

**Randal L. Hall**

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**Education**

Ph.D., Rice University  
B.A., Wake Forest University

**Current Academic Appointments**

*Rice University*  
Associate Professor of History, July 2013–present  
Editor, *Journal of Southern History*, July 2013–present

**Recent Course Offerings**

FWIS 116 American Journeys (first-year writing-intensive seminar)  
Hist 570 US Environmental History (graduate reading seminar)  
Hist 583 Southern History (graduate research seminar)  
Hist 321 US Environmental History (upper-level undergraduate course)  
HURC 501 Environment, Culture, Limits (2-sem. Mellon Graduate Research Seminar)

**Publications*****In press***

“Louis Bromfield and Agroecological Abundance in the Early Cold War Americas,”  
*Environment and History*, forthcoming (accepted July 19, 2016).

***Books***

*A Rape in the Early Republic: Gender and Legal Culture in an 1806 Virginia Trial*. By Alexander Smyth. Edited and with an introduction by Randal L. Hall. (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2017).

*Mountains on the Market: Industry, the Environment, and the South* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2012).

*William Marsh Rice and His Institute: The Centennial Edition*. Edited by Randal L. Hall. First edition by Sylvia Stallings Morris Lowe, from the papers and research notes of Andrew Forest Muir. (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2012).

*Seeing Jefferson Anew: In His Time and Ours*. Co-edited with John B. Boles. (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2010).

*Lum and Abner: Rural America and the Golden Age of Radio*. Edited and introduced by Randal L. Hall. (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2007).

*Thomas Dixon Jr. and the Birth of Modern America*. Co-edited with Michele Gillespie. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, cloth edition 2006, paperback edition 2009).

*William Louis Poteat: A Leader of the Progressive-Era South* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2000).

*The Southern Albatross: Race and Ethnicity in the American South*. Co-edited with Philip D. Dillard. (Macon, Ga.: Mercer University Press, 1999).

### **Peer-Reviewed Articles**

"Paradoxical Infrastructures: Ruins, Retrofit, and Risk" (coauthor with Cymene Howe et al.), *Science, Technology, & Human Values* 41 (May 2016): 547–65, doi: 10.1177/0162243915620017.

"Robinson Newcomb and the Limits of Liberalism at UNC: Two Case Studies of Black Businessmen in the 1920s South" (with Ken Badgett), *North Carolina Historical Review* 86 (October 2009), 373–403.

"Carnival of Speed: The Auto Racing Business in the American South, 1930–1950," *North Carolina Historical Review* 84 (July 2007): 245–75.

"A Courtroom Massacre: Politics and Public Sentiment in Progressive-Era Virginia," *Journal of Southern History* 70 (May 2004): 249–92.

"Before NASCAR: The Corporate and Civic Promotion of Automobile Racing in the American South, 1903–1927," *Journal of Southern History* 68 (August 2002): 629–68.

"Southern Conservatism at Work: Women, Nurses, and the 1878 Yellow Fever Epidemic in Memphis," *Tennessee Historical Quarterly* 56 (Winter 1997): 244–61.

### **Book Chapters**

"Constructing Violence: Historical Memory and a 1912 Courtroom Massacre in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains," in *(Re)Constructing Cultures of Violence and Peace*, ed. Richard Jackson (Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2004), 31–44.

### **Essays**

"Closing the Book on a Half-Century Project," *Rice Magazine*, Summer 2016, p. 48.

"Privy Thoughts," *Southern Cultures* 15 (Summer 2009): 111–15.

"The Suburb of Tomorrow: Frank Sharp and the Legacy of Oak Forest," *Cite: The Architecture and Design Review of Houston*, no. 77 (Winter 2009): 36–37.

"A Black Minister at the Nadir: The Poetry of Charles Roundtree Dinkins," *Journal of Southern Religion* 11 (2009), <http://jsreligion.org/Volume11/Hall.htm>.

"William Louis Poteat: An Introduction," in William Louis Poteat, *Youth and Culture: Baccalaureate Addresses*, reprint of 1938 edition (Winston-Salem, N.C.: Wake Forest University, 1998), xii–xxiv.

### **Commissioned Book Reviews**

*Reconstruction's Ragged Edge: The Politics of Postwar Life in the Southern Mountains*. By Steven E. Nash. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2016), *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* 115 (Summer 2017): 439–41.

*The Slain Wood: Papermaking and Its Environmental Consequences in the American South.* By William Boyd. (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2015), *American Historical Review* 121 (June 2016): 969; doi: 10.1093/ahr/121.3.969.

*Southern Water, Southern Power: How the Politics of Cheap Energy and Water Scarcity Shaped a Region.* By Christopher R. Manganiello. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2015), *H-Environment Roundtable Review* 6, no. 5 (2016), <https://networks.h-net.org/manganiello-southern-water-southern-power-roundtable-review-vol-6-no-5-2016>.

*Boll Weevil Blues: Cotton, Myth, and Power in the American South.* By James C. Giesen. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2011), *EH.Net* (sponsored by the Economic History Association), January 2013, [http://eh.net/book\\_reviews/boll-weevil-blues-cotton-myth-and-power-american-south](http://eh.net/book_reviews/boll-weevil-blues-cotton-myth-and-power-american-south).

*Blood and Smoke: A True Tale of Mystery, Mayhem, and the Birth of the Indy 500.* By Charles Leerhsen. (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2011), *Indiana Magazine of History*, 108 (December 2012): 405–7.

*Real NASCAR: White Lightning, Red Clay, and Big Bill France.* By Daniel S. Pierce. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2010), *North Carolina Historical Review* 87 (October 2010), 462–63.

*Burying the Dead but Not the Past: Ladies' Memorial Associations and the Lost Cause.* By Caroline E. Janney. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2008), *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era* 8 (April 2009): 283–85.

*D. W. Griffith's The Birth of a Nation: A History of "The Most Controversial Motion Picture of All Time."* By Melvyn Stokes. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2007), *North Carolina Historical Review* 86 (January 2009): 122–23.

*Beach Racers: Daytona before NASCAR.* By Dick Punnett. (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2008), *Florida Historical Quarterly* 87 (Summer 2008): 128–30.

*Henry Watterson and the New South: The Politics of Empire, Free Trade, and Globalization.* By Daniel S. Margolies. (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2006), *Journal of American History* 94 (September 2007): 571.

*Silent Speedways of the Carolinas: The Grand National Histories of 29 Former Tracks.* By Perry Allen Wood. (Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland and Company, 2007), *North Carolina Historical Review* 84 (July 2007): 329–30.

*Ivory Towers and Nationalist Minds: Universities, Leadership, and the Development of the American State.* By Mark R. Nemecek. (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2006), *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* 104 (Summer–Autumn 2006): 741–42.

*Isaac Taylor Tichenor: The Creation of the Baptist New South.* By Michael E. Williams Sr. (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2005), *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* 103 (Autumn 2005): 772–74.

*A Murder in Virginia: Southern Justice on Trial.* By Suzanne Lebsack. (New York: W. W. Norton, 2003), *Journal of Southern History* 70 (August 2004): 704–5.

*Gerald W. Johnson: From Southern Liberal to National Conscience.* By Vincent Fitzpatrick. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2002), *Journal of Southern History* 69 (November 2003): 973–74.

*The Record-Setting Trips: By Auto from Coast to Coast, 1909–1916.* By Curt McConnell. (Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Press, 2003), *Montana: The Magazine of Western History* 53 (Autumn 2003): 82–83.

*The Last Days of Big Grassy Fork.* By Hunter James. (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2002), *Journal of Southern History* 69 (August 2003): 724–25.

*Fixin' to Git: One Fan's Love Affair with NASCAR's Winston Cup.* By Jim Wright. (Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 2002), *Business History Review* 76 (Winter 2002): 888–90.

*To Raise Up the South: Sunday Schools in Black and White Churches, 1865–1915.* By Sally G. McMillen. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2001), *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* 100 (Summer 2002): 380–82.

*Castles in the Sand: The Life and Times of Carl Graham Fisher.* By Mark S. Foster. (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2000), *Journal of Southern History* 68 (August 2002): 732–33.

*Lessons in Progress: State Universities and Progressivism in the New South, 1880–1920.* By Michael Dennis. (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2001), *Georgia Historical Quarterly* 85 (Winter 2001): 659–61.

*Appalachians and Race: From Slavery to Segregation.* Edited by John C. Inscoe. (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2000), *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* 109, no. 1 (2001): 103–4.

*When All the Gods Trembled: Darwinism, Scopes, and American Intellectuals.* By Paul K. Conkin. (Lanham, Md.: Rowman and Littlefield, 1998), *Georgia Historical Quarterly* 84 (Summer 2000): 343–45.

*Visions and Vanities: John Andrew Rice and Black Mountain College.* By Katherine Chaddock Reynolds. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1998), *Journal of Southern History* 65 (November 1999): 905–7.

### **Encyclopedia Entries**

“Poteat, William Louis,” and “Wake Forest University,” in *The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*, vol. 17, *Education*, ed. Charles Reagan Wilson and Clarence L. Mohr (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2011), 277–78, 339–40.

“William Louis Poteat,” in *Encyclopedia of Religion in the South*, 2nd edition, ed. Samuel S. Hill, Charles H. Lippy, and Charles Reagan Wilson (Macon, Ga.: Mercer University Press, 2005), 600–601.

“William Louis Poteat,” in *The North Carolina Century: Tar Heels Who Made a Difference, 1900–2000*, ed. Howard E. Covington Jr. and Marion A. Ellis (Charlotte, N.C.: Levine Museum of the New South, 2002), 256–58.

“Annie Cook,” in *The Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture*, ed. Carroll Van West et al. (Nashville, Tenn.: Rutledge Hill Press, 1998), 205.

### **Selected Professional Service**

Reviewed article and book manuscripts for University of Pittsburgh Press, *Southern Spaces*, the *Indiana Magazine of History*, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, the University of Alabama Press, the University Press of Kentucky, *Homicide Studies*, *New Jersey History*, the *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*, the University Press of Mississippi, the *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*, the University of Arkansas Press, and the *Journal of Southern History*.

Organizer of the Southern Forum on Agricultural, Rural, and Environmental History (SFARE), tenth annual meeting, held at Rice University, February 10–11, 2017

Co-organized "Jefferson Davis's America: New Perspectives on the Mid-Nineteenth-Century United States," symposium held at Rice University, February 19–20, 2016

Faculty adviser, "Atlantic Environments and the American South," conference organized by Rice University history graduate students, February 5–6, 2016

Co-organized "As Others See Us: British Perspectives on Nineteenth Century American History," a special conference of the Association of British American Nineteenth Century Historians, held at Rice University, April 3–6, 2014.

Interviewee for public history podcast, Regional Initiative for Collecting the History, Experiences and Stories of Central Florida, University of Central Florida, March 2014

Organization of American Historians Binkley-Stephenson Award Committee (to select best article in *Journal of American History*), May 2009–May 2012 (chair May 2010–May 2011).

Co-organized "Slavery in the Colonial South," symposium held at Rice University, February 18–20, 2011.

Southern Historical Association Membership Committee, 2006, 2009.

Co-organized "The South and the World in the Civil War Era," symposium held at Rice University, February 20–22, 2009.

Co-organized "Thomas Jefferson: In His Time and Ours," symposium held at Rice University, February 23–25, 2007.

Co-coordinator, Houston Area Southern Historians seminar (later Houston Area Seminar in History), 2005–2016.

Co-organized "The Transformation of the South in the Twentieth Century," symposium held at Rice University, February 25–26, 2005.

Co-organized interdisciplinary conference, "Thomas Dixon Jr. and the Making of Modern America," held at Wake Forest University, April 10–12, 2003.

Originated and co-coordinated Southern Historians of the Piedmont SHOPTalk working group, Fall 2000–Spring 2003.

Co-organized Graduate Symposium on Southern History, Rice University, May 1997.

**Selected University Service**

Faculty Advisory Panel member, Humanities Research Center, 2015–2018

Faculty Steering Committee member, Center for Energy and Environmental Research in the Human Sciences (CENHS), 2014–present; CENHS Social Analytics Cluster co-chair, 2014–2016.

Graduate Committee, History Department, 2013–present

Rice University Committee on Fellowships and Awards, member, 2013–present

Faculty Board, *Rice Historical Review* (undergraduate history journal), 2015–present

Phi Beta Kappa chapter, Rice University, Chapter Secretary, 2008–2009, 2009–2010;  
Selection Committee, 2007–2008, 2010–2012