

## SUSAN EVA O'DONOVAN

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### Education:

- Doctor of Philosophy in History, University of California, San Diego, 1997
- Master of Arts in History, University of California, San Diego, 1990
- Bachelor of Arts in History, University of California, San Diego, 1987 (summa cum laude)

### Professional Appointments:

- Associate Professor, History and African & African American Studies, Harvard University, 2005 to the present
- Assistant Professor, History and African & African American Studies, Harvard University, 2001 to 2005
- Associate Editor, Freedmen and Southern Society Project, University of Maryland, College Park, 1996 to 2001
- Assistant Editor, Freedmen and Southern Society Project, University of Maryland, College Park, 1993 to 1996
- Lecturer, University of Maryland, College Park, 1997 to 2000
- Teaching Assistant, University of California, San Diego, 1988 to 1990

### Books:

- *Becoming Free in the Cotton South* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2007)
- *Freedom: A Documentary History of Emancipation, 1861-1867*, ser. 3, vol. 1, *Land and Labor, 1865* (Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina Press, forthcoming fall 2007), with Steven Hahn, Steven F. Miller, John C. Rodrigue, and Leslie S. Rowland
- *Freedom: A Documentary History of Emancipation, 1861-1867*, ser. 3, vol. 2, *Land and Labor, 1866-1867* (Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina Press, under contract), with Anthony E. Kaye, Steven F. Miller, Leslie S. Rowland, and Stephen A. West

### Articles and Review Essays:

- "Traded Babies: African American Children and the Domestic Migration of Slaves, 1820-1860," in *Children in Slavery*, vol. 2, *Child Slaves in the Modern World*, ed. Gwyn Campbell, Suzanne Miers, and Joseph C. Miller (Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press, forthcoming 2008)
- "War, Slavery, and Lessons from our Past: David Williams's *Rich Man's War: Class, Caste, and Confederate Defeat in the Lower Chattahoochee Valley*," *Journal of Southwest Georgia History* 14 (Fall 1999): 46-57
- "The Journal of Nelson Tift," *Journal of Southwest Georgia History* 12 (Fall 1997): 65-77; 11 (Fall 1996): 82-102; 10 (Fall 1995): 67-84; 8 (Fall 1993): 47-69; 7 (1989-1992): 81-106; 6 (Fall 1988): 21-40; 5 (Fall 1987): 64-75
- "Between Emancipation and Enfranchisement: Law and the Political Mobilization of Black Southerners, 1865-1867," *Chicago-Kent Law Review* 70: 3 (1995): 1059-77, with Steven F. Miller, John C. Rodrigue, and Leslie S. Rowland

- “Philip Joiner: Southwest Georgia Black Republican Leader,” *Journal of Southwest Georgia History* 4 (Fall 1986): 56-71

#### Other Publications:

- “Philip Joiner,” *The African American Biography*, ed. Henry Louis Gates Jr. and Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham (New York: Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2008)
- “Emancipation,” *The New Georgia Encyclopedia*, ed. John C. Inscoe (Athens, Ga.: University of Georgia Press, 2003)
- “Nelson Tift,” *The New Georgia Encyclopedia*, ed. John C. Inscoe (Athens, Ga.: University of Georgia Press, 2002)
- “Rights and Responsibilities in History: African Americans and Visions of Freedom,” *Rights and Responsibilities in History: National History Day 2003*, ed. Beatriz Hardy (College Park, Md.: National History Day, 2002), pp. 49-54
- “What’s New in Teaching the Past: The National History Day Summer Institute,” *Organization of American Historians Newsletter* 27 (November 1999), with Cathy Gorn

#### Work in Progress:

- “Trunk Lines, Land Lines, and Local Exchanges: Operationalizing the ‘Grapevine Telegraph,’” an article-length essay exploring the mechanisms and infrastructure of the discursive systems made by slaves in the antebellum America
- *Slaves and the Politics of Disunion*, a book length study of slaves and the manner and extent to which they both monitored and manipulated the secession debate
- *After Slavery: Race, Labour, and Politics in the Post-Emancipation Carolinas*, a collaborative-research initiative that brings together scholars from Ireland, Britain, and the United States in a multi-year project designed to advance our understanding of black people’s experiences as citizens and workers in the decades following Civil War and Reconstruction

#### Conference Presentations:

- Commentator, “Legitimate and Illegitimate Commerce: Slave Speculation and the Second Middle Passage,” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, March 2007
- Presenter, “Domesticating Free Labor: Black Women, Slavery, and Emancipation in the United State’s Cotton South,” African Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, November 2006
- Presenter, “Trunk Lines, Land Lines, and Local Exchanges: Operationalizing the ‘Grapevine Telegraph’ in the Antebellum United States,” University of Nottingham, Institute for the Study of Slavery conference, “Slavery, Citizenship, and the State,” Nottingham, U. K., September 2006
- Presenter, “Making Slavery’s Cotton: Refashioning Self on the Southern Frontier of the United States,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, January 2006
- Presenter, “Black Women and the Domestication of Free Labor: The Legacies of Slavery in a Cotton Community,” International Conference on Slave Systems: Ancient and Modern, Centre for the Study of Human Settlement and Historical Change, National University of Ireland, Galway, November 2004
- Commentator, “Gender and Political Mobilization from Reconstruction to the Black Freedom Struggle,” Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting, Memphis, November 2004
- Presenter, “State of the Field: African American History,” Organization of American Historians Southern Regional Conference, Atlanta, July 2004

- Commentator, “Race, Slavery, and Emancipation in the Ohio Valley,” Filson Institute for the Advanced Study of Kentucky, the Ohio Valley, and the Upper South Spring 2003 Academic Conference, “Constructing and Reconstructing a Region: 21st-Century Approaches to the Ohio Valley’s History,” Louisville, May 2003
- Presenter, “Making Cotton, Making State: Black Men, Black Women, and ‘the Law,’” Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore, November 2002
- Presenter, “Making Cotton, Making Gender: Black Men, Black Women, and the Legacies of Slavery in the USA,” University of Nottingham, Institute for the Study of Slavery conference, “5000 Years of Slavery,” Nottingham, U.K., September 2002
- Presenter (and session organizer), “Black Men, Women, and Work: Slavery and Free Labor in Southwest Georgia,” at the 22nd Annual North American Labor History Conference, Detroit, October 2000
- Presenter (and session organizer), “The Shadows of Slavery: Working Out Freedom in Southwest Georgia,” at the Georgia Association of Historians Annual Meeting, Savannah, April 1999
- Presenter, “Organizing Free Labor: Work and Politics in Southwest Georgia, 1865-1868,” Department of History Graduate Colloquium, University of Maryland, College Park, March 1995
- Presenter, “Free Labor and African American Households: Reconstruction in Southwest Georgia, 1865-1868,” at the Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Atlanta, April 1994
- Presenter, “Cotton, Labor, and the Household: Changing Relations of Production in Post-Emancipation Southwest Georgia,” at the Joint Annual Meeting of the Georgia Political Science Association and the Georgia Association of Historians, Savannah, February 1992
- Presenter, “Creation of Community on the Southern Frontier: The Land Settlement Process in Dougherty County, Georgia, 1820-1860,” at the Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., November 1989
- Presenter, “Philip Joiner: Southwest Georgia Black Republican Leader,” at the Southern Conference of Afro-American Studies Annual Meeting, Atlanta, February 1986

#### **Invited Lectures:**

- “Becoming Free in the Cotton South,” National Archives and Records Administration, Washington D.C., February 2007
- “Operationalizing the Grapevine Telegraph: Trunk Lines, Land Lines, and Local Exchanges,” The Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition, Yale University, December 2006
- “Making Slavery’s Cotton: Refashioning Self on the Southern Frontier,” History Research Seminar, Queen’s University, Belfast, Northern Ireland, U.K., October 2006
- “Making Slavery’s Cotton: Refashioning Self on the Southern Frontier,” Department of African American Studies, Boston University, January 2006
- “Making Slavery’s Cotton: Refashioning Self on the Southern Frontier,” W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Studies, Harvard University, February 2005
- “Making Slavery’s Cotton: Refashioning Self on the Southern Frontier,” Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois, October 2004
- Presenter, “Making Cotton, Making Gender in Georgia’s Antebellum Southwest,” Program in Agrarian Studies, Yale University, April 2004
- “Black Women and the Domestication of Free Labor in the Cotton South,” Fairfield University, Fairfield, Connecticut, February 2004

### **Fellowships, Awards, and Commendations:**

- Harvard Faculty Aide Program Award, Spring 2007
- Research Fellow, The Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, & Abolition, Yale University, September to December 2006
- Co-recipient, British Arts and Humanities Research Council, Research Grant, June 2006
- Outstanding Undergraduate Advising. Letter of Commendation from FAS Social Sciences Dean, January 2006
- Harvard Committee on Undergraduate Education (CUE) Overall Professor Rating of 5.0 for “Topics in African American History.” Letter of Commendation from FAS Social Sciences Dean, August 2005
- Harvard Committee on Undergraduate Education (CUE) Overall Professor Rating of 5.0 for “African American History from the Slave Trade to 1900.” Letter of Commendation from FAS Social Sciences Dean, April 2005
- Postdoctoral Fellow, Program in Agrarian Studies, Yale University, September 2003 to May 2004
- Clark/Cooke Fund Travel and Research Award, Harvard University, 2002
- Dissertation Fellowships, Department of History, University of California, San Diego, 1990 and 1992
- University of California Regents Fellowship, 1987

### **Lecture Courses Taught:**

- “African American History from the Slave Trade to 1900,” web link: <<http://www.courses.fas.harvard.edu/~afam118>>
- “The American Civil War: Waging a War in History and in Memory,” web link: <<http://www.courses.fas.harvard.edu/~hist1625/?redirect=no>>
- “Civil War and the Rise of Industrialism, 1860-1900”
- “The History of the Old South”

### **Seminars and Tutorials Taught:**

- “African Americans in the Civil War Era”
- “Black Women in Slavery and Freedom”
- “Harvard University, Department of History, Sophomore Tutorial”
- “Major Themes in American Historical Writing”
- “New Approaches to Teaching the Civil War Era”
- “Race and Class in the Post-Civil War South”
- “Readings in Nineteenth-Century American Political Economy”
- “Readings in Nineteenth-Century Black Political Economy”
- “Readings in the History of Slavery”
- “The Civil Rights Movement, 1865-1975”
- “Topics in Afro-American History”

### **Teachers’ Workshops, Round Tables, and other Public Presentations:**

- Book Talk, *Becoming Free in the Cotton South*, Harvard Bookstore, Cambridge, Massachusetts, April 2007
- “The Many Meanings of Freedom,” *Journeys to Freedom* Seminar Series, Primary Source, Watertown, Massachusetts, December 2006

- “The Worlds Slaves Made,” Teaching American History, Area Cooperative Educational Services, North Haven, Connecticut, November 2006
- Director and Presenter, “Teaching Slavery, Teaching Freedom,” Teachers’ Workshop, National History Day, National Finals, University of Maryland, College Park, June 2006
- Moderator, Cambridge Forum, Public Discussion of Cassandra Pybus, *Epic Journeys of Freedom: Runaway Slaves of the American Revolution and their Global Quest for Liberty*, Cambridge, Massachusetts, February 2006
- Commentator, “The Promise of Freedom,” *African American Lives*, PBS, February 2006
- Co-Director and Presenter, “Civil Rights: A Century of Questions,” A Teaching American History Workshop, National History Day, Little Rock, Arkansas October 2005
- Director and Presenter, “The Many Meanings of Freedom: Thinking and Teaching about Rights, Privileges, and Citizenship in the Civil War Era,” Teachers’ Workshop, National History Day, National Finals, University of Maryland, College Park, June 2005
- Presenter, “Mobilizing a Nation: Black Abolitionists and the Antebellum Press,” National History Day Summer Teachers’ Institute, Politics and the Press: The Impact of the Media on America, University of Maryland, College Park, July 2004
- Moderator, “The Political Economy of the South: A Round-table Discussion,” Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History, Harvard University, March 2004
- Moderator (and session organizer), “Hannah Crafts’s The Bondwoman’s Narrative: A Roundtable Discussion,” Southern Association for Women Historians’ Sixth Southern Conference on Women’s History, Athens, Georgia, June 2003
- Panelist, “Ken Burns: Race and the Civil War,” W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for Afro-American Research Special Event, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Massachusetts, September 2002
- Presenter, “African-American Women in Freedom,” Gilder Lehrman Summer Institute, Women in the Civil War Era, 1848-1876, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Cambridge, Massachusetts, July 2002
- Assistant Director, Gilder Lehrman Summer Institute, “North American Slavery in Comparative Perspective,” University of Maryland, College Park, July 2001
- Director and Presenter, “Teaching with Documents: Using Primary Sources to Understand Reconstruction,” Teachers’ Workshop, National History Day, National Finals, University of Maryland, College Park, June 2001
- Presenter, “Black Soldiers in the Civil War,” Hoover Middle School, Rockville, Maryland, May 2001
- Director, National History Day Summer Institute, “Turning Points in History: The American Civil War and its Legacy: Teaching about Place and Time,” University of Maryland, College Park, July 1999
- Presenter, “Making Sense of Antebellum America,” Carroll County Teachers’ History Institute, Westminster, Maryland, June 1998
- Presenter, “After Emancipation: The Problem of Defining Freedom,” Quantico High School, Quantico, Virginia, March 1996 and March 1997

#### **Theses and Dissertations:**

- Committee member, Diana Williams, Harvard University, Program in American Civilization, Ph.D. Dissertation (in progress)

- Committee member, David Brighthouse, Harvard University, Department of African & African American Studies, Ph.D. Dissertation (in progress)
- Director, Jay Butler (2006 Rhodes Scholar), Harvard University, Undergraduate Honors Thesis in History, 2006
- Director, Adrienne Whaley, Harvard University, Undergraduate Honors Thesis in African & African American Studies, 2006
- Director, Owen Hartnett, Harvard University Extension School, MA Thesis in History, 2005
- Director, Andrew McGee, Harvard University, Undergraduate Honors Thesis in History & Literature, 2005

#### **University, Organizational, and Professional Service:**

- Standing Committee on Higher Degrees in the History of American Civilization, Harvard University, 2007-2008
- Manuscripts reviewed for *American Nineteenth-Century History*, Harvard University Press, Ivan R. Dee, Ohio State University Press, and Oxford University Press
- Department of African and African American Studies Committee for the Jonathan M. Levin Prize for Teaching and Social Justice, Harvard University, May 2006
- Board of Examiners, Department of History, Harvard University, 2006
- Scholar-Activist Committee, Department of African and African American Studies, Harvard University, 2006
- Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of African and African American Studies, Harvard University, 2006
- Curriculum Committee, Department of African and African American Studies, Harvard University, 2005
- Board of Examiners, Department of History, Harvard University, 2005
- Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History Committee on Undergraduate Research Grants, Harvard University, 2005
- Search Committee, Department of History, Harvard University, Fall 2004
- Steering Committee, Southern Historians in New England, November 2003 to present
- Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History Committee on Undergraduate Research Grants, Harvard University, 2003
- Committee on General Scholarships, Harvard University, April 2003
- Judge, National History Day state contest, Plymouth State College, Plymouth, New Hampshire, March 2003
- Faculty of Arts and Sciences Committee for the Kennedy, Knox, Sheldon, and Lurcy Travel Grant Competition, Harvard University, January 2003
- Co-Chair, Joint Search, Committee on the Study of Religion and Afro-American Studies, Harvard University, Fall 2002
- Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History Committee for Graduate Student Research Fellowships, Harvard University, May 2002
- Department of Afro-American Studies Committee for the Jonathan M. Levin Prize for Teaching and Social Justice, Harvard University, May 2002
- Moderator, "On the Market: Applying For That First Job," Annual Meeting of the Organization of American Historians, Washington D.C., April 2002

- Consultant, Martin Luther King, Jr., African American, and Civil Rights History Monument project, Denver, Colorado, April 2002
- Organization of American Historians Membership Committee, 2002 to 2007
- Southern Historical Association Membership Committee, 2002
- Peer Reviewer, National Historic Publications and Records Commission, 2001
- Member of Governing Board, Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History, Harvard University, 2001 to present
- Judge, National History Day, national finals, University of Maryland, College Park, 1998, 1999, 2000

#### Book Reviews:

- Review of *Twenty-Two Years a Slave and Forty Years a Freedman*, by Austin Steward, with an introduction by Graham Russell Hodges. In *Labor: Working-Class History of the Americas* 3 (Spring 2006)
- Review of *Gendered Freedoms: Race, Rights, and the Politics of Household in the Delta*, by Nancy D. Bercaw. In *Journal of American History* 91 (September 2004)
- Review of *Working Cures: Healing, Health, and Power on Southern Slave Plantations*, by Sharla M. Fett. In *Journal of Social History* 37 (Fall 2003)
- Review of *The Counterrevolution of Slavery: Politics and Ideology in Antebellum South Carolina*, by Manisha Sinha. In *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 32 (Winter 2002)
- Review of *Slavery, Secession, and Southern History*, ed. Robert Louis Paquette and Louis A. Ferleger. In *North Carolina Historical Review* 78 (April 2001)
- Review of *Free Labor in an Unfree World: White Artisans in Slaveholding Georgia, 1789-1860*, by Michele Gillespie. In *South Carolina Magazine of History* 102 (January 2001)
- Review of *The Gullah People and Their African Heritage*, by William S. Pollitzer. In *Georgia Historical Quarterly* 84 (Summer 2000)
- Review of *Gendered Strife and Confusion: The Political Culture of Reconstruction*, by Laura F. Edwards. In *Journal of Mississippi History* 60 (Fall 1998)
- Review of *Freedom, Racism and Reconstruction: Collected Writings of LaWanda Cox*, ed. Donald G. Nieman. In *North Carolina Historical Review* 75 (July 1998)
- Review of *Mastering Slavery: Memory, Family, and Identity in Women's Slave Narratives*, by Jennifer Fleishner. In *Georgia Historical Quarterly* 82 (Summer 1998)
- Review of *Six Years of Hell: Harpers Ferry during the Civil War*, by Chester G. Hearn. In *Journal of Mississippi History* 60 (Spring 1998)
- Review of *"What Nature Suffers to Groe": Life, Labor, and Landscape on the Georgia Coast, 1680-1920*, by Mart A. Stewart. In *Journal of American History* 84 (September 1997)
- Review of *Pistols and Politics: The Dilemma of Democracy in Louisiana's Florida Parishes, 1810-1899*, by Samuel C. Hyde, Jr. In *Journal of Southwest Georgia History* 12 (Fall 1997)
- Review of *The Salmon P. Chase Papers, vol. 3: Correspondence, 1858-March 1863*, ed. John Niven, James P. McClure, and Leigh Johnson. In *North Carolina Historical Review* 74 (January 1997)
- Review of *Reconstructing the Household: Families, Sex, and the Law in the Nineteenth-Century South*, by Peter W. Bardaglio. In *Journal of Southwest Georgia History* 11 (Fall 1996)
- Review of *Agrarianism and Reconstruction Politics: The Southern Homestead Act*, by Michael L. Lanza. In *Journal of Southwest Georgia History* 7 (1989-1992)
- Review of *Plain Folk in the New South: Social Change and Cultural Persistence, 1880-1915*, by Idus A. Newby. In *Journal of Southwest Georgia History* 7 (1989-1992)

- Review of *Like a Family: The Making of a Southern Cotton Mill World*, ed. Jacquelyn Dowd Hall, James Leloudis, Robert Korstad, Mary Murphy, Lu Ann Jones, and Christopher B. Daly. In *Journal of Southwest Georgia History* 6 (Fall 1988)
- Review of *Freedom: A Documentary History of Emancipation, 1861-1867*, ser. 1, vol. 1, *The Destruction of Slavery*, ed. Ira Berlin, Barbara J. Fields, Thavolia Glymph, Joseph P. Reidy, and Leslie S. Rowland. In *Journal of Southwest Georgia History* 5 (Fall 1987)
- Review of *Chinese in the Post-Civil War South: A People Without a History*, by Lucy M. Cohen. In *Journal of Southwest Georgia History* 4 (Fall 1986)

**Organizational Memberships:**

- Agricultural History Society
- American Historical Association
- Labor and Working Class History Association
- Organization of American Historians
- Southern Association for Women Historians
- Southern Historical Association