

JOHN JOSEPH WALLIS

Personal Information:

Home Address: 3908 Calverton Drive
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Business Address: Department of Economics
University of Maryland
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Date of Birth: June 24, 1952

Present Position:

Professor of Economics, University of Maryland, August 1999 to present.

Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research, September 1989 to present.

Education:

Pacific Lutheran University, 1970-1971.

Claremont Men's College, 1971-1973

University of Washington, B.A. 1975, (with honors in Economics), MA 1978, PhD 1981.

Dissertation: "Work Relief and Unemployment in the 1930s".

Professional Experience:

Associate Professor of Economics, University of Maryland, August 1989 to August 1999

Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Maryland, August 1983 to August 1989

Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research, June 1985 to September 1989

Visiting Professor of Economics, Harvard University, January 2008 to June 2008

Visiting Scholar, Hoover Institution, 2006-2007 academic year, January 2004-2010

Visiting Professor of Political Science, Political Science Department, Stanford University, 2006-2007

Research Fellow, Center for the Study of the Economy and the State, University of Chicago,
September 1981 to August 1983

Visiting Assistant Professor of Business Economics, Graduate School of Business, University of
Chicago, April 1982 to June 1983

Instructor, University of Washington, June 1978 to August 1981

Publications:

Books:

Violence and Social Orders: A Conceptual Framework for Interpreting Recorded Human History
With Douglass C. North and Barry R. Weingast, Cambridge University Press, 2009.

Translations into French, Italian, Chinese, and Japanese forthcoming in 2010/11.

Books Edited:

American Economic Growth and Standards of Living Before the Civil War, with Robert Gallman,
NBER, University of Chicago Press, 1992.

Chapters in Books:

"Why 1933? The Origins and Timing of National Government Growth, 1933 to 1940." In Robert Higgs, ed. *The Emerging Modern Political Economy*, JAI Press, 1986.

"Measuring the Transaction Sector in the American Economy: 1870 to 1970," with Douglass C. North. In Stanley Engerman and Robert Gallman, eds., *Long Term Factors in American Economic Growth*, Studies in Income and Wealth, vol. 51, University of Chicago Press, 1986.

"Decentralization in the Public Sector: An Empirical Study of State and Local Government," with Wallace Oates, in Harvey Rosen, ed. *Fiscal Federalism*, NBER, University of Chicago Press, 1988.

"The Great Depression: Have We Learned Our Lessons?" in *Second Thoughts: The Uses of American Economic History*, in Donald N. McCloskey ed., Oxford University Press, 1991.

"Introduction," with Robert Gallman, in Robert Gallman and John Wallis, editors, *American Economic Growth and Standards of Living Before the Civil War*, University of Chicago Press, 1992.

"Government Growth, Income Growth and Economic Growth", in John James and Mark Thomas, eds. *Capitalism in Context*, University of Chicago Press, 1994.

"The Interaction of Taxation and Regulation in Nineteenth Century Banking" with Richard Sylla and John Legler, in Claudia Goldin and Gary Libecap, eds., *The Regulated Economy: An Historical Approach to Political Economy*, NBER, University of Chicago Press, 1994.

"The Impact of the New Deal on American Federalism," with Wallace Oates, in Bordo, Goldin, and White, ed. *The Defining Moment: The Great Depression and the American Economy in the Twentieth Century*, NBER, University of Chicago Press, 1998.

"Early American Federalism and Economic Development, 1790-1840," in Panagariya, Portnoy, and Schwab, ed. *Environmental and Public Economics: Essays in Honor of Wallace E. Oates*, Edward Elgar Press, 1999.

"State Constitutional Reform and the Structure of Government Finance in the Nineteenth Century," In Jac Heckelman, John Moorhouse, and Robert Whaples, Ed. *Public Choice Interpretations of American Economic History*. Boston: Kluwer, 1999.

“A History of the Property Tax in America,” in *Property Taxation and Local Government Finance*, Wallace E. Oates, ed. Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, 2001.

"Market Augmenting Government? The State and the Corporation in 19th Century America" in Omar Azfar and Charles Cadwell, ed. *Market-Augmenting Government: The Institutional Foundations for Prosperity*. University of Michigan Press, 2003.

“Government Finances and Employment,” *Historical Statistics of the United States*, Carter, Gartner, Haines, Olmstead, Sutch, and Wright eds. Cambridge University Press, 2003.

“The New Deal” and “Government Administration” *Oxford Encyclopedia of Economic History*, Joel Mokyr, ed. Oxford University Press, 2003.

“The Public Promotion of Private Interest (Groups)” *Collective Choice: Essays in Honor of Mancur Olson*, Jac Heckelman and Dennis Coates, ed. Springer-Verlag, 2003.

“The Concept of Systematic Corruption in American Economic and Political History.” Goldin and Glaeser, ed. *Corruption and Reform*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2006.

“Politics, Relief, and Reform: The Transformation of America’s Social Welfare System during the New Deal.” With Price Fishback and Shawn Kantor. Goldin and Glaeser, ed. *Corruption and Reform*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2006.

“American Government and the Promotion of Economic Development In the National Era, 1790 to 1860.” In *The Role of Government in U.S. Economic History: Essays in Honor of Robert Higgs*, Price Fishback, ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007.

“Dysfunctional or Optimal Institutions: State Debt Limitations, the Structure of State and Local Governments, and the Finance of American Infrastructure.” With Barry R. Weingast. In Garrett, Grady, and Jackson, ed. *Fiscal Challenges: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Budget Policy*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2008.

“Answering Mary Shirley’s Question or: What Can the World Bank Learn from American History?” Haber, Weingast, and North, ed. *Political Institutions and Financial Development*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2008.

“Violence and Social Orders.” With Douglass C. North and Barry Weingast. Brian Levy, ed. *Governance, Growth and Development Decision-Making*. Washington, D.C.: World Bank, 2008.

“The Other Foundings: Federalism and the Constitutional Structure of American Government.” Richard Sylla and Doug Irwin, ed. *Founding Choices: American Economic Policy in the 1790s*. Forthcoming, University of Chicago Press, 2010/11.

“Why aren’t Competitive Markets Self-Sustaining?” Eric Brousseau and Jean-Michel Glachant eds. *Manufacturing Markets*. Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2010/11.

Articles in Refereed Journals:

"Private Relief and Public Unemployment in the Great Depression," with Daniel K. Benjamin, *Journal of Economic History*, 41, pp. 97-102, March 1981.

"American Government Expenditures: An Historical Perspective," with Douglass C. North, *American Economic Review*, 72, pp. 336-340, May 1982.

"The Birth of the Old Federalism: Financing the New Deal," *Journal of Economic History*, 44, pp. 139-159, March 1984.

"Banks and State Public Finance in the New Republic: The United States, 1790-1860," with Richard Sylla and John B. Legler, *Journal of Economic History*, 47, pp. 391-403, June 1987.

"Employment, Politics, and Economic Recovery in the Great Depression," *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 59, pp. 516-520, August, 1987.

"U.S. City Finances and the Growth of Government, 1850-1902," with John B. Legler and Richard Sylla, *Journal of Economic History*, 48, pp. 347-356, June 1988.

"Should Transactions Costs Be Subtracted From Gross National Product?" with D.C. North, *Journal of Economic History*, 48, pp. 651-654, September 1988.

"Does Economic Sclerosis Set in With Age? An Empirical Study of the Olson Hypothesis," with Wallace E. Oates, *Kyklos*, 41, pp. 397-417, 1988.

"Employment in the Great Depression: New Data and Hypothesis," *Explorations in Economic History*, 26, 45-72, January, 1989.

"Towards a Positive Economic Theory of Institutional Change," *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics*, 145, pp. 98-112, March 1989.

"The Political Economy of New Deal Fiscal Federalism," *Economic Inquiry*, 29, pp. 510-524, 1991.

"Integrating Institutional Change and Technical Change in Economic History: A Transaction Cost Approach" with Douglass C. North, *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics*, 150, pp. 609-624, December 1994.

"Railroads and Property Taxes," with Jac Heckelman, *Explorations in Economic History*, 34, pp. 77-99, January 1997.

"The Political Economy of New Deal Spending, Revisited, With and Without Nevada," *Explorations in Economic History*, 35, 140-170, April 1998.

"The Anatomy of a Sovereign Debt Crisis," with Richard Sylla, *Japan and the World Economy*, 1998.

"American Government Finance in the Long Run: 1790 to 1990," *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 2000.

"The Political Economy of New Deal Spending, Yet Again: A Reply to Fleck." *Explorations in Economic History*, April 2001.

"Can the New Deal's Three R's be Rehabilitated? A Program-by-Program, County-by-County Analysis." with Price V. Fishback and Shawn Kantor. *Explorations in Economic History*, July

2003.

“The Property Tax as a Coordinating Device: Financing Indiana’s Mammoth System of Internal Improvements, 1835 to 1842.” *Explorations in Economic History*, July 2003.

“Constitutions, Corporations, and Corruption: American States and Constitutional Change, 1842 to 1852.” *Journal of Economic History*, 65 1, March 2005, pp. 211-256.

“The Market for American State Government Bonds in Britain and the United States, 1830 to 1843.” With Namsuk Kim, *Economic History Review*, November 2005.

“Violence, Natural States, and Open Access Orders: Implications for Democracy.” With Douglass C. North and Barry R. Weingast, *Journal of Democracy*, 2009.

“Institutions, Organizations, Impersonality, and Interests: The Dynamics of Institutional Change.” *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*. Forthcoming 2010.

Other:

Guest Editor, *Journal of Theoretical Politics*, Volume 15, Number 3, July 2003. “On the Shoulder of Giants: Essays in Honor of Mancur Olson.” “Introduction” with Joe Oppenhemier and Piotr Swistak, p. 235-238.

Guest Editor, *Economics and Politics*, Volume 15, Number 2, July 2003. “Introduction” with Joe Oppenhemier and Piotr Swistak, p. 103-106.

Databases:

American Government Finances: Sources and Uses of Funds, 1787 to 1990, with Richard Sylla and John Legler. This is the most comprehensive data base available on State and Local Government finances from the Revolutionary War to the present. It is the product of research supported by the National Science Foundation from 1985 to 1994. Data series are available through Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

The data base contains series on State and Local Government Finances, by state and local government, from 1787 through 1917; integrated state level series on State and Local Government Finances for Census of Government years in the 20th century; annual State Government Finances from 1933 to 1937.

American State Constitutions: This data base contains information on the text of all 150 state constitutions. Information is currently available at <http://www.stateconstitutions.umd.edu/index.aspx>. As of the summer of 2006, complete constitutional series are available for 39 states. These constitutions can be searched by date, state, article and section number, and keywords. Text can be downloaded in machine readable format. Complete texts for 19th century constitutions from Thorpe’s collection can also be downloaded in machine readable form.

Work in Progress:

"Form and Function in the Public Sector: State and Local Government in the United States, 1902-1982."

"Debt, Default, and Revenue Structure" with Arthur Grinath and Richard Sylla, 1998, NBER Working Paper on Historical Factors in Long Run Growth, #97. Revised as "Sovereign Default and Repudiation: The Emerging-Market Debt Crisis in U.S. States, 1839-1843." NBER working paper, W-10753.

"What Determines the Allocation of Grants to the States?" 1997, NBER Working Paper on Historical Factors in Long Run Growth, #90.

"Did FDR Prolong the Great Depression?" with Daniel K. Benjamin, Sloan Working Paper, No. 1085, University of Maryland, revised 1997.

"What Caused the Crisis of 1839?" April 2001, NBER Working Paper on Historical Factors in Long Run Growth, #133. Revise and resubmit at *Journal of Economic History*.

"Equilibrium Impotence: Why the States and not the American National Government Financed Economic Development in the Ante-Bellum Era." With Barry Weingast, mimeo. Submitted to the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, NBER working paper .

"Sovereign Default and Repudiation: The Emerging-Market Debt Crisis in the United States, 1839-1843." With Richard Sylla and Arthur Grinath, III. Revise and resubmit, *Journal of Economic History*. NBER Working Paper 10753, September, 2004.

"A Conceptual Framework for Interpreting Recorded History." With Douglass North and Barry Weingast, NBER Working Paper w12795, December 2006.

"Stones, Bones, and States: A New Approach to the Neolithic Revolution." With Richard Steckel.

"Developing the Subnational Debt Market: Lessons from the United States." With Lili Liu, World Bank research paper.

"Limited Access Orders in the Developing World: A New Approach to the Problems of Development." With Douglass North, Steve Webb, and Barry Weingast. World Bank Policy Research WPS 4359, September 2007.

"Founding Errors: Making Democracy Safe for America." Manuscript, 2009.

Book Reviews:

John Bodnar, *Workers' World*, in *Journal of Economic History*, September 1983.

Mancur Olson, *The Rise and Decline of Nations*, in *Journal of Business*, October 1983.

Mark H. Leff, *The Limits of Symbolic Reform: The New Deal and Taxation, 1933-1939*, in *Journal of Economic History*, September 1985.

Harry Scheiber, et al., *The New Deal Legacy and the Constitution: A Half Century Retrospect, 1933-1983*, in *Journal of Economic History*, September 1983.

James S. Olson, ed., *Historical Dictionary of the New Deal*, in *Journal of Economic History*, June 1986.

George T. Blakey, *Hard Times and New Deal in Kentucky, 1929-1939*, in *Journal of Economic History*, December 1986.

Richard N. Langlois, ed., *Economics as a Process: Essays in the New Institutional Economics*, in *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 1987.

Irving Bernstein, *A Caring Society*, in *Journal of Economic History*, March 1988.

Peter Kilby, ed., *Quantity and Quiddity: Essays in Quantitative American Economic History*, in *Economic History Review*, 1988.

Michael Bernstein, *The Great Depression*, *Journal of Economic History*, December, 1988.

D.R. Stabile and J.A. Cantor *The Public Debt of the United States - An Historical Perspective, 1775-1980*, *Journal of Economic Literature*, March 1993.

Ronald Johnson and Gary Libecap, *The Federal Civil Service System and the Problem of Bureaucracy*, *Journal of Economic History*, 1996.

Eric Monkonen, *The Local State*, *Journal of Economic History*, June 1997.

Glenn Fisher, *The Worst Tax? A History of the Property Tax in America*, EH.Net, 1997.

Donald Stabile, *The Origins of American Public Finance*, *Journal of Economic History*, 1999.

Laurence J. Malone, *Opening the West: Federal Internal Improvements Before 1860*, EH.NET, 1999.

Vito Tanzi and Ludger Schunknecht, *Public Spending in the 20th Century: A Global Perspective*, *Journal of Economic Literature*, 2000.

The Economics of the Great Depression, *Southern Economic Journal*, 2000.

Charles W. McCurdy, *The Anti-Rent Era in New York Law and Politics, 1839-1865*, EH.Net, 2002.

Engerman and Gallman, ed. *The Cambridge Economic History of the United States, Volume 3, The Twentieth Century*. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 2003.

John Dinan, EH Net,

Grants Received:

“The Integration of Political and Economic Systems: Interaction and Effects on Economic Development.” With Douglass North, Steve Webb, and Barry Weingast, \$90,000 October 2006 - June 2007.

“American State Constitutions: A Historical Series” NSF Grant SES-0241699, \$165,000; through

NBER, from January 2003-July 2006.

“American State Constitutions: A Historical Series” NSF Grant SBR-0078849, \$120,000; through NBER, from July 2000-July 2003.

“American State Constitutions: A Historical Series” NSF Grant SBR-9709490, \$190,000; through NBER, from July 1997-December 2000.

“The Property Tax as a Coordination Device” Lincoln Institute for Land Policy; July 1, 1999 to Dec. 31, 2000.

"Economics on State and Local Government: Sources and Uses of Funds" NSF Grant No. SBR-91 08618; \$232,609; with Richard Sylla and John Legler, through NBER, August 1991-December 1994.

"Economics of State and Local Government: Sources and Uses of Funds in the Western States, 1790-1980." NSF Grant No. SES-89 08272, \$179,894; through NBER; with Richard Sylla and John Legler, July 1989 - September 1991.

"Economics of State and Local Government: Sources and Uses of Funds in the Mid-Atlantic States, 1790-1980." NSF Grant No. SES-87 06814, \$140,000; through NBER; with Richard Sylla and John Legler, July 1987 - September 1989.

"Economics of State and Local Government: Sources and Uses of Funds in the Atlantic States, 1790-1980." NSF Grant No. SES-84 19857, \$132,840; through NBER; with Richard Sylla and John Legler. July 1985 to September, 1987.

"Measures of Employment and Unemployment During the Great Depression" U.S. Department of Labor, Grant No. 89M42356. June 1984-September 1984.

General Research Board Award, Summer 1986, University of Maryland.