

Matthew Costello, Ph.D.
The White House Historical Association
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Education

Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI
Ph.D. in American History (2016)

Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI
M.A. in American History (2011)

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI
B.A. in History, Political Science (2009)

Professional Employment

Senior Historian, The White House Historical Association, November 2016-present

Project Contributor, George Washington Bibliography Project, The George Washington Papers University of Virginia September 2015-August 2016

Project Lead, John Augustine Washington III Diaries and Farm Books Transcription, Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington September 2015-May 2016

Honors

Fred W. Smith National Library at Mount Vernon Fellowship 2015-2016

United States Capitol Historical Society Fellowship, 2014-5

Andrew W. Mellon Research Fellowship, The Virginia Historical Society, 2014-5

Publications

Books

“‘The Property of the Nation’: Democracy and the Memory of George Washington, 1799-1865,” University Press of Kansas, (under contract, forthcoming 2019).

“The Roosevelts: America’s First Family in the White House,” The White House Historical Association, forthcoming 2020.

Articles

“First in War, First in Peace, and First in Death: A History of Presidential Mourning,” *White House History*, 47 (Fall 2017).

“American Sepulcher: George Washington’s Tomb in the United States Capitol,” *The Dome*, volume 54, number 1, United States Capitol Historical Society (Fall 2017, invited).

“Creating the Sacred: Washington’s Body and the Relics of Mount Vernon.” *Journal of History and Cultures*, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom, (Issue 4: (July 2014), 1-23. (Peer-reviewed; selected *Best Article of the Year*.)

“Blood, Bones, and Soil: Virginian Identity and the Attempted Desecration of George Washington.” *Essays in History*, Corcoran History Department, University of Virginia, (Volume 58: Summer 2012), 34-51.

Encyclopedia Entries

“Parson Weems,” *American Myths, Legends, and Tall Tales: An Encyclopedia of American Folklore*, ed. Jeffrey Webb, ABC-CLIO (2016)

“John Augustine Washington III,” “The Centennial Celebration of George Washington’s Birthday,” and “George Washington’s Tomb and the Pilgrimage to Mount Vernon.” *The Digital Encyclopedia of George Washington*, eds. Adam Shprintzen and Joseph Stolz. <http://www.mountvernon.org/encyclopedia>

Reviews

Unearthed: Storied Artifacts and Remarkable Predecessors of the Saint Joseph’s College Campus, by Steven L. Bridge. *Maine History*, The Maine Historical Society (forthcoming)

Shifting Grounds: Nationalism and the American South, 1848-1865, by Paul Quigley. *The Southern Historian*, University of Alabama (Volume 35: Spring 2014): 152-153.

Lectures

“Living and Dying in the White House: Treating America’s First Families,” sponsored by Columbia University, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, and HEALTH for Youths, 5 April 2018.

“The Origins of His Excellency’s Character: George Washington and the American West,” George Washington Masonic National Memorial symposium, 24 February 2018.

“American Sepulcher: George Washington’s Tomb in the United States Capitol,” United States Capitol Historical Society, 21 February 2018.

“Picketing the White House: The Suffragist Movement During the Great War,” George Washington Textile Museum, 12 February 2018.

“The Eternal Six-Star General: George Washington’s Legacy as a Military Commander,” Fred W. Smith National Library, Mount Vernon, Virginia, 9 July 2016, George Washington Teacher Institute (invited lecture).

“The Property of the Nation: Democracy and the Memory of George Washington, 1799-1865,” Fred W. Smith National Library, Mount Vernon, Virginia 29 September 2015.

“Cultivators of Legend: Black Guides and White Tourism at Mount Vernon,” Northern Illinois University History Conference, De Kalb, Illinois 1 November 2014 (Winner: “Best Presentation”).

“Inventing the Sacred: Washington’s Tomb and the Relics of Mount Vernon,” The Virginia Forum, George Mason University Fairfax, Virginia 15 March 2014.

“The Bones of Washington: Relics and Sectional Identity in Antebellum Virginia.” Paper delivered at Northern Illinois University History Conference, De Kalb, Illinois 26 October 2012 (Winner: “Best Paper by a Ph.D. Student”).

Teaching Experience

Instructor

A History of the White House, American University	Fall 2018
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue: A History of the White House Virginia Historical Society	Fall 2017
Worldviews and World History 163, Concordia University	Summer 2016
Introduction to American History 1101, Marquette University	Fall 2014

Online Instructor

United States History 1763-1877, Lamar University	Spring 2014-Fall 2016
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Professional Organizations

Society of Historians of Early American Republic, American Historical Association, Organization of American Historians, Society for History in the Federal Government

References

Professor Steven Avella
(414) 288-3556: steven.avella@marquette.edu

Professor Kristen Foster (Dissertation Advisor)
(414) 288-3562: kristen.foster@marquette.edu

Dr. Edward Lengel
Independent Scholar and Author
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Professor James Marten (Department Chair)
(414) 288-7901: james.marten@marquette.edu