

Sabbatical Report: AY 2016-2017

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During the 2016-2017 academic year I was on a full-year, half-pay, professional development (sabbatical) leave. The time I had away from teaching and administrative responsibilities proved quite fruitful.

I spent the first two-thirds of the leave primarily writing, which resulted in the completion of three publications. The first was a Special Edition of the *Journal of Early American History* that I co-edited and contributed to with John Smolenski (Associate Professor of Early American History, University of California at Davis). The three articles included in the series conceptually focused on the place of "frontiers" in early American history, and Pennsylvania in particular (Pennsylvania's Frontiers" (with John Smolenski) *Journal of Early American History*, special edition, vol. 6, Spring 2016).

Once the Special Series was completed, I turned my attention (albeit briefly) to completing a book review for the *American Historical Review* (the flagship journal in history). That review was also published before the end of the Fall semester in 2016 (*Professional Indian: The American Odyssey of Eleazer Williams*. Michael Leroy Oberg, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2015 (*American Historical Review*, Vol. 121, Issue 4, October 2016) 1272-1273).

Most of my time writing, though, was spent completing an Organization of American Historians/National Parks Service-funded and peer-reviewed study on treaty history. In short, the report documented the histories, significance, and legal legacies of the land treaties that were finalized near and around the Oneida Carry (Rome, New York), c. 1730-1794. This 350+ page report will be published by the National Parks Service as a monograph later this year, tentatively entitled: *“Negotiating at the Oneida Carry: The Fort Stanwix Treaties and early North America”* and will be disseminated widely across the country. The final talk I delivered for this report gained notable press just last week:

1.

<http://www.uticaod.com/news/20170906/rome-presentation-to-discuss-historic-treaties>

2.

<http://romesentinel.com/arts-learning/treaties-associated-with-fort-stanwix-discussed-friday/QBqqhE!RLV2QDnkin5sRAoxfKCv@w/>

3.

<https://www.nps.gov/fost/learn/news/park-to-host-presentation-on-treaties-signed-at-historic-fort.htm>

Finally, during the last third part of my leave I completed research at the Archives of Ontario, the National Archives of Canada, the Rome Historical Society, and Hamilton College that will further my next book project: *“An Inconvenient Founder: George Croghan, Failure, and the Making of America.”* The time spent in Canada also led to an invited position as “Visiting Scholar” in the Department of History at York University, and invited talks in Toronto, Canada and Dundee, Scotland this coming academic year.