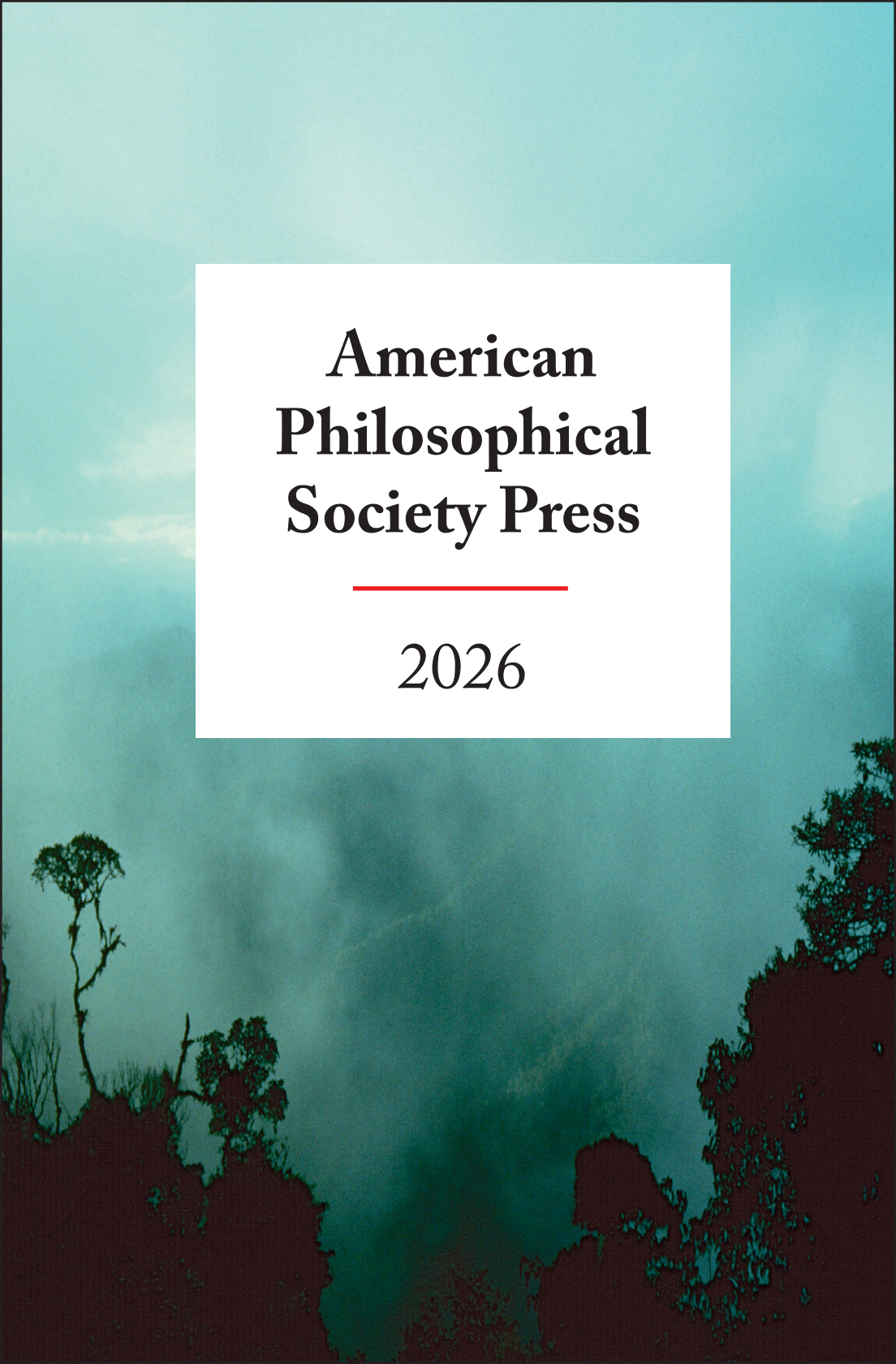


The background of the entire page is a photograph of a landscape. It features a teal and blue color palette. In the foreground, there are dark silhouettes of trees and bushes. In the background, there are hazy, blue mountains under a light blue sky. The overall mood is serene and natural.

American Philosophical Society Press

2026

Welcome to our 2026 catalog! This year has been a year of growth and change for the Press. Allison Cadle, Associate Editor, was promoted to Marketing and Publicity Associate at the Press, and then shortly thereafter left for new professional opportunities. We hired James Chung McKenna as our new Marketing and Publicity Associate, and he has taken to the role with gusto, spearheading one of our publishing events within weeks of joining the Press. David Carpenter's title has changed to Editorial Assistant, and he has taken on the extra responsibility of assisting our managing editors, Kate Tyler Wall and Annalisa Zox-Weaver with our two quarterly journals, *Transactions of the American Philosophical Society* and *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society* (available for a discounted subscription rate with the code found in this catalog). Peter Dougherty, our Editor-At-Large, and I have continued to sign and publish wonderful books, and not only do we have a great list for 2026, but we've also set the stage for a bright 2027 and beyond.

Please enjoy flipping through our 2026 catalog—there is something that is sure to catch your eye. The year started with Arnold Thackray's *Making Science History: A Personal Perspective from Alamogordo to AI*, his memoir about building the field of the history of science, including founding the Science History Institute, located down the street from us on Chestnut Street here in Philadelphia. The Spring 2026 season also included more powerhouse titles—Meredith Francesca Small's book of essays on how humans think about the world and themselves called *How We Think: The Hidden Life of Everyday Ideas*, and Jane Colden's *Botanic Manuscript: The Legacy of America's First Woman Botanist* by Fenella Greig Heckscher. In the latter, Heckscher tells the story of Jane Colden, the daughter of a prominent New York colonial magistrate, who learns the Linnaean system of classification, and spends her days cataloging the plants on her father's property. The book includes gorgeous color images of both the Botanical Manuscript itself, replete with Jane's own drawings and writing, and the plants she cataloged as they look today. The new exhibition for the APS Museum opened in April, and the full color catalog of *These Truths: The Declarations of Independence* is available now. The Fall 2026

season includes three more fascinating reads. Robert McCracken Peck starts the season with his wonderful memoir of his peripatetic life as a naturalist, *Travels on the Edge: A Naturalist's Notes from the Back of Beyond*, and we follow that with William deJong-Lambert's *The Fly Room: The Story of the Scientists who Discovered Genetics and Reinvented Evolution*, a fascinating look at the cluster of scientists whose work with fruit flies at Columbia University revolutionized genetics. Finally, renowned geologist Claudio Vita-Finzi's *Hunch: Intuition in Science* urges scientists to listen to their instincts, showcasing ten cases in geology and astronomy where the accepted position was open to challenge.

Our partnership with Penn Press continues to flourish, and I am very pleased to announce that the digitized files of our deep backlist are *now available* online from Paradigm, and as print-on-demand books, so that even more spectacular APS Press titles are now available for purchase and library research. You can see some of these fascinating titles in the back of this very catalog. Each year, we will highlight specific titles from the array of almost one thousand newly available books. This year, we've chosen colonial American history and science as a nod to the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Happy reading, and don't hesitate to reach out if I can be helpful to you in any way!

Kimberly Guinta, Director of the APS Press
kuinta@amphilsoc.org

AMERICAN
PHILOSOPHICAL
SOCIETY

Press

*Cover: "Cutucu Mist," photo from Travels on the Edge: A Naturalist's Notes
from the Back of Beyond by Robert McCracken Peck*

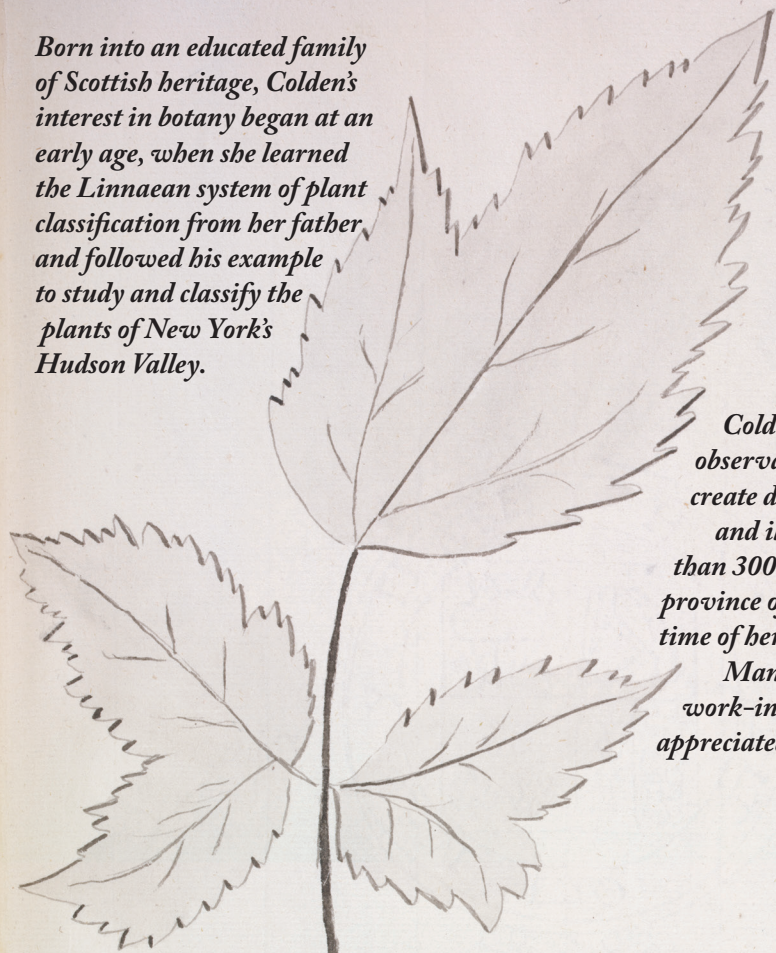
Born into an educated family of Scottish heritage, Colden's interest in botany began at an early age, when she learned the Linnaean system of plant classification from her father and followed his example to study and classify the plants of New York's Hudson Valley.

Colden's acute powers of observation enabled her to create detailed descriptions and illustrations of more than 300 plant species in the province of New York. By the time of her death, her Botanic Manuscript remained a work-in-progress and little appreciated beyond European botany circles.

No 90.

No 88. *Vicia*
Vetsch.

Richly illustrated with her own sketches and handwriting, this volume presents a full examination of Jane Colden's Manuscript, and, three hundred years after her birth, restores Colden's legacy as one of the country's great botanists.



Jane Colden's "Botanic Manuscript"

The Legacy of America's
First Woman Botanist

Fenella Greig Heckscher

*A richly illustrated account of the life
and work of Jane Colden, America's
first woman botanist*

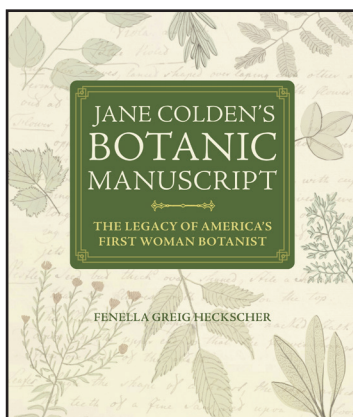
Jane Colden (1724–1760) was America's first woman botanist, yet her contributions to the field of early American botany remain little-known and her writings are mostly unpublished. Looking at Colden's original writing, the correspondence of her father, Dr. Cadwallader Colden, and eighteenth-century botanic sources, Fenella Greig Heckscher provides a full account of her life and work.

Fenella Greig Heckscher's interest in biology began with the study of wildflowers as a child in England. She went on to study zoology at Oxford University and then practiced medicine in New York. She learned of Jane Colden and her *Botanic Manuscript* at a meeting of the Garden Club of America and became fascinated by Colden's descriptions of plants native to the United States. Since her retirement from medical practice, she has devoted much of her time to the study of Jane Colden's contributions to the American botanical Enlightenment.

"Every so often a book comes along that makes one say, 'I wish I'd written that.' This exceptional piece of scholarship on the unjustly neglected godmother of North American botany is long overdue and will deservedly bring the groundbreaking work of Jane Colden out from under the shadow of John Torrey and Asa Gray."

—*Michael Hagen, Curator of Native Plant Garden and Rock Garden, New York Botanical Garden*

TRADE



June 2026

246 pp. | 8.5 x 11

9781606180471

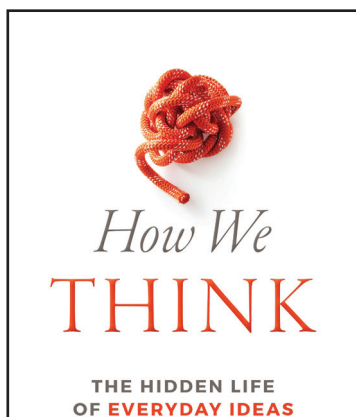
Hardcover | \$60.00 \$42.00

9781606180488

eBook | \$60.00 \$42.00

30% off with code APS30

TRADE



How We Think

The Hidden Life of Everyday Ideas

Meredith Francesca Small

A sweeping, thought-provoking exploration of how humans think about the world and themselves

June 2026

272 pp. | 5.5 x 8.5

9781606180600

Hardcover | \$28.95 \$20.27

9781606180662

eBook | \$28.95 \$20.27

30% off with code APS30

How We Think presents essays about research, questions the way humans use their minds, and considers how that information informs each of us about ourselves. This is a book for everyone—for those interested in anthropology and human behavior and the “big questions” about who we are. *How We Think* takes the anthropological view about the human thought process, a view that is both evolutionarily deep and widely cross-cultural, always focusing on what makes humans so different from each other, although we are also universally so much alike.

Meredith F. Small is Professor Emerita, Department of Anthropology, Cornell University, and a science journalist. Her books include *What's Love Got to Do With It*; *Our Babies Ourselves*; *Kids, Together: The Anthropology of Family* (forthcoming), and most recently *Here Begins the Dark Sea: Venice, a Medieval Monk, and the Creation of the Most Accurate Map of the World*.

“Meredith Small combines the best qualities of Margaret Mead and Dorothy Parker, delighting us with her witty insights into human nature.”

—Jonathan Marks, author of *Understanding Human Diversity*

Small writes with the wit of a comedian, the knowledge of a polymath, and the wisdom of a sage. And the super-short format of all these essays makes them oh-so-approachable. The result is irresistible.”

—Alma Gottlieb, co-editor of *A World of Babies*

These Truths

The Declarations of Independence

APS Library and Museum

An exhibition catalog exploring the emergence of the Declaration of Independence during the revolutionary crisis of 1775–1776

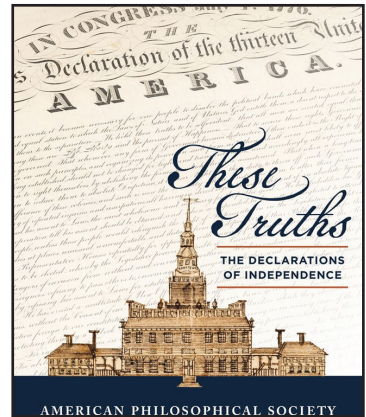
These Truths explores the emergence of the Declaration of Independence during the revolutionary crisis of 1775–1776, and how the document was drafted, printed, shared, interpreted, and remembered through the mid-nineteenth century.

Published on the occasion of the exhibition of the same title, taking place at the American Philosophical Society Museum in 2026, this exhibition catalog demonstrates how the Declaration served as an instrument of civic participation and democratic ideals and how the document became a national symbol.

The book includes a fully illustrated object checklist, as well as three essays that expand on themes introduced and investigated in the exhibition, including diplomacy in Benjamin Franklin's France, the history of the various printed versions of the Declaration, and Thomas Jefferson's fair copies of the Declaration.

A fitting exhibition and catalog to celebrate the United States' 250th anniversary, *These Truths* challenges preconceived notions of the founding story and illuminates the relevance of the document's first fifty years to American culture.

TRADE



July 2026

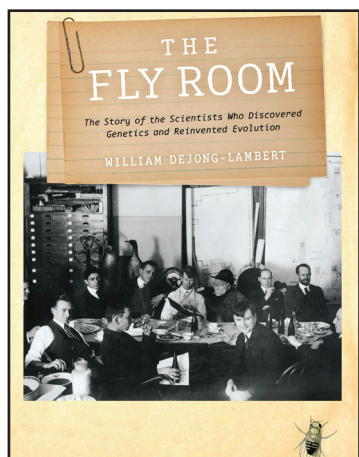
100 pp. | 8.5 x 11

9781606181744

Paperback | \$29.95 \$20.97

30% off with code APS30

TRADE



September 2026

272 pp. | 6.12 x 9.25

9781606181560

Hardcover | \$34.95 \$24.47

9781606181577

eBook | \$34.95 \$24.47

30% off with code APS30

The Fly Room

The Story of the Scientists Who
Discovered Genetics and
Reinvented Evolution

William deJong-Lambert

*The story of the scientists who
invented genetics and proved the
theory of evolution*

The Fly Room tells the story of Nobel Prize-winning biologist Thomas Hunt Morgan's laboratory at Columbia University where, in the early twentieth century, he presided over a handful of students and a roomful of fruit flies who taught him that everything he thought was true was wrong, and everything he thought was wrong was right.

Both a collective biography of the men and women who pioneered the field of genetics, as well as a history of how genetics was invented and proven to be the science of evolution, *The Fly Room* is a compelling read about a fascinating branch of science whose innovations benefit us to the present day.

William deJong-Lambert is Professor of History at Bronx Community College, CUNY. He is the author of *The Cold War Politics of Genetic Research: An Introduction to the Lysenko Affair* and *The New Biology: Lysenkoism in Poland*.

“This book offers an empathic, deeply personal reading of major achievements in human genetics based on the author’s extensive archival research. The breadth of historical material is impressive and so is the author’s knowledge of the existing scholarship on the history of science, genetics, Darwinism, and eugenics, to which he too has contributed significantly for the past two decades.”

—Marius Turda, *Oxford Brookes University*

Travels on the Edge

A Naturalist's Notes from
the Back of Beyond

Robert McCracken Peck

*Adventure tales told, with humanity
and warmth, about some of the
world's most remote and fascinating
places and their inhabitants*

Travels on the Edge is a collection of stand-alone, but related, essays recounting Peck's remarkable experiences. Lavishly illustrated, the book not only carries readers to some of the most remote and inaccessible parts of the world but also celebrates the challenges and joys of scientific research. Its author brings a rich human perspective to regions few people have had a chance to explore and brings the people and wildlife he found there to life through his writing and photos.

Historian, naturalist, writer, and world traveler, **Robert McCracken Peck** holds a bachelor's degree from Princeton University and a master of arts degree from the Winterthur Program in American Cultural History, University of Delaware. Widely published, Peck is the author of *Land of the Eagle: A Natural History of North America*. In 1988 a new species of South American frog, one of three he discovered in the upper Amazon basin in Ecuador, was named in his honor.

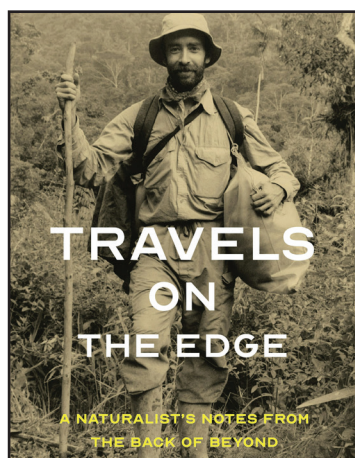
"This delightful collection of essays from a much-traveled scientist, who has spent much of his life 'off the beaten track,' is both vivid and philosophical. It is consummate travel writing."

—Robin Hanbury-Tenison, author of *The Oxford Book of Exploration*

"One of life's greatest pleasures is surely armchair travel with Bob Peck. *Travels on the Edge* is a distillation of his very best."

—Tim Flannery, author of *Here on Earth: A Natural History of the Planet*

TRADE



September 2026

240 pp. | 5.5 x 8.5

9781606181539

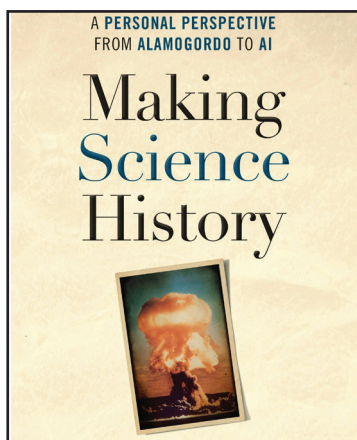
Hardcover | \$29.95 \$20.97

9781606181546

eBook | \$29.95 \$20.97

30% off with code APS30

ACADEMIC TRADE



April 2026

208 pp. | 6 x 9

9781606180372

Hardcover | \$39.95 \$27.97

9781606180365

eBook | \$39.95 \$27.97

30% off with code APS30

Making Science History

A Personal Perspective
from Alamogordo to AI

Arnold Thackray

*The history of science from 1945
to 2020, told from the perspective
of Arnold Thackray, a pioneering
expert in the field*

In this book, Thackray views his long career through the lens of the United States' rise and fall as a global power, from the testing of the first atomic bomb at Alamogordo in 1945, to the ignominious retreat of American forces in Afghanistan in 2020, coinciding with the rise of artificial intelligence—a technology whose benefits, and perils, have yet to be fully realized. An absorbing read for anyone with an interest in the technological developments of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, *Making Science History* is at once a memoir as well as a thoughtful examination of the achievements, and limitations, of human scientific thought.

Arnold Thackray's many roles in the public life of scholarship include founding and building both the Science History Institute and the University of Pennsylvania's Department of History and Sociology of Science. Earlier, he was central to the creation of what would become the Churchill Archives Centre at Churchill College, University of Cambridge.

"Arnold Thackray narrates the rise of history of science within American academia with verve and an insider's insight. His memoir is an homage not only to his field but to his longtime home of Philadelphia, where institutions, ideas, and (not inconsequentially) money enabled him—and history of science—to flourish."

—*Angela N. H. Creager, Thomas M. Siebel Professor in the History of Science,
Princeton University*

Hunch

Intuition in Science

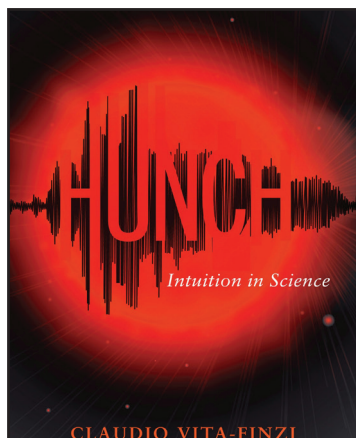
Claudio Vita-Finzi

An examination of scientific controversies in which challenging the accepted position led to great intellectual rewards

The word “hunch” has many definitions in the Oxford English Dictionary; this book’s title references this one: “A premonition or intuitive feeling that something . . . may be the case.” Such premonitions are often dismissed by those in academia and the institutional scientific community. Author Claudio Vita-Finzi, on the other hand, demonstrates why these intuitions are essential in fostering originality in scientific research, whether it concerns predicting tsunamis, the possible benefits of soil erosion, or the study of the eleven-year solar cycle. *Hunch* offers a compelling case about the fragility of received wisdom, and the rewards of following one’s intuition.

Claudio Vita-Finzi is a former professor of neotectonics and planetary science at University College London; he is now a Scientific Associate at the Natural History Museum in London. His books include *Planetary Geology: An Introduction*; *The Sun Today*; and *A History of the Solar System*.

ACADEMIC TRADE



October 2026

176 pp. | 5.5 x 8.5

9781606181423

Paperback | \$27.95 \$19.57

9781606180570

eBook | \$27.95 \$19.57

9781606180563

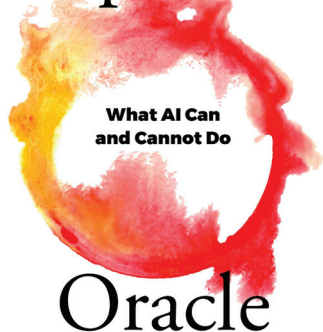
Hardcover | \$125.00 \$87.50

30% off with code APS30

“Vita-Finzi presents an intriguing and stimulating set of studies where orthodoxy has been or perhaps needs to be challenged in order to obtain a true understanding of the complexity of nature. Sometimes, the legendary emperor is indeed naked and needs to be called out. Vita-Finzi has the courage and skill to do just that!”

—G. David Price OBE, Former Vice-Provost (Research),
University College London

Imperfect



Imperfect Oracle

What AI Can and Cannot Do
Cass R. Sunstein

2025 | 192 pp. | 5.5 x 8.5

9781606181379

Hardcover | ~~\$26.95~~ \$18.87

9781606181386

eBook | ~~\$26.95~~ \$18.87

THE SOCIAL PHILOSOPHERS

COMMUNITY AND CONFLICT
IN WESTERN THOUGHT



ROBERT NISBET

WITH A NEW FOREWORD BY
LUKE C. SHEAHAN

The Social Philosophers

Communist Conflict
in Western Thought
Cass R. Sunstein

2025 | 440 pp. | 6.12 x 9.25

9781606180389

Paperback | ~~\$26.95~~ \$18.87

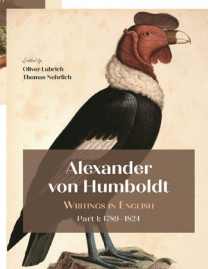
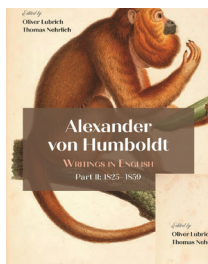
Alexander von Humboldt

Writings in English Parts I & II
Edited by Oliver Lubrich
and Thomas Nehrlich

2025 | 760, 680 pp. | 6.75 x 10

9781606180808

Hardcover | ~~\$75.00~~ \$52.50



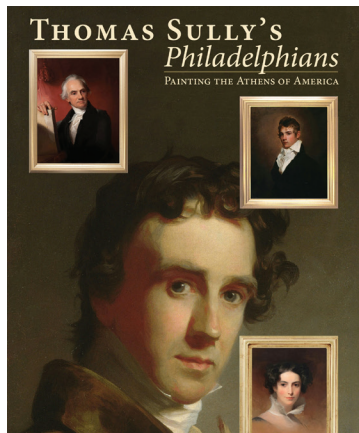
Thomas Sully's Philadelphians

Painting the Athens of America
Peter Conn

2025 | 216 pp. | 6 x 9

9781606180495
Hardcover | \$39.95 \$27.97

9781606180501
eBook | \$39.95 \$27.97



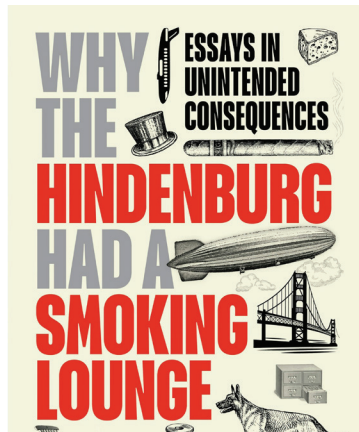
Why the Hindenburg Had A Smoking Lounge

Essays in Unintended Consequences
Edward Tenner

2025 | 585 pp. | 6 x 9

9781606180273
Hardcover | \$34.95 \$24.47

9781606180280
eBook | \$34.95 \$24.47



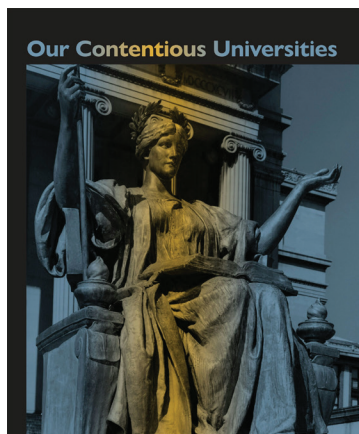
Our Contentious Universities

A Personal History
Neil L. Rudenstein

2025 | 312 pp. | 6 x 9

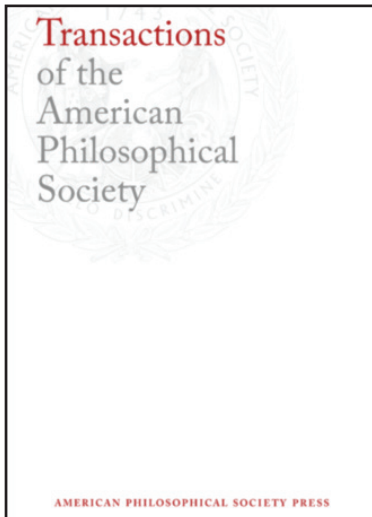
9781606180075
Hardcover | \$34.95 \$24.47

9781606180082
eBook | \$34.95 \$24.47



Transactions of the American Philosophical Society

Transactions is the oldest scholarly publication in North America. It began as a scientific journal in 1771, and over its long history has covered fields of study ranging from astronomy to American history, from archaeology to economics, and from linguistics to the history of science. *Transactions* now releases quarterly issues organized around themes, with content drawn from papers given at APS conferences and workshops. Recent topics include the origins of revolution, the labor of natural history, and women in science.



Managing Editor: Kate Tyler Wall

Quarterly

ISSN 0065-9746 (print)

ISSN 2325-9264 (online)

Individual print + online: \$65

Individual online only: \$53

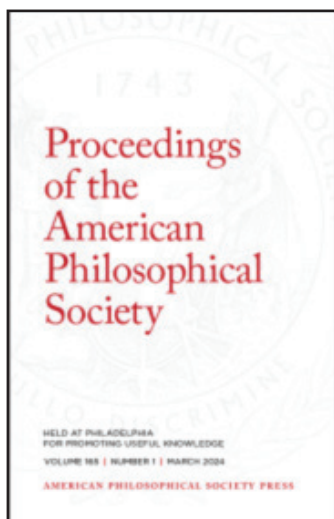
Student: \$44

Institution print + online: \$231

Institution online only: \$194

Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society

Proceedings is a quarterly journal first published in 1838 that includes papers read at the American Philosophical Society's biannual meetings, independent essays by outside scholars, biographical memoirs of APS Members, and field reports essays from recipients of APS grants who have completed projects in the sciences and humanities. Recent topics include language and identity in America's native nations, the pursuit of happiness, journalism, the U.S. education system, and the anthropocene.



General Editor: William C. Jordan

Managing Editor: Annalisa Zox-Weaver

Quarterly

ISSN 0003-049X (print)

ISSN 2326-9243 (online)

Individual print + online: \$55

Individual online only: \$42

Student: \$34

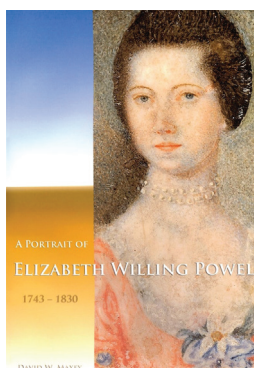
Institution print + online: \$163

Institution online only: \$131

from the BACKLIST

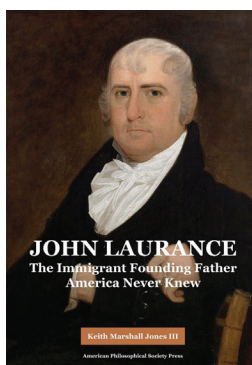
In the course of two-and-a-half centuries, the APS Press has built a backlist of over 1,000 titles, including many landmark works. Its roster of authors includes Benjamin Franklin, J. Robert Oppenheimer, the anthropologist Margaret Lantis, the science historian Otto Neugebauer, the linguist Peter Stephen Du Ponceau, and the economist Jacob Viner.

Early America: People and Places



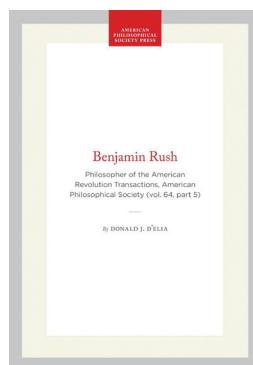
9780871699640

hardcover | \$29.99 | 2006



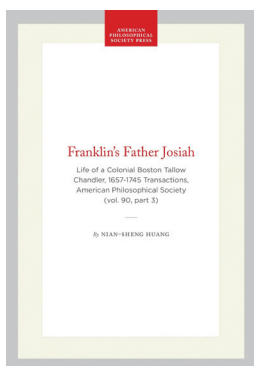
9781606180822

hardcover | \$44.99 | 2019



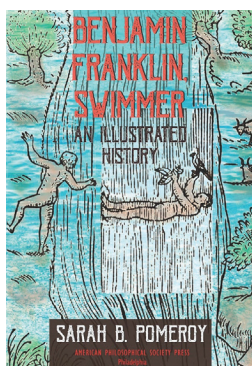
9781422375372

hardcover | \$24.99 | 1974



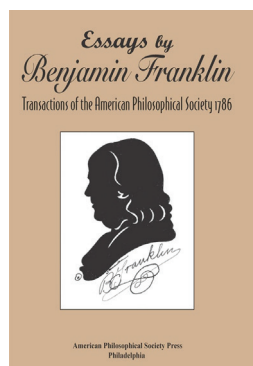
9780871699039

hardcover | \$34.99 | 2000



9781606181010

hardcover | \$24.95 | 2021

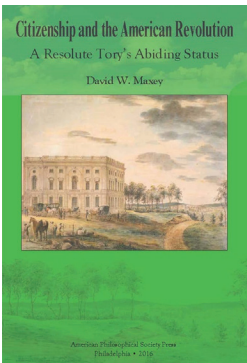


9781606180730

hardcover | \$24.99 | 2018

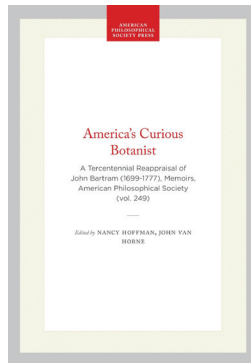
In partnership with the University of Pennsylvania Press and Paradigm, the APS Press is in the process of digitizing this priceless archive of intellectual history, which will soon be available as the *APS Press Legacy Collection*. The titles here are just a small selection of APS Press's much larger archive, available to browse on the Penn Press website, organized by special topics from APS Press's wide range of subjects.

Early America: Science, Natural History, and Culture



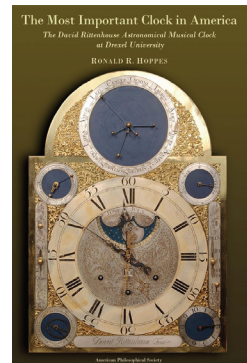
9781606180631

hardcover | \$29.99 | 2016



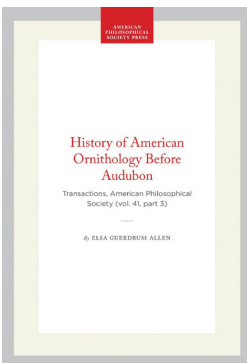
9780871692498

hardcover | \$29.99 | 2004



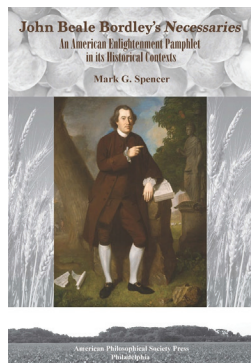
9781606189924

hardcover | \$29.99 | 2009



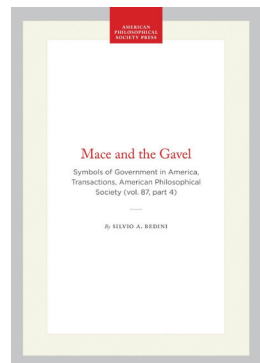
9781422376393

hardcover | \$44.99 | 1951



9781606180839

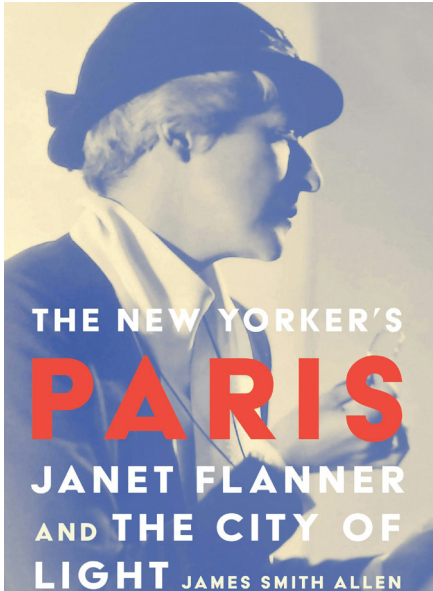
hardcover | \$34.99 | 2020



9780871698742

hardcover | \$24.99 | 1997

Spring/Summer 2027 Preview



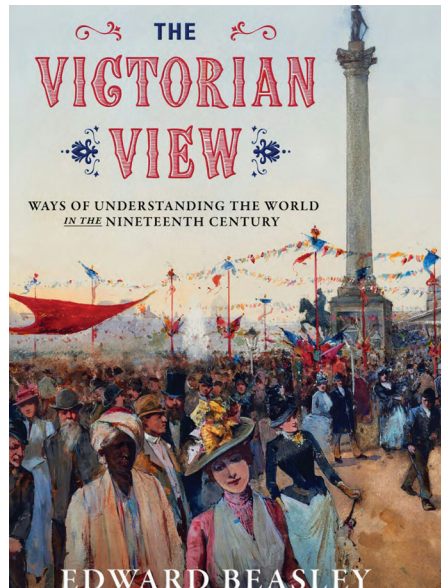
The New Yorker's Paris

Janet Flanner and the
City of Light

by James Smith Allen

The Victorian View Ways of Understanding the World in the Nineteenth Century

by Edward Beasley



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Ordering Instructions for Individual Customers

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www.pennpress.org/aps-press

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