

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

*W*e are responding to Karen Guenther's website review that appeared in the Winter 2010 issue (volume 77, number 1, pp. 73-76). As the authors of the "Baseball in Pennsylvania" and "Pennsylvania Sports" stories on the ExplorePAhistory.com website, we were dismayed by both the tone of Karen Guenther's review of these stories and by her assertions about "historical inaccuracy" and "erroneous and contradictory interpretation of events"; assertions with which we strongly disagree. Also troubling is her decision to accept the assignment to review a story she participated in as an internal reviewer for ExplorePAhistory.com without disclosing this information to the editors or the audience. We encourage readers of Pennsylvania History to visit these two stories and judge for themselves the accuracy and quality of the histories presented.

Sincerely,
Jeff Silverman and Charles Hardy III

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORY: A JOURNAL OF MID-ATLANTIC STUDIES, VOL. 77, NO. 3, 2010.
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RESPONSE

I did serve as an internal reviewer for the Baseball story for ExplorePAhistory.com and should have declined the opportunity to review that story. I do, however, stand by the facts of the review. The authors have indeed addressed many issues raised in the review. I look forward to encouraging my students to consult these two stories for further information, especially education majors who can effectively use them when teaching United States history and Pennsylvania history.

Sincerely,
Karen Guenther

STATEMENT OF THE EDITORIAL STAFF

The Editorial Staff wish to take this opportunity to remind their readers that they and the Pennsylvania Historical Association consider it the responsibility of all reviewers to disclose any conflict of interest when invited to review books, websites, museums, and exhibits for *Pennsylvania History: A Journal of Mid-Atlantic Studies*.

Sincerely,
Paul Douglas Newman, Editor
Jeffrey A. Davis, Associate Editor
Daniel P. Barr, Book Review Editor

ANNOUNCEMENTS

U pcoming Annual Meetings of the Pennsylvania Historical Association

2010 Annual Meeting
Susquehanna University
October 14–16, 2010
Local Arrangements Co-Chairs: Karol Weaver or Edward Slavishak
at Susquehanna University
Program Chair: Dennis Downey Dennis.Downey@millersville.edu

2011 Annual Meeting
University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown
October 13–15, 2011
Local Arrangements Chair: Paul Douglas Newman pnewman@pitt.edu
Program Chair: Daniel Barr barrd@rmu.edu

2012 Annual Meeting
Harrisburg, PA
November 1–3, 2012
Local Arrangements Chair: Simon Bronner sjb2@psu.edu
Program Chair: TBA

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MARAC FALL 2010

The Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC) will be meeting November 11–13, 2010 in at the Hilton Harrisburg, PA. The semi-annual conference regularly attracts over 300 archivists, manuscript curators and records managers from all over the mid-Atlantic region. The theme is “The Politics of Archives,” and Plenary Speaker will be Kathleen Roe of the New York State Archives speaking on the national Preservation of Archives and Historical Records (PAHR) legislation. Luncheon speaker will be Dr. Michael Barton of Penn State Harrisburg on the significance and use of archives facilities in the Central Pennsylvania region. For more information on registering and a complete schedule visit the MARAC website at: <http://www.marac.info>.

Exhibit: Anatomical Drawings on Display at Pennsylvania Hospital

From Pastels to PDA's : Medical Education from the 18th c. to the 21st c. exhibits our collection of sixteen Jan Van Rymsdyk anatomical drawings for the first time together in one display. Opening to the public on December 1, 2009, this exhibition is sure to engage visitors interested in the history of medicine.

Long before the use of the X-ray, CAT scan, ultrasound and digital technology, the use of images played an important role in the medical education of students. Anatomical illustrations were cutting edge in the eighteenth century, and Jan Van Rymsdyk was known as one of the best anatomical illustrators in the world. Van Rymsdyk has kept his stature over the past two and a half centuries. These illustrations were created with crayon making them very susceptible to damage, however, they survived a trip across the ocean in 1762 to become a center of the medical education young men received.

In a letter dated April 7, 1762, Fothergill stated, “I need not tell thee that the knowledge of anatomy is of exceeding great use to Practionors in Physic and Surgery & that the means of procuring Subjects with you are not easy.” Medical education was about to change forever in Philadelphia.

Fothergill further offered his opinion that the drawings “not to be seen by every Person but with the Permission of a Trustee & for some small Gratuity for the Benefitt of the House.” Heeding Dr. Fothergill’s warning, the drawings were viewed on a limited basis and carefully housed to protect them. Today, as 247 years ago, the drawings are viewed on a limited basis making this exhibit a rare treat for the public. The exhibition will run until December 2010.

Re-Launched Journal—Call for Submissions

New Jersey History

A new venue for historical research on New Jersey history
 Edited and published by the New Jersey Historical Commission
 Kean University
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Volume 124, number 1 is now available at
<http://njh.libraries.rutgers.edu>

New Jersey History, founded as the *Proceedings of the New Jersey Historical Society* in 1845 and published under the direction of the Society until 2005, has been re-launched under the editorial direction of historians at the New Jersey Historical Commission, Kean University, and the Society. This peer-reviewed journal will be published online twice annually by Rutgers University Libraries with a printed edition available from Rutgers University Press. *NJH* is also supported by the New Jersey Digital Highway, which will provide an additional access point for the journal from its website, and will preserve the digital version of the journal. The editorial staff invites scholars, students, and writers to submit scholarly articles aimed at a non-specialized audience for its forthcoming issues. We welcome papers from all disciplines—for example, law, literature, political science, anthropology, archaeology, material culture, cultural studies, and social and political history—bearing on any aspects of New Jersey's history. Articles that place that history in wider relevant contexts will be especially welcome. We are also interested in documents, photographs, and other primary source material that could be published with annotations.

Papers submitted for publication should not exceed 8,500 words and should follow the current edition of the *Chicago Manual of Style*. Completed submissions *must* also include a 200 word abstract of the article's contents, mailed to the editor: petermickulas@gmail.com. Suitable submissions are refereed anonymously by at least two readers. All text, including quotations and footnotes, should be prepared in double-spaced typescript according to *The Chicago Manual*. Please provide your full address, including e-mail, in all correspondence with the editorial staff. A manuscript that has been published or that is currently under consideration for publication elsewhere will not be accepted.

Penn State Harrisburg introduces a new doctoral program in American Studies

Penn State Harrisburg officially launched its Ph.D. program in American Studies with the admission of nine new students in fall 2009. Taking advantage of its location in the capital region with internationally known heritage sites such as Gettysburg, Three Mile Island, Hershey, Steelton, Harrisburg, York, the coal region, and the Amish Country, the program at Penn State Harrisburg emphasizes subfields of (1) folk and popular culture, (2) public heritage and museum studies, (3) interdisciplinary history and politics, and (4) environmental, urban, and regional studies. Those areas include government work, museums, cultural agencies, education, archives and records management, public policy, and communications. Penn State's Ph.D. program in American Studies is the only doctoral program in American Studies in Pennsylvania, and over 30 doctoral programs are located nationwide.

To support the public heritage and cultural history interests of faculty and students, the American Studies program maintains close ties with local educational and cultural institutions, including the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, State Museum of Pennsylvania, Landis Valley Museum, National Civil War Museum, Hershey Museum, and other public heritage resources.

Special features of study at Penn State Harrisburg include: teaching assistantships and research fellowships, internships and field-oriented courses; access to the Center for Pennsylvania Culture Studies, a research center devoted to the study of Pennsylvania's cultural heritage; the Archives of Pennsylvania Folklore and Ethnography; and the library's Alice Marshall Collection, considered by many scholars to be one of the largest privately compiled research collections on women's history in America.

See <http://www.hbg.psu.edu/hum/amst>.

CONTRIBUTORS

JAMES J. GIGANTINO II earned his PhD from the University of Georgia in 2010. He held a Samuel Smith Research Fellowship from the New Jersey Historical Commission from 2009–2010 and has accepted a position as an Assistant Professor of History at the University of Arkansas beginning August 2010.

COURTNEY ANN LYONS has a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science Engineering from the University of Texas at Arlington (2004), a Master of Divinity from George W. Truett Theological Seminary (2007), and is currently a doctoral student in Religion at Baylor University in Waco, TX. Her primary research concerns the religious aspects of the civil rights movement, including the roles of women ministers. She is an ordained Baptist minister and currently serves at Shiloh Baptist Church in Crawford, TX, with her husband, Victor.

ERIKA SCHNEIDER received her Ph.D. in art history from Tyler School of Art at Temple University in Philadelphia. Her dissertation “Starving for Recognition: The Representation of Struggling Artists in America, 1800–1860” reflects her specialty in nineteenth-century art. Her essay, “Talisman for the Symbolist Movement: Puvis de Chavannes’ *Hope*” appeared in the recently published book, “Subjective Objects: The Aesthetics of the Object in Symbolist Art and Writing.” She has worked in numerous museums including the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Seattle Art Museum, and Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. She is currently assistant professor of art history at Framingham State College in Massachusetts where she teaches courses on American, modern and contemporary art and museum studies.

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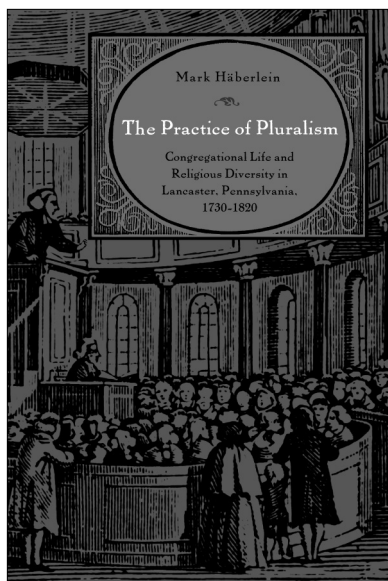
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The Practice of Pluralism

Congregational Life and Religious Diversity in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, 1730-1820

Mark Häberlein

"Thorough and persuasive. The people of Lancaster come across as devoted and essentially conservative, supporting their churches and attached to their ways of worship, even if individuals among them occasionally changed their minds. Häberlein persuasively shows that the laity provided the true continuity of the church."

—Ned Landsmann, Stony Brook University

The clash of modernity and an Amish buggy might be the first image that comes to one's mind when imagining Lancaster, Pennsylvania, today. In the early to mid-eighteenth century, Lancaster stood apart as an active and religiously diverse, ethnically complex, and bustling city. On the eve of the American Revolution, Lancaster's population had risen to nearly 3,000 inhabitants; it stood as a center of commerce, industry, and trade. Of course the German-speaking population—Anabaptists as well as German Lutherans, Moravians, and German Calvinists—made up the majority, but about one-third were English-speaking Anglicans, Catholics, Presbyterians, Quakers, Calvinists, and other Christian groups. A small group of Jewish families also lived in Lancaster, though they had no synagogue. Carefully mining historical records and documents, from tax records to church membership rolls, Mark Häberlein confirms that religion in Lancaster was neither on the decline nor rapidly changing; rather, steady and deliberate growth marked a diverse religious population.

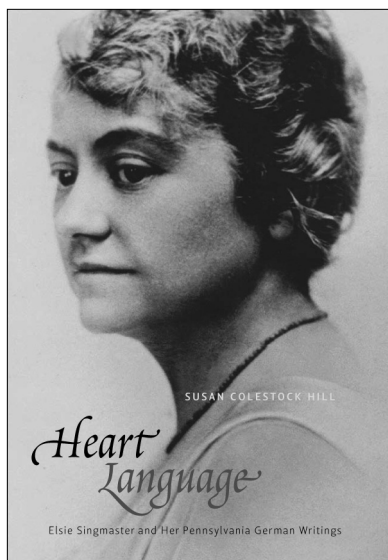
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Heart Language

Elsie Singmaster and Her Pennsylvania German Writings

Susan Colestock Hill

At the turn of the twentieth century, American popular literary magazines and journals pulsed with local-color fiction, seeking to satisfy a national hunger for American identity. Anxiety over increasing numbers of “new stock” immigrants—and the changing face of an industrializing America—gave rise to greater popular interest in stories with a simple focus on localized folk culture and “old stock” immigrant tradition. In the footsteps of writers like Harriet Beecher Stowe and Sarah Orne Jewett, the Pennsylvania German writings of Elsie Singmaster emerged to great popularity and acclaim.

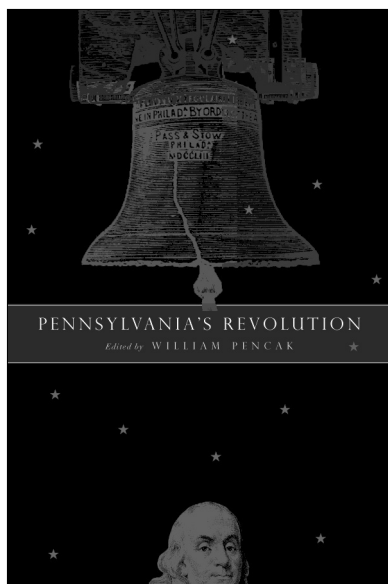
Born and raised in the Pennsylvania German tradition, Elsie Singmaster wrote extensively over the first half of the twentieth century. Through her intimate knowledge of the community, Singmaster exposed the nation’s expanding readership to Pennsylvania German beliefs, culture, and distinct dialect without denigrating the community or resorting to stereotypes. She believed that the Pennsylvania Germans embodied the best of the nation’s ideals, and she crafted her characters and stories to participate in the national dialogue about immigration, development, and the definition of a hard-working, middle-class sensibility grounded in Old World traditions. While Singmaster’s work fell out of sight as the century wore on, her writings remain a significant contribution to the study of both Pennsylvania German history and culture and the literature of the last century.

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Pennsylvania's Revolution

Edited by William Pencak

Pennsylvania's Revolution embodies a new era of scholarship about the state's Revolutionary past. It breaks from a narrowly focused study of Philadelphia and the 1776 Constitution to evaluate Pennsylvania's internal conflicts during the Revolutionary period. Pronounced struggles between Pennsylvania's own citizen factions during the late eighteenth century are often cited by historians to demonstrate how this trend produced important social and political changes throughout the American colonies. By examining these experiences from multiple angles, this book reflects the overarching themes of the Revolution through a detailed study of Pennsylvania—the most radical of the thirteen colonies.

In this volume, William Pencak brings together fifteen essays that expand our knowledge of the complex changes that occurred in Pennsylvania during this tumultuous era. Acting as a companion to John Frantz and William Pencak's regionally focused 1998 volume *Beyond Philadelphia*, *Pennsylvania's Revolution* takes a topical approach to the discussion of the state's internal turmoil. Through the lens of political and military history along with social history, women's history, ethnohistory, Native American studies, urban history, cultural history, material culture, religious history, print culture, frontier/backcountry studies, and even film studies and theater history, this volume gives readers a glimpse of the diverse nature of contemporary and future historiography of Pennsylvania's Revolutionary period.

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