

Whitney Nell Stewart

University of Texas at Dallas
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Academic Appointments

Assistant Professor of Historical Studies, University of Texas at Dallas, 2017–present

Education

Ph.D., History, Rice University, May 2017

Dissertation: “The Racialized Politics of Home in Slavery and Freedom”

Advisors: James Sidbury and W. Caleb McDaniel

M.A., History, Rice University, 2013

B.A. *summa cum laude*, History, University of St. Thomas, 2009

Publications

Co-editor, *Race and Nation in the Age of Emancipations: An Atlantic World Anthology* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, forthcoming 2018).

“Fashioning Frenchness: *Gens de Couleur Libres* and the Cultural Struggle for Power in Antebellum New Orleans,” *Journal of Social History* 51, no. 2 (forthcoming, Winter 2017), doi: 10.1093/jsh/shw093.

Review of *Modern Slavery: The Margins of Freedom*, by Julia O’Connell Davidson. HSlavery, H-Net Reviews (July 2017).

“The Material Culture of Freedom: African American Women and the Southern Free Black Home after the Civil War,” in *Creators and Consumers: Women and Material Culture and Visual Art in 19th-Century Texas, the Lower South, and the Southwest*, The David B. Warren Symposium, vol. 5 (Houston: The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, 2016), 46–58.

“Abolition,” in *Ideas and Movements that Shaped America: From the Bill of Rights to "Occupy Wall Street"* (ABC-CLIO, July 2015).

Review of *Daily Life During African American Migrations*, by Kimberly Phillips. *The Journal of African American History* (forthcoming).

Book Note. Review of *Acadiana: Louisiana’s Historic Cajun Country*, by Carl A. Brasseaux and Philip Gould. *Journal of Southern History* 78 (Nov. 2012): 1050–51.

Book Note. Review of *The Food Axis: Cooking, Eating, and the Architecture of American Houses*, by Elizabeth Collins Cromley. *Journal of Southern History* 77 (Nov. 2011): 1062–63.

Publications under Review

“The Refinement of Mobile: Social Mobility and Social Control in an Antebellum Cotton City,” *American Nineteenth Century History* (revise and resubmit).

Fellowships and Awards

Writing & Research Fellowships

Barra Foundation Dissertation Fellowship in Early American Art and Material Culture, The McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania (2016–2017)

Smithsonian Predoctoral Research Fellowship, National Museum of African American History and Culture & the National Museum of American History (2015)

W.M. Keck Foundation Research Fellowship, Huntington Library (2015)
Jay Last Research Fellowship, American Antiquarian Society (2015)
Mary Lily Research Grant, Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture, Duke University (2015)
Travel Grant, John Hope Franklin Centre for African and African American History and Culture, Duke University (2015)
Mellon Foundation Research Fellowship, Virginia Historical Society (2015)
Short-term Research Fellowship, Winterthur Museum, Garden, and Library (2014)
Lord Baltimore Research Fellowship, Maryland Historical Society (2014)
SHEAR/Mellon Undergraduate History Fellowship (2008)

Curatorial and Public History Fellowships

Jameson Curatorial Fellowship, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston's Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens (awarded twice, 2013–2014 and 2014–2015)
Simmons Curatorial Fellowship, The Henry Ford (2014)
Field Research Fellowship, Classical Institute of the South (2012)

National Institutes

Yale Public History Institute, African American Public History, Yale University (2015)
National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute, Visual Culture of the American Civil War, City University of New York (2014)

Prizes

Barbara Field Kennedy Prize in American History, Rice University History Department (2017)
Garside Prize, Rice University History Department (2012)
Outstanding Graduating History Major Award, University of St. Thomas (2009)

Service Fellowships and Awards

Sojourner Truth Service Fellowship, Historians Against Slavery (2014–present)
James Scott Peterson Distinguished Service Award, Rice History Department (2014)

Teaching Experience

Assistant Professor, Department of Historical Studies, University of Texas at Dallas; Dallas, TX; Fall 2017–present
Lecturer, School of Arts & Humanities, University of Texas at Dallas; Dallas, TX; Spring 2016
Teaching Assistant, Baker Institute for Public Policy, Rice University; Houston, TX; Spring 2015
Instructor, Department of Business and Social Sciences, Lone Star College-Montgomery; Conroe, TX; Spring 2014

Presentations

“Racial Uplift and the Southern Black Home: The Possibilities and Limitations of Homeplace,” to be presented at the 2017 Southern Historical Association Meeting; Dallas, TX (November 2017)
Plenary Roundtable Participant, “Public History and the Future of the Past,” at the 2017 Society for U.S. Intellectual History Conference; Dallas, TX (October 2017)
“Making Private Spaces through Public Means: Black Women and the Crusade Against the One-Room Cabin,” presented at the 17th Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Genders, and Sexualities; Hofstra University, Hempstead, New York (June 2017)
“Is Slavery Past or Present?: Transatlantic Images of Slave Cabins after Abolition,” presented at the 17th Annual International Graduate Student Conference on Transatlantic History; University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas (October 2016)

- “Victorian Mansions and Slave Cabins: Transatlantic Images of the Black Home during Jim Crow,” presented at the 2016 Conference of C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists; Penn State University, Pennsylvania (March 2016)
- “The Material Culture of Freedom: African American Women and the Southern Free Black Home, 1860-1880,” presented at the 5th Biennial David B. Warren Symposium on American Material Culture and the Texas Experience, hosted by the Bayou Bend Collection & the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; Houston, TX (October 2015)
- “The Slave Cabin as Abolitionist Propaganda,” presented at the 2nd Annual Slave Dwelling Project Conference; Charleston, SC (October 2015)
- “Activist Domesticity: The New Negro Woman and the Liberating Power of Home,” presented at Making a Home: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Domestic Interior; University of Sussex, England (May 2015)
- “Picturing the Black Home: The Visual and Material Culture of Nineteenth-Century African American Activism,” presented at the Thirteenth Annual Material Culture Symposium for Emerging Scholars; Winterthur, DE (April 2015)
- “Parlor and Cabin: The Place and Discourse of the Black Home in African American Activism,” presented at the 2015 Nineteenth-Century Studies Association Meeting; Boston, MA (March 2015)
- “Fashioning Frenchness: The *Gens de Couleur Libres* and the Cofabrication of Culture in Antebellum New Orleans,” presented at the 2014 Humanities Graduate Student Association Conference; Rice University, Houston, TX (February 2014)
- “Objects in the Attic: The Hidden Material Culture of the Old South,” presented at the 2013 Society for the Historians of the Early American Republic Meeting; St. Louis, MO (July 2013)
- “Negotiating Identity in Rio de Janeiro’s Beachfront Marketplaces,” presented at Free and Unfree Labor in Comparative Perspective: the 1st Annual Rice-UNICAMP Seminar; Rice University, Houston, TX (May 2013)
- “Fashioning Status in the French Market: Enslaved Women’s Clothing and the Performance of Freedom in Antebellum New Orleans,” presented at the 2013 Global Gulf Conference; Tulane University, New Orleans, LA (February 2013)
- “Refining a Southern City: Consumerism and Cosmopolitanism in Antebellum Mobile,” presented at the 2012 Southern Historical Association Meeting; Mobile, AL (November 2012)

Invited Presentations

- “The Material Culture of Activism: Black Philadelphia Homes in the Antebellum Era,” Dallas Area Society of Historians; Dallas, TX (May 19, 2017)
- “Slave Dwellings and the Struggle for Domestic Mastery in the Antebellum US South,” Early Americanists in Texas Meeting; Austin, TX (March 31, 2017)
- “The Black Home in Slavery and Freedom,” Research Colloquium, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institute; Washington, D.C. (October 13, 2015)
- Participant, Roundtable on Historians Against Slavery and College Student Activists, at “The Unfinished Work: 24 hours dedicated to fighting slavery,” Gettysburg College; Gettysburg, PA (March 28, 2015)
- “Capturing Freedom?: The Emancipatory Potential of Photography for Nineteenth-Century African American Activists,” Lycoming College; Williamsport, PA (November 7, 2014)
- “Finding the Familiar in the Foreign Past: What the Roddis Collection Reveals About Us,” The Henry Ford; Dearborn, MI (September 10, 2014)
- “The Visual Culture of the American Civil War,” The Henry Ford; Dearborn, MI (August 27, 2014)

“African American History and the Bayou Bend Collection,” The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston’s Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens; Houston, TX (March 28, 2014)

Exhibitions

Curator, “*Exhibited as we are*”: *Fighting Racism with Art in the Age of Slavery*, on display in main house of Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens (April 29–August 16, 2015)

Curator, “Bayou Bend African American Material Culture: An Online Collection,” mfah.org (March 2014–January 2016)

Digital Scholarship

Contributor, Teaching United States History, <http://www.teachingushistory.co/>

“Home Sweet Home?: Slave Dwellings and the Politics of Home,” *Muster*, blog of the *Journal of the Civil War Era*, <http://journalofthecivilwarera.org/2016/04/home-sweet-home-slave-dwellings-politics-home/>

Editor, Dickerson Transcriptions, Friendship Albums Digitization Project, Library Company of Philadelphia

Images Curator, *American Yawp*, <http://www.americanyawp.com/>

Digital Media Representative & Blog Contributor, Historians Against Slavery, <http://www.historiansagainstsavery.org/>

Research Assistant, Rio de Janeiro Digital Image Database, History and Art History Departments, Rice University (2012–2014)

Images Curator, “The Abolitionist Movement: Fighting Slavery and Racial Injustice from the Revolution to the Civil War,” <http://www.abolitionseminar.org/images/>, National Endowment for the Humanities and Library Company of Philadelphia

Professional Experience

Committee Member, 2017 Society for U.S. Intellectual History Conference

Co-organizer, “Race and Nation in the Age of Emancipations: A Symposium on the Atlantic World,” Rice University, Houston, TX (2014)

Graduate Representative, History Department, Rice University (2013–2014)

Assistant Graduate Representative, History Department, Rice University (2012–2013)

Digital Humanities Workshop, Rice University (2012–2013)

Editorial Assistant, *Journal of Southern History* (2011–2012)