

Jim Clifford, PhD
Assistant Professor
Department of History
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Education:

- 2005-2011 PhD, History, York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Dissertation: “A Wetland Suburb on the Edge of London: a Social and Environmental History of West Ham and the River Lea, 1855-1914”
Supervisor: Dr. Stephen Brooke
- 2003-2004 MA, History, Tri-University Program,
Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada
- 1998-2003 BA, Honours History (Minor Politics),
Bishop’s University, Lennoxville, Quebec, Canada

Major Awards:

- 2013 Rachel Carson Centre Fellowship, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich.
- 2013 SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellowship in the History Department at the University of Guelph, (Declined)
- 2012-2013 SSHRC Digging into Data Grant Postdoctoral Fellowship,
- 2009-2010 Ontario Graduate Scholarship
- 2008-2009 St. George’s Society Ontario Graduate Scholarship

Academic Employment:

- 2013 Assistant Professor, History Department, University of Saskatchewan
- 2012-2013 Postdoctoral Fellow, Trading Consequences Research Project, Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies, York University
- 2010- 2012 Project Coordinator – Network in Canadian History and Environment (NiCHE), University of Western Ontario

- 2010 GIS Contract – Created two GIS Maps for a book on French Canada edited by Colin Coates and Geoffrey Ewen.
- 2006-2008 Manuscript Assistant, *ISIS*, the Journal of the History of Science Society, York University
- 2005-2006 Graduate Research Assistant, History Department, York University

Teaching Experience:

- 2011-2012 Course Director – History 3480, British Society and Politics in the 20th Century, History Department, York University
- 2008-2011 Teaching Assistant – History 2400 British History, History Department, York University
- 2003-2004 Teaching Assistant and Marking Assistant, Wilfrid Laurier University

Projects and Grants:

- 2012-2013 Trading Consequences – Digging into Data Grant
 - Co-author of grant application along with Prof Colin Coates (PI) at York University, Prof Ewan Klein (PI), Dr. Claire Grover, Dr. Beatrice Alex, and Dr. James Reid at University of Edinburgh, and Prof Aaron Quigley (PI) at the University of St Andrews.
 - \$125,000 in Canada and £150,000 in Britain.
 - One of fourteen successful international projects.
- 2010-2012 NiCHE Mobile Application Development Project
 - Grant from NiCHE held along with Dr. Sean Kheraj to develop an environmental history iPhone Application.
 - Environmental History Mobile app launched in the Apple App Store in March 2012: <http://itunes.apple.com/ca/app/environmental-history-mobile/id508805105?mt=8>
 - The environmental history content aggregator is also available at www.envhist.com.
- 2009-present Founding Member of Editorial Collective, ActiveHistory.ca
 - Led the development of the Active History Website, which is now one of the most popular history websites in Canada with fifteen to twenty thousand unique visitors each month.
- 2008 Co-organizer of the SSHRC funded “Active History: History for the Future” Symposium, held at Glendon College, York University,

September 28 and 29, 2008

- Workshop that founded the Active History network and drew academics and community activists from across North America.
- Co-applicant for a successful SSHRC \$11,000 Workshop Grant.

2007 Co-organizer of the “New Frontiers in Graduate History” Conference
- First experience organizing a large academic event.

Peer Reviewed Publications:

2012 “The River Lea in West Ham: a river’s role in shaping industrialization on the eastern edge of nineteenth-century London,” in *Urban Rivers: Re-making Rivers, Cities and Space in Europe and North America*, edited by Stéphane Castonguay and Matthew Evenden. (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2012), 34-56.

2008 Photo Essay “The Urban Periphery and the Rural Fringe: West Ham's Hybrid Landscape,” in *Left History*, vol. 13, no. 1 (Spring Summer, 2008), 129-142.

2013 Colleen Beard, Daniel Macfarlane, and Jim Clifford, “Mapping the Welland Canals and the St. Lawrence Seaway with Google Earth,” in *Historical GIS in Canada*, J. Bonnel and M. Fortin, eds., (University of Calgary Press, November 2013).

Other Publications:

2010 “What is Active History?,” in *Left History*, vol. 15, no. 1 (Fall Winter, 2010-11), 12-19.

Forthcoming Conference Papers, Roundtables and Posters:

2013, April

2013, April “Roundtable: Making Environmental History Public Through Digital Technologies” accepted as a round table participant at the Annual Meeting of the National Council on Public History, Ottawa.

2013, August

Conference Papers:

2013 “Text mining Canadian commodity trades and environments: Results from the ‘Trading Consequences’ project” co-presented with Colin Coates at the European Society for Environmental History Conference,

Munich.

- 2013 “Finding our NiCHE: Environmental historians and the adopting, adapting, and avoiding of digital tools over the past decade” presented at the European Society for Environmental History Conference, Munich.
- 2013 “Computer-assisted research in large data sets: The lessons of ‘Trading Consequences’” co-presented with Colin Coates at the Canadian Historical Association Conference, Victoria.
- 2013 Poster: “Trading Consequences: Text-mining Two Million Pages in Search of the Environmental Impacts of Nineteenth-century Commodity Trades,” presented at the American Society for Environmental History Conference, Toronto.
- 2013 “Roundtable: Making Environmental History Public Through Digital Technologies” at the Annual Meeting of the National Council on Public History, Ottawa.
- 2012 “Supplying Fats to Greater London: a Global Environmental History of Soap and Candle Making in the Nineteenth Century” presented at the North American Conference on British Studies, Montreal, QC.
- 2012 “Text Mining the Nineteenth-Century Commodity Trade: the Canadian Context” presented with Colin Coates at Making Connections in Victorian Research, The Victorian Studies Network at York 5th Annual Symposium, Toronto, ON.
- 2012 “Text Mining the Nineteenth-Century Commodity Trade” presented with Ewan Klein and Uta Hinrichs at the Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC) Commodity Histories Project Networking Workshop, London, England.
- 2012 “Researching East London’s Urban Environmental History using Historical GIS” presented at a joint session at the Canadian Historical Association and the Canadian Association of Geographers Conferences, Waterloo, ON.
- 2012 “Supplying West Ham’s Industry: A Global Environmental History of Industry in the Thames Estuary,” presented at the American Society of Environmental History Conference, Madison, WI.
- 2011 “Of Tides and Trees: The rise and fall of Shipbuilding in Maitland, N.S.” co-presented with Judy Burns and Dr. Thomas Peace at Environments of Mobility in Canadian History, Glendon College,

Toronto, ON.

- 2010 "Gleaning East London's Oral Histories to Write an Environmental History from Below" presented at the Canadian Historical Association Conference, Montreal, QC.
- 2010 "ActiveHistory.ca" presented at the Great Lakes THATCamp (The Humanities and Technology Camp) in East Lansing, MI.
- 2009 "The Lea: A Suburban Industrial River" presented at The Industrialization of Rivers in Comparative Perspective Conference, Trois-Rivières, QC.
- 2009 "Environment and Health in West Ham, 1895-1910" presented at the World Congress of Environmental History, Copenhagen, DK.
- 2009 Round Table Presenter: "Active History: History for the Future" at the Canadian Historical Association Conference, Ottawa, ON.
- 2009 "Sewage and Industrial Waste: Pollution and the River Lea in East London and West Ham from 1866-1899" presented at the American Society of Environmental History Conference, Tallahassee, FL.
- 2008 "The Overuse of the River Lea and the Politics of Water Famine in West Ham, 1898" presented at the Canadian Historical Association Conference, Vancouver, BC.
- 2008 "On the edge of London: the multiple and changing boundaries which shaped West Ham's development 1890-1910" presented at the American Society of Environmental History Conference, Boise, IA.
- 2008 "West Ham's Hybrid Landscape" presented at New Frontier in Graduate History Conference, York University, Toronto, ON.
- 2006 "Tom Mann's Sober Epiphany" presented at New Frontier in Graduate History Conference, York University, Toronto, ON.
- 2005 "Representations of the Dockers' Strike of 1889 in *The Times* of London" presented at the Tri-University Graduate History Conference, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON.

Public Events:

- 2012 "Beyond the Olympic Park – the Lower Lea Valley from Hackney Wick to Leamouth," an Open House London walking tour with co-organized with Ralph Ward: <http://events.londonopenhouse.org/building/19047>

- Held two weeks after the end of the Paralympics, the walk drew 215 people.

- 2012 "An Environmental History of the Lower Lea River Valley" presented to local stakeholders in the heritage and future development of the Lower Lea Valley at the House Mills museum.
- 2011 "From a Pastoral Wetland to an Industrial Wasteland, and Back Again? An Environmental History of the Lower Lea River Valley, the Site of the 2012 London Olympics" presented at the ActiveHistory.ca lecture public series at the Mississauga Public Library.
- Recorded and presented on the ActiveHistory.ca website:
<http://activehistory.ca/?p=5134>

Podcast Interview:

- 2010 "Podcast 31: Environmental History of the 2012 Olympic site: the Lower River Lea," *Exploring Environmental History Podcast*, Jan Oosthoek, interviewer and producer.
<http://www.eh-resources.org/podcast/podcast2010.html>

Digital Methods Courses:

- 2012 "Digital Humanities Databases," five day course led by Harvey Quamen at the Digital Humanities Summer Institute, University of Victoria.
<http://dhsi.org/>
- 2008 "Historical GIS," two day workshop led by Marcel Fortin, Robarts Library, University of Toronto.
- Co-organized this event with fellow NiCHE members in the York History Department.
<http://historicalgis.wordpress.com/>