

TUESDAY: DIVISION AND UNITY: LIFE ON THE FARM

Readings:

Marla Miller. "The Accounts of Tryphena Newton Cooke: Work, Family and Community in Hadley, Massachusetts, 1780-1805" in *Textiles in New England II: Four Centuries of Material Life* Proceedings of the Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife (1999): 161-172.

Sally McMurry, "American Rural Women and the Transformation of Dairy Processing, 1820-1880." *Rural History* 5 (1994): 143-153.

Suggested classroom resource: Eric Sloane, *Seasons of America Past* (Mineola, NY: Dover Press, 2005).

Brian Donahue, "Community Farming in Massachusetts," in William Vitek and Wes Jackson, eds. *Rooted in the Land: Essays on Community and Place* (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1996), 261-272.

Land's Sake website: <www.landssake.org>> (Brian Donahue co-founded Land's Sake in 1980.)

Daily plan:

8:00-8:30 a.m. Coffee and daily overview

8:30-12:00 Hands-on sessions: Tillers staff and volunteer artisans

Group 1: Small grain harvesting techniques over 150 years: cradle scythe, Moore and McCormick reapers, combine harvester, binder, and grain elevator; use of animal power.

Group 2. Changing technologies, changing built environment: timber harvesting (axe→cross-cut saw; oxen→skidder; sawmill); timber framing/barn building (T-auger→boring mill).

12:00-1:00 Lunch

1:00-2:15 Presentation and discussion:
Marla Miller, University of Massachusetts Amherst (July 10)
Brian Donahue, Brandeis University (July 17)
Sally McMurry, Penn State University (July 24)

2:15-2:30 Break

2:30-5:00 Vernacular architecture: 1850 (pioneer)/1890/1920/1950 sites and gristmill:
Richard Roosenberg and Tom Nehil/Steve Stier together with
Marla Miller/Brian Donahue/Sally McMurry

7:00-8:30 p.m. Film: *Shane* (optional)
Location: hotel's large meeting room

WEDNESDAY: FIELDS OF DREAMS: THE FARMER IN AMERICAN LIFE AND THOUGHT

Readings:

Primary Source: “An ordinance for ascertaining the mode of disposing of lands in the Western Territory,” The Library of Congress, American Memory website, Documents from the Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention.

Online location: <<<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html>>>, search the collection for “Northwest Ordinance of 1785,” select “An ordinance for ascertaining...,” then click on “View text.”

Primary Source: Thomas Jefferson to George Washington, May 14, 1794, The Library of Congress, American Memory website, The Thomas Jefferson Papers.

Online location: <<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/jefferson_papers>>, search the collection for “agriculture,” select the above letter, then select “transcription.”

Primary Source: Chapters from Alexis DeTocqueville, *Democracy in America* (1835 and 1840)

Online location: <<<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~HYPER/DETOC>>>, select “THE TEXT,” then select the chapters below:

Principle Causes Which Tend To Maintain the Democratic Republic in the United States (Volume I)

Why Among Americans All Honest Callings are Considered Honorable (Volume II)

What Causes Almost All Americans to Follow an Industrial Calling (Volume II)

Secondary Literature: Wendell Berry, “The Agrarian Standard,” in Norman Wirzba, ed. *The Essential Agrarian Reader: The Future of Culture, Community, and the Land* (Lexington, KY: University Press of Kentucky, 2003), 23-33.

Secondary Literature: Brian Donahue, “The Resettling of America,” in Norman Wirzba, ed. *The Essential Agrarian Reader: The Future of Culture, Community, and the Land* (Lexington, KY: University Press of Kentucky, 2003), 34-51.

Primary Source: James Fenimore Cooper, “Chapter XXX,” *Oak Openings* (1848)

Online location: <<<http://classicreader.com/booktoc.php/sid.1/bookid.1563>>>

Secondary Literature: William Cronon, *Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West*.

Reading: “Pricing the Future: Grain,” 97-147

Daily plan:

8:00-8:30 a.m. Coffee and daily overview

8:30-12:00 Hands-on sessions: Tillers staff and volunteer artisans

Group 1: Changing technologies, the changing built and natural environment: timber harvesting (axe→ cross-cut saw; oxen→skidder; sawmill); timber framing/barn building (T-auger→boring mill).

Group 2. Small grain harvesting techniques over 150 years: cradle scythe, Moore and McCormick reapers, combine harvester, binder, and grain elevator; use of animal power (oxen and draft horses).

- 12:00-1:00 Lunch
- 1:00 Depart for the Western Michigan University Archives and Regional History Collections
- 1:30-5:00 Primary documents and web-based resources
Sharon Carlson, Western Michigan Archives and Regional History Collections
- 7:00-8:30 p.m. Film: *Troublesome Creek: A Midwestern* (optional)
Location: hotel's large meeting room

THURSDAY FIELD TRIP: BENTON HARBOR FRUIT MARKET, FORT MIAMI HERITAGE CENTER, TABOR HILL WINERY

Readings:

Michael Pollan, *The Botany of Desire: A Plant's-Eye View of the World*
Reading: Chapter 1: Desire: Sweetness/Plant: The Apple, 1-58.

Kristin Jass Armstrong, "The Secret Ingredient: How Soil, Climate, and Hard Work Helped to Produce the World's Finest Fruit," *Michigan History* (May/June 2006), 7-12.

Suggested classroom resource: Eric Sloane, *Seasons of America Past*, "October," 94-102.

Lee LaVanway, "Buying Homegrown Flavor," *Michigan History* (May/June 2006): 24-27.

Teacher's Guide to "World's Largest": the Benton Harbor Market and the Southwest Michigan Fruit Belt (St. Joseph, MI: Heritage Museum and Cultural Center, 2005).

Daily plan:

- 5:45 Departure
- 6:45-8:45 Benton Harbor Fruit Market (world's largest cash-to-grower produce market)
Lee LaVanway, Market Master, Benton Harbor Fruit Market
- 9:15-11:15 Heritage Museum and Cultural Center (and archive), "'World's Largest': the Benton Harbor Market and the Southwest Michigan Fruit Belt"
Kristin Szylvian, Western Michigan University
Kenneth Pott, Heritage Museum and Cultural Center
- 11:30-2:00 Tabor Hill Winery and Restaurant (lunch at the winery)
- 2:00 Return to Kalamazoo
- 3:30 Free time for project development and individual discussion with project faculty
- 7:00-8:30 Film: *Chinatown* (optional)

FRIDAY: VICTORY GARDENS

Readings:

Char Miller, "In the Sweat of Our Brow: Citizenship in American Domestic Practice During World War II—Victory Gardens," *Journal of American Culture* 26:3 (2003): 395-409.

Suggested classroom resource: Lee Kochenderfer, *The Victory Garden* (New York: Yearling, 2003)
Novel for children ages 9-12 (not included in materials)

Daily plan:

8:00-8:30 a.m. Coffee and daily overview

8:30-9:00 Overview: Victory Gardens and the American Home Front
Robert Duke, Western Michigan University

9:00-12:00 Hands-on sessions in heritage gardening and garden design for your school
(session includes work with historical artifacts)
Sarah Stewart, author of *The Gardner*
Robert Duke, Western Michigan University

12:00-1:00 Lunch

1:00-3:00 Classroom applications: Preparation of curriculum projects

3:00-5:30 History curriculum breakouts and roundtable
Moderator: Wilson Warren, Western Michigan University

5:30 Picnic celebration under the Tillers big tent

SATURDAY: DEPARTURE