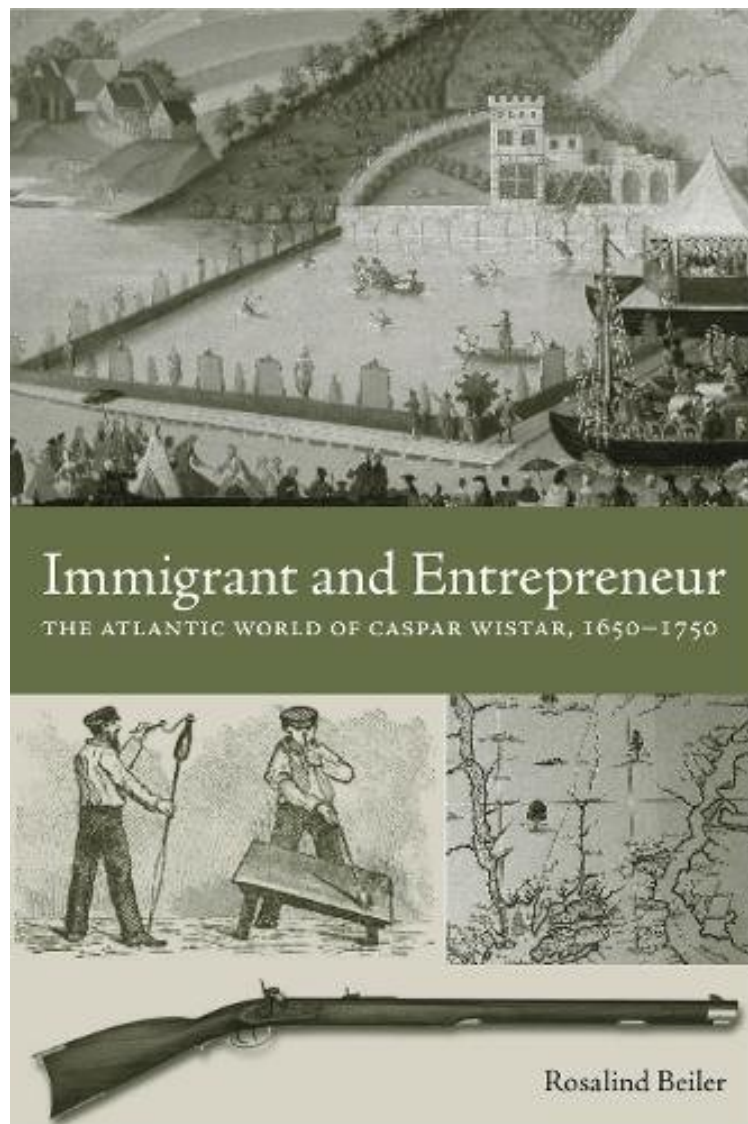


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## Immigrant and Entrepreneur: The Atlantic World of Caspar Wistar, 1650-1750 (Max Kade German-American Research Institute)

Rosalind Beiler

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Immigrant and Entrepreneur examines the life of German immigrant and successful businessman Caspar Wistar. Wistar arrived in Philadelphia in 1717 with nearly no money; at the time of his death in 1752, his wealth outstripped that of the contemporary elite more than threefold. Through this in-depth look at an immigrants path to achieving the American Dream, Beiler reevaluates the modern understanding of the entrepreneurial ideal and the immigrant experience in the colonial era. The book follows Wistars life from his familys German influences to the potential reasons behind his desire to emigrate and the networks he used to establish himself as a wealthy entrepreneur once he reached his adopted home. Beiler draws from Wistars compelling story to examine the greater processes at work in the Atlantic world of the eighteenth century. Wistars success exemplifies how European influence, patterns of adaptation, and an innovative cultivation of networks helped integrate immigrants into colonial America and the Atlantic world.

Immigrant and Entrepreneur is a welcome addition to colonial and Atlantic history. It is impressively researched and provides an intriguing account of the process by which Caspar Wstar, a forester from the Palatinate, became Caspar Wistar, one of Pennsylvanias wealthiest merchants and manufacturers. Daniel B. Thorp, Journal of American HistoryThe author does a superb job as a detective in tracking down the complicated web of Wistars business and personal relationships. This is one of the most fascinating aspects of this monograph. . . . Perhaps this work should be mandatory reading for MBA students. . . . With Immigrant and Entrepreneur, Rosalind Beiler has provided an engrossing account of a man who had a significant influence on the development of the Pennsylvania economy and society. Simone A. Wegge, Pennsylvania Magazine of History and BiographyThis book has been much anticipated by scholars familiar with the authors work and this field. It will be the prime exhibit for the growing community of Atlantic historians teaching early American or Atlantic history who are anxious to broaden the context of colonial America beyond the British and African connections. Ian Steele, University of Western OntarioAbout the AuthorRosalind Beiler is Associate Professor of History at the University of Central Florida.