

美国州旗变更：旗帜学家参与整个过程

爱德华·B·凯伊

摘要

在过去的25年里，美国州旗的变化步伐加快了。与此同时，旗帜专家参与这一变化的人数有所增。我们已经分享了我们作为倡导者、创造者、专家、评审者和过程顾问的旗帜设计专业知识。包括乔治亚州、密西西比州、犹他州和明尼苏达州在内的几个州已经改变了他们的旗帜，他们采纳了NAVA（北美旗帜协会）及其成员的指导。还有几项努力正在进行中，包括马萨诸塞州、伊利诺伊州、缅因州、密歇根州和新罕布什尔州。由于在美国没有中央部门管理国旗的设计和使用，NAVA的作用是通过其出版物、调查和成员的努力而变得更加重要。旗帜界成员的这种参与标志着一种重大变化，我们在大多数州旗变更时，为它在新旗帜设计提供了更优的设计标准。

本文也发表在 2025 年 3 月的 *Vexillum* 第 29 期中。

U.S. State Flag Change: Vexillologists on the Inside

Edward B. KAYE

Abstract

In the past 25 years, the pace of change among U.S. state flags has accelerated. Concurrently, the participation of vexillologists in that change has increased. We have shared our flag-design expertise as instigators, advocates, creators, refiners, experts, judges, and process consultants. Several states, including Georgia, Mississippi, Utah, and Minnesota, have changed their flags, reflecting and incorporating guidance from NAVA and its members. Several more efforts are under way, including Massachusetts, Illinois, Maine, Michigan, and New Hampshire. Because no central authority governs flag design and adoption in the U.S., the role of NAVA—through its publications, surveys, and members' efforts—has become more important. This involvement by members of the vexillological community marks a significant change from the past—when we were on the outside of most state flag change—and it has delivered a higher standard of flag design in new flags.

[This article also appeared in *Vexillum* 29, March 2025.]

介绍

在一些国家，中央部门批准登记州或省、地方以及市级的旗帜。然而，在美国，国旗的设计和使用权完全落在州或市一级，没有联邦政府的监督或协调。

美国大多数州在美国建国100周年和150周年之间的50年间首次采用州旗。1876年，38个州中有9个有州旗；1914年，48个州中有35个有州旗；到1926年，所有州都有州旗[1]。然而，大多数旗帜在第二次世界大战结束后几乎没有用处，通常只出现在一些主要的国家建筑上[2]。虽然一些标志自采用以来保持不变，但其他一些已被修改或完全取代。

从20世纪60年代开始，欧洲和美洲的旗帜学作为一门有组织的学科发展，恰好与美国州旗使用和展示增加趋势相平行。然而，旗帜学家很少被咨询或参与州旗的更换，他们的专业知识被忽略了。就像印章出现在床单上一样，州名被印在州旗上（“这样人们就知道这是我们的州旗”）[3]然而，在过去的25年里，随着对姊妹领域的新兴趣和意识加强，旗帜和国旗设计方面的专家越来越多地参与美国州旗的变更。

旗帜学动员

1999年，在加拿大维多利亚举行的ICV18上，我提出编写一本面向大会的旗帜设计指南[4]。

Introduction

In some countries, a central authority approves and registers flags for sub-national entities such as states or provinces, and for municipalities as well. However, in the United States, the responsibility for flag design and adoption lies solely at the state or city level, with no federal oversight or coordination.

Most U.S. states first adopted flags in the 50 years between the nation's centennial and sesquicentennial celebrations—in 1876, the number of states with flags was 9 of 38; in 1914, 35 of 48 had flags; and by 1926 all states were vexilliferous.¹ Most flags, however, saw little use until after the end of World War II—often only appearing on and in a few major state buildings.² While some flags have remained unchanged since adoption, others have been modified or completely replaced.

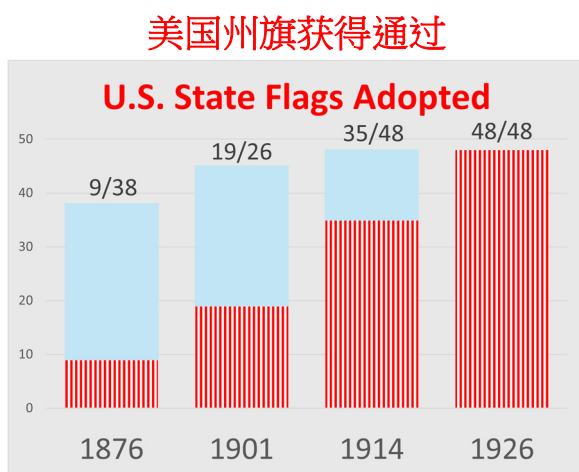
The development of vexillology as an organized discipline, starting in the 1960s in Europe and the Americas, happened to parallel the increased use and display of state flags in the United States. However, vexillologists were seldom consulted or involved in state flag change—their knowledge and expertise were ignored as seals ap-

peared on bedsheets and names of states were placed on the field (“so people can know it's our flag”).³ Scholarship about flag change took place after the fact.

However, with new interest and awareness of the sister field of vexillography in the past 25 years, experts in flags and flag design have become increasingly involved in minor and major U.S. state flag change.

Vexillography Mobilizes

In 1999, at the 18th International Congress of Vexillology in Victoria, B.C., Canada, I offered to compile a general-interest flag-design guidebook.⁴ In 2001 it debuted as *Good Flag, Bad Flag*, first in digital form

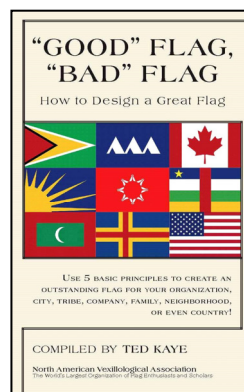


2001年，它以“好旗”、“坏旗”的形式首次亮相，最初以数字形式出版。2006年由NAVA正式出版[5]。它已经被翻译成其他10种语言，包括汉语，并经常被北美和其他地区的国旗设计工作所引用。

2001年，NAVA还开始了一系列重大调查，要求成员和公众对72面美国和加拿大的州、省和地区旗的设计质量进行评级[6]。媒体对这些调查结果的报道，吸引了数千万阅读者。[7] [8]

2004年，NAVA出版了包含150面旗帜的《美国城市旗帜》后[9]，一项类似的调查对它们的设计质量进行了评级，也得到了大量的报道。[10]（NAVA将在2022年对300多个美国城市旗进行另一项调查）。[11]

然后在2015年，99%隐形的播客罗马火星（NAVA成员）发表了一个关于城市旗帜设计的TED演讲。[12]从那以后，它被浏览了超过了700万次，可能引发了最近一波城市旗重新设计的浪潮，而且可能也鼓励了州旗的重新设计。

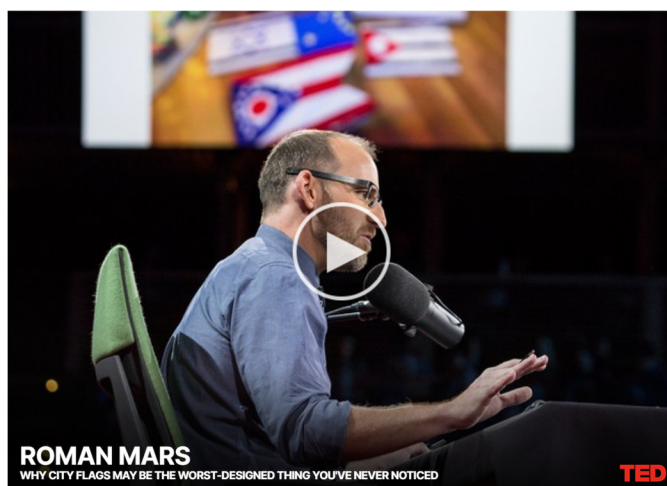


and then in 2006 in print, published by the North American Vexillological Association (NAVA).⁵ It has been translated into 10 other languages, including Chinese, and is cited frequently by flag-design efforts in North American and beyond.

In 2001, NAVA also began a series of major surveys, asking members and the public to rate the design qualities of 72 U.S. and Canadian state, provincial, and territorial flags.⁶ The subsequent press coverage of the survey results reached tens of millions of readers.^{7,8}

In 2004, after NAVA published *American City Flags* documenting 150 flags,⁹ a similar survey rated their design qualities and also received substantial coverage.¹⁰ (NAVA would follow up with another survey, of over 300 New American City Flags, in 2022).¹¹

Then in 2015, podcaster (and NAVA member) Roman Mars of 99% Invisible delivered a TED Talk on city flag design.¹² It has since been viewed over 7 million times and likely sparked the recent wave of city flag redesign, and—by extension—may have encouraged state flag redesign as well.



罗曼·马尔斯 TED 演讲，2015 年。

Roman Mars TED Talk, 2015.

公众舆论影响

在20世纪下半叶，州旗的使用越来越多，最终导致了对其设计的更多兴趣和审查。其中的错误将得到纠正，[13]两种符号形式受到越来越多的批评：联盟形象和对印第安人的描述。

到21世纪初，被白人至上主义意识形态吸收的南方邦联的州旗受到了压力。

2000年，密西西比州的选民面临着用新版本替换州旗的决定（投票失败）。

2001年，乔治亚州州长和立法机关用新版本取代了他们的州旗，这遭到广泛嘲笑，并在2004年被人民投票取代。经过多年的努力，密西西比州最终开始效仿，并在2020年通过公众投票更换了州旗。

在21世纪20年代，描绘印第安人的州旗成为了变革的目标。2021年，马萨诸塞州立法机构特许了一个委员会，研究使用印第安人（挥舞剑的手臂下方）的形象，这一努力已经停滞。同样，在2023年，明尼苏达州立法机构成立了一个州标志重新设计委员会，以取代其州旗和州徽，其中显示了一个定居者与它的前主人，一个印第安人，骑马离开，耕种土地，在2023年底选择了新的版本。

与此同时，其他州的居民开始恳求他们选出的领导人改进糟糕的州旗设计。大约有一半的州旗在一定距离上无法区

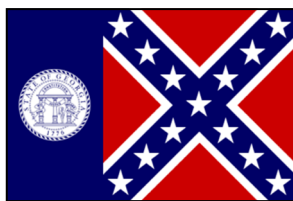
Public Opinion Influences

The increasing use of state flags during the second half of the 20th century eventually led to more interest in and scrutiny of their designs. Errors in specifications would be corrected.¹³ And two forms of symbols received increasing criticism: Confederate imagery and depictions of Native Americans.

By the early 2000s, state flags bearing the Confederate Battle Flag, which had been co-opted by white supremacist ideology, came under pressure. In 2000, Mississippi voters faced a decision to replace their state flag with a new version (that vote failed). In 2001, Georgia's governor and legislature replaced their state flag with a new version, which was widely derided, and in turn replaced in 2004 by vote of the people. After many years of effort, Mississippi would eventually follow, replacing its flag through a public vote in 2020.

In the 2020s, state flags depicting Native Americans became targets of change. In 2021, the Massachusetts legislature chartered a commission to examine the use of the image of an Indian (below an arm wielding a sword) as the central charge in its seal and on its flag—that effort has stalled. Similarly, in 2023, the Minnesota legislature established a State Emblems Redesign Commission to replace its flag and seal, which showed a settler plowing land with its prior owner, an Indian, riding away—new versions were chosen in late 2023.

At the same time, residents of other states began to implore their elected leaders to improve poor state flag designs. About half of all state flags are indistinguishable from each other at a distance, and the people those flags represent called for better symbolism. In 2022, Utah legislators



佐治亚州，1956年。

Georgia, 1956.



密西西比州，1894年。

Mississippi, 1894.



马萨诸塞州，1971年。

Massachusetts, 1971.



明尼苏达州，1983年。

Minnesota, 1983.

分，而这些州旗所代表的人希望有更好的象征意义。2022年，犹他州的立法者终于成功地启动了一项升级州旗设计的努力，放弃了自采用以来一直代表该州的“床单印章”。伊利诺斯州、南达科他州和缅因州的立法者也根据设计考虑推动了更新他们的州旗的举措。[14]

佐治亚州

新的好旗，坏国旗小册子很快在2003年佐治亚州州旗的重新设计工作中发挥了作用。NAVA成员、佐治亚大学教授杰克逊担任员工参议[15]，该委员会正在为2001年采用的州旗设计新方案。他传阅了这本手册，成功地指导成员审议。在设计新州旗的过程中，并为通过该法案的听证会做准备，他“也经常与美国国旗研究中心的[NAVA成员]惠特尼·史密斯和北美旗帜研究学协会的泰德·凯保持联系”。[16]他回忆说，“佐治亚州的新闻记者们几乎每天都会来谈论和写诸如‘旗帜学’、‘旗角’和‘旗杆’等术语。”[17]2004年的全州全民公投以3比1的优势确认了新州旗。[18]

密西西比

2001年，密西西比州的选民选择保留1894年悬挂南方联盟战旗的州旗设计，而不是展示20颗星的新设计。NAVA的成员克莱·莫斯为拟议中的新州旗提供了专业知识和艺术作品。64%对36%的投票结果似乎为一代人解决这个问题。[19]

finally succeeded in launching an effort to upgrade the state flag design, abandoning the “seal on a bed-sheet” that had represented the state since adoption. Legislators in Illinois, South Dakota, and Maine have also pushed forward initiatives to update their state flags based on design considerations.¹⁴

Georgia

The new *Good Flag, Bad Flag* booklet soon saw action with the Georgia state flag redesign effort in 2003—NAVA member Edwin L. (Ed) Jackson, a University of Georgia professor¹⁵ serving as staff to the senate committee developing an alternative to the flag adopted in 2001, circulated the booklet to successfully guide members of



佐治亚州，2003年。

Georgia, 2003.

the General Assembly in their deliberations. During the process of the design of the new flag, and in preparation for the hearing on the bill to adopt it, Ed “had also been in frequent contact with [NAVA members] Whitney Smith of the Flag Research Center and Ted Kaye of the North

American Vexillological Association”.¹⁶ He recounted that “Georgia news reporters would come to talk and write about such terms as ‘vexillology’, ‘canton’, and ‘hoist’ on an almost daily basis for two weeks.”¹⁷ A statewide referendum in 2004 affirmed the new flag by a 3-to-1 margin.¹⁸

Mississippi

In 2001, voters in Mississippi chose to retain the 1894 state flag design bearing the Confederate Battle flag, rather than a new design with its display of 20 stars. NAVA member Clay Moss provided expertise and artwork for the proposed new flag. The 64% to 36% margin appeared to settle the matter for a generation.¹⁹



密西西比州提案，2001年。

Mississippi proposal, 2001.

在2001年之后，密西西比州内外的压力不断增加，许多人认为州旗上的南方联盟战旗标志具有冒犯性，要求将其移除。[20] 密西西比州内的机构开始降下州旗；一些州（例如，俄勒冈州）从他们的50州旗展示中移除了它。[21]

艺术家（同时也是NAVA成员）劳林·斯坦尼斯（Laurin Stennis）设计了一个替代方案。作为已故参议员约翰·C·斯坦尼斯的孙女，她是一位有力的种族隔离主义者，曾在美国参议院任职41年，她为旗帜变革带来了合法性。她的设计方案于2017年首次亮相，事实证明她很受欢迎（甚至作为特色车牌提供[22]）。我帮她完善了这个设计。[23]

这种压力在2020年达到顶峰，当时是全国范围内由种族因素驱动的社会动荡，使公众舆论倾向于更换旗帜。密西西比州立法机构成立了一个委员会来重新设计州国旗，期限为三个月。在第一次会议上，成员们收到了NAVA的“好”旗帜和“坏”旗帜。[24] 在审议过程中，克莱·莫斯再次向委员会提供了专业知识和咨询意见[25] 在他最初的演讲之后，委员们要求他参加他们其余的公开会议，以帮助指导设计过程，作为第二名平面艺术家，对提交的设计初稿进行清理和升级设计。

在由委员会选择的决赛设计中，第二名的“大河”图案是由NAVA成员米迦·惠特森创造的。[26]

NAVA商业会员“完整旗帜资源”，是一家位于州首府旗帜零售商，由布伦达·麦金太尔和吉姆拥有，他们与委员会成员、立法者和州长分享了想法、知识和意见，并测试了三个最终

However, the following years saw increased pressure from inside and outside the state, calling for the removal of a symbol deemed offensive by many.²⁰ Institutions within Mississippi began to lower the state flag; some states (for example, Oregon) removed it from their 50-state flag displays.²¹

Artist (and NAVA member) Laurin Stennis designed an alternative. As the granddaughter of the late Senator John C. Stennis, a powerful segregationist who served in the U.S. Senate for 41 years, she brought legitimacy to flag change. Her design, which debuted in 2017, proved popular (even offered as a specialty license plate²²). I helped her polish the design.²³



密西西比州提案，2017年。

Mississippi proposal, 2017.

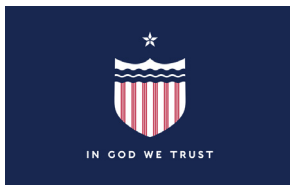
That pressure culminated in 2020 with racially-driven social unrest nationwide, which tipped public opinion toward flag-change. The



密西西比州使用的指南。

Guidebooks used in Mississippi.

Mississippi legislature established a commission to redesign the state flag, with a three-month timeline. At its first meeting, members received copies of NAVA's "Good" Flag, "Bad" Flag.²⁴ During its deliberations, Clay Moss again provided expertise and advice to the commission.²⁵ After his initial presentation, the commissioners asked him to attend the rest of their public meetings to help guide the design process, serving as a second graphic artist to clean up and upgrade designs as they came in.



密西西比州第二名，2020年。

Mississippi 2nd place, 2020.

Among the finalist designs chosen by the commission, the second-place "Great River" pattern was created by NAVA member Micah Whitson.²⁶

And NAVA business member A Complete Flag Source, a flag retailer in the state capital owned by

候选设计，以便安装在旧国会大厦前的70英尺旗杆上。获奖的设计，克莱莫斯与斯坦尼斯旗共享的设计元素。[27] 2020年11月，选民们以73%对27%的比例支持最后一面州旗，一旦制造商能供应它，它就开始飘扬。[28] 它于2021年1月11日正式成为州旗。



密西西比州，2020 年。

Mississippi, 2020.

Brenda and Jim McIntyre, shared ideas, knowledge, and opinions with the commission members, legislators, and the governor, and made test runs of the three finalist designs to install on a 70-foot flagpole in front of the Old Capitol Building. The winning design, with artwork by Clay Moss, shared design elements with the Stennis flag.²⁷ In November 2020, voters favored the final flag by 73% to 27% and began flying it as soon as manufacturers could supply it.²⁸ It became official January 11, 2021.

犹他州

犹他州的立法者们，提倡州旗重新设计的概念，从2018年开始咨询我。在连续的立法会议上，议员们推动了这一努力，部分原因是为2021年犹他州成立125周年而设计的纪念旗。[29]

很快，NAVA商业成员“永久旗帜”的所有者迈克尔·格林在他的“更好的州旗帜”系列中创造了一个设计，并在犹他州首府盐湖城购买了广告牌空间来推广它。[30] 这两种设计都与最终的新州旗非常相似，并可能影响了公众和立法者的偏好。当州建立一个工作组来改变州旗时，我从开始到结束帮助工作人员组织整个过程，并提供策略建议。

2022年1月“不仅仅是旗帜”活动启动后，更多的NAVA成员参与了进来。前NAVA主席约翰·哈特维格森和殖民旗帜公司（Colonial Flag Co.）运营经理德沃恩·辛普担任设计审查小组委员会的正式成员，提供专业的旗帜学视角。埃里克·尼斯图尔帮助筛选设计提交，向立法者普及旗帜学知识，并参加了设计审查小组委员会的会

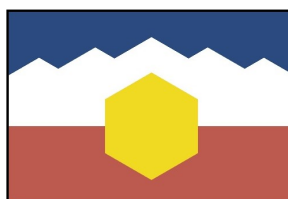
Utah

Legislators in Utah, promoting the concept of flag redesign, began consulting me in 2018. Over successive legislative sessions, lawmakers advanced the effort, spurred in part by the commemorative flag designed for Utah's 125th anniversary in 2021.²⁹



犹他州#125，2021 年。

Utah #125, 2021.



犹他州提案，2021 年。

Utah proposal, 2021.

Soon Michael Green, proprietor of NAVA business member Flags For Good, created a design in his “Better State Flag” series and bought billboard space in Salt Lake City, Utah's capital, to promote it.³⁰ Both designs strongly resemble the eventual new state flag, and likely influenced public and legislator preferences. When the state established a task force to change the flag, I

helped the staffers organizing the overall process with strategy advice from the beginning to the end.

After the “More Than a Flag” campaign launched in January 2022, more NAVA members became involved. John Hartvigsen (past NAVA president) and DeV Vaughn Simper (operations manager at Colonial Flag Co.) served as full members of the design review subcommittee, providing expert vexillological perspectives. Erik Nystul helped screen design

议。NAVA成员布莱恩·查姆和艾伦·哈迪都向推动这项工作的立法者提供了对提议设计的详细分析。我主持了小组委员会的最后一次会议，将20个半决赛设计缩小到了立法工作组选择获胜者的少数几个。在过程最后几天，犹他州文化与社区参与部要求布莱恩·查姆为工作人员的设计师提供新旗帜的规格建议，包括比例、对齐和颜色阴影。最终的旗帜在2024年3月9日成为官方旗帜，在其采纳一年多后。[31]

新旗帜的立法冠军，州参议员丹·麦凯，获得了NAVA的维克米兰纳奖，以表彰他的努力。[32]



犹他州，2024年。

Utah, 2024.

submissions, educated legislators on vexillography, and attended the design review subcommittee meetings. NAVA members Brian Cham and Alan Hardy both supplied detailed analyses of proposed designs to the legislators driving the effort. And I moderated the final meeting of the subcommittee, which narrowed down the 20 semifinalist designs to the handful from which the legislative task force chose the winner. As the final design was modified in the last days of the process, Utah's Department of Cultural & Community Engagement asked Brian Cham to advise the staff's designers on the specifications of the new flag, including proportions, alignment, and color shades. The resulting flag became official on March 9, 2024, more than a year after its adoption.³¹

The legislative champion of the new flag, state senator Dan McCay, received NAVA's Vexillonnaire Award in recognition of his efforts.³²

明尼苏达州

1989年，NAVA的成员李·赫罗尔德和牧师。比尔·贝克尔发起了一项建立新的明尼苏达州旗的草根运动，提出了一种他们称之为“北极星旗”的新设计。30多年来，他们提出了更换州旗的概念：在媒体上推广它，维护一个网站，促使立法者年复一年地提出法案，并在公共活动如县集市上与人群互动。该设计在2001年[33]的一场报纸比赛中获胜，最终成为一个非官方的、替代的州旗，由NAVA的商业成员赫罗尔德旗帜制作并永久出售。（北极星旗严重影响了2019年采用的德卢斯市旗的设计，具有讽刺意味的是，这最终导致了它被拒绝作为州旗来考虑。）

在过去的十年里，新一代在社交媒体上开始了重新设计的事业。最终，当民主党-农民-劳工党

Minnesota

In 1989 NAVA members Lee Herold and the Rev. Bill Becker launched a grassroots effort for a new Minnesota state flag, proposing a new design which they called the "North Star Flag". For over 30 years they advanced the concept of flag change: promoting it in the press, maintaining a website, spurring legislators to introduce bills year after year, and working the crowds at public events such as county fairs. The design won a newspaper contest in 2001,³³ eventually



明尼苏达州提案，1989年。

Minnesota proposal, 1989.

becoming an unofficial, alternate state flag, offered for sale by NAVA business members Herold Flags and Flags For Good. (The North Star Flag heavily influenced the design of the city flag of Duluth adopted in 2019, which ultimately and ironically led to its rejection for consideration as a state flag.)

In the past decade, a new generation took up the redesign cause on social media. Eventually, when the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party gained control of the state's house, senate, and governorship in 2023, it

在2023年控制了该州的众议院、参议院和州长职位时，它成立了明尼苏达州标志重新设计委员会。该委员会组织了一场比赛，征集了2600多件州旗设计方案。在从9月开始的四个月的诉讼过程中，李·赫罗尔德提供了技术建议，提供了“好”旗和“坏”旗的副本，并提供了专家证词。[34] NAVA成员艾伦·哈迪非正式地向委员们提供了旗帜学的观点。当委员会成员开始他们缩小提交作品的任务时，他们邀请我“介绍如何选择旗帜设计，并在选拔过程中提供具体的考虑因素。”我的演讲幻灯片（在SERC网站上提供，同时还有我一个小时的YouTube演讲视频）是“关于旗帜设计的基本入门，重点关注简单和可识别的主题。”[35]

该委员会迅速完成了它的工作。在委员会选出六个决赛设计后，一位对传达旗帜学家意见给更广泛感兴趣委员的成员邀请了布莱恩·查姆来帮忙。当地设计师和旗帜学家（布莱恩·查姆和我）的合作帮助完善了这些决赛设计。[36] 直到委员会对最终设计达成了近乎一致的共识，该设计于2024年5月11日正式成为官方旗帜。[37]

马萨诸塞州

改变马萨诸塞州旗帜（和州徽）的努力已经酝酿多年，始于已故NAVA成员彼得·奥伦斯基的工作，他在2003年发表了一项关于其描绘美洲原住民的非正式民意调查的负面结果。2011年，由米鲁·高野和扎卡里·哈登编辑。[38][39]

established the Minnesota State Emblems Redesign Commission. The commission organized a contest which brought in more than 2,600 proposed flag designs. During its four months of proceedings, which began in September, Lee Herold gave technical advice, delivered copies of “Good” Flag, “Bad” Flag, and provided expert testimony.³⁴ NAVA member Alan Hardy informally provided commissioners with vexillographic perspectives. And when the commission members began their task of narrowing down the submissions, they invited me to “present an overview of how to choose a flag design and offer tangible considerations during the selection process.” My presentation slides (made available on the SERC website, along with an hour-long YouTube video of my talk) were “a basic primer on flag design and focused on themes of simplicity and recognizability”.³⁵

The commission moved quickly through its work. After the commission had selected six finalist designs, a member interested in relaying the opinions of vexillologists to the wider commission invited Brian Cham to help. A collaboration of local designers and



明尼苏达州，2024年。

Minnesota, 2024.

vexillologists (Brian Cham and I) helped to refine these finalist designs³⁶ until the commission reached near-unanimous consensus on a final design that became official on May 11, 2024.³⁷



马萨诸塞州州徽。

Massachusetts seal.

Massachusetts

Efforts to change the Massachusetts flag (and seal) percolated for many years, starting with the work of the late NAVA member Peter Orenski, who in 2003 published the negative results of an informal poll on its depiction of a Native American.^{38 39}

2020年，立法者寻求推动更新，要求莱斯利大学的团队创建一系列白皮书，概述案例和前进的道路。[40] 我广泛地就该项目提供咨询，特别是涉及旗帜设计和旗帜采用过程的文件。[41]

马萨诸塞州立法机构很快成立了一个“特别委员会，负责联邦州徽和座右铭”。由于州徽出现在旗帜上，委员会必须考虑旗帜，要么在旗帜上放置一个新的印章，要么设计一个全新的旗帜。从密西西比州搬到马萨诸塞州的NAVA成员米卡·惠特森被州长任命为委员会成员。

然而，在两个立法周期中，委员会因缺乏足够的资金或人员而陷入困境，最终在2023年支持变革，但未能有效地提出任何建议。[42] 这些问题并未解决，因此可以预期将采取进一步的行动。

其他州

目前，其他几个州也在不同阶段进行旗帜更换：伊利诺伊州，[43] 缅因州，[44] 密歇根州，[45] 以及新罕布什尔州。[46] 旗帜学家可能会直接参与这些努力；他们已经在提供意见和接受媒体采访。

In 2020, legislators seeking to spur an update asked a team at Lesley University to create a series of white papers outlining the case and the path forward.⁴⁰ I consulted extensively on that project, especially on the papers involving flag design and the flag-adoption process.⁴¹

The Massachusetts legislature soon chartered a “Special Commission on Official Seal and Motto of the Commonwealth”. As the state seal appears on the flag, the commission had to consider the flag as well, either by putting a new seal on the flag or designing a completely new flag. NAVA member Micah Whitson, who had moved from Mississippi to Massachusetts, was named by the governor to the commission.

However, through two legislative cycles, the commission floundered without adequate funding or staffing, ending its work in 2023 endorsing change but failing to effectively propose anything.⁴² The issues have not subsided, so further action can be expected.

Other States

Currently several other states have flag-change under way in various stages: Illinois,⁴³ Maine,⁴⁴ Michigan,⁴⁵ and New Hampshire.⁴⁶ Vexillologists will likely become directly involved in those efforts as well; they are already offering opinions and media interviews.



伊利诺伊州，1970 年。

Illinois, 1970.



缅因州，1909+ 年。

Maine, 1909+.



密歇根州，1911 年。

Michigan, 1911.



新罕布什尔州，1909 年。

New Hampshire, 1909.

结论

在过去的25年里，美国州旗的变化速度加快了。与此同时，旗帜学家在这些变化中的参与也增加了。我们作为发起者、倡导者、创造者、改进者、评委和流程顾问，分享了我们的旗帜设计专业知识。包括乔治亚州、密西西比州、犹他州和明尼苏达州在内的几个州已经更换了他们的旗帜，反映了并融入了NAVA及其成员的指导。[47] 还有更多的努力正在进行中，包括马萨诸塞州、伊利诺伊州、缅因州、密歇根州和新罕布什尔州。由于美国没有中央权威机构管理旗帜设计和采用，NAVA的角色——通过其出版物、调查和成员的努力——变得更加重要。可以识别出至少有20名NAVA成员参与了这些重新设计的努力。

旗帜学界成员的这些参与标志着与过去相比的重大变化——当时我们大多数州旗更换都在外部——它为新旗帜带来了更高的设计标准。

Conclusion

In the past 25 years, the pace of change among U.S. state flags has accelerated. Concurrently, the participation of vexillologists in that change has increased. We have shared our flag-design expertise as instigators, advocates, creators, refiners, judges, and process consultants. Several states, including Georgia, Mississippi, Utah, and Minnesota, have changed their flags, reflecting and incorporating guidance from NAVA and its members. Several more efforts are under way, including Massachusetts, Illinois, Maine, Michigan, and New Hampshire. Because no central authority governs flag design and adoption in the U.S., the role of NAVA—through its publications, surveys, and members' efforts—has become more important. Involvement by at least 20 NAVA members can be identified in these redesign efforts.⁴⁷ This participation by members of the vexillological community marks a significant change from the past—when we were on the outside of most state flag change—and it has delivered a higher standard of flag design in new flags.

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关于作者

爱德华·B·凯伊

爱德华·凯伊编制了国旗设计指南“好”、“坏”国旗，并就城市、州和国家层面采用新旗帜进行了咨询。他编辑过（偶尔翻译过）许多期刊、通讯、书籍和2000多篇关于国旗的文章。在国内和国际国旗研究会议上发表论文，并为几个城市 and 州的旗帜设计委员会（以及斐济的国旗委员会）提供咨询或任职。他经常向当地和国家媒体谈论国旗的问题。他在北美旗帜协会的执行委员会任职20年，目前是该协会的秘书。

About the Author

Edward B. KAYE

Ted Kaye compiled the definitive guide to flag design, *“Good” Flag, “Bad” Flag*, and consults on the adoption of new flags at the city, state, and national level. He has edited (and occasionally translated) many journals, newsletters, books, and well over 2,000 articles on flags; researched and presented papers at national and international flag-studies conferences; and advised or served on several city and state flag-design committees (as well as the national flag committee of Fiji). He speaks frequently to local and national media on flag subjects. He has served 20 years on the executive board of the North American Vexillological Association and is currently its secretary.

