

Teacher Professional Development Programs with Edward T. O'Donnell, Ph.D.

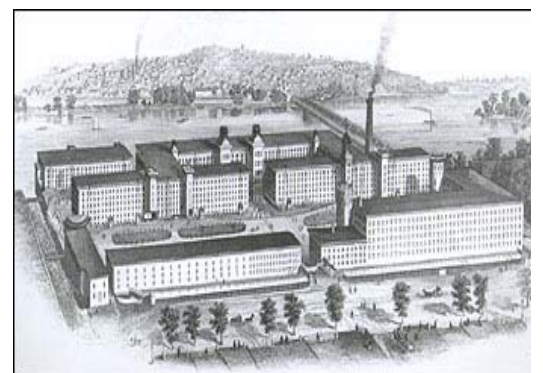
The Transformation of Antebellum America

During the antebellum period (1815-1800) America experienced dramatic changes with the onset of mass immigration, industrialization, urbanization, and technological innovations such as the telegraph and railroad. It was an age of surging nationalism that preached Manifest Destiny and westward expansion, a spirit that ultimately led to Native American removal and war with Mexico. These decades also witnessed the Second Great Awakening, the temperance crusade, the women's rights movement, and abolition. The latter reflected the increasingly contentious issue of slavery that eventually came to dominate national politics, leading to secession and Civil War.

This presentation, augmented with more than 75 visuals, examines the following:

- the origins of the industrial revolution and the first labor movement
- the intensification of the debate over slavery in the 1840s and 1850s
- the impact of technology, especially the telegraph and railroad, on society and the economy.
- mass immigration and the rise of the nativist movement
- key antebellum figures such as Charles Grandison Finney, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Frederick Douglass, William Lloyd Garrison, Stephen A. Douglas, and John C. Calhoun.

Note: this talk can be tailored to your specific needs, focusing on a particular incident (i.e., The Christiana Riot, etc.), reformer, issue, or theme such as Frederick Douglass's impact on abolitionism.



The Boott Mills at Lowell, MA



War news from Mexico

About the Presentation:

Today's students are visual and interactive learners – and so are their teachers. Consequently, this multimedia presentation is built around 75-100 unique and carefully selected visuals, including vintage photographs, etchings, maps, cartoons, and documents (samples appear on this page). O'Donnell uses them to enhance a lively and interactive presentation. Ample time is allotted for Q & A, but O'Donnell always welcomes questions at any time during the session.

Benefits for your teachers:

- a renewed and/or deepened awareness of topic's **essential content**.
- an enhanced understanding of the topic's critical **questions, concepts, & ideas**.
- new ideas for finding and using **primary sources** and developing DBQ's, simulations, projects, debates, and field trip preparation.

Programming Options:

- Time Flexibility – all presentations and workshops can be tailored to meet your needs, from 1 to 3 hours.
- Pedagogy Workshops – O'Donnell is also available to lead workshops on primary sources, DBQ's, simulations, projects, and debates.
- Walking Tours & Historic Site Visits - O'Donnell has led thousands – just ask!

Edward T. O'Donnell, Ph.D. is a professional historian, author, and speaker. He earned his Ph.D. in American History from Columbia University (1995) and currently is Associate Professor (tenured) of History at Holy Cross College in Worcester, MA. He is the author of several books and frequently publishes history essays in publications such as the *New York Times*. He has made countless teacher professional development presentations and served as lead historian for the Teaching American History grant, "Enlivening American History Through Primary Sources" (2001, Queens College). For a full c.v., please visit his website: www.EdwardTODonnell.com.



Slave Auction