

LYCEUM LECTURE SERIES
OCTOBER 23, 2017
FORUM, MCCARTHY CENTER
5-7 P.M.

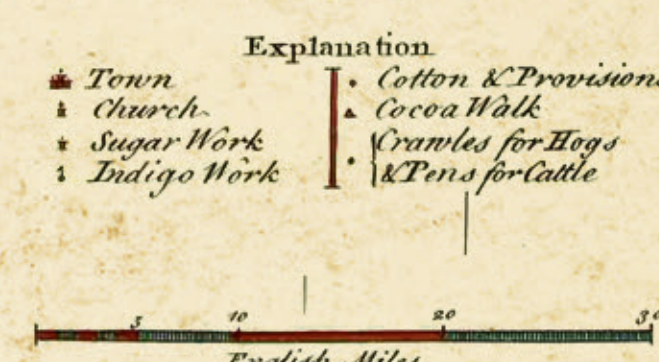


Framingham
State University

“A VASSAL TO HIS MAJESTY”

LOYALTY, BETRAYAL, AND SLAVES’ PURSUIT OF FREEDOM IN MID-EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY JAMAICA

Lissa Bollettino, PhD
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY



In keeping with their desire to honor enslaved people’s agency, scholars have often focused on those who rebelled. In this lecture, Dr. Bollettino will instead shed light on the choices of those often marginalized as “collaborators.” She will analyze and explore the significance of the petitions of two enslaved men who won their freedom through alliance with the colonial order in Jamaica, considering the ambiguous consequences of their service to the British empire, both for their individual lives and for the institution of slavery in the British Atlantic. This lecture will provide insight into how historians work. Dr. Bollettino will share how she found these unique petitions in Britain’s National Archives and the progress she has made in reconstructing the petitioners’ lives.

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