



February 2021

## Hennessey Receives Leopold-Hidy Award



The [Leopold-Hidy Award](#), given by the Forest History Society and the American Society for Environmental History, recognizes superior scholarship in their co-published quarterly journal *Environmental History*. Selected by the journal's editorial board, the award is based on elegance of the writing, insightfulness of the argument, novelty of the premise, and rigorousness of the scholarship. Elizabeth Hennessey has received the 2021 award for her article "Saving Species: The Co-evolution of Tortoise Taxonomy and Conservation in the Galápagos Islands" (April 2020).

Using a case study of the Galápagos tortoises, Elizabeth makes a convincing case for critically engaging with species as a historical concept rather than operating as if it were a fixed scientific category. The editorial board was impressed with the degree to which the author "takes what could have been a mundane history of a change in taxonomic designation and crafts it into a lively essay on the histories of science and conservation and of the very concept of species itself." In the board's opinion, the article is "not only captivating in the way it is written, but also encourages environmental historians to push the bounds of the discipline."

Elizabeth Hennessey is an associate professor of History and Environmental Studies in the Department of History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is a geographer who works at the intersection of environmental history, political ecology, science and technology studies, and multispecies studies with a regional focus on Latin America. The editorial board, the editors, and the FHS and ASEH leadership warmly congratulate Elizabeth.

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**NEXT in the FHS *Unprecedented Seasons* Lecture Series**

### **Laura Dassow Walls: "A Vast and Indefinite Loss': Thoreau on Dwelling within Hell"**

In her talk "A Vast and Indefinite Loss': Henry David Thoreau on Dwelling within Hell," Laura Dassow Walls



will explore how the naturalist who spoke of freedom through solitude in nature viewed a country that denied freedom to thousands by keeping them in bondage. Her presentation will be given over Zoom at March 31 at 2pm EST.

Laura works in the field of literature and science, with a special concentration on Henry David Thoreau, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and on American Transcendentalism more generally. She is the author of the award-winning biography [Henry David Thoreau: A Life](#), published by the University of Chicago Press in 2017. Her other books include *The Passage to Cosmos: Alexander von Humboldt and the Shaping of America* (2009); *Emerson's Life in Science: The Culture of*

*Truth* (2003); and *Seeing New Worlds: Henry David Thoreau and Nineteenth-Century Natural Science* (1995).

We look forward to hosting Laura in our virtual lecture series, *Unprecedented Seasons*, where we explore current topics including social isolation and social justice through the lens of environmental history, biography and memoir. The lecture series seeks to explore and present ideas that spark interest in keeping with the FHS mission to inform the present while exploring the past.

[REGISTER FOR THE LECTURE](#)

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## FHS Welcomes New Intern from Duke

A new intern has joined the FHS library and archives team. Andrea Kolarova is a recent graduate of Duke University with a degree in Environmental Sciences and a certificate in Sustainability Engagement. She is currently working part-time as a research assistant for Professor Stuart Pimm at the Nicholas School of the Environment, where she will be entering the graduate program in the fall.

While at FHS she will be working on digitization projects and digital exhibits. Her first project will be to complete an online exhibit about the history of women in the U.S. Forest Service. She has also started digitizing materials for another on the Oberlaender Trust educational program. The trust paid for American foresters and lumberman to tour German-speaking countries in the mid-1930s to learn more about forestry and the forest industry. Among the collections she'll be using are the papers of [Clarence Forsling](#) and [Leon Kneipp](#), members of the foresters' group that also include Aldo Leopold.



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## Host City Sought for World Congress of Environmental History in 2024

After three very successful meetings in Copenhagen, Denmark; Guimarães, Portugal; and Florianopolis, Brazil, the International Consortium of

Environmental History Organizations (ICEHO) is now seeking proposals from parties interested in hosting the fourth World Congress for Environmental History in 2024, preferably in July or August of that year.



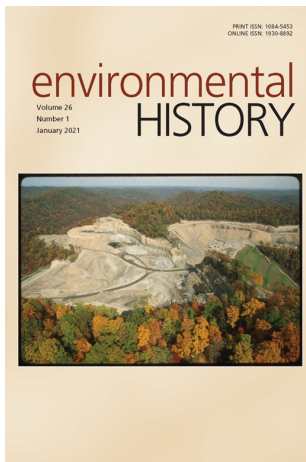
ICEHO encourages proposals from any part of the globe. Proposals should come from individuals or organizations affiliated with universities or scholarly societies. While the support of local convention and visitors bureaus may become important once the site is under consideration, the proposal should not come directly from them or from events services. For more information, visit ICEHO's site [here](#).

If you are interested in hosting or if you would like to submit a notice of intent, please contact ICEHO president Graeme Wynn at [wynn@geog.ubc.ca](mailto:wynn@geog.ubc.ca) or ICEHO secretary Alexandra Vlachos at [alexandra.vlachos@hist.unibe.ch](mailto:alexandra.vlachos@hist.unibe.ch) for further details and a copy of the conference guidelines, before August 2020 if possible. ICEHO aims to finalize the site selection by July 2021.

Please keep in mind that hosting a conference for up to 750 delegates requires substantial effort and time as well as significant institutional support and fundraising, but it is also a terrific opportunity to showcase local/national scholarship, to advance environmental awareness, and to promote local initiatives.

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## Advance Reviews in *Environmental History*



Among the many book reviews in the next issue of *Environmental History*, the following ones may be of special interest for forest history scholars and fans: David Fedman, [Seeds of Control: Japan's Empire of Forestry in Colonial Korea](#); Thomas R. Cox, [The Other Oregon People: People, Environment, and History East of the Cascades](#); Char Miller and Clay S. Jenkinson, eds., [Theodore Roosevelt, Naturalist in the Arena](#). These reviews are available now to read ahead of the print edition coming out in April.

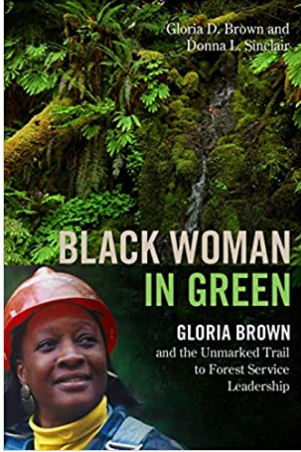
Remember, by renewing your FHS or joint membership with ASEH, you will continue to receive this interdisciplinary journal which addresses issues relating to human interactions with the natural world over time. It includes insights from history, geography, anthropology, the natural sciences, and many other disciplines. FHS members at the **Partner Level of \$75** and **Joint Members** (combined membership with ASEH at \$126) receive the journal four times per year as well as other benefits all year long.

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## FROM THE BLOG

### *Black Woman in Green:* Excerpts from Gloria Brown's Memoir

In 1999, Gloria Brown became the first female African American forest supervisor in the U.S. Forest Service. Gloria cowrote her memoir [Black Woman in Green: Gloria Brown and the Unmarked Trail to Forest Service Leadership](#) with Donna Sinclair, who shares her reflections on working with Gloria and excerpts from the memoir in our latest [blog](#)



[post here.](#)

Donna Sinclair's virtual presentation about the Forest Service and civil rights on our [YouTube channel](#), which was given on Feb. 25, will be available starting March 1.

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## FHS COVID-19 UPDATE



The Society continues to follow North Carolina's recommended health and safety guidelines relating to COVID-19, and those for Durham County, where the headquarters is located.

We are so fortunate to have ample room for staff and a few researchers and interns to work safely and productively while maintaining these guidelines. However, for the safety of all, we are not yet open to walk-in visitors, and guests desiring access to the archives or wishing to drop off

materials must make an appointment and complete required health forms relating to COVID-19 symptoms and exposure.

All FHS staff and their families remain healthy and look forward to resuming "normal" library visiting hours soon.

