

**Claire Bond Potter**  
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## **Employment**

Professor, Department of History, Wesleyan University (January, 2006 to present)

Associate Professor (July, 1997 to December 2006)

Assistant Professor (July, 1991 - June, 1997)

Chair, American Studies Program (July 2007 to present)

Director, Center for the Americas (July 2007 to present)

## **Education**

Ph.D., New York University (May, 1990)

M.A. New York University (May, 1984)

B.A., English, Yale University (May, 1980)

## **Publications**

### *Books*

War on Crime: Bandits, G-Men and the Politics of Mass Culture (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1998)

### *Articles and Review Essays*

“Chalking the Borders: Sidewalk Politics on a College Campus,” for a volume revisiting the work of urban planner Jane Jacobs; Marci Nelligan and Nicole Mauro, eds. Intersections: Sidewalks and Public Space (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2008).

“Queer Hoover: Sex, Lies and Political History,” Journal of the History of Sexuality, vol. 15 no. 3 (September 2006), pp. 355-381. *Awarded the 2007-08 Audre Lorde article prize by the Committee on Lesbian and Gay History (American Historical Association affiliate society.)*

“Ahead of Her Time,” review essay on historian Lucy Maynard Salmon for Women’s Review of Books (November, 2001)

“Kiss, Kiss, Bang, Bang,” review essay on feminism and female gun ownership, in Women’s Review of Books (March 2001)

“Nation and Reunification,” review essay on Progressive-era patriotic pageantry in Reviews in American History (March, 2000)

“The Problem of the Color Line: Segregation, Politics and Historical Writing,” Cultural Critique no. 38 (winter, 1997-98)

“Death-defying Women,” review essay on women and organized crime in Europe and the United States for Women’s Review of Books (March, 1997)

Co-editor and co-author of introduction (with Henry Abelove and Richard Ohmann), of Radical Teacher (#45), special queer studies issue (spring, 1997)

“I’ll Go the Limit and Then Some:’ Gun Molls, Desire and Danger in the 1930’s,” Feminist Studies (spring, 1995)

*Encyclopedia Entries and Book Reviews*

Review of Sharon Marcus, Between Women: Friendship, Desire and Marriage in Victorian England (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2007), for the Committee on Lesbian and Gay History (AHA) quarterly newsletter (fall 2008)

“Alice Roosevelt Longworth,” for Susan Ware, ed. Notable American Women (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2005)

“J. Edgar Hoover,” Encyclopedia of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender History in America, ed. Marc Stein (New York: Scribner’s, 2003), vol. 2, p. 65-67.

Book reviews for Journal of American History, The American Historical Review, Contemporary Sociology, The Historian, Journal of Interdisciplinary History, Phoebe, and International Labor and Working Class History

**Work in Progress**

*Books*

*Problems and Methods in Recent American History* (anthology under contract to the University of Georgia Press, be delivered July 15, 2010.) With Renee Romano, Oberlin College Department of History, I co-edit a monograph series in United States history for the University of Georgia Press, "Contemporary America: Since 1970," (Derek Krissof, acquisitions editor.) The series is to be inaugurated with this anthology, a co-edited collection of articles on the challenges attendant to, and the development of new methods for, writing the history of the recent past. I will co-author an introduction with Renee, and co-edit an article on the problem of writing from a second-wave feminist archive donated by living activists.

### **Sexual Revolutions: Feminism, the Reagan Revolution and the Politics of Pornography, 1968-1990**

*This new book project explores the political history of movements to suppress pornography during the Carter, Reagan and George H.W. Bush administrations. It centers anti-pornography campaigns mounted, and sometimes opposed, by feminists; and family values campaigns that were crucial to grass roots conservative attempts to implement a Christian social agenda at the end of the twentieth century. (Significant research completed in the Reagan and Carter Presidential Libraries, the New York Public Library, Duke University Special Collections and the Schlesinger Library, Cambridge, MA; have given four public talks from this material; have drafted an historiographical article from the secondary research; am scheduled to give two conference presentations, and have submitted a third.)*

### **The Living Present: William Dunning, The Civil War and a Modern Historical Imagination**

*This book-length study of William Archibald Dunning, a controversial scholar of the Civil War and Reconstruction asks: Why do people become historians? And why do they write the histories that they do? In answering these questions, "The Living Present" addresses the ideological stakes behind the development of political history as a field by examining its origins in the study of slavery, the Civil War and Reconstruction between 1877 and 1922. (Completing final revisions suggested by readers for the University of Virginia Press; submission of manuscript scheduled for August 1, 2009)*

*Articles and Review Essays in process*

*\*"The Long Sexual Revolution," an article addressing theoretical questions about the history of sexuality raised by the research for Sexual Revolutions.*

*"Sex and the City: Intersections Between Queer Studies and Urban History," review essay commissioned for the Journal of Urban History of: Dianne Chisholm, Queer Constellations (2005); Daniel Hurewitz, Bohemian Los Angeles (2007), Eric Wat, The Making of A Gay Asian Community (2002), Nan Alamilla Boyd, Wide Open Town (2003), and Peter Boag, Same-Sex Affairs (2003) (scheduled for submission in July, 2008.)*

### **External Awards and Prizes**

*Audre Lorde article prize by the Committee on Lesbian and Gay History (American Historical*

*Association affiliate society), 2007-08*

*Albert J. Beveridge Research Grant, American Historical Association, 1988*

*Charlotte Newcombe Dissertation Fellowship, Woodrow Wilson Foundation, 1987*

### ***Invited Talks***

*“Sexual Revolutions: Pornography and Politics in the Age of Reagan,” Yale University Department of History and the Program in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies, New Haven, CT, October 23, 2008.*

*Keynote speaker for the Hamline University’s Symposium on the Humanities, “Feminist Politics and the White House,” St. Paul, MN, March 31-April 1, 2008. Delivered two talks: “Was There a Sexual Counterrevolution? Reinventing the ‘Crime’ of Pornography in the Age of Reagan;” and “Before Hillary, There Was Midge: Feminist Politics and the Carter White House.”*

*“The Sexual Counterrevolution: Feminism, the Reagan Administration and the ‘Crime’ of Pornography,” invited talk, Pennsylvania State University Departments of History and Women’s Studies, State College, PA, October 10-11, 2007.*

*“Methods for a Queer Political History,” invited talk sponsored by the Rainbow Center (University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut, November 5, 2003).*

*“Why Queer Studies in American Studies?” American Studies graduate symposium, Yale University, New Haven, CT April 22, 2003.*

*Visiting scholar, History Series, the Salisbury House Cultural Center, Des Moines, IA (December, 2002)*

### ***Conference Papers***

*“Feminist Theories of Violence: Black Intersectionality and the (White) Anti-Pornography Movement in the 1980’s,” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, March 26-28, 2009.*

*“Feminism, Conservatism and the Politics of Pornography, 1968-1990,” Annual Meeting of the American Legal History Society, Ottawa, Ontario, November 13-16.*

*“Tenured Radical Speaks; or, What The Historian Learned When She Went to the Blogosphere,” at the annual meeting of the Berkshire Conference of Women Historians, held at Interlaken Inn, Lakeville, CT, October 8-9, 2008.*

*“Our Feminisms, Our Selves: Feminist Theory and the Contemporary Practice of History,” The Fourteenth Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Minneapolis, MN, June, 2008.*

*“My Second Career at the ‘Little University,’” CCWH sponsored Roundtable, Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, Washington, D.C. January 3-6, 2008.*

*“The Long Sexual Revolution,” Annual Meeting of the New England American Studies Association (Brown University, Providence, RI, November 2-3, 2007).*

*Roundtable: “Political Activism in the United States After 1980,” Annual Meeting of the Organization of American Historians (Minneapolis, MN, March 29-April 1, 2007).*

*Invited to present work in progress on William Archibald Dunning, Southern Historians of New England fall meeting (University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, September 24, 2005).*

*Roundtable: “The Foundations and Future for a Queer Political History,” Annual Meeting of the Organization of American Historians (Boston, MA March 25-28, 2004).*

*“Queer Hoover: Cold War Politics and the Historiography of Shame,” Conference on the Queer 1950’s and ‘60’s (Center for the Humanities, Wesleyan University, April 26, 2003)*

*“Reconstructing White Bourgeois Manhood: the Ambitions and Education of William Archibald Dunning,” Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association (Chicago, IL January 2-5, 2003).*

*“In Search of a New “Old South:’ Frederic Bancroft’s Un-Scientific History,” Annual Meeting of the Southern Historical Association (Baltimore, MD, November 6-7, 2002).*

*“Writing Slavery Back Into History: Frederic Bancroft’s Slave Trading in the Old South,” Annual Meeting of the New England American Studies Association (Boston, MA, April 26-28, 2002).*

*“The Paradox of Interdisciplinary Scholarship” (Amherst College, Amherst, MA, November 9, 2001).*

*“Gentlemen’s Agreements: Theodore Roosevelt and the Anatomy of Segregation,” The Tenth Berkshire Conference on the History of Women (Chapel Hill, NC, June, 1996).*

*“Booker T. Washington and the Politics of Autobiography,” Little Three Conference (Amherst College, Amherst, MA January 10-11, 1995).*

*“A New Deal for Crime: the FBI and the Rise of State Power, 1933-36,” Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, (Washington, D.C., December 27-29, 1992).*

*“A New Deal for Crime: the FBI in the 1930’s,” Annual Meeting of the New England Historical Society (Boston, MA, October 28, 1991).*

“‘The Story of Suicide Sal:’ Bobbed-Hair Bandits and the Transformation of Southwestern Women’s Culture in the 1930’s,” *Annual Meeting of the Southern Historical Association* (New Orleans, LA, November 1-3, 1990).

“‘I’ll Go the Limit and Then Some:’ Bandit Women as Symbols of Desire and Danger in the 1930’s,” *The Eighth Berkshire Conference on the History of Women* (Douglass College, Rutgers University, June, 1990).

### ***Professional Activities and Public History***

*Schlesinger Summer Seminar on Gender and History, “After the 1960’s,” June 23-26, 2008, hosted by the Library and the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study. Directed by Nancy Cott, Professor of History, Harvard University, and Director of the Schlesinger Library.*

*Textbook reviewer for Blackwell Publishing (spring, 2007)*

*Reviewer for Oxford University Press, Duke University Press, University of Kansas Press and the Journal of Urban History (2002- 2004)*

*Reviewer and technology consultant for Houghton-Mifflin textbook division (spring 2001- 02).*

*Interviewed, filmed and served as a consultant for a two-hour special on John Dillinger for The American Experience (PBS), Ben Loeterman Productions (Broadcast in the United Kingdom, February, 2001; US premiere, February 24, 2002). Consultant on web site construction for this episode for the Public Broadcasting Service (September, 2001).*

*Interviewed and filmed for “J. Edgar Hoover: Personal and Confidential,” part of the series “Behind the Badge,” by Tower Productions for A&E Biography (broadcast May 3, 1999)*

*External Committee appointed to review the history department at Franklin & Marshall College (April, 1999)*

*Interviewed and filmed for “The Kansas City Massacre,” part of the series “Tales of the FBI,” by Tower Productions for the History Channel (broadcast February 8, 1999)*

### ***Professional Affiliations***

*Organization of American Historians*

*Merle Curti Book Prize Committee (2005-06)*

*Berkshire Conference of Women Historians*

*Nominating Committee (2003 - present)*

*Chair, North American Program Committee for the 2002 conference (2000-2003)*

*Member, North American Program Committee, (1998-99)*

*Book Prize Committee, (1995-6)*

*Article Prize Committee (1992, 1993); chair of committee (1993-5)*

*American Studies Association*

*Board, New England American Studies Association (1999-2000)*

*American Historical Association*

*Beveridge-Dunning Prize Committee, 2008-2011*

*Southern Historical Association*

*American Association of University Professors*

### ***Other Employment***

*Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Pennsylvania (July 1990-June 1991)*

*Instructor, Eugene Lang College, New School University (September 1989-May 1990)*

*Instructor, Baruch College, CUNY (September 1989-May 1990)*

*Comments are closed.*

*Modified on: Jun 19th, 2009 [Log in](#)*