

## Nancy Maxwell

Nancy Kouyoumjian Maxwell is currently a PhD candidate at the University of North Texas. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in English from California State University, Fullerton in 1976 and her Master of Science in Library Science from the University of Southern California in 1978. In 2016 she earned her Master of Arts in History from the University of North Texas. Her thesis, titled “Hungering for Independence: The Relationship Between Food and Morale in the Continental Army, 1775-1781,” was supervised by Dr. Guy Chet (chair), Dr. Harland Hagler, and Dr. F. Todd Smith.

Nancy’s focus is on the American colonial and Revolutionary eras, with a special interest in social history and historical foodways. She is currently researching and writing her dissertation, which considers the tension between Continental Army and militia provincialism and the continental scope of the American Revolutionary War through the lens of food history. This investigation examines soldiers' relationships with unfamiliar foods they encountered throughout the North American colonies during that conflict. She argues that exposure to unfamiliar foods helped retain soldiers’ provincialism rather than create a sense of nationalism. Dr. Guy Chet chairs her committee, consisting of Dr. Michael Wise, Dr. Jennifer Jensen Wallach, and Dr. F. Todd Smith.

Nancy is a member of the Phi Alpha Theta history honor society, the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, the Society for Military History, the Texas Library Association, and the National Genealogical Society. She has served as Genealogy Librarian at the Grapevine Public Library since July 2001.

Nancy is originally from Waltham, Massachusetts. Her passions include researching her Armenian and Jewish roots, assisting others in genealogical research, reading extensively about the American colonial and Revolutionary eras, and recently developing an interest in the causes of World War I. She also loves spoiling her only grandchild and Ivan, her fifteen-year-old Domestic Blue cat.

Nationalism and provincialism have been examined in Revolutionary War studies but not specifically in relation to food and the Continental soldier. Nancy is hoping her dissertation will help to widen this discussion.

