

V. ELAINE THOMPSON

Department of History
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in History, January 2003, Rice University

- dissertation entitled, "Southern Small Towns: Society, Politics, and Race Relations in Clinton, Louisiana, 1824-1880," directed by John B. Boles
- fields of study: - Southern history, 19th Century America with John B. Boles
- Legal and Constitutional history with Harold M. Hyman
- Caribbean history with Edward L. Cox

M.A. in History, May 1997, Rice University

B.A. in History, *summa cum laude*, with departmental honors, May 1994, Centenary College of Louisiana

WORK EXPERIENCE

Associate Professor, Department of History, Louisiana Tech University, Fall 2004-present, granted tenure August 2009; granted promotion to Associate Professor, 2015

Editor, McGinty Publications, Louisiana Tech University, Fall 2004-present

Assistant Professor of History and Graduate Faculty, Department of Social Sciences, Northwestern State University, Fall 2002-August 2004

Book Review Editor, *Southern Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal of the South*, Fall 2003-present

Adjunct Instructor of History, Houston Community College—Southwest, Spring 2002

Visiting Instructor of History, Department of History and Political Science, Centenary College of Louisiana, Fall 2001

Coordinator, Hewlett First-Year Seminar Project, 1999-2001

- Grant awarded to Rice University by the Hewlett Foundation to promote interdivisional and interdisciplinary study in a research university setting

Research Assistant, *The Papers of Jefferson Davis*, 1994-2001

Student Archives Assistant, Woodson Research Center, Special Collections, Rice University, 1997-1998

Research/Teaching Assistant for Professor Harold M. Hyman, Rice University, 1995

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

NEH Summer Institute, "Westward Expansion and the Constitution in the Early American Republic," directed by Paul Gilje and Kevin Butterfield, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK, June, 2014

Moodle Training, Courses I-IV, Fall 2010, Fall 2013

"Problem Solving with Smithsonian Experts," an online conference, April, 2010

"Incorporating Service Learning into Academic Offerings," Louisiana Tech Faculty Development Course, UNIV 489, Fall 2008

NEH Summer Institute, "African-American History as Public History: South Carolina as a Case Study," directed by Robert Weyeneth and Connie Schulz, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC, July-August 2007

"Service Learning: An Integral Learning Component," Louisiana Tech Faculty Development Course, EDCI 489, Fall 2006

NEH Summer Seminar, "Faulkner and Southern History," directed by Don H. Doyle, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC, June-July 2005

GIS training, National Park Service, Cultural Resources Geographic Information Services National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, Sept. 22-24, 2004

"Preparing College Faculty for Redesign: Content, Technology and Standards" workshop series (NSU) 2002-2003

"Critical Challenges in Distance Education: Cheating and Plagiarism Using the Internet" workshop, (NSU) April 3, 2003

"Human Participant Protections Education for Research" course from the National Institutes of Health, March 25, 2003

Northwestern State University Blackboard Training, November 15, 2002

National Historical Publications and Records Commission Institute for the Editing of Historical Documents, Madison, Wisconsin, June 21-27, 1999

PUBLICATIONS

Clinton, Louisiana: Society, Politics, and Race Relations in a nineteenth-Century Southern Small Town, (Lafayette, La.: University of Louisiana Press, 2014).

North Louisiana History, vol 2, editor. In progress. Projected publication of spring 2017

“Lunacy and the Law: Paternalism, Due Process, and the Louisiana State Insane Asylum,”
Louisiana History, accepted for publication in *Louisiana History*, under revision

"The Battle for Beauvoir: Who Won the Lost Cause," *Journal of Mississippi History*,
forthcoming

Book review in *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*: James G. Hollandsworth, Jr., *An Absolute Massacre: The New Orleans Race Riot of July 30, 1866* (LSU, 2001).

Booknote in *The Journal of Southern History*, LXIV (May 1998), 408: *Historical Atlas of Louisiana*, by Charles Robert Goins and John Michael Caldwell.

Booknote in *The Journal of Southern History*, LXIV (May 1998), 409: *Louisiana's Capitols: The Power and the Beauty*, photos by Philip Gould, text by Lawrence N. Powell.

PRESENTATIONS

“North Louisiana History and Culture since the Civil War: A Symposium,” coordinator, October 15-16, 2015, Lincoln Parish Library Events Center. Ten eminent and emerging scholars came to Ruston, Louisiana to present on the history and culture of North Louisiana, funded by a grant from the Louisiana Board of Regents Support Fund, Louisiana Tech College of Liberal Arts, School of History and Social Sciences, School of Literature and Language, McGinty Fund.

Led discussions at Jackson Parish Library, Jonesboro, Louisiana, for “Created Equal,” a film series on the Civil Rights Movement sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities

Panel Chair: 2 panels at the Gulf South History and Humanities Conference, Galveston, Texas, October, 2014

“Writing Local History: *Clinton, Louisiana*,” 17th Annual Conference of the North Louisiana Collegium of Historical Studies, Ruston, Louisiana, March 2014

“Reanimating the Dead: Unearthing Biographies Lost to History, John Gair as a Case Study,” Bossier Arts Council Academic Symposium, Bossier City, Louisiana, April 20, 2012

Panel Chair: 2 panels at the 2012 National Phi Alpha Theta biennial convention, Orlando, Florida, January 2012; one at the Louisiana Regional Phi Alpha Theta meeting, Lafayette, Louisiana, March 2012

“The Historiography of Comparative Slavery,” 13th Annual Conference of the North Louisiana Collegium of Historical Studies, Ruston, Louisiana, March 2010

Panel Chair: 2 panels at the 2010 National Phi Alpha Theta biennial convention, San Diego,

California, January 2010; one at the Louisiana Regional Phi Alpha Theta meeting, Lafayette, Louisiana, March 2010

“John Gair: Full Disclosure of the Assassination of a Black Republican Legislator in Louisiana, 1875,” Association of African American Historical Research and Preservation Biennial Conference, Seattle, Washington, March 2009

Roundtable Chair & Discussant: “The Transformative Power of Knowledge,” American Association of State and Local History, Rochester, New York, September 2008

Roundtable Discussant: “Teaching History in Louisiana Colleges and Universities,” Louisiana Historical Association Meeting, Lafayette, Louisiana, March 2008

Commentator: “Marginalization: Challenges to De Jure Social Practices,” Louisiana Historical Association Meeting, Lafayette, Louisiana, March 2008

Panel Chair: “19th Century America,” Phi Alpha Theta National Meeting, Albuquerque, NM, January, 2008

“The Problems with Jamestown,” Historical Happenings Series, Lincoln Parish Library, October, 2007

“Public History Internships from the Academic Perspective,” American Association of State and Local History National Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, September, 2007

“Why is Alexander Hamilton on the Ten-Dollar Bill,” Historical Happenings Series, Lincoln Parish Library, April 2007

Panel Chair: Phi Alpha Theta Regional Meeting, Louisiana Historical Association Meeting, Lafayette, Louisiana, March 2006

Commentator: “African Americans in Louisiana,” Louisiana Historical Association Meeting, Lafayette, Louisiana, March 2005

Panel Chair: “Got Religion?” Phi Alpha Theta Regional Meeting, Louisiana Historical Association Meeting, Lafayette, Louisiana, March 2005

Panel Chair: “The Rise and Fall of Heroes in Louisiana,” Phi Alpha Theta Regional Meeting, Louisiana Historical Association Meeting, Hammond, Louisiana, March 2004.

“Bulldozing John Gair: The Forgotten Assassination of a Black Republican Leader,” Louisiana Historical Association Meeting, Lafayette, Louisiana, March 2003.

“From Homefront to Battlefield: The Civil War in Clinton, Louisiana,” Louisiana Historical Association Meeting, Hammond, Louisiana, March 2001.

“The Battle for Beauvoir: Who Won the Lost Cause?” Seventeenth Annual Gulf South History

and Humanities Conference, Hammond, Louisiana, October 1998.

"Southern Sanitariums in the Nineteenth Century: Paternalism, Due Process, and the Louisiana State Insane Asylum," Houston Area Southern Historians Meeting, September 1996.

"Of Laws and Landscapes: Slave Law in Antigua and St. Vincent, 1797-1823," Caribbean Studies Association Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico, May 1996.

"The Viability of Small-Town Slavery: Clinton, Louisiana, 1850-1860," Louisiana Historical Association Meeting, Hammond, Louisiana, March 1996.

"A Social Portrait of the Free Citizens of Clinton, Louisiana, 1860," Phi Alpha Theta Regional Meeting in conjunction with the Louisiana Historical Association Meeting, Natchitoches, Louisiana, March 1993.

PUBLIC HISTORY

"Historic Walking Tour of Downtown Ruston," supervisor & editor of student research, HIST 486 Intro to Public History, Fall 2012; in consultation with Ruston-Lincoln Convention and Visitor's Bureau for publication on CVB website

"The Way We Worked," Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition, co-sponsored by the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, Humanities Consultant at Angola Prison Museum and Jackson Parish Library

"Farming at The Farm: Agricultural Operations at the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola," Consultant for traveling exhibit & supervisor of student intern, Spring 2012.

Women's History Month co-coordinator, 2012

Black History Month poster exhibit, even-numbered years since 2004

"Historic Walking Tour of Grambling State University," supervisor & editor of student research, HIST 486 Intro to Public History, Fall 2010

"Historic Walking Tour of Louisiana Tech," supervisor & editor of student research and pamphlet designed to inform students of the History of Louisiana Tech, HIST 486 Intro to Public History, Fall 2008

"Focus On:" Series, Louisiana Tech University public exhibitions

- Glimpses of Russia, 2008
- Glimpses of China, 2007

"Broken Pieces: Rural Louisiana After the Hurricanes"

- Exhibit curated by Tech history students under my direction & designed by architecture students directed by Troy M. Malmstrom; funded by UL System and Learn & Serve

“Alexander Hamilton: The Man Who Made Modern America”

- Traveling exhibit from NEH, ALA, & NYH-S; organized speaker series & grand opening

150th Anniversary historical exhibit, Town of Clinton, Louisiana, November 2002

Friends of Old Centenary State Commemorative Area, Charter Member, 1995-present

- Old Centenary State Commemorative Area serves as an interpretive site for 19th-Century higher education in Louisiana. I facilitated the transfer of over 100 books with copyrights dating from about 1825-1880 from the College's library attic to the Site for preservation and display.

East Feliciana Parish Pilgrimage and Garden Club Docent, 1982-present

- Public history presentations during annual tours of historic homes

HONORS, AWARDS, and GRANTS

“Symposium on North Louisiana History since the Civil War,” Board of Regents Support Fund Grant request, Fall 2014; received full funding, 2015-2016 Fiscal Year

“Gallery Rail Installation Grant Request” to Louisiana Tech’s Lagniappe Ladies fund, for the installation of hanging display system for student research and artwork, \$4,360.55 (unfunded)

“Black History Month & Women’s History Month Commemorations,” Student Organizations Grant Quest, with Phi Alpha Theta. Requested \$1960.00; funded at \$1660.00

“Louisiana @ 200,” Student Organizations Grant request, with Phi Alpha Theta. Requested \$6000.00; funded at \$2000.00

“Louisiana @ 200,” Board of Regents Support Fund Grant request, with David Anderson, co-PI, to fund distinguished lecture series in Fall 2012 to commemorate the bicentennial of Louisiana statehood; not funded by Board of Regents; funded by the College of Liberal Arts, the Department of History, the Department of Social Sciences, the Department of Journalism, and the School of Literature and Language.

- John Maginnis, Political commentator & journalist
- Alan Taylor, Ph.D., historian at University of California at Davis
- Carl Brasseaux, Ph.D., historian emeritus at ULL
- Donald Davis, Ph.D., geographer emeritus at LSU

“Teaching America’s History,” teaching Colonial American History to 5th Grade educators, U.S. Department of Education Grant to Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities and Caddo Parish Schools; and Ouachita Parish/Delta area parishes:

- Colonial American History, 2006
- The Founding Era, 2007
- Colonial Americans, Who Were They?, 2008
- The Founding Era, 2010, 2011
- Colonial American History, 2012

-Those Who Made a Nation, 2013

International Curriculum Development grant, "Museum Studies in London," request unfunded

"Alexander Hamilton: The Man Who Made Modern America," a museum exhibit presented by the New York Historical Society, the Gilder-Lehrman Institute, and the American Library Assn., selected as one of only 40 host sites in the country

Who's Who Among America's Teachers, 2004, nominated by student Andrew Jackson Halford

Student Technology Fee Grant Proposal, October 1, 2003, fully funded, highest ranked grant

- Requested approximately \$9,200 to create a technologically integrated classroom (computer, projector, DVD and CD-ROM players, speakers) for History faculty

Historical Maps Project, Grant awarded by the Cane River National Heritage Area, July-Dec, 2004

- to locate maps of the Cane River Region of Louisiana from the colonial era to the present, gain copyright permission, and acquire digital images for inclusion in a Geographic Information System (GIS) database

Hugh F. Rankin Prize, Louisiana Historical Association

- awarded for best graduate level paper on Louisiana History, 1995: "The Viability of Small-Town Slavery: Clinton, Louisiana, 1850-1860"

Departmental fellowship, Rice University, 1994-1998

- received for the maximum allowable 4 years

Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, 1994

Leroy Vogel Award, Centenary College, 1994

- outstanding graduating senior in History and/or Political Science

Outstanding American History Student Award, Centenary College, 1994

Alpha Chi, Alfred H. Nolle Scholarship, 1993-1994

- one of six awarded nationally

Judge Chris Barnette Award, Centenary College, 1993

- outstanding student in international history and/or political science

Alpha Chi, national honor society, inducted 1993

Phi Alpha Theta, international history honor society, inducted 1992, president 1993, chapter advisor for NSU Pi Chapter, and currently for La. Tech Lambda Rho Chapter; National Advisory Council, 2012-13; National Advisory Board, 2014-present

Phi Eta Sigma, national freshman honor society, inducted 1991

Centenary College Trustee Scholar, 1990-1994

- one of six awarded yearly

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

(Professional service duties listed under “Current Associations,” below)

Phi Alpha Theta, Nat’l Advisory Council, 2012-2013; Nat’l Advisory Board, 2014-present

Louisiana Tech Dept. of History, Assessment Committee, 2013-present

National Advisory Board, Phi Alpha Theta, 2012-2014

Instructional Policies Committee, Liberal Arts representative, 2011-present

Behavioral Standards Committee, Liberal Arts representative, 2011-present

University Senate, Liberal Arts representative, 2009-2011

Louisiana Tech Dept. of History, Undergraduate Committee, 2008-present; chair, 2010-present

Louisiana Tech Dept. of History, Library Committee Chair, 2005-present

Louisiana Tech Dept. of History, Textbook Committee Chair, 2005-present

Advisor, Phi Alpha Theta, Lambda-Rho chapter has won “Best Chapter Award” every year I have been advisor

Reviewer for Fellowship Applications to American Foreign Policy Center at Louisiana Tech University

Graduate Scholarship Committee, 2004-05

Social Studies Fair: Judge 2003, 2004; Assistant Director 2003-04

NSU School of Social Sciences Textbook Committee, 2004

School of Social Sciences Honor Committee, 2003-04

Faculty Search Committees, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2010, 2012

Honor Council Graduate Representative, Rice University, 2000-2002

University Student Health Committee Graduate Representative, Rice University, 1996, 2000-01

Graduate Student Association, History Department Representative, Rice University, 1996-97

Department of History "Beer Barrel" Seminar Series, Student Coordinator, Rice University, 1995-96

Academic Affairs Committee Social Sciences Student Representative, and Petitions Subcommittee Student Representative, Centenary College, 1993-94

Vice President, Phi Eta Sigma, Centenary College, 1992-93

COMMUNITY SERVICE

On-air volunteer for Red River Radio, northwest Louisiana's National Public Radio station

Served on panel at Centenary College, discussing the historical implications of Kappa Alpha Order's "Old South Ball," both as a professional historian and as an alumna of the college

LANGUAGES

Reading proficiency in German

CURRENT ASSOCIATIONS

American Association of State and Local History

- Educators' and Interpreters' Committee, 2007-2011

American Historical Association

East Feliciana Parish Historical Association

Louisiana Historical Association

- Board of Directors, 2005-2008, 2011-present, Executive Committee 2011-12
- Publications Committee 2003-2006
- Program Committee 2004, 2005, Chair 2013
- Phi Alpha Theta Committee, 2010-present, Chair, 2010-2012, 2014-present
- Phi Alpha Theta Regional Program Chair, 2012, 2014
- Conrad Prize Committee, 2011-2012

Phi Alpha Theta, 1992-present, NSU Chapter Advisor, 2002-2004, Lambda-Rho Chapter Advisor, 2004-present, National Advisory Council, 2012-present

- Chapter has won National Best Chapter Award (and Nels A. Cleven Award) every year in the time I have served as Advisor

National Council for Public History

Southern Historical Association

- Membership Committee, 2009-10; 2014-15