



# LancasterHistory

## For Immediate Release

*All events are camera friendly, and principals will be available for interviews.*

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## Scholar to analyze how production and consumption of goods tied a community, an empire, together

*The quarterly series continues with University of Delaware's Dr. Zara Anishanslin's latest book*

*Lancaster, PA (February 21, 2019)* – Join us for the second installment of LancasterHistory's new artifact-focused programming series, the Material Culture Forum! On Thursday, March 28, 2019, LancasterHistory Curatorial staff will present in-depth object studies of Lancaster County portraiture and clothing, followed by a presentation by Zara Anishanslin, Ph.D., who will join us in conversation about her book *Portrait of a Woman in Silk: Hidden Histories of the British Atlantic World*.

At 4pm, LancasterHistory Assistant Curator Tori Pyle will present a close look and conversation about the ways in which portraiture and textiles interact, using objects from the LancasterHistory Collections.

At 4:30pm, special guest Dr. Zara Anishanslin will join us in a presentation and discussion of *Portrait of a Woman in Silk*.

Through the story of a portrait of a woman in a silk dress, Zara Anishanslin embarks on a fascinating journey, exploring and refining debates about the cultural history of the eighteenth-century British Atlantic world. While most scholarship on commodities focuses either on labor and

production or on consumption and use, Anishanslin unifies both, examining the worlds of four identifiable people who produced, wore, and represented this object: a London weaver, one of early modern Britain's few women silk designers, a Philadelphia merchant's wife, and a New England painter.

**Zara Anishanslin, Ph.D.** is assistant professor of history and art history at the University of Delaware.

**About The Event:** The Material Culture Forum is a quarterly series designed to lead small groups in an exploration of history through objects. At 4pm, LancasterHistory's Curatorial staff will offer white glove object studies using highlights from our Collections; at 4:30pm, guest scholars and lecturers will join our group to discuss new research related to our regional history and its material culture, the objects and architecture that surround Lancastrians. Scholars, decorative arts enthusiasts, and curious learners are all welcome to join us for this enriching program. Whether you know a lot or a little about the county's history, we will learn from each other's observations and knowledge. Attend all four Material Culture Forums throughout the year, or choose just a few of particular interest to you. Water bottles and note paper will be provided.

**Tickets:** The forum, *A Portrait of a Woman in Silk*, takes place Thursday, March 28, 2019 at 4pm at LancasterHistory, 230 N. President Avenue in Lancaster, PA. Tickets are \$15 for LancasterHistory members and \$25 for non-members. ([To become a member or renew your membership, please visit our website.](#)) To register, please visit [www.lancasterhistory.org](http://www.lancasterhistory.org) or call (717) 392-4633. Sell out is likely; early, advance registration is highly recommended. Questions and accessibility requests may be directed to [info@lancasterhistory.org](mailto:info@lancasterhistory.org) or (717) 392-4633.

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[Download Image of Dr. Anishanslin](#)