

ANTWAIN K. HUNTER
The University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
Department of History

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EDUCATION

- 2015 PhD, the Pennsylvania State University. History.
Dissertation advised by Anthony E. Kaye.
2009 MA, University of Connecticut. History.
2007 BA, Westfield State University. History, *magna cum laude*.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill: Assistant Professor of History (JUL 2022-present).
Butler University: Associate Professor of History (AUG 2014-JUN 2022. Rank and tenure in 2020).

SCHOLARSHIP

Published Articles and Chapters:

- “‘Patriots,’ ‘Cowards,’ and ‘Men Disloyal at Heart:’ Labor and Politics at the Springfield Armory, 1861-1865”, *Journal of Military History*, vol. 84, No. 1 (JAN 2020), pp. 51-81.
- “‘In the Exercise of a Sound Discretion, Who, of This Class of Persons, Shall Have a Right to the License...’: Family, Race, and Firearms in Antebellum North Carolina”, *Journal of Family History*, vol. 44, no. 4 (JUL 2019, [digital], OCT 2019 [print]), pp. 392-412.
- “‘A nuisance requiring correction’: Firearm Laws, Black Mobility, and White Property in Antebellum Eastern North Carolina”, *North Carolina Historical Review*, vol. 93, no. 4 (OCT 2016), pp. 386-404.

Published Book Reviews:

- Rethinking Rufus: Sexual Violations of Enslaved Men* by Thomas A. Foster, *Journal of the Early Republic*, vol. 42, no. 2 (Summer 2022), pp. 305-308.
- The Secret Life of Bacon Tait a White Slave Trader Married to a Free Woman of Color*, by Hank Trent, *The Journal of Southern History*, vol. 84, no. 2 (MAY 2018), pp. 454-455.
- Two Captains from Carolina: Moses Grandy, John Newland Maffitt, and the Coming of the Civil War*, by Bland Simpson, *The Journal of African American History*, Vol. 100, No. 1 (Winter 2015), pp. 147-149.
- On the Edge of Freedom: The Fugitive Slave Issue in South Central Pennsylvania, 1820-1870*, by David G. Smith, *Civil War Book Review*, Vol. 15, No. 2 (Spring 2013), electronic.

Public Facing Work

- OCT 2023 [“Weapons of Work: Firearms and the Pre-Emancipation Black South”](#) in *The Panorama: Expansive Views from the Journal of the Early American Republic*. Digital.

Select Conference Presentations:

- OCT 2023 “‘To Restore Their Guns to Them Again’: Firearms, Race, and Community in North Carolina, 1840-1861”. Center for the Study of Guns and Society at Wesleyan University.

- JUL 2023 “‘A separate and distinct class’: Free Black People, Firearms, and Community in North Carolina”. Society for Historians of the Early American Republic.
- JUL 2022 “‘The arms are scattered about, frequently falling into the hands of slaves, free negroes, and dissipated white people...’: Slaves and North Carolina's Illegal Gun Trade, 1816-1858”. Society for Historians of the Early American Republic.
- JUN 2021 “‘No one ever had better servants than I have’: Labor, Race, and Manhood in Civil War North Carolina”. Society of Civil War Historians (virtual meeting).
- NOV 2018 “‘He said he “could not help it...’: Firearms, Race, and Manhood in the Early Republic South”. Southern Historical Association.
- OCT 2018 “Freedom and Movement in the Transatlantic: Blackness in Digital Humanities Pedagogy”. Co-presented, Intentionally Digital, Intentionally Black; African American History, Culture and Digital Humanities Conference, University of Maryland.
- JUN 2018 “‘Persons descended from negro ancestors...’: Race, Rights, and Firearms in the North Carolina Courts, 1840-1860.” Society of Civil War Historians.
- JUL 2017 “‘Plucked of his borrowed plumage...’: Firearms, Labor, and Antebellum North Carolinians’ Constructions of Black Manhood”. Society for Historians of the Early American Republic.
- FEB 2017 “‘They have always bourn an honest Character...’: Family, Community, and the Challenges to Free Black North Carolinians’ Firearm Use, 1840-1860”. Indiana Association of Historians.
- OCT 2016 “‘The county court might think it a very prudent precaution to limit the carrying of arms...’”: Free People of Color, Firearms, and the State, 1840-1860”. Indiana Academy of the Social Sciences.
- AUG 2016 “‘I wish Roden had of had my gun...’: The Defense of William A. Tripp’s Plantation during the Civil War”. Midwest Civil War Study Group.
- NOV 2015 “‘I think you can rely a great deal on Roden’s judgment’: Armed Black Men’s Labor on the Confederate Home Front”. Southern Historical Association.
- OCT 2013 “‘...armed with a gun, to the terror of the citizens...’: The Threat of Armed Black Men in Antebellum North Carolina”. Association for the Study of African American Life and History.

Select Invited Presentations and Public Lectures:

- AUG 2023 “Slavery, Freedom, and Black Resistance in the Revolutionary Era” presentation for K-12 Teachers via Carolina Public Humanities program “North Carolina & the Fire of Freedom”
- JUN 2023 “‘All we knowed was work, and hard work’: Enslaved Workers and the Economic System in pre-Civil War North Carolina”, and panelist, Carolina Public Humanities event, “Labor, Race, and the Search for Freedom in North Carolina”, public lecture at UNC-Chapel Hill.
- JAN 2023 “‘A course of policy in its acts peculiar to them’: the State’s Regulation of Free Black North Carolinians’ Firearm Access, 1841-1861” Africana Studies virtual brown bag, University of North Carolina-Charlotte.
- DEC 2022 “Slaves’ illegal access to guns in antebellum North Carolina,” virtual public lecture at the Royal Armouries Museum, West Yorkshire, United Kingdom.
- OCT 2022 “Community, Race, and Guns in 19th Century North Carolina” and panelist, Carolina Carolina Public Humanities event, “Guns and American Society: Then and Now”, public lecture at UNC-Chapel Hill.

- SEP 2022 Panelist, Phi Alpha Theta event, “Race, Law, & Perception: American Race Relations 160 Years in the Making”, public panel discussion at Wabash College.
- SEP 2022 “‘A very inoffensive man, of good moral character, + sober industrious habits’: Community, Firearms, and Race in the Antebellum South,” public lecture at Wabash College.
- APR 2022 Panelist, post-show conversation for Charles Smith’s *The Reclamation of Madison Hemings* at the Indiana Repertory Theatre, Indianapolis, Indiana.
- FEB 2022 [“‘A number of small black boys about town had pistols in their possession’: Race, Illegal Firearms, and the Law in Antebellum North Carolina”](#) for the lecture series, “Our only ‘felt’ history: New Perspectives on the U.S. Civil War” at University of Arkansas, Fort Smith.
- FEB 2020 “‘A Boy of Tender Years’ or ‘A Felon of a Character so Hardened’?: Firearms, Slavery, and Manhood in Antebellum North Carolina” paper workshop hosted by the History Department’s Gender, Race, and Sexuality Group at the University of Georgia.

Other Select Presentations:

- FEB 2018 Core Conversation on “Freedom and Movement in the Transatlantic World (GHS 210)”, co-presented at Butler University (BU).
- NOV 2017 “‘A boy of tender years...’: Race, Guns, and Power in the Antebellum South”, presented at the Indianapolis Literary Club.
- OCT 2017 Co-presented new, grant-supported course, “Freedom and Movement in the TransAtlantic World to the College of Liberal Arts’ Board of Visitors, BU.
- SEP 2017 Discussion lead for Butler University’s first lady’s book club (Colson Whitehead’s *Underground Railroad*).
- APR 2017 “Tips for Graduate School and Research Grant Applications”, co-presented. Department of History & Anthropology’s “Overlap” Lecture Series, BU.
- MAR 2017 “Introducing GHS 210 Freedom and Movement in the Transatlantic World”, co-presented. Global and Historical Studies (GHS) Lunch Event, BU.
- FEB 2017 “‘Trouble at the Dickinsons’: Murder and Manhood in Antebellum Wilmington, NC”. Department of History & Anthropology’s “Overlap” Lecture Series, BU.
- JAN 2017 “‘...as freemen, they claim license to roam about and acquire ...’: Free Black Families, Firearms, and Antebellum Law”. Brown Bag Series for Faculty Research, Scholarship, & Creative Work, BU.
- FEB 2017 “‘Practical Pedagogy: Five Tips on Class Participation”, co-presenter, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences’ Faculty Workshop, BU.
- FEB 2015 Co-presenter at Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity’s “Mind Alive!” Session, “Is Race a Relevant Construct?”, BU.
- APR 2015 “Lincoln Unveiled”, co-presented talk. 3rd Annual Arts Fest: “Outlaws & Outsiders”, BU.
- APR 2014 “‘...they commit numberless depredations upon the farms by killing stock of every description’: Armed Black Peoples’ Mobility and the Threat to White People’s Property in the Antebellum Era”. Africana Research Center’s Public Lecture Series, Penn State.

Select Guest Lectures:

- FEB 2023 “Reconstruction After the US Civil War”, guest lecture with TEC Connections Academy, Commonwealth Virtual School (Massachusetts).

- SEP 2022 “Black Soldiers in the Civil War: ‘Revolution in Earnest’” guest lecture with Sabrina Thomas’ Bloods: African American Soldiers in Vietnam course, Wabash College.
- SEP 2022 Research and professional development talk, Sabrina Thomas and Rick Warner’s Senior History Seminar, Wabash College.
- NOV 2017, “The Many Facets of Emancipation”, “A Multifaceted Look at Emancipation”, “Racial 2018, 2019, Terror & Reconstruction”, and “Retreat from Reconstruction”, guest lectures with 2021 Zionsville Community High School’s Advanced Placement US History students.
- FEB 2021, “Slavery: Rebels and Abolitionists”, “Slavery: Rebels and Abolitionists”, “Difficult 2020(twice), Subjects: A Discussion about Slavery and the American Past”, and “Reconstruction after 2019 the US Civil War”, guest lectures with TEC Connections Academy.
- JUN 2016 “Study Smart, Not Hard” presentation to college bound high school students at the KIPP Through College, KIPP DC: College Preparatory, Washington, D.C.
- APR 2016 “Adventures in Antebellum North Carolina’s Local History” guest lecture with Scott Swanson’s Family and Local History course, BU.

Television and Radio Appearances:

- OCT 2017 [*A President at the Crossroads*](#) Television Program. Contributing on-screen historian. Aired October 19, 2017 on PBS/WFYI.
- MAR 2017 [*America: Facts vs. Fiction*](#). Television program. Season 4, Episode 13 “The Civil War.” Contributing on-screen historian. Aired March 4, 2017 on AHC.

Forthcoming Projects:

Book. *A Precarious Balance: Firearms, Race, and Community in North Carolina, 1729-1865*. Under contract with the University of North Carolina Press.

Chapter. “‘First white man sets himself inside that rail fence gets it from the gun’: Firearms, Fatherhood, and Slavery in the South”, in *The Gendered Republic*, ed. Craig Thompson Friend and Lorri Glover (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, under review).

AWARDS, GRANTS, and FELLOWSHIPS:

- MAY 2023 UNC History Department summer course development grant. \$1500.
- MAR 2017 Butler University Awards Committee faculty research grant. \$3,000.
- JUN 2016 National Endowment for the Humanities “Enduring Questions” course development grant. \$38,000. Project co-director with Drs. Lee Garver, Ania Spyra, and Robin Turner.
- Spring 2014 Humanities Dissertation Fellowship, the Africana Research Center, Penn State (College level fellowship).
- Fall 2013 Edwin Earle Sparks Fellowship in the Humanities, Penn State (College-level fellowship).
- MAR 2013 North Caroliniana Society. Archie K. Davis Fellowship.
- MAY 2011 E-Tu Zen Sun Teaching Award, Penn State.

COMPETITIVE WORKSHOPS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- APR 2023 Duke University’s Hart Leadership Program/Kallion workshop, “Study2Practice: Humanities Teaching as Leadership Training.”
- JUN 2019 Council of Independent Colleges /Gilder Lehrman Institute Seminar, the Civil War in American Memory, Yale University.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

SEP 2023 to present	Committee on History, Race, and a Way Forward, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (term through August 2025)
JUL 2023 to present	Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, Nominating Committee (term through JUL 2026)
Summer 2023	Kaye Memorial Essay Award Committee, given by the <i>Journal of the Civil War Era</i> , UNC Press, and the George and Ann Richards Civil War Era Center
Summer and Fall 2023	New Scholarship on the US South: A Wilson Library Fellows Symposium, Reviewer and Committee
FEB 2023-Present	Member of the Senior Advisory Panel, North Carolina History Center on the Civil War, Emancipation & Reconstruction (NCHCCWER), Fayetteville, NC.
FEB 2023-Present	Research and Writing Fellowship for Public History in North Carolina through Carolina Public Humanities at UNC and the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. Working with Fort Macon State Park.
JAN 2023-Present	American Historical Association, Committee on Minority Historians (term through JAN 2025).
SEP 2022-MAR 2023	Society of Civil War Historians, Mini-Conference Committee.
SEP 2021-MAY 2022	Faculty Fellow, the Efroymsen Diversity Center, BU.
AUG 2020-NOV 2021	Co-Chair of the Butler University group to review the Butler University Police Department.
AUG 2020-MAY 2022; 2016- 2018	Representative, Faculty Senate (College of the Liberal Arts and Sciences), BU.
DEC 2019	Panelist, Faculty Food for Thought, “Putting the Global in Faculty Development - Notes and Insights from GHS Abroad”, BU.
AUG 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021	Panelist, New Faculty Orientation Session, “Everything You Want to Know About Faculty Life at Butler”, BU.
OCT 2018-APR 2022	President’s Faculty Advisory Committee (strategic planning and implementation), BU.
AUG 2017-MAY 2022	Global and Historical Studies Program Executive Committee, BU.
AUG 2017-AUG 2020	Student Affairs, Faculty-in-Residence in A-Wing of the Residential College, BU.
APR 2016, 2018, 2019	Session Moderator, Undergraduate Research Conference, BU.
SEP 2016-MAR 2017	Participant in the Center for Faith and Vocation’s faculty/staff workshop, “Informal Mentoring as Vocational Support”, BU.
AUG 2015, 2016	Faculty Orientation Guide, New Student Orientation, BU.

Professional Memberships:

American Historical Association	The Society of Civil War Historians
Society of Historians of the Early American Republic (Nicholas Biddle Friend, 2022 to present)	Southern Historical Association
	Organization of American Historians

DEPARTMENT SERVICE

AUG 2022-
present Undergraduate Studies Committee, Department of History, UNC- Chapel Hill.
FEB- APR
2023 VITAE hire search committee for 20th Century African-American History hire.
Spring 2017 Co-organizer for the Annual Thornbrough Lecture, sponsored by Butler University and
- Fall 2019 the Indiana Association of Historians.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Raleigh Cú Chulainn Gaelic Athletic Association. Hurling and Gaelic Football. (Member, SEP 2022 to present).
Indianapolis Gaelic Athletic Association. Hurling and Gaelic Football. (Member, SEP 2017 to JUL 2022).
The Indianapolis Literary Club (Member, APR 2016 to JUL 2022. Assistant Secretary, APR 2017 to APR 2022).

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

French: Moderate proficiency in reading and aural comprehension and speaking. Intermediate proficiency in writing.
Spanish: Beginner proficiency in speaking, writing, and aural comprehension. Intermediate proficiency in reading.