

# WILLIAM DAVIS BRYAN

bryanwilld@gmail.com • www.williamdbryan.net

---

---

## EDUCATION

- 2013 Ph.D., Environmental History, The Pennsylvania State University  
2009 M.A., Environmental History, The Pennsylvania State University  
2007 B.A., History  
B.A., Political Science, Furman University, *magna cum laude*

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2019- Built Environment Project Manager  
2018-19 Built Environment Associate  
Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance (SEEA)  
2015-17 Visiting Lecturer  
Department of History, Georgia State University  
2014-15 Postdoctoral Fellow  
The Bill and Carol Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry, Emory University  
2013-14 Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow  
The Pennsylvania State University

## PUBLICATIONS

### **Books**

- 2018 *The Price of Permanence: Nature and Business in the New South*. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2018. (paperback edition: November 2020)  
Reviewed in *The Journal of Southern History*, *New Books in Environmental Studies*, *H-SHGAPE*, *EH.net*.

### **Peer-Reviewed Articles**

- 2017 "Taming the Wild Side of Bonaventure: Tourism and the Contested Southern Landscape," *Southern Cultures* 23, No. 2 (Summer 2017): 49-74.  
2011 "Poverty, Industry, and Environmental Quality: Weighing Paths to Economic Development at the Dawn of the Environmental Era," *Environmental History* 16, No. 3 (July 2011): 492-522.  
2011 "Piscatorial Politics: Fishery Regulation and the Economic Future of Rhode Island, 1869-1872," *The New England Quarterly* 84, No. 3 (September 2011): 444-72.

### **Book Chapters**

- 2017 "'Constructive and Not Destructive Development': The Struggle for Permanent Uses of Resources in the American South," in *Green Capitalism?: Business and the*

*Environment in the Twentieth Century*, Eds. Hartmut Berghoff and Adam Rome (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2017).

### **Manuscripts in Submission**

- 2020 “Sprawling Fields of Cotton: The Boom and Bust of Gwinnett’s Cotton Culture,” in *Gwinnett County, Georgia, and the Transformation of the American South, 1818-2018*. Athens: University of Georgia Press. Ed. Michael J. Gagnon and Matthew Hild.
- 2020 “Cultivating Leisure: Hobby Farms and the Troubled Transition to Corporate Agriculture,” *Agricultural History* (in revision: revise and resubmit).

### **Policy Reports & Whitepapers**

- 2020 *Energy Equity in the Southern United States: A Review of Frameworks and Metrics*. Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance (SEEA) and Texas Energy Poverty Research Institute (TEPRI). (forthcoming, 2021).
- 2020 *Empowering Electric Utilities to Recognize Energy Savings from Water Conservation: A Guide*. Network for Energy, Water, and Health in Affordable Buildings (forthcoming, 2021).
- 2020 *Strengthening Georgia’s Communities through Environmental Action: Highlights from ECO-Action’s Three Decades of Environmental Justice Work*. Atlanta: Environmental Community Action, Inc. (forthcoming, 2020).
- 2020 *Energy Insecurity Fundamentals for the Southeast*. Atlanta: Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance, October 2020 (forthcoming, 2020).
- 2020 *Adapting to the 2018 North Carolina Energy Conservation Code: Lessons from the Home Energy Rating System (HERS) Index*. Atlanta: Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance, January 2020.
- 2019 *Construction, Codes, and Commerce: Commercial Construction Data Review (2007-2017)*. Atlanta: Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance, 2019 (with Lauren Westmoreland, Meghan Joyce, and Judy Knight).
- 2019 *Construction, Codes, and Commerce: Residential Construction Data Review (2005-2017)*. Atlanta: Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance, 2019 (with Lauren Westmoreland, Meghan Joyce, and Judy Knight).
- 2018 *Shays’ Rebellion and the Cultural Heritage of the Cowee Forest*. Arlington, VA: The Conservation Fund, 2018.

### **Other Publications**

- 2020 “Energy Efficiency is Vital to Prevent Heat-Related Death and Illness,” *Energy Efficiency Day*, August 17, 2020.
- 2020 “Powering the South with ‘White Coal,’” *Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance*, February 12, 2020.
- 2020 “The Fall and Rise of Energy Conservation Codes,” *Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance*, January 9, 2020.

- 2019 “A Dam in Slabtown: The Untold History of Environmental Struggles in the New South,” *Tropics of Meta*, June 21, 2019.
- 2018 “There’s a solution to the Southeast’s water crisis. But will Georgia and Florida agree to it?” *Washington Post*, March 8, 2018.
- 2016 “The First Green Developer,” *Edge Effects*, October 20, 2016.
- 2016 “What Henry Grady can teach Atlanta about sustainable growth,” *Saporta Report*, June 13, 2016.
- 2016 “Southern Conservationism?: Will Bryan ’07 says ‘Yes,’” *History at Furman* (Fall/Winter 2016).
- 2006 “Conestee Mills: The Environmental Effects of the Rise of Greenville on a ‘Shimmering Bosom of Moonlight Waters,’” *The Furman Humanities Review* (May 2006).

### Digital Scholarship

- 2020 *Energy Insecurity in the South* (ArcGIS story map)  
Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance, November 2020
- 2020 *Energy Insecurity in Memphis, Tennessee* (ArcGIS story map)  
Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance, July 2020
- 2020 *Energy Insecurity in the Southeast* (ArcGIS story map)  
Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance, October 2020
- 2015- *Traveling South* (web-based mapping tool and database)  
Emory Center for Digital Scholarship (ECDS)

### Book Reviews

- 2020 Review of *The Gulf: The Making of an America Sea*. By Jack E. Davis. *H-Nationalism Reviews* (forthcoming).
- 2020 Review of *Engines of Redemption: Railroads and the Reconstruction of Capitalism in the New South*. By R. Scott Huffard, Jr. *Journal of Southern History* (forthcoming).
- 2019 Review of *Selling the Sights: The Invention of the Tourist in American Culture*. By Will B. Mackintosh. *H-Nationalism Reviews*. December 2019.
- 2019 Review of *Unredeemed Land: An Environmental History of Civil War and Emancipation in the Cotton South*. By Erin Stewart Mauldin. *Agricultural History*, Vol. 93, No. 4 (Fall 2019): 766-68.
- 2017 Review of *Urban Green: Nature, Recreation, and the Working Class in Industrial Chicago*. By Colin Fisher. *H-SHGAPE Reviews*. December 2017.
- 2017 Review of *Slavery's Capitalism: A New History of American Economic Development*. Edited by Sven Beckert and Seth Rockman. *Indiana Magazine of History* 113, No. 4 (December 2017).

- 2016 Review of *Between Slavery and Capitalism: The Legacy of Emancipation in the American South*. By Martin Ruef. *Agricultural History* 90, No. 2 (Spring 2016): 273-74.
- 2016 Review of *Designing Dixie: Tourism, Memory, and Urban Space in the New South*. By Reiko Hillyer. *The Journal of Southern History* 82, No. 2 (May 2016): 463-65.
- 2016 Review of *Bridging the Sea Islands' Past and Present, 1893-2006: The History of Beaufort County*, Volume 3. By Lawrence S. Rowland and Stephen R. Wise. *The South Carolina Historical Magazine* 117, No. 1 (January 2016): 65-7.
- 2015 Review of *Green Gold: Alabama's Forests and Forest Industries*. By James E. Fickle. *The Journal of Southern History* 81, No. 3 (August 2015): 784-85.
- 2015 Review of *Destination Dixie: Tourism and Southern History*. Edited by Karen L. Cox. *The South Carolina Historical Magazine* (April 2015): 155-57.

### **AWARDS AND HONORS**

- 2013 Penn State Alumni Association Dissertation Award  
-highest dissertation award at Penn State University-
- 2013 National Finalist  
Council of Graduate Schools/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award  
-one of three national finalists for all arts and humanities disciplines-
- 2012 Raymond Lombra Graduate Student Award for Excellence in Research in the Humanities  
Penn State College of Liberal Arts  
-for best publication by a graduate student in 2011-
- 2008 The Hardin Craig Memorial Prize  
The Frank C. Munson Institute of American Maritime Studies  
-for best paper based on archival collections at the Mystic Seaport Library-

### **GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

#### **Grants Received**

- 2015 Alfred D. Bell Travel Grant  
Forest History Society, Durham, NC
- 2012 Summer Research Residency  
Penn State Institute for the Arts and Humanities
- 2011 James Landing Graduate Fellowship in History  
Richards Civil War Era Center
- 2011 Karen and Lewis Gold Graduate Fellowship  
Richards Civil War Era Center
- 2010 McCourtney Pre-Dissertation Fellowship  
Penn State Department of History

## INVITED TALKS

- 2020 “The Okefenokee: The Past, Present, and Future of America’s Swamp”  
The Learning Center, Savannah, GA
- 2020 “Environmental Justice in Georgia: The Legacies of ECO-Action”  
Georgia Grassroots Environmental Network (GGEN)
- 2019 “How Atlanta's Pipes Got Their Shapes: A Century-Long Evolution of Water and Sewer Infrastructure”  
City of Atlanta, Department of Watershed Management, Atlanta, GA
- 2018 “Sustainability with a Southern Twang: Lessons from the South's First Attempt at Sustainable Development”  
The Ray C. Anderson Center for Sustainable Business/Center for Serve-Learn-Sustain, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA
- 2018 “Theodore Roosevelt and the Conundrum of Excess”  
The Learning Center, Savannah, GA
- 2018 Discussion of *The Price of Permanence: Nature and Business in the New South*  
Decatur Book Festival, Decatur, GA
- 2018 “Charles E. Fraser: The First Green Developer?”  
Discovery Lecture Series: Coastal Discovery Museum, Hilton Head Island, SC
- 2018 “The Savannah: The Story of a River and its City”  
The Learning Center, Savannah, GA
- 2017 “Rooting Ecotourism in Southern Soils: The First Generation of ‘Green’ Developers”  
Center for the History of Agriculture, Science, and the Environment of the South (CHASES), Starkville, MS
- 2017-19 “Georgia’s Waterways: The Flow of History”  
Institute for Georgia Environmental Leadership, Albany, GA
- 2017 “Hilton Head Goes to Earth Day: Protecting Nature’s Showpiece in the Lowcountry”  
Coastal Discovery Museum, Hilton Head Island, SC
- 2016 “Do not uglify the earth’: Tourism and American Environmental Politics”  
Furman University, Greenville, SC
- 2015 “Constructive and not Destructive Development: The Struggle for Permanent Uses of Resources in the American South”  
Emory University, Atlanta, GA
- 2014 “Giving ‘Wise Use’ a Southern Twang”  
University of Delaware, Newark, DE

## **CONFERENCE ACTIVITY**

### **Public Conferences/Seminars Organized**

- 2021 The Okefenokee: The Past, Present, and Future of “Trembling Earth”  
Georgia Humanities & the Fox Center at Emory University
- 2017 Georgia’s Waterways  
Georgia Humanities & the Fox Center at Emory University
- 2016 A Century of America’s National Parks  
The Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry at Emory University
- 2015 John Muir and Wilderness in Modern Georgia  
Georgia Humanities & the Fox Center at Emory University
- 2011 Landscapes of Freedom: Freedom Struggles in the Long Nineteenth Century  
The George and Ann Richards Civil War Era Center

### **Panels Organized**

- 2020 Collaborating for Equity: How Cross-Cutting Programs Can Support Vulnerable Populations  
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE), Conference on Health, Energy, and Environment
- 2019 (Multi) Family Matters: Current Issues Impacting the Multifamily Buildings Sector  
U.S. Department of Energy, National Energy Codes Conference
- 2018 Nature, Race, and Justice on the Edge of America  
American Society for Environmental History Annual Meeting
- 2013 Whose Resources?: Economic Development in a Global Perspective  
American Historical Association Annual Meeting
- 2011 Visions of the South: Environment and Culture in the New South  
Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting
- 2010 Industry and Environment in the Twentieth Century South  
American Society for Environmental History Annual Meeting

### **Papers Presented**

- 2020 “A Regional Approach to Measuring and Addressing Energy Inequities”  
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE) Behavior, Energy, and Climate Change Conference
- 2020 “Improving Health through Integration with Energy-Efficiency Programs”  
American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Conference
- 2019 “How to Get to Zero: A Multi-State Comparison of Zero Energy Ready Homes”  
New Buildings Institute, Getting to Zero Forum, Oakland, CA

- 2019 “Greening Racial Justice: Lessons from a Century-Long Struggle over Atlanta's Proctor Creek”  
Atlanta Studies Symposium, Atlanta, GA
- 2018 “The Real Cost of Affordable Housing: Coping with the South's High Energy Burdens”  
Southern Conference on Homelessness and Housing, Orange Beach, AL
- 2018 “Green Tourism and Environmental Justice on the Carolina Sea Islands”  
American Society for Environmental History Meeting, Riverside, CA
- 2018 “Resisting Tourism at the Height of Jim Crow”  
Southern Labor Studies Association, University of Georgia, Athens, GA
- 2017 “Resorting to Nature?: ‘Green’ Developers and Environmental Politics”  
American Society for Environmental History Meeting, Chicago, IL
- 2015 “Manufacturing ‘Permanent’ Landscapes in the Developing South”  
Manufacturing Landscapes: Nature and Technology in Environmental History,  
Hosted by the Center for Ecological History at Renmin University of China and the  
Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Beijing, China
- 2015 “Hobby Farming Tourists and Working Rural Landscapes in the New South”  
Agricultural History Society Annual Meeting, Lexington, KY
- 2014 “Corporate Conservation and Conflict: Determining the Ideal Forms of  
Development in the American South”  
Green Capitalism: Exploring the Crossroads of Environmental and Business  
History, The Hagley Library and Museum, Wilmington, DE
- 2014 “Permanent Growth and Environmental Degradation in a Developing Region”  
Cornell Conference on the Histories of American Capitalism, Ithaca, NY
- 2014 “Building a More ‘Permanent’ South”  
Symposium on Southern Environmental History, Center for the History of  
Agriculture, Science, and the Environment of the South (CHASES), Starkville, MS
- 2013 “‘Nature’s Bounty’: Competing Visions of Economic Development in the New South”  
American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA
- 2011 “Touring the New South Creed: Southern Railroads as Tourist Boosters”  
Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD
- 2010 “‘Ecology Emotion’: The Fight against Industrial Pollution and Environmentalism  
in Beaufort, South Carolina, 1969-1970”  
American Society for Environmental History Meeting, Portland, OR
- 2009 “‘The Strength of the Scup Ticket’: The Politics of Fishery Regulation in Rhode  
Island, 1870-1872”  
North Atlantic Fisheries History Association Conference, Norfolk, VA

## Webinars

- 2020 *Southeast in a Time of Crisis*  
Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance (SEEA)
- 2020 *Advancing Building Codes in the Southeast*  
Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance (SEEA), for the Southeast Sustainability Directors Network (SSDN)

## Commentary/Moderation

- 2020 Collaborating for Equity: How Cross-Cutting Programs Can Support Vulnerable Populations  
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE), Conference on Health, Energy, and Environment, New Orleans, LA
- 2018 Crises of Social Reproduction in the U.S. South: Gender, Race, and the Precarities of Daily Life  
Southern Labor Studies Association, University of Georgia, Athens, GA
- 2011 Southern Landscapes, Southern Bodies: Freedom and the Environment  
Landscapes of Freedom: Freedom Struggles During the Long Nineteenth Century, George and Ann Richards Civil War Era Center at Penn State, University Park, PA

## Interviews/Media

- 2020 “Building Conversations: Energy Insecurity in the Southeast,” Institute for Market Transformation, September 23, 2020.
- 2020 “Pandemic, unpaid bills test utilities’ social justice vows,” *E&E News*, September 14, 2020.
- 2018 Ruthie Yow, “Sustainability from a Southern Perspective,” *Scheller School of Business News*, Georgia Institute of Technology, October 5, 2018.
- 2018 Discussion of *The Price of Permanence: Nature and Business in the New South*, New Books in Environmental Studies, New Books Podcast Network, August 2018
- 2018 “Environmental Permanence in New South Atlanta: An Interview with William D. Bryan,” *Atlanta Studies*, August 2018
- 2017 “The Trouble with Atlanta’s Proctor Creek,” NPR’s *WABE*, July 20, 2017.
- 2017 Molly Samuel, “A Long History Of Activism On Atlanta's Troubled Proctor Creek,” NPR's *WABE*, May 19, 2017.
- 2016 “Southern Conservationism? Will Bryan '07 Says ‘Yes,’” *History at Furman*, (Fall/Winter 2016)
- 2016 David Lauderdale, “How a diverse band of locals won Beaufort County's biggest environmental battle,” *The Island Packet* [Hilton Head, SC], December 18, 2016
- 2015 David Lauderdale, “Fight against Big Oil nothing new for Hilton Head Island Gullah,” *The Island Packet*, April 2, 2015



## **TEACHING**

### **Georgia State University**

United States Environmental History (SU 2016, SU 2017)

Survey of United States History (FA 2015, SP 2016, SU 2016, FA 2016, SP 2017, SU 2017)

### **Emory University**

The History of Tourism and Nature (SP 2015)

### **The Pennsylvania State University**

Undergraduate Research Seminar (SP 2014)

United States since 1877 (SP 2014)

American Environmental History (FA 2013)

The Emergence of Modern America (FA 2013)

United States to 1877 (FA 2010)

### **Teaching Assistant**

United States since 1877 (SP 2009)

United States to 1877 (FA 2007, SP 2007, FA 2008)

## **SERVICE**

### **Professional Service**

- 2021- Southeast Energy Insecurity Project Advisory Board Member  
Nicholas School for Environmental Policy Solutions, Duke University
- 2020- Georgia Asthma Advisory Board Member  
Georgia Department of Public Health
- 2020- Program Advisor  
2021 Getting to Zero Forum  
Rocky Mountain Institute & New Buildings Institute
- 2020- Vice Chair  
2019-20 Board Member  
Georgia Conservancy's Generation Green Board of Directors
- 2019-20 Policy Working Group Lead  
Energy/Water Nexus Challenge Group  
Network for Energy, Water, and Health in Affordable Buildings (NEWHAB)
- 2019- Advisory Committee Member  
The Coasts, Climates, the Humanities, and the Environment Consortium (CCHEC)

- 2019- Steering Committee Member  
Hot Water Forum  
American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE)
- 2019-20 Advisory Committee Member  
Conference on Health, Energy, and Environment  
American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE)
- 2019-20 Energy & Built Environment Subject Matter Expert  
Georgia Drawdown, Georgia Institute of Technology
- 2015-19 Manuscript Peer Reviewer  
*Agricultural History*  
*Enterprise and Society*  
*Environmental History*  
*The Journal of the Civil War Era*
- 2018 Subject Matter Expert for Industrial Engineering Capstone Project  
Georgia Institute of Technology, Center for Serve-Learn-Sustain
- 2018-19 Redesign Committee Member  
Low Income Energy Affordability Data (LEAD) Tool  
U.S. Department of Energy
- 2016 Judge  
Documentary Film Division, Georgia National History Day Competition
- 2016 Faculty Representative  
Association of Historians at Georgia State University Prize Committee
- 2014-15 Secretary  
Southern Historical Association (SHA) Program Committee
- 2011-13 Editorial Assistant  
*The Journal of the Civil War Era*  
University of North Carolina Press
- 2010 Representative  
Penn State History Graduate Student Association
- 2009 Research Assistant  
Pennsylvania's Agricultural History Project