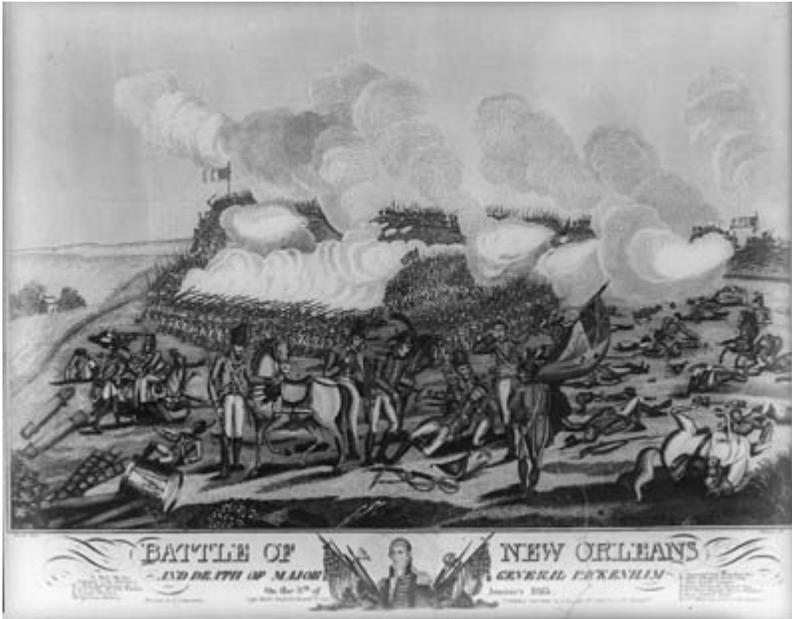


My Dinner with GW



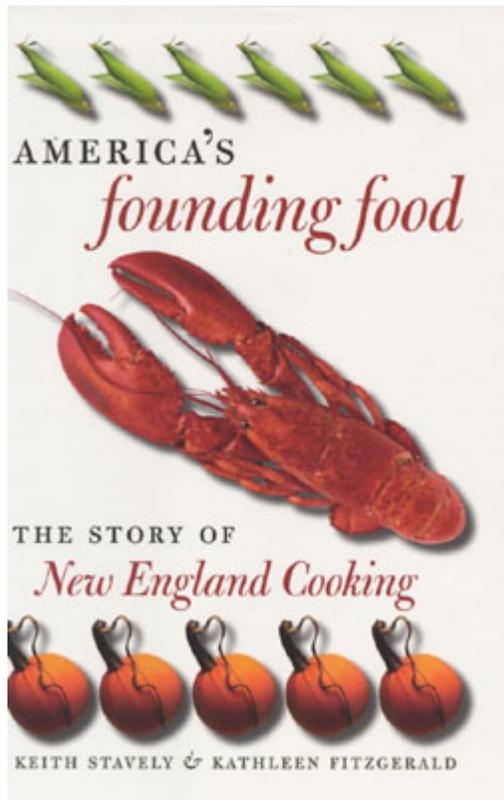
“As the war with Iraq loomed through the 2002-03 school year, we heard echoes from conflicts throughout U.S. history.”

History Made from Stories Found



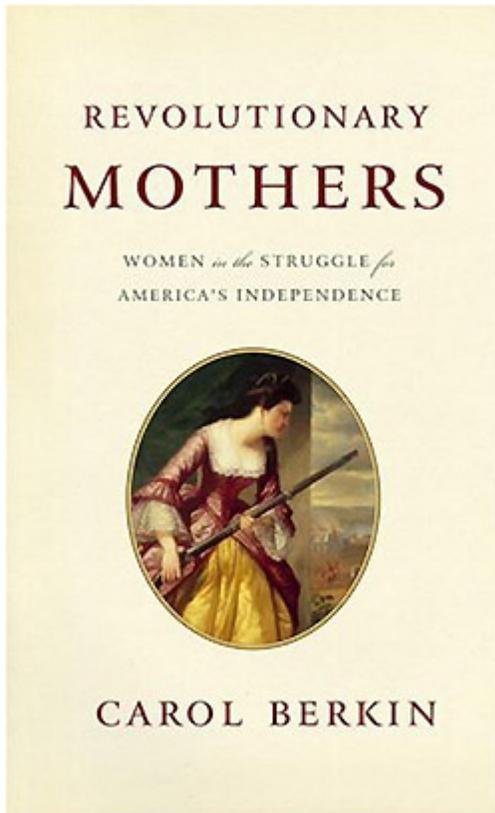
Historical inquiry may often be blocked by the prior agenda of the historian.

[Beyond Baked Beans](#)



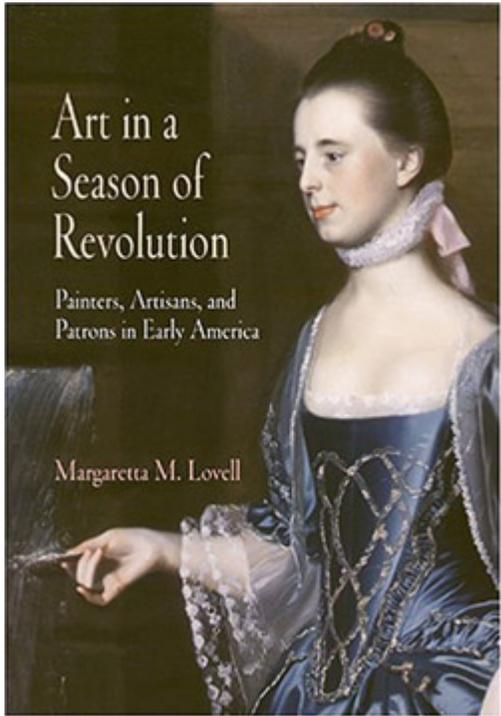
The most significant accomplishment of America's Founding Food is the truly impressive collection of lively and illuminating primary-source accounts.

[Enduring Independence](#)



In place of powdered wigs and radical ideals, Berkin shows us bloody legs and dirty shirts.

[“They Had Faces Then”](#)



Among artists and craftsman, Lovell notes how kinship and patronage were often closely aligned.

[Olympia's Gaze](#)

Amsterdam

GEERT MAK

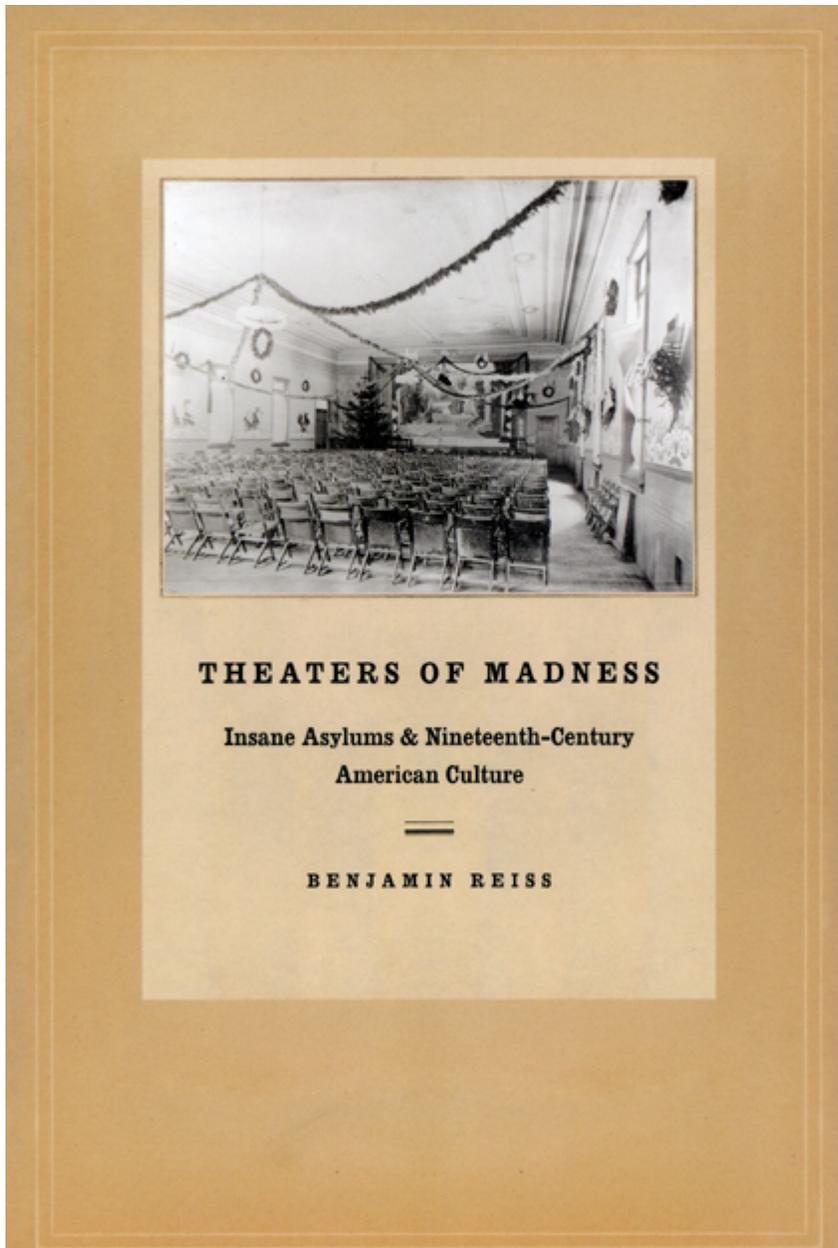


Translated by Philipp Blom

Presented as part of the special issue “Early Cities of the Americas.”

“Taken together, Paris and Amsterdam throw into bold relief the radical nature of the nineteenth-century city.”

The Asylum as a Literary Institution



Presented as part of the Special Literature Issue

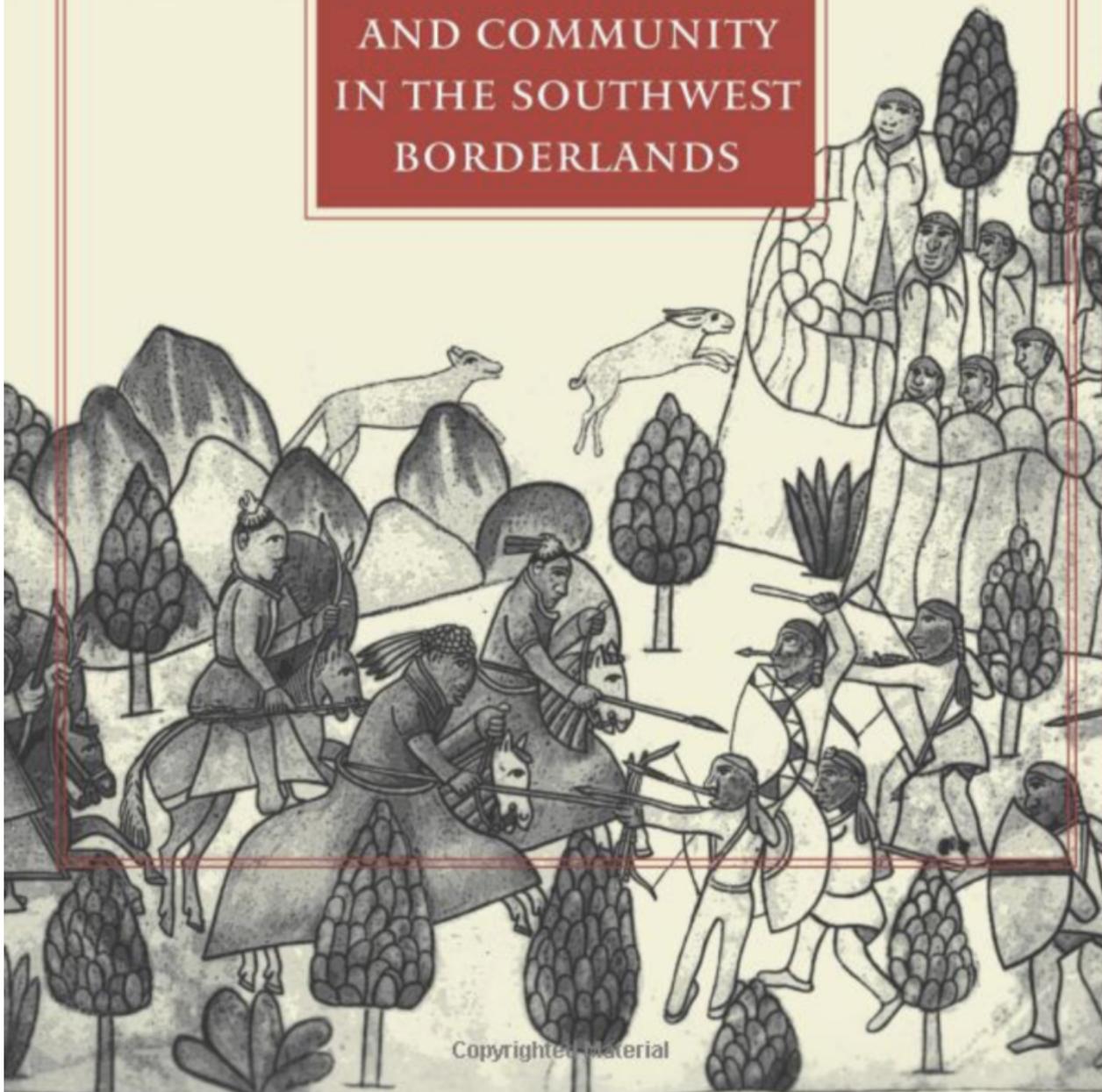
What then can the history of the asylum tell us about meanings and forms of liberal culture?

Borderlands Bondage

JAMES F. BROOKS

CAPTIVES & COUSINS

SLAVERY, KINSHIP,
AND COMMUNITY
IN THE SOUTHWEST
BORDERLANDS



Copyrighted material

“Alongside horses and sheep, captives moved throughout the borderlands economies.”

France in America – La France en Amérique



The screenshot shows the website's header with navigation tabs: Home, Collections, About Us, Contact, FAQs, and Advanced Search. Below the header is a search bar and a main banner image. The banner image features a Native American figure on the left and a map of North America on the right. The text on the banner reads "La France en Amérique" and "France in America". Below the banner are two columns of text: "About the Project" in English and "Présentation du programme" in French. The English text describes the project as a bilingual digital library exploring the history of French presence in North America from the 16th to the 19th century. The French text provides a similar description in French.

The Common-place Web Library reviews and lists online resources and Websites likely to be of interest to our viewers. Each quarterly issue will feature one or more brief site reviews. The library itself will be an ongoing enterprise with regular new additions and amendments. So we encourage you to check it frequently. At the moment, the library is small, but with your help we expect it to grow rapidly. If you have suggestions for the Web Library, or for site reviews, please forward them to the [Administrative Editor](#).

France in America—La France en Amérique



[Library of Congress and Bibliothèque nationale de France](http://memory.loc.gov/intldl/fiahtml/fiahome.html)
<http://memory.loc.gov/intldl/fiahtml/fiahome.html>

The result of a joint venture between the Library of Congress and the Bibliothèque nationale de France, this fully bilingual digital project documents the role of France in American history from the colonial era through the nineteenth century. The site is part of the Library of Congress's [“Global](#)

[Gateway” initiative](#) in collaborative digital ventures with other national archives, currently involving libraries in Spain, Brazil, Russia, and the Netherlands.

“France in America” has two phases. The first, now online, covers the history of New France, French involvement in exploring and colonizing a North American empire, and the French role in events “which indelibly marked the history of the United States: the French and Indian War, the American Revolution, and the Louisiana Purchase.” A second phase, to be developed over the course of 2006, will focus on nineteenth-century relations between the two countries, with an emphasis on “trade, immigration, scientific exchange, and literature and the arts.”

The material is organized into several themes, such as “Exploration and Knowledge,” “Imperial Struggles,” and “Franco-Indian Alliances.” Each section has links to illustrative documents, including complete books and prints. Clicking on “Alliances,” for example, and going to the subheading of “To ‘Civilize’ and Convert” reveals a contextual introduction and two primary sources, including Jesuit missionary Paul Le Jeune’s 342-page *Relation* for the year 1634. Documents relating to mixed-race unions, or *métissage*, appear under the “Cohabitation” heading. There is also a chronological table, neatly organized into events in France and events in America, the latter of which are further subdivided according to explorations, colonization, and conflicts and diplomacy.

Explanatory materials and helpful links for online research abound. There are descriptive maps—easily understandable maps, like those found in textbooks, which delineate political boundaries and main Indian groups—as well as contemporary maps generated by explorers and cartographers. Under “About the site,” visitors can find recommendations for further reading as well as a valuable list of links. These include one to a fully searchable English translation of the multivolume *Jesuit Relations*.

The project directors also recommend two other important sites “dedicated to the shared history of France and North America”: the French Ministry of Culture’s [“La Louisiane française, 1682-1803”](#) and a collaborative French-Canadian site, [“Nouvelle-France, horizons nouveau”](#). Both are visually appealing, with attractive flash elements involving maps, abundant primary-source materials, and images; the French-Canadian site is bilingual.

A visitor to “France in America” will be impressed by a key aspect of the institutional partnership: access to huge collections. In the introductory information regarding the French companion site, [“La France en Amérique”](#), the reader learns that Gallica, the Website of the Bibliothèque nationale, has “76 thousand digitized texts and 80 thousand images to date.”

Clearly, the bicentennial commemorations of the Louisiana Purchase and the Lewis and Clark voyage have contributed to renewed interest in the history of

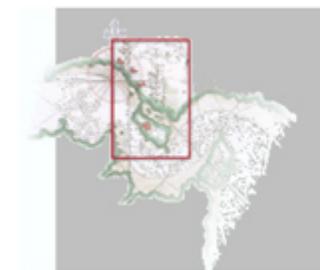
Franco-American relations. For researchers, students, and anyone else inclined to pursue that interest, "France in America" is an excellent place to start.

This article originally appeared in issue 6.2 (January, 2006).

[Virtual Jamestown](#)



Virtual Jamestown



Jamestown and the Virginia Experiment

The Virtual Jamestown Archive is a digital research, teaching and learning project that explores the legacies of the Jamestown settlement and "the Virginia experiment." As a work in progress, Virtual Jamestown aims to shape the national dialogue on the occasion of the four hundred-year anniversary observance in 2007 of the founding of the Jamestown colony.

Crandall Shifflett© 1999, 2000
<http://www.virtualjamestown.org/>

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<http://www.virtualjamestown.org/>

“Virtual Jamestown” offers visitors the opportunity to delve into the history of English exploration and colonizing efforts in the late sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. With the spotlight on Jamestown as the four hundredth anniversary of its settlement nears, sites such as this one can serve a useful function as online archives and sources of curriculum materials for teachers. Although the site is far from exhaustive in its coverage, it contains images and documents that can be usefully mined.

The images on “Virtual Jamestown” are wide ranging and include a collection of twenty-two John White drawings. These watercolors—among seventy inspired by scenes and individuals White, an artist and cartographer, observed during his 1585 voyage to America and subsequent thirteen-month stay in Roanoke—are paired with engravings produced by Theodor De Bry. Based on White’s original works, these engravings were created for inclusion in mathematician Thomas Hariot’s 1590 account of the voyage he and White took to America.

A collection of artifacts from seventeenth-century Virginia provides additional visual and material texture. Provided by [Jamestown Rediscovery](#), the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, the online archive of objects includes such unusual items as a silver ear picker, designed to resemble a “sea rhinoceros” or dolphin. Featuring an ear scooper at one end and a tool for tooth and nail cleaning at the other, this item, at once utilitarian and ornate, was likely displayed on a chain or girdle and worn decoratively by its owner. There is also a seventeenth-century chamber pot, a Spanish olive jar (named so for its shape rather than its likely contents), Indian projectile points, and the skeleton of a man shot through the knee, whose identity and race continue to be the subject of debate.

Original maps offer visitors insight into seventeenth-century representations of the area, and a zoom function enables an up-close examination of John Smith’s 1608 map of Virginia. On the interactive Jamestown page are two maps that generate displays of Smith’s explorations of the region and a virtual tour of the fort. The “Patterns of Settlement” map allows visitors to explore the shifting populations and sites of indigenous and colonial residents of the region in 1607, 1619, 1624, and 1634. More detail about who constituted that colonial population is available in the census records, such as the 1608 supply list—which provides names and occupations of new arrivals, like perfumer Robert Alberton—and the 1624-5 muster records, which can be searched to generate demographic data about households.

One valuable database on the site contains demographic information from the contracts of over fifteen thousand indentured servants from three different seventeenth-century registers and one eighteenth-century register. The contracts can be searched by name, hometown, destination, and occupation. For example, using *Sheffield* as the servant’s place of origin generates one record,

that of Benjamin Hoyland, a tallow chandler headed for four years of service in Jamaica. Using *female* and *Virginia* as qualifiers produces a list of over one thousand women's names, including Mary Giles, a spinster from Salwarpe, Worchestershire, whose agent, a surgeon named Richard Allen, arranged for her to serve for five years in Virginia in exchange for her passage in 1654. Only two contracts, both for men, are reproduced.

The "Virtual Jamestown" project received a 1999 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for its development, with additional support from several state entities. A collaborative project of Virginia Polytechnic Institute, the University of Virginia, and the Virginia Center for Digital History, "Virtual Jamestown" has apparently undergone limited development since 2000. There are numerous references on the site to items still under construction but no apparent recent updates to indicate when these will be up and running. Nonetheless, the site offers engaging and interesting materials. For those who wish to identify additional databases and teaching resources relevant to Virginia's history, consult [Virginia 400: Your Online Guide to 400 Years of Virginia History, 1607-2007](#), a clearinghouse site with a good annotated list of helpful Websites, produced by the [Center for History and New Media](#) (see [Common-place Web Library review, vol.6, no.4, July 2006](#)).

This article originally appeared in issue 7.2 (January, 2007).
