Neil Kamil
Curriculum vitae

Personal

Home Address: 4507 Sinclair Avenue
Austin, Texas 78506-3016
512-451-4529

Work Address: The University of Texas at Austin
Department of History
1 University Station, B7000
Austin, Texas 78712-0220
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Education

Ph.D. The Johns Hopkins University, May, 1989.
(History)

M.A. The Johns Hopkins University, May, 1981.
(History)

B.A. Brandeis University, May 1976.
(History)

Academic Appointments

Academic Year 2000-present — Associate Professor of Early American History, The University of Texas at Austin, Department of History

Academic Year 1993-2000 — Assistant Professor of Early American History, The University of Texas at Austin, Department of History

Academic Year 1990-93 — Lecturer in Early American History, Brandeis University, Department of History

Academic Year 1988-1990 — N.E.H. Postdoctoral Fellow in Early American History and Culture, University of Maryland at College Park, Department of History

Co-Director and Administrator: The Washington D.C. Area Seminar on Early American History, Sponsored by the Maryland Colloquium on Early American History of the Department of History, at The University of Maryland at College Park.

Co-Project Director and Editor (with Professor John J. McCusker) of *Religion, Popular Culture, and Material Life in the Middle Colonies and the Upper South, 1650-1800*, a Conference and Publication in multidisciplinary history Sponsored by the Maryland Colloquium on Early American History, on 17 November 1990.

Academic Year 1987-88 — Part-time Senior Visiting Instructor, Department of History, Towson State University, Towson, Maryland.

Academic Year 1985-86 — Full-time Visiting Instructor, Department of History, Towson State University.

Summer 1984-85 — Part-time Visiting Instructor, Department of History, Towson State University.

Academic Year 1984-85 — Frederick Jackson Turner Research Fellow, World History Slide Project, Johns Hopkins University, Department of History.

Spring 1983-84 — Full-time Visiting Instructor, Department of History, Towson State University.

Fall 1983-84 — Part-time Visiting Instructor, Department of History, Towson State University

Fellowships, Grants, Awards

2005 — Chipstone Foundation Subvention Grant, in support of publication of *Fortress of the Soul: Violence, Metaphysics, and Material Life in the Huguenots' New World, 1517-1751* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2005).

The Cooperative Society of the University of Texas at Austin Subvention Grant in support of publication of *Fortress of the Soul.*

1993-2004 — Numerous research grants, University of Texas at Austin

1988-90 N.E.H. Research Associate and Postdoctoral Fellow in Early American History and Culture, Department of History, University of Maryland, College Park.

1988-89 Postdoctoral Fellow and Member of the Folger Institute Seminar: "*Technologia*: Language and Technical Knowledge from the Renaissance to the Enlightenment," The Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, D.C., 31 January-18 April.

1989 Dissertation awarded Distinction, The Johns Hopkins University.

1984-85 Frederick Jackson Turner Research Fellow, The Johns Hopkins University.

1981-82 Johns Hopkins University Teaching Fellowships

1980-82 Fulbright-Hays Advanced Research Fellowship for France, Archives de la Charente-Maritime, La Rochelle, France.

Renewed for Summer 1981.

1979-80 Johns Hopkins University Teaching Fellowships.

1976-78 Winterthur Fellow in Early American Culture, H. F. du Pont Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, Delaware, in conjunction with The University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware.

Publications

Books

Fortress of the Soul: Violence, Metaphysics, and Material Life in the Huguenots' New World, 1517-1751 (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2005).

Articles and Essays

"Matter of Politeness: Furniture of Expectation in the Huguenot Atlantic" (forthcoming)

"Of Animal History and Human Cruelty in the New England Tradition," *Reviews in American History* 34 (March 2006): 1-11.

"Hidden in Plain Sight: Disappearance and Material Life in Colonial New York," in Luke Beckerdite and William N. Hosley, Jr., eds. *American Furniture 1995* (Hanover, N.H.: University Press of New England, 1995): 191-249.

"Of American Kasten and the Mythology of 'Pure Dutchness'," in Luke Beckerdite, ed. *American Furniture 1993* (Hanover, N.H.: University Press of New England, 1993): 275-83.

"Suggested Prototypes for Faithful Reproductions of Interior Furnishings to be Deployed as Part of a Period Setting in the Structure Currently Called theVoorlezer's House, at Richmondtown, Staten Island, New York," in *The Voorlezer's House Interpretive Conference Report* (Richmondtown, NY: Staten Island Historical Society, 1987).

Edited Works

Co-Editor (with John J. McCusker), of the conference report, *Religion, Popular Culture, and Material Life in the Middle Colonies and the Upper South, 1650-1800* (College Park, Maryland: The Maryland Colloquium on Early American History and Culture, 1990).

Selected Reviews

From New Babylon to Eden: The Huguenots and Their Migration to Colonial South Carolina. By Bertrand Van Ruymbeke. (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2006). JAH, vol 94, No. 1 (June 2007): 250-51

Whitewashing America: Material Culture and Race in the Antebellum Imagination. By Bridget T. Heneghan. (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2003). *The Journal of American History* (March 2005): 1458-59.

Virginia's Children. Cara Sutherland, exhibition curator. Museum of Our National Heritage, October 6, 1991-March 15, 1992. *The Public Historian* 14, No. 3 (Summer 1992): 159-62.

Work-In-Progress

Matter of Politeness: Furnishing Expectation in the Huguenot Atlantic. Book accepted at Johns Hopkins University Press but I have not yet committed to a contract with them.

Book: (Currently Untitled). A study of escape narratives and inquisition transcripts from trials of Huguenot refugees from Aunis-Saintonge France, captured while headed for northern Europe, England, and the New World in the 16th and 17th centuries. I have completed most of the archival work for this project.

Book: (Currently Untitled) on material culture and history.

Selected University Service at UT, Austin, Department of History

Elected to Executive Committee of History Department, 2007-2008

Numerous Search Committees

Web Page Committee 2007-2008 (co-chair with Cynthia Talbot, 2007)

Chair, American History Area, 2003-2005.

Founding Member and Faculty Advisor for The Library Task Force on Material Culture (with Laura Schwartz, head, Fine Arts Library; and Janine Henri, head, Architecture Library), 1996-present.

Graduate Admissions Committee, 1998-2000.

Graduate Program Committee, 1996-98, 2000-2003, 2005-2007

Salary Committee, 1994-96

Budget Council, 1994-95

John Carlton Perry Prize Committee, 1995-96

John T. Ferguson Prize Committee, 1993-94

Professional Public Service

Panel Commentator, Texas Historical Symposium, University of Texas at Austin, 13 October 1995.

Elected member of the Faculty Senate, Brandeis University, 1991-93.

Other Professional Service

Outside Evaluator for scholarship in application of Professor Daniel Marcus, for tenure in Department of History, University of Hawai'i at Manoa, Honolulu, HI 96822, Fall 2004.

Program Committee, Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture National Conference, 1997-99.

N.E.H. Consultant, Yale University Art Gallery, 1998-99. Planning committee and historical focus group for a traveling exhibition and publication (Yale Art Gallery / Skirball Cultural Center, Los Angeles / Winterthur Museum) of the work of *Meyer Meyers, Jewish Silversmith in Colonial New York*, which took place in 2001. David Barquist, Yale University, Project Director and author of a book and catalog of the same name (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2001).

N.E.H. / Rockefeller Foundation / NY State Council on the Arts Consultant for the Historic Hudson Valley Foundation, Tarrytown, NY, 1997-98. One of a committee of historians and museum curators who considered new approaches to "Refurnishing and

Reinterpretation of the Philipsburg Manor Site." This was a 17th-century manor, flour mill, and wharf, also a workplace and domestic environment for as many as 50 enslaved African-Americans, now a historic site.

N.E.H. Consultant, The Staten Island Historical Society, Richmondtown, NY, and participant in the "Voorlezer's House Interpretive Conference" (28-29 January 1987).

Conference Papers and Lectures

Comment, "Material Culture of the Reformation," AHA Washington DC, 4 January 2008 / also American Society of Church History Session 8 / Society for Reformation Research Session 2; Anne T. Thayer, Chair; Papers by Professors Raymond A. Mentzer, Ute Lotz-Heumann, and Andrew Spicer.

Conference paper, "Matter of Politeness: Furniture and Expectation in the Huguenot Atlantic," invited speaker for "Religion and Empire in the Early Modern Atlantic: An International Conference," at the University of Michigan, 28-29 September 2007. This program was under the auspices of the Atlantic Studies Initiative at the University of Michigan.

Conference Paper and Comment, "Tracing the Huguenot Diaspora: On the Relocation of Words and Things," for A.H.A. Panel on "The Huguenot Diaspora," Washington, D.C., 10 January 1999.

Conference Paper, "The Ultimate Gift: Metaphysics and Artisanal Exchange in the Huguenots' New World," delivered at "Out of New Babylon: The Huguenot and their Diaspora," in a session titled "Huguenot Integration in the Colonial Anglo-American World," on Friday, 16 May 1997, at the College of Charleston, Program in the Carolina Lowcountry and the Atlantic World.

Moderator, Plan II Thesis Symposium, University of Texas at Austin, Spring 1994.

Conference Paper, "The Ultimate Gift: Metaphysics and Artisanal Exchange in the 'New World'." A.H.A. Panel on "Gifts, Gratitude, and Reciprocal Exchange in the Pre-Modern European and Atlantic Worlds." Sharon Kettering, Chair; Mario Biagioli, Comment, 7 January 1994.

Conference Paper, "Matter in Motion: Regional Identity, Ethnicity, and the Creolization of Transatlantic Culture in the Seating Furniture of Early New York City, 1517-1715," given at the conference: "Creating a Sense of Place: Regional Diversity and Innovation in Early American Furniture." Keynote: Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, CT, 26 March 1993

Keynote Lecture, "'Like a House without a lock and key': On Religion, Popular Culture, and Material Life in the Middle Colonies and the Upper South, 1650-1800," presented at the conference *Religion, Popular Culture, and Material Life, in the Middle Colonies and*

the Upper South, 1650-1800, at the University of Maryland, College Park, 17 November 1990.

Colloquium Paper, "The New York *Plain* Leather Chair: A Sociology of Form, 1660-1730," at the Washington Area Seminar on Early American History, sponsored by the Maryland Colloquium on Early American History, University of Maryland, College Park, 28 September 1989.

Colloquium Paper, "War and Surete: On the Context of Artisanal Enthusiasm in Saintonge, 1540-1628," presented at Ira Berlin's Brown Bag Seminar, University of Maryland, College Park, 5 April 1989.

Institute Paper, "Bernard Palissy and the 'Art of the Earth': On the Metaphysical Foundations of Huguenot Artisanal Experience in Saintonge and Colonial America," Folger Institute of the Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, D.C., March, 1989.

Invited to La Rochelle, France, to deliver the Inaugural Lecture on "La Ceramique Saintongeais dans le Nouveau Monde," for *Les 4emes Journees Du Livre D'Archeologie*, an international conference on the historical archeology of southwestern France and its New World extensions, Universite de la Rochelle and the Association Archeaunis, 26-28 March 1999 (declined due to scheduling conflict).

Invited to present one of a series of five evening lectures for "The Huguenots: Their Gifts of Splendor—Cultural Contributions of a Refugee People," at the New School of Interior Design, 17 March 1999 (declined due to scheduling conflict).

Courses offered at the University of Texas at Austin

Lower Division Lectures:

History 315K: United States History, 1492-1865
History 317L: United States in the 17th-Century Atlantic World

Upper Division Seminars

History 350L

Coastal Communities: Life Along the Water in Early America

Cultural Pluralism in Early America: Understanding the Middle Colonies

Material Life in Early America: Comparative and Multidisciplinary Approaches

The Seventeenth-Century World: Science, Art, Culture

Graduate Seminars

Nature, Labor, and the Craftsman in the Early Modern Transatlantic World

Germanic Religiosity in the Atlantic World

Literature of US History Before 1865

Outre Mer: The French Transatlantic

Comparative Early Modern European and American History

Material Life in Early America: Comparative and Multidisciplinary Approaches

Comparative Approaches to the Histories of the US and Europe