



Vol. 1, No. 1  
Summer 2018

# The Immigration and Ethnic History Newsletter

## BORDERLANDS IN NORTH AMERICA: A HISTORIOGRAPHICAL ESSAY

By Ashley Johnson Bavery

Borderlands history has emerged as a major historical field over the past two decades. This growing body of scholarship often overlaps with immigration and ethnic history, but instead of focusing on laws passed in Washington or particular ethnic groups, borderlands histories examine how issues, of race, power, labor and violence operate on a real or imagined border. Gloria Anzaldúa's seminal *Borderlands/La Frontera* (1987) claimed that the United States–Mexico border represented “*una herida abierta* [an open wound] where the Third World grates against the first and bleeds. And before a scab forms it hemorrhages again, the lifeblood of the two worlds merging to form a third country—a border culture” (3).<sup>\*</sup> It is in this space between empires or nation-states that borderlands historians ground their investigations, allowing them to place a new focus on unequal power dynamics and racial structures at the local level. In their edited volume, *Bridging National Borders in North America* (2010), historians Benjamin Johnson and Andrew W. Graybill emphasized the importance of new work that can “illuminate the contingency of national histories and provide opportunity for creating stories about the past that transcend both the geographical and conceptual limits inspired by national boundaries” (7). This historiographical essay offers a brief overview of US borderlands history and pays particular attention to recent work that has pushed the conceptual boundaries of what it means to decenter the state in historical inquiry.

The impetus to decenter narratives of the nation-state naturally appealed to scholars of Native American history, who in the 1990s, began to embrace concepts similar to those of borderlands scholars in their investigations of complex power dynamics among tribes, settlers, and empires. In 1991, Native American historian Richard White imagined a “middle ground” as something of a borderland in the Great Lakes region, where Native Americans, French, and British settlers traded and negotiated power on an equal footing (*Middle Ground: Indians, Empires, and Republics in the Great Lakes Region*). Without explicitly

discussing “borderlands,” historians of Native American history including Matthew Dennis, Daniel Richter, Ramón Gutiérrez, and Colin Calloway investigated the boundaries and borders between tribes and settler nations as a way to return voice and agency to Native peoples. When historians began using the term “borderlands” to investigate spaces where nations and people clashed over real or imagined boundaries in the early 2000s, Native American historians easily adopted the terminology and began to redefine the field with analyses of Indians, nationhood, and power. James F. Brooks's *Captives & Cousins: Slavery, Kinship, and Community in the Southwest Borderlands* (2002), Alan Taylor's *The Divided Ground: Indians, Settlers, and the Northern Borderland of the American Revolution* (2006), and Ned Blackhawk's *Violence Over the Land: Indians and Empires in the Early American West* (2007) all used a borderlands framework to demonstrate how Native Americans and Spanish, French, and British authorities and settlers negotiated over land and power. Juliana Barr's *Peace Came in the Form of a Woman: Indians and Spaniards in the Texas Borderlands* (2007) used gender as a lens through which to view the interethnic tensions developing in the eighteenth-century Texas borderlands. Ultimately, a borderlands framework brought these scholars of the Great Plains, Great Basin, and Great Lakes together in a single methodological framework.

Historians investigating the shift from imperial occupation to the emergence of nation-states in the second half of the nineteenth century in the area known as the US Southwest also began using the term “borderlands” to frame their studies. In their important yet controversial 1991 article for the *American Historical Review*, “From Borderlands to Borders: Empires, Nation-States, and the Peoples in Between in North American History,” Jeremy Adelman and Stephen Aron posited that as imperial rivalries ceded to

<sup>\*</sup> For a complete bibliography, see the IEHS blog at <https://iehs.org/category/blog/>.

## From the IEHS President



Our annual meeting at the 2018 OAH in Sacramento set the stage for several major transitions. Maria Cristina Garcia, our accomplished and dedicated president for the past three years, has handed over the reins to me. I will endeavor to continue building on her significant work in leading IEHS into the twenty-first century.

Among her many accomplishments as president, Maria Cristina presided over three sets of IEHS meetings held in conjunction with the OAH at Sacramento, New Orleans, and Providence, featuring the awarding of the established Saloutos book awards, Qualey article award, Pozzetta graduate research awards, and dissertation prizes. In addition, IEHS added a book award for first books and reinvigorated the awarding of lifetime service and lifetime achievement honors. The Sacramento meetings were particularly successful with the Dessert-Before-Dinner reception welcoming 80 guests and the banquet reaching an unprecedented 55 attendees, who witnessed the honoring of Donna Gabacia and Vicki Ruiz for Lifetime Achievement, and Betty Berglund and Cheryl Greenberg for Service. Last but not least, the board surprised Maria Cristina with a plaque thanking her for her three-years of scrupulous leadership.

Maria Cristina represented IEHS in collaborative projects with our key institutional partner, the Immigration History Research Center (IHRC) at the University of Minnesota. The organizations co-organized the 2015 conference “Immigrant America: New Immigration Histories from 1965 to the Present” commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1965 Hart-Celler Act and arranged a permanent home for the IEHS archives at the IHRC.

Several key officers have changed: Suzanne Sinke serves as the new *JAEH* editor, Alison Efford as newsletter editor, and Tyler Anbinder as treasurer. In the last capacity, Tyler chairs the finance committee that has begun investing IEHS reserves in a range of socially responsible funds. Last but not least, IEHS has added a Digital Humanities Officer position to expand and coordinate IEHS’s social media outreach, website, and digital humanities programs. IEHS has a growing following on Facebook and Twitter, fostered by a regular flow of blog posts, fed in part by a graduate student blog competition.

Maria Cristina has left in place a great team, including Tim Draper who continues to serve as secretary and six stand-

ing board members. Together with new vice-president/president-elect Kevin Kenny, and incoming board members Matthew Garcia, Beth Lew-Williams, and Ellen Wu, we will work to continue expanding IEHS’s membership and partnerships with like organizations to advance scholarship and understanding of immigration and ethnic communities. Some strategies including working with the SSHA, WHA, AAAS, and others, expanding our social media outreach, and using our website more extensively to host more services and resources for members and digital humanities projects.

I am developing one such project with a subcommittee of IEHS members—teaching modules on immigration history intended for use by high school teachers of US history and civics courses that provide nuanced and historically accurate curriculum. We are developing a chronology of key events, laws, and rulings regarding US immigration, expansion, and citizenship that will be organized into thematic categories such as Asian immigration, labor, citizenship, family reunification, and institution building as the basis for week-long units that can be dropped into regular class schedules. We are hoping to launch the chronologies and teaching modules in July 2018.

Last but not least, my thanks go to officers and committee members who have fulfilled their terms of service or are moving into new positions: three departing board members Carl Blanton, Maddalena Marinari, and Lucy Salyer; our first Digital Humanities Officer Nicholas Molnar; Timothy Meagher and Anna-Pegler-Gordon of the Saloutos Book Award Committee; John Bodnar and Rosemarie Zagarrri of the nominating committee; and Melanie Shell-Weiss and Carl Lindskoog of the Dissertation Award Committee. Your work has both sustained and enriched the IEHS.

Madeline Y. Hsu



## IEHS Awards

### Lifetime Achievement Awards

Vicki L. Ruiz, University of California, Irvine  
Donna Gabaccia, University of Toronto



### Distinguished Service Awards

Betty Bergland, University of Wisconsin – River Falls  
Cheryl Greenberg, Trinity College

### Theodore Saloutos Book Award

S. Deborah Kang, *The INS on the Line: Making Immigration Law on the U.S.–Mexico Border, 1917-1954* (Oxford University Press, 2017).

### First Book Award

Hidetaka Hirota, *Expelling the Poor: Atlantic Seaboard States and the Nineteenth-Century Origins of American Immigration Policy* (Oxford University Press, 2016).

### Outstanding Dissertation Award (2017)

Sarah R. Coleman, *Redefining American: The Shifting Politics of Immigration at the End of the Twentieth Century* (Princeton University, 2016).

### Outstanding Dissertation Award (2018)

Bernadette Jeanne Pérez, *Before the Sun Rises: Contesting Power and Cultivating Nations in the Colorado Beet Fields* (University of Minnesota, 2017).

### George E. Pozzetta Dissertation Awards

Philip D. Erenrich (Syracuse University), “The Assumption of Identity: the Exclusion and Deportation of ‘Gypsy’ Immigrants from the US, 1891-1932.”

Yukako Otori (Harvard University), “Disposable Subjects: Child Migration, International Law, and U.S. Immigration Policy, 1882-1929.”



## In Memoriam: Bernard “Ben” Maegi (1934-2017)

Bernard “Ben” Maegi, an historian of American immigration and race, died on March 7, 2018. His death, at the age of 49, came very suddenly. He was a highly respected and innovative history professor who taught at Normandale Community College in Bloomington, Minnesota for nearly two decades.

Maegi earned his BA in political science at Carleton College (1991) in Northfield, Minnesota, where he studied with the late Roy Grow, an international relations scholar specializing in Chinese politics. After marrying his best friend Julie (Litwiller) Maegi in 1992, he began exploring an academic career. Eventually, he enrolled in the Master’s Program in History at the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee to work with the late Victor R. Greene, one of the pioneers of American immigration history who catalyzed the project of bottom-up history in the 1970s and 1980s.

Maegi’s turn to the study of American immigrants’ pasts was an intellectual quest as well as a personal journey. From the very beginning, he was interested in placing the experience of “Displaced Persons” (DPs) into the existing annals of American immigration. DPs were refugees from Europe who were admitted to the United States after President Harry Truman signed the 1948 Displaced Persons Act. They were Poles, Jews, Ukrainians, Latvians, Lithuanians, and Estonians fleeing the expanding Soviet empire and still palpable anti-Semitism in the aftermath of a total war. Maegi’s parents were DPs, his father from Estonia and his mother from Silesia, a region in Germany ceded to Poland at the end of the war. They resettled in Minnesota in the after living through occupation, war, violence, and displacement. Although they participated in the diaspora, he knew little about the intricacies of their history.

After completing his MA in 1996, Maegi moved back home. He joined the PhD program in history at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, where the late Rudolph J. Vecoli headed the Immigration History Research Center (IHRC). By then, Minnesota’s IHRC had become an internationally recognized place for a new generation of historians of American immigration to study the history of ethnicity and migration. At the time of his arrival, Minnesota’s Department of American Studies, chaired by David R. Roediger, the historian of labor and race, was changing as well, attracting a group of students who were self-

**(MAEGI continued from page 3)**

consciously advancing critical race studies, feminist studies, gender and sexuality studies, transnational and diasporic studies, and the study of Marxism. Maegi achieved intellectual maturity at the crossroads of Vecoli and Roediger's schools of thought.

Twelve years later, in 2008, Maegi completed the dissertation titled "Dangerous Persons, Delayed Pilgrims: Baltic Displaced Persons and the Making of Cold War America, 1945-1952." His advisor had changed from Vecoli (who died on June 17, 2008) to Donna Gabaccia, the leading scholar of global migration, gender studies, and the Italian diaspora. Maegi's dissertation was a careful study of a strange career of DPs in midcentury. Throughout the early twentieth century, immigrants from southern and eastern Europe, including those from Baltic states, were hardly "desirable" and not conclusively white. They were positioned somewhere between the black-and-white binary that was enmeshed in a set of complex power relations in American life and politics. Aptly, David Roediger and James Barrett called these immigrants "inbetween peoples." Maegi argued that exigencies of the Second World War, followed by the early Cold War, upended how they were perceived and their status. American democracy, presented as a counter-force to racism, Nazism, anti-Semitism, and Communism, engendered a whole new political meaning for Baltic DPs. They had come to be viewed as "delayed Pilgrims," he argued, new refugees welcomed into the nation of immigrants ready to inhabit the Anglo-Saxon Nordic race house alongside children of European immigrants who had become conclusively white. His writing captured this strangeness of race-making with much depth and nuance.

Most recently, Maegi's intellectual and personal lives came full circle when, for six months in 2016, he returned to his father's homeland of Estonia as a Fulbright scholar, to teach global history at the University of Tartu. His pedagogy was anything but ordinary. It used simulation games set in the past, whereby students assumed and performed the roles of historical agents to dramatize the politics of key moments and the dynamics of turning points in history. This curriculum was derived from the project called *Reacting to the Past*, the brainchild of Barnard College history professor Mark C. Carnes. A decade ago, Maegi participated in the intensive summer faculty workshop at Barnard College and thereafter perfected this pedagogy at Normandale before taking it across the Atlantic. When he came to New York in 2006, I was teaching at Borough of Manhattan Community College of The City University of

New York. We rekindled our friendship. Always shared between us, albeit never acknowledged, was this immanent sensibility that the affirmation of diasporic identities helped us move closer to home. I will be honest. His unexpected death hit me very hard. My heart aches for his family. He was survived by his wife Julie, his children Kalju, Rein, and Ella, his brothers Ralph (Linda) and Vello, his sister Silvi, and many nieces and nephews.

Yuichiro Onishi  
Associate Professor  
African American & African Studies/  
Asian American Studies  
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

## New Publications Noted

**Benton-Cohen, Katherine.** *Inventing the Immigration Problem: The Dillingham Commission and Its Legacy.* Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2018.

**Bihler, Lori.** *Cities of Refuge: German Jews in London and New York, 1935-1945.* Albany: State University of New York Press, 2018.

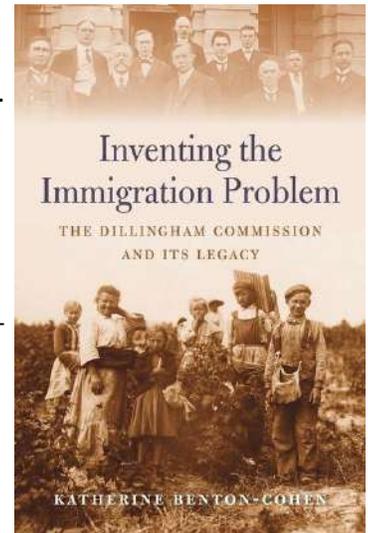
**Chávez-García, Miroslava.** *Migrant Longing: Letter Writing Across the US-Mexico Borderlands.* Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2018.

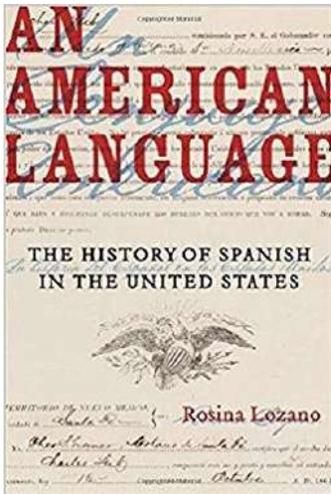
**Diner, Hasia, Sonia Hernández, Benjamin H. Johnson, Julian Lim, Maddalena Marinari, and Elliott Young.** "A Shadow on the Past: Teaching and Studying Migration and Borders in the Age of Trump." *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era* 17 (2018): 23-55.

**Garland, Libby.** *After they Closed the Gates: Jewish Illegal Immigration to the United States, 1921-1965.* Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2018.

**Gelo, Daniel J. and Christopher J. Wickham.** *Comanches and Germans on the Texas Frontier: The Ethnology of Heinrich Berghaus.* Texas A & M University Press, 2018.

**Hübner, Andreas.** *Die Côte des Allemands: eine Migrationsgeschichte im Louisiana des 18. Jahrhunderts.* Bielefeld: Transcript, 2017.





**Inouye, Daniel H.** *Distant Islands: The Japanese American Community in New York City, 1876-1930.* Boulder: University Press of Colorado, 2018.

**Kaloudis, George S.** *Modern Greece and the Diaspora Greeks in the United States.* Lanham Lexington Books, 2018.

**Loyd, Jenna M. and Alison Mountz.** *Boats, Borders, and Bases: Race, the Cold War, and the Rise of Migration Detention in the United States.* Oakland: University of California Press, 2018.

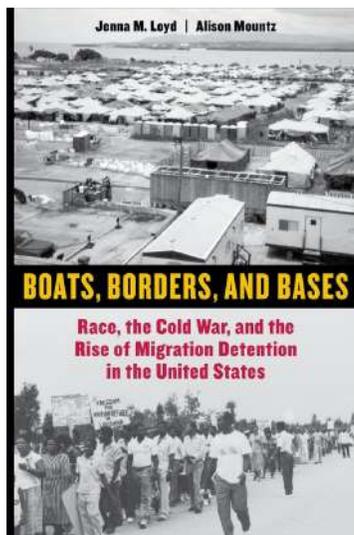
**Lozano, Rosina.** *An American Language: The History of Spanish in the United States.* Oakland: University of California Press, 2018.

**Mannion, Patrick.** *Land of Dreams: Ethnicity, Nationalism, and the Irish in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and Maine, 1880-1923.* Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2018.

**McCarthy, Tara M.** *Respectability and Reform: Irish American Women's Activism, 1880-1920.* Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 2018.

**Minian, Ana Raquel.** *Undocumented Lives: The Untold Story of Mexican Migration.* Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2018.

**Murray, Damien.** *Irish Nationalists in Boston: Catholicism and Conflict, 1900-1928.* Washington, D.C.: Catholic University of America Press, 2018.



**Pérez, Lizandro.** *Sugar, Cigars, and Revolution: The Making of Cuban New York.* New York: New York University Press, 2018.

**Perlmann, Joel.** *America Classifies the Immigrants: From Ellis Island to the 2020 Census.* Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2018.

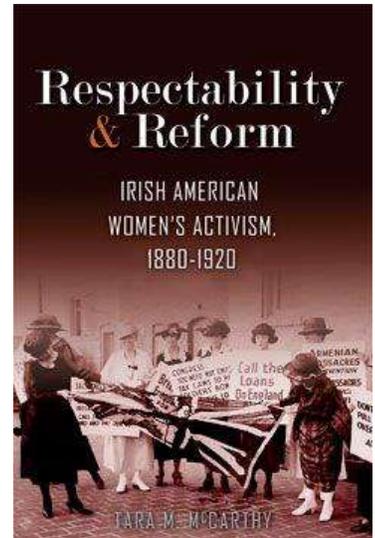
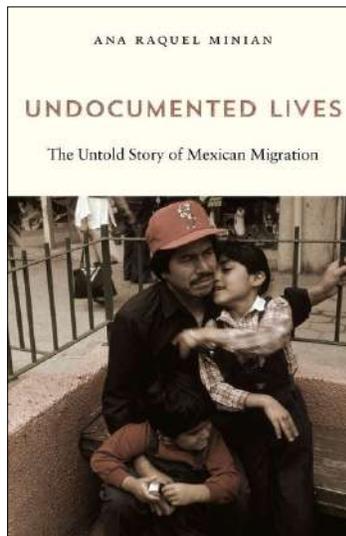
**Rensink, Brenden W.** *Native but Foreign: Indigenous Immigrants and Refugees in the North American Border-*

*lands.* College Station: Texas A & M University Press, 2018.

**Roseblatt, Karin Alejandra.** *The Science and Politics of Race in Mexico and the United States, 1910-1950.* Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2018.

**Sadowski-Smith, Claudia.** *The New Immigrant Whiteness: Race, Neoliberalism, and Post-Soviet Migration to the United States.* New York: New York University Press, 2018.

**Sanders, James W.** *Irish vs. Yankees: A Social History of the Boston Schools.* New York: Oxford University Press, 2018.



**Uraneck, Madeline.** *How to Make a Life: A Tibetan Refugee Family and the Midwestern Woman They Adopted.* Madison: Wisconsin Historical Society, 2018.

**Zimmer, Kenyon, and Cristina Salinas, eds.** *Deportation in the Americas: Histories of Exclusion and Resistance.* College Station: Texas A & M University Press, 2018.

**Zucchi, John.** *Mad Flight?: The Quebec Emigration to the Coffee Plantations of Brazil.* McGill-Queen's University Press, 2018.



**(BORDERLANDS continued from page 1)**

nation-states in North America, “borderlands” defined by fluid movement and interracial mixing gave way to “bordered lands” defined by a world in which “property rights, citizenship, and population movements became the purview of state authorities” (837). In response, a cohort of nineteenth-century historians set out to demonstrate that fluid borderlands still offered a useful category to analyze the region spanning northern Mexico and the southwestern United States. Pekka Hämäläinen’s boldly argued *Comanche Empire* (2008) and Brian Delay’s *War of a Thousand Deserts: Indian Raids and the U.S.–Mexican War* (2009) demonstrated how the Indian nations used violence to maintain power amongst themselves and to dominate Spanish colonists and terrorize American colonizers in ways that, Hämäläinen noted, kept the region’s borders “fluid and malleable” (4).

While these scholars of empire investigated places of cross-border exchange and fluidity, historians of the periods surrounding US–Mexican War sought to shed light on how an international boundary line shaped the Southwest. Samuel Truett argued that this boundary became etched into the physical landscape itself in *Fugitive Landscapes: The Forgotten History of the U.S.–Mexico Borderlands* (2006), while in Anthony Mora’s straightforward borderland history, *Border Dilemmas: Racial and National Uncertainties in New Mexico, 1848–1912* (2011) the international border crossed inhabitants in the towns of Las Cruces and La Mesilla, as international treaties and negotiations turned residents from Mexican to American to Mexican. Katherine Benton-Cohen’s 2009 study, *Borderline Americans: Racial Division and Labor War in the Arizona Borderlands*, brought gender to this historiography with a study that explored how in Cochise County, diverse residents grappled over racial identity and acceptance as Americans. Anne Martinez’s *Catholic Borderlands: Mapping Catholicism onto American Empire* (2014) investigated the Catholic Church’s role in proselytizing across borders in its attempt to establish a hemispheric Catholic identity. And most recently, in *Porous Borders: Multiracial Migrations and the Law in the U.S.–Mexico Borderlands* (2017), Julian Lim highlighted the role of the railroad in bringing Anglo, Mexican, Chinese, and African American migrants to the US–Mexican borderlands after 1848, transforming the region into a transnational economic center. Ultimately, these scholars challenge the suggestion in Adelman and Aron’s 1991 *AHR* article that nation-states turned borderlands into “bordered lands” by emphasizing the ways local actors continued to contest boundaries and maintain spac-

es of cultural and economic exchange on the US–Mexico line.

Rather than porous borders, scholars of the twentieth-century United States–Mexico border have tended to emphasize issues of violence, smuggling, policing, and exploitation on America’s southern boundary. For instance, in *A Line in the Sand: A History of the Western U.S.–Mexico Border* (2011) Rachel St. John argued that giving a meaningless line power demanded a tremendous bureaucratic commitment from the US and Mexican states. And in many cases this early system of policing failed. Yet as both Benjamin Johnson and Michael Antonio Levario noted in their respective books, *Revolution in Texas: How a Forgotten Rebellion and Its Bloody Suppression Turned Mexicans Into Americans* (2005) and *Militarizing the Border: When Mexicans Became the Enemy* (2012), violence, not bureaucracy, defined the lives of Anglo migrants, Tejanos, and Mexicans after the United States and Mexico negotiated firm borders and took territory from each side.

The hardening of America’s international boundaries between World War I and World War II created new opportunities for smuggling and exploitation. This topic has been explored by immigration historians whose work foregrounds and overlaps with later borderlands scholarship. Erika Lee’s immigration classic *At America’s Gates: Chinese Immigration during the Exclusion Era, 1882–1943* (2003) traced the illicit routes of Chinese migrants crossing both America’s northern and southern borders. More recently, Elliot Young’s *Alien Nation: Chinese Migration in the Americas from the Coolie Era through World War II* (2016) brought the insights of borderlands scholarship to bear on the lives of those Chinese migrants, who occupied a space between black and white in nineteenth and twentieth-century American society. In the field of immigration, Mae Ngai’s seminal *Impossible Subjects: Illegal Aliens and the Making of Modern America* (2004) explored how smuggling, deportation, and the rise of the Bracero Program defined non-white migrants as “illegal aliens.” Soon some scholars began to focus on the Bracero Program specifically, beginning with Kitty Calavita’s classic *Inside the State: The Bracero Program, Immigration, and the I.N.S.* (1992), which demonstrated that the Bracero Program increased illicit migration to the United States. In the last several years, borderlands scholarship like Deborah Cohen’s *Braceros: Migrant Citizens and Transnational Subjects in the Postwar United States and Mexico* (2013), Mireya Loza’s *Defiant Braceros: How Migrant Workers Fought for Racial, Sexual, and Political Freedom* (2016) and Erasmo Gamboa’s *Bracero Railroaders the Forgotten World War II Story of Mexican Workers in the U.S. West* (2016) have all

sought to redefine what it meant to be a Bracero worker. Finally, John Weber's *From South Texas to the Nation: The Exploitation of Mexican Labor in the Twentieth Century* (2015) investigated Texas, a state that received no Braceros due to segregation laws and instead built an exploitative system on the backs of Mexican laborers and justified it with systematic racism.

Beyond economic exploitation and smuggling, recent work on borderland has focused tremendous attention on the problems of policing along the United States–Mexico divide. Patrick Ettinger's *Imaginary Lines: Border Enforcement and the Origins of Undocumented Immigration, 1882–1930* (2009) examined how militarizing the southwest border helped define the lives of undocumented workers. In *Migra!: A History of the U.S. Border Patrol* (2010), Kelly Lytle Hernandez offered the first history of the border enforcement agency, while S. Deborah Kang's *INS on the Line: Making Immigration Law on the U.S.–Mexico Border, 1917–1954* (2017) explored the Departments of Labor and Justice's roles in monitoring and apprehending border crossers. A group of recent scholars, however, have returned to the themes of cross-cultural exchange that characterized histories of the nineteenth century and applied them to postwar America. Geraldo Cadava's *Standing on Common Ground: The Making of a Sunbelt Borderland* (2013) investigated how inhabitants of the Tucson, Arizona–Sonora borderland relied on cultural and economic exchange well into the 1980s, while Jenifer Najera's *Borderlands of Race: Mexican Segregation in a South Texas Town* (2015) uncovered how the boundaries set in place by segregation laws on the Texas–Mexico border depended on class, occupation, wealth, and skin color. Indeed, scholars of the later twentieth-century have begun to reinvestigate the contemporary United States–Texas borderland as a site for exchange and fluidity between cultures and peoples.

The majority of borderland scholarship has focused on the Southwest and the United States–Mexico divide, but this paradigm is changing, and scholars are beginning to apply the insights of borderlands frameworks to the United States–Canada boundary. Andrew Graybill's *Policing the Great Plains: Rangers, Mounties, and the North American Frontier* (2007) offered a history of the Canadian Mounted Police, while Bruno Ramirez's *Crossing the 49th Parallel: Migration from Canada to the United States* (2001) took up issues of Anglo migration from Canada to the United States. In an effort to introduce America's "other" border to a wider audience, Sterling Evans edited an entire volume entitled *The Borderlands of the American and Canadian Wests: Essays on the Regional History of the 49th Parallel* (2008), which explored border crossing in the north.

Working beyond the United States–Canada divide, Kornell Chang's insightful *Pacific Connections: The Making of the U.S.–Canadian Borderlands* (2012) challenged traditional narratives of border crossing with a treatment of Chinese migration between the United States, Canada, and the wider British Empire. And bringing the study of borderlands to America's industrial core, Holly Karibo's *Sin City North: Sex, Drugs, and Citizenship in the Detroit–Windsor Borderland* (2015) investigated smuggling and gender dynamics on the United States–Canada divide. Over the next decade, scholars will surely continue their investigations into America's northern borderland, applying the insights of a robust literature on the Southwest to questions about the environment, native peoples, and policing in the industrial North.

In the coming years, borderlands studies will continue to expand and add nuance to narratives of nation-states. Universities regularly advertise jobs in "US Borderlands," journals such as the *Western Historical Quarterly*, *Pacific Historical Review*, and *Journal of Borderlands Studies* publish regular articles from the field. Berkeley University Press, the University of Texas Press, and Yale's Lamar Series in Western History have published a number of the aforementioned studies, while the University of North Carolina Press has devoted an entire series to the topic, the David J. Weber Series in the New Borderlands History. The "Borderlands and Latino/a Studies Seminar" at the Newberry Library in Chicago brings scholars together in monthly discussions of dynamic new work in the field and also sponsors a summer seminar entitled "Bridging National Borders in North America." Moreover, the Clements Center for Southwest Studies at Southern Methodist University funds postdoctoral fellowships and research initiatives. Ultimately, in our climate of increased anxiety over border walls and deportation raids, interest in the study of borders and borderlands in North America will only become more timely and relevant. The scholars shaping this exciting and relatively young field will continue to find themselves at the intersection of historical inquiry and contemporary politics.



**Ashley Johnson Bavery**, an assistant professor at Eastern Michigan University, is author of "Crashing America's Back Gate: Illegal Europeans, Policing, and Welfare in Detroit, 1921–1939," *Journal of Urban History* 44 (2018): 239–61. Her book, *Destination Detroit: Immigration Politics on America's Northern Borderland*, is under contract with the University of Pennsylvania Press.

# The Immigration and Ethnic History Newsletter

Edited by Alison Clark Efford  
Department of History  
Marquette University  
PO Box 1881  
Milwaukee, WI 53201-1881



**Vol. L, No. 1**  
**Summer 2018**

For more updates from IEHS, visit <http://iehs.org/>, follow @IEHS1965 on Twitter, or “like” <https://www.facebook.com/IEHSPage/>.

## Inside This Issue

Borderlands Historiography  
by Ashley Johnson Bavery

From the IEHS President  
IEHS Awards

In Memoriam: Bernard Maegi  
by Yuichiro Onishi

New Publications Noted

Special thanks to Jolene Kreisler and Lisa Lamson  
for their help with this issue.



**New Publications? Awards? Conferences  
planned? Research projects? Let us know! Email  
details to [newsletter@iehs.org](mailto:newsletter@iehs.org) or use the news-  
letter's return address.**

## Membership

1 All rates include membership in the Immigration and Ethnic Histo-  
2 ry Society, the quarterly *Journal of American Ethnic History*, and  
3 the biannual *Immigration and Ethnic History Newsletter*.

### 3 **Individuals (1 Year):**

3 Print or online: \$45; Both: \$55

### 4 **Students (1 Year):**

4 Print or online: \$25; Both: \$35

### **Institutions (1 Year):**

Print or online: \$257; Both: \$310

Non-U.S. postage (Canada/Mexico): + \$10

Other non-U.S. locations: + \$35

### **Single Issues of the JAEH:**

Individuals: \$20; Institutions: \$50

### **Back Issues of the IEHS Newsletter:**

Digital copies available at <http://iehs.org/> (no cost to access)

Email change of address to Cheyl Jestis, Subscription Manager, at  
[jestis@uillinois.edu](mailto:jestis@uillinois.edu) (specify JAEH) or update information directly  
at <https://www.press.uillinois.edu/journals/jaeh.html>.