

Department *of* History

SPRING 2018
Newsletter



Portland State
History



FRIENDS *of*
HISTORY



Tim Garrison

Warm regards from the [History Department](#)!

I would like to use the space allotted me this spring to share some good news about the department. This year we have been going through a process called “Academic Program Review.” A few years ago, the University began requiring each unit to undergo a systematic evaluation every seven years, and this is the first time we have experienced such a study.

The review included two major components: a self-study drafted by a committee from our department and an “external review” by renowned and experienced historians from other universities. Three professors—[Dr. Paul Sutter](#) (University of Colorado), [Dr. Leilah](#)

[Danielson](#) (Northern Arizona University), and [Dr. Brett Walker](#) (Montana State University)—spent two days on campus interviewing faculty, students, and community supporters about our work. They also examined our self-study and a number of reports about our scholarship, teaching, and community service. I thought you might be interested in what the reviewers had to say about our [History Department](#).

The reviewers declared that, “Overall, we found the department to be a strong one. Department faculty are, as a rule, highly productive scholars who are also committed to their teaching mission and who admirably serve their department, the university, and their larger scholarly communities with energy and distinction.”

The reviewers were particularly impressed with our faculty’s research production: “The department’s faculty are highly qualified with the research profiles of an R1 university. . . . [They have] an exceptional record of scholarly achievement that has earned them international renown and numerous prizes. . . . [T]he History Department has published a remarkable twenty-four books with leading academic presses in the past seven years. . . . Peer-reviewed articles represent another measure of scholarly achievement; here again, the history faculty have excelled with forty journal publications and thirty-six book chapters in the last seven years.”

The reviewers also pointed to the regard the department receives from hosting the *Pacific Historical Review*, “a journal with a stellar national and international reputation for publishing cutting-edge scholarship on the American West and the Pacific World, including Asia and Latin America.”

Praise for the faculty was not limited to research production. The reviewers said they were “struck by a general commitment to teaching and availability to students that seemed more like a liberal arts college.” The reviewers added that they “were impressed by the collegiality of the department, how functional they seemed in their leadership and governance, and the general level of undergraduate and graduate student satisfaction.” “There is considerable substance,” they found, “behind the Portland State History Department’s long-standing reputation among historians as a strong and dynamic department.”

The reviewers also singled out the department’s “highly effective ‘[Friends of History](#)’ fundraising and [advisory board](#)” for praise. In fact, they remarked in my conversations with them that they wished their departments had “Friends” groups to support them.

“The metaphor that we quickly fell into using,” the reviewers concluded, “is that the department is punching above its weight.” They were suggesting, in other words, that the faculty of the department have excelled despite limited financial support. Hence, it is imperative that our alums and our friends in the community continue to support our faculty and students. I hope you will go to our website today and make a contribution to help us sustain the degree of excellence recognized by the external reviewers.

I wish you all a peaceful and rewarding summer.



Tim Garrison, *History Department Chair*



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Phi Alpha Theta Students Present at NW Regional Conference



Phi Alpha Theta Students and faculty advisor, Thomas Lockett

On April 19–21 2018, five Portland State history students participated in the [Phi Alpha Theta Northwest Regional Conference at Gonzaga University](#) in Spokane, Washington, of whom four presented original research papers. Their trip was made possible by grants from the Friends of History and the Department of History.

The participants and their paper titles are:

Standing row:

[Jordan K. Long](#) (graduate), “The Roman Social War of 91–88 BCE and the Accidental Achievement of Italian Enfranchisement”

[Madelyn A. Miller](#) (undergraduate), “From the Ground Up: The Relationship between Environment and Industry in Portland, Oregon, 1900–1950”

[Lily I. Hart](#) (undergraduate), “Racial Ideas of ‘Stupendous Antiquities’: Native American Mounds and Anglo-Americans in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries”

[Thomas M. Lockett](#) (faculty advisor to Phi Alpha Theta)

Kneeling row:

[Alexander E. Ritter](#) (graduate)

[Jordan F. Norquist](#) (graduate), “The Might of the Turkish Woman ‘Guest Worker’: Labor, Agency, and Gender as the ‘Ethnic Litmus Test’ in the Federal Republic of Germany, 1966–1990”

Charlotte Crabtree Presents at NUCAW 2018

[Charlotte Crabtree](#), a history major focusing on the ancient world, presented at the 13th Annual [Northwest Undergraduate Conference on the Ancient World \(NUCAW 2018\)](#) at Willamette University. This one-day conference included participants from across the Pacific Northwest and was an excellent opportunity for Charlotte to showcase her Honors thesis research.

Ancient Roman historians are familiar with the political office known as the dictator, yet they are also uncertain about many of its aspects. Usually appointed in times of military crisis, Charlotte illustrated that dictators served several other duties as well, including calming internal rioting, holding elections, or completing religious ceremonies. She deftly illustrated that by discussing only the most celebrated dictators, we were simplifying an office that was much more flexible and adaptable than modern scholars usually assume.



Charlotte Crabtree

Gianna DeMaria at TOMODACHI Leadership Conference



Gianna DeMaria

Gianna DeMaria participated in the 6th Annual TOMODACHI Daiwa House Student Leadership Conference in Los Angeles, California, April 5th-8th. This year's conference titled "U.S.-Japan Business and Community Partnerships: Practical Insights for Tomorrow's Global Leaders," enabled Japanese and American undergraduate and graduate students currently studying at a U.S. colleges and universities to come together for leadership and development training. This year's conference participants were selected from schools located in and around major West Coast cities including Seattle, Portland, Los Angeles and the islands of Hawaii.

Gianna says, "I was incredibly honored to be given an opportunity as privileged and as exciting as this. I firmly believe that this will open more possibilities for me in terms of finding a career that fits my skill set and passion for my future. Additionally, this conference was a motivator for obtaining leadership skills. Not only was I afforded the opportunity to engage and network with other like-minded individuals, I was able to hear the stories of other professionals within their fields and understand that not all paths are linear. The underlying theme of the conference was to never be ashamed of who you are, because it's all you have, and you're the only one who can "do you," especially as a potential leader.

DeMaria went on to express gratitude to her advising professor, **Ken Ruoff**. "I want to again thank Dr. Ruoff who not only made the announcement to our class, but took time out of his day to assist me with the application and made recommendations to prepare for the conference. I would absolutely recommend this experience to whomever is interested."

Robert Findlay accepts World History Assistant Professorship

Robert Findlay, former history student, completed both his B.A. with a history minor (2009), and an M.A. in history with an emphasis in World and East Asian history (2011) at Portland State University before going on to complete his Ph.D. at the University of Hawaii, Manoa (2016). His dissertation was titled "Captivating Hearts and Minds: The Attempted Americanization of Asian Cultures, 1945-1970."

He was recently hired as an Assistant Professor in a tenure track position teaching World History at **Georgia Gwinett College**. Findlay says, "Although the college is fairly young, it has a rapidly growing student population, good funding, and plenty of administrative support for faculty members. The School of Liberal Arts at GGC is expanding the history program, particularly its offerings on World history, and hopefully I will play a large role in that process."



Robert Findlay

Findlay praised the PSU world history offerings by his professors **Linda Walton**, **James Grehan**, **Ken Ruoff**, **Chia Yin Hsu**, **Jennifer Tappan**, and **Rodney Koeneke**. "[They] played a central role in my understanding of the field, as did Professor **Tim Garrison**'s historiography class. I will do my best to represent Portland State University well in my future academic career in Georgia."

First Annual History Slam



On May 18th, the History Department hosted the first annual History Slam, organized by **Professor Catherine McNeur**. The top undergraduate and graduate students who had completed research projects in the Department’s capstone readings and research courses (HST492 and HST592) this year, as well as undergraduates who had completed honors theses competed in the department-level Slam. They had three minutes to tell the audience and judges about their innovative research.

A panel of judges, including **Dean Karen Marrongelle**, **Professor Katy Barber**, **Professor Tom Luckett**, and Friends of History board member

Joji Kappes, graded each student’s performance. Topics included everything from cemetery removals in Portland to the ways insane asylums aided empires. The top three students were all medievalists from Professor John Ott’s class: first prize went to Emily Kotwicki, second to Jeneveve Winchell, and third to Aubrie Kent. Congratulations to all of the stellar presenters!



Aubrie Kent | Marriage, Violence, and the Defense of Family Honor: The Role of Women in the Feuds of the Medieval Italian Nobility - 3rd Place



Jeneveve Winchell | Mothers of the Nobility: Viragos of Investiture Controversy - 2nd Place



Emily Kotwicki | The New Norm in Normandy: Masculinity Redefined 912-996 - 1st Place



Kyle Reeds | How the Imperial Invaded the Domestic: Family, Community, and Academia's role in Postwar Eugenics Programs



Kirsten Straus | Finding “A Place More Appropriate” — Early Cemetery History in Portland, Oregon



Brian Gottschalk | Traits of Power in William the Conqueror



Brian A. Catlos | "Faithful Infidels: The Muslim Minority of the Medieval West"



Margaret MacMillan | "Does History Matter?"



Annelise Orleck | "Poverty Wages, Not Lovin' It: The Rise of a New Global Labor Movement"



Linda Gordon | "The 1920s KKK in Oregon and America's Right-wing Populist Tradition"

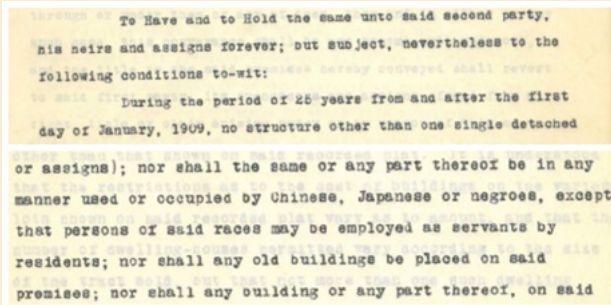


Heather Thompson | "The Attica Prison Uprising of 1971 and Why It Matters Today"



Quinn Slobodian | "World Scanners: How Finance Remade the Rule of Law after the 1970s" at the 2017-2018 History Colloquium-Workshop Series

Students uncover history of housing segregation in Portland



A 1913 deed for a home in the Laurelhurst neighborhood in Portland bars Chinese, Japanese and African American buyers or renters. (Courtesy of Greta Smith)

As city officials seek to address a citywide housing crisis, they are partnering with Portland State University history students to uncover historical patterns of housing discrimination so they can take steps to redress them and create more equitable policies. During the spring term, students from a history course taught by **Katy Barber** researched discriminatory housing policies such as restrictive covenants and other planning tools that were used by government, landowners, realtors and neighborhood associations to enforce racial segregation.

The project collaborators include graduate student **Greta Smith** and Bureau of Planning and Sustainability project manager **Ryan Curren**. The project coincides with two milestones: the 50th

anniversary of the passage of the Fair Housing Act, the landmark federal act that prohibited discrimination in housing, and the 70th anniversary of the Vanport Flood, which displaced many blacks and left them with few options for housing.

Smith is gathering covenants—both from fellow historians and residents who have sent them to her—and adding them to an [interactive Google Map](#). Anyone with a racial restrictive covenant is encouraged to contact **Greta Smith** at pdxhst@pdx.edu.

“Restrictive covenants and other racist tools really acted as an impediment to housing for people of color over the long term and hindered many from accumulating wealth through property ownership,” Smith said. “It’s important for us to take a look at the way that we’ve segregated our city and how we’ve disinvested certain communities of people, particularly black people in our city, because this has direct correlations to our current housing crisis.”

Read more indepth coverage of this story in [Medium](#), [Portland State News](#), [The Skanner](#), [KGW](#), and [The Oregonian](#).

Patricia Schechter Publishes Family History Podcast



In October, 2017, **Patricia Schechter** published a podcast and blog based on some family history materials. Schechter’s project, “**Fanny and Sam: A New York Love Story**,” is almost like an old fashioned radio play, without the voice overs. The story describes the courtship of Schechter’s paternal grandparents during the 1920s in New York City. The main intention behind the project was to catch up on the world of podcasting which is of interest to our public history students. Podcasts involve short audio segments, typically running 10 to 30 minutes, hosted online as stand-alone content or chapter-based episodes around a theme or topic. Media outlets, libraries, museums frequently post or sponsor podcasts as a way to reach their online audiences with digital news, interviews, readings or reviews, as well as more creative content. “**Fanny and Sam: A New York Love Story**” can be easily reached at the PSU library’s digital publishing platform, [PDXScholar](#). Users can access the audio files, which include period music, or [read the blog](#) which carries the full text of the podcast plus beautiful photographs.

Marc Rodriguez on Historical Memory & Social Justice

Dr. Marc S. Rodriguez, Associate Professor of History at Portland State University, was interviewed by the [Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation](#) about how his academic work concerning historical memory and civil rights is shaped by his engagement with community.

How have you negotiated the responsibilities of the academy with action in your community?

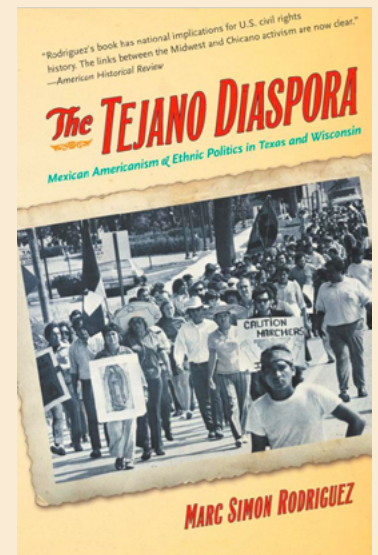
I saw my work as being done mainly on behalf of the many people in my hometown's Latino community who had never had their story told to the outside world and never saw it as the complex historical process that it was. I have also maintained a role in the local politics of my hometown, and my family still lives there so I have never lost sight of where I came from.

How do you feel like engagement with your community has shaped your research and/or teaching practice?

My work grew from a desire to understand the lives of Tejano farm workers and their children. As the son of a Tejano farmworker it directly shaped my work. With such diversity within the Latino/a population today there has been some historical erasure of the long term domestic Latinos who have lived in the US and have been born in the USA for nearly two centuries and in some cases much longer. My work seeks to tell part of that story.

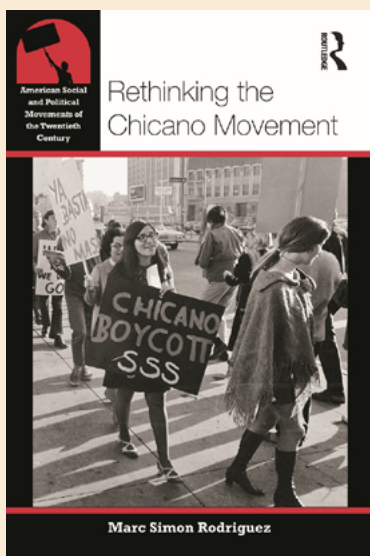


Marc Rodriguez



As a scholar concerned with historical memory and civil rights, do you ever find yourself leveraging the insights gained from your research to impact your campus community? If so, how?

Social class is important. I sometimes worry that we have given up on economic issues in favor of multiculturalism and diversity so I have pushed colleagues and university administrators to pay attention not only to the somewhat easier work of attracting international elites and wealthy minorities to doctoral programs and university jobs, but also to maintain a commitment to Affirmative Action to recruit domestic minorities from low income backgrounds. I was a Pell Grant recipient as an undergraduate but I worry that too often fellowship programs and universities pick the easy fruit of elite yet diverse applicants rather than seeking out and perhaps taking a chance on the less exotic low income or first generation minority applicants. I remind people that the US Civil Rights Movements (all of them) were about upward mobility and justice rather than the diversification among and between global elites.



Third Biennial Richard Robinson Business History Workshop



Thursday, May 24, at 6:00 pm in Smith Student Union Center, Room 238
Friday, May 25, from 9:30 am in Smith Student Union Center, Room 294
Saturday, May 26, from 9:00 am in Smith Student Union Center, Room 294

Co-organized by **Chia Yin Hsu** and **Thomas Lockett** of the PSU History Department, along with Erika Vause of Florida Southern College, the biennial [Richard Robinson Business History Workshop](#) will convene for the third time on the PSU campus on May 24–26, 2018. Funded by a bequest from the late Richard J. Robinson, Professor of Marketing in PSU's School of Business Administration, the Workshop is a discussion-focused conference that brings together scholars working on closely related research from across the United States and around the world.

Our theme for this year's Workshop will be "Risk, Honor & Innovation: Imagining New Markets." The public keynote address "The Mississippi Bubble of 1720 and France's Missing Revolution" will be delivered by **François R. Velde**, Senior Economist and Research Advisor at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago on May 24, 2018. Velde is an expert on European monetary and financial history, and co-author with Thomas Sargent of *The Big Problem of Small Change* (Princeton University Press, 2002).

Papers from the first [Richard Robinson Business History Workshop](#) in 2014 have been published as a volume of essays: **Chia Yin Hsu**, **Thomas Lockett** & **Erika Vause**, eds., *The Cultural History of Money and Credit: A Global Perspective* (Lexington Books, 2015).

You can find more about the panel discussions and schedule of events on the [Richard Robinson Business History Workshop](#) website.

The Mississippi Bubble of 1720 and France's Missing Revolution



THU
May 24, 2018

Smith Memorial Student Union
(SMSU) RM 238

Reception: 6:00pm
Keynote: 6:30pm

FREE
and open
to the public

The Mississippi Bubble of 1720 was the epicenter for a wave of speculative bubbles across Europe, but it was more than a bubble.

John Law's complex scheme involved a complete reconstruction of public finance as well as the first full-scale implementation of paper money in Europe. The scheme failed spectacularly, but the failure raises interesting questions. Could it have worked, and if so, how would France's history have changed? And, given the far-reaching failure, why were the repercussions so limited?

François Velde is a senior economist and research advisor in the economic research department at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. Velde's primary research on monetary history and monetary theory has been published in numerous journals. His research topics include medieval currency debasements, the monetary history of the United States, dollarization in Argentina and the macroeconomics of the French revolution.

In 2002, Velde and Thomas Sargent co-authored the book *The Big Problem of Small Change* (Princeton University Press), which studies how monetary systems in Western European economies evolved in response to recurring shortages and depreciation of small change.



François Velde

Prior to joining the Chicago Fed as an economist in 1997, Velde was an assistant professor of economics at Johns Hopkins University. He is currently a visiting lecturer at the University of Chicago. Velde earned an undergraduate degree at the École Polytechnique in France and a Ph.D. in economics at Stanford University.

30th Annual Endowed Lecture with William Taubman



THURSDAY
October 4th

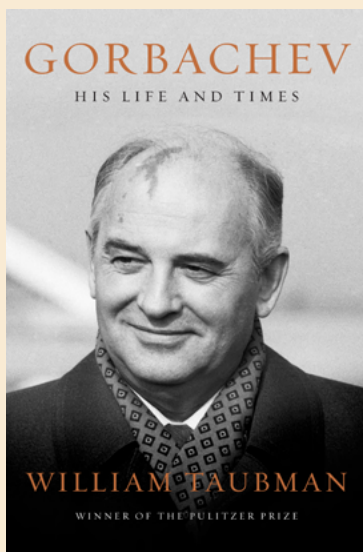
5pm

Lincoln Hall
Recital Hall
RM 75

WHY GORBACHEV'S RUSSIA BECAME PUTIN'S

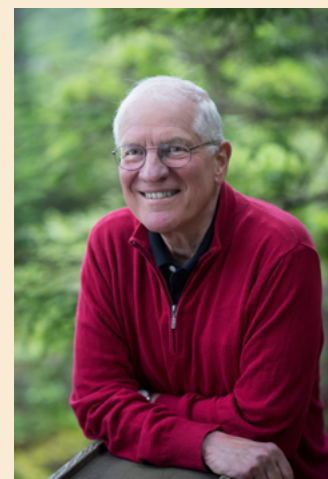
William Taubman will discuss his new book, *Gorbachev: His Life and Times*—how a peasant boy rose to become the Soviet Communism's gravedigger, why the Soviet regime

allowed him to destroy it, how Gorbachev and arch-conservative American President Ronald Reagan became almost perfect partners, and why Gorbachev allowed the USSR's East European empire to crumble without firing a shot. Professor Taubman will also talk about Gorbachev's remarkable marriage to Raisa Gorbachev, about Gorbachev's surprisingly mixed attitude toward Vladimir Putin, and, if the audience is interested, about Putin—and his relations with Donald Trump.



William Taubman is the Bertrand Snell Professor of Political Science Emeritus at Amherst College and the author of the recently published *Gorbachev: His Life and Times*, which was a finalist for the 2018 National Book Critics award for biography. His biography, *Khrushchev: The Man and His Era*, won the 2004 Pulitzer Prize and the National Critics Circle Award for biography. He is the author of *Stalin's American Policy: From Entente to Détente to Cold War*, and *Moscow Spring*, co-authored with his wife, retired Amherst College professor of

Russian **Jane Taubman**. William Taubman was president of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies in 2009 and chairs the Academic Advisory Committee of the Cold War International History Project at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington. He has received the Karel Kramar Medal of the Czech Republic and the Order of Friendship of the Russian Federation. He lives in Amherst, Massachusetts.



William Taubman | Michele Stapleton

Remembering Historian G. Thomas Edwards

G. Thomas Edwards, Professor of History Emeritus at Whitman College and co-founder of the Portland Civil War Round Table, passed away in January.

Professor Edwards was born in Portland and grew up in Taft. He earned his bachelor's degree from Willamette University and his M.A. and PhD from the University of Oregon. He taught courses on the Pacific Northwest and United States history at Whitman College from 1964 until his retirement in 1988. He was named the William Kirkman Professor of History at Whitman in 1985 and received the Burlington Northern and Robert Y. Fluno teaching awards and the Robert Gray lifetime achievement medal from the Washington State Historical Society. Professor Edwards published four books and dozens of articles.

After his retirement from Whitman, Professor Edwards returned to Portland and was instrumental in establishing a Civil War Round Table in the city. With the help of Professor Gordon Dodds, Edwards set up the Round Table in the PSU History Department, and it has been meeting here ever since.



G. Thomas Edwards | Doug Clark/Focus 503 Photography



Tom Edwards teaching a class in the 1960s | Whitman College and Northwest Archives

his February CWRT talks. Although he continued to be my mentor to the very end, most importantly he became a dear friend.”

Those of us on the PSU History faculty who knew Tom will miss him, and we wish to express our sympathy to his family for their loss.

Mark Rothert, the Treasurer of the Round Table and a member of the Portland State University Friends of History board of directors recalled that “I met Tom at the inaugural meeting of the [Dodds-Edwards Civil War Round Table](#). Being a gifted speaker, all of the members avidly anticipated his annual talk at the February meetings. Without question Tom always drew the year’s largest audience.

“Personally, he became my mentor as I worked on my master’s degree. He was always willing to read my papers and discuss them with me over lunch and well into the afternoon. It became a great source of pride when he began asking my opinion on his projects and fleshing out ideas for

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History Department	Supports the general expenses of the History Department, particularly faculty and student research
<i>Pacific Historical Review</i>	Funds travel, office expenses, research support, and professional development
History Fellowship Fund	Funds fellowships for History students
Richard Robinson Fund	Supports students and faculty interested in the history of business
Faculty Awards for History Research	Provides a cash award for faculty who publish books
Bernard Burke Scholarship	Provides scholarships for graduate students in History
Anne Myers Scholarship	Provides scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students in History
Caroline P. Stoel Fellowship	Provides fellowships for graduate students in History
Lauren Banasky Award	Funds graduate research expenses for students interested in European or women's history
Joel Palmer Awards	Provides stipends for students working on the <i>Oregon Encyclopedia</i>
Michael M. Powell Fellowship	Supports original scholarly research that contributes to public understanding of the Columbia River Basin
E. Ann Fulton Scholarship	Provides grants, scholarships, and awards for History students
Stephanie K. Oliver Award	Provides support for graduate students nearing the completion of their degree
Friends of History Operations	Supports lectures and other events sponsored by the Friends of History, faculty research, and student awards and scholarships
Friends of History Endowment	Provides funding to bring top historians to lecture at PSU
Gordon B. Dodds Fellowship	Funds fellowships for students in History



The Friends of History is a community-based organization affiliated with the [Portland State University Department of History](#) that is committed to supporting the teaching and study of history

within the larger Portland area. Thanks to the generous support of our members, we are able to provide lectures, discussion groups, and other programming that speaks to a variety of scholarly interests, as well as scholarships and grants to further important research in history by Portland State University students and faculty members.

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