tasting Place: Food and Culture in America (Fall 2022)

Graduate Writing Fellow, Writing Program, Boston University

Writing, Research, & Inquiry with Digital/Multimedia Expression; Topic: Tasting Place (Spring 2022)

First-Year Writing Seminar; Topic: Are We What We Eat?: Food and Culture (Fall 2021)

Instructor of Record, Boston University

Introduction to American Studies Topic: Boston’s Pastime: The Red Sox and their City (Summer 2020)

Teaching Fellow, Boston University

History and Theory of Landscape Architecture (Spring 2019)

Arts in America (Fall 2018)

History of International Relations, 1900-1945 (Fall 2017)

Teaching Assistant, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Approaches to Southern Studies (Spring 2016)

Shalom Y’all: The Jewish Experience in the American South (Fall 2015)

Introduction to the American South (Spring 2015)

Introduction to Folklore (Fall 2014)

Invited Speaker

Professional Development Seminar, American & New England Studies Program, Professor Ross Barrett (February 20, 2023)

"Minstrelsy and Mr. Peanut," Twentieth Century Stuff, Professor Katherine Lennard (February 10, 2022)

RESEARCH and PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Oct. 2019-May 2020 **Archive Intern**, Boston Red Sox, Boston, MA

May-August 2019 **Graduate Intern**, Gordon Edes, Red Sox historian, Boston, MA
*Sponsored by the Boston University Center for the Humanities
and the Office of the Associate Provost for Graduate Affairs*

Spring 2018 **Editorial Assistant**, *Buildings & Landscapes: The Journal of the Vernacular Architecture Forum*

Summer 2017 **Julie Linsdell and George Linsdell Enders Research Fellowship**,
Nichols House Museum, Boston, MA

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

President, New England American Studies Association (2023 – Present)
Vice President, New England American Studies Association (2022-2023)

SERVICE TO DEPARTMENT

Committee on Instruction, History & Literature, Harvard University (2022 – Present)
President, American & New England Studies Program Graduate Student Association (AMNESP GSA) (2019-2020)
Vice President, AMNESP GSA (2018-2019)
Social and Professional Development Coordinator, AMNESP GSA (2017-2018)
Co-Chair, Speaker Series Colloquium, UNC Department of American Studies, 2015-2016

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association for the Study of Food and Society
New England American Studies Association
Southern Historical Association
Southern Foodways Alliance
American Studies Association
Vernacular Architecture Forum