

CURRICULUM VITA

NAME:

Harold L. Platt

ADDRESS:

Professor of History Emeritus
Department of History
6525 North Sheridan Road
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2656 W. Farwell Ave.
Chicago, IL 60645-4523

EDUCATION:

Purdue University (1963-1964); University of Illinois (Urbana, 1964-1967), B.A. with Highest Distinction in History and Honors in Liberal Arts; Harvard University (1967); Brandeis University (1968); Rice University (1970-1974), Ph.D.

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION:

“Urban Public Services and Private Enterprise: Aspects of the Legal and Economic History of Houston, Texas, 1866-1905”

APPOINTMENTS:

Loyola University of Chicago: Professor Emeritus, 2012-present; Professor, 1990-2012;
Associate Professor, 1981-1990; Assistant Professor, 1974-1981
Loyola Fellowship Awards Committee, 2005-2008
Internship Coordinator, Department of History, 2003-2006
Simon Senior Research Fellow, University of Manchester (England), 1995-1996
Director of Graduate Programs, Department of History, 1991-1994
Houston Community College, Instructor, 1973-1974
Rice University, Teaching Assistant, 1972-1973

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS:

Phi Alpha Theta, 1967
Rice University Graduate Fellowship, 1971-1973
Mary Ellen Goodman Fellowship, Southwest Center for Urban Research, 1974
Captain S. C. Longscope Dissertation Award, Rice University, 1974
Mellon Foundation Award, Chicago Video History Project, Loyola University, 1980
AHA-APSA Project '87 Research Grant, “Constitutional Orphan: The City in the Federal System,” 1982
Research Sabbatical, Loyola University, 1983
History Teaching Alliance, 1986
Mellon Foundation Award, Bicentennial Speakers Program, 1986
Illinois Humanities Council, Bicentennial Speakers Program, 1986
Research Sabbatical, Loyola University, 1987
Loyola University Grant, History of Chicago Video Project, 1986-1888
Advisory Committee, Mid-America, 1988-1990
Editorial Board, Mid-America, 1990-2000
Nominating Committee, Public Works History Society, 1989-91

Teaching Sabbatical, Loyola University, Spring 1991
 Summer Research Grant, Loyola University, Summer 1991
 History Teaching Alliance, (with Timothy Gilfoyle), Loyola Endowment for the Humanities; Pew Foundation, 1991
 Research Stimulation Award, Loyola University, Fall 1991
 Superior Achievement Book Award, Illinois State Historical Society, 1992 [for The Electric City]
 Abel Wolman Award [for The Electric City], Public Works Historical Society of the American Public Works Association, 1992
 Co-Chair, Convention Publicity Committee, Organization of American Historians (1996 Meeting), 1994-1996
 Irma Jockwig Miller Lecture, Roosevelt University, 1995
 Simon Senior Research Fellowship, University of Manchester (England), 1995-1996
 Urban History Association Award, Best published article of 1995 [co-recipient][for “Invisible Gases,” Planning Perspectives]
 Great Lakes History Prize, Cleveland State University, Best article in 1997 on the history of the Great Lakes
 Research Sabbatical, Loyola University (Spring 1999)
 Council Member, Society for the History of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era (1998-2000)
 Fellow in Environmental Ethics, Loyola Center of Ethics (Spring 2000)
 Local Arrangements Committee, American Historical Association (1999-2000)
 Nominating Committee, Society for the History of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era (2000)
 Chair, Dissertation Prize Committee, Urban History Association (2000)
 Book Stipend Award, Shock Cities, Loyola University Chicago (2003)
 Book Stipend Award (with University of Chicago Press), Shock Cities, Graham Foundation (2003)
 New Frontiers Program Grant, History Department Internship Program (2004)
 Abel Wolman Award [for Shock Cities], Public Works Historical Society of the American Public Works Association, 2006
 Research Sabbatical, Loyola University, 2006 (for Fall 2007)
 Editorial Board, Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era (2000-2009)
 Board of Directors, Urban History Association (2009-2011)
 American Council of Learned Societies-National Humanities Council, selection of *Electric City* for premiere collection of Humanities Open Books (2016)

PUBLICATIONS:

Books:

City Building in the New South: The Growth of Public Services in Houston, Texas, 1830-1920
 (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1983)

The Electric City: Energy and the Growth of the Chicago Area, 1880-1930
 (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1991)

Cities and Catastrophes: Coping with Emergency in European History, eds. G. Massard-Guilbuad, H. Platt, and D. Schott (Germany: Peter Lang Verlag, 2002)

Shock Cities: The Environmental Transformation and Reform of Manchester and Chicago
 (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2005)

Building the Urban Environment - Visions of the Organic City in the United States, Europe, and Latin America (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2015)

Sinking Chicago: Climate Change and the Remaking of a Flood-Prone Environment
 (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2018)

Journal Editions:

Co-editor, Special Edition, “Environmental Justice in the City,” Environmental History 5(April 2000); and
 Essay: “Jane Addams and the Ward Boss Revisited: Class, Politics, and Public Health in Chicago, 1890-1930.”

Journal Articles:

- “Houston at the Crossroads: The Emergence of the Urban Center of the Southwest,” Journal of the West (July 1979)
- “The Stillbirth of Urban Politics in the Reconstruction South: Houston, Texas as a Test Case,” Houston Review (Summer 1982)
- “La Ville eletrique. Les reseaux regionaux d'energie et la croissance de Chicago, 1893-1933,” Les annals de la recherche urbaine 23-24 (Julillet-December 1984)
- “Sam Insull and the Electrification of Chicago's Homes,” Chicago History (Spring 1986)
- “Houston's First Battle Over Utility Rates,” Houston Review no. 2 (1987)
- “Energy and Urban Growth: A Comparison of Houston and Chicago,” Southwestern Historical Quarterly (July 1987)
- “The Cost of Energy: Technological Change, Rate Structures, and Public Policy in Chicago, 1880-1920,” Urban Studies [Great Britain] (February 1989)
- “World War I and the Birth of American Regionalism,” Journal of Policy History 5, no. 1 (1993)
- “‘Invisible Gases:’ Smoke, Gender, and the Redefinition of Environmental Policy in Chicago, 1900-1920,” Planning Perspectives 10(January 1995)
- “The Emergence of Urban Environmental History [A Review Essay],” Urban History 26, no. 1(1999)
- “Chicago, the Great Lakes, and the Origins of Federal Urban Environmental Policy,” Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, vol. 1, no. 2(April 2002)
- “Nuove direzioni nella storia della tecnologia,” Contemporanea 5(luglio 2002)
- “‘Clever Microbes:’ Bacteriology and Sanitary Technology in Manchester and Chicago during the Progressive Age” Osiris 19(July 2004)
- “From Hygeia to the Garden City: Bodies, Houses, and the Rediscovery of the Slum in Manchester,” Special Issue: European Environmental History, Journal of Urban History (April 2007)
- “Fixing Technology [review essay],” Journal of Urban History (November 2007)
- “Exploding Cities: Housing the Masses in Paris, Chicago, and Mexico City, 1850-2000,” Journal of Urban History (September 2010)
- “Revisiting the Second Ghetto [A Review Essay],” Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society (Summer 2010)
- “Following the Flows: New Perspectives on Transnational Urbanism [review essay],” Journal of Urban History (April 2020)

Essays:

- “‘Shock City Revisited:’ Comparative Perspectives on the Environmental History of Manchester and Chicago,” OASIS, no. 43 (February 2000)

Essays in Collected Volumes:

- “City Building and Progressive Reform: The Modernization of an Urban Polity, Houston, Texas 1892-1905,” in The Age of Urban Reform, eds. Michael Ebner and Eugene Tobin (New York: Kennikat, 1977)
- “City Lights: The Electrification of the Chicago Region, 1880-1930,” in Technology and the Rise of the Networked City in Europe and America, eds. Joel Tarr and Gabriel Dupuy (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1988)
- “Introduction-The Industrial Heartland,” in Guidebook to Industrial Chicago (Chicago: Public Works Historical Society, 1991)
- “Creative Necessity: Municipal Reform in Gilded Age Chicago,” in The Constitution, Law, and American Life: Critical Aspects of the Nineteenth-Century Experience, ed. Donald G. Nieman (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1992)
- “Sam Insull and the Electric City,” in A Wild Kind of Boldness – The Chicago History Reader, ed. Rosemary K. Adams (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans, 1998) [Originally published in Chicago History (Spring 1986)]
- “World War I and the Birth of American Regionalism,” in Urban Public Policy-Historical Modes and Methods, ed. Martin V. Melosi (University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 1993) [Originally published in Journal of Policy History no. 1 (1993)]
- “Samuel Insull,” in Oxford Companion to American History (New York: Oxford University Press, 2001)
- “Electrical Energy,” in Energy, Economics and the Environment: Cases and Materials, ed. Fred Bosselman (New York: Foundation Press, 2001)
- “‘Invisible Demon’: Popular Science, Noxious Gases, and Public Health in Manchester during the Age of Industry,” in The Modern Demon: Pollution in Urban and Industrial European Societies, eds. C. Bernhardt and G. Massard-Guilbaud (Clermont-Ferrand, France: Presses de l’Université Blaise Pascal, 2002)
- “‘The Hardest Worked River’: The Manchester Floods and the Industrialization of Nature, 1850-1880,” in Cities and Catastrophes: Coping with Emergency in European History, eds. G. Massard-Guilbaud, H. Platt, and D. Schott (Frankfort, Germany: Peter Lang, 2002)
- “Environmental Politics,” [Interpretive Essay] in Encyclopedia of Chicago (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2004)
- “The Invisible Evil: Noxious Vapours and Public Health in Manchester during the Age of Industry,” in Smoke and Mirrors: The Social and Political Context of Air Pollution, ed. E. Melanie DuPuis (New York: New York University Press, 2004)
- “The Urban Nature of the World’s Fairs: Environmental Perspectives on Paris and Chicago, 1878-1900,” 5 Cahiers parisiens/Parisian Notebooks, (Special Issue on “Paris-Chicago: Urban Cultures in Perspective,” 2009)
- “Planning Modernism: Growing the Organic City in the Twentieth Century,” in Thick Space: Approaches to Metropolitanism, eds. Dorothee Brantz, Georg Wagner-Kyora, Sasha Disko (Berlin: Transcript, 2012)
- “Cities of Fear: The Globalization of Insecurity in the Age of the Gated Community,” in Global Comparative and Transnational Approaches to Urban History: Cities Beyond Borders, eds. Nicolas Kenny and Rebecca Madgin (Farnham: Ashgate, 2016)

“‘A Ridiculous Failure of Government’: The Chicago River in the Age of Ecology,” in *Rivers Lost, Rivers Regained*, eds. Dieter Schott, et al, (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2017)

“Daniel Burnham and the Transatlantic Origins of Modern Urban Planning,” in *Kult und Kris - Des Großen Plans im Städtebau*,” eds. Harold Bodenschatz and Celina Cress (Berlin, Imhof Verlag, 2017)

“Follow the Flows: A Brief History of Transnational Urban Environmental History,” in *50 Jahre Moderne Stadtgeschichte [50 Years of Modern Urban History]*, eds. Sebastian Haumann and Dieter Schott (Berlin, Verlagsort, 2020)

“Too Much Water: Coping with Climate Change and Suburban Sprawl in a Flood Prone Environment,” in *City of Lake and Prairie: Chicago’s Environmental History*, eds., Kathleen A. Brosnan, Ann Durkin Keating and William C. Barnett (Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh University Press, 2021)

Essays on the Web:

“Urban Planning Since 1850,” *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History* [<http://americanhistory.oxfordre.com/>] (2018)

BOOK REVIEWS:

American Historical Review (April 1991); American Journal of Legal History (April 1981); Canadian Review of American Studies (June, 1993); Chicago History (Spring 1983 Environment and History (2011); Environmental History (April 2009, October 2021); Houston Review (Fall 1985; Fall 1991); Illinois Historic Journal (Autumn 1987; Winter 1991); Isis (September 2003); Journal of American History (December 1985; September 1986; March 1989; September 1989; March 1991; June 1992; December 1992; March 2002; March 2008; December 2010; March 2015; June 2020); Journal of Economic History (June 1983; June 1990); Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society (Summer, 2002; Summer 2010); Journal of New Jersey History (Summer 1979); Journal of Southern History (November 1977; November 1981; August 1992; August 1995); Journal of the West (October 1981); Low Countries Journal of Social and Economic History (2020); Newberry Library Origins (Fall 1992); Pacific Historical Review (November 1985); Reviews in American History (December 1989; March 2013); Technology and Culture (April 1986; July 1986; October 2006) Urban History (September 2006); Winterthur Portfolio (2018)

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES:

Papers Delivered:

“Urban Public Utility Franchises: Regulation or Promotion of Monopoly?” a paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Organization of American Historians, 1975

“Sam Insull and the Electrification of Chicago, 1890-1930,” a paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Organization of American Historians, 1982

Cosponsor and Speaker, “The Settlement of Disputes through the Ages,” Loyola-Mellon Lecture, 1983

“The Electric City: Regional Energy Systems and the Growth of Chicago, 1893-1933,” a paper presented at the International Conference on the City and Technology, Paris, 1983

“City Lights: The Electrification of Chicago, 1880-1930,” a paper presented at the Urban History Seminar, Chicago, 1984

“City Lights: The Electrification of the Chicago Region, 1890-1930,” a paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, 1984

“The Influence of Energy on the Growth of Cities: The Case of Houston, Texas” a paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern History Association, 1985

“The Cost of Energy: Technological Change, Rate Structures, and Public Policy in Chicago, 1880- 1990,” a paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Social Science History Association, New Orleans, 1987

“Creative Necessity: Municipal Reform in the Gilded Age,” a paper presented at a Conference in Honor of

- Harold M. Hyman, New York, 1989
- “Urban History as Public History Media,” a Workshop presented at the Modes of Inquiry for American City History, Chicago, 1990
- “Energy and the Metropolis,” a paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association of American Studies, Montreal, 1990
- “World War I and the Birth of American Regionalism,” a paper presented at the Biannual Meeting of the American Society for Environmental History, Houston, 1991
- “The Electric City,” a paper presented at the Technical University of Darmstadt, Germany, 1991
- “Time to Reclaim: Urban Historians and the Media,” a paper presented at the Urban History Seminar, Chicago, 1991
- “Invisible Gases: Smoke, Science, and the Redefinition of Environmental Policy in Chicago, 1900-1920,” a paper presented at the Biannual Meeting of the American Society for Environmental History, Pittsburgh, 1993
- “A Veritable City within a City: Energy Systems, Technological Innovation, and the Transformation of the American Brewing Industry,” a paper presented at the XIX International Congress of History of Science, Zaragoza, Spain, 1993
- “Chicago, The Electric City and the Social Construction of Technology,” a paper presented at a Conference, “Le Ville Et Ses Techniques,” of the Institut D’Histoire Moderne et Contemporaine, Paris, France, 1994
- “Environmental Justice in the Industrial City: A Case Study of Chicago, 1871-1915,” a paper presented at the Biannual Meeting of the American Society for Environmental History, Las Vegas, 1995
- “Pasteur’s Brew: Science, Biotechnology and the Industrialization of Beer, 1850-1920,” a seminar paper presented at the Centre for the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine, University of Manchester, Manchester, U.K., 1996
- “A Fountain Inexhaustible: Environmental Perspective on Water Management in Chicago, 1840-1980,” a paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology, London, U.K., 1996
- “Everlasting Purity: Science, Engineering, and the Chlorination of Chicago’s Water Supply, 1880-1920,” a paper presented at the Biannual Meeting of the American Society for Environmental History, Baltimore, 1997
- “The Social Construction of Technology,” faculty lecture, Robert Morris College, Chicago, 1997
- “Chicago, the Great Lakes, and the Origins of Federal Urban Policy,” a paper presented at the National Policy History Conference (Bowling Green, Ohio, June 1997)
- “‘Shock City’ Revisited: Comparative Perspectives on the Environmental History of Manchester and Chicago,” a paper presented at the XXth International Congress of History of Science (Liege, Belgium, July 1997)
- “Saint Jane and the Ward Boss Revisited: Class, Politics and Public Health in Chicago, 1890-1930,” a paper presented at the University of Toronto Conference, “Themes and Issues in North American Environmental History,” (Toronto, April 1998)
- “Brewing Science: Innovation and Consumer Culture in the English and German-American Malt Liquor Industry, 1870-1930,” a paper presented at Newberry Seminar in Technology, Politics, and Culture (Chicago, February 1999)
- “Slums and Suburbs: The Political Formation of Urban Space in Two Industrial Cities: Manchester (England) and Chicago,” a paper presented at the Biannual Meeting of the American Society for Environmental History (Tucson, April 1999)
- Plenary Lecture, Section on “Environment, Health and Social Change,” Eighth [University of] Tampere Conference on North American Studies, (Tampere, Finland, April 1999)
- Invited Speaker, “Challenges to the Urban Environment” Conference (University of Houston, February 2000)
- “‘The Hardest Worked River:’ The Manchester Floods and The Industrialization of Nature, 1850-1880,” a paper presented at the European Urban History Conference (Berlin, Germany, August 2000)
- Invited Speaker, “Popular Science, Noxious Gases, and Public Health in Manchester during the Age of Industry,” a paper presented at the conference, “Good Airs and Bad,” University of East Anglia (Norwich, England, November 2000)
- “Unnatural Disasters: The Manchester Floods and the Formation of an Industrial Ecology, 1850-1880,” a paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Society for Environmental History

- (Durham, N. C., 2001)
- Invited Speaker, "'Clever Microbes': Bacteriology and Sanitary Technology in Manchester and Chicago during the Progressive Age" a paper presented at the conference, "City Health: Medical and Environmental Perspectives on Urban Life," University of Manchester (Manchester, U. K., August 2001)
- Invited Speaker, "Comparing Urban Environments: Reflections on the Manchester-Chicago Project," a paper presented at the conference "City in North America: Historical and Comparative Perspectives on Public Works and Services, Environment and Political Culture," Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana Azcapotzalco (Mexico City, October 2001)
- Invited Speaker, "Border Crossing: Transnational Comparisons and Urban Environmental History," a paper presented at the conference "Rethinking the Metropolis – Historically," University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, (Milwaukee, February 2002)
- "In Good Health: the Public Side of Private Housing in Manchester and Chicago, 1880-1914," a paper presented at a workshop on "Environment, Health, and Place in Global Perspective," University of Wisconsin (Madison, WI., April 2002)
- "Shock Cities: Comparative Perspectives on the History of the Environment and Technology," a paper presented at a workshop at the Environmental Studies Program, University of Chicago (November 2003)
- "Nature's Brew: Comparative Perspectives on Innovation and Consumer Culture in the English and (German)-American Malt Liquor Industry, 1870-1920," a paper presented at the The City, Industry, and Environment in Transatlantic Perspective Conference, Chemical Heritage Society (Philadelphia, April 2004)
- "From Hygeia to the Garden City: Bodies, Houses and the Rediscover of the Slum," a paper presented at the Third International Round-Table on Urban Environmental History of the 19th and 20th Century: The Making of European Contemporary Cities: an Environmental History, (Siena, Italy, June 2004)
- "Damming Nature: John Bateman and the Construction of Manchester's Waterworks," a paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Urban History Association (Milwaukee, October 2004)
- Commentator, "Environmental Controversies in North American Cities: Ownership, Planning, and Technology," at the biennial meeting of the Urban History Association (Milwaukee, October 2004)
- Invited Speaker, "The Politics of Bacteriology: Comparative Perspectives on Sanitary Technology in the United States and Great Britain," Berkeley Workshop in Environmental Politics (Berkeley, CA., October 2004)
- "Urban Planning and the Revolt of the Eco-Populists, 1945-1968," a paper presented at the Chicago Historical Society Urban Seminar (Chicago, February 2006)
- "Urban Renewal and the Revolt of the Eco-Populists, 1968-2005," a paper presented at the annual meeting of the Urban History Group (Reading, U.K., March 2006)
- "'The Plan Must Rule': Exporting Modernism to the Americas, 1945-200," a paper presented at the Fourth International Roundtable on European Urban Environmental History (Paris, November 2006)
- Invited Speaker, "The Urban Nature of the World's Fairs: Environmental Perspectives on Paris and Chicago, 1878-1900," a paper presented at the University of Chicago conference "Paris-Chicago: Urban Cultures in Perspective," (Paris, February 2008)
- "Constructing Mexico City: Formal and Informal Planning of the Urban Environment since 1945," a paper presented at the meeting of the Latin American and Caribbean Society for Environmental History (Belo Horizonte, Brazil, May 2008)
- "Planning Mexico City: Environmental Perspectives on Urban Space since 1945," a paper presented at the meeting of the International Planning History Society (Chicago, July 2008)
- "Exploding Cities: Housing the Masses in Paris, Chicago, and Mexico City, 1850-2000," a paper presented at the annual meeting of the Urban History Association (Houston, November 2008)
- Invited Speaker, "Burnham's Transatlantic Crossings and the Birth of Modern Planning," a paper presented at the conference, Burnham, Chicago, and Beyond: Politics, Planning, and the Progressive Era City (Chicago Architecture Foundation and DePaul University, Chicago, June 2009)

- “Watering the Mega-Cities: Energy and Environment in Los Angeles, Mexico City and São Paulo,” a paper presented at the First World Congress of Environmental History (Copenhagen, August 2009)
- “Watching *Chinatown* Backwards: Los Angeles, Mono Lake, and the Restoration of Nature,” a paper presented at the biannual meeting of the International Water History Association (Delft, June 2010)
- Invited Speaker, “São Paulo: City of Walls, City of Insurgent Citizenship,” a paper presented to the “Intrinsic Logic” Seminar, TU Darmstadt (Darmstadt, June 2010)
- “According to Hoyt: Race, Redlining, and the Life-Cycle of Neighborhoods,” a paper present at the biannual meeting of the Urban History Association (Las Vegas, October, 2010)
- Invited Speaker, “Daniel Burnham and the Trans-Atlantic Origins of Modern Urban Planning,” a paper present at the Conference on “The Culture of Grand Plans in 1910,” TU Berlin (Berlin, November 2010)
- Invited Panelist, “Alphaville Revisited: Trans-nationalizing the History of Urban Security in the Age of Gated Communities,” a paper presented at the Roundtable on Transnational Urbanism, European Society of Urban History (Prague, September 2012)
- Invited Speaker, “‘A Ridiculous Failure of Government’: The Chicago River in the Age of Ecology,” Rachel Carson Center (Munich, February 2013)
- Invited Speaker, “The Rebirth of the Chicago River: Urban Nature in the Age of Ecology,” a paper presented at the Symposium on “Chicago: The Built Environment,” University of Chicago (Chicago, April 2013)
- “River Rebirth-Urban Renaissance: The Discovery of Urban Nature in Chicago, 1985-2012,” a paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association-Pacific Coast Branch (Denver, August 2013)
- Invited Speaker, “Cities of Fear: The Globalization of Insecurity in the Age of the Gated Community,” a paper presented at The World in the Cities Seminar, Technical University Berlin (Berlin, February 2014)
- “Saving Chicago’s Rivers: Coping with Climate Change and Suburban Sprawl in a Flood-Prone Environment, 1945-66,” a paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Association of Geographers (Chicago, April 2015)
- “Saving Chicago’s Rivers: Coping with Climate Change and Suburban Sprawl in a Flood-Prone Environment since 1945,” a paper presented at the University of Purdue-Calumet (Hammond, Indiana, forthcoming October 2015)
- “Sinking Chicago: The Politics of a Flood-Prone Environment in an Age of Climate Change,” a paper presented at the Urban History Seminar (Chicago, November 2015)
- Invited Speaker, “Parks, Plans, and Prejudice: The Environmental Politics of Outdoor Recreation,” a paper presented to the Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois Chicago (February 2018)
- Invited Speaker, “Sinking Chicago: Climate Change and the Remaking of a Flood-Prone Environment,” Institute for Environmental Sustainability, Loyola University Chicago (November 2018)
- Invited Speaker, “Flowing the Flows: A Brief History of Transnational Urban Environmental History since 2000,” a paper presented at a conference on “Fifty Years of Modern Urban History,” Technical University Darmstadt (Darmstadt, Germany, February 2020)

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES:

Conference Participation:

- Participant, Newberry Summer Institute in Quantitative History, 1978
- Moderator, “Evolution of the Modern Lakefront,” a session conducted at the Conference on Chicago's Maritime Heritage (Chicago, 1984)
- Commentator, “Southern Cities and the Forces of Change,” Annual Meeting of the Southern History Association (Houston, 1984)
- Chairman/Commentator, “Technological Change in the Nineteenth Century,” Annual Meeting of the Social Science History Association (Chicago, 1985)
- Panelist, “Dumps, Landfills, and the Neighborhoods,” Conference on Human Implications of Waste Disposal in Houston (Houston, January 1986)
- Commentator, “Infant City-Chicago,” Annual Meeting of the Illinois History Symposium (Springfield,

- 1986)
- Commentator, "Natural Monopoly and Competition: Myth and Reality in American History," joint session of the Annual Meetings of the Organization of American Historians and the National Council on Public History (St. Louis, 1989)
- Moderator, "The War in American Culture," a Symposium Commemorating U.S. Entry in World War II (Chicago, 1992)
- Chairman, "Lincoln and the Evolution of Law," Annual Meeting of the Illinois History Symposium, 1992
- Commentator, "Getting Wired: The Social History of Electrification," a session presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology (Washington, D.C., 1993)
- Moderator, "Burnham, Bennett, and the Planning of Chicago;" Moderator, "Politics, Housing and Redevelopment in Chicago," sessions presented at the Fifth National Conference on American Planning History (Chicago, 1993)
- Commentator, "Men's and Women's Groups in the Progressive Era," a session presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association (Chicago, 1995)
- Seminar Lecture Series, Topics on American Environmental History: Technisch Hochschule Darmstadt; Universitat Bielefeld; Deutsches Museum, Munchen, Germany, 1995
- Session Organizer, "Energy, Environmental Crisis, and Urban Technology," the annual meeting of the Society for the History of Technology (London, U.K., 1996)
- Symposium Co-Organizer, "The Industrial Environment: Perspectives on the Science, Technology, and Politics of Pollution in the Age of Industry," XXth International Congress of History of Science (Liege, Belgium, July 1997)
- Invited Panelist, "Body and Place," Rutgers/NJIT Conference (April 1998)
- Session Organizer, "Environmental Justice in the City: The Politics of Class, Race and Gender," University of Toronto Conference, "Themes and Issues in North American Environmental History" (Toronto, April 1998)
- Session Organizer, "Drawing Boundaries of Power and Space: Environmental Justice in the Industrial City," the Biannual Meeting of the American Society for Environmental History (Tucson, April 1999)
- Commentator, "Evolution of Water, Wastewater, and Solid Waste Services, 1850-1990," a session presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the History of Technology (Detroit, October 1999)
- Panelist, "Learning from the Past: How Planning History Informs Contemporary Planning Practice," a session presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (Chicago, October 1999)
- Symposium Organizer (with D. Schott/Germany and G. Massard-Guilbaud/France), "In State of Emergency: Cities and Catastrophe," European Urban History Conference (Berlin, Germany, August 2000)
- Participant, "Roundtable on Environment and Health in Global Perspective," roundtable at the annual meeting of the American Society of Environmental History (Denver, CO., March 2002)
- Participant, "Urban Section," Tensions in Europe Project (York, UK, March 2003)
- Conference Commentator, "Rivers in History," German Historical Institute, Washington, D. C. (December 2003)
- Commentator, "Past, Present, and Future Disaster: Cultural Perceptions of Natural Disasters and the Reshaping of Urban Landscapes," annual meeting of the American Society of Environmental History (Victoria, B. C., Canada, April 2004)
- Panelist, "From Hygeia to the Garden City: Bodies, Houses and the Rediscover of the Slum," Third International Round-Table on Urban Environmental History of the 19th and 20th Century: The Making of European Contemporary Cities: an Environmental History, (Sienna, Italy, June 2004)
- Commentator, "Environmental Controversies in North American Cities: Ownership, Planning, and Technology," at the biennial meeting of the Urban History Association (Milwaukee, October 2004)
- Chair and Commentator, "Water, Markets, Cities: The Role of Natural Resources in America," at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association (Chicago, November 2004)
- Chair, "Steps Toward the Coming Energy Transition: Tools, Models and Analyses," at the annual meeting of the American Society of Environmental History (Houston, March 2005)

- Commentator, “Gilded Age and Progressive Era Reform,” a session at the Second Annual Loyola University-Chicago History Graduate Student Conference (Chicago, April 2006)
- Commentator, “Place, People, and Energy Geopolitics” a session at the American Society for Environmental History (Baton Rouge, March 2007)
- Commentator, “Downwind from the First Industrial Society: Scientific and Social Responses to Air Pollution, 1850-2000” a session at the biannual meeting of the European Society for Environmental History (Amsterdam, June 2007)
- Commentator, “Planning the Urban Environment in ‘Shock Cities,’” a session at the annual meeting of the Urban History Association (Houston, November 2008)
- Commentator, “Planning in International Perspective,” a session at the annual meeting of the Society of American City and Regional Planning History (Oakland, October 2009)
- Session Organizer, “Who Owns the Rain?”, a double session at the biannual meeting of the International Water History Association (Delft, June 2010)
- Session Chair and Commentator, “Marketing Sustainability,” at the biannual meeting of the Urban History Association (Las Vegas, October, 2010)
- Session Chair and Commentator, “Cities in Change: Mapping, Mobilization, and Minorities,” at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association-Pacific Coast Branch (Denver, August 2013)
- Commentator, “Beyond the Battlefield: Politics, Labor, and the Republic in the Mid-19th Century America, at the Tenth Annual Loyola University History Graduate Student Conference (Chicago, November 2013)
- Commentator, Christine Rosen’s “Mindsets and Movements: The Discovery of the New Industrial Pollution, at the Newberry Library Seminar on Capitalism (Chicago, November 2013)
- Session Chair and Commentator, “Ports and Power: Organizing the Global Economy” at the annual meeting of the Social Science Association (Chicago, November 2013)
- Commentator, “Shantytowns and the Environment,” a session at the biannual meeting of the American Society for Environmental History (San Francisco, 2014)
- Commentator, “Planning Metropolitan Chicago,” a session at the annual meeting of the Urban History Association (Philadelphia, October 2014)
- Commentator, “Trash, Fire and Bombs: Urban Environmental History in the U.S.,” a session at the Twelfth Annual Loyola University History Graduate Student Conference (Chicago, November 2015)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:

Academic Peer Review:

- Editorial Review, Journal of Urban History, 1985
- Editorial Review, Northern Illinois University Press, 1985
- Editorial Review, Smithsonian Institution Press, 1985
- Editorial Review, National Endowment for the Humanities, 1990
- Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Journal of Urban History, 1990
- Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Texas A & M Press, 1991
- Editorial Review, Illinois Historical Journal, 1992
- Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Pennsylvania State University Press, 1992-1993
- Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Journal of Policy History, 1992
- Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Journal of Urban History, 1992
- Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Smithsonian Institution Press, 1993
- Editorial Review, manuscript submission, University of Illinois Press, 1995
- Editorial Review, manuscript submission, University of Kansas Press, 1996
- Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997
- Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Environmental History, 1998
- Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Environmental History, 1999
- Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Journal of Southern History, 1999
- Editorial Review, grant submission, Newberry Library, 1999
- Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Public Works Management and Policy June 2000

Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Environmental History, 2001
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Environment and History (UK), 2001
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Princeton University Press, 2001
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Journal of American History, 2002
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Cambridge University Press, 2006
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, no. 1, Journal of Illinois History, 2006
 Academic Review, History Department Dissertation, for the Graduate School,
 Northern Illinois University, 2006
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, University of Pittsburgh Press, 2006
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, no. 2, Journal of Illinois History, 2006
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Planning Perspectives, 2007
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Journal of Southern History, 2007
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Environment and History, 2008
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Journal of Planning History, 2008
 Editorial Review, book submission, Environmental History, 2008
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Cultural Geography, 2008
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Minnesota History, 2008
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, University of Virginia Press, 2009
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Journal of American History, 2009
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Water History, 2009
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, 2010
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Journal of Urban History, 2010
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Enterprise and Society, 2011
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Urban History Review, 2011
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Journal of Planning History, 2011
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Winterthur Portfolio, 2011
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, University of Chicago Press, 2011
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, 2011
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Journal of American History, 2011
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, University of Michigan State Press, 2012
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Journal of Planning History, 2013
 Editorial Review, book proposal submission, Routledge Press, 2013
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Temple University Press, 2013
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Johns Hopkins University Press, 2013
 Editorial Review, manuscript resubmission, Journal of American History, 2013
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, 2014
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Kentucky Historical Register, 2016
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, 2016
 Editorial Review, article submission, Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History [website], 2018
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, University of Georgia Press, 2019
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, Journal of Urban History, 2020
 Editorial Review, manuscript submission, University of Pittsburgh Press, 2021

PUBLIC HISTORY MEDIA:

Major Projects:

Consultant, Houston Metropolitan Archives, 1974-1975
 Director, Corporate Archives Project of the Commonwealth Edison Company, 1983-1984
 Steering Committee, Illinois Heritage Corridor, 1984-1985
 Historical Director, Centennial (1987) Museum Project the Commonwealth Edison Company, 1984-1985
 Project Director, History Teaching Alliance, Bi-Centennial Graduate Seminar, 1986
 Historical Director and Executive Editor, Loyola Video History Project, "Chicago: the Biography of a City," 1984-1988. Seven half-hour video documentaries:
 "Chicago World Fair of 1893;"
 "The Chicago School of Architecture;"

“The Origins of Progressivism;”
 “Social Reform and Moral Uplift;”
 “The Burnham Plan and the Building Boom of the 1920s;”
 “Popular Entertainment in Chicago, 1890-1930;”
 “The Great Migration”

Coordinator, Facilities for the Regional Final of the Chicago Metro History Fair-Loyola, 1990-1995
 On-Camera Interview, “The Electric City,” on “Chicago Books,” City of Chicago Cable Television, 1991
 Featured Speaker, Public Works Historical Society Annual Luncheon, Boston, 1992
 Consultant and On-Camera Interview, “The City and Technology,” Open University/BBC television documentary, 1997 (worldwide distribution to twenty million people)
 Consultant and On-Camera Interview, “The Electric Nation,” Great Projects/PBS film documentary, 1998-1999 (national PBS broadcast, June 2002)
 On-Camera Interview, “They Made America,” PBS/American Experience Documentary, (national PBS broadcast, October 2004)
 On-Air Interview, “Water, the Chicago Diversion, and the Future of the Great Lakes,” Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (Sudbury, Ontario), July 2005

Public History Activities:

Program Committee, Fourth Annual Conference on Public History, Chicago, 1982
 Keynote Speaker, Fourth Annual Conference on Teaching History, Eastern Illinois University, 1982
 “Video Documentation of Urban Change: The Case of Chicago, 1900-1984,” a workshop conducted at the Annual Meeting of the National Council on Public History, Los Angeles, 1984
 Speaker, “Women and Technology,” Edison Professional Women's Association, Chicago, 1985

 Evaluator, Illinois Humanities Council, “The Re-Creation of the Street,” a symposium at the Chicago Historical Society, 1989
 Panelist, History Teaching Alliance, Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, Chicago, 1986,
 Workshop Coordinator, “Teaching American Urban and Local History,” Annual Meeting, Organization of American Historians, Philadelphia, 1987
 Keynote Speaker, A Bicentennial Lecture presented at a Conference of the teachers of Cook County, 1987
 Consultant, Centennial Celebration of Chicago's Cultural and Educational Institutions, 1988
 Speaker, “The Electric City,” The City in History Conference: Innovation and Adaptation, University of Illinois-Chicago/Newberry Library, November 1989
 Speaker, “Women, Culture, and Technology,” Fortnightly Club, October 1990
 Tour Guide, Technical University of Delft (Netherlands), June 1990
 Program Committee, Society of Industrial Archeology Annual Conference, June 1990-1991
 Coordinator, History Teaching Alliance, 1990-1992
 Lecture Series, “The Times of Henry Clarke,” Tour Guide Training Program, Chicago Architecture Foundation, 1990; 1992
 Tour Guide, “Goose Island,” Chicago Historical Society, 1991
 Tour Guide, “Industrial Chicago,” Society of Industrial Archeology, 1991
 Speaker, “At the Crossroads of History: Perspectives on Chicago Franchise Politics,” Testimony on the Commonwealth Edison Company Franchise, Committee on Energy and the Environment, Chicago City Council, 1991
 Sponsor, Foreign Scholars Sponsors Committee, Organization of American Historians, 1992
 Featured Speaker, Public Works Historical Society Annual Luncheon, Boston, 1992
 Tour Guide, “Industrial Chicago,” SUNY-Buffalo and Technische Hochschule, Darmstadt (Germany), 1992
 Consultant, “The Promised Land,” BBC television documentary, 1993
 Invited Speaker, “History and Technology,” Teachers’ Workshop, Metro History Fair/Newberry Library, 1998
 Invited Speaker, “The Electric City and the Social Construction of Technology,” Newberry Teachers Consortium, 1999
 “Back of the Yard Tour of Industrial Chicago,” Francis Parker High School Adult Learning Program (2000-01)
 Academic Advisor, Pullman Oral History Project, 2001-2002

Consultant, "Modern Marvels [the Power Grid]," History Channel, 2003
Invited Speaker, "The Ecological City and the Political Formation of Urban Space," Newberry Library Seminar Series (Chicago, 2004)
Workshop Facilitator, "When the Brewers Ruled Chicago: New Perspectives on the Gilded Age," Newberry Teachers Consortium (2005)
Consultant, "Catholic Chicago," museum project, Chicago Historical Museum, 2006 (2008)
Panel Participant, "Burnham Centennial," Two neighborhood public library forums, Newberry Library, (Chicago, 2009)

Invited Speaker, "Sinking Chicago: Climate Change the Remaking of a Flood-Prone Environment," Schaumburg Public Library Program (Schaumburg, Il., forthcoming June 2021).

ASSOCIATIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Organization of American Historians, 1975-present
Chicago Historical Society/Museum, 1975-2000
American Historical Association, 1984-2011
Public Works Historical Society, 1984-1995
Urban History Association, 1988-present
Society for the History of the Gilded Age and the Progressive Era, 1990-2013
American Society for Environmental History, 1990-present
Society for the History of Technology, 1994-1997
History of Science Society, 1997-2004
Society for American City and Regional Planning History, 2004-2016
International Planning History Society, 2004-2016
European Society for Environmental History, 2004-2018

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