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The decades between the American Revolution and the Civil War witnessed two economic transformations: the harnessing of machinery and capital into an industrial revolution and the vast expansion of slavery across a so-called Cotton Kingdom. These were not rival developments, but rather the twin engines of the nineteenth-century American economy. This three-day conference will showcase the latest research on the role of slavery in American economic development, pointing toward a new history of capitalism itself.

April 9 - Harvard University

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Thursday, April 7

Salomon Hall Brown University

3:00-4:00 Undergraduate Research Poster Session Salomon Hall lobby

4:00-5:30 Keynote Address, President Ruth Simmons Salomon 101

Friday, April 8

All sessions in Crystal Room, Alumnae Hall, Brown University

8:30-8:55 Coffee and Registration

9:00-11:00 FINANCE

Chair: Michael Vorenberg, Brown University

The Contours of Cotton Capitalism: Speculation, Slavery, and Economic Panic in Mississippi, 1832-1841 Joshua D. Rothman, University of Alabama

Neighbor to Neighbor: Local Lending Networks Building Economies by Mortgaging Slaves Bonnie Martin, Southern Methodist University

The Common Thread: Cotton, Slavery and the Development of Merchant Banking Kathryn Boodry, Harvard University

Comment: David Waldstreicher, Temple University

11:00-11:25 Coffee Break

## 11:30-1:00 DEVELOPMENT

Chair: Ted Widmer, John Carter Brown Library

Defining the National Mainstream: Slavery, Capitalism, and the Limestone South John Majewski, University of California–Santa Barbara

Did Slavery Need Capitalism, or did Capitalism Need Slavery? Stanley Engerman, University of Rochester

Comment: Kaivan Munshi, Brown University

1:00-1:55: Lunch

2:00-4:00 **COMMERCE** 

Chair: Cécile Vidal, L'École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales

*Quantifying Complicity: New Englanders and the Slave Economies of the West Indies* Eric Kimball, University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg

The Coastwise Slave Trade and a Mercantile Community of Interest Calvin Schermerhorn, Arizona State University

*Slavery, Technology and the Richmond-Rio Circuit* Daniel Rood, American Antiquarian Society

Comment: Ronald Bailey, Savannah State University

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Saturday, April 9

## All Sessions in Thompson Room, Barker Center Harvard University

8:30-9:00 Coffee and Registration

## 9:00-11:00 PLANTATION PRACTICES

Chair: Joyce Chaplin, Harvard University

The Whipping Machine Edward Baptist, Cornell University

Improving the South: Plantation Slavery and American Industrialization Ian Beamish, Johns Hopkins University

From Slavery to Scientific Management: Accounting for Mastery Caitlin Rosenthal, Harvard University

Comment: Lorena Walsh, Colonial Williamsburg (retired)

11:00-11:25 Coffee Break

11:30-1:00 HUMAN CAPITAL

Chair: Richard Rabinowitz, American History Workshop

"Broad is de Road dat Leads ter Death": Human Capital & Enslaved Mortality Daina Ramey Berry, University of Texas Slave Breeding: An Antebellum Argument over Commodity Relations, Love, and Personhood Amy Dru Stanley, University of Chicago

Comment: Walter Johnson, Harvard University

1:00-1:55 Lunch and Undergraduate Poster Session on Harvard and Slavery

## 2:00-4:00: INSTITUTIONS AND IDEAS

Chair: John Stauffer, Harvard University

"The Very Name of a West Indian": Atlantic Wealth and the Rise of the American College Craig Wilder, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Capitalism, Slavery, and Mathew Carey's 1819 Andrew Shankman, Rutgers University–Camden

"No God But Gain": The Business of Cuba and U.S. Foreign Policy Stephen Chambers, Brown University

Utility, Slavery, and Market in American Legal Thought Alfred Brophy, University of North Carolina School of Law

Comment: James T. Campbell, Stanford University

4:00-5:00 Concluding Roundtable Sven Beckert, Seth Rockman, and the Audience