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Introducing NiCHE

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Introducing

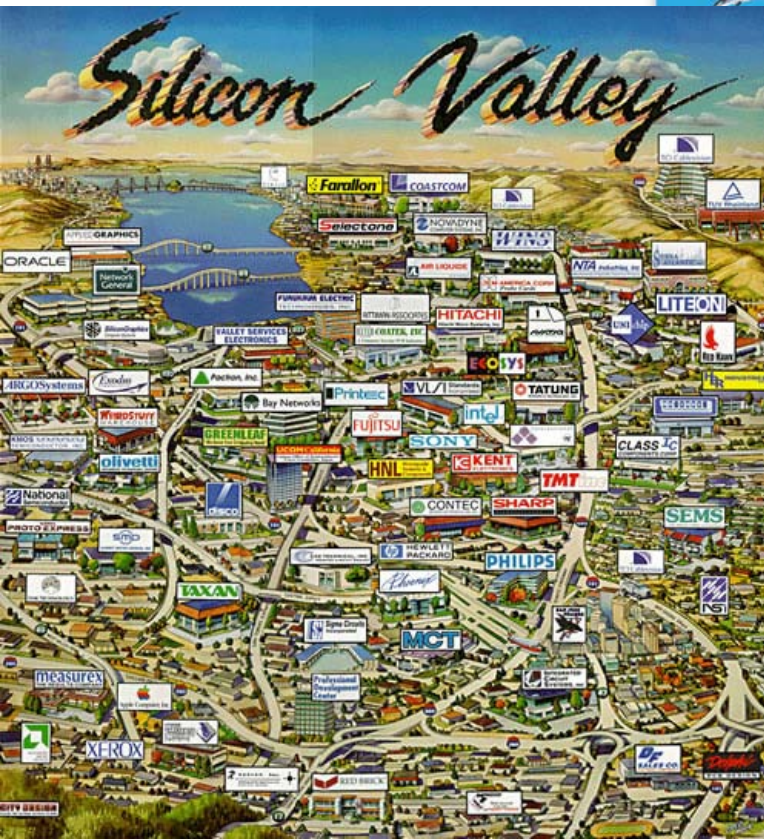


NETWORK IN CANADIAN HISTORY & ENVIRONMENT

NOUVELLE INITIATIVE CANADIENNE EN HISTOIRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT

<http://niche-canada.org>
niche@uwo.ca

Alan MacEachern, Dept. of History, UWO
19 Oct 2010



SSHRC's model for Strategic Knowledge Clusters



...and don't just fund Air Canada! Get the \$ to the researchers, to mobilizing and disseminating research

NiCHE's goals

- ✦ develop the field of Canadian environmental history / historical geography in Canada & beyond,
- ✦ encourage communication & collaboration,
- ✦ be a model of how a geographically-dispersed network of researchers can communicate & develop its research in the 21st century,
- ✦ be a model of how an academic field can communicate its research beyond the academy.



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Photo Credit:
Map from the virtual field trip on car culture around the world

BLOG

Place and Placelessness: "Coming at you from everywhere"

WILL KNIGHT AND LAUREN WHEELER

Place and Placelessness, a collaborative workshop, was entirely conducted—from initial organizational meetings to the final plenary discussion

Welcome

NICHE brings together historians, geographers, and other researchers who study nature and humans in Canada's past. We offer a forum for the field, support collaboration among scholars, and ensure that this research is shared with policymakers, scientists, and the Canadian public.

[Read more about NiCHE](#)

Upcoming Deadlines

Congrès annuel de la Société historique du Canada	Oct 18
Call for Projects	Oct 25
Transnational Ecologies Contest	Nov 01
job ad in Canadian (Environmental) History	Nov 15
Postdoctoral Fellowship in Quebec Studies	Nov 30
ESEH Article Prize	Nov 30

Featured Project



How to Write a Zotero Translator

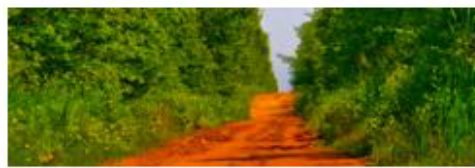
Complete Beginners Guide

The Programming Historian

By: Adam Crymble

An open-access introduction to creating customized translators for Zotero. Includes lessons in HTML, HTML DOM and JavaScript.

[Learn More]



Back to the Island

By: Ryan O'Connor, Alan MacEachern, UWO

An online exhibit dedicated to the "Back to the Land" movement of 1970s in PEI. Features both a narrative and oral history of life at the time.

[Learn More]

2008

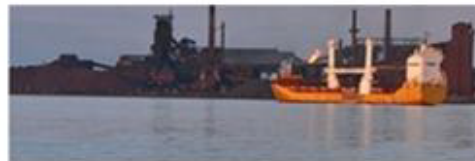


Towards a Guide to Best Practices in XML Markup

By: Leon Robichaud

A pilot project using historical environmental data that seeks to outline best practices for using XML Markup.

[Learn More]



People and the Bay

Leader: Ken Cruikshank and Nancy Bouchier, McMaster University

A joint project between university and high school students during which students worked together to create short videos about environmental history topics.

[Learn More]



Newfoundland's Petit Nord

By: Peter Pope, Memorial University of Newfoundland

A photo exhibit of the archaeological sites along Newfoundland's Petit Nord, along with maps of the sites.

[Learn More]

2007



The Programming Historian

By: William J. Turkel, Adam Crymble, Alan

Some NiCHE projects

See <http://niche-canada.org/research> for all

Create Event Homepage

 Provide as much information as you can. Try to preemptively respond to questions potential participants may have about your upcoming event

Full Event Name: *

Short Event Name: *

The proper (short) name of the event. Max. 80 characters

Event Info

Event Description

**Schedule /
Programme**

Flags

Map / Directions

Readings

**Reflections &
Recordings**

Resources

Menu settings
Not in menu

Meta tags

Book outline

Event Date

If there is an applicable start or end date, (eg. The event runs from July 10 - August 4, 2010) enter them here. Otherwise, leave this blank

From date:

Format: 18 October 2010

To date:

Format: 18 October 2010

Venue:

Place and Placelessness: A Virtual Environmental History Workshop for Graduate Students

Submitted by AdamCrymble on June 25, 2010 - 15:16



We invite submissions of draft papers and unfinished work from graduate students in any related discipline on topics that address, complicate, or illustrate the local, regional, and transnational ecologies that bind us together.

This is an un-workshop focused on unfinished work: participants will meet via Skype in small panel sessions to collaboratively and constructively discuss these work-in-progress. To help facilitate clear and problem-free participation, all invited participants will receive a FREE Skype headset. The workshop is limited to 20 participants.

Participants are also invited to collaborate in creating an online field trip that will explore the commodity chains that bind us in relations of production, consumption, and destruction. Meet and network with your peers – explore new ideas – and have fun in this online workshop that explores new trends in environmental history and digital humanities.

To register go to <http://virtualeh.wordpress.com/registration/>. Presenters are asked to submit a 300-word abstract outlining their work-in-progress by July 16, 2010. The full schedule will be announced August 31, 2010. The workshop will be held October 1-2, 2010.

We invite graduate students to participate in presenters:

Event Info

Event Date: Oct 1 2010 - Oct 2 2010
Venue: Skype
City: Online
Country: Online
Primary Contact Name: William Knight
Contact Email: virtualeh2010@gmail.com
Registration Deadline: Jul 16 2010

Schedule / Programme

Programme
Virtual Field Trip

Place & Placelessness

A NiCHE event

See <http://niche-canada.org/meeting> for all

Picasa™ Web Albums Explore Sean Kheraj's Gallery

Sean Kheraj » Place and Placelessness » View map

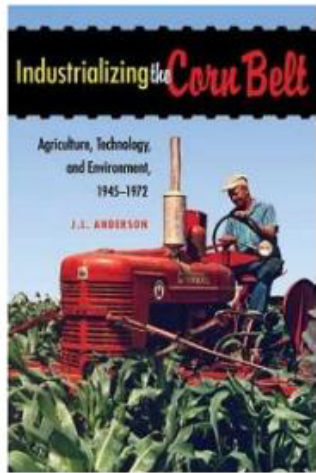
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Nature's Past Podcast

Episode 16: The Industrialization of Agriculture

44:24



From 1945 to the early 1970s, technological innovations helped to transform American agriculture. The introduction of industrial chemicals and new machinery to US farm operations in the decades after the Second World War ushered in, what some historians have characterized as an agricultural revolution. These changes certainly altered food production and agricultural output. They also altered the practice of farming itself, leading ultimately to fewer farmers tending larger and larger farms. What caused farmers to adopt these new chemical and mechanical technologies? How did this affect the business of farming in the second half of the twentieth century? What were the environmental and human health consequences of these substantial changes in agriculture?

On this episode of Nature's Past, Joe Anderson joins us to discuss his book *Industrializing the Corn Belt: Agriculture, Technology, and Environment, 1945-1972*, a detailed study of

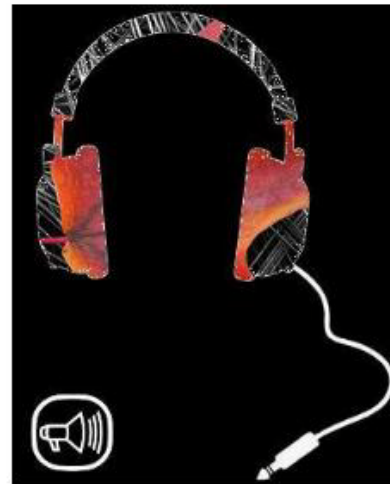
the adoption of industrial chemical and mechanical technologies on US farms in the decades following the Second World War.

Also, Jim Clifford discusses his new role as Project Coordinator for the [Network in Canadian History and Environment](#).



Works Cited

- Sean Kheraj, Canadian History and Environment
- J.L. Anderson, *Industrializing the Corn Belt: Agriculture, Technology, and Environment, 1945-1972*. DeKalb, Ill.: Northern Illinois University Press, 2009.
- Jim Clifford, *West Ham and the Lower Lea River*



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About the Podcast

A monthly discussion about the environmental history community and research in Canada.

Host - Sean Kheraj



Sean is an Assistant Professor in the Department of History at Mount Royal University. He has previously

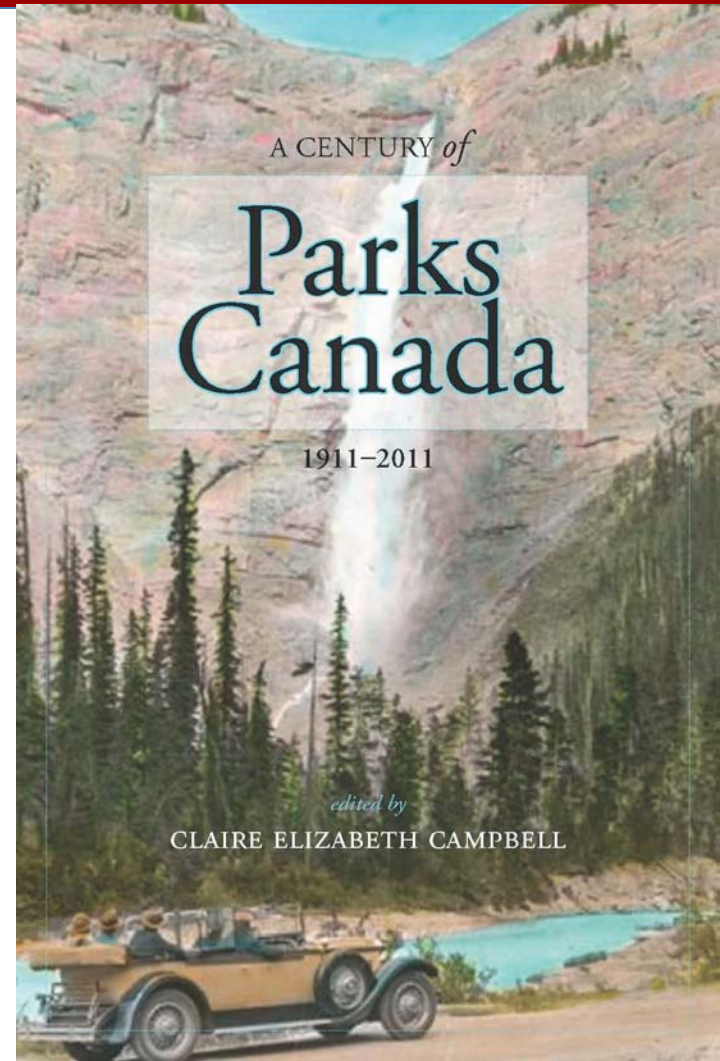
Canadian History & Environment series

print publication

+ simultaneous EBook

*+ simultaneous free, open-access
online publication*

first book, spring 2011 →



- ✦ What is the impact of technologies on research practice & the dissemination of scholarship?
 - ✦ Widespread, pervasive (geographically & through society); self-archiving tools; lowered transaction costs for communicating, networking
 - ✦ Among scholars, growing interest in applying (some) tech (in some ways); thinking more in terms of research-specific dissemination (what is the *right* way to disseminate this?)

- ✦ What are the benefits of open information exchange in terms of advancing research & scholarship?
 - ✦ Increased access & distribution to data sets & findings
 - ✦ “Pre-publication” feedback & support
 - ✦ Opens up study & use of non-textual forms

- ✦ What issues or barriers have you encountered in developing the digital initiative?
 - ✦ Oddity of Clusters program: doesn't fund research!
 - ✦ Open source, closed universities?

- ✦ What is the future direction of the initiative?
 - ✦ More piggybacking on & intermingling of existing technologies – ex. Picasa, YouTube, Google Maps – for ease of use, “permanence”, & cheap downloading.
 - ✦ Hopefully, more experimentation, more buy-in, more projects that reach the public, more international projects, more fun.