

Centre for Urban History
25th Anniversary Year

Graduate Conference

Place in History - Histories of Place

Friday 02 October 2009

Urban settlement is dependent upon location with the obvious requirements of food and water being of primary consideration for settlers. But beyond that, what part do space and place play in the development of a community or locale? What emphasis should historians place on the material environment of a place and how should they analyse the relationship between people and that environment? How does the study of landscape and environment contribute to our understanding of the urban past? This conference encourages consideration of new (and old) approaches to the interaction of people and place across medieval, early modern and modern periods.

Call for Papers

Graduate students and early-career researchers are invited to submit 200-300 word abstracts for 20-25 minute papers relating to the conference theme by July 31st 2009. Contributors are free to interpret and address the conference theme as broadly as they deem appropriate; however the abstract must show a clear connection with the theme.

We are keen to attract social, cultural, environmental and planning historians and all those interested in the history of towns and cities.

Key Questions/Themes

How are relationships between landscape / place / human identity established over time?

How do changes in/competition for space and resources affect both rural and urban settings?

What is the history of the technologies that have made the urban landscape?

Representations of the urban landscape as iconic, utopian or dystopian

'Heritage' and landscape preservation

Environmental impact – policy, change and catastrophe

Abstracts should be sent to ssm4@le.ac.uk by 31 July 2009