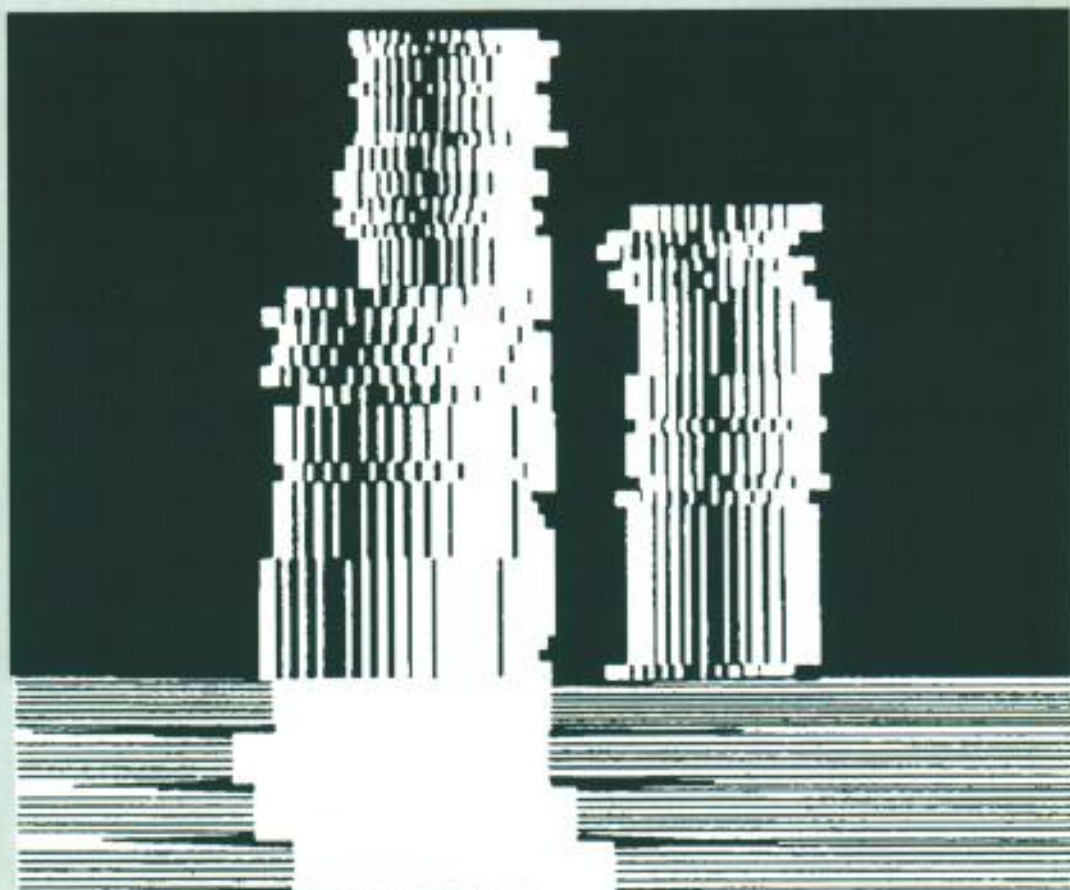


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# **Business and Economic History**

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## Preface

The 41st annual meeting of the Business History Conference was held March 17-19, 1995, in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Bill Becker was the program organizer, and the dissertation session was chaired by Roger Olien. Mark Rose was the local host and I would like to thank him sincerely for his prodigious efforts on behalf of the conference. We also very gratefully acknowledge the essential financial assistance of Florida Atlantic University, especially Vice President Mary G. McBride, President Anthony Catanese, Charles White, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, and Nancy Botero, Director of University Relations. We also appreciate the continuing financial support of the Winthrop Group and the Business History Group. Finally, thanks are due to all those who donated to the graduate student travel fund, which enabled seven graduate students to attend the conference for the first time.

The two annual prizes of the organization were awarded at the conference banquet. Jonathan J. Bean was awarded the Herman E. Krooss Prize for best dissertation. The third annual Newcomen Prize for the best paper from the 1994 meeting was awarded to Paul Gompers, whose paper, "The Rise and Fall of Venture Capital," was published in the Winter 1994 (vol. 23, no. 2) issue of the journal. The prize is made possible through the generosity of the Newcomen Society of the United States.

The 1996 Business History Conference will be held in Columbus, Ohio, on March 15-17. Mansel Blackford, President-elect and Professor of History at Ohio State, is the program chair. Christine Rosen is chairing the dissertation session. The 1997 meeting will be held jointly with the Association of Business Historians in Glasgow, Scotland in early July.

I am pleased to announce that Pat Denault, who currently is the grant administrator for Bernard Bailyn's international seminar project on the History of the Atlantic World, 1500-1800, has agreed to serve as associate editor of the journal. She already has helped immensely with this volume. Among other tasks, Pat has been responsible for putting up our homepage on the world wide web. Check it out at <http://cs.muohio.edu/bhc.html>. My sincere thanks go as usual to Mary Ferraro, who rather amazingly has continued to prepare the journal for publication while taking on more administrative tasks. Robert Doherty, our student assistant also cheerfully and competently helped with the editing tasks. Thanks. You all keep me going.

Will Hausman, September 1995