Conference Program

Conference at the GHI, May 15-17, 2008

Flammable Cities:
Fire, Urban Environment, and Culture in History

Conveners:

Greg Bankoff (University of Hull, UK)
Uwe Luebken (German Historical Institute, Washington, DC)
Jordan Sand (Georgetown University, Washington, DC)
Program

Thursday, May 15

6:30 – 8:00 pm  Opening reception at the GHI

Friday, May 16

8:30 – 9:00 am  Breakfast at the GHI

9:00 – 9:30 am  Introduction
Jordan Sand, Greg Bankoff, Uwe Luebken

9:30 – 11:00 am  Panel I: Fire and the Early Modern City
Chair: Maren Lorenz (GHI)

Mark C. Molesky (Seton Hall University)
The Great Fire of Lisbon, 1755

Hrvoje Petrić (University of Zagreb)
Fire and the Urban Environment in Early Modern Cities and Towns of the Croato-Slavonian Kingdom

11:00 – 11:15 am  Coffee break

11:15 am – 12:45 pm  Panel II: Fire, Fear and the Urban Imagination
Chair: Jordan Sand (Georgetown University)

Susan Donahue Kuretsky (Vassar College)
The Art of Fighting Fire: Jan van der Heyden, 1637-1712

Kristen McCleary (James Madison University)
Inflaming the Fears of Theater-Goers: How Fires Shaped the Public Sphere in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1880 to 1910

12:45 – 2:00 pm  Lunch break
2:00 – 4:00 pm  
**Panel III: Fire and Urban Morphology**  
Chair: **Uwe Luebken** (GHI)  

**Greg Bankoff** (University of Hull)  
*A Tale of Two Cities: The Pyromorphology of Nineteenth-Century Manila*  

**Ayodeji Olukoju** (University of Lagos)  
*Fire Outbreaks in Metropolitan Lagos: Historical and Comparative Perspectives*  

**Jason Gilliland** (University of Western Ontario)  
*Fire and Urban Morphogenesis: Patterns of Destruction and Reconstruction in Nineteenth-Century Montreal.*

4:00 – 4:30 pm  
**Coffee break**

4:30 – 6:30 pm  
**Panel IV: The Impact of Fire**  
Chair: **Sabine Höhler** (GHI)  

**Andrea Henderson** (Stanford University)  
*Points of Origin: The Social Impact of the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake and Fire*  

**Dirk Schubert** (Hafen City University, Hamburg)  
*The Great Fire of Hamburg 1842: From Catastrophe to Reform*  

**Cathy Frierson** (University of New Hampshire)  
*Late Imperial Russia’s Fire Regime*  

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**Saturday, May 17**

8:30 – 9:00 am  
**Breakfast at the GHI**

9:00 – 11:00 am  
**Panel V: Containing Fire**  
Chair: **John McNeill** (Georgetown University)  

**Amy S. Greenberg** (Penn State University)  
*Urban Firefighting and Infrastructure in Porfirian Mexico From a North American Perspective*
Shane Ewen (Leeds Metropolitan University)
*Constructing Modern Fire Brigades: The Case of Edinburgh’s “Great Fire” of 1824*

Sara E. Wermiel (MIT)
*Did the Fire Insurance Industry Help Reduce Urban Fires in the United States in the Nineteenth Century?*

11:00 – 11:15 am  **Coffee break**

11:15 am – 12:45 pm  **Panel VI: The Governance of Fire**
Chair: Greg Bankoff (University of Hull)

Samuel J. Martland (Rose Hulman Institute of Technology)
*Taming Fire in Valparaiso, Chile, 1840-1880*

Jordan Sand (Georgetown University)
*The Logic of the Burnable City: Property, Governance, and Fire in Edo-Tokyo*

12:45 – 2:00 pm  **Lunch break**

2:00 – 4:00 pm  **Panel VII: The Politics of Fire**
Chair: John McNeill (Georgetown University)

Nancy Haekyung Kwak (Brooklyn Polytechnic University)
*The Bukit Ho Swee Fire*

Sofia Toufic Shwayri (University of Oxford)
*Beirut on Fire: From Traditional Suqs to a Modern Shopping Mall*

Jérôme Tadié (L’Institut de recherché pour le développement, Bondy, France)

4:00 – 4:30 pm  **Coffee break**

4:30 – 5:30 pm  **Final discussion**

8:00 pm  **Conference dinner**

Jurys Hotel, Restaurant dupontgrille
1500 New Hampshire Ave. NW