

Rachel Boyle, PhD

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EDUCATION

PhD, Loyola University Chicago, IL (May 2017)

Accelerated Joint Program in American History and Public History

Dissertation: “She Shot Him Dead: The Criminalization of Women and the Struggle over Social Order in Chicago, 1871-1919.” Timothy Gilfoyle (Advisor), Michelle Nickerson, Elizabeth Fraterrigo, Elliott Gorn

Project Management Certificate, Digital Humanities Summer Institute, University of Victoria (May 2013)

Bachelor of Arts, Macalester College, St. Paul, MN (December 2010)

History Major, *cum laude*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Public Historian and Co-Founder, Omnia History, Chicago IL (January 2019 – present)

Lead a public history collaborative that uses the past to promote social change; consult and collaborate with cultural organizations on special projects; conduct historical research and write for public audiences

Principal Investigator, Administrative History, Weir Farm National Historical Park, Wilton, CT

(May 2022 – present)

Research and write an Administrative History that documents the establishment and management of Weir Farm National Historical Park in collaboration with Public Archeology Lab, Inc.

Principal Investigator, Historic Resource Study, Weir Farm National Historical Park, Wilton, CT

(October 2019 – September 2022)

Research and write a History Resource Study documenting and analyzing the histories of a diverse community of laborers at Weir Farm in collaboration with the Organization of American Historians

Digital History Consultant, Evanston Women’s History Project, Evanston History Center, Evanston, IL (November 2019 – January 2020)

Redesign website and build new infrastructure for database of over 250 historically significant Evanston women and women’s organizations

Curator, American Bar Association Standing Committee on the Law Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. (May – June 2020)

Conduct research, write interpretive text, and compile images for a traveling exhibit commemorating the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment

Web and CiviCRM Administrator, Rogers Park/West Ridge Historical Society, Chicago, IL

(February 2014 – November 2021)

Streamline tracking of over 1,700 constituent relationships and continue to optimize database; build and maintain institutional website

Part-Time Faculty, History Department, DePaul University, Chicago IL (January 2020 – present)

Teach undergraduate students to expand historical knowledge and apply critical thinking skills. Courses include: 19th Century United States History, History of Chicago, and Introduction to Public History

Instructor, Newberry Library, Chicago IL (June 2018 – April 2022)

Facilitate adult education seminars and teacher programs. Courses include: “Lucy Parsons’ Chicago,” “Inventing the Police: The History of Policing in Nineteenth-Century Chicago,” “Virtual Walking Tour of Chicago: History, Memory, and Place,” “Women in Early Chicago Politics,” “Husband-Slaying Hysteria in Turn-of-the-Century Chicago,” “The Notorious Women of Biler Avenue,” and “Riots and Protest: Chicago’s Legacy of Conflict”

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Newberry Mellon Major Projects Postdoctoral Fellow, Newberry Library, Chicago, IL (October 2017 – December 2018)

Coordinated institution-wide initiative asking, “What is the Midwest?”; developed digital resources and programs for scholars, students, and the public; fostered interdepartmental collaboration and built relationships with cultural organizations across the region

Guest Curator, Chicago Collections Consortium, Chicago IL (May 2017 – September 2018)

Developed digital exhibit on the history of social protest in Chicago; collaborated with institutional stakeholders across the city to conduct archival research, generate content, design digital structure, and coordinate public programs

Coordinator, Chrysler Village History Project, Chicago, IL (January 2013 – September 2016)

Successfully nominated the neighborhood of Chrysler Village on the South Side of Chicago to the National Register of Historic Places; managed over 24 students and developed partnerships with community stakeholders to implement an oral history project, neighborhood festival, and community mural; earned awards the National Council on Public History, the Midwestern History Association, and the American Association of State and Local History

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Travel Grant, Organization of American Historians, April 2020 (canceled due to COVID-19)

Wiki Scholar, Wiki Education Foundation & National Archives, December 2018

Mellon Major Project Postdoctoral Fellow, Newberry Library, October 2017 – December 2018

Award of Merit, American Association of State and Local History Leadership in History Awards, June 2017

Newberry Library Graduate Scholar-In-Residence, September 2016 – May 2017

Loyola University Chicago Arthur J. Schmitt Dissertation Fellowship, September 2016 – May 2017

Honorable Mention, Alice Smith Prize in Public History, Midwestern History Association, May 2017

National Council on Public History Student Project Award, March 2017

Loyola University Chicago Graduate Teaching Assistantship, September 2011 – May 2016

Loyola University Chicago President’s Medallion, November 2015

King V. Hostick Scholarship, Illinois State Historical Society and the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, June 2015 – August 2015

Loyola University Chicago Research Mentorship Program Fellowship, May 2015 – July 2015

Loyola University Chicago Women and Leadership Archives and Carolyn Farrell, BVM, Professorship in Women and Leadership Summer Research Project Grant, May 2013 – July 2013

PUBLICATIONS

Articles and Chapters

Author, “Envisioning Shared Authority as an Alternative Economic Model for Cultural Organizations,” in *Sustainable Revenue for Museums: A Guide*, edited by Samantha Chmelik (Rowman & Littlefield, 2019).

Author, “Types and Beauties: Evaluating and Exoticizing Women on the Midway Plaisance at the 1893 Columbian Exposition.” *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*: Vol. 17, No. 2 (Spring 2015).

Author, “Expanding Educational Opportunities (EEO) at Macalester College, 1968 -1975,” *Tapestries: Intwoven voices of local and global identities*: Vol. 1: Iss. 1, Article 8 (2010).

Digital Publications

Author, “Still Grinding? How the Pandemic is Accelerating Job Precarity in Public History,” *History@Work, The NCPH Blog* (March 2021).

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Author, “The Legend of Big Ole,” *Belt Magazine* (November 2019). Designated “Best of Belt 2020.”

Author, “‘The Inflamed Egotism of Women’: Emma Simpson and the Limits of the Unwritten Law,” *Nursing Clio* (June 2019).

Curator, “Migration and the Midwest,” Digital Collection for the Classroom, Newberry Library, Chicago, IL (January 2019). https://dcc.newberry.org/collections/migration_midwest

Curator, “Place of Protest: Chicago’s Legacy of Dissent, Declaration, and Disruption,” Chicago Collections Consortium, Chicago, IL (September 2018). <https://exhibits.chicagocollections.org/place-of-protest>

Curator, “Practical Work: Chicago Woman’s Club Reformers, Criminal Women, and Delinquent Children, 1876-1920,” Women and Leadership Archives, Loyola University Chicago, IL (July 2013). <http://specialcollections.luc.edu/exhibits/show/cwcpracticalwork>

Reviews

Author, Review of *Imagining the Heartland: White Supremacy and the American Midwest* by Britt E. Halvorson and Joshua O. Reno, *Western Historical Quarterly* (forthcoming).

Author, Review of *The Capital Times* by John Nichols and Dave Zweifel, *Voyageur Magazine* (Summer/Fall 2022).

Author, Review of *Finding a New Midwestern History* edited by Jon K. Lauck, Gleaves Whitney, and Joseph Hogan, *Nebraska History* (2019).

Author, Review of *Black Public History in Chicago: Civil Rights Activism from World War II Into the Cold War* by Ian Rocksborough-Smith, *Indiana Magazine of History* (June 2019).

Author, Review of *WW1 America*. Minnesota Historical Society. *Public Historian*, Vol. 40, No. 2 (May 2018).

Author, Review of *The Chicago Trunk Murder: Law and Justice at the Turn of the Century* by Elizabeth Dale, *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*: Vol 105, No.1 (Spring 2012), Page 104-106.

SELECTED INVITED TALKS

“Nineteenth Century Chicago History,” The Fortnightly of Chicago, November 2021.

Project Management Workshop, Loyola University Chicago, January 2016, May 2017, September 2019, September 2020.

Panel Discussion on *The Leopold and Loeb Files: Uncovering the Crime of the Century*, Center for Textual Studies and Digital Humanities at Loyola University Chicago, September 2018.

“Violent Femmes.” Shelf Life, a Newberry Podcast, Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois, May 2017. Available at: www.newberry.org/violent-femmes

“Place, Space, and Feminine Homicide in Chicago, 1871-1919.” Newberry Library Colloquium, Chicago, Illinois, January 2017.

“Labor and Public History at Fort Snelling.” Introduction to Public History, University of Illinois at Chicago, Illinois, November 2016.

“Progressive Era Reform and the Criminalization of Women in Chicago, 1871-1919.” Newberry Library Seminar in the Humanities, Associated Colleges of the Midwest, Chicago, Illinois, September 2016.

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SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Constant Riot and Effervescence?: Chicago’s Intimate Economy, 1871–1909.” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., April 2020 (held online due to COVID-19).

“Economic Justice and the Ethics of Public History (Part II).” Annual Meeting of the National Council on Public History, Hartford, Connecticut, March 2019.

“Negotiating Power Lines: Economic Justice and the Ethics of Public History.” Annual Meeting of the National Council on Public History, Las Vegas, Nevada, April 2018.

“Trends and Lessons from the Leadership in History Awards.” Annual Meeting of the American Association of State and Local History, Austin, Texas, September 2017.

“The Middle or the Edge? Sustaining, Transitioning, and Sunsetting Community Public History Projects.” Annual Meeting of the National Council on Public History, Indianapolis, Indiana, April 2017.

“Reckless Characters’ and ‘Notorious Women’: Feminine Labor, Leisure, and Violence in Chicago’s Working-Class Political Economy, 1871-1919.” Urban History Association Biennial Conference, Chicago, Illinois, October 2016.

“Husband-Slaying Hysteria and the Criminalization of Feminine Violence in Chicago, 1870-1919.” Midwest Popular Culture Association/Midwest American Culture Association 2016 Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois, October 2016.

“Mapping Feminine Felonies in Chicago, 1870-1920.” Digital Humanities Forum, Institute for Digital Research in the Humanities, Kansas University, Lawrence, Kansas, October 2016.

“Chrysler Village History Project: From Historic Preservation to Community Engagement.” Annual Meeting of the American Association for State and Local History, Detroit, Michigan, September 2016.

“Public Women and Intimate Economy in Working-Class Chicago, 1870-1919.” Women’s and Gender History Symposium, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Illinois, March 2016.

“From Hysteria to Insanity: Feminine Criminality and Husband Slaying in Chicago, 1870-1919.” The Law in Action: Re-Thinking the Boundaries of Law and Society, Chabraja Center for Historical Studies Graduate Conference, Evanston, Illinois, April 2014.

“Chrysler Village: Documenting History, Sustaining Community, and Identifying a Historic District.” Annual Meeting of the National Council on Public History, Monterey, California, March 2014.

SELECTED SERVICE

Board of Directors, National Council on Public History (March 2020 – present)

Elected to govern the primary professional organization that serves public historians in the United States and beyond; investigate and advise the organization on recent developments in the field; support initiatives that enhance the practice of public history

Mentor, Volunteer, and Judge, National History Day, Saint Paul, MN and Chicago, IL (January 2011 – March 2020)

Educated, supported, and evaluated students participating in National History Day

Administrative Volunteer, LAF (now Legal Aid Chicago), Chicago, IL (November 2016 – May 2017, March 2018)

Create and organize case files, scan documents, collect and organize data for grant reporting to support LAF in providing free civil legal services to individuals and families unable to afford legal representation