**Christopher Andrew Nordmann**

[cnordmann@gmail.com](mailto:cnordmann@gmail.com)

**EDUCATION**

Ph.D. 1989 University of Alabama (history; minor outside history: Library Service)

M.A. 1978 University of SW Louisiana (now University of La. – Lafayette) (history)

B.A. 1975 Spring Hill College, Mobile, Ala.

Thesis: Some Aspects of the Regulation and Control of Slaves and Free Persons of Color in St. Landry Parish, Louisiana, 1830-1865

Dissertation: Free Negroes in Mobile County, Alabama

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

1990- Independent historical and genealogical researcher specializing in tracing the lives of African Americans

Work in progress: I am preparing a biographical directory and narrative history of free people of color in Mobile and Baldwin counties, Alabama.

## 2022-2023 Researcher, Kentucky U.S. Colored Troops Project, Reckoning, Inc. (<https://reckoningradio.org/ky-usct-project/>)

2021 Instructor, Genealogy: Discover Your History, 6 online sessions, Continuing Education, University of South Alabama, Mobile.

2017- Coeditor, *Mumbo Gumbo: A Journal of Coastal Creole Culture and History*

2017- Historian/Information Specialist, Mobile Creole Cultural and Historical Preservation Society

2006 Researcher for “Oprah’s Roots: An African American Lives Special”

2003- Review editor, *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*

1997-1999 Instructor, St. Louis Community College, Continuing Education Office\*

1985-1989 Research and writing (for dissertation)

1981-1985 Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Alabama

1982-1984 Associate Editor, *The Southern Historian*

1981-1982 Night Auditor, Holiday Inn Tuscaloosa, Alabama

1979-1981 Night Auditor, Night Manager, Holiday Inn North, Lafayette, Louisiana

1976-1978 Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Southwestern Louisiana

1975-1976 Famous Barr Department Store, St. Louis, Mo.

\*Courses taught: African American Genealogy; Beginning Genealogy

**PUBLICATIONS**

Articles/Essay:

“Mobile Creole History: Research in the Pigeon Hole Probate Records,” *Mumbo Gumbo: A Journal of Coastal Creole Culture and History* 6 (Issue 2, Jan/Feb/Mar, Winter 2023), 5-11.

“Creole Social Club,” *Mumbo Gumbo: A Journal of Coastal Creole Culture and History* 6 (Issue 1, Oct/Nov/Dec, Fall 2022), 5-10.

“Life Events Timeline of Francis Gregory,” *Mumbo Gumbo: A Journal of Coastal Creole Culture and History* 5 (Issue 3, Apr/May/June, 2022), 14.

“A Lasting Relationship: Origins of the Andry Family in Mobile,” *Mumbo Gumbo: A Journal of Coastal Creole Culture and History* 5 (Issue 2, Jan/Feb/Mar 2022), 7-10.

“Faustin Collins Timeline of Events,” Mobile Creole Cultural and Historic Preservation Society website, (https://mobilecreolesociety.weebly.com/data.html).

“Faustin Collins Timeline of Real Property Records,” *Mumbo Gumbo*: *A Journal of Coastal Creole Culture and History* 4 (Issue 3, Apr/May/June, 2021), 11-12.

“Creole Mobile: Coffee Urn from the Creole Fire Department, 1913,” in Margaret McCrummen Fowler, ed., *A History of Mobile in 22 Objects* (Mobile: History Museum of Mobile, 2020), 50.

“Free Creoles of Color in Antebellum Mobile, Alabama: An Overview,” *Mumbo Gumbo: A Journal of Coastal Creole Culture and History* 1 (Issue 1, 2017), 4-5.

“Substitutes for the 1890 Census,” *NGS News Magazine* 33 (October -- December 2007), 23-26.

“Tracing African Americans during the Civil War,” *NGS News Magazine* 31 (July/August/September 2005), 19-23.

“Jumping Over the Broomstick: Resources for Documenting Slave ‘Marriages,’” *National Genealogical Society Quarterly,* 91 (September 2003), 196-216.

"A Commitment to Leisure: The Agricultural Economy of St. Landry Parish, Louisiana, 1850," *Louisiana History*, 26 (Summer 1985), 301-312.

(Recipient of Louisiana Historical Association Presidents' Memorial Award)

Book Chapter:

"Basic Genealogical Research Methods and Their Application to African Americans," in Paula K. Byers, ed., *African American Genealogical Sourcebook* (Detroit: Gale Research Company, 1995), 15-45.

Other:

"Some African Americans Listed in Mobile, Alabama, City Directories, 1837-1839, 1842, 1844," transcribed, *Journal of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society* 19, no. 2, 40-46.

Notes and Documents: "American Seamen Certificates of Citizenship: 1815," *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 84 (March 1996), 39-47.

Notes and Documents: "Georgia Registrations of Free People of Color, 1819," *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 77 (December 1989), 295-301.

Contributed Document: "Slave Manumissions: Andrew Jackson Davis," *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 87 (March 1999), 54.

Booklet:

*Preserving Mobile History: A Guide to Mobile Genealogy Research with Its Creole Community*. Mobile: Mobile Creole Cultural and Historic Preservation Society, 2020.

Encyclopedia entries

“Freedmen’s Bureau in Alabama.” Encyclopedia of Alabama, <http://encyclopediaofalabama.org/face/Article.jsp?id=h-1447>, 2008

“Runaway Slaves.” Encyclopedia of Alabama, <http://encyclopediaofalabama.org/face/Article.jsp?id=h-2125>, 2009

“Mobile, Alabama,” in *The Encyclopedia of Free Blacks and Free People of Color in the Americas, volume II.* Stewart King, ed. New York: Facts on File, Inc., 2012, 534-536.

“Alabama,” in *The Encyclopedia of Free Blacks and Free People of Color in the Americas, volume I.* Stewart King, ed. New York: Facts on File, Inc., 2012, 18-21.

Book Reviews:

Michael A. Ports. *Georgia Free Persons of Color: Volume 1: Elbert, Hancock, Jefferson, Liberty, and Warren Counties, 1818-1864. Volume 2: Appling, Camden, Clarke, Emanuel, Jones, Pulaski, and Wilkes Counties, 1818-1865. Volume 3: Baldwin, Columbia, Lincoln, Lumpkin, Taliferro, and Thomas Counties, 1799-1865*. *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 106 (June 2018), 154-155.

Joseph Carvalho, III. *Black Families in Hampden County, Massachusetts, 1650-1865*. 2nd ed. *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 101 (December 2013), 306.

Frazine K. Taylor. *Researching African American Genealogy in Alabama: A Resource Guide*. *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 98 (September 2010), 231-232*.*

Ira Berlin. *Generations of Captivity: A History of African-American Slaves*. *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 95 (September 2007), 229-230.

Martha Hodes. *The Sea Captain's Wife: A True Story of Love, Race, and War in the Nineteenth Century.* *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 95 (June 2007), 151-152.

Alan D. Watson, ed. *African Americans in Early North Carolina: A Documentary History*. *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 95 (March 2007), 68-69.

Melvin Patrick Ely. *Israel on the Appomattox: A Southern Experiment in Black Freedom from the 1790s through the Civil War*. *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 94 (September 2006), 222-223.

Franklin Carter Smith and Emily Anne Croom. *A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your African-American Ancestors: How to Find and Record your Unique Heritage*. *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 92 (June 2004), 143-144.

E. Louise. Elizabeth *Clevland Hardcastle, 1741-1808: A Lady of Color in the South Carolina Low Country*. *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 91 (March 2003), 68-69.

Tony Burroughs. *Black Roots: A Beginner's Guide to Tracing the African American Family Tree*. *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 89 (September 2001), 240.

Adele Logan Alexander. *Homelands and Waterways: The American Journey of the Bond Family, 1846-1926*. *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 88 (December 2000), 309.

Edward Ball. *Slaves in the Family*. *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 86 (June 1998), 150-151.

Katie Brown Bennett. *Soaking the Yule Log: Biographical Sketches of the Brown, Cheshier, Sain, and Allied Families, 1749-1995*. *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 85 (September 1997), 231-232. (African American families)

Curtis G. Brasfield. *The Ancestry of Mayor Harold Washington*. *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 83 (September 1994), 226.

Howard C. Westwood. *Black Troops, White Commanders and Freedmen during The Civil War*. *The Journal of Mississippi History*, 54 (August 1992), 323-324.

Kenneth Marvin Hamilton. *Black Towns and Profit: Promotion and Development in the Trans-Appalachian West, 1877-1915*. *The Journal of Mississippi History*, 54 (February 1992), 112-113.

George K. Schweitzer. *Maryland Genealogical Research*. *St. Louis Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 24 (Winter 1991), 128.

Lois Horowitz. *A Bibliography of Military Name Lists from Pre-1675 to 1900: A Guide to Genealogical Sources*. *St. Louis Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 23 (Winter 1990), 107.

Peggy Smith Hake. *Pioneer Families of Miller County, Missouri -- Journey to the Past*. *St. Louis Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 23 (Fall 1990), 89.

Charles L. Flynn. *White Land, Black Labor: Caste and Class in Late Nineteenth Century Georgia.* *The Southern Historian*, 5 (Spring 1984), 50-51.

William P. Vaughn. *The Antimasonic Party in the United States, 1826-1843*. *The Southern Historian*, 4 (Spring 1983), 41-42.

**AWARDS, HONORS**

1997 Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, Inc.

1986 Presidents' Memorial Award; Louisiana Historical Association; (best study published in *Louisiana History*, 1985.)

1983-1984 University of Alabama (for work with *The Southern Historian*)

1979-1981 University of Southwestern La. (Judge at Social Studies Fair)

1980 Employee of the Month, Holiday Inn North, Lafayette, La.

**PRESENTATIONS**

“Genealogy 101,”2023Creole Family Reunion, Mobile Creole Cultural and Historical Preservation Society, June 10, 2023.

“Creole Slaveowners in Mobile County, Alabama**,”** 2023Creole Family Reunion,Mobile Creole Cultural and Historical Preservation Society, June 10, 2023.

“Antebellum Creole Society, Mobile, Alabama.” History Museum of Mobile, Alabama, November 13, 2019.

“Antebellum Creole Society, Mobile, Alabama.” Mobile Creole Cultural and Historic Preservation Society (sponsored by the Alabama Humanities Foundation and the Mobile Public Library), June 22, 2019.

“Creole Society in North Mobile County, Alabama.” 2019 Celebrate Me Home, Creole Family Reunion, Mobile Creole Cultural and Historical Preservation Society, June 8, 2019.

“Locating your Ancestor’s Slave Owner: Records and Case Studies.” Africans to Americans Ancestry Workshop, Hosted by Mary Meachum Freedom Crossing Celebration and St. Louis Public Library, April 27, 2019.

“Antebellum Creole Society, Mobile, Alabama.” 2018 Celebrate Me Home, Creole Family Reunion, Mobile Creole Cultural and Historical Preservation Society, 2018.

“The Freedmen’s Bureau: Resources for Documenting African American Lives.” St. Louis Genealogy Conference, 2017.

“Locating your Ancestor’s Slave Owner: Records and Case Studies.” St. Louis Genealogy Conference, 2017.

“Tracing Free People of Color in the Antebellum South.” St. Louis Genealogy Conference, 2016.

“The Civil War, Reconstruction Era, and Beyond: Documenting African American Lives.” St. Louis Genealogy Conference, 2016.

“Tracing Free People of Color in the Antebellum South.” Discover Your Roots: African American Family History Conference, St. Louis, Mo., 2009.

"Basic Genealogical Sources." Webster Groves Public Library, St. Louis, Mo., 2000

"The Reconstruction Era: 1865-1877." The Afro-American Genealogical and Historical Society of Chicago, Inc., keynote address, 1997, Chicago, Illinois.

"Tracing African Americans: Local, State, and Federal Sources." St. Louis Genealogical Society Fair, 1996, St. Louis, Missouri.

"St. Louis Genealogical Research." St. Louis Genealogical Society, 1995, St. Louis, Missouri. (panel discussion; other topics presented; questions answered from the audience)

"Family History Research: Some Sources for Tracing African Americans". Pratt Family Reunion, 1994, St. Louis, Missouri.

"Free Negroes in Mobile County, Alabama." United Daughters of the Confederacy, 1992, St. Louis, Missouri.

"Genealogical Research and Resources in St. Louis." Missouri State Genealogical Association, 1992, Fulton, Missouri.

Genealogy for Historians: "Career Options for Yourselves or Your Students." Louisiana Historical Association, 1992, Lafayette, Louisiana.

"Working with a Professional Genealogist: How to Jump Start Your Stalled Research When Nothing Else Will." St. Louis Genealogical Society, St. Louis, Missouri, 1991. Co-presented with Ruth Ann Hager.

"Alabama Newspapers and the Cuban Controversy, 1898." Phi Alpha Theta regional meeting, University of Montevallo, 1983.

**INTERVIEWS**

Anthony Brogdan, host of “Strong Inspirations” YouTube, recorded August 23, 2023

Glen and Dakota Perry, “Creole Society in Mobile, Alabama,” February 19, 2020, Mobile/St. Louis (online video interview)

Brenda Granderson, "Genealogical Society Hosts Conference," *N'Digo: A Magapaper for the Urbane*, October 9--15, 1997, Chicago, Illinois, 13

Pamela Rohland, "Back to The Future," *Income Opportunities Magazine*, November 1996, 22-25

Carla St. Rose Peterson, "Conversations: Genealogy," July 15, 1996, Double Helix Corporation (St Louis cable television station)