John Anthony Ruddiman

History Department, Wake Forest University  
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**Academic Appointments:**

Wake Forest University*,* Department of History

*Associate Professor*, 2016 –

*Assistant Professor*, 2010-2016

**Education:**

Ph.D., American History, Yale University, 2010  
M.A. and M.Phil., Yale University, 2004

A.B., History, Princeton University, *summa cum laude*, 2000

**Publications:**

*Is This the Land of Liberty? Soldiers Seeing Slavery in the American Revolution*[book manuscript in progress]

“I am a Man and a Warrier:” George Rogers Clark and the Gendered Politics of the Illinois Campaign” in *The American Revolution on the Frontier*   
[forthcoming, University of Virginia Press, 2024]

“Traugott Bagge as a Historian of the American Revolution” in *Moravian Americans and their Neighbors, 1772-182*, edited by Ulrike Wiethausand Grant P. McAllister (Leiden: Brill Academic Publishers, 2023), 137-150.

“Is This the Land of Liberty? Continental Soldiers and Slavery in the Revolutionary South.” *William and Mary Quarterly* 79:2 (April 2022), 283-314.

“Samuel Shaw’s ‘Mercantile Silk Road’ from American Independence towards Monopoly, 1784-1794” in *The Silk Roads: from Local Realities to Global Narratives* edited by Jeffrey D. Lerner and Yaohua Shi (Oxford: Oxbow Books, 2020), 285-297.

*Becoming Men of Some Consequence: Youth and Military Service in the Revolutionary War.* University of Virginia Press, 2014.

“A Record in the Hands of Thousands: Power and Negotiation in the Orderly Books of the Continental Army.” *William and Mary Quarterly* 67:4 (October 2010), 747-774.

**Book Reviews and Non-Peer-Reviewed Publications**

Review of Steven Elliot, *Surviving the Winters: Housing Washington’s Army during the American Revolution*, in *North Carolina Historical Review* [forthcoming, 2024]

Review of Kevin Weddle, *The Compleat Victory: Saratoga and the American Revolution*, in *Journal of American History*, 109:2 (September 2022), 420-21.

“A Mere Youth: James Monroe’s Revolutionary War.” *Journal of the American Revolution*, Volume 8 (2022). Originally published online August 2021.   
<https://allthingsliberty.com/2021/08/a-mere-youth-james-monroes-revolutionary-war/>

Review of John McCurdy, *Quarters: The Accommodation of the British Army and the Coming of the American Revolution*, in *Journal of American History,* 107:2 (September 2020), 456.

Review of Gina M. Martino, *Women at War in the Borderlands of the Early American Northeast,* in *Canadian Journal of History* 54:1 (Spring 2019), 255-57.

Review of Caroline Cox, *Boy Soldiers of the American Revolution*, in *Journal of the Early Republic* 37:4 (Winter 2017), 790-93.

Review of Daniel Murphy, *William Washington, American Light Dragoon: A Continental Cavalry Leader in the War of Independence,* in *Journal of Southern History* 82:1 (February 2016), 142-43.

Review of Alexander Tsesis, *For Liberty and Equality: The Life and Times of the Declaration of Independence,* in H-War, H-Net Reviews. August, 2014.

Review of Thomas Kidd, Patrick Henry: First Among Patriots, in *Journal of Southern History*, 79 (February 2013), 155-56.

“Fear and Love in a Revolutionary War” July 17, 2012. *The 18th-Century Common: A Public Humanities Website for Enthusiasts of 18th-Century Studies.* <https://www.18thcenturycommon.org/fear-and-love-in-a-revolutionary-war/>

“Power, Rights, and Revolution.” *American History.* ABC-CLIO, 2011. <http://americanhistory2.abc-clio.com/>

“To Kill, Captivate, or Destroy. Review of Bernard Cornwell, *The Fort: a Novel of the Revolutionary War.*” *Common-Place* 11:2 (January 2011).   
<http://commonplace.online/article/captivate-kill-destroy/>

Review of Holly Brewer, *By Birth or Consent: Children, Law and the Anglo-American Revolution in Authority* (Chapel Hill, 2005), in *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History* 6:3 (Winter 2005).

**Conferences, Lectures, and Presentations:**

“Soldiers Seeing Slavery in the American Revolution,” in Embodied Narratives of the Eighteenth Century Atlantic World, *Britain and the World Conference*, Pittsburgh, April 19-22, 2023.

“I am a Man and a Warrier:” George Rogers Clark and the Gendered Politics of the Illinois Campaign. *The American Revolution on the Frontier*, SAR Annual Conference on the American Revolution, June 1-3, 2022.

“A Mere Youth: James Monroe Comes of Age in the Revolutionary War.” 33rd Annual James Monroe Lecture, James Monroe Museum and Memorial Library, November 19, 2020.

“Traugott Bagge as a Historian of the American Revolution.” Becoming American: Moravians and their Neighbors, 1772-1822. Reynolda Conference, Winston Salem, NC, September 26, 2020

“German Auxiliaries’ Reactions to American Slavery and Relationships with Enslaved Americans.” Sixteenth Annual Fort Ticonderoga Seminar on the American Revolution, September 20-22, 2019.

“Relationships between British Forces and Enslaved Virginians in 1781.” Mid-Atlantic Conference on British Studies, April 6, 2019

“Soldier to Supercargo, Continental to Consul: Samuel Shaw’s Pursuits of Independence on an Oceanic ‘Silk Road’.” The Silk Roads: From Local Realities to Global Narratives, Reynolda House Museum of American Art, Winston Salem, NC, March 29, 2019.

“‘We should have thought more about their deliverance’: Relationships between Revolutionary War Combatants & Enslaved Virginians in the Yorktown Campaign.” *Poster session*, 24th Annual Omohundro Institute Conference, June 16, 2018

“We should have thought more about their deliverance.” Virginia Forum, March 16, 2018

“Military Community vs. Slave Society: The British Army’s Relationships with Enslaved Virginians in 1781.” Consortium on the Revolutionary Era, Charleston, February 24, 2017.

“Is This The Land of Liberty? Continental Soldiers and Slavery in the Revolutionary Tidewater and Low Country” at “So Sudden an Alteration: The Causes, Course, and Consequences of the American Revolution,” Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, April 9-11, 2015.

“Soldiers Seeing Slavery: Continental Soldiers Encountering Slavery and the Enslaved in the American Revolution.” Society of Military History, Annual Conference, Kansas City, April 5, 2014.

“Becoming Men of Some Consequence.” Women’s and Gender Studies Program, Wake Forest University, September 19, 2013.

“A Dog’s Life in the Glorious Cause: Young Men’s Relationships within the Continental Army.” Social Science Research Seminar, Wake Forest University, January 24, 2013.

“‘Feared by many, loved by none’: Relationships among Young Continental Soldiers and Civilians.” Triangle Early American History Seminar, UNC-Chapel Hill, National Humanities Center, January 20, 2012.

“Leaving the Army: Lt. Benjamin Gilbert’s Masculine Anxiety at the End of the Revolutionary War.” Consortium on the Revolutionary Era, Huntsville, February 29, 2008.

“Joining the Continental Army: Young Men Coming of Age as Revolutionary Soldiers.” Warfare and Society in Colonial North America and the Caribbean, University of Tennessee and Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture, October 6, 2006.

“The Continental Goes Home: Young Continental Soldiers and the Anxieties of Civilian Life.” Society for Historians of the Early Republic, Philadelphia, July 24, 2005.

**Awards and Fellowships:**

Virginia Museum of History and Culture Research Fellowship, 2023

NC Society of the Cincinnati Fellowship, American Revolution Institute, 2023

William C. Archie Fund for the Arts and Humanities, Wake Forest University, 2023.

Kulynych Faculty Support Fund, Wake Forest University, 2019

Henry S. Stroupe Award for Faculty Excellence, Wake Forest University, 2018.

William C. Archie Fund for the Arts and Humanities, Wake Forest University, 2015.

Wake Forest University, Writing Associates Seminar, 2014

Wake Forest University, Junior Faculty Research Leave, 2012-13

Library of the Society of the Cincinnati, Research Fellowship, 2012.

William C. Archie Fund for the Arts and Humanities, Wake Forest University, 2012.  
Yale University Dissertation Fellowship, 2007.

Library of the Society of the Cincinnati, Research Fellowship, 2007.

Virginia Historical Society, Mellon Fellowship, 2006.

Boston Athenaeum, Washington College Research Fellowship, 2005.

Massachusetts Historical Society, Society of the Cincinnati Fellowship, 2005.

Salvatori Fellowship, Intercollegiate Studies Institute, 2005.

David Library of the American Revolution Research Fellowship, 2004.

Yale University Graduate Fellowship, 2001-2006.

**Teaching and Research Interests:**

The American Revolution and early republic, race and slavery in wartime, encounters in the colonial Atlantic world, early African-American history, gender and family in early America.

**Courses:**

History Department, Wake Forest University:   
“The Americas and the World,” HST 108

“Colonial North America,” HST 258  
“Revolutionary North America,” HST 259

“The War of American Independence,” HST 353  
“War and Society in Early America,” HST 353  
“The Early American Republic,” HST 354  
“The War of American Independence,” HST 390 (Research seminar)  
“Early American Stories in Theater, Film, and Fiction” (First Year Seminar)

Masters of Liberal Studies Program, Wake Forest University:

“Early American Lives and Stories”

Lifelong Learning, a collaboration between the Winston Salem Arts Council and Wake Forest University:

“Revolutionary America,” Summer 2018

“The Early American Republic,” Summer 2016

“Revolutionary America,” Summer 2015

Lecturer, “The History of the Family in America,” Cooper Union, Fall 2009.

Lecturer, “The American Revolution,” Wesleyan University, Fall 2007.

Instructor, “Early American Ways of War: War and Society in Colonial North America, 1600-1800,” Junior Research Seminar, Department of History, Yale University, Fall 2005.

**Educational & Community Outreach:**

“Seeing Slavery in the American Revolution,” Teacher development seminar, American Revolution Institute, Library of the Society of the Cincinnati, July 12, 2023.

“The American Revolution in North Carolina,” Keynote address, N.C. Genealogical Society May 20, 2023.

“Early North Carolina: Stories of Turmoil and Aspiration,” Wake Forest Historical Museum, October 9, 2021.

“Northern Continentals and Southern Slaveholders,” Old North State Daughters of the American Revolution, October 16, 2019

“‘Is this the Land of Liberty?’ Continental Soldiers and Slavery in the Revolutionary South,” invited lecture, Alamance Battleground, May 16, 2019

“Soldiering in the American Revolution,” invited lecture, Sons of the American Revolution, Burlington, NC, September 18, 2018

On-air contributor, *Who Do You Think You Are?* Episode 7:18, filmed April 2018.

“Becoming Men of Some Consequence.” Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, March 14, 2018

“Becoming Men of Some Consequence.” Allentown Public Library, NJ. December 2017.

“The Sedition Act of 1798” in the “Journalism under Attack: Is Democracy Really at Stake?” Roundtable. Humanities Institute, Wake Forest University, November 2017.

“Becoming Men of Some Consequence.” Randolph County Central Library, NC. September 2017.

“Youth and Military Service in the Revolutionary War.” Lecture for historical interpreters and educational staff, Colonial Williamsburg, September 30, 2016.

“Becoming Men of Some Consequence.” Catesby Jones Lecture at the annual meeting of the Society of the Cincinnati, Washington, D.C., May 8, 2015.

“Colonial America: New Worlds for All,” Teaching American History Workshop, Guilford County Schools, April 24, 2015.

On-air contributor, *Who Do You Think You Are?* Episode 5:12; aired April 19, 2015.

“Becoming Men of Some Consequence: Youth and Military Service in the Revolutionary War.” Winston Salem Rotary Club, March 21, 2014.

“Soldiers Seeing Slavery: Revolutionary Soldiers, Region, and Race,” address to the Annual Meeting of the Order of Founders and Patriots of North Carolina, October 5, 2013.

“The What and Why of History,” [seminar] American Arts Discovery, Reynolda House Museum, September 19, 2013.

“The What and Why of History,” [seminar] American Arts Discovery, Reynolda House Museum, September 25, 2012

“Colonial America,” Guilford County Public Schools, Teacher Workshop Seminar, *Teaching American History*, Department of Education grant, Old Salem, October 29, 2011.

“Becoming Men of Some Consequence,” address to the Annual Meeting of the Order of the Founders and Patriots of North Carolina, April 30, 2011.

New Haven Public Schools, “Revolutionary America.” Teacher Workshop Seminar, *Teaching American History,* Department of Education grant, April 20, 2011.

New York City Public Schools, “Washington, D.C.: Seat of Government and Site of National Identity.” Summer Institute, *History in the Classroom*, Department of Education grant, Washington, D.C. July 27-30, 2009.  
sessions: Founding a Federal City, Finding a Federal Politics, 1790-1840; Slavery and Abolition in the Federal City; Washington D.C. and the Politics of Protest and Demonstration; Monumental Washington; the Political Supreme Court.

New Haven Public Schools, “The American Revolution.” Teacher Workshop Seminar, *Teaching American History*,Department of Education grant, May 14, 2009.

New York City Public Schools, “Social History of the American Revolution.” Teacher Workshop lecture, *Teaching American History,* Department of Education grant, April 29, 2009.

New York City Public Schools, “Independence, Identity, and the American Social Contract: From the Revolution to the New Republic.” Lecture series, *Teaching American History*, Department of Education grant, Spring 2009.

New York Historical Society, “Reading Everyday Life in Colonial America.” Teacher Workshop lecture, *Teaching American History,* Department of Education grant,November 4, 2008.

New York City Public Schools, “Contact and Colonization.” Lecture series, *Teaching American History*, Department of Education grant, Fall 2008.

New Haven and Stratford Public Schools, “Women in an Age of Revolution: working with historical documents.” Teacher Workshop Seminar, *Teaching American History*, Department of Education grant, July 31, 2007.

Bridgeport Public Schools, “Political, Social, and Cultural Change in Revolutionary America.” Teacher Workshop Seminar, *Teaching American History*, Department of Education grant, October 6, 2005.

**Professional Memberships:**

Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, Scholarly Advisory Board

Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture

Organization of American Historians

Society for Historians of the Early American Republic