The North American Conference on British Studies

The *Journal of British Studies*, founded in 1961, is published by the University of Chicago Press under the auspices of the North American Conference on British Studies (NACBS). It was the result of the imaginative generosity of a Trinity College alumnus, Frederick E. Hasler (Hon. LL.D. 1957), who contributed funds to the college for the specific purpose of establishing a learned periodical in the field of British history.

The North American Conference on British Studies is a scholarly society affiliated with the American Historical Association and open to anyone in the United States and Canada interested in British civilization in its several aspects: historical, archaeological, literary, artistic, political, and sociological. Its North American constituency comprises about eight hundred members drawn from the fifty states and ten provinces. Affiliated with the parent organization are seven regional conferences (Northeastern, Middle Atlantic, South, Midwest, Western, Pacific Coast, and Northwest) each having its own officers and programs and with a combined membership of more than two thousand. The Conference convenes at least once a year in the autumn, usually in joint session with one of its regional affiliates. It seeks to encourage the serious study of British history, literature, and politics, as well as allied subjects, and among the general reading public through meetings, book prize, and association with likeminded organizations in North America and Britain and through its publication program.

The Conference sponsors a wide variety of publications. Another journal, *Albion*, issued four times a year at Appalachian State University, Boone, North Carolina, and sent to all members of the parent organization, includes articles, proceedings of all meetings, and book reviews. The Conference’s newsletter, the *British Studies Intelligencer*, also sent to members, is published at the Georgetown University and contains notices of meetings devoted to British studies, news of appointments, moves, and retirements and notes on current publications and research in progress. Other publications appear periodically and will be noted at such times.

Information about membership in the NACBS can be found on the copyright page of this journal.
The North American Conference on British Studies announces the winners of its 1997 prizes for scholarship.

The John Ben Snow Prize for best book of 1996 in History and the Social Sciences has been awarded to

Paul Christianson
for his book
*Discourse on History, Law and Governance in the Public Career of John Selden, 1610–1635*
Toronto University Press, 1996

with an honorable mention to

Judith Bennett
for her book
*Ale, Beer, and Brewsters in England: Women’s Work in a Changing World, 1300–1600*
Oxford University Press, 1996

The British Council Prize in the Humanities for the best book of 1996 in any field of British Studies has been awarded to

Dina Copelman
for her book
*London’s Women Teachers: Gender, Class, and Feminism*
Routledge, 1996

with an honorable mention to

Dianne Sachko Macleod
for her book
*Art and the Victorian Middle Class: Money and the Making of Cultural Identity*
Cambridge University Press, 1996

The Walter D. Love Prize for the best scholarly article of 1996 in any field of British Studies has been awarded to

Cynthia J. Neville
for her article
“Local Sentiment and the ‘National’ Enemy in Northern England in the Later Middle Ages”
*Journal of British Studies,* vol. 35 (October 1996)

The Huntington Library Fellowship for 1996 has been awarded to

Frederick Schnabel
History, Harvard University
for a project entitled “The Controversies over Impositions, 1558–1641”

The Dissertation Year Fellowship for 1996 has been awarded to

Ethan Shagan
History, Princeton University
for a project entitled “Popular Politics and the Reformation in England, c. 1520–1550”
Liberty Against the Law
Some Seventeenth-Century Controversies
Christopher Hill
“Hill must have read more of the literature written in and about 17-century England than anyone who has ever lived. He misses nothing.”—Keith Thomas, The Guardian.
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Aspects of Aristocracy
David Cannadine
In this collection of nine essays, Cannadine offers his own observations about what makes the British aristocracy so powerful, vulnerable, and quixotic. “Lively, dispassionate, and fascinating in detail about the shifting structures of power and wealth in an aristocracy that took longer than any other to decline.”—Richard Eder, The Los Angeles Times.
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