

ELIZABETH A. DE WOLFE

University of New England
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Current Position: Professor and Chair, Department of History, University of New England
Ludcke Chair of Liberal Arts & Sciences, 2008-2009

EDUCATION

Ph.D., American and New England Studies, Boston University

Dissertation: “ ‘Erroneous Principles, Base Deceptions, and Pious Frauds’: Anti-Shaker Writing, Mary Marshall Dyer, and the Public Theater of Apostasy.” A study of anti-Shaker writing, 1780-1860.

M.A., Anthropology, State University of New York/Albany

A.B., Social Science, Colgate University

- degree awarded *cum laude* and with High Honors in Social Science. Interdisciplinary study in anthropology, art history, and astronomy with a focus on Pre-Columbian Meso- and South America.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

At the University of New England:

Professor of History, 2008 - present.

Associate Professor of American Studies (tenure granted 2002), 2002-2008.

Assistant Professor of American Studies and Anthropology, 1996-2002.

Adjunct positions in anthropology & sociology, 1987-1994, at Westbrook College, Bridgewater (Mass.) State College, University of Maine/Augusta, University of New England, and State University of New York/Albany.

Teaching Areas: Nineteenth-century American Culture, Women’s History, Communal Societies, Print Culture.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Chair, Department of History, University of New England, 2005-present.

Co-Director, Women’s Studies Program, University of New England, 2004-2007, 2008- 2009.

Chair, Liberal Studies Program, University of New England, Spring 2007 (sabbatical replacement).

Program Coordinator, American Studies Program, University of New England, 1997-2008.

MAJOR HONORS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

Teaching & Service Awards

2008-2009 Ludcke Chair of Liberal Arts & Sciences (rotating endowed chair), University of New England

Kenneally Cup (Distinguished Service Award), University of New England, 2004

Honorary Alumni Award, Westbrook College Alumni Association, 2004.

Outstanding Faculty Member Award, presented by Student Govt. Assoc., UNE-Westbrook College Campus, 1999.

Mary Rines Thompson Award for Teaching Excellence, UNE/Westbrook College Campus, 1997.

Research/Scholarship Awards

2008 Book Award, Northeast Historical Association, for *The Murder of Mary Bean*, 2008.

Peter C. Rollins Book Award, Northeast Popular Culture Assoc./American Culture Assoc., for

The Murder of Mary Bean, 2008.

Silver Medal - True Crime, ForeWord magazine Book of the Year Award, for *The Murder of Mary Bean*, 2008.

Bronze Medal- True Crime, Independent Publishers Book Awards, for *The Murder of Mary Bean*, 2008.

Fairfield Award for Saco History, Dyer Library Association & Saco Area Historical Society, 2004.

“Outstanding Publication Award,” Communal Studies Association, for *Shaking the Faith*, 2003.

Junior Faculty Research & Scholarship Award, UNE College of Arts & Sciences, 2002.

Starting Scholar Award, presented by the Communal Studies Association, 1995.

Grants and Fellowships (summary)

Research on the murder of Mary Bean project supported by UNE College of Arts & Sciences Research Grants, UNE Faculty Research Grants, and the Fairfield Award for Saco History from the Dyer Library Association & Saco Area Historical Society, 2000-2007.

Research on anti-Shakerism and Mary Marshall Dyer supported by a Summer Research Grant, National Endowment for the Humanities (1997); UNE College of Arts & Sciences Research Grants; and UNE Faculty Research Grants, 1996-2000.

Dissertation research and graduate work supported by a Dissertation Fellowship from the Pew Program in Religion & American History (1995-1996); Katherine O'Connor McLaughlin Scholarship, Boston Univ. Women's Guild (1994-1995); Research Fellowship, Henry Francis du Pont Winterthur Museum & Library (1994); Boston University Graduate School Assistantship & Scholarships (1992-1995); Herbert Lehman Graduate Fellowship (1984-1987); and State University of New York (Albany) research & travel grants (1985-1986).

Post-Baccalaureate research supported by a Thomas J. Watson Fellowship (1983-1984).

Undergraduate education supported by a Colgate University Alumni Memorial Scholar award (1979-1983).

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

Current Projects:

Maine mill girls in fiction and fact: A study of cautionary tales featuring nineteenth-century Maine mill girls.
Shaker apostate dancers [a traveling performance troupe]: Ongoing research on anti-Shaker activity, ca. 1840s.

Publications

Books

The Narratives of Mary and Joseph Dyer (Univ. of Massachusetts Press, under contract).

The Murder of Mary Bean and Other Stories (Kent State University Press, 2007).

Recipient of the Book Award, New England Historical Association, 2008.

Recipient of the Peter C. Rollins Book Award, Northeast Popular Culture Assoc./American Culture Assoc., 2008;

Awarded a Silver Medal - True Crime, ForeWord magazine Book of the Year Awards (2008); and

Bronze medal- True Crime, Independent Publishers Book Awards (2008).

Shaking the Faith: Women, Family, and Mary Marshall Dyer's Anti-Shaker Campaign, 1815-1867 (Palgrave Macmillan, 2002).

Awarded the Communal Studies Association "Outstanding Publication Award," 2003. Paperback edition, 2004.

Such News of the Land: American Women Nature Writers, Thomas S. Edwards and Elizabeth A. De Wolfe, editors. (University Press of New England, 2001).

Essays and Articles

"Storytelling, Domestic Space and Domestic Knowledge in the Murder of Berengera Caswell," *Storytelling: A Critical Journal of Popular Narrative* 6 (Winter 2007): 121-129.

"Murder by Inches: Shakers, Family, and the Death of Elder Caleb Dyer," in *Murder on Trial*. R. Asher, L. Goodheart, and A. Rogers, eds. Albany, N.Y.: State University of New York Press, 2005.

"The Mob at Enfield: Community, Gender, and Violence Against the Shakers," in *Intentional Community: An Anthropological Perspective*. Susan Love Brown, ed. Albany, N.Y.: State University of New York Press, 2002.

"Teaching Consensus and Community," *Teaching Anthropology*, 6 (Fall-Winter 1999): 11-13.

"A Very Deep Design at the Bottom: The Shaker Threat, 1780-1860," in *Fear Itself: Enemies Real and Imagined in American Culture*. Nancy Schultz, ed. West Lafayette, In.: Purdue University Press, 1999.

"So Much Have They Got For Their Folly: Shaker Apostates and the Tale of Woe," *Communal Societies*, 18 (1998):21-35.
[Paper received the 1995 Communal Studies Association "Starting Scholar" Award]

"Mary Marshall Dyer, Gender, and *A Portraiture of Shakerism*," *Religion and American Culture*, 8 (Summer 1998): 237-264.

"Afterword," in *Young Wives' Tales from Maine and Kansas*, Herb Adams and Larry Glatz, eds. Norway, Me.: Friends of C.A. Stephens, 1997.

"The Mob at Enfield-Part I." *The Friends Quarterly* IX (Spring 1997): 1-[2a]; "Part Two," IX (Summer 1997): [2a].

"A Modern Pamphleteer," Introduction to *Absolem H. Blackburn's A Brief Account of the Rise, Progress, Doctrines, and Practices of the People Usually Denominated Shakers* [Kentucky, 1824]; Ashfield, Mass.: Huntstown Press, 1996.

Reference Work Entries

- “Utopian Communities,” “Lydia Maria Child,” *Encyclopedia of New England Culture*, David Watters and Bert Feintuch, eds. (Yale University Press, 2005).
- “Mary Marshall Dyer,” *American National Biography Online*, Jonathan Wiener, ed. (Oxford University Press, <http://www.anb.org>, 2003).

Public History Panel

- “The Murder of Mary Bean.” Historical text panel in the Saco Heritage City Walk Series, sponsored by the Saco Museum & Library and City of Saco (ME). Panel located at the intersection of Storer and Main Streets, Saco, Maine, and describes the 1849 death of factory worker Berengera Caswell (a/k/a Mary Bean). Installed October 2006.

Book Reviews

Reviews of scholarly works on Shaker history, women’s history, communal societies, Maine history, 19th-century American culture, and American religion published in the *Journal of American History*, *Nova Religio: The Journal of Alternative and Emergent Religions*, NEHA News [New England Historical Association], *Maine History*, *American Historical Review*, *Communal Societies*, *Shakers World*, *The Shaker Messenger*, and *Winterthur Portfolio*, 1993-2007.

Papers Presented & Scholarly Talks (selected, recent)

- “College-Community Collaboration: The Murder of Mary Bean, a Student-Designed Exhibit,” New England Museum Association annual meeting, Providence, RI, October 2008. Co-presented with UNE students Camille Smalley ’08 and Amanda Wertman ’09.
- “The Murder of Mary Bean,” annual Borowitz True Crime Lecture, Kent State University, March 2008. Invited speaker.
- “‘Fear is a Folly which Departs with One’s Virtue’: Bodies as Code in Fitzallen’s Maine Factory Girl Fiction.” Society for Literature, Science and the Arts annual conference, Portland, Maine, November 2007.
- “Disappointed Love and Dangerous Temptations: The Dark Side of Factory Girl Life.” Invited presentation, University College at Bangor (Maine), March 15, 2007.
- “The Borders of Bad Behavior: Saco Factory Girls, Fictional Girls, and an Idle, Licentious Life.” Panel presentation with undergraduate student researchers Emma Bouthillette ’08 and Camille Smalley ’08, Maine Women’s Studies Conference, Univ. of Maine, Orono, November 2006.
- “Writing Communal History: A Roundtable Discussion.” Panelist, Moderator and organizer. Communal Studies Association, Marconi Center, Marshall, California, September 30, 2006.
- “So old a woman as I am ought to be able to tell when a woman is pregnant”: Domestic Space and Domestic Knowledge in the Death of Berengera Caswell.” New England American Studies Association annual meeting, Portland, ME, Sept. 15, 2006.
- “Saco Light and Dark: Murder, Mill Girls and the Growth of Maine.” Northeast Popular Culture Association annual meeting, Fairfield, Conn., October 28, 2005.
- “Fighting Pious Frauds and Base Deceptions: Anti-Shakerism in New England.” 2004 Annual Hall Memorial Lecture, Bethel Historical Society/Regional History Center, August 13, 2004, invited presentation.
- “Shaker for Sale: Communities and Commodities.” Shaker Seminar: Exploring the Shaker Communities of Maine [Hancock Shaker Village annual Shaker Seminar], Portland, Me. Invited Presentation, July 26, 2004.
- “Guide to American Utopian Literature: The Shakers.” Co-presented with Scott F. De Wolfe, International Communal Studies Association triennial meeting, Amana, Iowa, June 29, 2004. Available on www.communalstudies.info
- “Marital Conflict, Print Culture, and the Court of Public Opinion.” Organization of American Historians annual meeting, Boston, Mass., March 26, 2004.
- “The Murders of Mary Bean: (Re)writing Crime and Punishment.” American Studies Association annual meeting, Hartford, Conn., October 17, 2003.
- “Selling Shaker: Shakers, Anti-Shakers and the Commodification of the Faith.” Communal Studies Association annual meeting, Benton Harbor, Michigan, October 11, 2003.

Previous scholarly presentations on Shaker history, apostasy and anti-Shaker activity, and Mary Marshall Dyer presented at the annual meetings of the American Studies Association, Organization of American Historians, Communal Studies Association, Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing; New England American Studies Association, New England Historical Association, Berkshire Shaker Seminar, Enfield (NH) Shaker Museum, Association for the Study of Connecticut History, Washburn Norlands Humanities Conference, and the American Studies Graduate Student Conference, 1994 - 2004.

Previous scholarly presentations on archives, pedagogy, barbershop music, and Maine history presented at the Communal Studies Association annual meetings, Society for Anthropology in Community Colleges, *Looking at Katahdin* Symposium, Society of Maine Archivists/Museum Educators of Maine Joint Meeting, and the Northeast Anthropological Association Meeting, 1985–1999.

Numerous invited presentations to community and civic groups, 1983-2009.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Conferences Organized

Communal Studies Association annual meeting, Conference Director, Sept. 30 - Oct. 2, 2004, Hancock Shaker Village, Pittsfield, Mass <http://www.communalstudies.org>

International Communal Studies Association biennial conference, Program Chair, June 28-30 2004, Amana Colonies, Iowa, <http://www.ic.org/icsa/about.html> E-book (selected conference papers) <http://www.ic.org/icsa/conference.html>

Women, Health, and Representation. Conference Co-Director, June 2004, University of New England, Portland, Me. <http://www.une.edu/library/mwwc>

The Complex Web of Women=s Friendships. Conference Co-Director, June 20-22, 2002. University of New England, Portland, Maine. <http://www.une.edu/library/mwwc>

Women's Private Writing/Writing Women's History. Conference Co-Director, June 15-17, 2000. University of New England, Portland, Maine. <http://www.une.edu/library/mwwc>

American Women Nature Writers: An Interdisciplinary Conference. Conference Director, June 18-21, 1998. University of New England, Portland, Maine.

Service Beyond the University (selected)

Editorial/Scholarship:

Book Series Editor, *American Communal Societies Series*, Richard W. Couper Press of Hamilton College Library, 2006- present.

Editorial Board, Richard W. Couper Press (scholarly press featuring works on American communal experiments), 2006-present.

Editorial Board, *Communal Societies*, 2005-present

Editorial Board, *Maine History*, 2008- present.

Book Award Committee, New England Historical Association, 2004, 2009.

Communal Studies Association:

Vice-President, Communal Studies Association, 2006-2007; Board of Directors, 2002-2007.

Advisory Board, H-Communal_Societies (a listserv on H-Net), 2001-2006.

Book Review Editor, H-Communal_Societies, 2001-2006.

Chair, Selection Committee, Communal Studies Association, "Outstanding Publication Award" (a national award recognizing outstanding published scholarship in the Communal Studies field), 2005, 2006

Selection Committee, Communal Studies Association, "Starting Scholar Award" (a national paper competition for unpublished authors in the Communal Studies field), 2001,2002, 2004, 2005.

Selection Committee, Communal Studies Association "Outstanding Project Award: Museum Exhibits" (a national award recognizing excellence in exhibits related to historic/contemporary communal societies), 2000.

Consulting/Museum Work:

Exhibition Co-Director, "Mary Bean: The Factory Girl or Victim of Seduction," Saco, ME., Feb. 29 - May 24, 2008.

Exhibition Consultant, "Simple Gifts: The Alfred (Maine) Shakers," Saco (Me.) Museum, 2005.

Consultant, Enfield (N.H.) Shaker Museum, NEH Planning Grant project, 2003.

Major Service Within the University

University Reappointment, Promotion, and Tenure Committee, 2008-2009.

Provost/Vice-President of Academic Affairs Search Committee, 2006.

Core Connections Committee (arrange speakers & events to enhance undergrad core curriculum themes), Chair, 2003-2006. Committee member, 2000-2006.

Maine Women Writers Collection Biennial Conferences Co-Director and organizer,1997-2005.

Women's Studies Program Feasibility Study Committee, Co-Chair, 2002-2004.

Core Curriculum Revision Committee, 2000-2002

RECENT COURSES TAUGHT

Human Traditions I (Ancient World) & II (Modern World)
Bestsellers and the Big Bad City
Growing Up Female: A History of Girls in America
Topics in Women's History

Women & the Environment (team-taught, interdisciplinary)
History Hands On: Historical Research and Writing
Museums and Public History
American Communal Experiments

MUSEUM EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

Six years experience in public education in museum and historic house settings. Experienced in creating, implementing, and presenting public programs for adults, families, and children; developing written educational material; providing volunteer docent training and volunteer management (from 20-100+volunteers); budget and site management.

Curator, Jonathon Fairbanks House (1636), Dedham, Massachusetts, 1993-1994.

Director of Education, Portland (Maine) Museum of Art, 1991-1992.

Assistant Curator of Education, Portland Museum of Art, 1990-1991.

Education Assistant, Portland Museum of Art, 1989-1990.

Interpreter/Archivist's Assistant, Shaker Museum, New Gloucester, Maine, Summer 1989.

Complete CV available upon request from Dr. Elizabeth De Wolfe at edewolfe@une.edu