



## Environmental Racism in Chicago

The following is an excerpt from a Chicago Public Radio interview with ASEH member Sylvia Hood Washington, April 22, 2005. For more information, see <[www.chicagopublicradio.org](http://www.chicagopublicradio.org)> (Eight Forty-Eight). The ASEH thanks Sylvia Hood Washington for her permission to transcribe the interview and reprint excerpts here.

*Interviewer:* A new list published this week by the Green Guide Institute names Chicago one of the top 10 greenest cities in the nation. Chicago shares a spot alongside such environmental friendly meccas as Boulder, Colorado, and Portland, Oregon. The rankings praise Chicago for its lakefront protection and for its remarkable commitment to green design and renewable energy. But Chicago mayor Richard Daley says the city isn't finished. His goal is to make Chicago the most environmentally friendly city in America. Earlier this week he introduced his 2005 environmental action agenda. It calls for the city to purchase more hybrid vehicles, to develop fast-track approval for green buildings, to install more solar hot water heaters, and to develop a comprehensive nature and wildlife plan. Those are just a few of the many items on an expansive agenda.

But Chicago isn't the only city trying to go green. Communities from West Chicago to Waukegan are embarking on a major environmental cleanup project to erase decades of environmental contamination. Such contamination often has a disproportionate affect on poor and minority residents. The history of environmental injustice is the focus of a new book by Sylvia Hood Washington. She's a visiting scholar at Northwestern University and the author of *Packing Them In: An Archaeology of Environmental Racism in Chicago, 1865-1954* (Lexington Books, 2005). In her book she examines how industrial and social policies have consigned many disenfranchised residents to a life embedded with environmental hazards. Despite that history, Sylvia Hood Washington says "environmental racism" remains a contested term.

*SHW:* I think people in the community today and the last 20 years wanted to move away from "racism" because it was such a loaded term. It always invoked this discomfort,

because usually when people think of racism in the United States it's always this black/white dichotomy, violent, severe oppression. Racism is not simply a problem between white and black. We have ethnic groups who have suffered from racism because they were conceived not as white when they immigrated here. And so they were subjected to the same

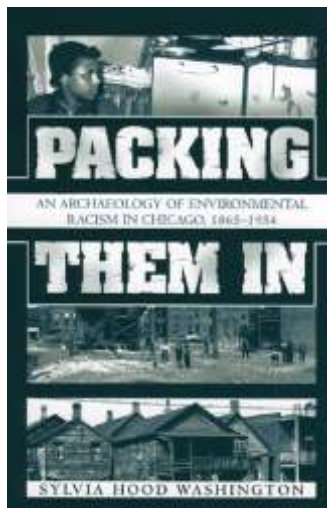
types of environmental inequalities, the same types of environmental racism that blacks and Hispanics and minority groups now charge is taking place...

*Interviewer:* One of the stories that you tell throughout *Packing Them In* is the story of environmental activism and resistance to the kinds of environmental injustices that you chronicle in this particular book. And you say that this history is not a recent history; it goes back, and in fact that resistance was taking place even around the stockyards during the late 1800s and into the early 1900s. What were some of the ways that community members were responding to the conditions around them?

*SHW:* What was amazing is that they were responding the same way that activists respond today. I'm impressed with the immigrants' environmental protests because many of these people are adults when they immigrate to the United States; they don't have a great command of the English language. But they're taking off from their jobs – they have the lowest paying jobs –they're seeking support from people like Mary McDowell, Settlement House workers, who they know have social and political power. And these people take off from their jobs and protest at City Hall. Now, this just totally negates this argument that they were just concerned about making a living. They were willing to give up working wages to protest the environmental conditions of their community because their children were dying.

*Interviewer:* How much success, though, did they have in all of this?

*SHW:* When you go to the literature – it's not as if they formed national and state legislation – but you do have the city responding to them by reducing the amount of waste being dumped in the back of the yards. They actually get Mary McDowell elected to office when women are enfranchised. And so they are empowered – she becomes a



## From the President's Desk

### How to Be Misquoted

It's the time of year when my phone begins to ring, tentatively at first to ask what kind of fires we might expect, and more insistently if the flames begin to roar. In fact, I do have an alternative *Farmer's Almanac* for forecasting fire seasons: my chronicle of publications. Since 1990, the season has proved subnormal every year I have published a fire book. The feds ought to pay me to write. I'm a lot cheaper than retardant-dumping C-130s, and my wings don't fall off.

The novelty of talking to the media soon wears off. But that may be mutual. I found myself in demand because there were few people outside the federal agencies who could speak more generally about what the fires meant. A decade of celebrity conflagrations is fast changing that landscape; there are now a score of personalities more media-savvy and telegenic than I to talk fire. In 1993 an LA TV station invited me to join them in a helicopter and offer observations on what was happening in the mountains. I told them that, while firefighting does sometimes resemble an extreme sport, I wasn't ready for a career as a color commentator. No one would propose such a scheme to me now. (At least not in the U.S. I did a spot for "60 Minutes Australia" after the 2003 fires slammed into Canberra. At one point I was filmed inside the whirring helo and prompted to comment on the scene below. In truth, we were flat on the ground, and as I peered at the swirling dust, all I could utter was "I've never seen anything like it.")

The point of TV is to get a camera into someone's face and elicit an emotion. There are better faces and more emotive personalities than I around in the fire game now. If I had wanted to continue, I would have had to train, create a persona, and promote myself. For good or ill, I chose not to. It became harder not to laugh at the whole exercise.

Still, I do hear from print reporters. Many of you do also, and those who have not might prepare yourselves for that day, and when it comes you need to be ready, for your availability will quickly determine whether you get on and off e-rolodexes. In my experience there are two hazards in dealing with reporters. One is being misquoted; the other, being ignored. The price of not being ignored, however, is to be misquoted. It's inevitable.

The reason is that we do different tasks. Scholarship is about context, to which historical scholarship adds contingency. The vaster the context, the deeper the contingencies, the richer the scholarship. The media, however, deal with news. They don't do context. They haven't the time for contingencies. They operate on deadlines. They rely on templates for stories. The stories deal with human interest, which is to say, with emotions, celebrity, conflicts, competitions, the adrenaline-flushed stuff of the moment. The last thing a reporter wants is nuance, complexity, awkward fitting or cross-purposed narratives, the workings of scholarship. They want comments, not contexts. The last thing they will do is read. They haven't the time; and they want a personality with the quote. In brief, all that we are trained to do is largely at odds with what they need from us. This means we are doomed to being misquoted because the context that informs our statements will be stripped away. Accept it.

Accept, too, that we can't expect journalists to translate what we do as scholars. We have to do that for them. Eventually the realization grows that what we do, the problems we spotlight, the way we understand, the stories we tell are not what the rest of the country is waiting, with bated breath, to see, hear, and applaud. The nation is awash with problems, a great roar of background babble, with voices clamoring to be heard, with stories demanding a reading, with ways and means of instructing different from those we propose. At some point we must accept that we might be the ones out of step, that if we want to be read, heard, and seen, we must translate our scholarship into forms the public can absorb. The media is a maw; gigantic, insatiable, but not completely indiscriminate. You have to feed it what it can digest.

Getting our message out to the media can be fun, it allows us to reach a wider audience, and it is part of our charge as public intellectuals. The trade-offs, however, are real. I've now written three op/ed pieces for the *New York Times*. In each I've lost more control over the content. The last contained an opening paragraph for which I wrote not a word. I had 10 minutes, standing in a public phone booth in Eagar, Arizona, without a hard copy of the text before me, to offer an alternative phrasing. Should I accept the outcome, which was only partly mine, or stand on principle, and withdraw it? I could act as an academic historian and insist on the words exactly as I had written them, and so withdraw, or I could function as a journalist, accept an editor's rewordings and hope that publication would stir up enough interest that I could elaborate in succeeding venues. I chose the latter.

Which brings me to the painful truth: the rewritten piece was probably better. To be continued...

Note: We hope to have some sessions in our 2006 meeting in St. Paul that will address such issues.

Steve Pyne  
ASEH President

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The American Society for Environmental History seeks understanding of the human experience of the environment from the perspective of history, liberal arts, and sciences. The Society encourages cross-disciplinary dialogue on every aspect of the present and past relationship of humankind to the natural environment. ASEH maintains a website at <[www.aseh.net](http://www.aseh.net)>. Contact <[K.J.W.Oosthoek@newcastle.ac.uk](mailto:K.J.W.Oosthoek@newcastle.ac.uk)> to discuss including material on the web page.

Items for the next newsletter should be sent by *September 12, 2005* to: Lisa Mighetto, Editor, 119 Pine St., Suite 301, Seattle, WA 98101. E-mail to <[mighetto@hrassoc.com](mailto:mighetto@hrassoc.com)>.

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from **Environmental Racism** page 1

garbage commissioner . . . Mary McDowell also helps combat [the contaminated] condition of Bubbly Creek, which is a story of which I had no idea until I did the research. She was called the “Duchess of Bubbly Creek.” She was living right there in the back of the yards with them; they went to her all the time; they complained. And she was writing letters to Congress and to state officials and eventually was critical in having Bubbly Creek at least partially covered.



Rooster walking on the sludge of Bubbly Creek, 1911, from *Packing Them In*.

*Interviewer:* We’re talking here on “Eight Forty-Eight” on Chicago Public Radio with Sylvia Hood Washington. She’s the author of the new book *Packing Them In: An Archaeology of Environmental Racism in Chicago, 1865-1954*. Sylvia Hood Washington is a visiting scholar at Northwestern University’s History Department. She also teaches environmental ethics and environmental justice at DePaul University and sits on the University of Illinois at Chicago’s Environmental Justice Board.

You write a lot about migration patterns to Chicago among African Americans in the early portion of the twentieth century and you talk a lot about the development and settlement and the imposition of the “Black Belt,” the restrictive covenants and the ways in which segregation was imposed on a large section of Chicago. What effect did segregation have on the environmental health of African Americans in the Black Belt?

*SHW:* When you have any group of people, any living group of beings constricted into this particular space and they cannot move out, and they’re packed in, packed in, packed in, then that produces a burden on the environment.

*Interviewer:* When you’re talking about this, it’s not just whether or not there’s a smokestack that’s spewing toxic air. You’re talking about just the very density and concentration of people in certain circumstances without necessary infrastructure supports and other supports behind them.

*SHW:* Right . . . and this also occurred in other cities with African Americans who migrated north and were packed in, because these were legal racial policies for segregation. And you find these individuals living in these dense environments – no light, no air – and tuberculosis spreads because of the environment created.

*Interviewer:* So it’s not just a sense of some external environmental impact. There’s a sense of how an environment can be transformed by the way in which it is configured.

*SHW:* Definitely. Right now, the greatest environmental impact on human beings is indoor air quality. And there’s a direct relationship to that and the tuberculosis disease in Chicago.

*Interviewer:* One of the more recent examples that you give, and one of the more fascinating examples that you give, deals with the Altgeld Gardens Public Housing Complex. What were the environmental problems, and are there environmental problems, facing Altgeld Gardens?

*SHW:* Let me put it this way . . . the purported claim is that because they were located on a site that was a former sewage treatment farm – Pullman Sewage Treatment Farm – because the Altgeld Gardens site was used in the ‘70s as a PCB dumping ground, these people were being disproportionately

impacted. And they’re claiming that not only just the history of [contamination of] their land but recent policies of hazardous waste disposal, has impacts to their health. They claim miscarriages, and asthma – high rates of asthma – skin diseases; there are a lot of environmental health claims that they invoke for being subjected to these types of policies.

*Interviewer:* What does the future hold for the prospect of breaking out of these patterns?

*SHW:* I think as generations within those communities become educated and become alert, and maybe not as tied to the community, they will be able to escape. We’re looking at a situation where only half of African Americans are poor; the other half is working class and above. And they’re not all in Altgeld Gardens; a lot of them are now in the suburbs and away from that. So I think it’s a matter of understanding the issues and understanding the constraints, and understanding the time that it’s going to take to clean up those neighborhoods, or maybe how policies evolve. This is still a difficult question for me. But you have to make a choice at some point in time – if you’re able to leave.

*Interviewer:* . . . Sylvia Hood Washington, thank you very much.

*SHW:* You’re welcome.

## ASEH Conferences

ASEH members attend conferences for a variety of reasons, including the opportunity to interact with friends and colleagues, meet with book publishers and journal editors, and participate in panels and sessions. The meeting provides a forum for scholars and professionals from a variety of disciplines to exchange ideas about their work and to learn about new developments in the field of environmental history.

ASEH has held conferences on an annual basis since 2000 – and now that the meetings have assumed a more prominent role in the organization, we thought it might be useful to explain a few issues that have emerged during the last five years. See page 4 for more information.



## “I Never Knew That!” Reflections on the Houston Conference

by Kathleen Brosnan, University of Houston

While organizing the 2005 ASEH meeting, I frequently called Lisa Mighetto with questions. Most conversations began with me saying, “I never knew that...” Like many ASEH members, I didn’t fully understand what is involved in organizing an ASEH meeting, particularly in terms of logistics and costs.

Lisa asked me to write about what I learned this past year. I happily agreed. We loved having everyone in Houston. We hope you return, although perhaps not all 350 people at the same time!

One of the first questions is how are sites selected. In 2005, the conference moved from Knoxville to Houston because I changed jobs. Houston offers more cultural and culinary options, and as an airline hub, more direct and less expensive flights, but people who anticipated mountain scenery may have been disappointed with the change. In the end, there is no perfect city. People on either coast may dread long flights in the opposite direction. Some people enjoy big metropolitan centers; others prefer smaller cities. Physically striking locales can be more expensive and difficult to reach.

ASEH’s Site Selection Committee attempts to vary the location of the meeting. Even so, a big factor in selecting a city is the fact that someone offered to host. However, mere submission of a proposal does not guarantee ASEH will select a site. Potential local arrangements committees must demonstrate that there will be institutional support, reasonable rates for hotel and transportation, exciting field trips, and the ability to earn a profit, among other things. Work begins years before the actual meeting.

Just as there is no ideal city, there is no perfect hotel. In 2005, the local arrangements committee (LAC) chose the Warwick Hotel. In their Houston conference evaluations, ASEH respondents liked the hotel, although a few mentioned the limited number of restaurants in the immediate vicinity. This was a legitimate criticism. LAC recognized the problem, but made the tradeoff because of the hotel’s assets, such as its Museum District location, artwork, genteel atmosphere, and spectacular views. Two museums became venues for events. There were other negotiated advantages. (We also provided a 6-page list of restaurants.)

While no hotel is perfect, it is important for ASEH participants to stay at the conference hotel – and some ASEH members might not be aware that staying at the conference hotel benefits the meeting and the organization. Contracts vary from year to year, but one element is consistent. Hotels earn revenue through guest rooms and catering and there will be penalties and bonuses associated with occupancy. In 2005, we filled our room block and avoided penalties. As the bonus, the hotel waived fees for the meeting space. Additionally, we negotiated a 5 percent rebate on guest room revenue that reduced ASEH’s hotel bill by \$3,689. Thus, it mattered that people stayed at the Warwick.

Once a hotel is chosen, ASEH is bound to its catering services. Hotels add a gratuity of 20 percent or more on meals. Sales taxes are applied to the gratuity as well. For an event such as the banquet, ASEH also invites guests – the keynote speaker,

sponsors’ representatives, and prize winners. More than five months before the meeting, as the program is prepared for printing, LAC must set a price that adequately covers the costs and these guests, even though LAC does not yet know how many will attend. Sometimes the guessing game works; sometimes it doesn’t.

Registration fees cover many expenses. For example, participants welcome the steady supply of coffee in the book room on session days. In 2005, coffee cost \$1,952.94. The write-up is amazing, but we are captives of hotel.

Registration fees generally cover AV equipment as well. Hotels charge very high rental fees. In 2005, had we rented all equipment from the Warwick, the cost would have been nearly \$14,000. Instead, LAC negotiated the right to bring AV equipment from offsite with no surcharge. When we determined registration fees five months before the meeting, however, we had not yet confirmed the equipment’s availability and needed to set fees so as to capture AV costs. (The University of Houston ultimately provided all projectors.) Given the expense and labor involved in providing AV equipment for a meeting, it is important for conference presenters to respond as promptly and accurately as possible to the program committee’s request for information on AV needs.

At past meetings, I always pre-registered. I’m cheap and I wanted the lower fee. I now realize how important pre-registration is for the LAC – and I encourage ASEH members to register well in advance of the meeting. Typically registration forms are available by December or January – several months before the conference. Hotels want advance counts for meals. Pre-registration numbers determine food orders for offsite events, such as field trips or receptions. Greater pre-registration numbers facilitate work at the registration desk. Name tags are pre-printed. There are fewer onsite financial transactions.

Finally, the primary objective of an ASEH conference is to promote scholarship and to provide the opportunity for interaction with other professionals. Some members may not realize that ASEH also expects the annual meeting to earn a profit for the endowment fund, which finances the organization’s prizes and other activities. It is challenging to balance this objective with the equally important goal of providing a professional program, attractive venues, affordable food, reasonable hotel rates, exciting field trips and efficient registration. ASEH will continue to hold outstanding meetings, but remember that because the LAC changes every year, you don’t just have volunteers; you have rookies!

ASEH’s Site Selection Committee welcomes suggestions and proposals from members. For more information, contact Paul Sutter, chair of the committee, at <sutter@uga.edu>.

For a copy of ASEH’s conference guidelines, contact Lisa Mighetto at <mighetto@hrassoc.com>. ASEH’s next conference will take place in St. Paul, Minnesota, March 29-April 2, 2006. See ASEH website at <www.aseh.net>, “conferences” for more information.

**Request for Proposal  
to Host the  
WORLD ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY CONVENTION in 2009**

The International Consortium of Environmental History Organizations (ICEHO) invites offers to host the first World Environmental History Conference to be scheduled in 2009. The parameters of the meeting are outlined below. The successful proposal will be expected to meet the minimum requirements as outlined and consider additional local investment that may strengthen the proposal. The Consortium is in its fledgling state yet supported by existing environmental history organizations. The local host will be expected to work closely with the leadership of ICEHO to plan the Convention as well as provide basic support staff to help plan local arrangements and registration.

The criteria for evaluation will include:

1. Adequacy of facilities (both hotel and meeting space) to accommodate the size of the Convention
2. Ease of participants to travel between lodging accommodations and the meeting venue
3. Cost of travel and of lodging facilities
4. Time of year, atmosphere, and climate of the location
5. Quality of support staff investment
6. Experience in hosting conventions of this size and nature
7. Enthusiasm of the local host and community
8. Overall probability of conducting a successful convention.

General requirements of a venue to hold the convention:

- The convention is expected to draw between 500 and 1000 participants from around the world.
- It is planned to last 5-6 days between June and September (preferably between July 1 and August 15, 2009).
- A number of half-day (during the program) and full-day (after the program) excursions to places of interest to environmental historians shall be offered.

Meeting Room requirements:

- 10 middle-sized (at least 50 people each) seminar rooms. Rooms should be equipped with modern communication equipment - computer projectors should be available as well as overhead and slide projection.
- A technical pre-view room should be available throughout the conference.
- Technical staff for equipment should be available.
- A large lecture hall to host all participants.
- A room with space for ca 100 posters, with poster boards.
- Coffee break area preferably located with Exhibits.
- Exhibit area that can be locked after exhibition hours.
- Internet connection should be available for participants during the conference, as well as copier, fax, etc. and other business services.
- Meal service or restaurant service available in the immediate vicinity of the Convention venue.

Local Staff:

- Either a professional convention organizer is used (monetary requirements will have to be included in a proposal) or the hosting institution offers administrative assistance over the period of two years prior to the conference. Specify what positions and what percentage time.

Housing:

- A minimum of 200 to 350 lodging rooms should be available.
- Special rooms rates with hotels should be negotiated.
- Student dormitory rooms may be made available to reduce costs.

Social program

- The hosting institution should consider hosting a reception for convention participants.
- A Conference Dinner should also be offered. While participants can be expected to pay for this (at least partially), a special venue should be offered.
- Other complimentary amenities for conference participants

Additional monetary requirements

- Travel bursaries for students/independent scholars/participants from low-income countries should be provided. Please specify what commitments can be made or what opportunities may exist to provide such bursaries.
- The host institution may consider what arrangements may be made to share revenue from the convention with ICEHO.

Proposal should be forwarded by July 15, 2005 electronically to:

Steven Anderson, president, Forest History Society, <stevena@duke.edu>, Phone: 919-682-9319, FAX: 919-682-2349

## Announcements

### ASEH Annual Awards

ASEH will present its annual awards at the St. Paul conference in March 2006. This year ASEH's prize committees will evaluate submissions (published books and articles and completed dissertations) that appear between November 1, 2004 and October 31, 2005. Please send three copies of each submission by *November 4, 2005* to:

Lisa Mighetto, 119 Pine Street, Suite 301, Seattle, WA 98101

If you have questions, e-mail Lisa at <mighetto@hrassoc.com>

### Travel Grants Available for St. Paul Conference

ASEH wishes to encourage graduate students and low-income, international, and minority scholars to attend its St. Paul conference in March 2006. The Society offers the following grants:

- Eleven travel grants of \$500 each for graduate students and low-income and international scholars who are presenting research at its annual meeting;
- Minority travel grants for minority/non-white scholars from North America, Mexico, and the Caribbean to attend its annual meeting.

If you are interested in applying for one of these travel grants, please provide the following items:

- vita or resume;
- short statement outlining your interests and objectives in attending the ASEH conference and your paper title if you are presenting research;
- specify all sources of funding received or applied for;
- specify which of the grants listed above you are seeking.

Send the requested informational in an electronic format to:

Professor Kathryn Morse, Program Committee Chair, Middlebury College, E-Mail address: <kmorse@middlebury.edu>

*Deadline for Application: September 16, 2005*

*Recipients will be notified by: October 3, 2005*

### Member News

Dianne Glave was awarded the Yvonne Ochillo Memorial Best Article Award, Southern Conference on African American Studies Association for her article "Black Environmental Liberation Theology: The Historical and Theological Roots of Environmental Justice Activism by the African American Church" which was published in *The Griot: The Journal of Black Heritage* in fall 2004. In addition, her Aron Senior Environmental Research Fellowship has been renewed for a second year in the Center for Bioenvironmental Research and the Environmental Studies Program at Tulane University.

Martin V. Melosi, the Distinguished University Professor of History and the Director of the Center for Public History, recently received the Esther Farfel Award, the highest honor accorded to a University of Houston faculty member. The Farfel Award, a symbol of career excellence, is based on three criteria: the significance and international impact of the candidate's research; his or her outstanding teaching ability; and his or her exemplary service to the University, the profession, and the community. Melosi is a past president of the ASEH.

Stephen Pyne, ASEH president, was named honorary geographer for 2005 by the Association of American Geographers. According to the AAG, he was "selected for his exhaustive and geographically informed scholarship in the cultural ecology of fire and fire management."

see **Announcements** page 7

ASEH joined the American Council of Learned Societies in 2004. Each quarter we will feature information on one of the constituent history societies. Similar information on ASEH will appear in the newsletters of constituent societies.



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Science  
Society



For more information, see  
our Web site at  
<http://www.hssonline.org>  
Or contact:  
PO Box 117360  
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Tel: 352.392.1677  
E-mail [info@hssonline.org](mailto:info@hssonline.org)

## The History of Science Society

The History of Science Society is the world's oldest and largest society dedicated to understanding science, technology, medicine and their social and cultural interactions. Founded in 1924 to support the journal *Isis*, this international society of teachers, scientists, public historians, and independent scholars fosters interest in the history of science. By studying the science of yesterday, we create a deeper appreciation of science and its place in society.



Some of the many benefits HSS members receive include:

- *Isis*, founded in 1912, the world's leading journal in the history of science, in both print and electronic formats
- the quarterly *Newsletter*, which features information on professional meetings, recent books on the history of science, news of our international membership, education efforts in the field, and other news
- online access to the History of Science, Technology and Medicine database, one of the world's leading repositories of electronic bibliographic data
- the *Current Bibliography*, an annual review of scholarship in the field
- eligibility to vote and to participate in the Society's annual elections
- electronic access to back issues of *Isis* and *Osiris* via JSTOR
- an online membership directory
- discounts on journals in the history of science
- substantial registration and hotel discounts at the HSS annual meetings

Join Us Now!

**2005 HSS Annual Conference  
Co-Located Meeting with SHOT  
Minneapolis, Minnesota,  
3-6 November**



from **Announcements** page 6

Fredric L. Quivik was awarded the 2005 Robert M. Vogel Prize by the Society for Industrial Archeology for his article, "Landscapes as Industrial Artifacts: Lessons from Environmental History," which appeared in vol. 26 (no. 2, 2000) of *IA: The Journal of the Society for Industrial Archeology*. The award is for the best article in the Society's journal over the previous three years.

### H-Environment Editors Wanted

H-Environment is looking for two new editors: one list editor and one website editor. At the core of H-Environment's operations are the volunteer editors of the discussion list. List editors manage, edit, and support the H-Environment discussion list. They moderate discussions, edit posts, directly post messages to the subscribers of their lists, and manage subscriptions. Each editor moderates the list for several months per year. Editing takes up to an hour per day, depending on how busy the list is. We are looking for an individual who is committed to serve the list for at least a couple of years. The candidate must be interested in environmental history; be able to send, receive, and edit electronic mail on a reliable and regular basis. Before starting active duty as an editor H-Net provides basic training in the operations required to moderate and maintain the discussion list.

The web site editor maintains the H-Environment web site (not the ASEH.net site), refreshes the content, such as the links list and other resources and updates the layout when necessary. Furthermore the web editor actively solicits material for the course syllabi and environmental course survey. The website should be updated at least three times per year.

The H-environment editorial team is looking for an individual who is committed to maintain the site, has some basic web editing skills and experience with a graphical web editing package. Knowledge of HTML is desirable but not necessary. The editorial team of H-Environment will provide basic web editing training before starting active duty as web editor.

If you are interested in becoming an H-Environment list or web editor please send an email with you CV to Melissa Wiedenfeld <mwiedenfeld@fcdarwin.org.ec> or Mark Stoll <mark.stoll@ttu.edu>. In the email you should indicate your motivation for becoming an editor, and, for the web editor post, your experience with editing websites. Please indicate clearly for which post you apply.

If you would like to receive further information about one of the two posts or have any questions contact either Melissa Wiedenfeld <mwiedenfeld@fcdarwin.org.ec> or Mark Stoll <mark.stoll@ttu.edu>. The H-Environment environmental team looks forward to receiving your applications.

### Call for Manuscripts – Environment and EU Expansion: Transdisciplinary Critical Perspectives

As a great number of recent approaches have demonstrated and underlined, social change cannot be dissociated from the rest of nature and environmental change. The large-scale systemic changes that have occurred throughout Europe since the early 1990s should by now have received much attention about their environmental implications. Yet few studies so far analyse the environmental aspects and repercussions of European Union (EU) enlargement and they are usually buried in edited volumes on EU enlargement. Such studies rarely venture beyond current preoccupations about environmental policy shifts, so that more substantive forms of environmental practice remain understudied.

Moreover, and somewhat alarmingly, EU expansion has been largely assumed in academic and policy-making circles alike as a progressive project that promises to improve the overall conditions of the rest of Europe and even "modernise" the environmental policies and practices of the countries within and (potentially) outside the EU (witness the fanfare surrounding the recent deals made with Russia for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions). These claims, whether implicit or explicit, should be the focus of attentive scrutiny, much of which has been lacking in scholarly work.

The dearth of research on this subject and the inadequacy of current scholarship on EU expansion form the main motivation for this call. As a

contribution to a more critical approach to the EU expansion process, a new volume is planned that will aim to widen the analytical framework so as to include more environmentally and ecologically based analyses. The aim is to examine the ramifications and repercussions of EU expansion for people-environment dynamics and ecosystems both within and outside the administrative borders of the EU. Feminist, anarchist, ecosocialist, (neo-) Marxist, world-systems, post-structural, postcolonial, complex systems, and non-equilibrium ecology approaches to this topic are particularly encouraged. What would be especially welcome are (1) studies of shifts in environmental practices and policies in EU member and applicant countries, (2) works linking environmental change in countries outside the EU to the EU's expansion process, and (3) research on the EU expansion's implications for and/or actual effects on larger-scale and/or global environmental change. Theoretically informed empirical studies and multiple-scaled and comparative analyses will be preferred.

Ashgate Publishing have already expressed interest in this edited collection. Please submit your abstract no later than *August 1, 2005*. The deadline for submitting the first draft of the chapter manuscripts will be *January 15, 2006* and the final revised version of the manuscript will be due *May 15, 2006*. Direct all inquiries to:

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### National Humanities Center Fellowships 2006-2007

The National Humanities Center offers 40 residential fellowships for advanced study in the humanities during the academic year, September 2006 through May 2007. Applicants must hold doctorate or have equivalent scholarly credentials, and a record of publication is expected. Senior and younger scholars are eligible, though the latter should be engaged in research beyond the revision of a doctoral dissertation. Scholars from any nation may apply. In addition to scholars from all fields of the humanities, the Center accepts individuals from the natural and social sciences, the arts, the professions, and public life who are engaged in humanistic projects.

Most of the Center's fellowships are unrestricted. The following designated awards, however, are available for the academic year 2006-07: three fellowships for scholars in any humanistic field whose research concerns religion; three fellowships for young scholars (up to 10 years beyond receipt of doctorate) in literary studies; a fellowship in art history or visual culture; a fellowship for French history or culture; a senior fellowship in Asian Studies, theology, or American art history.

Fellowships up to \$50,000 are individually determined, the amount depending upon the needs of the Fellow and the Center's ability to meet them. The Center provides travel expenses for Fellows and their dependents to and from North Carolina.

Located in the Research Triangle Park of North Carolina, near Chapel Hill, Durham, and Raleigh, the Center provides an environment for individual research and the exchange of ideas among scholars. The Center locates suitable housing for Fellows in the neighboring communities. The Center's building includes private studies for Fellows, conference rooms, a central commons for dining, lounges, reading areas, a reference library, and a well-equipped Fellows' workroom. The Center's library service delivers books and research materials to Fellows. The Center also provides support for information technology and editorial assistance. Fellowships are supported by the Center's endowment, private foundation grants, alumni contributions, and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Applicants submit the Center's form supported by a curriculum vitae, a 1000-word project proposal, and three letters of recommendation. You may request application material from Fellowship Program, National Humanities Center, Post Office Box 12256, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27709-2256, or obtain the form and instructions from the Center's website. Applications and letters of recommendation must be postmarked by *October 15, 2005*. <Http://www.nhc.rtp.nc.us> e-mail <nhc@ga.unc.edu> The National Humanities Center does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national or ethnic origin, handicap, sexual orientation, or age.

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