

TYLER ANBINDER

1601 North Edgewood Street
Arlington, Virginia 22201
anbinder@gwu.edu

History Department
George Washington University
Washington, DC 20052

ACADEMIC SPECIALTIES

Immigration & Ethnicity, History of New York City,
The Civil War & Reconstruction, Nineteenth-Century America

EDUCATION

Columbia University, Ph.D., May 1990

Wesleyan University, B.A. with High Honors, June 1984

EMPLOYMENT

George Washington University, 1994-2020
Professor Emeritus, since June 2020
Professor, 2002-2020 (History Department chairman, 2006-2009)
Associate Professor, 1997-2002
Assistant Professor, 1994-1997

University of Wyoming, Assistant Professor, 1990-1994

SELECT AWARDS AND HONORS

Distinguished Teaching Award, George Washington University Writing
Program, 2018

Mark Lynton History Prize of the Columbia University School of Journalism
awarded to *City of Dreams*, 2017

New York City Book Award of the New York Society Library awarded to *City
of Dreams*, 2017

Dean's Research Chair, George Washington University, 2014-2017

President's Fellowship, George Washington University, 2013-2023 (doctoral
fellowships provided to especially meritorious faculty members for the
exclusive use of their doctoral students)

National Endowment for the Humanities Collaborative Research Grant,
Sept. 2011-Aug. 2016 (\$290,000 award to collect and interpret data on
the savings of New York's Civil War-era Irish immigrants)

Executive Board of the Immigration & Ethnic History Society, 2011-2014,
2017-2020 (treasurer 2017-2020)

John T. Hubbell Award for the Best Article of 2006 in *Civil War History*

Most Involved Advisor Award, George Washington University Living and Learning Community Program, 2005-2006

Five Points named to the New York Public Library's "25 Books to Remember" list for 2001

Five Points awarded the New York City Book Award by the New York Society Library, 2001

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for University Teachers, 1998

Fulbright Commission, Thomas Jefferson Distinguished Professorship of American History, University of Utrecht, January-April 1995

Avery O. Craven Prize of the Organization of American Historians awarded to *Nativism and Slavery*, 1993

Nativism and Slavery named a "Notable Book of 1992" by *New York Times*

National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend, 1991

**PUBLICATIONS
(BOOKS)**

Plentiful Country: The Great Potato Famine and the Making of Irish New York (New York: Little, Brown, 2024)

City of Dreams: The 400-Year Epic History of Immigrant New York (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2016). French edition, 2018; Chinese edition forthcoming.

Five Points: The Nineteenth-Century New York City Neighborhood that Invented Tap Dance, Stole Elections, and Became the World's Most Notorious Slum (New York: Free Press, 2001).

Nativism and Slavery: The Northern Know Nothings and the Politics of the 1850s (New York: Oxford University Press, 1992).

**PUBLICATIONS
(ARTICLES)**

"The Problem of False Positives in Automated Census Linking: Nineteenth-Century New York's Irish Immigrants as a Case Study," *Historical Methods* 57 (Jan.-March 2024), with Dylan Connor, Cormac Ó Gráda, and Simone Wegge.

"The Best Country in the World': 'The Surprising Social Mobility of New York's Irish-Famine Immigrants,'" *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 53 (Winter 2023): 407-438 (lead author, with Cormac Ó Gráda and Simone Wegge).

- “Assisted Emigration as Famine Relief: Lessons from the Lansdowne Estate,”** in *Kerry: History and Society: Interdisciplinary Essays on the History of an Irish County*, Maurice J. Bric, ed. (Dublin 2020), 367-390 (with Cormac Ó Gráda and Simone Wegge).
- “Networks and Opportunities: A Digital History of Ireland’s Great Famine Refugees in New York,”** *American Historical Review* 124 (Dec. 2019): 1590-1629 (lead author, with Simone Wegge and Cormac Ó Gráda).
- “Immigrants and Savers: A Rich New Database on the Irish in 1850s New York,”** *Historical Methods* 50 (July-Sept. 2017): 144-55. (with Simone Wegge and Cormac Ó Gráda).
- “Which Irish Men and Women Immigrated to the United States During the Great Famine Migration of 1846-54?”** *Irish Historical Studies* 39 (Nov. 2015): 620-642 (co-authored with GW undergraduate Hope McCaffrey).
- “Irish Origins and the Shaping of Immigrant Life in Savannah on the Eve of the Civil War,”** *Journal of American Ethnic History* 35 (Fall 2015): 5-37.
- “‘Peaceably If We Can, Forcibly If We Must’: Immigrants and Popular Politics in Pre-Civil War New York,”** book chapter in *Practicing Democracy: Popular Politics in the United States from the Constitution to the Civil War*, Daniel Peart and Adam I. P. Smith, eds. (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2015), 196-221.
- “Oscar Handlin, *Boston’s Immigrants*, and the Making of American Immigration History,”** *Journal of American Ethnic History* 23 (Spring 2013): 19-25.
- “Moving Beyond ‘Rags to Riches’: New York’s Irish Famine Immigrants and their Surprising Savings Accounts,”** *Journal of American History* 99 (December 2012): 741-770.
- “Saving Grace: The Emigrant Savings Bank and Its Depositors,”** in *Catholics in New York: Society, Culture, and Politics, 1808-1946*, Terry Golway, ed. (New York: Fordham University Press, 2008), 83-92.
- “Isaiah Rynders and the Ironies of Popular Democracy in Antebellum New York,”** in *Contested Democracy: Freedom, Race, and Power in American History*, Manisha Sinha and Penny Von Eschen, eds. (New York: Columbia University Press, 2007), 31-53.

- “Which Poor Man’s Fight? Immigrants and the Federal Conscription of 1863,”** *Civil War History* 52 (December 2006): 344-372 (winner of the John T. Hubbell Award for the Best Article of 2006 in *Civil War History*).
- “Nativism and Prejudice Against Immigrants: An Historiographic Assessment,”** in *A Companion to American Immigration*, Reed Ueda, ed. (Malden, Mass.: Blackwell, 2006), 177-201.
- “From Famine to Five Points: Lord Lansdowne’s Irish Tenants Encounter North America’s Most Notorious Slum,”** *American Historical Review* 107 (April 2002): 351-387 [reprinted in Frederick Binder, *The Way We Lived*, 6th ed. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2007); used as the model for the writing of a humanities article in Peg Boyle Single, *Demystifying Dissertation Writing* (Staunton, VA, 2009)].
- “Lord Palmerston and the Irish Famine Emigration,”** *The [Cambridge] Historical Journal* 44 (Summer 2001): 441-469.
- “‘We Will Dirk Every Mother’s Son of You’: Five Points and the Irish Conquest of New York Politics,”** *Éire-Ireland: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Irish Studies* 35 (Summer 2001): 29-46.
- “Ulysses S. Grant, Nativist,”** *Civil War History* 43 (June 1997): 119-140.
- “‘Boss’ Tweed: Nativist,”** *Journal of the Early Republic* 15 (Spring 1995): 109-116.
- “William Penn Clarke and the Iowa Know Nothing Movement,”** *Annals of Iowa* 53 (January 1994): 43-55.
- “Fernando Wood and New York’s Secession from the Union: A Political Reappraisal,”** *New York History* 68 (January 1987): 67-92.
- “‘Americans Must Rule America’: Nativism in the History of the United States,”** *Kleio [The Netherlands]* 36 (December 1995): 32-40.
- “Millard Fillmore,” “William ‘Boss’ Tweed,” “James W. Barker,” and “Richard W. Thompson,”** in *American National Biography*, ed. John A. Garraty and Mark C. Carnes, 24 vols. (New York: Oxford University Press, 1999), II: 157-158, VII: 910-912, XXI: 573-574. XXII: 60-62.
- “Nativism” and “Samuel F. B. Morse,”** *The Reader’s Companion to American History* (Houghton Mifflin, 1991), 752-753, 779-791.
- “Politics,”** *The Encyclopedia of the Confederacy*, Richard N. Current, ed. (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1993), 1223-1226.

“**Nativism,**” *Violence in America: An Encyclopedia*, Ronald Gottesman, ed. (New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 1999), 2: 438-443.

**MAINSTREAM
MEDIA**

“Trump Has Spread More Hatred of Immigrants Than Any American in History,” *Washington Post*, November 10, 2019.

“The Long, Ugly History of Insisting Minority Groups Can’t Criticize America,” *Washington Post*, July 19, 2019

“The Five Best Immigrant Autobiographies,” *Wall Street Journal*, Oct. 15, 2016.

**BOOK
REVIEWS**

Inventing America’s First Immigration Crisis: Political Nativism in the Antebellum West, by Luke Ritter, in *Missouri Historical Review* 115 (2021): 330-331.

Famine Irish and the American Racial State, by Peter O’Neill, in *Studia Hibernica* 45 (2019): 177-178.

The Republic for Which It Stands: A History of the United States, 1865-1898, by Richard White, in *American Historical Review* 123 (2018): 1666-7.

Anti-Catholicism in Arkansas: How Politicians, the Press, the Klan, and Religious Leaders Imagined an Enemy, 1910-1960, by Kenneth Barnes, in *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* 77 (Summer 2017): 177-78.

The Green and the Gray: The Irish in the Confederate States of America, by David Gleeson, in *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* 74 (Spring 2015): 89-90.

Horace Greeley and the Politics of Reform in Nineteenth-Century America, by Mitchell Snay, in *Journal of Southern History* 79 (2013): 957.

The Irish Way: Becoming American in the Multiethnic City. By James R. Barrett, in *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society* 106 (Spring 2013): 157-159.

A Tale of Two Cities: Santo Domingo and New York after 1950, by Jesse Hoffnung-Garskof, in *Journal of American Ethnic History* 32 (Winter 2013): 106-108.

Beer and Revolution: The German Anarchist Movement in New York City, 1880-1914, by Tom Goyens, in *Journal of American Ethnic History* 31 (September 2011): 94-95.

American Passage: The History of Ellis Island, by Vincent J. Cannato, in *Journal of American History* 97 (September 2010): 544-545.

No Party Now: Politics in the Civil War North, by Adam I. P. Smith, in *Civil War History* 55 (December 2009): 533-534.

The Harp and the Eagle: Irish-American Volunteers and the Union Army, 1861-1865, by Susannah Bruce, in *Journal of Southern History* 75 (February 2009): 164-165.

The Copperheads: The Rise and Fall of Lincoln's Opponents in the North, by Jennifer L. Weber, in *Civil War Book Review* (Summer 2007). Online only at <http://www.cwbr.com/>

Sending Out Ireland's Poor: Assisted Emigration to North America in the Nineteenth Century, by Gerard Moran, in *International History Review* 28 (March 2006): 38-40.

The Union Divided: Party Conflict in the Civil War North, by Mark E. Neely, in *American Historical Review* 108 (December 2003): 1456-1457

From Ellis Island to JFK: New York's Two Great Waves of Immigration, by Nancy Foner, in *The Historian* 65 (Winter 2003): 448-449

Dan Rice: The Most Famous Man You Never Heard Of, by David Carlyon, in *The New York Times Book Review* (April 28, 2002): 14

Hungering For America: Italian, Irish, and Jewish Foodways in the Age of Migration, by Hasia Diner, in *Harvard Business History Review* 76 (Winter 2002): 863-865

Rude Republic: Americans and their Politics in the Nineteenth Century, by Glenn Altschuler and Stuart M. Blumin, in *American Historical Review* 106 (October 2001): 1355-1356

The Rise and Fall of the American Whig Party: Jacksonian Politics and the Onset of the Civil War, by Michael F. Holt, in *The Arkansas Historical Quarterly* 60 (Winter 2001): 428-430

"Old Thad Stevens: A Story of Frustrated Ambition," *Reviews in American History* 26 (September 1998): 546-551

His Soul Goes Marching On: Responses to John Brown and the Harpers Ferry Raid, ed. by Paul Finkelman, in *American Historical Review* (December 1997): 1579-1580

"America for the Americans": *The Nativist Movement in the United States*, in *Canadian Review of American Studies* 27 (Summer 1997): 192-194

Lewis Cass and the Politics of Moderation, by Willard C. Klunder, in *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* (July 1997): 280-281

Bright Radical Star: Black Freedom and White Supremacy on the Hawkeye Frontier, by Robert Dykstra, in *American Historical Review* 99 (April 1994): 659-660

William H. Seward: Lincoln's Right Hand, by John M. Taylor, in *New York History* 74 (April 1993): 108-110

Religion and the Radical Republican Movement, 1860-1870, by Victor B. Howard, and *Death Comes to the Chief Justice: The Slough-Rynerson Quarrel and Political Violence in New Mexico*, by Gary L. Roberts, in *Western Historical Quarterly* (February 1992): 105-106

The Civil War and New York City, by Ernest A. McKay. *New York History* 73 (January 1992): 108-109

**CONFERENCE
PAPERS AND
INVITED
LECTURES**

“‘Bettering Themselves’? Occupational and Geographic Mobility of Irish Immigrants in New York City, 1850-1870,” Social Science History Association Convention, Chicago, November 22, 2019

“Narrative Challenges in the Writing of History,” Roundtable Panel, Organization of American Historians Convention, Sacramento, April 11, 2018

“‘Not Like My Grandparents?’: Yesterday’s Immigrants and Today’s in Historical Perspective,” University of Florida at Gainesville, March 29, 2018

“‘Not Like My Grandparents?’: Yesterday’s Immigrants and Today’s in Historical Perspective,” Northern Virginia Community College, November 14, 2017

“Using Digital History to Uncover the Lost Stories of New York's Famine Irish Immigrants,” Siena College, Albany, NY, November 2, 2017

“City of Dreams: The 400-Year Epic History of Immigrant New York,” Columbia University School of Business “Discussions Across Disciplines Roundtable” Featured Book, October 16, 2017

“Networks of Opportunity: How Networking Helped Emigrants from the Great Irish Famine Survive, and Eventually Thrive, in New York,” Univ. of Pennsylvania Economic History Seminar, September 29, 2017.

“The Savings, Mobility, and Networks of New York’s Irish Famine Immigrants: Preliminary Evidence from the Emigrant Savings Bank,”

Columbia University Economic History Seminar, March 2, 2017 (with Simone Wegge and Cormac Ó Gráda)

“New York’s Famine Irish Immigrants: Savings, Mobility, and Networks,” Hagley Library History Seminar Series, February 16, 2017 (with Simone Wegge)

“Immigrants, Savings, and Space: The Social and Economic Geography of Irish-American Banking in Civil War America,” Urban History Association Conference, Chicago, October 2016

“Irish Origins and the Shaping of Immigrant Life in Savannah on the Eve of the Civil War,” Southern Labor Studies Association Conference, Washington, March 2015

“The Impact of Federal Immigration Legislation Before Ellis Island,” American Historical Association Convention, Washington, January 2014

“Historians in Filmmaking and Documentaries: A Roundtable Discussion,” Organization of American Historians Convention, San Francisco, April 2013

“The Residential Segregation of Irish Immigrants in Savannah on the Eve of the Civil War,” Southern History Association Convention, November 2012

“Oscar Handlin, *Boston’s Immigrants*, and the Making of American Immigration History,” Organization of American Historians Convention, Milwaukee, April 2012

“Peaceably If We Can, Forcibly If We Must’: Immigrants and Popular Politics in Pre-Civil War New York,” invited lecture, University College, London, June 2011

“The Hidden Irish Middle Class in Nineteenth-Century New York,” invited lecture, Fordham University, March 2011

“Moving Beyond ‘Rags to Riches’: Immigrants and the American Dream Reconsidered,” Keynote Speech at Annual Dinner of the Immigration and Ethnic History Society, Washington, D.C., April 9, 2010

“Beyond Rags to Riches’: New York’s Irish Immigrants and Their Bank in the Famine Era,” University of Delaware, March 2, 2010

“From Irish Rags to New York Riches? The Surprising Data from New York’s Emigrant Savings Bank,” Organization of American Historians Convention, New York, March 2008

“Closing the ‘Passion Gap’ in Graduate Education: Strategies for Building Graduate Community and Sustaining the Joy of Doing History,” American Historical Association Convention, Washington, January 2008.

“Which Poor Man’s Fight? A New Look at the Union Draft during the American Civil War,” Keynote Address, Mid-America History Conference, Fayetteville, Arkansas, September 2006

Isaiah Rynders and the Making of Popular Democracy in New York City,” Columbia University, October 14, 2005

“Rich Man’s War and Poor Man’s Fight? Another Look at the Civil War Draft,” Pennsylvania State University, September 2003

“Reconstructing Five Points,” New York University School of Journalism, March 2003

“Five Points: Nineteenth Century America’s Most Infamous Irish Slum,” Catholic University, March 2003

“Five Points and *The Gangs of New York*,” Wesleyan University, October 2002

“Reconstructing Five Points Politics,” South Street Seaport Museum, New York, May 2002

“Five Points: Nineteenth Century America’s Most Infamous Irish Slum,” New York University Irish Studies Program, March 2002

“Five Points,” New-York Historical Society, February 2002

“The Politics of Slavery and Race in Five Points,” Boston College, November 2001

“Five Points and *The Gangs of New York*,” City University of New York Graduate Center, October 2001

“We Will Dirk Every Mother’s Son of You:” Five Points and the Irish Conquest of New York Politics,” American Historical Association Convention, Chicago, January 2000

“President Grant and the ‘School Question,’” Organization of American Historians Convention, San Francisco, April 1997

“‘Americans Must Rule America’: Nativism in U. S. History,” Saheen Lecture Series, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, April 1996

“‘Boss’ Tweed and the Immigrant: A Reappraisal,” American Historical Association Convention, San Francisco, January 1994

“Nativism, Know Nothings, and the Triumph of the Republican Party, 1857-1860,” American Historical Association Convention, Chicago, December 1991

“Censorship and War: The Case of Abraham Lincoln,” E. B. Long Memorial Lecture, University of Wyoming, April 1991

**COURSES
TAUGHT**

Immigration and Ethnicity in American Life, Civil War and Reconstruction, Abraham Lincoln (undergraduate seminar), Senior Thesis Seminar, The Historiography of Nineteenth-Century America (graduate seminar), Readings and Research in American Immigration and Ethnicity (graduate seminar), Writing History (graduate seminar), Era of the Civil War (graduate seminar), America to 1876, The U. S. Since 1877.

**TENURE
AND
PROMOTION
REVIEWS**

Columbia University, Dartmouth College, University of Chicago, New York University, Northwestern University, Boston College, Villanova University, Marquette University, University of Kentucky