

# **Historical Geography Research Group**

(ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY with THE INSTITUTE OF BRITISH GEOGRAPHERS)



<http://hgrg.nuigalway.ie>

## **HGRG Newsletter, Autumn Issue 2006**

In this issue:

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- ◆ HGRG/CUP Dissertation Prize winners
- ◆ Thesis abstracts, conference reports, seminar series

Copy for the HGRG newsletter should be sent by e-mail or on floppy disc (PC, MS Word files preferred) to:

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HGRG Honorary Publicity Officer  
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**Copy deadlines** are: **25 May** for the Summer edition, **25 September** for the Autumn edition, and **16 December** for the New Year edition.

HGRG Electronic Mailing List: if you would you like to be added to the list, please contact Peter Merriman, [p.merriman@aber.ac.uk](mailto:p.merriman@aber.ac.uk)

Address changes: Please notify David Lambert: [d.lambert@rhul.ac.uk](mailto:d.lambert@rhul.ac.uk)

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**Please inform the Membership Secretary if you change your postal address, and the Membership Secretary and Publicity Officer if you change your e-mail address.**

**HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY RESEARCH GROUP  
PRACTISING HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY  
11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL POSTGRADUATE & UNDERGRADUATE ONE-DAY CONFERENCE  
WEDNESDAY, 1ST NOVEMBER 2006  
QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY, BELFAST  
9.30AM-4.45PM  
PROGRAMME**

- 09.30 Conference Welcome and Coffee
- 10.00 Keynote Lecture, **Prof David Livingstone** (Queen's University, Belfast)  
Location and Locution: Science, Speech and Space in the Response to Darwin
- 11.00 Historical Geography Workshops  
I. **Dr John Morrissey** (NUI Galway)  
Visual Archives in Historical Research  
*or*  
II. **Dr Satish Kumar** (Queen's University, Belfast)  
Imperial Census of the Raj
- 12.00 *Lunch*
- 1.00 Historical Geography Workshops  
I. **Dr Satish Kumar** (Queen's University, Belfast)  
Imperial Census of the Raj  
*or*  
II. **Dr John Morrissey** (NUI Galway)  
Visual Archives in Historical Research
- 2.00 Coffee Break
- 2.30 HGRG Undergraduate Dissertation Prize winner announced and Postgraduate Voices Roundtable Discussion
- 3.30 Keynote Lecture, **Dr Mark Hennessy** (Trinity College Dublin)  
The European Historic Towns Atlases: a Research Resource for Historical Geography.
- 4.30 Closing Comments

***To register for this free conference please contact  
Dr Yvonne Whelan at [yvonne.whelan@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:yvonne.whelan@bristol.ac.uk)***

## **Call for HGRG Sessions at RGS-IBG AC2007:**

HGRG invites suggestions from its members and the wider community of historical geographers for sessions at the RGS/IBG Annual Conference in London, August 28th to 31st 2007.

The deadline for sessions to be proposed to the RGS/IBG is likely to be November 1st as in previous years. However, the HGRG committee would like the opportunity to review and approve sessions offered in the name of the Group prior to them being submitted to the RGS/IBG.

Please send an abstract of not more than 250 words by email to Catherine Brace, Honorary Secretary, by 16th October 2006 (cbrace@exeter.ac.uk). It is not necessary to use the RGS/IBG official form for this as it does not yet appear to be available on the RGS/IBG website. When you receive confirmation from HGRG that the group are willing to sponsor your session, you will then be responsible for completing the RGS/IBG paperwork and liaising with the RGS/IBG in all session arrangements. It would be helpful if you could copy the Honorary Secretary in when the session proposal is submitted to the RGS/IBG.

## **HGRG/CUP Dissertation Prize Winners:**

The HGRG are pleased to announce the winners of the joint Historical Geography Research Group/Cambridge University Press dissertation prize. First prize has been awarded jointly to:

Andreas Beavor (Exeter), 'Subjugated races, appropriated places'  
Louise Henderson (St. Andrews), 'Knowledge spaces of African exploration'

The adjudicating panel of Alan Baker, Diarmid Finnegan and David Lambert agreed that both dissertations were excellent, and that it was appropriate to award a joint first prize.

## **Thesis Abstracts:**

HGRG are keen to provide a forum for disseminating abstracts of recently completed doctoral theses in historical geography. We encourage graduates from geography and related disciplines to submit abstracts for publication in our tri-annual newsletter. Abstracts of no more than 250 words (with relevant contact details, and following the format below), should be sent via e-mail to the HGRG Publicity Officer, Peter Merriman, [p.merriman@aber.ac.uk](mailto:p.merriman@aber.ac.uk)

Charles B. Travis, *Lifeworlds: Literary Geographies in 1930s Ireland*, Abstract of PhD examined at University of Dublin, Trinity College, 2006.

This study examines the various representations of place by Irish writers who published English language novels between 1929 and 1939. The aim of the study was to explore the various subjective dimensions of place experience represented in novels during this period in modern Irish history. A hermeneutic analysis was focused through a series of theoretical lenses which included: Buttimer's translation of *lebenswelt*; a Foucauldian conceptualisation of novels as prose-fiction landscapes, and Bakhtin's *chronotopic* spaces. In the first section *Rural Lifeworlds*, representations rooted in

the bogs, fields and townlands of Peadar O'Donnell's and Patrick Kavanagh's prose contrast against the urban *bourgeois* framing of the rural Ulster depicted by Belfast residents Forrest Reid and Michael McLaverty. In the second section *House-Islands and the Provincial Town*, landed estates portrayed in Elizabeth Bowen's and Molly Keane's prose, depict the decline of the Protestant Ascendancy culture, in contrast to Kate O'Brien's representation of the ascendant Catholic *bourgeois* in the provincial town. In the third section *Urban Experiences*, Samuel Beckett's manic portrayal of modern Dublin is juxtaposed against Flann O'Brien's *mimetic* and *expressive* representation framing of the Free State capital in language drawn from 1930s pop-culture, as well as Celtic mythology. Lastly, the works of Kavanagh and McLaverty illuminate the affective experiences of Irish migrants to London, Belfast and Dublin. This study determined that various representations of identity, sense of place and landscape portrayed by these writers, belied 'official' *Saorstát Eireann* and Northern Ireland ideological framings of place and suggests that a rich mosaic of distinct cultural landscapes coloured the many faces of the Irish archipelago during the 1930s.

Contact details: Dr. Charles Travis, Department of Geography, Trinity College, Dublin 2 Ireland, +353 1 677 2941. Email: travisc@tcd.ie

Mehmet Karakuyu, **The Historical Geography of Manisa**, Abstract of PhD submitted to Ankara University, May 2005.

In this research, I have tried to represent the locational expansion of Manisa city across time and space according to different development stages. Over time, the cities of Tantalıs, Spiylos, Magnesia and Manisa have been established around Manisa. Contemporary Manisa city was established as Magnesia after the collapse of Spiylos in an earthquake. The City of Manisa used to be located on the northern side and upper section of Sandikkale Hill as an internal and external castle during Roman and Byzantine time. Under the control of Turkish sovereignty, the city expanded to the outside of the castles, first, as a strip in the east-west direction, then to the north towards the Gediz Plain. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the development direction of the city has been towards the northwest. The city has been an important settlement throughout history, but it gained its vital importance during the Ottoman era of the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. At these times one of the significant reasons for being an important settlement was that the city was "the city of Sehzadeler (Sultan's sons, prince)". After Izmir city gained the economic, commercial and cultural dominance of the region, Manisa lost its importance and remained in the shadow of this larger city. However, nowadays, Manisa has started to redevelop due to strategic, economic and political reasons such as relocation of the industry outside of big cities and increases in transportation links and its accessibility.

Contact details: Assist. Prof. Dr. Mehmet KARAKUYU, Department of Geography, Fatih University, Istanbul-Turkey, Tel: +90 212 889 08 10/2023, e-mail: mkarakuyu@fatih.edu.tr

### *Conference reports:*

## **13<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Historical Geographers, Hamburg, Germany, 20-24 August 2006**

The 13<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Historical Geographers took place in the Hanseatic city of Hamburg. In line with the nature of Geography, 25 countries were represented, with academics and students sharing their research and ideas. The program was very diverse, with themes ranging from Geography of Religion to uses of GIS in Historical Geography. All sessions fitted into the broader conference theme of “Transformation Processes of Cultural Landscapes”.

The conference kicked-off with a tour of Hamburg in which the leaders made us discover the history and geography of their city. The new waterfront development was impressive, as were multiple efforts in modern architecture, and later that day a social event was held in Continental Europe’s oldest rowing club, situated on the Außenalster.

With four or five sessions usually running parallel, it was impossible to go to everything. With my own interest lying in historical cartography, I was particularly well provided for. My own session was called “Sources of Historical Geography” and my paper was entitled “Maps as Social Barometers: The Cases of Medieval and Ubiquitous Mapping,” which was followed by a discussion on the Ottoman Tahir Defters by Osman Gumüscü (Pamukkale University) and a case-study about civilians using military maps from the 1841 British Survey of Palestine by Haim Goren (Tel-Hai Academic College). Indeed, papers covered a diverse range of topics! In the History of Cartography sessions, there were papers on the digitalization of Denmark’s oldest topographical map by Peder Dam (Copenhagen University), and the analysis of historical maps to understand current environmental issues by Dagmar Haase (University of Leipzig) thus stressing the contemporaneity of the subject. Together, these papers formed an exciting and dynamic debate, some bouncing off each other, others brilliantly completing discussions, and all actively tackling themes of cultural and social importance.

Other particularly interesting papers dealt with infanticide during the Japanese Tokugawa period (Hiroshi Kawaguchi – Tezukayama University), an overview of the history of the American West through its hogs, prisons and trash (Matthew Shumway and Richard Jackson – Brigham Young University) and landscapes of death after the Gorlice-Tarnów offensive on the Eastern Front in 1915 (Gregory Ashworth – University of Groningen). Without being a specialist in any of these areas, one could still enjoy these papers as an opportunity to experience otherwise-marginalized research themes. Also, the showcasing of so many different methodological tactics and the variety of approaches as well as personal beliefs and opinions meant that academic as well as personal exchanges were very rich and satisfying.

This was my first international conference and a very friendly one indeed. While the demographic was more on the established-academic side, postgrads were made to feel very welcome and “part of the gang,” with encouragements and expectations to hear the follow-ups of our talks in three years in Kyoto! Thank you to the HGRG for the financial participation that allowed me to attend this conference.

Anne-Flore Laloë  
University of Exeter  
September 2006

*Seminar Series:*

**LONDON GROUP OF HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHERS**

*Seminar Programme, Autumn Term 2006*

**THE HEART OF DARKNESS**

- 10th October 2006      **Simon Reid-Henry** (Queen Mary, University of London):  
“Ghosts of Guantánamo”
- 24th October 2006      **The Road to Guantanamo** (2006) Screening of the film  
drama-documentary, introduced and discussed by the film's  
co-director Mat Whitecross (Revolution Films).
- 7th November 2006      **Jürgen Zimmerer** (University of Sheffield):  
“Landscapes of genocide: the Herero War in German  
Southwest Africa (1904-1908) and its legacies”
- 21st November 2006      **Claudio Minca** (Royal Holloway, University of London):  
“Biopolitical blackholes and the new geographies of  
Darkness”
- 5th December 2006      **Toby Dodge** (Queen Mary, University of London):  
“A journey from colonial to neo-colonial Baghdad: Joseph  
Conrad, Sir Henry Dobbs, Paul Bremer and visions of the  
good Iraqi”

These seminars are held on Tuesdays at 5pm in the Wolfson Room at the Institute of Historical Research, Senate House, University of London. For further details, contact David Lambert, Royal Holloway (01784 443640 d.lambert@rhul.ac.uk) or Miles Ogborn, Queen Mary (020 7882 5407 m.j.ogborn@qmul.ac.uk).

We are grateful to Queen Mary, Royal Holloway, Kings, UCL, Birkbeck, the Open University, Sussex University, the Historical Geography Research Group of the RGS-IBG and the IHR for supporting this series.

# The History of Gardens and Landscapes

Institute of Historical Research  
Senate House, London

All interested in researching gardens and landscapes are welcome at these seminars, which are held on Fridays at 5.30 pm in the Wolfson Room of the Institute of Historical Research, Senate House, Malet Street. Please check on the website (given below) in case there are any changes in venue. The theme for the spring term is 'Gardens and Literature'.

6 October Gardens in Edwardian children's literature.  
Lorna Stacy, University of Bristol.

20 October 'Weeding out the rhetoric. Francis Bacon's Essay 'Of Gardens'.  
Dr Paula Henderson, Courtauld Institute.  
**NB Venue Senate House, NG 14**

27 October Shirley Hibberd and his garden in Hackney.  
Dr Anne Wilkinson.  
**NB Venue Stewart House, ST 273**

17 November The poetics of gardens in the work of Virginia Woolf.  
Nuala Hancock, University of Sussex.

1 December W.G.Hoskins and the Hound of the Baskervilles.  
Professor Matthew Johnson, University of Southampton.

For further information contact the convenors:

Dr Janet Waymark, Birkbeck, University of London: [janetwaymark@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:janetwaymark@yahoo.co.uk)

Dr Rebecca Preston, University of Kingston: [r.preston@kingston.ac.uk](mailto:r.preston@kingston.ac.uk)

More information about seminars at the IHR at: [www.history.ac.uk/gardens.htm/](http://www.history.ac.uk/gardens.htm/).



**THE WARBURG INSTITUTE**  
University of London  
Woburn Square, London WC1H 0AB

**MAPS AND SOCIETY**

Lectures in the history of cartography convened by Catherine Delano Smith (Institute of Historical Research) and Tony Campbell (formerly Map Library, British Library). Meetings are held on selected Thursdays at The Warburg Institute at 5.00 pm. Admission is free. Meetings are followed by refreshments. All are welcome. Enquiries: +44 (0) 20 8346 5112 (Dr Delano Smith).

SIXTEENTH SERIES: 2006–2007

**2006**

**October 19**    **Dr Robin Woolven** (London Topographical Society) The London County Council Bomb Damage Maps 1939-1945.

**November 23** **Malcolm G.H. Bishop** (Independent Scholar) The 1518 Map in Sir Thomas More's Utopia: Dentistry Solves the Mystery.

**2007**

**January 25**    **Dr David Marsh** (Birkbeck, University of London) Maps, Myths, and Gardens: Faithorne and Newcourt's Map of London (1658).

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MEETING SPONSORED BY THE HAKLUYT SOCIETY

**February 8**    **Lt Cdr Andrew David** (Independent Scholar) The Cartography of Bligh's Open Boat Voyage and his Two Breadfruit Voyages.

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**March 1**        **Dr Renaud Morieux** (Department of History, University of Lille 3) Naming the English Channel: What Maps Tell Us About Geopolitics Through the Ages.

**March 29**      **Drs Michael Winstanley and Bill Shannon** (Department of History, University of Lancaster) Lord Burghley and Elizabethan Maps of Lancashire.

**April 26**      **Hugh Prince** (formerly, Department of Geography, University College London) Surveyor or Plagiarist? The Parks on John Warburton's Map of Hertfordshire (c. 1724).

**May 17**        **Jill Shefrin** (Trinity College, University of Toronto) Nursery Instruction: Cartographical Novelties for Georgian and Victorian Children.

This programme has been made possible through the generous sponsorship of The International Map Collectors' Society; Jonathan Potter of Jonathan Potter Ltd; and Laurence Worms of Ash Rare Books.

Please photocopy and distribute to potential members/new postgrads in your department.

## Historical Geography Research Group Membership

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The HGRG is a very large (around 400 members) and active research group of the Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers). The Group aims to initiate and foster research in the field of Historical Geography; to promote discussion by means of meetings and conferences; to further co-operation between cognate disciplines and organisations; and to effect publication of monographs, collected papers and discussion materials. Membership is open to all those who subscribe to these aims.

The Group publishes three issues of its newsletter every year updating members on activities and the working of the Group. It also publishes the Research Series (38 issues published since 1979) which is designed to provide scholars with an outlet for extended essays of an interpretative or conceptual nature that make a substantive contribution to some aspect of the subject; critical reviews of the literature on a major problem; and commentaries on relevant sources.

The HGRG differs from most other RGS-IBG Research Groups in that it charges a membership subscription for the additional services that it offers. Subscriptions are due on 1 October each year. We have different membership rates for Ordinary Members and Postgraduate Members

The two categories of membership are:

**Category A membership:** Receive HGRG research series and HGRG Newsletter, eligible for various grants, reduced rate on back issues of HGRG research series.

*£8.00 for Ordinary Members, £6.00 for Postgraduate Members*

**Category B membership:** Receive HGRG Newsletter, eligible for various grants, reduced rate on back issues of HGRG research series.

*£2.00 for Ordinary Members, free for Postgraduate Members*

For further details of how to join the HGRG, please e-mail Dr David Lambert, the Honorary Membership Secretary, at [d.lambert@rhul.ac.uk](mailto:d.lambert@rhul.ac.uk). Alternatively, please write to...

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