Beyond Production and Consumption: Refining American Material Culture Studies
American & New England Studies at Boston University Graduate Student Association Conference

Saturday, March 23, 2013
147 Bay State Road, Boston, MA
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9:00 Registration

9:30 Keynote Lecture Professor Edward S. Cooke, Jr., Charles F. Montgomery Professor, History of American Decorative Arts and Material Culture, Yale University

10:15 Break

10:30 Evocative Commodities and Material Imaginaries
   Molly Rosner, American Studies, Rutgers University: “Reinventing History Through Nostalgic Material Culture: The American Girl Doll Empire”
   Rebecca Scofield, History of American Civilization, Harvard University: “You a Real Cowboy?: American Masculinity and the Marketing of Western Wear in the 1980s”
   Mary Beth Finch, Sociology, Northwestern University: “The Sacralization Process and the Meaning of Fair Trade”

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Interrogating Material Traditions and Rituals
   Gina Guzzon, History of Decorative Art, Smithsonian Institution Associates at George Mason University: “Crafting Material Culture: Activism, New Domesticity, or Pop-culture?”
   Kelsey Brosnan, Art History, Rutgers University: “Tea with Mary Cassatt in the MFA’s Art of the Americas Wing”

2:30 Break

2:45 Material Signs, Changing Fortunes (two mini-panels)
   Emily C. McEwen, Public History, University of California Riverside: “Inn Ruin: Display, Decay, and Renewal at Riverside’s Mission Inn”

   Self, Inscribed: Bound Material Strategies
   Amy N. Breimaier, History, University of Massachusetts Amherst: “‘For the Use of all good Little BOYS and GIRLS’: Children’s Use of Their Literature in the Early Republic”

4:30 Reception