Agricultural History Society

Cultivating the “Next” Agricultural History

2007 Annual Meeting
Iowa State University
Ames, Iowa
June 21-23, 2007
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Program design: Jenny Barker Devine, Iowa State University. Cover photograph, Professor Perry Holden and the Seed Corn Gospel Train, 1905, courtesy of Special Collections, Parks Library, Iowa State University.
Local Arrangements:

Pamela Riney-Kehrberg, Iowa State University
Joc Anderson, University of West Georgia
Conference Services, Iowa State University
Agricultural History and Rural Studies Program Students, Iowa State University

We Thank Our Sponsors:

At Iowa State University: History Department, Agricultural History and Rural Studies Program, Center for Agricultural History, Sociology Department, Economics Department, Bioethics Program, Special Collections, Parks Library, College of Agriculture, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Our special thanks go to former History Department Chair Andrzej Plakans, current chair Charles Dobbs, and Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Michael Whiteford, without whose support this conference could not have happened.

We also thank the Roswell & Elizabeth Garst Foundation, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, and the Stine Seed Company.

Silent Auction sponsors:


Thanks to Alexandra Kindell for preparing the Silent Auction.

For donated educational materials, thanks to John Deere.

And a special thanks

To all of conference participants who so graciously and generously contributed to the fund sponsoring graduate student participation in this conference.

Schedule of Events

Thursday

Local Transportation Shuttles, 7:00-9:00 am
Holiday Inn, University Park Inn & Suites, Memorial Union Hotel and Scheman Building

Registration opens, 7:30 a.m.—2nd Floor Lobby, Scheman Building

Thursday: 8:30-10:00 am
1. Landscapes Caught in the Rural-Urban Interface—Room 250
   Land-Use Control, Local Politics, and Exurbia
   Mark Friedberger, Texas Christian University

   The Garbage in the Garden: How Rural Areas Have Become the Ultimate Destination for Trash
   Angie Gunn, Iowa State University

   Modernization and Preservation of the Countryside—England's Inter-war Preoccupation
   David Jeremiah, University of Plymouth

   Chair and Comment: Jim Sherow, Kansas State University

   Dairy Cows and Dangerous Milk: Genesis Indian Boarding School and the Spread of Tuberculosis
   Joe Lamb, University of Nebraska—Lincoln

   Potluck Meals: Unifying Agents of the Great Plains
   Nathan Sanderson, University of Nebraska—Lincoln

   The Ebb and Flow of Wildlife and Agriculture at Lake Audubon, South Dakota
   David Nesheim, University of Nebraska—Lincoln

   Chair and Comment: Charles Volland, South Dakota State University

3. Crafting Commodities, Making Markets, Rationalizing Reality: Science and Technology Studies of Agriculture—Room 260
   Growing a Business: Global Commodity Chains, the Boundaries of Tobacco Farms, and the Social Construction of an Agricultural Commodity, 1826-1937
   Barbara Hahn, Texas Tech University

   The "Agricultural Eye": Value, Expertise, and Imagined Landscapes in Mid-Nineteenth Century Agricultural Improvement
   Emily Pawley, University of Pennsylvania

   Soil Surveys and the Capitalist Development of the U.S. Great Plains
   Jeremy Vetter, Dickinson College
Do Agricultural Statistics "Perform" Agriculture?  
Emmanuel Didier, CNRS—CESDIP  

Chair and Comment: Deborah Fitzgerald, MIT

Thursday, 10:00-10:30  
Morning break—Room 220-240

Thursday, 10:30-NOON

4. Publishing Agricultural History—Room 250  
Claire Stroot, Moderator, North Dakota State University  
Randall Hall, Rice University  
Jeanne Whayne, University of Arkansas  
Connie Lester, University of Central Florida  
Virgil Dean, Kansas State Historical Society  
Richard Hoyle, University of Reading

5. New Perspectives on the New Deal—Room 352  
"What Spam did for Pork Shoulder": Agricultural Corporation during the New Deal and World War II  
Paul Burnett, University of Pennsylvania  

Farm Bill Debate: Social Consensus on Value of the Chinese Idea of Ever Normal Grainary in the Great Depression  
Chaojin Li, Shanghai University—Iowa State University

Chair and Comment: David Hamilton, University of Kentucky

6. Public Health and Policy in the Countryside—Room 260  
Local and Universal Knowledge: Food Environments, Vitamins, and the Lewis Land Struggle  
Alexia Male, Antioch University  

Community Identity, Rural Women’s Leisure, and Rural Community Health: What are the Connections?  
Deborah Stiles, Nova Scotia Agricultural College

What Population Health Science Can Learn From Integrative New Deal Policy Experiments  
Marilyn Sinkiewicz, University of Wisconsin, Madison

Chair and Comment: June Adams, Southern Illinois University

7. Race, Ethnicity, and Struggle—Room 262  
Jess Gilbert, University of Wisconsin, Madison  

Carmen V. Harris, University of South Carolina Upstate

Chair and Comment: Valerie Grim, Indiana University

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Thursday, 12:00-2:00  
Lunch, on your own  

Editorial Board Meeting, 606 Ross Hall, Iowa State University Central Campus  

**Airport Return Shuttle Assignments—pick-up at 2nd Floor Registration Desk

Thursday, 2:00-3:30  
8. Asian Farmers and American Labor: Challenging White Domination of the Soil—Room 250  
Defending the "American Farm Home": Gender, Family, and the Anti-Japanese Movement in California, 1913-1924  
Cecilia M. Tsu, University of California, Davis  

Agrarianism for the Industrial Age: Land, Labor, and Henry George  
Tamara Venti, Stanford University  

Competing Visions for the Future of the American Farm  
Michael J. Meloy, California State University, Sacramento

Chair and Comment: David Vaught, Texas A&M University

The Farmer’s Daughter  
Barbara J. Dilly, Creighton University  

Liquid Gold: The History of Honey in American Life  
Gillian L. Little, University of Missouri-Kansas City

Eliza Pinckney: Female Landownership in Early South Carolina  
Alissa Franck, North Dakota State University

Chair and Comment: June M. Pederson, University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire

10. Modernizing the European Countryside—Room 260  
The Irish Agricultural Advisory Service: Exploring Methodologies for Reconstructing Rural Change  
Jeanne Banks, Humanities Institute of Ireland  

Reforming English Bee Culture: The Cottager and Scientific Societies in the 1870s  
Adam W. Ebert, Iowa State University

Modernization and Democratization in the Dutch Countryside in the 19th Century  
Anton Schuurman, Netherlands Research Institute

Chair and Comment: Mark Finlay, Armstrong Atlantic State University
11. Building Pastoral Dreams—Room 262
   Classy Cattle and Pastoral Visions: The Winterthur Farm of Henry F. du Pont
   Anna Thompson Hajidak, University of Texas at Austin
   George E. Waring, Jr. of Ogden Farm, RL: Scientific Agriculture in Theory and Practice, 1853-1877
   Jon A. Peterson, Queens College, CUNY

   Chair and Comment: Debra Reid, Eastern Illinois University

Thursday, 3:30-4:00
   Afternoon break—Room 220-240

Thursday, 4:00-5:30
   Presidential Address—Room 220-240
   The Squatter in Nineteenth Century America
   Donald J. Pisani, University of Oklahoma

   Introduced by Jess Gilbert, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Vice President/President Elect

Thursday, 5:30-6:30 pm
   Local Transportation Shuttles—Scheman, Holiday Inn, University Park Inn & Suites, Memorial Union Hotel, Residence Halls, Reiman Gardens

Thursday, 6:00-8:00
   Opening Reception, Reiman Gardens, Iowa State University (light dinner, cash bar, registration for reception by June 18 absolutely required)

Thursday, 7:00-9:00 pm
   Local Transportation Shuttles—Reiman Gardens, Scheman, Residence Halls, Memorial Union Hotel, Holiday Inn, University Park Inn & Suites

Thursday, 8:30-11:30
   Graduate Student Meet-Greet-and-Network, the M-Shop, Memorial Union, Iowa State University (soft drinks provided, cash bar)

Friday

Local Transportation Shuttles, 7:00-9:00 am
   Holiday Inn, University Park Inn & Suites, Memorial Union Hotel and Scheman Building

Registration, 7:30 a.m. – 2nd Floor Lobby, Scheman Building

Friday, 8:00-9:30
   12. Catholics in the Countryside—Room 250
      The Role of Religion in the Farmworker Movement: Support and Opposition from Institutions, Religious, and the Laity in the 1960s and 1970s
      Amanda Eder, North Dakota State University

Catholicism and Agriculture in Central Minnesota
   Tim Hoheisel, Kansas State University

The Mission of the Leno Toliman: Toward a Resolution of Rural Poverty in Guatemala and Spiritual Poverty in Rural Minnesota
   Jeffrey Kelnick, Southwest State University, Minnesota

Chair and Comment: Christopher Curtis, Iowa State University

13. Meeting the Challenges of Post World War II Agriculture in the American Midwest—Room 232
   Pork Queens, Pork Chops, and Pigskin: The Iowa Porkettes and creating professional identity in rural women’s organizations, 1960-1991
   Jenny Barker-Devine, Iowa State University

   Ryan Stockwell, University of Missouri

   From Remodeling to Ranch Houses: Iowa Farm Housing, 1945-1960
   J. L. Anderson, University of West Georgia

   Chair and Comment: David Dunbom, North Dakota State University

14. Cultivating the “Next” Agricultural History in Britain and Ireland—Room 260
   Introduction
   Richard Hoyle, University of Reading
   Mark Overton, University of Exeter

Before 1760
   Hoyle

The English Agricultural Revolution
   Overton

1800-1939
   Nicola Verdon, Sheffield Hallam University

15. Mechanizing the Midwest—Room 262
   Technology in Transition: Cast Iron and Wrought Iron Plows in the Midwest
   Leo E. Landsis, Living History Farms, Iowa

The Tractor and the Family Farm: Harvest and Heartbreak in the Corn Belt
   Derek S. Eden, Iowa State University

“Bringing in the Sheaves” - The Origin of the Twine Binder System
   Wade Franck, Iowa State University

Chair and Comment: Thomas Burnett Colbert, Marshalltown Community College

Friday, 9:30-10:00
   Morning break—Room 220-240
16. New Directions in Roman Agricultural History—Room 250

The Cincinnati Tradition in Roman Estate Management
Brendan Reay, Wellesley College

Renegotiation of Elite Status in the Roman Agricultural Landscape
Ethan Spanier, University of Washington

Roman Agriculture and the Ideal of Self-Sufficiency
David Hollander, Iowa State University

Chair: Rachel Myers, Iowa State University
Comment: Timothy Howe, St. Olaf College

17. Agricultural Kansas—Room 252

Exceptional Kansas Farmer and Businessman, Jannis Groves, and the Science of Agriculture
Tisa M. Anders, Independent Scholar

Voting Patterns and Farm Values in Kansas, 1958b
Sami Ganchik, Kirkwood Community College

Chair and Comment: Virgil Dean, Kansas State Historical Society

18. Agricultural History: A Conversation—Room 220-240

Pamela Riney-Kehrberg, moderator, Iowa State University
Allan G. Bogue, University of Wisconsin, Madison
Margaret Beattie Bogue, University of Wisconsin, Madison
Lowell Dyson, AHS, Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus
Gilbert Fire, University of Georgia
Joan Jensen, New Mexico State University
Richard Kirkendall, University of Washington
Richard Lowitt, University of Oklahoma
Dorothy Schwieder, Iowa State University


Panelists:
Cornelia Butler Flor, Director, North Central Regional Center for Rural Development and Charles F. Curtiss Distinguished Professor Agriculture and Sociology, Iowa State University
Gerald E. Klingman, Professor Emeritus, Rural Sociology, Iowa State University
John Pesek, Professor Emeritus, Agronomy, Iowa State University
Richard Cruse, Professor, Department of Agronomy, Iowa State University

Friday Afternoon:

Noon:
Field trips: Living History Farms, Pioneer Hi-Bred, John Deere, Living History Farms. See registration insert for information.

2:00-5:00 pm:
Executive Committee meeting: 606 Ross Hall, Iowa State University Central Campus.

Friday, 5:30-6:30 pm:
Local Transportation Shuttles to Banquet—Holiday Inn, University Park Inn & Suites, Memorial Union Hotel, Schuman

Friday Evening, 6:30-8:30:
Awards Banquet, Schuman Building (Registration said in advance. Cash bar.)

Friday, 8:30-9:30 pm:
Local Transportation Shuttles from Banquet—Holiday Inn, University Park Inn & Suites, Memorial Union Hotel, Schuman

Saturday

RWFA Breakfast—Local Transportation Shuttles, 6:30-7:00 am
Holiday Inn, University Park Inn & Suites, Memorial Union Hotel, Residence Hall and Schuman

Saturday Morning, 7:00:

RWFA Planning Breakfast, Friends' Meeting House, 121 S. Maple, (Register in advance, sign up for shuttle transportation)

Local Transportation Shuttles, 7:00-9:00 am
Holiday Inn, University Park Inn & Suites, Memorial Union Hotel, Residence Hall and Schuman

Saturday, 8:30-10:00

20. Rural Life Styles and Adjustments—Room 250

Reckoning Farming Using a Lesbian Feminist Model
Vivianne Holtsn, University of Maine Cooperative Extension

Patriots at Home: Farm Men and Women in the Post-War World
Kristy J. Medlen, Iowa State University

Let's Race to the Fair! Agricultural Expositions and the Rural Roots of American Motor Sports
Daniel J. Simone, University of Florida

Chair and Comment: Pete Daniel, National Museum of American History
21. Writing Rural Reform—Room 252

"That the Union of the Labor Forces Shall Be Permanent": Kansas Populist Newspapers and the Homestead and Pullman Strikes
Bruce C. Garruthers, University of Kansas

Coker F. "Father" Clarkson: Agriculture, Journalism, and Iowa History, 1855-1890
Thomas Burnell Colbert, Marshalltown Community College

Wendell Berry and the Development of a Community-Centered Vision of Farming
Jeffrey M. Filiipski, Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design

Chair and Comment: Brian Cannon, Brigham Young University

22. Issues of Domestication—Room 260

Breed Improvement and 19th Century Urban Cattle Markets
Robyn S. Meticaf, Boston University

The Development of Fishpond Aquaculture in the Colonial Period
Strother Roberts, Northwestern University

Central Baltic Coastal Aquaculture and the Expansion of Fesdalism
Goran Hoppe, Uppsala University
Hele Kinnun, Uppsala University

Chair: Andrejs Plaksans, Iowa State University
Comment: Richard Williburg, Iowa State University, Hank Harris, Iowa State University

Saturday, 10:00-10:30

Morning break—Room 220-240

Saturday, 10:30-12:00

23. Special Collections tour of agricultural history materials—Bus leaves from East Side of the Schuman Building hosted by Tanya Zanish-Belcher, Director of Special Collections, Parks Library, Iowa State University. (Shuttle transportation to and from Parks Library)

24. The Culture of Animal Husbandry—Room 250

"Green Your Own Fleece": The Rise and Fall of Chincilla Farms in the United States
Jeoffraye, California State University, San Marcos

Of Pigs and Men: The Importance of Hogs in the Early Republic
Tom Kanon, Middle Tennessee State University

Oxen, Water Buffaloes, Donkeys, and Camels: Humans and Other Animals in Ottoman Egypt
Alan Mikhail, University of California, Berkeley

Chair and Comment: Claire Strom, North Dakota State University

25. Disruption in the Countryside after the Great War—Room 252

Peasant Youth, Political Fragmentation, and the Rise of Nazism at the End of the Weimar Republic
John Abbott, Independent Scholar

A Canadian "Shadown" Movement: The United Farmers' Co-operative Company and the Ontario Farm Progressive Political Challenge
Robin Wylie, Douglas College

Chair and Comment: Deborah Fink, Independent Scholar

26. Region, Race, Religion and the Interpretation of Rural Experience: Through the Lens of Women's History—Room 260

Introductory remarks:
Anne Elllund, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Panelists:
Joan Jensen, New Mexico State University, moderator
Valerie Grim, Indiana University
Melissa Walker, Converse College
Beth Graybill, Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society
Dorothy Schwieder, Iowa State University
Melody Miyamoto, Coe College

Saturday, 12:00-1:30

Lunch, on your own

Saturday, 12:00-2:00

Please claim your winnings and pay for your items at the Silent Auction—Room 220-240

Saturday, 1:30-3:00

27. Exploring the Intersections of Agricultural and Environmental History—Room 250

The South's Greatest Enemy: The Roll Weevil in Agricultural and Environmental Contexts
James C. Giesie, Mississippi State University

Burned to be Wild: Agricultural Practice and Ecological Knowledge
Albert G. Way, University of Georgia

Chair and Comment: Deborah Fitzgerald, MIT
Comment: Sara Gregg

28. Agribusiness and Farm Structure—Room 252

The Movement of Surplus Rural Wealth into Non-Farm Investments in Nineteenth-century Kalamazoo
County, Michigan
John T. Houdek, Western Michigan University
Charles F. Heller Jr., Western Michigan University

California's Exceptional Farmers' Markets: A Political and Institutional History
Louise Nelson Dyble, California Institute of Technology
32. Agricultural Transition in the Late Nineteenth Century—Room 252

Grasslands Frontiers of the Australian Outback and American Southwest: A Comparative Study of Cattle Economies, Environment, and Enduring Myth
Leland Turner, Angelo State University

Land Use, Soil Fertility, and Livestock Population in Post-Civil War Northern New England
Christopher Harris, Northeastern University

Virginia Agriculture and the Civil War
Leonard John Luser, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Chair and Comment: Bonnie Lynn Shore, Kansas State University

33. Liberty Hyde Bailey: New Interpretations and Assessments—Room 260

Bioethnic Farming? Liberty Hyde Bailey's Challenge to the Intellectual History of Environmental Ethics
Ben A. Minteer, Arizona State University

Meeting the Challenges of the 21st Century with a Little Help from Liberty Hyde Bailey
Frederick L. Kirschenmann, Iowa State University

The Role of Nature Study in Liberty Hyde Bailey’s Planetary Agrarianism
Paul A. Morgan, West Chester University

Liberty Hyde Bailey and the Relation of Expertise and Democracy in Agricultural Extension Work
Scott J. Peters, Cornell University

Chair and Comment: Paul B. Thompson, Michigan State University

34. Cultivating New Computer Technologies—Room 262

Integrating the World Wide Web into the Historical Profession: Dissemination of Historical Content on the Internet
Rick L. Wuten, Iowa State University

Database Design and the Southern Plantation Economy
Richard Follett, University of Sussex

Mapping Concord Hushaby: Using GIS on the Web for Local History
Brian Donahue, Brandeis University

Chair and Comment: Allan G. Bogucki, University of Wisconsin

Friday, 4:30-5:30 pm
Local Transportation Shuttle—Holiday Inn, University Park Inn & Suites, Memorial Union Hotel, Nampa

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Thank you for joining us in Ames this year. We look forward to seeing all of you next summer at the University of Nevada, Reno.