

General Pickett and the Kinston Hangings

John Ward Compton, History

Advisor: Paul Escott

On February 1, 1864, Major General George E. Pickett of the Confederate Army led an assault on the Union-occupied town of New Bern, North Carolina. The attack ended in failure as the Union troops, in good entrenched positions, were able to hold their lines around New Bern. The successful defense did not come without a price. As the Confederate forces withdrew, they captured a group of Union soldiers in an isolated outpost. Many of these soldiers were North Carolinians who had joined the Union army. Among these North Carolinians were twenty-two men who had at one time served in the Confederate forces but had deserted. Furious over their desertion, Pickett had these men court-martialed and then executed by public hanging. In his mind, and in the minds of many Confederates, the men got what they deserved. The sentiment of the North, and of Union sympathizers, was not the same. To the North, the men should have been treated as prisoners of war; therefore, the killing of the prisoners was nothing short of murder. Though contemporaries of Pickett and some modern scholars condemn Pickett and believe that he should have been put on trial for war crimes, a close examination of the facts reveals that not only were Pickett's actions justified by the circumstances, but he was also following the same course of action that Union commanders were ordered to follow.

Future plans: John will attend the WFU Master Teacher Fellows Program and plans to teach high school social studies and coach track and cross-country teams.

Tipping the Glass: The Cocktail and the Transformation of Women's Roles in Early Twentieth Century America

Carolyn Elizabeth Harbaugh, History
Advisor: Susan Rupp

Tipping the Glass: The Cocktail and the Transformation of Women's Roles in Early Twentieth Century America, deals with the ways in which the cocktail specifically served as a reflection of social liberation for urban middle and upper-class white American women during the period from 1900 to 1930. The paper specifically illustrates this claim through studying the drink's evolution from 1900 to 1920, the form the cocktail took during Prohibition and the lasting impact it had on the role of women in American society.

Future plans: Carolyn will participate in Teach for America where she will teach 4th – 8th grade social studies in the Rio Grande Valley for the next two years.

The Father of Modern Japan: The Impact of the Meiji and World War II on the Foreign Policy of Yoshida Shigeru

Evan Frederic Jaffe, History

Advisor: Alan Williams

Though one of Japan's most important figures of the twentieth century did not participate directly in these crucial World War II events, a casual observer or scholar might expect that a Japanese public figure might be profoundly impacted by these moments and the war in general. Interestingly, however, Yoshida Shigeru's beliefs about Japan's foreign policy were not fundamentally affected by the Pacific War. One could expect such dramatic events would have affected him deeply even though he was not involved, but this was not the case. Neither the war, nor its devastating end, altered him in any profound way in terms of personal beliefs and values.

Future plans: Evan will work in the Financial Services Industry and hopes to become a teacher after a career in finance.

Lessons of Young Men: Learned and Unlearned – The Military Strategies of George Washington and Robert E. Lee

Charles Adreon Kruger II, History

Advisor: Paul Escott

This thesis explores the connection and influence drawn by many historians of George Washington upon Robert E. Lee. Even down to marriage and table utensils, Lee had an overarching idealization of Washington and modeled nearly every aspect of his life upon the Revolutionary hero and their Virginian commonalities. Although Lee was successful in imitating Washington to a large extent, there are certain facets that were not common between the two, particularly military strategies. Through a careful examination of particular battles and an analysis of their respective military psychologies through their own writings, I explore the differences between Washington's "win by not losing" approach and contrast it with Lee's audacity and penchant for attack. I pay particular attention to their military background and education, and comparing them reveals the rationale behind the divergent strategies they pursued for a similar task, Washington in the Revolution and Lee in the Civil War. Though this difference in tactics and strategy did not detract from Lee's similar apotheosis to Washington, it proves to be the key to understanding George Washington's ultimate victory and Robert E. Lee's crushing defeat.

Future plans: Adreon will work in the financial industry before returning to academia for law school. He plans to become a practicing attorney and pursue a career in government and public service.

***From Labor to Race in 88 Seconds: Memory's™
Evolution in the Greensboro Massacre***

Lauren Kylie Lazar, History

Advisor: Michele Gillespie

This honors paper addresses how the Greensboro Massacre, a seminal event in Greensboro, NC's history, has been remembered by citizens in the community. A city that considered itself progressive in light of the 1960s Civil Rights movements, Greensboro has historically prided itself on its ability to face social issues head-on, rather than cowering in the shadow of the past. The shootings on November 1979 and the tragedy that resulted, however, calls into question this reputation, as this paper explains. The Greensboro Massacre serves as a reminder to southern communities that they cannot rest on their laurels of supposed civil rights accomplishments. My essay analyzes the clash of the two groups contesting each other in this event, the Workers' Viewpoint Organization (WVO) and a cooperative of the Ku Klux Klan and Nazi Party (KKK). Though certain indisputable facts do surround November 3rd, they have meant little in determining how people have reflected upon this event and created a community of memory. Over the past 29 years, I argue, collective memories about the Greensboro Massacre have ebbed and flowed with the political tide. Although largely a labor struggle, it has gained racial connotations in the minds of the community. This transforming of memory and history forces is the topic of my research. I carefully examine the provocative events preceding November 3rd, the master narrative established by the city of Greensboro in the wake of the event, the challenges that narrative has faced, and the implications for modern southern history in general.

Future plans: Lauren is currently in the midst of applying to graduate programs and deciding the future of her graduate studies.

The Irony of Reverse Course: Changing Reforms in the Educational System of Occupied Japan, 1945-1950

Amy Louise Mueller, History
Advisor: Simone Caron

This paper deals with education reforms imposed by the American occupiers on post-World War II Japan. The sources include documents issued by the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (SCAP), including new, American-made textbooks for Japanese school children. The basic argument is that SCAP's undemocratic means of manipulating the educational system of Japan undermined its overall goal of using that very system to foster the fledgling democracy in Japan.

Other honors: Phi Beta Kappa, Omicron Delta Kappa, Mullen Scholarship, Phi Alpha Theta

Future plans: Amy plans to teach high school social studies, preferably World History, in either the Raleigh or DC area next year.

“The Moral Obligation: The Role of Anglo-French Negotiations and their Commitments – 1904-1914”

Erik John Risendal, History
Advisor: Michael Hughes

Altogether, this paper examines and critically analyzes the period of negotiations between the British and French Naval and War Offices that stretched from 1904 until the outbreak of military conflict in 1914. Primarily, this paper sets out to prove that British commitments, made during these secret Anglo-French negotiations, committed the country strategically and morally to war in defense of France. With a rich collection of primary source material, this paper looks at the changing dynamics of European power, the naval-oriented Mediterranean Agreement, shifts in British political and foreign policy direction, the debate over the secrecy of the conversations, and finally, the commitments made during the negotiations, among other critical factors, in order to reach the controversial, but clear, conclusion that Britain had bound itself morally and strategically to war by 1914.

Future plans: Erik will attend the University of Virginia School of Law and plans to pursue a career in international law.

Augustus and the Construction of the Res Gestae

Emily Logan Stedman, History

Advisor: Jeffrey Lerner

How do modern historians sort the facts, myth, and contradictions surrounding Augustus' legacy, almost 2000 years after his death? One particular issue regarding this question concerns the *Res Gestae*, Augustus' political autobiography. Augustus began writing the *Res Gestae* in c. 23 BC after a serious illness forced him to consider how his death might impact the Roman Empire, and he deposited the final draft with the Vestal Virgins for safe keeping in 13 AD. In thirty-five brief chapters, Augustus provides a deceptively simple résumé of the new form of government he founded in Rome: the Principate, which consisted of an autocratic monarch, the Princeps, who masked his authoritarian tendencies with Republican facades. The *Res Gestae* legitimizes Augustus' political self-image and provides evidence in support of his deification, his ultimate goal in publishing this work. Avoiding ornate embellishment, Augustus sets forth a distinct and easy to read narrative of his political and social acts as Princeps. His articulated word choice and brevity of expression emphasize the ease with which he transformed the state and received honorary titles such as *Pater Patriae*. In his autobiography, Augustus includes information that falls easily into six topical categories: an introduction, *Res Gestae*, Honores declined, Honores accepted, monetary *Impensae*, building *Impensae*, military action of the *Res Gestae* proper, diplomatic actions of the *Res Gestae* proper, and a conclusion. Despite his death, Augustus' influence was felt throughout the Empire for centuries. In publishing the *Res Gestae*, Augustus achieved his goal of deification, as Romans subsequently recognized him as a god. His legacy, however, transcended the life of the Empire. Augustus succeeded in shaping his legacy as an icon of peace, prosperity, and power.

Future plans: Emily will join Teach For America in Phoenix, Arizona. She plans subsequently to pursue a graduate degree in Law, History, or Education.