



January 2017

Greetings, Readers!

It is hard to believe that 6 months have passed, but here we are with our 4th issue! I hope you will enjoy the dynamic talks, articles, teaching materials, archival material, reviews, and more that we have assembled for you. Speaking of teaching material, I am pleased to announce that we have partnered with [New Jersey History Day](#), who will be featuring our *Teaching New Jersey History* section on their website going forward.

In our 3rd issue, we introduced two new sections to the *Journal: Exhibit Reviews* and *Posters*. Now we have added *Film Reviews*, where we will provide readers with timely information about new films relating to New Jersey, and assess the scholarship behind and potential impact of those films. I think we are done adding new sections for the foreseeable future, but who knows- we aim to be flexible, and provide thought-provoking and relevant information to our readers.

You might note that much of the content in this issue relates to the theme of the 2016 [New Jersey Forum](#), which took place November 18th and 19th at the College of Saint Elizabeth in Morristown. That event celebrated the National Park Service (NPS) centennial and the state's unique environmental history. For those of you uninterested in this focus, fear not- there's content for you in the pages that follow as well, I promise! I like to think that's the beauty of *New Jersey Studies*- from pre-colonial to contemporary history; from environmental, to social, to political history, each issue has a little bit of everything to please a diverse readership.

As always, it has been my honor to work with all of our contributors. I'm delighted that we can boast both some established experts and emerging leaders amongst their ranks. Our [editorial board](#) continues to inspire me as well, and you should know that we have convened both in-person and virtually to brainstorm how to create the best possible product for you.

Of course, this issue would not have been possible without our peer reviewers. I regret that I cannot thank them by name, but they generously shared their time and talents to ensure every article presented to you here represents the highest levels of scholarship. In many cases, our authors made important revisions to their work thanks to suggestions made by the anonymous reviewers. Please email me (mziobro@monmouth.edu) if you are interested in being entered into our pool of eligible peer reviewers.

I am also grateful to our reviews editor, Dr. Jonathan Mercantini, Associate Professor of History and Chair of the Department of History at Kean University. Sara Cureton, Niquole Primiani, and Shawn Crisafulli of the New Jersey Historical Commission provide invaluable support, as do Ronald Jantz and Jeffrey Triggs at our co-sponsor, Rutgers University Libraries.

Lastly, I would like to personally thank Monmouth University for supporting my participation in the *Journal*, specifically Dr. Richard Veit, Chair of the Department of History and Anthropology; and Dr. Kenneth Womack, Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

We are currently accepting submissions for our Summer 2017 issue. These should be emailed to me (again, that's mziobro@monmouth.edu) by February 1, 2017. The sooner you submit, the better, though, as I send submissions out for peer review as soon as I receive them. Earlier submission/review means you may have time to revise and resubmit if needed and still be included in the Summer issue, rather than being pushed back to Winter 2018. Please be sure to adhere to the submission guidelines posted on our [webpage](#).

If you enjoy an article from this issue, I encourage you to share it via email, social media, in hard copy via snail mail, you name it. Assign it to your students, if appropriate. Let's ensure the hard work of these authors does not go unnoticed. We at *NJS* have been tracking readership and have been discussing how we might use that information to best serve you. In case anyone is interested, *The Jersey Devil: A Political Animal*, by Brian Regal, in our Summer 2015 edition is our most read article to date!

I welcome your questions, comments, and feedback. Please feel free to reach out to me at any time to share these.

Before I close, a challenge- two of our articles reference the Minisink region. The first reader to email me with the title of those two articles will be mailed a small prize.

Happy Reading!

v/r,

Melissa Ziobro

Editor

New Jersey Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal