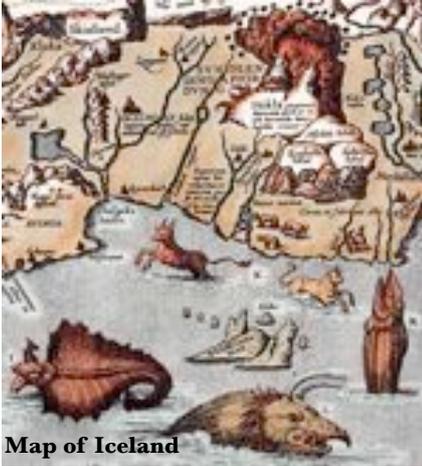


# Historical Geography Research Group



Map of Iceland

## Letter from the chair

Dear HGRG members,

I hope that you enjoy the Summer newsletter. The Annual Conference of the Royal Geographical Society with the Institute of British Geographers is fast approaching and HGRG is sponsoring the usual wide range of sessions that reflects the continued vibrancy of the sub-discipline. If you are coming to the conference I encourage you to support our postgraduate community by attending the 'Emerging Research in Historical Geography' session and come and discuss the activities of the research group at the AGM.

In April we held the Spring e-committee meeting and were pleased to award HGRG Postgraduate Funding to Anyaa Anim-Addo (Royal Holloway, University of London), David Paton (University of Exeter) and Sarah Thomas (University of Sydney). Each has received £100 and their reports will be in the Autumn newsletter. Thanks again to members - your subscriptions enable us to support postgraduates in this way.

We also had a lively discussion concerning the overdue need for HGRG to support members who teach historical geography. To this end we are proposing to hold a 'Teaching Historical Geographies' workshop on 19th and 20th May 2011 at the RGS-IBG to review the place of historical geography in the undergraduate curriculum, share best practice and develop a supportive network. More details will be available in the Autumn newsletter but please reserve the date in your diary.

Finally, we would like to announce a new section within the HGRG newsletter 'Work in Progress'. This is designed to give us all a chance to hear about the current work being undertaken. We invite short contributions of 500-2000 words, with images or web-links. We would like to hear from members about your current research, describing themes, methods and findings. Please send contributions to the newsletter editor.

Wish best wishes  
Nicola Thomas

## IN THIS ISSUE

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- ◆ HGRG general information
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- ◆ Conference announcements
- ◆ Thesis abstracts

## COPY FOR NEXT ISSUE

Date for new copy:

September 30th

Please send to  
h.hawkins@exeter.ac.uk



## HGRG General Information

### Journal of Historical Geography discount available for HGRG postgraduate students:

Postgraduate students who are members of HGRG can receive the 2009 subscription (Volume 35, 4 issues) of the Journal of Historical Geography at a discounted rate of £25.

To subscribe please contact our Customer Service Department [Email: [JournalsCustomerServiceEMEA@elsevier.com](mailto:JournalsCustomerServiceEMEA@elsevier.com) or Tel: +31 20 485 3757] and specify that you are postgraduate member of HGRG. For more information about the Journal of Historical Geography please visit the homepage [[www.elsevier.com/locate/jhg](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jhg)].

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#### \*HGRG/CUP Dissertation Prize\*

Every year the Historical Geography Research Group (RGS/IBG) in association with Cambridge University Press offers a prize to the best UK undergraduate dissertation based on original research and showing conceptual sophistication in any area of historical geography. The successful prize winner will receive £150 of CUP published books, and will be invited to submit an article based on their dissertation for publication in the Journal of Historical Geography (subject to the standard refereeing procedures of the journal). The winner will also be invited to present their work at the annual HGRG Practising Historical Geography Conference in November.

Deadline for submissions: \*8 July\*

Nominated dissertations should be sent to:

Dr Diarmid Finnegan School of Geography, Archaeology and Palaeoecology (GAP) Queen's University Belfast Belfast, BT7 INN Northern Ireland, UK  
[d.finnegan@qub.ac.uk](mailto:d.finnegan@qub.ac.uk)

## HGRG COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

### 2009/2010 Contact List

Dr Nicola Thomas Honorary Chair  
School of Geography University of Exeter, Rennes Drive, Exeter EX4 4RJ England Tel: +44 (0) 1392 264449  
Email: [Nicola.J.Thomas@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:Nicola.J.Thomas@exeter.ac.uk)

Dr Heidi Scott Honorary Secretary,  
Institute of Geography and Earth, Sciences, University of Wales, Aberystwyth, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 3DB, Wales  
E-mail: [hvs@aber.ac.uk](mailto:hvs@aber.ac.uk)

Prof. Jon Stobart Honorary Treasurer  
School of Social Sciences, The University of Northampton, Park Campus, Boughton Green Road Northampton NN2 7AL, England  
Email: [jon.stobart@northampton.ac.uk](mailto:jon.stobart@northampton.ac.uk)

Dr David Nally Honorary Editor of the Research Series, Department of Geography University of Cambridge, Downing Place, Cambridge, CB2 3EN, England E-mail: [david.nally@geog.cam.ac.uk](mailto:david.nally@geog.cam.ac.uk)

Dr Lloyd Jenkins Honorary Membership Secretary  
School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 2TT, UK. Tel: +44 (0)121 41 47262, Fax: +44 (0)121 41 45528  
Email: [l.jenkins@bham.ac.uk](mailto:l.jenkins@bham.ac.uk)



**Historical Geography Research Group  
16th Annual Postgraduate and Undergraduate  
Conference**

**Practising Historical Geography  
Wednesday 3rd November 2010  
University of Nottingham**

An informal one-day conference of keynote lectures, workshops and talks.

More information will appear in the newsletter and on the HGRG website in due course.

To register your interest or join the mailing list, please email Briony McDonagh [briony.mcdonagh@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:briony.mcdonagh@nottingham.ac.uk).

**HGRG COMMITTEE  
CONTACT DETAILS**

Dr Briony McDonagh  
Honorary Conference Officer  
School of Geography, Clive  
Granger Building, University of  
Nottingham, Nottingham.  
E-Mail:  
[briony.mcdonagh@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:briony.mcdonagh@nottingham.ac.uk)

Dr Harriet Hawkins, Honorary  
Newsletter Secretary, School of  
Geography University of Exeter ,  
Rennes Drive , Exeter EX4 4RJ  
England E-mail:  
[h.hawkins@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:h.hawkins@exeter.ac.uk)

Prof. Catherine Brace  
HGRG Web Editor  
School of Geography University  
of Exeter in Cornwall Tremough  
Campus, Treliiever Road Penryn,  
Cornwall, TR11 9EZ , E-mail:  
[c.brace@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:c.brace@exeter.ac.uk)

Dr Diarmid Finnegan  
Ordinary Member with  
responsibility for Dissertation  
Prize, School of Geography,  
Archaeology and Palaeoecology  
Queen's University Belfast  
Belfast, BT7 INN Northern  
Ireland. E-mail:  
[d.finnegan@qub.ac.uk](mailto:d.finnegan@qub.ac.uk)

Dr Carl Griffin  
Honorary E-Circulation Officer  
School of Geography, Archaeology  
and Palaeoecology, Elmwood  
Building, Queen's University  
Belfast, Belfast, BT7 INN  
Email: [Carl.Griffin@qub.ac.uk](mailto:Carl.Griffin@qub.ac.uk)



## Historical Geography Research Group Membership

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:  
[l.jenkins@bham.ac.uk](mailto:l.jenkins@bham.ac.uk)

HGRG are keen to provide a forum for disseminating abstracts of recently completed doctoral theses in historical geography. Abstracts of around 250 words should be sent to [h.hawkins@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:h.hawkins@exeter.ac.uk)

## HGRG COMMITTEE DETAILS CONT...

Isla Forsyth,  
Postgraduate Committee  
Member Department of  
Geography and Geomatics,  
University of Glasgow, Glasgow,  
G12 8QQ E-mail:  
[Isla.forsyth@ges.gla.ac.uk](mailto:Isla.forsyth@ges.gla.ac.uk)

Lois Jones,  
Postgraduate Committee  
Members with responsibility for  
Conferences  
School of Geography &  
Geosciences, Irvine Building  
University of St Andrews, North  
Street, St Andrews, FIFE, KY16  
9AL E-mail: [lj8@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:lj8@st-andrews.ac.uk)

Franklin Ginn  
Postgraduate Committee  
Member Deputy Editor of the  
Research Series  
King's College London  
Department of Geography  
K4. L10 Kings Building Strand,  
London WC2R 2LS  
E-mail: [franklin.ginn@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:franklin.ginn@kcl.ac.uk)

Rebecca Ford,  
Postgraduate Committee  
Member, School of Geography,  
Sir Clive Granger Building, School  
of Geography, University Park,  
University of Nottingham.  
Nottingham. E-mail:  
[lgxrf4@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:lgxrf4@nottingham.ac.uk)



Wicken Park House (Northamptonshire) by J. P. Neale, 1818. Wicken was the home of Elizabeth Prowse, who managed the estate for over 40 years between her husband's death in 1767 and her own in 1810

## LEVERHULME EARLY CAREER FELLOWSHIP:

### ELITE WOMEN & THE AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPE, 1700-1830

DR. BRIONY MCDONAGH

SCHOOL OF GEOGRAPHY,  
UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

The project investigates the role played by elite women in managing large agricultural estates, whether as wives, widows or single women. Female landowners controlled significant amounts of property, yet their contribution to the agricultural changes which transformed the English landscape between 1700 and 1830 has been almost entirely overlooked.

The fellowship builds on a successful pilot study which demonstrated that female landowners played an active role in enclosing and improving their estates in the Northamptonshire Uplands in the last decades of the eighteenth century (published in *Rural History* 20.2 (2009), pp. 143-62). For example, Mrs Elizabeth Prowse was a meticulous record-keeper, competent manager and innovative agriculturalist who spent more than four decades managing the Wicken estate (above). During this time she extended the house, landscaped the park and rebuilt the local church. She also invested heavily in the newly-enclosed estate, introducing long-term leases, improving old pastures, extending arable cultivation and experimenting with new agricultural machinery and animal feeds.

The current project extends both the time frame and spatial focus of the research and will concentrate on three regions within the central zone of England: the light lands and wolds of East Yorkshire, the fens

and marshes of southern Lincolnshire and the archetypal open-field landscapes of Northamptonshire (including the three-quarters of the county excluded from the pilot study). All three areas were transformed to a greater or lesser extent by enclosure, reclamation and associated agricultural changes in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, but their contrasting soils and land use histories produced distinct landscapes and economies in which female landowners potentially played very different roles.

Drawing on archival materials from the three case-study counties, the project investigates female landowners' involvement in estate management, enclosure, landscaping and agricultural improvement in changing temporal and geographical contexts. In doing so, it explores important questions about propertied women's role in Georgian society, as well as contributes to wider cultural debates about women's place in the environmental, social and economic history of Britain.

For more about the project and for biographies of the women and estates studied, check out the new project website at [www.nottingham.ac.uk/~lgzwww/womenandenclosure/](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/~lgzwww/womenandenclosure/).

## EXHIBITION ANNOUNCEMENT

### Commonwealth Cultures in a Decolonising World

DR. RUTH  
CRAGGS



#### Commonwealth cultures in a decolonising world

Cambridge University Library Royal Commonwealth Society Collections

- Introduction
- The modern Commonwealth
  - Independence and a new partnership of people
- Commonwealth hospitality in London
  - Performing multiracialism
  - Political hospitality
  - A safe space for Commonwealth hospitality
- Commonwealth expeditions
  - Comex and traditional relationships
  - Experiencing Commonwealth contact
- The modern Commonwealth

#### Commonwealth cultures in a decolonising world

In the post-war period, the Commonwealth provided many groups in Britain with a powerful vision for the nation's place in a decolonising world.

This exhibition explores a set of competing Commonwealth cultures, or visions and practices, which emerged in this period: those based on ideas of hospitality within Britain, those based on international brotherhood abroad, and those which focused on its value as a vehicle for international aid, progress and development. Within these cultures we see visions of the Commonwealth as a way of continuing imperial relations, but also as an important experiment in multiracial global citizenship.

Visions for and of the 'modern' Commonwealth in the post-war period contain multiple narratives about Britain and its place in the world, as well as changing geopolitical imperatives, each



West Indian visitor to Commonwealth

In the post-war period, the Commonwealth provided many groups in Britain with a powerful vision for the nation's place in a decolonising world. This on-line exhibition explores a set of competing Commonwealth cultures which emerged in this period, drawing on images from the Royal Commonwealth Society Collection at Cambridge University Library. These photographs not only record different Commonwealth endeavours, they also work to support different visions of the Commonwealth as modern, multiracial, and hospitable.

The exhibition is curated by Dr Ruth Craggs and based on her PhD research, which was funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council. It was produced with the kind help of Rachel Rowe and Dr John Cardwell of the Royal Commonwealth Society Collection at Cambridge University Library, and Helen Porter of the Royal Asiatic Society Library.

Use the following link to view the exhibition:

<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/deptserv/rcs/modernCommonwealth>





## Correspondence: Travel, Writing, and Literatures of Exploration,

c. 1750–c. 1850

7–10th April 2010

Conference report by Li-hsin Hsu,  
University of Edinburgh

The conference brought together geographers, book historians, literary scholars and scientists to address issues of trust, credibility, and inscriptive practice in works of travel and exploration. Following an introduction from Charles W. J. Withers (Edinburgh), Joyce Chaplin (Harvard) opened the conference with an address exploring circumnavigation in relation to terrestrial mapping from the eighteenth century, tracing developments in expedition technology and changing attitudes to travel.

The second day opened with a plenary address by Tim Fulford (Nottingham Trent) looking at the mystical auditory experience of Inuit ventriloquism in shaping British ideas of Eskimo spirituality and their subsequent interaction. Janice Cavell (Carleton) examined how the issue of book-making complicated the publication of William Edward Parry's Arctic narrative. Ingeborg Høvik (Edinburgh) further pursued publishing motives, comparing John Ross's textual and visual narratives of the Netsilik Inuit, from sketches to prints. Sophie Gilmartin (Royal Holloway) focused on sea journals of two New England women in examining gender spheres on board ship.

The second session resumed with Ben Breen (Texas at Austin) examining authorial credibility in a reassessment of the feigned travel account of George Psalmanazar about Formosa, now Taiwan. Jayati Gupta (West Bengal State) looked at the cultural ramifications of text translation and transmission through a Persian traveller Mirza Sheikh, who travelled in Britain in the 1760s. Timothy Shannon (Gettysburg College) continued the credibility theme in a paper on the notion of self-fashioning in Peter Williamson's North American travel writing. Katrina Zaat (Sydney) then outlined textual comparisons of works by John R. Jewitt and ghost writer Richard Alsop to explore stylistic instability in captive narratives.

Elizabeth Bohl (Oregon) began the third day with her plenary address analysing Mungo Park's racial and political discourses in Africa.

Anke Fischer-Kattner (Bundeswehr and Ludwig-Maximilians) emphasized the physicality of travel writing by looking at the inscriptive practices of pre-colonial European travellers in Africa. Later, David Lambert (Royal Holloway) discussed James MacQueen's methodology in his treatment of slave testimony in relation to important scientific debates across the Atlantic world. The fourth session began with Charles W. J. Withers examining the official production of guides to regulate scientific observation and their contribution to the emergence of scientific methods and disciplines.

Louise Henderson (Royal Holloway) looked at the editorial practices of Francis Galton and David Livingstone in relation to knowledge production, and Justin Livingstone (Edinburgh) further analysed the textual strategy of Livingstone's management of impression and his claim to stylistic authenticity. Richard Gassan (American University of Sharjah) explored authenticity and credibility in the corporatization of tourist guides in antebellum America.

The final day featured a plenary address by Nigel Leask (Glasgow) evaluating Alexander von Humboldt's reception in Britain and his literary and scientific influence on Charles Darwin. Carl Thompson (Nottingham Trent) looked at another scientific traveller, Maria Graham, detailing her botanical collection and geological observations, and Martin Muller (European University Institute) discussed John Crawford's travelogues and the interpretation of Oriental despotism in the production of foreign knowledge.

The conference was co-organized by the Institute of Geography at the University of Edinburgh and the National Library of Scotland and welcomed participants from UK and overseas universities. A wine reception at the National Library of Scotland provided an opportunity to view a selection of interesting manuscript material from the John Murray Archive. A spell of good weather provided an opportunity for delegates to enjoy the city between paper sessions.

**RGS-IBG**  
**2010**  
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## **HGRG Sponsored Sessions**

1st -3rd September

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### **New and Emerging Research in Historical Geography**

Convened by Lois Jones (University of St Andrews) and Isla Forsyth (University of Glasgow)

#### **Session: 1 New and Emerging Research in Historical Geography Chairs (Lois Jones (University of St Andrews), Isla Forsyth (University of Galsgow))**

1. Dean Bond (University of Toronto) *Whither regions? Rethinking the role of 'regions' in historical geography*
2. Stephanie Wyse (Royal Geographical Society with IBG) *Will-making and the geographies of wealth holding: Women's things and bequests in New Zealand, c1890-1950*
3. Richard Lowdon (University of Glasgow) *To Travel by Older Ways: A Cultural Geography of Droving and Drove Roads in Scotland*
4. Matt Thompson (University of York) *Ownership and Representation: The 'Interior Geography' of the Great Western Railway (GWR), 1929 - 1941*

#### **Session 2: New and Emerging Research in Historical Geography (2) Chairs Lois Jones (University of St Andrews), Isla Forsyth (University of Galsgow)**

1. Mary Kitzel (University of Sussex) *Chasing Ancestors: Researching early Deaf communities in the Weald, 1650-1851*
  2. George Adamson (University of Brighton) *We are threatened with famine, the most horrible of evils": Climatic information for 19th Century Western India from the diaries of Mountstuart Elphinstone*
  3. Kevin Milburn (University of Nottingham) *Romancing the City: the Urban Sublime and Gendered Mobility in the Music of The Blue Nile*
  4. Richard McMahon (University of Bristol) *Nordic Slavs: Constructing Polish identity geopolitics in German-led race science*
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**RGS-IBG**  
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## **HGRG Sponsored Sessions** **1st -3rd September**

### **Narrating Stories of Travel and Tourism:**

Jacky Tivers, (Nottingham  
 Trent University)  
 Tijana Rakić, (Edinburgh  
 Napier University)

#### **Session: 1 Historical Narratives of Travel Session 1 Chair: Jacqueline Tivers (Nottingham Trent University, UK)**

1. Sylvie Guichard-Anguis (Laboratoire "Espaces, Nature et Culture" CNRS/ Paris-Sorbonne Paris IV Institut de Géographie, France) *Walking the Kumano pilgrimage roads (Japan) and writing diaries: an association of more than one thousand years?*
2. Emmanuelle Peraldo, (University of Saint-Etienne, France) *Narrative cartography in the eighteenth century: Defoe's exploration of Great Britain in the Tour*
3. Angharad Saunders (University of Glamorgan, UK) *Posting over Seas: the Irish novels of Anthony Trollope*
4. Deniz Dogan (Yeditepe University, Turkey) *Women's Travel Writing in Nineteenth-Century*
5. Lénia Marques (CEMRI – Universidade Aberta, Portugal) *Nicolas Bouvier's writings, photographs and gris-gris*
6. Charles Booth (University of the West of England, UK) *Cold War Narratives and Tin Can Tourists.*

#### **Session: 2, Personal Narratives of Travel, Chair: Tijana Rakić (Edinburgh Napier University, UK)**

1. Pamela Richardson (University of Exeter, UK) *Contours to Continents*
2. Jacqueline Tivers (Nottingham Trent University, UK) *'Keeping the holiday book': travel stories of a 20th century family*
3. Teresa McGrath (Liverpool Hope University, UK) *Travelling Home: Narratives of mobile domesticity on England's waterways*
4. Angie Luther (University of Wales Institute Cardiff, UWIC, UK) *Absent stories: issues of capturing absent voices of tourism*
5. Paul Cleave (University of Exeter, UK) *Narrating stories of travel and tourism. The evolving relationship between food and tourism*

#### **Session: 3 Travel Experiences and Traveller Identity Chair: Tijana Rakić (Edinburgh Napier University, UK)**

1. Julia Hibert (Bournemouth University, UK) *Tourism, Travel and Identity*
2. Norman Backhaus (University of Zurich, Switzerland) *Experiencing and talking about an excursion  
 Creating events by narration and photography*
3. Erin Sanders (University of Nottingham, UK) *'Guess What I Did on Holiday!': Positioning the Sex Industry  
 in Women's Travel Narratives of Thailand*
4. Michael Morgan and Pamela Watson (Bournemouth University, UK) *The narrative structure of on-line  
 travel reviews: establishing readability and credibility*

#### **Session: 4 Narratives of Tourist Places Chair: Jacqueline Tivers (Nottingham Trent University, UK)**

1. Penny Travlou (Edinburgh College of Art, UK) *Haunted Narratives, Ruinous Landscapes: Three Travelers'  
 Encounters with Ruins in Athens*
2. Tijana Rakić (Edinburgh Napier University) *Narratives of national versus 'universal' belonging of the  
 Athenian Acropolis in travel guidebooks*
3. Sarah Wynard Lyon (Fellow) *The Function of a Narrative of Stories at Two Cultural World Heritage Sites*
4. Jon Donlon and Jocelyn Donlon (Donlon & Donlon Consultants, USA) *Anderson, Faulkner, &  
 Mencken: Traveling Tales about the French Quarter*
5. Magnus Bohlin and Daniel Brandt (Högskolan Dalarna, Sweden) *Creating tourist experiences by  
 interpreting places using GPS and multimedia technologies.*

**RGS-IBG**  
**2010**  
**London**

**HGRG Sponsored Sessions**  
**1st -3rd September**

**What are surfaces?**

Isla Forsyth (Glasgow University),  
 James Robinson (Aberystwyth University), Hayden Lorimer (Glasgow University),  
 Peter Merriman (Aberystwyth University)

**Session 1: Chair Hayden Lorimer**

1. Fraser MacDonald (University of Melbourne), *Statecraft by colour and line*
2. James Robinson (Aberystwyth University) *'Darkened Surfaces': Camouflage and the nocturnal observation of Britain, 1941-1945*
3. Isla Forsyth (University of Glasgow) *Signatures in sand*
4. Avril Maddrell (University of the West of England) and Veronica Della Dora (University of Bristol). *Crossing Surfaces in search for the Holy: Landscape and Liminality in Contemporary Christian Pilgrimage*
5. Jonathan Oldfield (University of Glasgow), Denis Shaw (University of Birmingham) *Practical and theoretical contributions of V.V. Dokuchaev [1846-1903] to the emergence of landscape science in Russia*

**Session: 2 Chair Isla Forsyth**

1. Michele Lancione (Durham University) *Going Beyond Surfaces: Space and Its Relational Formation*
2. Craig Martin (Royal Holloway, University of London) *Littoral Surface: Logistics and the Continuity of Control*
3. Maria de Lourdes Melo Zurita (King's College London) *Beneath the surface: The transformation of the underground water frontier of the Yucatan Peninsula*
4. Jacob Bull (Uppsala University) *Reflection and refraction: where the airy and aquatic meet*
5. David Paton (University of Exeter) *The quarry as sculpture: the place of making*

**Session: 3 Chair: Peter Merriman**

1. Rachel Colls (Durham University) *Questioning Body Surfaces*
2. Alan Latham (UCL) *Surface and the force of effort: a short history of athletic footwear and the emergence of jogging as a mass participation activity*
3. Hilary Ramsden (University of West of England) *Step by Step: desire lines and the witnessing of space and place*
4. Elizabeth R Straughan (Aberystwyth University) *Manipulating Skin: Engaging with Taxidermy*
5. Leah Jones (Swansea University) *The Uncanniness of Aberfan: "An Open Invitation to Fate"*

**RGS-IBG**  
**2010**  
**London**

## **HGRG Sponsored Sessions**

### **1st -3rd September**

#### **Terra incognita? Making space for medieval geographies**

Keith Lilley (Queen's University Belfast);  
 Veronica Della Dora (University of Bristol);  
 Stuart Elden (University of Durham)

#### **Session 1: Texts and Techniques Chair: Veronica della Dora (Bristol)**

1. David C. Harvey (Exeter), *Medieval geography and the course of history: some thoughts on the big and small matters of medieval geographical knowledge*
2. 'Geraldine Perriam (Glasgow) *A maner of sownde': Margery Kempe, spiritual and textual practice*
3. Stuart Elden (Durham) *The medieval concept of territorium*
4. Sue Ruddick (Toronto) *Signing matter and the doctrine of signs*
5. Stella Chrysochoou (RHUL Hellenic Centre) *The reading of Ptolemy's cartographical instructions by Isaac Argyros in fourteenth-century Byzantium*

#### **Session 2: Cartographies and Geometries Chair: Stuart Elden (Durham)**

1. John W. Hessler (Library of Congress) *Economic foundations of late Roman and early medieval cartography: law, territory, and epigraphy, 100 BC-600 AD*
2. Jesse Simon (University College, Oxford) *Describing the medieval landscape: simple shapes, empty pages and the abstraction of space in the 'Geometry of Psellos'*
3. Andrew Lowerre (English Heritage) *Geographic Information Systems and the geography of the Domesday Book in the 21st century*
4. Keith Lilley (Queens University Belfast, Geography) and Elizabeth Solopova (University of Oxford) *Linguistic geographies: excavating the authors and authority of the Gough Map of Great Britain*

#### **Session: 3 Economies and Networks, Chair: David Harvey (University of Exeter)**

1. Adam Izdebski (Warsaw) *Past environments and socio-economical life. The case of early medieval Byzantium*
2. Briony McDonagh (University of Nottingham) *Space, property and enclosure in late medieval England,*
3. Susie Mayhew (Winton Institute) *The diffusion of monetisation in England, c.410-1086*
4. Zayde Antrim (Trinity College, Hartford) *Regions and regionalism in medieval Arabic geography*

#### **Session 4: Landscapes and Travel, Chair: Keith Lilley (Queen's University Belfast)**

1. Galia Halpern (New York University) *The significance of experiential landscape in the long Middle Ages*
2. Ines Garcia de la Puente (Harvard University) *From Kiev to Rome along the Baltic: some considerations about early Rus'ian Geography*
- 3.
4. Veronica della Dora (Bristol, Geography) *Topia: landscape before linear perspective*

**RGS-IBG**  
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**London**

## **HGRG Sponsored Sessions** 1st -3rd September

### **Places without a place': The geographies of ships**

Convened by William  
 Hasty (University of  
 Glasgow) and  
 Kimberley Peters  
 (Royal Holloway  
 University of London)

#### **Session 1: Chair Kimberley Peters**

1. Stephanie Merchant (University of Exeter,) *Deep ethnography: witnessing the ghosts of SS Thistlegorm*
2. Bronwen Edwards (Leeds Metropolitan University) "Am I to understand that you actually have a branch shop on the Aquitania?" *British menswear retailers and the transatlantic market place in the mid twentieth century*
3. Phillip Vannini (Royal Roads University, Victoria BC, Canada) *Ferry Tales, Part 4: Sailing Communities*
4. William Hasty (University of Glasgow,) *An historical geography of the pirate ship*
5. Michael Lindberg (Elmhurst College, Elmhurst IL) *Sovereign territory and power projection from the sea: The warship as a powerful "other" space*

#### **Session 2: Chair: William Hasty**

1. Anne-Flore Laloë (University of Exeter) *Placing the Ocean: The Ship and the Production of Geographical Knowledge*
2. Kimberley Peters (Royal Holloway, University of London) *Ships as marginal spaces of forgotten memory: the case of the MV Ross Revenge*
3. Aaron Jaffer (Department of History, Coventry) *Lascar mutinies in the Indian Ocean, circa 1780-1860*
4. Nalini Mohabir (School of Geography, University of Leeds) *Indenture/ship: the last return*
5. Discussant David Lambert (Royal Holloway, University of London)

RGS-IBG  
2010  
London

## HGRG Sponsored Sessions

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### **Geographies of Black Internationalism:**

Convened by Daniel  
Whittall, (Royal  
Holloway, University of  
London)

#### **Chair: Dr David Lambert,**

1. Dr Thomas Smith (Department of History, University of Nevada, Reno, USA). *The Summer of 1900 and Black Internationalism*
  2. Daniel Whittall (Department of Geography, Royal Holloway, University of London) *Black West Indian organisations and the geographies of the black internationalism in 1930s and 1940s London*
  3. Dr. Roshini Kempadoo (School of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of East London) *Imagining An(O)ther world: Women's narratives, internationalism and resistance in Amendments*
  4. Susan D. Pennybacker (Painter Professor of European History, Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut, USA) *Exile geographies: London and southern Africa in the apartheid era*
  5. Discussant, Dr Caroline Bressey (Department of Geography, University College London)
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## **ORDNANCE: WAR, ARCHITECTURE AND SPACE**

**16th to 18th September 2010**

An interdisciplinary conference organized by the Cork Centre for Architectural Education (CCAIE) and School of the Human Environment, (University College Cork).

Keynote Speakers. Derek Gregory, Stephen Graham, Owen Hatherley

This international interdisciplinary conference seeks to explore the often hidden relationship between militarism and the design and construction of architecture and space in the modern period. Historically, military imperatives have been embedded in the way society is organized and, from the Renaissance onwards, the needs of offence and defence played an increasingly influential role not only in the physical shaping of the city and landscape, but also on the means by which they were represented. Recent events, notably the 'War on Terror' have reinforced these impulses within the city, extending and deepening systems and architectures of surveillance.

Conference Programme and Registration: <http://www.ordnanceconference.com/>

Conference Venue: University College Cork, Republic of Ireland.

Date: 16th to 18th September 2010

### CONTACT

Gary A. Boyd: [g.boyd@ucc.ie](mailto:g.boyd@ucc.ie) <<mailto:g.boyd@ucc.ie>>

Denis Linehan: [d.linehan@ucc.ie](mailto:d.linehan@ucc.ie) <<mailto:d.linehan@ucc.ie>>

# LONDON GROUP OF HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHERS

## *Seminar Programme, Autumn Term 2010*

### INFRASTRUCTURE

- 12th October 2010      **Stephen Graham** (Newcastle University)  
*Disrupted cities: When infrastructure fails*
- 26th October 2010      **Jeff Hughes** (University of Manchester)  
*Materialising the secret state: Infrastructures of Cold War Britain*
- 9th November 2010      **Anyaa Anim-Addo** (Royal Holloway,  
University of London)  
*“Startling as the subject may at first sight appear”:  
Maritime infrastructure and the Royal Mail Steam  
Packet Company*
- 23rd November 2010      **Peter Adey** (Keele University)  
*Infrastructural affectivity: Mobility, security, and the  
history of preparedness*
- 7th December 2010      **Simon Schaffer** (University of Cambridge)  
*The Bombay case: Colonial space and astronomical  
infrastructure*

These seminars are held on **Tuesdays at 5pm** in the Wolfson Room of the Institute of Historical Research in Senate House, University of London. For further details, contact the convenors, David Lambert, Royal Holloway (01784 443640) or Miles Ogborn, Queen Mary (020 7882 5407). We are grateful to Queen Mary, Royal Holloway, Kings, UCL, the Open University, Sussex University, the HGRG and the IHR for supporting this series.

## 'Salty' Geographies: Subaltern maritime networks, spaces and practices

Department of Geographical and Earth Sciences, University of Glasgow

7<sup>th</sup>- 9<sup>th</sup> October 2010

Organised by David Featherstone and William Hasty (University of Glasgow)

Co-sponsored by the Historical Geography Research Group, Political Geography Research Group and Social and Cultural Research Group of the RGS-IBG and the Human Geography Research Group and the Centre for Research on Racism, Ethnicity and Nationalism, University of Glasgow

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### Confirmed speakers include:

**Professor Paul Gilje**, George Lynn Cross Research Professor, Department of History, University of Oklahoma (Author of *Liberty on the Waterfront: American Maritime Society and Culture in the Age of Revolution, 1750-1850*)

**Professor Lakshmi Subramanian**, Professor of History, Department of History Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi (Author of *Indigenous Capital and Imperial Expansion: Bombay, Surat and the West Coast*)

**Dr Jeremy Anderson** and **Paula Hamilton**, International Transport Workers' Federation

**Dr Dan Clayton**, School of Geography and Geo-sciences, University of St Andrews (author of *Islands of Truth: The Imperial Fashioning of Vancouver Island*)

**Dr Stephanie Jones**, English, School of Humanities, University of Southampton (Co-editor of *Imagining the Indian Ocean: A Reader*, forthcoming)

**Dr David Lambert**, Department of Geography, Royal Holloway, University of London (*White Creole Culture, Politics and Identity in the Age of Abolition*)

**Dr Carl Thompson**, School of Arts and Humanities, Nottingham Trent University (author of *The Suffering Traveller and the Romantic Imagination*)

### Conference rationale:

Over the last decade or so, geographers have begun to critically engage with the maritime realms of the past and the present, signalling something of a shift from the territorial focus which had dominated the discipline for so long. The worlds of sailors and ships, slaves and merchants, dockworkers and ports, and even the sea itself have been explored through the lens of geography. This has led to the foregrounding of new debates and perspectives in relation to existing concerns within the discipline and has reworked understandings of processes such as imperialism and slavery. It has also offered new points of departure from which geographical

research can emerge. Geographers have, among other things, begun to engage with the politics of maritime networks (Lambert 2005), the spatial constitution of maritime networks (Ogborn 2008), explore forms of subaltern agency and identity constituted by maritime workers (Featherstone 2008), and interrogate the spatial imaginaries of the ocean (Steinberg 2001).

Much of this work has been positioned in relation to productive theoretical and empirical attempts to 'historicise the ocean' (Klein and MacKenthun 2004); a paradigm shift in historical studies which advances a major challenge to existing work in social and political history. This work has included pioneering work on various forms of Atlantic radicalism and maritime culture (Gilje, 2004, Linebaugh and Rediker, 2000; Rediker, 2004, 2007, Scott, 1986), on the maritime worlds of the Indian Ocean, (Pearson, 2003, Subramanian, 2003), an historical ethnography of the HMS Bounty mutineers (Denning, 1992), an account of slave-ship sailors (Christopher, 2006), and work on the presence of Africans in the Atlantic (Bolster 1997; Gilroy 1992). This work has led to an important revisioning of nation-centred histories of radical movements and forms of social practices and opened up new ways of engaging with subaltern identities, agency and practices.

While drawing on this body of work for inspiration, this conference seeks to critically engage with the work that has been advanced in maritime geographies thus far and prompt new research agendas in the process. The programme of events spanning three days will include keynote talks, papers and workshops dealing with methodological and theoretical issues.

#### Key questions include:

- How does a focus on maritime connections refigure terracentric conceptions of nation and empire?
- What are the sites/spaces of the ship?
- How does a focus on the littoral refigure notions of space and place?
- What are the dynamic spatial practices of maritime workers/ sailor's politics/ organising practices?
- What are the geographies of pirates and piracy?
- How does thinking in explicitly spatial terms reconfigure the terms of debate of existing work on maritime histories?
- How are maritime spaces constituted through transnational and multi-ethnic relations?
- What are the gendered spatial practices of maritime worlds?
- What human/ non-human configurations are constituted through maritime networks?
- What productive methodologies are engendered by an attention to maritime geographies?

#### Submission details:

2 travel bursaries are available for Historical Geography Research Group postgraduate members presenting at this conference. If you want to be considered for one of the postgraduate bursaries please indicate this when you submit your abstract.

Abstracts of around 250 words should be submitted to William Hasty ([will.hasty@ges.gla.ac.uk](mailto:will.hasty@ges.gla.ac.uk)) and David Featherstone ([david.featherstone@ges.gla.ac.uk](mailto:david.featherstone@ges.gla.ac.uk)) by Friday, 11th June, 2010.

## Thesis abstracts

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**Plural Perspectives:  
Women Writer-  
Travellers in Nineteenth-  
Century Central America  
and the Caribbean**

**Dr Beverley Duguid,  
Royal Holloway History  
Department,  
Awarded Dec 2009**

This thesis analyses the writings and thoughts of women who travelled to the Caribbean and Central America between 1801-98 and who wrote about their experiences. The core sources relate to forty-two women, drawn from a number of countries in Europe, the Caribbean and the Americas - including a number of Spanish-language speakers. The major themes that emerge for debate are those of gender and domesticity, of imperialism and anti-imperialism, and of different varieties of religious belief. Chapter one introduces the primary and secondary sources, together with the methodological approach used to examine the women's writings. (A full listing is provided in Appendix 1). Chapter two is a socio-cultural survey of the women, analysing their lives and personal experiences. The matching Chapter three examines the women's texts: how, why and what they wrote. Then follow four thematic chapters, addressing the salient themes. Chapter four considers Gender, and continues some of the core themes of chapter one, which assesses women's travel-writing and whether their motives for travel and their chosen topics and style of writing were exclusively female. Chapter five discusses manners and customs and how women used these topics as a vehicle for their personal opinion on their host population. Chapter six addresses colonialism, and responses to slavery, assessing critically not only the colonial discourses but also the debates about the treatment of slaves and house servants post-emancipation compared to workers in England, and how far the women displayed pro- and anti- slavery sentiment in their texts. Chapter 7 considers the attempted 'Christianisation' of slaves by some women travellers and situates their attitudes within the history of missionary activity. Finally, the conclusion draws together the major themes of gender, imperialism and religion, noting the common and contrasting elements in these women's writings - not only between women from different countries, different language groups, and different religions, but also within such groups as well. Any stereotype of 'the' woman traveller is refuted by their plural perspectives.

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