Resourceful Things

An Interdisciplinary Symposium on Resource Exploration and Exploitation in China

20-22 April 2016

What things are regarded as “resources”? By whom? In what historical, socio-economic, scientific, technological, political, and cultural contexts? How is a thing’s resourcefulness explored and exploited? What happens when resource management encounters resource competition or even depletion? How is China’s resource future connected with its resource past, as the country faces serious environmental challenges at the present?

Join environmental scientists, social scientists, and scholars in humanities for an interdisciplinary conversation on China’s resourceful things.

With Special Guests:

Donald E. Worster (University of Kansas)
James C. Scott (Yale University)
Karen L. Thornber (Harvard University)
Michael B. McElroy (Harvard University)
Peter C. Perdue (Yale University)
R. Bin Wong (University of California, LA)
Robert B. Marks (Whittier College)
Suzanne Ogden (Northeastern University)

Organizer:
Ling Zhang (History Department, Boston College; Associate in Research at the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies)

Sponsors:
Harvard University Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies
Harvard Global Institute and the China Project, Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences
Harvard-Yenching Institute
Boston College, the ILA, the Dean’s Office, Asian Studies Program, and Environmental Studies Program

Schedule and Venue:
20-21 April @ Harvard-Yenching Building, 2 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge
22 April @ Fulton Hall 145, Chestnut Hill Campus, Boston College

Find the Conference Program on: http://fairbank.fas.harvard.edu/event/environment-asia-workshop-iba
Pre-Conference Harvard-Yenching Workshop on “Water Resources”

Organizers: Sun Jinghao, Xiong Yuanbao, and Brian Lander
Time: 12:00-6:15pm, Wednesday, April 20
Venue: Common Room at Harvard-Yenching Building, 2 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge

12:00-12:30 Lunch
12:30-12:45 Introduction
12:45-3:10 Panel I: Late Imperial Water Issues

1. Sun Jinghao 孙竞昊 (Zhejiang University 浙江大学): Manipulating Water to Sustain the Grand Canal in North China: Fluctuations of the Reservoirs in the Jining Region, 1411-1855
2. Zhang Chengjuan 张程娟 (Sun Yat-sen University 中山大学): Living on the Grand Canal: The Livelihood of Transportation Soldiers in the Ming Dynasty
3. Xiong Yuanbao 熊远报 (Waseda University 早稻田大学): Brackish Water: Potable Water in Late Imperial Beijing
4. Lu Xiqi 鲁西奇 (Xiamen University 厦门大学): Fish, Salt, Freshwater and Cereals – Livelihood of the Coastal Fishers and Salt-Workers in the Medieval China

Discussant: Peter Perdue (Yale University)

3:10-3:40 Coffee Break
3:40-6:00 Panel II: Dams, Fish, and Erosion

1. Suzanne Ogden (Northeastern University): The Debate within China over Developing the Upper Mekong River
2. Ruth Mostern (UC Merced) Loess is More: Mapping Erosion on the Loess Plateau During the Northern Song
3. Xie Shi 谢湜 (Sun Yat-sen University 中山大学): Human-Water Relationship in the Lake Tai Area in the Sixteenth Century
4. Brian Lander (Harvard University): Rethinking the Environmental History of the Central Yangzi wetlands

Discussant: Robert Marks (Whittier College)

6:30-8:45 Dinner (invited guests only)
Resourceful Things

Session One: Bodies, Nutrients, and Resources (tentative)

Time: 8:30am-12:30pm, Thursday, April 21
Venue: Common Room at Harvard-Yenching Building, 2 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge

8:30-9:00  Breakfast
9:00-9:10  Opening remark by Michael Szonyi (Director of the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Harvard University)
9:30-9:50  Karen Thornber (Harvard University): “Introducing the Environmental Humanities”
9:50-10:00 Coffee break
10:00-11:20 Papers (Chair: John Lee, Harvard University)
   2. Jonathan Schlesinger (Indiana University Bloomington): “Let Natural Resources Be Natural: The Case of Qing Ginseng Management, 1770-1840 (tentative)”
   3. Mindi Schneider (Erasmus University Rotterdam): “From Resourceful Pigs to Resource-full Hogs: Shifting Natures in China’s Modern Food System”
11:20-11:45 Discussion
11:45-12:30 Short keynote speech by Donald Worster (University of Kansas; Renmin University of China): “The Good Muck: Bodies, Nutrients, and Resources”
12:30-13:30 Lunch
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Session Two: Energy Resources

Time: 1:30-6:00pm, Thursday, April 21
Venue: Common Room at Harvard-Yenching Building, 2 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge

1:30-3:00 Chris Nielsen, Chen Xinyu, and Yang Qing (Harvard University): “Bridging from the Natural and Applied Sciences to the Social Sciences on Energy and Environmental Resources in China”

3:00-3:15 Coffee break

3:15-4:30 Papers (Chair: Katherine R. Brunson, Harvard University)


4:30-5:15 Discussion

5:15-6:00 Short keynote speech by Michael McElroy (Harvard University)

6:30-8:45 Dinner (invited guests only)

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Session Three: Forest Resources

Time: 9:00am-12:30pm, Friday, April 22
Venue: Fulton 145, Boston College, 242 Beacon St., Chestnut Hill

9:00-9:30 Breakfast
9:30-10:15  Short keynote speech by Bin Wong (University of California, LA)

10:15-11:05  Papers (Chair: He Bian, Princeton University)


11:05-11:20  Coffee break

11:20-12:10  Papers (Chair: He Bian, Princeton University)

1. Aurelia Campbell (Boston College): “On the Relationship between Wood Procurement and Architectural Style in the Ming and Qing Dynasties”

12:10-12:30  Discussion

12:30-13:45  Lunch

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Closing Session

Time: 2:00pm-4:30pm, April 22
Venue: Fulton 145, Boston College, 242 Beacon St., Chestnut Hill

2:00-2:45  Closing speech by Lisa Curran (Stanford University)

2:45-4:00  Concluding discussion

4:00-4:30  Business meeting
Biographies of Participants

(Alphabetic Order of the First Name– a little intimacy to reduce the intensity of the event!)

**Aurelia Campbell** is an assistant professor in Art History at Boston College. Her research focuses on the architecture and material culture of Late Imperial China. Her current book project, *Architecture and Empire in the Reign of Yongle (1402-1424)*, investigates a far-flung network of architecture constructed under Emperor Yongle of the Ming dynasty, including the Forbidden City in Beijing, a Daoist temple complex on Mt. Wudang in Hubei province, and a Buddhist monastery at the Sino-Tibetan frontier. The book is equally concerned with the process of creating these massive built environments—from designing their layouts, to sourcing the construction materials, to furnishing them with objects—as it is with the end results, arguing that architectural patronage was a powerful means by which the emperor and his empire became more closely integrated. She has received grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities (summer seminar on Buddhist texts), the Asian Cultural Council (Art and Religion Fellow), and the Metropolitan Center for Far Eastern Art Studies, among others. From 2001-2005 and 2009-2010 she lived in Ningbo, Shanghai, Kunming, Xining, and Beijing, China and in 2007 and 2008 spent summers in Japan. Before coming to Boston College, she taught at Smith and Lake Forest Colleges.

[http://www.bc.edu/schools/cas/finearts/faculty/arthistory/campbell.html](http://www.bc.edu/schools/cas/finearts/faculty/arthistory/campbell.html)

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**Brian Lander** received a B.A. in history from the University of Victoria, an M.A. in East Asian studies from McGill University and a Ph.D. in Chinese history from Columbia University. Along the way he spent five years at various universities in China and did archaeological fieldwork in Shandong. His dissertation began by reconstructing the natural ecology of North China’s lowlands, which were converted to farmland so long ago that people often forget that they were ever home to wild plants and animals. It then employed a case study of Qin, China’s first empire, to analyze the environmental transformation required for the formation of centralized bureaucratic states.

As an Environmental Fellow at Harvard University Center for the Environment, Brian will work with archaeologist Rowan Flad to study the environmental history of central China’s wetlands. The Yangzi valley once had some of the largest wetlands in the world, but these were gradually transformed into rice paddies and fish farms and the region is now home to hundreds of millions of people. This research seeks to explore this process from the origins of agriculture to around 600 CE. He will also study the historical ecology of arid Gansu.
province as part of Rowan Flad’s ongoing research project into the archaeology of Northwest China.

http://environment.harvard.edu/about/fellows/brian-lander

(Please note: Brian is to move to Brown University to join the History Department and teach Environmental History!)

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Chengjuan Zhang, a Ph.D. Candidate in Chinese History of Department of History, Sun Yat-sen University, currently as a visiting fellow in Harvard’s Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations. She received her B.A. in history from Department of History, Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou (2013). She is the assistant editor of Journal of History and Anthropology published by the Co-Centre for Historical Anthropology, Chinese University of Hong Kong-Sun Yat-sen University. Also, she won the First Prize of the 9th National New Stars of Historical Studies issued by Ministry of Education of China for her thesis of bachelor. Her research field is Ming and Qing history and social economic history of China, focusing on the grain transportation system of Ming dynasty, Guards and Battalions and Bodyguards of Ming Princes. She has published articles including: The Development of Juyong Guan Pass Towns in the Ming Dynasty —A Case Study of Baiyang (Fieldwork and Documents: South China Research Resource Station Newsletter, No, 73, 2013, pp.1-13) ; Waterside Grain Warehouses and the Development of the Towns along the Grand Canal in Ming—A Case Study of Zhangqiu in Shandong Province (Journal of the Graduates Sun YAT-SEN University, VOL. 35, No.1, 2014.)

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Chris Nielsen is the executive director of the interdisciplinary China Project, Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Harvard University. Among other responsibilities he leads an initiative integrating Project research across three schools of Harvard, three schools of Tsinghua University, and one at Nanjing University, bridging economics, engineering, atmospheric chemistry, environmental health, agricultural science, and policy. The team assesses the costs and environmental benefits of Chinese national policies to control CO₂ and air pollutant emissions, reported most recently in a book he co-edited, Clearer Skies Over China: Reconciling Air Quality, Climate, and Economic Goals (2013, MIT Press). Nielsen also contributes to the Project's research in atmospheric chemistry, emissions, renewable energy, and public perceptions and behavior, and developed and manages a partnership with Tsinghua that has operated an atmospheric station near Beijing since 2004.

http://chinaproject.harvard.edu/people/chris-p-nielsen
Donald Worster is a professor emeritus at the University of Kansas. He came to KU in 1989 from Brandeis University in Massachusetts. He has also taught at Yale University and the University of Hawaii and has held fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the Australian National University, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Mellon Foundation, and the American Council of Learned Societies. His most recent book, *A Passion for Nature: The Life of John Muir*, was published by Oxford in 2008 and was named the best work of non-fiction by the Scottish Arts Council and won the Ambassador Award for Biography from the English Speaking Union. Earlier books include *A River Running West, The Wealth of Nature, Under Western Skies, Rivers of Empire, Dust Bowl,* and *Nature's Economy,* which together have won more than dozen book prizes. He is former president of the American Society for Environmental History and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Over the past two decades he has lectured extensively in Europe, Africa, Asia, and Central America, as well as throughout North America, and his writings have been translated into six languages.

Professor Worster is primarily interested in the emerging field of environmental history—the changing perception of nature, the rise of conservation and environmentalism, and the impact of the natural world on human society. His current research focuses on the application of evolutionary theory to human ecological adaptation and the role of natural resource abundance and scarcity in shaping and reshaping American history. His former doctoral students hold positions at many research universities, colleges, and preparatory schools, from Finland to China and across the United States. His teaching record has been recognized with the award of a Kemper Fellowship.

[https://history.ku.edu/donald-e-worster](https://history.ku.edu/donald-e-worster)

Don is currently the Distinguished Foreign Expert in the Center for Ecological History and a Professor of World History in the School of History at Renmin University of China.

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He Bian (Ch. 邊和, Assistant Professor at Princeton University) is a historian of late imperial / early modern China. Her research interests focus on the theme of authority and variations in China’s traditional culture, pertaining in particular to the history of medicine and science.

Professor Bian is currently preparing a book manuscript based on her dissertation, “Assembling the Cure: *Materia Medica* and the Culture of Healing in China, 1550-1800.” The book sheds new light into China’s early modern condition by charting changes in the intellectual, economic and social underpinnings of traditional pharmacy. She is also working on the transformation of the “masters literature” (zi) and the study of history during the Ming and Qing dynasties.
Before joining the Princeton faculty, Professor Bian received her BS degree from Peking University, MS from the University of Illinois at Chicago and PhD in history of science from Harvard University. At Princeton, she will teach introductory courses to modern East Asian history and early modern China, as well as seminars on special topics ranging from doing research with the Qing Archive to China’s material culture and environmental history.

http://www.princeton.edu/eas/people/display_person.xml?netid=hbian

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James C. Scott is the Sterling Professor of Political Science and Professor of Anthropology and is Director of the Agrarian Studies Program. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, has held grants from the National Science Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Guggenhein Foundation, and has been a fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Science, Science, Technology and Society Program at M.I.T., and the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton.

His research concerns political economy, comparative agrarian societies, theories of hegemony and resistance, peasant politics, revolution, Southeast Asia, theories of class relations and anarchism. He is currently teaching Agrarian Studies and Rebellion, Resistance and Repression.


http://politicalscience.yale.edu/people/james-scott

(Ling: this recent talk by Jim resonates wonderful with certain themes of our conference, such as “resistance of things.” 2014-12-11 - SOAS Food Studies Centre Distinguished Lecture - “How Grains Domesticated Us”)

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Jinghao Sun is Professor and Executive Director of the Research Institute for Premodern Chinese History at Zhejiang University, and Adjunct Professor at East China Normal University. He is a visiting scholar at Harvard-Yenching Institute during 2015-2016. His
major research fields include the socioeconomic history of premodern China, and regional and urban history of late imperial China, focusing on the Yangzi Delta and northern Grand Canal areas. His publications include “A Southern Identity in North China: the Making of Jining Urban Culture in the Late Imperial Period.” Late Imperial China, Vo. 32, no. 2 (December 2011); “Crisis, Challenge and Choice: Recent Theoretical Trends of Anti-Modernism and Western Studies in Chinese History.” Journal of Modern Chinese History, Vol. 4, No. 2, (December 2010); “Building Urban Modernity in Hinterland China: Jining’s Transition During the Early Republic (1912-1937).” Journal of Asian History, 44-1 (August 2010).

He spent much of the 1980s at East China Normal University and earned his BA and MA there. He went to the US and earned his second MA at the University of Memphis, and then went to Canada and earned his Ph.D. at the University of Toronto. He returned to China in 2010.

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John S. Lee is a Ph.D. candidate in History and East Asian Languages at Harvard University specializing in the institutional and environmental history of Chosŏn Korea. Originally from southern California, he received his master’s degree in East Asian Regional Studies from Harvard in 2009 and began his Ph.D. the same year. His Ph.D. dissertation, “State and Forest in Pre-Industrial Korea, 918-1876,” explores the development of forest management institutions in medieval and early modern Korea. He is particularly interested in how forest management became a problem that challenged and reshaped the capacities of Korean bureaucrats, military officers, and village organizations.

http://korea.fas.harvard.edu/directory/john-lee

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Jonathan Schlesinger (Assistant Professor in History at University of Indiana in Bloomington): I am a historian of late imperial China and environmental history. My current book manuscript, Inventing Nature in the Qing Empire, studies the nexus of empire, environment, and market that defined Qing China in 1750-1850, when unprecedented commercial expansion and a rush for natural resources transformed the ecology of China and its borderlands. That boom, no less than today’s, had profound institutional, ideological, and environmental causes and consequences. Indeed, the boom years witnessed a reinvention of nature itself. Early modern wilderness was not a state of nature: it reflected the nature of the state. My research builds from experience in the PRC, Taiwan, and Mongolia. I work with Chinese, Manchu, and Mongolian language archives, love the study of material objects, and am drawn to the global dimensions of China’s environmental history.

http://www.indiana.edu/~histweb/faculty/Display.php?Faculty_ID=153
(Please note: Jonathan has a book forthcoming from Stanford University Press in December 2016.)

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**Judd Kinzley** (Assistant Professor in History at University of Wisconsin-Madison): I am a historian of modern China with research and teaching interests that include environmental history, state power, industrial development, and wartime mobilization. My research tends to center around understanding the connections that exist between state power and the natural world in various Chinese peripheral and border regions. I am currently working on a manuscript on mining and the extension of the Chinese state into Xinjiang province in China’s far west during the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

[https://history.wisc.edu/faculty_jk.htm](https://history.wisc.edu/faculty_jk.htm)

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**Karen Thornber** is Professor of East Asian Languages and Civilizations and of Comparative Literature at Harvard University, where she is also Director of the Harvard Global Institute Environmental Humanities Initiative, in addition to serving as Director of Graduate Studies in Comparative Literature, Director of Graduate Studies in Regional Studies East Asia, and Conference Chair for the 2016 American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting (3,500 attendees). A 2006 Harvard Ph.D., Thornber's research and teaching focus on world literature and the literatures and cultures of East Asia, as well as the Indian Ocean Rim. Thornber works in more than a dozen European, East Asian, and South Asian languages. She is author of two multiple international award-winning scholarly monographs – *Empire of Texts in Motion: Chinese, Korean, and Taiwanese Transculturations of Japanese Literature* (Harvard 2009) and *Ecoambiguity: Environmental Crises and East Asian Literatures* (Michigan 2012) – and is co-editor of a special issue of *Literature and Medicine* on World Literature and Health, a special issue of *Humanities* on Global Indigeneities and the Environment, and a volume on *The Poetics of Aging in the Japanese Narrative Arts*. In addition to publishing close to 70 articles and book chapters on comparative and world literature, East Asian literatures and cultures, the literatures and cultures of the Indian Ocean Rim (South and Southeast Asia, Middle East, Africa), gender, indigeneities, postcolonialism, transculturation (adaptation, translation, intertextuality), trauma, and the environmental and medical humanities, Thornber is also the award-winning translator of Japanese writer Tōge Sankichi’s *Poems of the Atomic Bomb*. Current projects include books on global world literature and health; leprosy and culture; climate change and changing culture; and creative networks between and among East Asia and the Indian Ocean Rim.

[http://complit.fas.harvard.edu/people/karen-thornber](http://complit.fas.harvard.edu/people/karen-thornber)
Katherine R. Brunson is an An Wang postdoctoral fellow in the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies at Harvard University. Katherine Brunson received her PhD in Anthropology from the University of California, Los Angeles in June of 2015. In her dissertation, "Craft Specialization and Animal Products at the Longshan Period Sites of Taosi and Zhoujiazhuang, Shanxi Province, China," she compares the zooarchaeological records at two important Chinese archaeological sites and examines how domestic sheep and cattle were introduced to China ca. 2000 BCE. She will be spending the 2015-2016 academic year at Harvard University as an An Wang Postdoctoral Fellow at the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies. Her research will focus on methods for differentiating between Chinese domestic cattle and wild aurochs using skeletal morphology, bone stable isotopes, and ancient DNA. Additional ongoing projects include database design and data collection for the Oracle Bone Project on Open Context (with Zhipeng Li at the Institute of Archaeology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (IA CASS) and Rowan Flad in the Harvard University Department of Anthropology) and fieldwork for the multi-year Instituto Hondureño Antropología e Historia (IHAH) and IA CASS project at the Maya site of Copan, Honduras.

http://fairbank.fas.harvard.edu/people/katherine-brunson

Lisa Curran is the Roger and Cynthia Lang Professor in Environmental Anthropology and Senior Fellow at the Woods Institute for the Environment at Stanford University. From 2001-2009, she was Professor of Tropical Resources and John Musser Director of the Tropical Resources Institute at Yale University’s School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. From 1996-2001, she held an interdisciplinary faculty position at the School of Natural Resources and Environment, Southeast Asian Studies and International Institute and Department of Biology at the University of Michigan.

She received her A.B. with honors from Harvard University, Ph.D from Princeton University and held a Mercer Post-doctoral Fellowship at Harvard University. She has spent over 25 years in the South and Southeast Asian tropics conducting scientific research, training and outreach and policy studies. Lisa served as a Visiting Research Fellow at the East-West Center’s program in Environmental Change, Vulnerability and Governance, Aldo Leopold Leadership Fellow, and Marie Tharp Fellow at the Earth Institute of Columbia University. Currently, she is a MacArthur Fellow (2007-2012), External Faculty at the Santa Fe Institute (2003-present) and serves on NASA’s Earth Science Advisory Board, as well as governing boards of the Tropical Forest Foundation, The Forest Dialogue and Forest Integrity Network under Transparency International’s Corruption Watch Program.
Lisa’s current interdisciplinary programs examine the effects of land use change, climate, drought and fire on carbon dynamics and biodiversity; and impacts of governmental policies and industrial practices on ecosystems and rural livelihoods in Asian and Latin American tropical forests.

https://woods.stanford.edu/about/woods-faculty/lisa-curran

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Lu Xiqi is a Professor of History at Xiamen University (China), joining that faculty in May 2007. He previously taught at Wuhan University for 18 years. His research focus on the medieval history in China and Chinese Historical Geography, particularly the historical geography, local society and culture in the Middle Yangtze River Basin as well as the coastal regions of China during the Middle Ages. His current research works to place the southern coastal region in a broader historical context of international trade, smuggling, and migration, and explores its connection to Southeast Asia from the third century to the tenth century.

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Lu Zhang is an Assistant Professor of sociology and a faculty member of Global Studies at Temple University. Her research concentrates on globalization, labor and labor movements, and the political economy of development in China. She is the author of Inside China’s Automobile Factories: The Politics of Labor and Worker Resistance (Cambridge University Press, 2015), which received Honorable Mention for the 2015 Distinguished Scholarly Book Award from American Sociological Association's Labor and Labor Movement Section. She earned a M.A. in Sociology from the University of Warwick and her Ph.D. in sociology from the Johns Hopkins University. She is currently researching capital relocation strategy and labor politics in China and Vietnam.

http://www.cla.temple.edu/sociology/zhang/

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Mark Swislocki is an Associate Professor in History at New York University. His research focuses on cultural history in China. His work examines such topics as the importance of food culture to urbanization, cultural factors shaping ideas about healthy eating, and the role of human-animal relations in the formation of human communities and cross-cultural or international relations.
Mark Swislocki is a cultural historian specializing in Chinese history. He is the author of Culinary Nostalgia: Regional Food Culture and the Urban Experience in Shanghai (Stanford, 2009) and articles on the history of nutrition and human-animal relations. He is currently conducting research for a book on the environmental history of Yunnan, titled The East is Green: The Political Jurisdiction of Nature in Southwest China.

http://history.fas.nyu.edu/object/Swislocki.html

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Michael Hathaway, Associate Professor of Anthropology, and Associate Member of the School for International Studies at Simon Fraser University, received his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (2007). His first research project examined global environmentalism and the politics of indigeneity. This research was based on multi-sited fieldwork in rural and urban Southwest China. It explored how local residents, Chinese scientists and expatriate conservationists forge new constellations of meanings, practices, and forms of governance in contemporary China. This work examines changing understandings of nature, social categories, and power. It was published as Environmental Winds: Making the Global in Southwest China (University of California Press, 2013).

Dr. Hathaway's current ethnographic project examines issues of globalization, commodification, and the making of transnational science through a study of a newly created global commodity, the matsutake mushroom. With funding by the Toyota Foundation (Japan), Social Science Research Council (US), American Council of Learned Societies (US) and the Social Science and Humanities Research Council (Canada), this project is carried out by a collaborative team of researchers based in Canada and the US. They are tracing the social worlds fostered by this high-value wild mushroom in diverse social and physical settings such as British Columbia, the US Pacific Northwest, Northern Japan, and Southwest China.

https://www.sfu.ca/sociology-anthropology/People/faculty/michael-hathaway.html

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Michael B. McElroy is Gilbert Butler Professor of Environmental Studies in Department of Earth & Planetary Sciences and at School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Harvard University.

Michael McElroy studies changes in the composition of the atmosphere with an emphasis on the impact of human activity. His research includes investigations of processes affecting the abundance of ozone in the stratosphere and factors influencing the chemical composition of the troposphere. It explores the manner in which changes in the composition of the
atmosphere affect climate. It seeks to place the impact of contemporary human activity in a larger context by studying large-scale changes in the environment that occurred in the past. His research addresses also challenges for public policy posed by the rapid pace of industrialization in developing countries such as China and India while exploring alternative strategies for more sustainable development in mature economies such as the United States.

http://acmg.seas.harvard.edu/people/faculty/mbm/index.html

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Michael Szonyi is Director of the Fairbank Center at Harvard University and Professor of Chinese History in Harvard’s Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations. His research uses a combination of traditional textual study and contemporary fieldwork to explore the local history of southeast China from the Ming dynasty to the twentieth century. His previous books include Practicing Kinship (Stanford, 2002) and Cold War Island: Quemoy on the Front Line (Cambridge, 2008). Professor Szonyi is currently finishing a book on the social lives of Ming soldiers and their families. He is also the editor of the forthcoming Blackwell Companion to Chinese History. Szonyi received his B.A. from the University of Toronto and his D.Phil. from Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes Scholar. He has also studied at National Taiwan University and Xiamen University. Prior to coming to Harvard in 2005 he taught at McGill University and University of Toronto. He has served as Director of Undergraduate Studies for East Asian Studies and Chair of the Committee on Regional Studies East Asia (RSEA-M.A. program). He has a joint appointment in the Department of History.

http://fairbank.fas.harvard.edu/people/michael-szonyi-%E5%AE%8B%E6%80%A1%E6%98%8E

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Mindi Schneider is Assistant Professor of Agrarian, Food and Environmental Studies at the Internal Institute of Social Studies. Her research and teaching interests are in the fields of development sociology, political sociology, and political ecology. She works primarily on agrifood transformations in contemporary China, and has conducted research on the political economy of agroindustrialization, class relations in food security and dietary change, and human-nature relations under capitalism.

http://www.iss.nl/iss_faculty/profiel_metis/1176011/

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Peter C. Perdue is Professor of History at Yale University. He has taught courses on East Asian history and civilization, Chinese social and economic history, the Silk Road, and historical methodology. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. His first book, *Exhausting the Earth: State and Peasant in Hunan, 1500-1850 A.D.* (Harvard University Press, 1987), examined long-term agricultural change in one Chinese province. His second book, *China Marches West: The Qing Conquest of Central Eurasia* (Harvard University Press, 2005), discusses environmental change, ethnicity, long-term economic change and military conquest in an integrated account of the Chinese, Mongolian, and Russian contention over Siberia and Central Eurasia during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. He is a coeditor of two books on empires: *Imperial Formations*, (SAR Press, 2007) and *Shared Histories of Modernity*, (Routledge, 2008), and a co-author of *Global Connections*, a world history textbook forthcoming from Cambridge University Press, and *Asia Inside Out*, three volumes on inter-Asian connections forthcoming from Harvard University Press. His current research focuses on Chinese frontiers, Chinese environmental history, and the history of tea.

http://history.yale.edu/people/peter-c-perdue

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Qing Yang is currently a visiting scholar at the China Project, Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences of Harvard University. She received her Ph.D. from the College of Engineering at Peking University in 2011, and has worked as an associate professor at the School of Energy and Power Engineering at Huazhong University of Science and Technology since 2013. Her research interests focus on the relationship between renewable energy systems and their surroundings. Her recent work considers the carbon footprints and sustainability of wind electricity, solar thermal power, and biomass fuel systems in China.

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R. Bin Wong is Distinguished Professor of History and Director of the Asia Institute at UCLA since 2004. His research has examined Chinese patterns of political, economic and social change both within Asian regional contexts and compared with more familiar European patterns, as part of the larger scholarly efforts underway to make world history speak to contemporary conditions of globalization. He is author or editor of several books, including *China Transformed: Historical Change and the Limits of European Experience* (1997) and *Before and Beyond Divergence: The Politics of Economic Change in China and Europe* (2011), along with more than ninety articles published in North America, East Asia and Europe. Since 2009 he has been a Distinguished Guest Professor at the Fudan University Institute for Advanced Study in Social Sciences. He also serves on the
International Advisory Board of the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes and on the Berggruen Institute on Philosophy and Culture Academic Board.

http://www.international.ucla.edu/ccs/person/403

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Robert Marks is the Richard and Billie Deihl Professor of History at Whittier College. He teaches Chinese, Japanese, East Asian, and world history examining the historical relations between humans and the environment. His most recent book, *The Origins of the Modern World — A Global and Ecological Narrative from the Fifteenth Century to the Twenty-first Century*, draws upon new scholarship on Asia, Africa and the new world to present a narrative of the origins of the modern worlds from 1400 to the present. Marks' previous book, *Tigers, Rice, Silk and Silt: Environment and Economy in Late Imperial South China*, was featured in New York Historical Society's "Books That Matter" campaign in 2008. He has published numerous articles in scholarly journals, and has been invited to lecture and present papers at colleges and universities around the world, including Harvard, Yale, Cambridge, Bergen (Norway), the University of California, Berkeley, Pomona College, and Illinois Wesleyan.

In 2002, Marks was named the Richard and Billie Deihl Professor of History, a year after he received the Harry Nerhood Teaching Excellence Award. Like many professors here at Whittier College, Marks has helped engage students in research for his various books and articles, including, *Origins of the Modern World*. Students were given the opportunity to critique Marks' work and suggest additional materials. Marks served on the AP World History Development Committee and as director for the California World History Association; he serves on the editorial board of the journals *Environment and History*, *Nature and Culture*, and *Oecologie*.

http://www.whittier.edu/academics/history/Marks

(Note: Ling copied and pasted these passages from Bob’s webpage, which is apparently outdated. Bob’s most recent book is *China: Its Environment and History*. Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2012.)

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Ruth Mostern (rmostern@ucmerced.edu) (UC Merced-SSHA, 5200 N. Lake Rd., Merced, CA 95343) is Associate Professor of History at the University of California, Merced, co-
Director of the UC Merced Spatial Analysis and Research Center, and Chair of the UC Merced Interdisciplinary Humanities Graduate Group. She specializes in the spatial and environmental history of imperial China, and in digital methods for spatial and world history. She is the author of *Dividing the Realm in Order to Govern: The Spatial Organization of the Song State*, published by Harvard University Press in 2011. She is a PI on the NSF-funded “Collaborative Research: Center for Historical Information and Analysis” project and on the NEH-funded “World Historical Gazetteer” project. Her co-edited book *Placing Names: Enriching and Integrating Gazetteers*, is in contract with Indiana University Press.

_http://faculty.ucmerced.edu/rmostern/_

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**Suzanne Ogden** is Professor (Emerita) in the Department of Political Science, Northeastern University, and a Research Associate in Harvard’s Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies. During her career as a China specialist, she has focused primarily on the interplay of culture, development, and politics. In recent years, her research has shifted to China’s role in developing the Mekong River Basin and the Greater Mekong Subregion. China’s participation in the governance of this transboundary river is vital to its sustainability. Comparing the differences and similarities of China’s behavior with that of the other state actors in the Basin, she profiles the priority given to politics over science in decisions about water security and environmental sustainability, and examines the costs and benefits of China’s actions in the Mekong River Basin.

_http://www.northeastern.edu/cssh/faculty/suzanne-ogden_

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**Victor Seow** (Assistant Professor in History at Cornell University): I am a historian of nineteenth- and twentieth-century China, with research interests in issues of energy, science and technology, the environment, industry, labor, and state power. My current book project brings together this range of topics in a study of fossil fuels in the making of modern East Asia. Titled *Carbon Technocracy: East Asian Energy Regimes and the Industrial Modern, 1900-1957*, this project uses the case of coal mining in Manchuria to examine the broader significance of carbon energy to the Chinese and Japanese states that had at different times extended control over this region. By following processes of coal extraction, distribution, and use on the one hand and the all-too-often heated discussions over access to energy resources on the other, I explore the co-production of calorific and political power that gave rise to trans-war East Asian technocratic regimes. My other ongoing projects include a history of the automobile in twentieth-century China and a trans-Pacific study of Chinese industrial cooperatives.
Xie Shi received his B.A. in history from Department of History, Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou, China, and got his Ph.D. in historical geography from Center for Historical Geographic Studies, Fudan University in 2009. Elected by the committee of the Hundred Talents Program of Sun Yat-sen University, he is currently appointed Professor, Ph.D. supervisor of Department of History, and has been selected to the National Program for Special Support of Eminent Professionals of China. He is also the research fellow of the Co-Centre for Historical Anthropology, Chinese University of Hong Kong - Sun Yat-sen University, and the executive editor of Journal of History and Anthropology published by the Centre, which is the key Research Institute of Humanities and Social Science of the Chinese Ministry of Education. He specializes in the research on social economic history and historical geography in China. His thesis was nominated for the Best 100 Ph.D. Dissertations by the Chinese Ministry of Education in 2011. He has published articles at leading academic journals such as Historical Research (China), Bulletin of The Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica (Taiwan). He has also conducted some national research projects in this field. He has obtained substantial teaching experience in both undergraduate and postgraduate courses of his research field at the Sun Yat-sen University. (such as Ancient Chinese History III (Major), Historical Geography of China (GE & Major), An Environmental History of China (GE), Method and Theories of Historical Geography (MA), Selected Readings of Important Historical Geography Books (MA).

http://hshgc.sysu.edu.cn/xzdw/xsdw01/4335.htm

Xinyu Chen is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the China Project, Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences of Harvard University. He received his B.Sc. and Ph.D. from the Department of Electrical Engineering at Tsinghua University in 2009 and 2014, respectively. He was an exchange student at Harvard in 2012 during his Ph.D. program. He was previously involved in developing China’s national smart grid development strategy during the 12th Five Year Plan, and received multiple Science and Technology Progress Awards in China. His current research interests include operational simulation and planning of large-scale renewable energy systems and energy policy.

http://chinaproject.harvard.edu/pages/people
**Ying Jia Tan** teaches Chinese history at Wesleyan University. He received his PhD from Yale University in 2015. His dissertation *Revolutionary Current: Electricity and the Making of the Party-State in China and Taiwan, 1937-1957* examines how engineer-bureaucrats confronted an energy crisis that spanned two decades of war and revolution. He worked as a journalist for the Chinese-language press in Singapore and covered public health and defense.

http://www.wesleyan.edu/academics/faculty/ytan/profile.html

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**Yuanbao Xiong** is a Professor of Chinese history at Waseda University, Japan. He graduated from Wuhan University with a degree in History in 1984 and obtained his doctorate from Tokyo University in 2001. He specializes in Chinese social and economic history during the 16th-20th centuries.

http://www.div.sci.waseda.ac.jp/index.php?id=68

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**Ling Zhang** is an Assistant Professor in History at Boston College. She is an environmental and economic historian of pre-modern China. Her first book *The River, the Plain, and the State: An Environmental Drama in Northern Song China, 1048-1128* is forthcoming from Cambridge University Press (June 2016). She is currently revising her doctoral dissertation into a book manuscript, which is temporarily entitled "North China during the Medieval Economic Revolution." Since 2012, built on her first book about the environmental and political history of the Yellow River, Ling has been working on another book project, which studies "China's sorrow or the Yellow River's sorrow: Environmental biographies of a water regime" from a posthumanist perspective.

Ling has a BA degree in Humanities and History from Peking University (China) and an MPhil and a PhD degree in Chinese Studies from the University of Cambridge (UK), where she was a Benefactors’ Scholar at St John’s College. She was a Ziff Environmental Fellow at Harvard University Center for the Environment. She was a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Program of Agrarian Studies at Yale University. As an Associate in Research of Harvard University Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, she has organized several research seminars and conference for the Fairbank Center’s “Environment in Asia” series since 2013.

http://www.bc.edu/schools/cas/history/people/faculty/alphabetical/zhang_ling.html