

Call for Papers

Arcadia: Explorations in Environmental History

***Arcadia* (ISSN 2199-3408) is now inviting submissions for its spring 2020 volume.**

Arcadia: Explorations in Environmental History is an open-access, peer-reviewed publication platform for short, illustrated, and engaging environmental histories. Embedded in a particular time and place, each story focuses on a site, event, person, organization, or species as it relates to nature and human society. By publishing digitally on the Environment & Society Portal, *Arcadia* promotes accessibility and visibility of original research in global environmental history and cognate disciplines. Each peer-reviewed article includes a profile of the researcher, links, and suggested readings.

Contributors are free to choose their own topics, but for this volume we especially welcome submissions on:

- historical events in North Africa, the Arabian Peninsula, Central Asia, South America, and other areas currently underrepresented on [this map](#).
- the conditions and context of environmental disasters, as described in our collection [Terms of Disaster](#). Accepted submissions will be considered for the collection and for co-publication on [Teach311.org](#).

We also welcome proposals for inter-connected contributions by individual authors or research groups. Let us know if you are interested in having your submission linked to an existing thematic *Arcadia* collection or if you would like to edit a new one. Existing *Arcadia* collections include:

[National Parks in Time and Space](#), [Global Environmental Movements](#), [Water Histories](#), [The Nature State](#), [Rights of Nature Recognition](#), [Diseases and Pests in History](#), [Terms of Disaster](#), and [Histories across Species](#).

To submit, simply send a filled-out version of this [form](#) together with your draft submission to *Arcadia*'s managing editor, Jonatan Palmblad (arcadia@carsoncenter.lmu.de)—guidelines are included in the form. Your email should also include 2–5 images and/or multimedia (with permissions if necessary) and a profile photo. Complete submissions are assigned to two anonymous peer reviewers chosen for their expertise in a field related to the submission, often at the suggestion of the board. We also encourage authors to suggest potential reviewers as an option—they may or may not be contacted. We ask for reviewers to send feedback within one month. If reviewers request revisions, we will ask you to address these within two weeks. For accepted manuscripts, copy editing will be provided.

For full consideration for the autumn volume, please submit your draft by 1 December 2019. Please note that, due to increased popularity, accepted submissions may be published in later volumes. *Arcadia* requires no submission fees or article processing fees, and is published open-access under a Creative Commons CC-BY license. With submissions or any questions, please email Jonatan Palmblad at arcadia@carsoncenter.lmu.de.

Collection: *Terms of Disaster*

“Land,” “water”, and “air” have been used as central environmental categories to define disasters. These environmental phenomena, as for example the 1755 Lisbon Earthquake, the 1931 Central China floods, the Indonesian forest fires of 1997, and the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami, however, have been described in different ways by a diverse cast of actors. The co-existence of different ways of discussing these events and their aftermath have crucially affected how disasters have been legitimized, for instance, in the determination of causes or in making decisions about recovery. This has been expressed in these cases in a multiplicity of terms and names and in debates about the boundaries of destruction and trauma. The “terms of disaster” are, thus, clearly multi-authored and undergo constant negotiation. The examination of how different actors decide what matters in their understanding of a disaster and how they work around parameters of disaster defined by others needs to be informed by a historical perspective.

In this collection, we want to gather contributions that look at the mutating understandings of disasters, at the social and environmental elements that concur to define them, and at varying forms of knowledge and the underlying power relations. We invite thus contributors to consider the whole process that leads to the mediation of the apparent terms of a disaster. The “terms of disaster” refers to the setting and re-setting of the conditions and context of disaster due to human language and word choices. In particular, we look for examples of under-studied environmental disasters and under-examined standpoints, with the outlook that a case study approach will build an inclusive understanding of what legitimates an event as a disaster in science, politics, and public opinion.

Articles selected as part of the *Arcadia + Teach311.org* collection will be indexed exactly as all *Arcadia* articles and co-published on both *Arcadia* and *Teach311.org* sites, with key passages of the article translated into a non-European language.

Teach311.org is an online project of the Forum for the History of Science in Asia, and the Society for the History of Technology Asia Network. This international network of academics representing various disciplines was created shortly after the 2011 earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear power plant disasters in northeastern Japan with the aim of facilitating access to knowledge produced in the humanities and social sciences about disasters. The hope is to sustain reflexive inquiry into the process of studying the production of knowledge about disasters in different contexts. In doing so, to address linguistically uneven access to scholarly knowledge, it encourages the reading, writing and translating of material in Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Arabic, Bahasa Indonesia, and English.