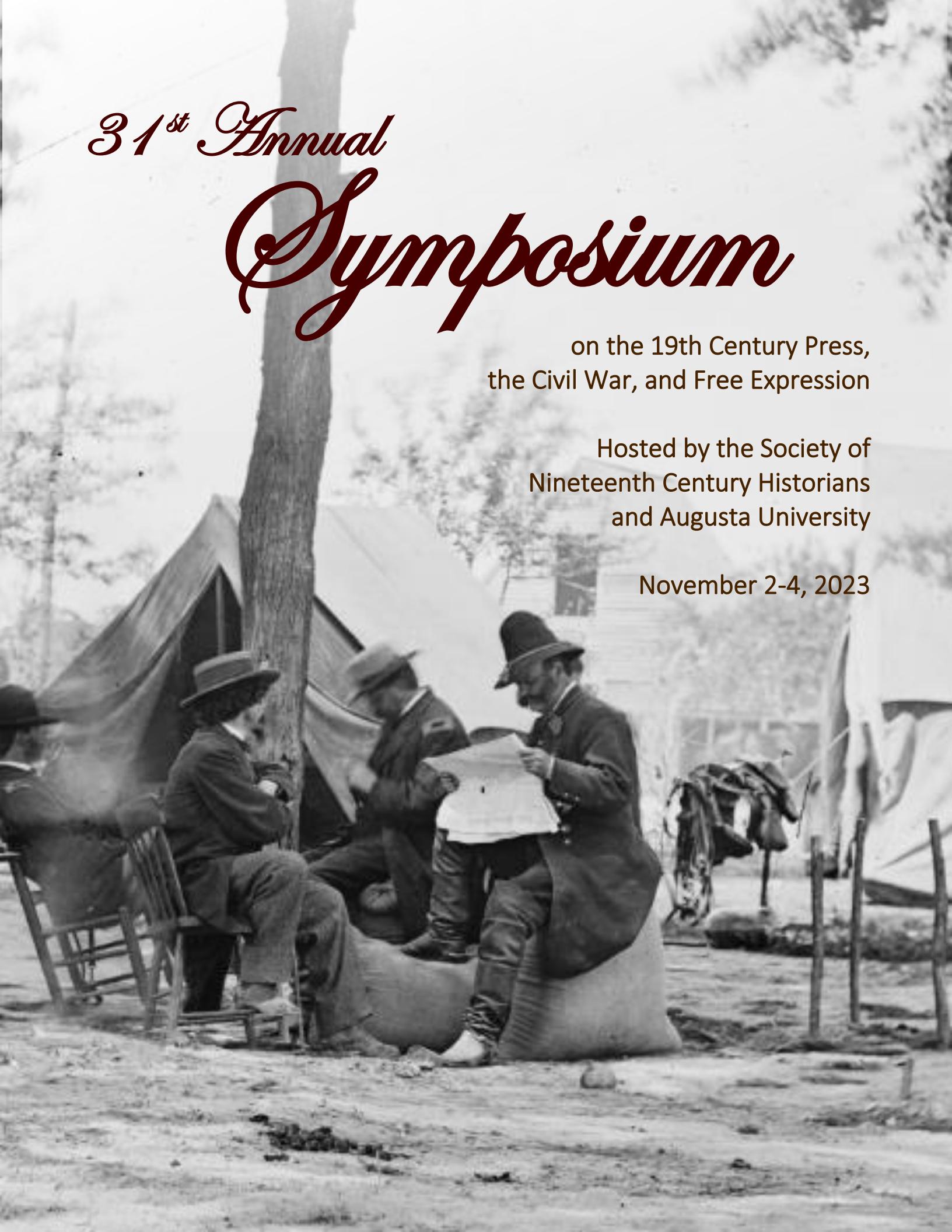


31st Annual *Symposium*

on the 19th Century Press,
the Civil War, and Free Expression

Hosted by the Society of
Nineteenth Century Historians
and Augusta University

November 2-4, 2023



31st Annual *Symposium* on the 19th Century Press, the Civil War, and Free Expression

Thursday, Nov. 2, 2023: JSAC Coffeehouse

3:00–3:15 p.m. Welcome & Opening Remarks

Crompton Burton, Society of Nineteenth Century Historians, 31st Symposium Program Chair

David Bulla, Professor and Chair, Department of Communication, Augusta University

Kim Davies, Dean, Pamplin College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, Augusta University

3:15–4:05 p.m. Transnational Perspectives on American Slavery & the U.S. Civil War

Moderator: Brian Gabrial, Concordia University

“The “Second American Revolution”: Canadian Editors and the Outbreak of the U.S. Civil War,” Brian Gabrial, Concordia University

“The Spirit of Seventy-Four: Methodism and Slavery,” Matthew Arendt, Texas Christian University

“The South & Slavery Through the Lens of Toronto’s The Globe During the American Civil War,” Simon Vodrey, Carleton University

4:05–5:25 p.m. Reporting the Arts: Music, Poetry, Painting and Sculpture

Moderator: Crompton Burton, Independent Scholar

““Unless I Write for Public Approbation”: Stephen Foster and Early Music Copyright,” Jason Lee Guthrie, Clayton State University

“Henry Timrod: a life of sorrow and song,” Pat McNeely, University of South Carolina

“First Impressions of Blind Tom before, during and after the Civil War,” Berth Lindfors, University of Texas at Austin

“Scratched, Scraped, and Torn: The New Wave of Artistic Destruction of Paintings and Sculpture During the Late 19th Century,” Thomas Dunwell

5:30–6:45 p.m. Frontier Myths: Whatever Happened to Manifest Destiny?

Moderator: William E. Huntzicker, Independent Scholar

“The Price for ‘Free’ Land: Discourse about Homesteading and the Homestead Act in 19th Century newspapers,” Amy Lauters, Minnesota State University, Mankato

“Urban Peddlers in the Rural West: Jewish Cowboy Myths on the Vaudeville Stage,” Jonathan L. Friedmann, Academy for Jewish Religion California

“The Right to Our Country: Native Newspapers Confront Manifest Destiny,” John M. Coward, University of Tulsa

“Conquering the West in Film: From Oscar Micheaux to Clint Eastwood and Mel Brooks,” Patrick McGilligan, Independent Scholar

“The Media Frontier: Images that Won the West and the New Western History,” William E. Huntzicker, Independent Scholar

6:45 p.m. Dinner Break & Networking: Augusta, Georgia

Friday, Nov. 3, 2023: JSAC Coffeehouse

8:30–10:10 a.m. Reporting During the Civil War and Beyond

Moderator: Thomas Terry, Utah State University

““The Cause of Liberty Made Him Bold on the Field of Battle”: Obituaries of Black Civil War Soldiers Published in *The Christian Recorder*, 1864-1866,” James M. Scythes and Steven Gimber, West Chester University

“From the Egyptian Darkness of Bondage: A San Francisco Black Newspaper and its Civil War Agenda in 1862-1863,” Thomas Terry, Utah State University

“Garibaldi in Rome (Georgia): The Confederate Press in Georgia and Italian Unification, 1860-1865,” Thomas Aiello, Valdosta State University

“‘A Most Commendable Enterprise’: Amy Morris Bradley and *The Soldier’s Journal*,” Crompton Burton, Independent Scholar

“Distance, Reporting, and Civil War: The Case of the American Civil War,” Hubert van Tuyl, Augusta University

10:10–11:10 a.m. The Press & 19th Century Spiritualism

Moderator: Paulette Kilmer, University of Toledo

“Setting the Stage for Stoker: Vampires on the Pages of Nineteenth Century Newspapers,” Dianne Bragg, University of Alabama

“Assessing the Suspicious & ‘Frankensteinian Nature’ of Electricity in 19th Century America,” Simon Vodrey, Carleton University

“Folklore and Legends in the Northwoods: Wisconsin’s ‘Hodag’ in Print and Popular Culture,” Jennifer E. Moore, University of Minnesota Duluth

“Nineteenth Century Newspapers on Ghosts of the Southern Plantation,” Julie Hedgepeth Williams, Samford University

11:10-12:10 p.m. Antebellum Reporting on the Nation and Its Citizens

Moderator: Katrina Jesick Quinn, Slippery Rock University

“Sixteen Tons and a Nation to Build: Antebellum Newspaper Coverage of Pennsylvania’s Coal Mining Industry,” Katrina Jesick Quinn, Slippery Rock University

“Reporting President Polk’s Death: A Case Study on Sectarianism and Market Share in the ‘Bible Belt’s’ Religious Press before the Civil War,” Scott Stephan, Ball State University

“Replanting Ulster -- and Erin: The Role of the Irish-American Press in Building a Community,” Debra Reddin van Tuyl, Augusta University

12:10–1 p.m. Lunch in the JSAC Coffeehouse (All Invited)

1–1:30 p.m. Meeting of the Society of Nineteenth Century Historians (All Invited)

Moderator: Thomas Terry, Interim SNCH President

1:30–2:30 p.m. Reconstruction and the Public: A Roundtable

Moderator: Melissa DeVelvis, Augusta University

Panelists: Brenda Baratto, President, Confederation of South Carolina Local Historical Societies
Ashley Rust, Park Interpreter, Redcliffe Plantation State Historic Site
Courtney Wilson, Augusta University
Chelsea Stutz, Park Manager, Redcliffe Plantation State Historic Site

2:30–3:20 p.m. The African American Press as Counterpoint

Moderator: Valerie Kasper, Saint Leo University

“Themes in the African American Press: Topic Modeling of *Freedom’s Journal*,” Valerie Kasper, Saint Leo University

“Vile Plans and Purposes: The African American Clergy’s Response to the Catholic Church’s Efforts to Attract Freedmen in Post-Civil-War America,” Heather R. Parker, Saint Leo University

“Pirates, Privateers, and the Press: American Journalistic Responses to Piracy in the Greater Caribbean During the Age of Revolutions,” Justin P. Jones, Vanderbilt University

3:20–4:20 p.m. The “Story” in History: 19th Century Press Narratives that Shaped Popular Thought

Moderator: Lee Jolliffe, Drake University

“No Place for Outlaws: Progress, Modernity, and the Arrival of the Railroad in the American Southwest,” Mary Cronin, New Mexico State University

“Straight from the Notebook: Self-Emancipation Aided by Cooperative Efforts of Black and White Northerners,” Lee Jolliffe, Drake University

“Hope, Altruism, and Survival—Whose Tragic Stories Do We Hear?” Paulette Kilmer, University of Toledo

“The Case of Timothy Merritt: Abolitionism and Anti-Abolitionism in the Methodist Episcopal Church,” Matthew Arendt, Texas Christian University

4:20–6 p.m.

More Glimpses of the Supernatural in the 19th Century Press

Moderator: Jennifer E. Moore, University of Minnesota Duluth

“An Exploration of the Representations of Enslaved Spirits in Conant’s Musings in *The Banner of Light*,” Natalie Yeo, University of London

“Premature Burials: Free Lovers, Feminists, Spiritualists, and the Antebellum Press,” John J. Navin, Coastal Carolina University

“Journalists Drink from Skulls Amid Ghoulish Relics in a Nineteenth Century Chicago House of Horrors,” Stephen Banning, Bradley University

“‘Black Phantoms’: How African American History Haunted the Civil War Era Press,” Amy L. Fluker, Youngstown State University

6 p.m.

Dinner Break & Networking: Augusta, Georgia

Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023: JSAC Coffeehouse

9:00–10:15 a.m. **Engaging New Audiences in the 19th Century Press & the Civil War**

Moderator: Katrina Jesick Quinn, Slippery Rock University

“Chronicling the Civil War in Georgia: State and National Open Access Newspaper Digitization,” Molly O’Hagan Hardy, Senior Program Officer, Division of Preservation & Access, National Endowment for the Humanities, and Sheila McAlister, Director, Digital Library of Georgia

“Our Story: Digitizing Publications and Photographs of the Historically Black Atlanta University Center Institutions,” Aletha Moore Carter, Lead Archivist for Morehouse College Archives at Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library

“Connecting Communities to Their History Through Multimedia, Social Media, Blogging, and More,” Rich Condon, Public Historian, Civil War Pittsburgh

“Doing History in Art: How Historians and Artists Can Collaborate on Interdisciplinary Projects,” Graham A. Peck and Bryton Bjorngaard, University of Illinois at Springfield

10:15–11:35 a.m. **Case Studies in the Post-Civil War Press**

Moderator: Simon Vodrey, Carleton University

“Avengers of Blood: The Paranoid Rhetoric of Conservative Newspapers in Tennessee, 1866-1868,” Seth Whitty, University of Houston

“Coverage of a Scandalous Murder in Georgia Newspapers After the U.S. Civil War,” David Bulla, Augusta University

“‘It’s never too late to tell the truth’: Two Markers and Two Newspapers about Colfax Louisiana, Easter Sunday, 1873,” Brian Gabrial, Concordia University

“Amateur Journalism as DIY Media in Postbellum United States,” Jay Hamilton, University of Georgia

11:35–12:50 p.m. **Presidents and the Press**

Moderator: Jack Breslin, Iona University

“President Tyler Too – Part Two,” William E. Huntzicker, Independent Scholar

“‘May God Palsy the Hand that Wrote the Order’: Grover Cleveland and the Battle Flag Fiasco of 1887,” Crompton Burton, Independent Scholar

“British press coverage of the nomination and election of James A. Garfield in 1880,” David Bulla, Augusta University

“Lincoln’s Legacy at Home and Abroad: Select Press Clips and Secondary Sources (1865-Present),” Greg Borchard, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

“Frederick Douglass and Presidential Appointments,” Joe Marren, SUNY Buffalo

12:50–1:30 p.m. Awards Lunch & Recognitions

Crompton Burton, 31st Symposium Program Chair, and Simon Vodrey, 31st Symposium Program Co-Chair

1:30 – 5 p.m. Historic Tour, Dinner

Our conference continues with a tour of 19th century historic sites near Augusta and dinner at a local barbecue restaurant. Please join us for conversations and collaborations.

Many Thanks to All Who Made This Year's Symposium Possible:

Pamplin College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, Augusta University

Judy Sachsman and the Dr. David Sachsman Family

Pamela Riggs-Gelasco, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

UC Foundation at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

Department of Communication and Office of Information Technology, Augusta University

Walter and Leona Schmitt Family Foundation Research Fund at the UC Foundation

Hazel Dicken-Garcia Fund for the Symposium at the UC Foundation

The Symposium on the 19th Century Press, the Civil War, and Free Expression is hosted by the Society of Nineteenth Century Historians, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Visit: <https://sites.google.com/view/19thcenturyhistorians>.

Cover Image:

Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside (reading newspaper) with Mathew B. Brady (nearest tree) at Army of the Potomac headquarters.

Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, Item LC-B8171-2433.