

Call for Papers

Arcadia: Explorations in Environmental History

Arcadia (ISSN 2199-3408) is now inviting submissions for the autumn 2021 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 Southeast Asia, North Africa, the Arabian Peninsula, Central Asia, and other areas currently not represented on [this map](#).
- events fitting the description of our new [Religion and Place](#) collection.

We also welcome proposals for contributions by practitioners as well as inter-connected submissions 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](#), [Histories across Species](#), [Technology and Expertise](#), [Coastal History](#), and [Religion and Place](#).

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. 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 11 October 2021. While submissions can be made at any time, we are concentrating the review process around three seasonal volumes. Please note that, due to an increased submission rate, 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@rcc.lmu.de.

New Collection: [Religion and Place](#)

The place and importance of religion in environmental studies and the environmental humanities remains somewhat contested. For scholars both within and beyond religious studies, religion is often understood to contribute to environmental harms owing to religionists' presumed investment in human exceptionalism, otherworldly commitments, anthropocentric values, or anti-science worldviews. Many religion scholars have responded to the association of religion with negative environmental outcomes by pointing to the myriad ways in which religious teachings can productively be extended to nonhuman life or interpreted in ways that cast religious traditions in a "green" light. Less attention is often paid to the ways in which ostensibly secular practices and values are themselves expressive of religion and spirituality, broadly construed. Moreover, scholarship that explores links between religion and the environment, or religion and ecology, may overlook forms of religiosity that do not fall neatly within a world religions paradigm that organizes religions into a limited set of discrete traditions understood to have a "global" presence or relevance. While many environmental issues today are regarded as global in scale, these phenomena always manifest locally, with particular meanings and in particular times and places.

A more capacious interpretation of religion may allow us to appreciate additional ways in which certain practices and beliefs, past and present, function religiously in people's lives, assume a religious or spiritual quality, or are religion-resembling. Combining a broader understanding of religion with a focus on particular places enables the production of more nuanced scholarship on religion and the environment. This work can complicate common stereotypes and generalizations, and potentially overturn longstanding assumptions about the limited ways in which religion intersects with environmentalism and the study of religion contributes to the environmental humanities.

Topics for this collection may include, but are not limited to, the following (note that these need not have a contemporary focus):

Wilderness/Wildness in the Religious Imaginary • Sacred Places and Desecration • Religion and Environmental Grief, Mourning and Loss • The Anthropocene and/as Religion • Extinction in the Religious Imaginary • Environmental Apocalypse • Religious & Spiritual Environmental Practices • Nature-based Religious Ritual • Environmental Awe & Wonder • Environmental Protest and/as Religion • Environmental Apocalypse • Religion and Agency/Personhood of Nonhuman Nature • Religion, Nativity, and Alienation • Religion and Place-based Environmental Justice • Encounters between Religion, Science, and Environmentalism • Environmental Technologies and/as Religion

This collection is curated by [Lisa H. Sideris](#), Indiana University.