

# HOW THE SOUTH WON THE CIVIL WAR

## THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE WEST IN AMERICAN HISTORY

LECTURE BY HEATHER  
COX RICHARDSON WITH  
INTRODUCTORY REMARKS  
FROM NINA SILBER



America's current political crisis lies in a curious quirk of historical timing: the end of the Civil War coincided with the push of settlers across the Mississippi River. That coincidence, which first nurtured Confederate ideology and then permitted it to take over national politics, has shaped American politics ever since.

Heather Cox Richardson is Professor of History at Boston College and the author of five books about American politics. Her first four books explored the Civil War, Reconstruction, the Gilded Age, and the American West. Her fifth book explored the history of the Republican Party. Richardson's *The Death of Reconstruction* (2001), *West from Appomattox: The Reconstruction of America After the Civil War* (2007), and *Wounded Knee: Party Politics and the Road to an American Massacre* (2010) were all selections of the History Book Club; *West from Appomattox* and *To Make Men Free: A History of the Republican Party* (2014) were also Editor's Choice selections of the New York Times Book Review. With Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Ron Suskind, she co-hosts the weekly WBUR politics and history podcast, *Freak Out and Carry On*. Her work has appeared in *The Guardian*, the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and *Quartz*, and she has been a regular columnist for *Salon.com*.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23<sup>RD</sup>, 2017 AT 5:30 PM  
PHOTONICS COLLOQUIUM ROOM, 8 ST. MARY'S STREET, 9TH FLOOR  
RECEPTION TO FOLLOW. THIS EVENT IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

