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## Southern Historical Association announces Fletcher M. Green and Charles W. Ramsdell Award Winner

**Athens, GA**: The Southern Historical Association is pleased to announce that the 2020 winner of the Fletcher M. Green and Charles W. Ramsdell Award is Aaron R. Hall for "Public Slaves and State Engineers: Modern Statecraft on Louisiana's Waterways, 1833-1861," published in the August 2019 issue. Established in 1956, the Green-Ramsdell Award is given for the best article published in the *Journal of Southern History* over the preceding two years.

In making its decision the committee noted: "This is a revelatory article that exposes the reliance of the state on slave labor to build its infrastructure. It reshapes the literature in several fields, most prominently slavery and American Political Development.... On top of the analytical insights, the essay is very well written.... Aaron Hall's [article] is in all respects a model study that should compel new research and that broadens our understanding of this most nefarious and essential American practice."

**About the SHA**: The Southern Historical Association was organized on November 2, 1934 and charged with promoting an "investigative rather than a memorial approach" to southern history. Its objectives are the promotion of interest and research in southern history, the collection and preservation of the South's historical records, and the encouragement of state and local historical societies in the South. As a secondary purpose the Association fosters the teaching and study of all areas of history in the South. The Association holds an annual meeting, usually in the first or second week of November, and publishes *The Journal of Southern History*.

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