

NINA SILBER
Department of History
Boston University
226 Bay State Road
Boston, MA 02215
(617) 353-8307
nsilber@bu.edu

PRESENT POSITION

Professor, Department of History, Boston University
Director, American and New England Studies Program, Boston University

EDUCATION

PhD University of California, Berkeley, 1989
MA University of California, Berkeley, 1986
BA University of California, Berkeley, 1981

HONORS

Invited to deliver 53rd Annual Fortenbaugh Lecture, Gettysburg, PA, November 2014
NEH Summer Stipend, Summer 2011
OAH Distinguished Lecturer, Reappointed in 2010
Gilder-Lehrman Fellowship (for research in New York libraries), 2010
Jeffrey Henderson Senior Humanities Fellow, Boston University, 2009-2010
Brose Distinguished Lecturer at Pennsylvania State University, November 2006
BU College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Award for Teaching Excellence, December 2000
Senior Lecturer, Fulbright Program, Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic), 1999-2000
Fellow, Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History, Harvard University, 1996-7
Society of Humanities Fellows, Junior Fellowship (Boston University), 1991-92
Smithsonian Institution, Pre-doctoral Fellowship, National Museum of American History, 1987-9
Eugene Irving McCormac Graduate Scholarship (UC Berkeley), 1986-87, 1988-89
Humanities Research Grant (UC Berkeley), December 1988
Western Association of Women Historians Graduate Student Award, May 1987
UC Berkeley History Department Seminar Prize, May 1986

PUBLICATIONS

Scholarly Books and Articles

Gender and the Sectional Conflict (University of North Carolina Press: Chapel Hill, 2008)
Daughters of the Union: Northern Women Fight the Civil War (Harvard University Press: Cambridge, MA, 2005)
Battle Scars: Essays on Gender and the Civil War, co-edited with Catherine Clinton (Oxford University Press: New York, 2006)
Landmarks of the Civil War (Oxford University Press: New York, 2003)
Yankee Correspondence: Civil War Letters Between New England Soldiers and the Homefront, co-edited with Mary Beth Sievens (University of Virginia Press: Charlottesville, 1996)
The Romance of Reunion: Northerners and the South, 1865-1900 (University of North Carolina Press: Chapel Hill, 1993)
Divided Houses: Gender and the Civil War, co-edited with Catherine Clinton (Oxford University Press: New York, 1992)

- “The Problem of Women’s Patriotism, North and South” (reprinted from *Gender and the Sectional Conflict*) in Michael Perman and Amy Taylor, *Major Problems in the Civil War and Reconstruction: Documents and Essays, 3rd Edition* (Cengage Learning, 2011)
- “Women Amidst War,” co-authored with Thavolia Glymph, *The Civil War Remembered* National Park Service publication, 2011
- “Emancipation without Slavery: Remembering the Union Victory” in William Cooper and John McCardell, eds., *America Transformed: Blue, Gray, and Black: Essays on the Civil War Era* (Louisiana State University Press: Baton Rouge, 2009)
- “Loosening the Ties that Bind: Tensions on the Northern Homefront,” *North and South* (March, 2006)
- “Northern Women in the Age of Emancipation,” in Lacy Ford, ed., *Blackwell Companion to the Civil War and Reconstruction* (Blackwell Publishers, 2004)
- “When Charles Francis Adams Met Robert E. Lee: A Southern Gentleman in History and Memory,” in Lesley Gordon and John Inscoe, eds., *Inside the Confederate Nation* (Louisiana State University Press: Baton Rouge, LA, 2005)
- “A Compound of Wonderful Potency: Women Teachers of the North in the Civil War South,” in Joan Cashin, ed., *The War Was You and Me: Civilians and the American Civil War* (Princeton University Press: Princeton, N.J., 2002)
- “What Does America Need So Much as Americans,” in John Inscoe, ed., *Appalachians and Race* (University of Kentucky Press: Lexington, KY, 2000)
- “The Northern Myth of the Rebel Girl,” in Christie Anne Farnham, ed., *Women of the American South: A Multicultural Reader* (New York University Press: New York, 1997)
- Introduction to new edition of Mary Livermore, *My Story of the War* (Da Capo Press: NY, 1995)
- “‘A Woman’s War’: Gender and Civil War Studies,” *Magazine of History* VIII (Fall 1993), 11-13
- “Intemperate Men, Spiteful Women, and Jefferson Davis: Northern Views of the Defeated South,” *American Quarterly* XLI (December 1989), 614-635

News Articles and Media Appearances

- Letter to the editor, *New York Times*, July 4, 2013
- Interview with the Quincy *Patriot Ledger* regarding the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, June 2013
- Television appearance on “The Ultimate Guide to the Presidents”, *History Channel*, January 2013
- “From ‘Great Emancipator’ To ‘Vampire Hunter’: The Many Stovepipe Hats of Cinematic Lincoln”, blogpost on *Cognoscenti* (Opinion web-page for WBUR radio), Nov. 2012
- “Spielberg: Reconciliation or Reconstruction”, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* (December 5, 2012)
- “Getting Over ‘Scarlett Fever’: Five Questions for Civil War Historian Nina Silber, *Encyclopedia Britannica* Blog, March 12, 2012
- “Across the Great Divide”, *History Channel* panel, posted on *History Channel* website, September 6, 2011
- “Some Saw Scarlett, My Father Saw Red,” Blog Post at University of North Carolina Press website, June 6, 2011
- Quoted in “From ‘Glory’ to ‘Gone With the Wind’: Fascination with Civil War Endures” in *Christian Science Monitor*, April 12, 2011
- “Men at War,” *New York Times*, online “Disunion” series, April 4, 2011
- “Slavery at War’s Root,” op-ed in *Boston Herald*, February 19, 2011
- “Judicial Review: Serenade/The Proposition at Jacob’s Pillow”, review of Bill T. Jones’ dance piece on Lincoln legacy, *The ArtsFuse* (an online arts journal), August 2010
- Civil War Talk Radio interview on *Gender and the Sectional Conflict*, April 3, 2009
- “Obama and Lincoln”, *Boston Herald* Commemorative Issue on Obama Inauguration (Jan. 2009)
- “Comparing Scandals”, letter to the editor, *New York Times*, November 4, 1998

Reviews and Encyclopedia Articles

- Review of *Death and the Civil War*, episode of PBS American Experience, *Journal of American History* 100 (June 2013)
- “The Female Heart of American Reform,” review essay in *The Historian* (Summer 2000)
- “The Crisis of Confederate Womanhood,” review essay of Drew Faust, *Mothers of Invention* in *Reviews in American History* XXV (September 1997), 422-426
- “Women Famous and Forgotten at the Gotlieb Archives” in *Capturing History* (publication for the Howard Gotlieb Archival Research Center at Boston University) (Spring 2005)
- Book reviews in the *American Historical Review*, *Journal of American History*, *Civil War History*, *The Journal of Southern History*, *Columbia Magazine*; *Southern Cultures*; and the *Georgia Historical Quarterly*; *Journal of the Civil War Era*; *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*; *The Wilson Quarterly*; *Civil War Monitor*; *Civil War Book Review*
- Encyclopedia articles in *The Encyclopedia of the Confederacy* (New York, 1993); *American National Biography* (New York, 1999); *The Historical Dictionary of the Gilded Age* (M.E. Sharpe Press, 2003); and *The Encyclopedia of Southern Culture* (forthcoming)

WORK IN PROGRESS

- “Fighting the Civil War in New Deal America, 1929-1945”: a book-length study on the Civil War’s meaning – in politics, popular culture, and government initiatives – during the Depression and New Deal.

TEACHING, RESEARCH, AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Professor, Department of History, Boston University (2007-)
- Director of American and New England Studies Program, Boston University (2013-)
- Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of History, Boston University (2005-2007)
- Director of Graduate Studies, Department of History, Boston University (2000-2002, 2008-9)
- Associate Professor, Department of History, Boston University (1996-2007)
- Senior Lecturer, Fulbright Program, Charles University, Prague (Czech Republic), 1999-2000
- Director, Women’s Studies, Boston University (1994-96; 1998-99)
- Assistant Professor, Department of History, Boston University (1990-96)
- Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of Delaware (1989-1990)
- Teaching Assistant, US History Survey Course, UC Berkeley (Spring 1987 and Fall 1984)
- Teaching Assistant, Undergraduate Thesis Seminar, UC Berkeley (Fall 1986)
- Head Teaching Assistant, US History Survey Course, UC Berkeley (Spring 1985)
- Research Assistant for Professor Levine’s Project on American Culture, UC Berkeley (1984-85)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Editorial Board Member, *Journal of the Civil War Era*, 2012-
- Member, prize committee, best article in the *Journal of the Civil War Era*, 2012
- Member, Committee on Committees, Organization of American Historians (2010-2012)
- Panelist, “Celebrating Boston: The Fife is Right!” at Old South Meeting House, Boston, April 2011, 2012
- Member, Nominating Committee, Southern Historical Association (2008)
- Member, Council of Scholars for Coalition for Civil War Sesquicentennial, 2010-
- Evaluator, National Park Service website on Civil War Sesquicentennial
- Steering committee member for Gender & History lecture series, co-sponsored by the Schlesinger Library and the Massachusetts Historical Society, 2008-present
- Consultant, National Constitution Center (Philadelphia, PA) for exhibit on Civil War Sesquicentennial, December 2008
- Consultant for Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library exhibit on Civil War Sesquicentennial (2007)

Consultant for Principle Pictures film project on Civil War & Memory (2005)
Distinguished Lecturer, Organization of American Historians, 2001-2006, 2010-
Workshop leader for Cambridge school teachers on women and the Civil War (2005)
Consultant for Catoctin Center for Regional History, NEH project on the border Civil War (2004)
Member of Museum Advisory Committee for Gettysburg National Military Park (2000-present)
Member of Advisory Board for Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission
Member of Museum Advisory Committee for Commonwealth Museum, Boston, MA
Co-chair, Local Arrangements Committee, American Historical Association (2000-2001)
Juror for Lincoln Prize, 2000-2001
Consultant for "American Experience" series on Reconstruction (1999-2003)
Juror for Avery Craven Award, Organization of American Historians (Fall/Winter 1998-99)
Site Evaluator for Gettysburg National Military Park, National Park Service (summer 1998)
Consultant, New England Foundation for the Humanities, project on the Civil War (1991-6)
Consultant, Valentine Museum (Richmond, VA), exhibition on Reconstruction (1991-92)
Consultant, Arts and Entertainment Network, "The Civil War Journal", (1993)
Consultant, Wolfington Productions, video series on "American Women of Achievement" (1994)

SERVICE TO BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Remarks for the opening of Mugar Library exhibit on the Civil War (March 2013) and video
interview on Mugar exhibit (May 2013)
Tenure Sub-Committee, BU History Department, Fall 2011
Executive Committee Member for the Boston University Center for the Humanities, 2011-2012
Talk on "Gender and the Civil War" presented at a BU Alumni luncheon, Feb. 2011
History Department Search Committees (1995-96; 2003-2004; 2005-2006)
History Department Executive Committee (2005-2007, 2008-9, 2012-2013)
Graduate Research Abroad Fellowship Committee (2008-2009)
AMNESP Continuing Aid Committee (2005-2007)
AMNESP Graduate Admissions Committee (2004-2005, 2007-2008, 2010-2011)
CAS Nominating Committee (2003-present)
College of Arts & Sciences APT Committee (2001)
Grieg Scholarship Committee (2001, 2002, 2003, 2006, 2007)
Fulbright/DAAD Selection Committee (2000-2001)
Degree Standards Task Force for BU Accreditation (1997-1999)
Committee to choose student commencement speaker (1998)
"Freshman Friday" Faculty Panelist (1993; 1998)
Prepared School of Education proposal to NEH for "Practicing History" Summer Program (1991)
Contributor to *Capturing History* publication for Gotlieb Archives at Mugar Library

INVITED LECTURES & CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Conference Papers

"The Future of Civil War History" at The Future of Civil War History Conference, Gettysburg,
PA, March 2013
"A Passionate Addiction to Lincoln: Civil War Memory and the Politics of the 1930s," Society of
Civil War Historians meeting, Lexington, KY, June 2012
"Abraham Lincoln in White Southern Memory," paper presented at Conference on "Lincoln and
the South" at American Civil War Center, Richmond, VA, March 2009
"The Confederate Experience", paper presented at roundtable discussion on "Failed Nationalisms"
at the American Historical Association meeting, Philadelphia, PA, January, 2006
"The Civil War as 'Turning Point' for Women's History", paper presented at roundtable on
"Gender and the Civil War" at Organization of American Historians' conference,
Boston, MA, March, 2004
"Leon Litwack as Teacher", paper presented for conference in honor of the work of Professor
Leon Litwack, Berkeley, CA, 2003

- Thoughts on Emory Thomas' *Robert E. Lee*, Roundtable Discussion at Southern Historical Association meeting, New Orleans, LA, November 1995
- "Nationalism and Masculinity," presented at the American Historical Association meeting, San Francisco, CA, January 1994
- "Gender and Sectionalism," presented at the Southern Historical Association meeting, Orlando, FL, November 1993
- "The Romance of Reunion: Northern Images of the Masculine South," presented at the Southern Historical Association meeting, New Orleans, LA, November 1990
- "The Romance of Reunion: Northern Conciliation with the South and the Use of Gender," Berkshire Women's History Conference, New Brunswick, NJ, June 1990
- "The White Mountaineer and the Search for Southern Racial Purity," presented at the Social Science History Association convention, Washington, D.C., November 1989

Invited Lectures

- "Women and the Civil War", panel presentation on Jewish Women and the Civil War at the Jewish History Center, New York, NY, May 2013
- "Women and the Civil War," talk presented to Boston Public School teachers in conjunction with BU History Dept's Teaching American History Program, Boston, MA April 2012
- "Women and the American Civil War," talk for the Elizabeth Sackler Center for Feminist Art at the Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY, February 2012
- Book talk for paperback release of *Daughters of the Union: Northern Women Fight the Civil War*, Massachusetts Historical Society, November 2011
- "Historical Memory and American Race Relations through Mass Media," paper presented for the John Hope Franklin Center for Reconciliation symposium, Tulsa, OK, June 2011
- "Women and the Civil War", paper presented to the Union Club of Boston, March 2011
- "Expansionism and Sectional Conflict," lecture for Museum of Fine Arts (Boston, March 2011)
- "Participation in the Civil War", lecture/discussion for public school teachers, sponsored by the Teaching American History program, Reading, MA, January 2011
- "Tote the Weary Load": Slavery and Emancipation in the Culture of the Great Depression," lecture presented to BU Humanities Foundation, May 2010
- "Why Gender Matters for Understanding the Civil War," lecture present for OAH Distinguished Lecture program at Utah Valley State University, Orem, UT, September 2010
- "Why Gender Matters for the Civil War," lecture presented for Murphy Institute at Tulane University, New Orleans, April 2010
- "Union Soldiers and Slavery," lecture presented at the Peabody Institute, Peabody, MA, September 2009
- Author talk on *Gender and the Sectional Conflict*, presented at Treasury Executive Institute, Washington, DC, March 2009
- "Northern Women and the Civil War", lecture presented at Essex Institute for Teaching History, Marblehead, MA, July 2008
- "Emancipation in Union Memory", panel presentation at Boston Public Library, October 2007
- Author talk on *Daughters of the Union*, Peabody Institute, Peabody, MA, September 2007
- "Women of the North and the American Civil War," invited speaker for Boston University's annual Women's Guild luncheon, May 2007
- "Gender and the US Civil War," faculty forum chat presented at Boston University Mugar Library, April 2007
- "Victory and Memory", paper presented at Tredegar Civil War Center Conference on "The Legacy of the Civil War," Richmond, VA, March 2007
- "Women and the Civil War and Reconstruction," lecture presented for Teaching American History series for Boston public school teachers at Boston University, January, 2007
- "Teaching About Women and the Civil War", workshop presented through PrimarySource for Cambridge middle school teachers, December 2005
- Author talk on *Daughters of the Union*, Old South Meeting House, October 2005
- Author talk on *Daughters of the Union*, Tufts University Library, November 2005
- "Northern Women and the Civil War," presented at Pennsylvania State University, State College,

- PA, November, 2004
- “Northern Women Fight the Civil War,” University of Massachusetts at Lowell, May, 2004
- “Interpreting Slavery at Historic Sites,” presented at Old South Meeting House, April, 2004
- “Pitfalls and Methods of Civil War Research,” presented at Civil War Symposium held at Library of Congress, November 2002
- “Union Legacies of the Civil War”, presented at Tredegar Civil War Center Conference in Richmond, VA, October 2002
- “Northern Women and the Civil War,” presented at Radcliffe Institute of Harvard University for Gilder-Lehrman seminar for U.S. history teachers, July 2002, July 2003
- “American Literature and the Romance of Reunion,” presented at Charles University (Prague, Czech Republic), May 2000
- “Women and the US Civil War,” West Bohemia University (Plzen, Czech Republic), Nov. 1999
- “Reconstruction and Reconciliation,” presented at Foxhill Village, Westwood, MA, May 1999
- “The Capture of Jefferson Davis,” Civil War Dinner at the Union Club of Boston, May 1999
- “Debating Female Patriotism in Post-Civil War America,” presented at Charles Warren Center, Harvard University, May 1997
- “The Problem of Female Patriotism in Post-Civil War America,” Sahin Lecture series, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, November 1996
- “The Myth of the Rebel Girl,” presented at Old South Meeting House, Boston, MA, March 1996
- “Ulysses Grant and the Culture of Reunion,” presented at one-day conference on “The Life and Legacy of Ulysses S. Grant,” Columbia University, New York City, April 1995
- “Bostonians and the South after the Civil War,” presented to the Bostonian Society, March 1994
- “The Myth of the Rebel Girl,” presented at Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA, March 1993
- “A Confederate President in Women’s Clothes: Northern Views of the Defeated South,” presented at the National Museum of American History, Washington D.C., May 1988

Keynote Addresses and Endowed Lectures

- “The Afterlife of the American Civil War,” Keynote address for Bowdoin’s Alumni College, August 9, 2013
- “The Afterlife of the Civil War in 1930s America”, Nevins Lecture at the Huntington Library, Pasadena, CA, April 2012
- “Why Northern Women Matter to Civil War Historians,” Frank L. Klement lecture at Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI, November 2007
- “Gender and the Sectional Conflict,” Brose Distinguished Lectures (3-part lecture series) presented at Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA, November 2006

Comments on Papers

- Chair/Comment for panel on Civil War & Memory, Massachusetts and the Civil War, conference at the Massachusetts Historical Society, April 2013
- Chair/Comment for panel on Masculinity & Post-Civil War Military, American Historical Association, Boston, MA, January 2011
- Comment on paper on Rape and the US Civil War, Gender & History series at the Schlesinger Library, Cambridge, MA, December 2009
- Chair and comment on panel on “Civil War Veterans in Gilded Age America” at Society of Civil War Historians meeting, Philadelphia, PA, June 2008
- Comment on paper on Black Women and Chicago Politics as part of Gender & History series at The Massachusetts Historical Society, April 2008
- Comment on panel on “Defining the New South,” at the Southern Historical Association meeting, November 2007
- Comment on panel on Disloyalty and Cowardice in Virginia at the Southern Intellectual History Conference (Richmond, VA), February 2002
- Comment on “The Empire of Cotton”, paper presented to the Massachusetts Historical Society, (Boston, MA), April 2001
- Comment on panel on urban culture in Gilded Age at BU-SPNEA graduate student conference,

(Boston, MA), March 2001
Comment on panel on the Civil War in Memory at Southern Historical Association meeting, (Birmingham, AL), November 1998
Opening remarks, panel on Civil War and Memory, Centennial Celebration of the Robert Gould Shaw Memorial (Boston, MA), May 1997
Comment on paper on Jacksonian politics at Massachusetts Historical Society, December 1996
Comment on panel on Reconstruction politics in Massachusetts at conference on “Reconstructing the North: Worcester after the Civil War,” at Clark University (Worcester, MA), October 1996
Comment on panel on Women in the Civil War at Berkshire Conference of Women Historians (Chapel Hill, NC), June 1996
Comment on panel on “Memory, Gender, and Ceremonies in the Politics of the Lost Cause,” at Organization of American Historians meeting (Washington, DC), March 1995
Comment on panel on “Women in the mid-19th Century United States,” at New England Historical Association meeting at Bentley College (Waltham, MA), April 1994

EXTERNAL REVIEWER FOR TENURE AND PROMOTION COMMITTEES: MIT; Colby College; Pitzer College; University of South Carolina; University of Mississippi; George Mason University; UCLA; Princeton; Swarthmore; UNC-Charlotte; Mississippi State University

REFEREE FOR BOOK & ARTICLE MANUSCRIPTS AND TEXTBOOK PROPOSALS: Journal of American History; Journal of Southern History; Southern Cultures; Massachusetts Quarterly; University of North Carolina Press; University Press of Kansas; McGraw-Hill; Prentice Hall; Bedford/St. Martin's Press; University of South Carolina Press; Journal of the Civil War Era