

## Pleun Clara Bouricius

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Historian, Writer, Photographer  
*Swiftiverpress.com; AgathaO.com*

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**Coaching writers:** developing a voice, creative non-fiction, writing with history, business writing, grant writing

**Planning the future of history:** planning support for organizations looking to increase their viability; evaluations of programs and historical resources including buildings and landscapes

**Online publishing for small business and organizations:** websites, online exhibits, blog editing

**Copywriting and independent publishing:** creating print publications for small historical organizations

**Shaping clear and engaging exhibits:** curation, content development, and evaluation of real and virtual exhibits

### SELECTED PROJECTS

[Massachusetts History Conference](#). Management and content development of growing annual service conference held at College of the Holy Cross, Worcester. Collaboratively organized by and for professional and volunteer staff of historical organizations, independent professionals, and students in public history. 2007-2018

[Reading Frederick Douglass](#). Creation and management of award-winning statewide program offering community public readings of Frederick Douglass' 1852 speech, *The Meaning of the Fourth of July to the Negro*, organized in collaboration with dozens of organizations around the state. 2009-2016

[Ideas Matter: Checking in with the Public Humanities](#). Concept and realization of a short weekly radio segment showcasing public humanities programming in the Northeast, a collaborative initiative with the state humanities councils of Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Vermont) and WAMC Northeast Public Radio (Albany, NY). 2013-2016

[Created Equal 40th Anniversary Events](#), [An \(Un\)Civil Action](#), and [Massachusetts and the Economy of Slavery](#). Concept and realization of Mass Humanities statewide collaborative film-and-discussion program series featuring the documentaries, *The Loving Story*, *Slavery by Another Name*, *Freedom Riders*, *The Most Dangerous Man in America: Daniel Ellsberg and the Pentagon Papers*, *John Brown's Holy War*, and *Traces of the Trade*, many events paired with relevant local history tours. 2008-2015

### SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

"Dowsing for history." *Earthcare Catalog*. David Perkins, ed. Hilltown Chautauqua, 2018. Forthcoming

"Of time on the river." *Stone Walls II* (Summer, 2017).

*The Bog* by AgathaO. Swift River Press (Plainfield, MA), 2017. Essays and photographs

[AgathaO.com](#). Photography and essays: nature, history, philosophy, and the art of seeing. 2015-

*The Public Humanist* (blog), *Valley Advocate*, Northampton, MA. Selected contributions: "[The Mullahs are Not My Audience](#)" (October 24, 2013); "[Dusting Off Our Collective Memories: Confronting Lewis Hine's Photographs of Child Laborers](#)" (April 24, 2012); "[History in the First Person](#)" (March 7, 2011); "[Attie's Music](#)" (June 2, 2010); "[The Meaning of the Fourth of July: Abolition in Massachusetts](#)" (July 2, 2009); "[Learning Place, Reading the Rural Landscape](#)" (January 15, 2008). The blog was discontinued and the posts are archived without images on Mass Humanities' website.

Note: A list of publications and projects is available on [Swiftiverpress.com](#)

## EXPERIENCE

<b>Freelance Writer and Consulting Historian</b> , owner, <a href="http://SwiftRiverPress.com">SwiftRiverPress.com</a> . Writing, editing, consultations and workshops in history and photography.	2016-
<b>Founding co-director</b> <a href="#">Massachusetts History Alliance</a> (MHA), a network of Massachusetts public history organizations and institutions of all sizes. Providing leadership in negotiations and collaborative planning, continuity, and impetus for an emerging statewide organization serving the public history field.	2016-
<b>Member</b> , State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB), Massachusetts Archives. Policy-and grant-making committee that provides support and grants for archival work for organizations around Massachusetts, especially smaller archives and volunteer archivists.	2014-
<b>Curator</b> , Plainfield Historical Society. Volunteer board position with small historical society. Responsible for intellectual and physical management of all of the PHS collections; policy development; volunteer management; cataloguing; informative lectures and talks; grant writing; donor development	2011-
<b>Assistant Director and Director of Grants and Programs</b> , Mass Humanities. Managed Mass Humanities' grant making and council-conducted programming and -staff; worked with board-based committees; participated in strategic planning, policy making, and fundraising efforts as member of the executive team; created projects and programs and wrote grant applications, reviews, and reports; program officer work (see below)	2010-2016
<b>Program Officer</b> , Mass Humanities. Worked with grant applicants and grantees; managed grant projects; managed Mass Humanities' Massachusetts history grants, programs and projects, including planning of the annual Massachusetts History Conference	2007-2010
<b>Consulting Historian</b> , Plainfield Historical Society. Project development and management, fundraising, database design, volunteer recruitment and project management	2005-2007
<b>Member and Consulting Contractor</b> , Plainfield Buildings Committee. Volunteer position on town committee overseeing maintenance, evaluation, and improvement of town buildings.	2004-2009
<b>Restoration contractor, carpenter, and small business owner</b> , Measure Twice Renewal (active in estimating, design and overseeing, since 2008)	2002-
<b>Project Manager</b> , Women in Business Survey, Baker Library, Harvard Business School. Designed and supervised survey of manuscript collections; curated project exhibition; created online finding aid/guide to archival women's history resources at HBS	2001-2002
<b>CDL A Driver</b> , Werner Enterprises, Omaha, NE. Long haul truck driving	2000
<b>Lecturer</b> , Harvard University, Faculty of Arts and Sciences and Division of Continuing Education. Seminars and lecture classes in American history and literature. Freshman seminars, sophomore to senior group and on-on-one tutorials. Team-taught with rotating partners; supervised (thesis-) writing; created and evaluated general and oral exams.	1997-2000
<b>Non-Resident Writing Tutor</b> ("writing across the curriculum"), Currier and Quincy Houses, Harvard University	2000
<b>Teaching Fellow and Head Teaching Fellow</b> , Harvard University (History and Literature, English Literature and Language, History, and Women's Studies). Taught individual and thesis-writing tutorials and discussion sections; supervised other Teaching Fellows and coordinated course administration	1997-2000
<b>Resident Tutor</b> , Dudley House, Harvard University. Resident advisor in student-run undergraduate housing ("Dudley Co-op"), academic advising, personal counseling, mediation and conflict resolution, writing grant proposals, and general administrative duties.	1996-2000