

Sheila McCall McIntyre

Associate Professor of History, SUNY Potsdam
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Education

Boston University: **M.A.** (1989-1991); **Ph.D.** (1991-1996)
University of Edinburgh: **Ph.D. Program** (1988-1989)
McGill University: **B.A.** History (1988, Distinction, Scarlet Key)

Work

State University of New York at Potsdam: **Associate Professor** (2001-)
Carleton University: **Postdoctoral Fellow** (1999-2001)
Harvard University: **Visiting Professor** (1997-1998)
Boston University: **Assistant Professor** (1996-1997)

Awards

Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching, SUNY Potsdam (2010)
Dr. Nuala McGann Drescher Leave (2006)
Postdoctoral Fellowship, Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada (1999-2001)
W.B.H. Dowse Fellowship, Massachusetts Historical Society (1993)

Publications

"The Handsome Tokens of a Funeral: Glove-giving and the Large Funeral in Eighteenth-century New England," *William and Mary Quarterly* 69 (2012): 305-346. Co-authored with Dr. Steven Bullock, WPI.

"An Adulterous Minister, his Raving-mad Neighbor and a Hunchback Soldier: The Correspondence of John Cotton, Jr. (1640-1699)," *American Ancestors* 11 (2010): 39-42.

The Correspondence of John Cotton Junior (Boston: Colonial Society of Massachusetts, 2009). Co-authored with Dr. Len Travers, UMass.

"From a Fine Pen much Art & Fancy Flows: Letter-writing and Gentility in early New England," *More than Words: Post, Transport and Communication in Historical Perspective*, (Mercury Series of the Canadian Museum of Civilization, 2007), 173-186.

"'On Whose Judgment and Integrity You May Depend': The Role of the Reliable Source in Early Colonial News," *Fair & Balanced: Objectivity in American Journalism* (Vision Press, 2005).

"Way ward Puritan Minister?: John Cotton, 1640-1699," in *The Human Tradition in Colonial America* (Scholarly Resources: Wilmington, DE, 1999), 119-39.

"'I Heare it So Variously Reported': News-letters, Newspapers & Ministers in New England, 1675-1727," *New England Quarterly* (December 1998), 593-614.

Book Reviews:

Jane Harrison, *Until New Year: Letter-Writing and the Mails in the Canadas* (*Canadian Historical Review*, 1999)

David S. Shields, *Civil Tongues & Polite Letters in British America* (*Epilogue*: 2000)

Sargent Bush, *The Correspondence of John Cotton* (*New England Quarterly*, 2002)

Frankie Bailey & Steven Chermak, *Famous American Crimes & Trials, 1607-1859* (*American Journalism*, 2005)

Matt Cohen, *The Networked Wilderness: Communicating in Early New England*. (*Journal of Social History*, 2011)

Presentations

Massachusetts Historical Society - Boston Area Seminar in Early American History

“Culture of Letters: ‘Private’ Correspondence & ‘Public’ Information, 1670-1730.” (1995)

Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge University -Mellon Seminar on American History

“Tokens of Kind Remembrance”: Ministerial Letter-Exchange, 1670-1730.”(1995)

American Journalism Historians Association

“‘I Heare it So Variouslly Reported’: News-letters, Newspapers and the Ministerial Network in New England, 1675-1727.” (1996)

Boston University Faculty Seminar - Political & Social Implications of Religious Practices

“Kateri Tekakwitha: Refugee/Convert/Mohawk/Mystic/Saint: Constructing a Conversion in early Frontier North America” (1996)

American Journalism Historians Association

“‘A Weekly Piece of Blockheadism’: Cotton Mather’s Hatred of the Boston News-Letter” (1997)

Organization of American Historians

“‘Speaking by Paper-Messengers’: The Epistolary Publications and Conversations of John Cotton of Plymouth” (1998)

Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, & Publishing

“‘My Affections Must Take my Pen’: Female Letter-writing in early New England” (1998)

American Journalism Historians Association

“Christian History: Describing Frontier Revivals to a Transatlantic Reader” (1998)

The American Society for Eighteenth-century Studies

“‘All had Gloves’: Death, friendship, and gentility in provincial New England” (1999)

Canadian Historical Association

“‘From a Fine Pen much Art and Fancy Flows’: Letter-writing and the Rise of Gentility in early New England” (1999)

American Journalism Historians Association

“Not Objectivity AGAIN?: Teaching the History of Objectivity in 16 Contexts” (2000)

Organization of American Historians

“‘My Affections Must Take my Pen’: Female Letter-writing in early New England” (2001)

Philadelphia Center for Early American Studies

Faces & Places Conference to inaugurate the new center at University of Pennsylvania:

“‘All had Gloves’: Death, friendship, and gentility in provincial New England” (2006)

Pilgrim Hall, Plymouth, Mass.

Book Launch for *The Correspondence of John Cotton Junior*, July 2009 (Filmed for BOOK-TV on CSPAN)

Current Research

Reading Roger Williams: Selections of the Writings and Correspondence of a Forgotten Founding Father, Wipf & Stock publishers (forthcoming 2021) [with Julie Fisher and Linford Fisher]

Roger Williams has attracted sustained and prolific research by historians. Along with dozens of other writers, two of the most well respected early American scholars -- Perry Miller and Edmund Morgan -- both crafted biographies of a sort about him, and only the Salem witchcraft crisis has attracted the attention of more writers of early New England. That breadth merely reflects the diversity of Williams' own interests: colonial state making, literacy, native-settler relations, conversion doctrine, religious liberty, and the proper relationship between governments and churches. He is often described as the exception to the Puritan rule. In Massachusetts Bay, where the powers of the church and the powers of the colony were inextricably woven, Williams argued that the two should be distinct. In most colonies both Catholic and Protestant settlers deemed native land "virgin," but Williams believed that the land was not theirs for the taking. The Puritans are some of the hardest "forefathers" for readers to understand, and Williams is someone they should get to know. In short, this collection is designed to introduce Williams -- in his own words -- to modern readers. Each of the major publications will be introduced and condensed by specialists in those fields, who will decide which words readers need to read to best understand Williams as a whole. Williams' breadth is best understood as coming from a single mind, because that is where it originated.

"A Culture of Correspondence: Letter-Writing in early New England"

This book expands my doctoral dissertation, which considered approximately 3,000 letters that clergymen in early New England either wrote or received. The book project moves beyond that ministerial focus to include all letter-writers and is designed as six interlinking microhistories. Taken together, these microhistories explore letter-writing in early New England, but each chapter represents a close reading of one letter or one letter-writer. The book makes four central assertions: first, in the seventeenth century, correspondents counted on regular letter-exchange for news, intellectual stimulation, emotional support, and reassurance that friends and family were well. Second, letters in the seventeenth-century were not intimate exchanges between one writer and one reader, but were often works-in-progress that served as a kind of meeting place for distantly-settled correspondents. Letters were often disseminated in their hand-written form, sometimes more widely than some printed publications. Third, early colonial readers did not privilege information that was printed over oral and scribal information. Fourth, letter-writing conventions began to change in the early eighteenth century, as form and manner (gentility) became increasingly important among a certain class of correspondents. * This project is under contract with the University of Massachusetts Press