

International Conference on the Forest
and Environmental History of the
British Empire and Commonwealth

Centre for World Environmental History
University of Sussex, England
March 19th-21st 2003

Co-sponsors: The International Union
of Forest Research Organisations (IUFRO):
The Museum of the
British Empire and Commonwealth, Bristol

1545-1600 Tea Arts D Foyer

1600-1830

C233

Panel 3: Colonialism, forests and transatlantic environmental history (2)

Chair: Kate Showers (Boston University)

Paper 7: David Hsiung (Juniata College, Pennsylvania)
The British Navy and North American forests: New England, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick ecosystems during the American revolution

Paper 8: Rita Pemberton (University of the West Indies, St Augustine)
Caribbean forests and British policy 1885-1945

Discussant: Paul Star (Otago)

Paper 9: John Mackenzie (University of St Andrews)
1730 hrs
Rm C133 Keynote Address: *Representing the imperial environment*

Vote of thanks: Vinita Damodaran

1400-1545

C219

Panel 4: Imperialism, development and environment in
Africa

Chair: Jacob Tropp (Middlebury College)

Thursday 20th March

Room C233

0900-

1400-1545

C233

Panel 8: Tensions in colonial African forest policy

Chair: Charles Adesina (Ibadan)

Paper 21: Vimbai Kwashirai (University of Oxford)
The Zambezi teak forests; African methods of exploitation and conservation

Paper 22: Karen Brown (University of Oxford)
Progressivism, silviculture and conservation in the early twentieth century Cape Colony

Paper 23: Jacob Tropp (Middlebury College)
Dilemmas of dual control: balancing forest and native affairs management in the colonial Transkei, South Africa

Discussant: Jeff Burley (University of Cambridge)

1545-1600 Tea Arts D Foyer

1600-1830

Panel 9: Debating science and colonial soil conservation policies

Chair: Vimbai Kwashirai (APU)

Paper 24: Grace Carswell (University of Sussex)
Colonial soil conservation policies: East African comparisons and resistance

Paper 25: Kate Showers (Boston University)
The establishment and dissemination of government-initiated soil conservation in British Africa: scientific, ideological and bureaucratic components

Paper 26: Bertram Mapunda (University of Dar es Salaam)
Ironworking, deforestation and soil erosion in the pre-colonial period: myths and realities

Discussant: Bob Evans (APU Cambridge)

Thursday 20th March

Room C219

0900-1045
Panel 10:

1400-1545

Panel 12: Urban markets, globalisation and environmental history

Chair: James Webb (Colby College)

Paper 33: Fenda Akiwumi (Hill College, Hillsboro, Texas)
Conflict timber: the political ecology of nineteenth century resource exploitation in Sierra Leone

Paper 34: Sulemana Abudulai (University of Cambridge)
How will I feed my children? An analysis of urban land tenure dynamics and environmental history in Northern Ghana

Paper 35:

Friday 21st March

Room C233

0900-1045

Panel 14: Water, history and empire

Chair: Vinita Damodaran (University of Sussex)

Paper 39: David Mosse (SOAS)
Wells, water and history in South India

Paper 40: Lyla Mehta (IDS Sussex)
Water and history in Kutch, India

Paper 41: Rohan D'Souza (University of Sussex)
Capitalist property and the making of the calamity of season in colonial Orissa

Discussant : Elizabeth Whitcombe (University of Sussex))

1045-1100 Coffee Arts D Foyer

1100-1300

Panel 15: Problems in South Asian forest history (1)

Chair: Jan van Oosthoek (Gottingen)

Paper 42: Jayeeta Sharma (University of Cambridge)
Towards an environmental, agrarian and forest history of Assam

Paper 43: Gunnel Cederlof (Uppsala University)
Establishing legal rights in forest tracts: the Nilgiri hills in the early nineteenth century

Paper 44: Bengt Karlsson (Uppsala University)
Deforestation and conflicts over forests in Meghalaya

Discussant: David Arnold (SOAS)

1300-1400 Lunch (Bramber House Refectory: The Downs Restaurant)

1400-1545
Panel 16:

Problems in South Asian forest history (2)

Chair:

Maya Unnithan (Sussex)

Paper 45:

James Webb (Colby College)
Forest history of highland Sri Lanka

Paper 46:

Dhirendra Dangwal (Univer4)5S(a)-3(pe)[Dhirendr)3(a)>BDC BT37.78 Tm](Univ

1100-1300

Panel 18 Environmental history at the margins of empire

Chair: Libby Robin (ANU)

Paper 51: Jessica Schafer (Sussex University)
Who's to blame? A foray into the history and development of conservation policy in former Portuguese colonies.

Paper 52: Deanna Donovan (East-West Center, Hawaii)
The timber trade and its social context on the Nepal/India border: a history

Paper 53: Gaston Gordillo (University of British Columbia BC)
Inscribing history in the forests that were once grasslands; The making of nature in the Argentinean Chaco.

Paper 54: Emma Reisz (University of Cambridge)
'Darrang' between the lines: the forest frontiers of north-east India in the nineteenth century

Discussant: John Mackenzie (St Andrews)

1300-1400 Lunch (Bramber House Refectory: The Downs Restaurant)

1400-1545

Panel 19: Environmental history and environmentalism at the imperial centre

Chair: Mark Harrison (Oxford)

Paper 55: Jan van Oosthoek (University of Göttingen)
The colonial origins of scientific forestry in Britain

Paper 56: Robert Evans (Anglia Polytechnic University)
Past and present soil erosion in Britain and its impact and costs

Paper 57: Susan Dobrovolsky (Queen Mary College, University of London)
The environment of the Imperial centre: water supply and Thames pollution during the nineteenth century

Discussant: Brian Short (Sussex)

1545-1600 Tea Arts D Foyer

