



**German Historical Institute  
Washington, D.C.**

**Conference at the GHI, June 12-14, 2008**

**Civilizing Nature:**

**National Parks in Transnational Historical Perspective**

**Conveners:**

**Bernhard Gissibl, University of Mannheim  
Sabine Höhler, German Historical Institute  
Patrick Kupper, ETH Zürich**

# Program

## Thursday, June 12

6:30 – 8:30 pm      Opening Reception at the GHI

## Friday, June 13

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

9:00 – 9:30 am      **Introduction**

Bernhard Gissibl, Sabine Höhler, Patrick Kupper

9:30 – 11:00 am      **Panel 1: What's in a Park? Unpacking Yellowstone, Repacking Yellowstone**

Chair: Bernhard Gissibl

**Judith L. Meyer** (Missouri State University)

*Re-packing the Yellowstone Model: Historical Geography and Transnational Transfer of an Ideal*

**Melissa Harper and Richard White** (University of Queensland, University of Sydney)

*The "Nationalisms" of the First National Parks: Was the Australian Model Different?*

11:00 – 11:30 am      **Coffee Break**

11:30 am – 1:00 pm      **Panel 2: Imperial Natures – Parks and Empires I**

Chair: Patrick Kupper

**Caroline Ford** (University of California, Los Angeles)

*Landscape Reclamation and the Creation of "National Parks" in French Colonial Africa*

**Jeyamalar Kathirithamby-Wells** (Cambridge University)

*Malaysia's Taman Negara National Park: Interconnections between Nature, Political Culture, and Development*

1:00 – 2:30 pm

**Lunch**

2:30 – 4:00 pm

**Panel 2: Imperial Natures – Parks and Empires II**

Chair: Uwe Luebken (GHI)

**Henny van der Windt** (University of Groningen)

*Dutch Connections: Four Continents and Five Lives of the National Park*

**Anna-Katharina Wöbse** (University of Bielefeld)

*Framing the Heritage of Mankind: National Parks on the International Agenda*

4:00 – 4:30 pm

**Coffee Break**

4:30 – 6:00 pm

**Panel 3: Local Adaptations – Parks from below**

Chair: Catherine A. Christen (Smithsonian Institution)

**Brad Martin** (Northwestern University)

*Northern Wilderness, Northern Homeland: The Political Ecology of National Park Establishment in the Yukon-Alaska Borderlands, 1960-1990*

**John Schelhas** (Tuskegee University)

*When Global Conservation Meets Local Livelihoods: People and Parks in Central America*

**Saturday, June 14**

8:30 – 9:00 am

**Breakfast at the GHI**

9:00 – 11:00 am

**Panel 4: Nations and Natures: Parks and Political Regimes**

Chair: Karen Oslund (Towson University)

**Emily Wakild** (Wake Forest University)

*A Revolutionary Civilization: National Parks, Transnational Exchanges, and the Construction of Modern Mexico*

**Carolyn Roeder** (University of Kent)  
*Protecting the Nature, Preserving the Nation? Slovenia's Triglav National Park as a Mental Habitat for the National Identity*

**Indra Candanedo** (University of Essex)  
*La Amistad International Park: Global Ideas Nationally Transformed*

11:00 – 11:30 am      **Coffee Break**

11:30 am – 1:00 pm      **Panel 5: Creating the Pristine: The Science and Technology of National Parks I**

Chair: Sabine Höhler

**Marcus A. Burtner** (University of Arizona)  
*The Knowing Eye: Botanist-Photographer Homer Le Roy Shantz and the Discursive Power of the Photographic-Ecological Gaze in Arizona and Africa, 1919-1958*

**Etienne Benson** (MIT)  
*Demarcating Wilderness and Disciplining Wildlife in Yellowstone and Chitwan, 1959-1981*

1:00 – 2:30 pm      **Lunch**

2:30 – 4:00 pm      **Panel 5: Creating the Pristine: The Science and Technology of National Parks II**

Chair: Bernhard Gissibl

**Michael Lewis** (Salisbury University)  
*National Parks, Tiger Reserves, and Biosphere Reserves in Independent India*

**Matthew Chrulew** (Monash University)  
*Precivilizing Nature: Restoration and Resurrection at Pleistocene Park*

4:00 – 4:30 pm      **Coffee Break**

4:30 – 5:30 pm

**Round Table: Consigning National Parks to History – Conclusions and Perspectives**

Chair: Patrick Kupper

**Jane Carruthers** (University of South Africa)

**Christof Mauch** (LMU Munich)

**John R. McNeill** (Georgetown University)

8:00 – 10:00 pm

**Conference Dinner**

Jurys Hotel, Restaurant *dupontgrille*  
1500 New Hampshire Ave. NW

**Sunday, June 15**

9:30 am – 1:00 pm

**Field Trip** (optional) to Rock Creek Park