



July 2023

Welcome to the 17th issue of *New Jersey Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*. As ever, thanks are due to the New Jersey Historical Commission, Rutgers Universities Libraries, and Monmouth University and Monmouth's Department of History and Anthropology for their support which enables the journal to remain fully open access and freely available to all readers. Special thanks are due to Melissa Ziobro, Specialist Professor of Public History in the Monmouth University Department of History and Anthropology and the journal's editor since its inception. Her tireless efforts make it possible for all of us to enjoy the best scholarship on the Garden State.

As I write this in the days leading up to the July 4th holiday, I can't help but think about American Independence and particularly the crucial role played by the people and places of New Jersey. In three years, America will celebrate the 250th Anniversary of Independence. There are numerous events, activities, and commemorations planned to mark that anniversary but this celebration will also demonstrate the complexities surrounding the meaning of independence and how our understanding of core ideas such as liberty and freedom have evolved over the past 250 years. You can learn more about these statewide programs at the RevolutionNJ [website](#).

New Jersey Studies will contribute to this commemoration with either a special issue or issues of the journal (depending on the quality and quantity of submissions received) to be published 2024–2026. Junior scholars are especially encouraged to submit proposals.

Proposals may be related to the key themes put forward by RevolutionNJ, including:

- Migration
- Inclusion/Exclusion - race, ethnicity, gender, class, sexuality, ability
- Property and Sovereignty - slavery and freedom, land and water, taxation, empire
- Ideals and Political Participation - representation, voting, protest, citizenship
- New Jersey as a Battleground - patriots and loyalists, battles, experiencing the revolution
- New Jersey and shaping the New Nation
- The Historical Process - memory and legacies, commemoration, 'founding' myths

The editors also welcome proposals on topics extending beyond these themes, connecting to the American Revolution.

Proposals of no more than 400 words should be submitted by September 30, 2023 as a Word document to [Jonathan Mercantini](#).

Of course, we will continue to publish work in all other aspects of New Jersey history as well and

encourage authors to submit to the Journal through regular channels. You can get more information on the regular submission process [here](#).

While we are pleased with the robust number and high quality of submissions, we continue to need peer reviewers to evaluate the articles we receive as well as book and exhibit reviewers. Please reach out to [Melissa](#) to support the journal as a peer reviewer or to [me](#) to add your name to the roster of book and exhibit reviewers.

Jonathan Mercantini
Reviews Editor, *New Jersey Studies*