

September 18, 2020

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

8:30–8:45 a.m.

Welcome and conference introduction

8:45–9:45 a.m.

Panel 1 — Interpreting Joseph Smith's Networks:
A Joseph Smith Papers Roundtable

Chair: Chase Kirkham, Joseph Smith Papers
Spencer W. McBride, Joseph Smith Papers
Shannon Kelly Jorgensen, Joseph Smith Papers
Stephanie Steed, Joseph Smith Papers
Brett D. Dowdle, Joseph Smith Papers
Nathan N. Waite, Joseph Smith Papers
Angela M. Thompson, Joseph Smith Papers

10:00–11:30 a.m.

Panel 2 — Power Networks: Race, Hostility, and
Politics

Chair: Petra Javadi-Evans, Joseph Smith Papers
W. Paul Reeve, University of Utah
*"I Dug the Graves": Isaac Lewis Manning, Joseph Smith,
and Racial Connections in Two Latter Day Saint Traditions"*
Brian Stutzman, Independent Scholar
"Joseph Smith and Warsaw, Illinois: A Network of Conflict"
Derek R. Sainsbury, Brigham Young University
*"The Cadre for the Kingdom: The Lasting Connections
and Networks Forged by Joseph Smith's Electioneers"*

11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Lunch break

1:00–2:30 p.m.

Panel 3 — Financial Networks: Untapped Scholarly
Sources and a New Joseph Smith Papers Series

Chair: Nicole Christensen Fernley, Joseph Smith Papers
Elizabeth A. Kuehn, Joseph Smith Papers
*"Was Joseph Smith Bad at Business?: Evaluating and
Contextualizing Joseph Smith's Business Practices
and Networks of Debt"*
Sharalyn D. Howcroft, Joseph Smith Papers
*"The Red Brick Store Daybooks: Just Financial
Transactions?"*
Jeffrey D. Mahas, Joseph Smith Papers
*"Submit Patiently to Their Economy": Labor Disputes
and the Building of the Nauvoo Temple"*

2:45–4:15 p.m.

Panel 4 — Theological Networks: Salvation
and Revelation as Communal Experiences

Chair: Catherine Reese Newton, Joseph Smith Papers
Jordan T. Watkins, Brigham Young University
*"Temporal Contexts and Eternal Connections in
Joseph Smith's Nauvoo Teachings"*
Jonathan A. Stapley, Independent Scholar
"The Liturgies of Connection"
Samuel M. Brown, University of Utah
"Collaborative Revelation in the Early Restoration"

Joseph Smith Papers Conference

PARTICIPANT BIOS

Spencer W. McBride, Joseph Smith Papers

Spencer W. McBride is a historian for the Joseph Smith Papers. He earned his PhD in history at Louisiana State University and specializes in the intersections of religion and politics in United States history. He is the author of *Pulpit and Nation: Clergymen and the Politics of Revolutionary America* (University of Virginia Press, 2016) and the coeditor of *Contingent Citizens: Shifting Perceptions of Latter-day Saints in American Political Culture* (Cornell University Press, 2020). His new book on Joseph Smith's presidential campaign will be published by Oxford University Press in spring 2021.

Shannon Kelly Jorgensen, Joseph Smith Papers

Shannon Kelly Jorgensen is an editor for the Church Historian's Press. She previously worked as an editorial assistant for the Joseph Smith Papers. She received a BA in humanities with a minor in editing from Brigham Young University, where she wrote and edited for *Stowaway* magazine and served as an editorial assistant for *BYU Studies*.

Stephanie Steed, Joseph Smith Papers

Stephanie Steed is an editor for the Church Historian's Press. She graduated from Brigham Young University with a BA in English language and a minor in editing. She is currently obtaining an MA in English from Arizona State University. She has worked for the Joseph Smith Papers for six years, during which time she also helped with source checking for the first two volumes of *Saints: The Story of the Church of Jesus Christ in the Latter Days*.

Brett D. Dowdle, Joseph Smith Papers

Brett D. Dowdle is a historian with the Joseph Smith Papers. He holds a BA and an MA in history from Brigham Young University and a PhD in American history from Texas Christian University. He has been a volume editor for *Documents, Volumes 8, 11, and 15* and has provided research assistance for several other volumes. He currently lives in Orem with his wife and daughter.

Nathan N. Waite, Joseph Smith Papers

Nathan Waite is an editor on the Joseph Smith Papers and an associate editorial manager for the Church Historian's Press. He received a BA in English from Brigham Young University, an MA in American studies from the University of Utah, and a graduate certificate in digital humanities from the University of Victoria. He is coeditor of *A Zion Canyon Reader* (University of Utah Press, 2014) and *Settling the Valley, Proclaiming the Gospel: The General Epistles of the Mormon First Presidency* (Oxford, 2017).

Angela M. Thompson, Joseph Smith Papers

Angela Thompson is an editor for the Church Historian's Press. She received a BS in human development and an MA in English, with an emphasis in Victorian literature, from Brigham Young University. Prior to joining the project, she worked as an editorial lead for ProQuest, where she managed the elementary editions of CultureGrams—a leading reference database of cultural information on countries of the world.

W. Paul Reeve, University of Utah

"I Dug the Graves": Isaac Lewis Manning, Joseph Smith, and Racial Connections in Two Latter Day Saint Traditions

W. Paul Reeve is the Simmons Professor of Mormon Studies in the history department at the University of Utah, where he serves as chair of the Mormon Studies Initiative. Reeve's book, *Religion of a Different Color: Race and the Mormon Struggle for Whiteness* (Oxford, 2015), received three best book awards. He is project manager and general editor of a digital database, *Century of Black Mormons*, designed to name and identify all known black Mormons baptized into the faith between 1830 and 1930. The database is live at CenturyofBlackMormons.org.

Brian Stutzman, Independent Scholar

"Joseph Smith and Warsaw, Illinois: A Network of Conflict"

Brian Stutzman authored the first history of Warsaw, Illinois. Warsaw was the nemesis of Nauvoo during the 1840s. Stutzman lives in Idaho Falls, Idaho, where he and his wife, Alane, are the parents of four sons. Stutzman has spoken at John Whitmer Historical Association, twice at BYU–Idaho Education Week, and several times at the Warsaw Historical Association. He enjoys teaching Hancock County residents about their past. He holds a degree in economics from Brigham Young University, where he served as president of an honor society. He is very active in local and state politics and enjoys sports, traveling, and church service.

Derek R. Sainsbury, Brigham Young University

"The Cadre for the Kingdom: The Lasting Connections and Networks Forged by Joseph Smith's Electioneers"

Derek R. Sainsbury holds a PhD in American history from the University of Utah and is the author of *Storming the Nation: The Unknown Contributions of Joseph Smith's Political Missionaries*. He has taught for twenty-five years in the Church Educational System of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Currently, he is an instructor in Brigham Young University's religion department.

Joseph Smith Papers Conference

Elizabeth A. Kuehn, Joseph Smith Papers

“Was Joseph Smith Bad at Business?: Evaluating and Contextualizing Joseph Smith’s Business Practices and Networks of Debt”

Elizabeth Kuehn received her BA in history from Arizona State University and her MA in history from Purdue University. She entered a doctoral program in history at the University of California, Irvine, and became a PhD candidate there in 2011. Since 2013, she has worked as a documentary editor and historian for the Joseph Smith Papers. She is a coeditor of several volumes of the Joseph Smith Papers, including *Documents, Volumes 5, 6, and 10*. She is also the lead editor of the new Financial Records online series for the Joseph Smith Papers.

Sharalyn D. Howcroft, Joseph Smith Papers

“The Red Brick Store Daybooks: Just Financial Transactions?”

Sharalyn Howcroft is project archivist for the Joseph Smith Papers. She has been a member of the Academy of Certified Archivists (ACA) since 2015 and serves on the ACA Exam Development Committee (2019–21). She is coeditor of *Foundational Texts of Mormonism: Examining Major Early Sources* (Oxford, 2018).

Jeffrey D. Mahas, Joseph Smith Papers

“‘Submit Patiently to Their Economy’: Labor Disputes and the Building of the Nauvoo Temple”

Jeffrey Mahas is a historian with the Joseph Smith Papers. His work appears in the Documents, Administrative Records, Legal, and Financial Records series of the project. He received his MA from the University of Utah in history.

Jordan T. Watkins, Brigham Young University

“Temporal Contexts and Eternal Connections in Joseph Smith’s Nauvoo Teachings”

Jordan Watkins received a PhD in American history from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. His current book manuscript, *Slavery and Sacred Texts: The Bible, the Constitution, and the Antebellum Confrontation with History*, is under contract at Cambridge University Press. Before taking a job at Brigham Young University, he had the great privilege of working for the Joseph Smith Papers, where he played a small role on Volume 10 of the Documents series.

Jonathan A. Stapley, Independent Scholar

“The Liturgies of Connection”

Jonathan Stapley is an historian and scientist. His book *The Power of Godliness* received the 2019 Best Book Award from the Mormon History Association.

Samuel M. Brown, University of Utah

“Collaborative Revelation in the Early Restoration”

Samuel Brown is an associate professor of medical ethics and humanities at the University of Utah and a physician scientist studying life-threatening infection. He has written several books. His latest book is *Joseph Smith’s Translation* (Oxford, 2020). His talk will be drawn from an intellectual biography of William Phelps, to be published by University of Illinois Press.

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