



aseh news

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ASEH Annual Conference 2023

Hilton Boston Back Bay

Boston, Massachusetts

March 22-26, 2023

ASEH 2023 CALL FOR PROPOSALS NOW OPEN! [SUBMIT HERE!](#)

Deadline Extended to August 1, 2022

[FIND CO-PANELISTS AND EXPRESS INTEREST IN CHAIRING ON THE ASEH 2023 MESSAGE BOARD](#)

ASEH 2023 will feature research on all facets of environmental history, from any geographical or temporal context, especially related to the conference theme, **Transformations: Reckoning, Resistance, and Reparations**. The Program Committee welcomes traditional panels, individual papers, teaching and pedagogy sessions, innovative formats, and sessions that encourage active audience participation.

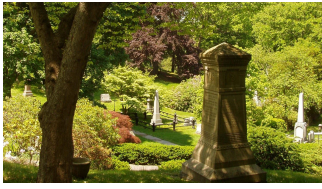
Click the button below to view the entire Call for Proposals and to submit panels, roundtables, alternative sessions, posters, and individual papers.

The last few weeks... the last few years... have been difficult for all of us. Please take care of yourself and take your time in preparing a proposal for ASEH 2023. There is still plenty of time.

The deadline for submissions has been extended to August 1, 2022.

Submit a Proposal for ASEH 2023

We are extremely excited to go to Boston. The local arrangements committee is planning field trips to Walden, Deer Island, Mount Auburn Cemetery, a walking tour of Downtown Boston. Join us for receptions, the plenary session, and all sorts of special events.



Mount Auburn Cemetery



Boston from above

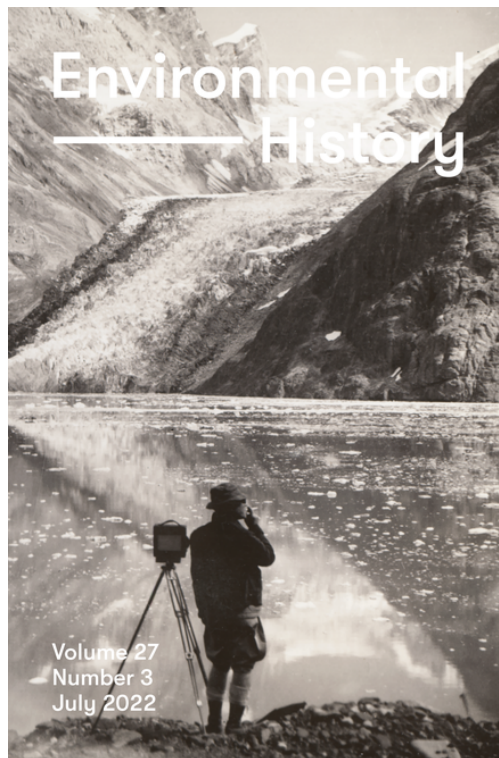


Walden

Environmental History

The July issue will arrive soon!

Access [Environmental History](#) online.



The July issue (Volume 27, Number 3) of *Environmental History* will be on the way to members soon from the [University of Chicago Press](#).

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

One former ASEH President warned me that the hardest thing about this ASEH office was writing the president's column for the newsletter. I think she was right. I have spent much of this Spring looking for an evocative moment, a foundation, for this quarter's column. But honestly, I'm finding national and international news too overwhelming for thoughtful writing. I must fall back on the time-honored bullet point list, leavened with a sincere hope that you are finding ways to work, play and connect despite these rapidly-changing and difficult times.

ASEH Committees:

July is a time of transition for [ASEH committees](#). Members who have completed their service rotate off, new members join. I would like to publicly thank the following volunteers for their service:

Andrew Needham, NYU

Kate Brown, MIT

Molly Warsh, University of Pittsburgh

Edward Melillo, Amherst

Debjani Bhattacharyya, Drexel

Karl Apphun, NYU

Christopher Tong, University of Maryland

Rachel Gross, University of Colorado, Denver

Vandana Baweja, University of Florida

Sarah Hamilton, University of Bergen

If you are interested in volunteering, please add your name or update your old responses to [this survey](#).

ASEH has standing committees that select prize winners and fellowship recipients, solicit and review proposals to host the annual conference, recommend changes in membership rates and benefits, and develop programs for the many environmental historians outside academia. Standing committees consist of three volunteers, serving staggered three year terms. Each member chairs the committee in their second year. ASEH also special committees with larger memberships that you can volunteer for, from each year's Conference Local Arrangements and Program Committees, to the Education Committee (outreach to K-12 instructors), the Committee on Diversity,

Inclusion and Equity. ASEH also collaborates with the Women's Environmental History Network.

ASEH activism:

As an organization, ASEH frequently writes or signs policy statements on issues that affect historical scholarship. This quarter, we [co-authored a letter](#) with the [Environmental Historians Action Collective](#) and the [Environmental Data and Governance Initiative](#), protesting the scheduled closure of the EPA's online archive. We also [signed a statement](#) by the African Studies Association condemning discriminatory treatment of Africans – including African scholars and students -- fleeing Ukraine.

ASEH is also concerned with the uses of history in public life. [ASEH signed a statement from the AHA and OAH](#) protesting the Supreme Court's misrepresentation of history in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. In this statement, the AHA and OAH noted that the Court based its decision in *Dobbs* on "an unbroken tradition of prohibiting abortion ... persisted from the earliest days of the common law until 1973," overlooking "the long legal tradition, extending from common law to the mid-1800s ... of tolerating termination of pregnancy before occurrence of 'quickening' ..."

Other projects in the works:

Environmental History Week: As you probably already know, [ASEH received a grant](#) to further develop Environmental History Week. The grant means we'll have more resources for publicity, outreach, and building a better, easier-to-use platform for EHW. Now, we need events! So start brainstorming now!

Virtual conferences: Improvements in virtual conferencing, declines in institutional support for conference travel, concern about the environmental costs of travel, and the pandemic have increased the options and demand for virtual conferences. The Conference Site Selection and the Sustainability Committee met this spring to develop proposals about how to combine virtual and in-person at future conferences.

Sarah Elkind
ASEH President

Please consider donating to ASEH to support our research fellowships for graduate students and underrepresented scholars, prizes and awards, conference travel grants for underfunded students and scholars, conferences, journal, and other programs and operations. We greatly appreciate your membership and generous support.

Donate to ASEH

Renew your ASEH Membership

ASEH Sends Letter Urging the EPA Not to Retire its Online Archive

ASEH joined the [Environmental Data & Governance Initiative](#) (EDGI) and [Environmental Historians Action Collaborative](#) to urge the EPA to keep its online web archive open to provide ready access to public agency documents. The EPA Web Archive has been a valuable resource for historians and the general public. [EDGI sent a letter](#) simultaneously with many co-signers, and an [accompanying press release](#), protesting the decision to sunset the EPA online archive. ASEH thanks EDGI, Environmental Historians Action Collaborative, and all co-signers for joining and leading this effort.

The online archive has made immediately accessible documents that detail the agencies actions and informed the public about investigations. Retiring the online archive will stifle research, remove important teaching resources, and make it more difficult of communities facing environmental hazards to assess and combat threats. [Read the full text of the letter transmitted to the EPA.](#)

EH to Share:

From Dr Katrin Kleeman, postdoctoral researcher at the German Maritime Museum and Leibniz Institute for Environmental History:

"Minutes away, worlds apart." These are the opening words of Pavla Šimková's recently published book *Urban Archipelago: An Environmental History of the Boston Harbor Islands*. The book traces the environmental history of the Boston Harbor Islands from the founding of Boston in the seventeenth century to the present. These islands, of which there are 34, were formed by advancing and retreating glaciers during the last ice age. Today, some of the islands serve as places of recreation for Bostonians. However, throughout their colorful history, they were so much more: Residents of the city from all walks of life have always had ideas about how these islands should be used; their relationship with the islands is ever-changing. The islands were at various times used as a site for industry, prisons, and quarantine hospitals. *Urban Archipelago* was published as part of Anthony N. Penna's and Richard W. Judd's "Environmental History of the Northeast" series with the University of Massachusetts Press. The book is an adaptation of Pavla Šimková's dissertation, which was written as part of the Environment and Society doctoral program at the Rachel Carson Center at LMU Munich.

Pavla Šimková. [*Urban Archipelago: An Environmental History of the Boston Harbor Islands*](#). Boston: University of Massachusetts Press, 2021.

Interested in fire ecology, suppression, and policies in the American West?

Zeke Lunder's "The Lookout" (the-lookout.org) provides analysis and context for current fires and fire regimes. Lunder has 20 years of experience mapping every major wildfire in the US for the Incident Management Team of the National Interagency Fire Center. He started "The Lookout" during the Dixie Fire. If you want clear analysis of wild fire in a warming climate, want to understand Northern California's recent fires, or are looking for teaching resources on fire, check it out.

Do you have a favorite EH book, public history project or display that you want to share? A great teaching idea? Want to highlight the work of someone you think has been overlooked? Send a brief (100-200 word) and enthusiastic paragraph to selkind@sdsu.edu for this ASEH Newsletter "EH to Share" section.

FHS Seeks its Next President & CEO

After 26 years of service to the [Forest History Society](#), FHS President and CEO, Dr. Steven Anderson, will be retiring in the spring of 2023. Steve became the leader of FHS in 1997. During his tenure, FHS took on numerous important archival collections, expanded its publications and programming, and built a new state-of-the-art library, archives, and headquarters which opened in January of 2019.

The FHS Board of Directors is beginning its search for an inspiring, visionary, and innovative President/CEO with a passion for forest history and the leadership skills to elevate the Society to its greatest potential. In looking for its next leader, the FHS board desires to attract the best expertise in history, forestry, library & archives, association management, and related disciplines. The successful candidate is expected to provide strategic leadership and executive management consistent with the strategic plan and the direction of the board. The President & CEO leads the professional staff and day-to-day operations to achieve the Society's mission and leads the Society to a place of credibility in diversity, equity, and inclusion. Responsibilities include to develop and nurture strategic relationships and represent the Society to its supporters, the media, and other publics. The position advances the mission and achieves financial and operational objectives.

Interested applicants are requested to provide a complete CV or resume describing their professional and academic credentials along with a letter of interest as it pertains to the position. The letter of interest and CV should be emailed to Janet Askew, Assistant Director for Administration, at janet.askew@foresthistor.org. The complete application process and additional information can be found on the FHS web site at www.foresthistor.org. Inquiries about the position may be made by contacting Lynn Wilson, Search Committee Chair, at WILSONNL2020@GMAIL.COM.

NEWS

- ASEH welcomes our new Project & Communications Manager Jen Dunn. Jen is a Ph.D. Candidate in history at Montana State University in Bozeman, completing a dissertation about former mining communities-turned-Superfund sites in the Intermountain West. She worked for many years in the admissions office at Montana State and was responsible for multiple orientation and student programs. Join us in welcoming Jen to ASEH!
- The 2023 NCPH Annual Meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency Downtown in Atlanta, Georgia, from April 12-15, 2023. The theme is “To Be Determined,” which “holds space for unknown futures...[while] signaling resolve, commitment, and intention.” Learn more about the theme by reading the full CFP, and submit your final proposal by July 15. <https://ncph.org/conference/2023-annual-meeting/calls-for-proposals/>
- The History program at Monash University seeks to appoint a modern environmental historian with a specialisation in any geographical area as Lecturer. The application deadline is 5 August 2022. More information about the position and instructions to apply: <https://careers.pageuppeople.com/513/cw/en/job/635781/lecturer-environmental-history>
- The Environment and Sustainability department at the University at Buffalo has a new postdoc position for humanists who want to work in an interdisciplinary way to help solve environmental problems. The postdoc will work primarily with a member of the department who does research on community resilience in the face of climate change, including issues of environmental justice. ASEH member Adam Rome is on the search committee. Ideally, the postdoc will start in September, and applications are due by the end of this month. The full posting is here: <https://www.ubjobs.buffalo.edu/postings/35760>

See you in Boston in March for ASEH 2023!



Boston Bay



Boston Common



Boston waterfront

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