

POLLYANNA RHEE

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Academic Appointments

- 2020- UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, URBANA-CHAMPAIGN
Department of Landscape Architecture
Assistant Professor
Affiliated Faculty: Department of History, Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory
- 2018-2020 UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, URBANA-CHAMPAIGN
Humanities Research Institute
Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Environmental Humanities

Education

- COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
PhD, History and Theory of Architecture, 2018

Publications

BOOKS

- 2025 *Natural Attachments: The Domestication of American Environmentalism, 1920-1970*, forthcoming with the University of Chicago Press, May 2025.

ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS

- Forthcoming* “Inscribing the Past, Looking at the Future: The Temporalities of Townscape,” in *The Valences of Historiography: Essays on Architectural History*, Gevork Hartoonian, ed., under contract at Routledge.
- 2024 “Calculating Nature’s Bill: Environmental Quality and the Critique of Economic Growth in the 1970s,” *Global Perspectives* 5, n. 1 (2024): 1-11, special issue on Moralizing Political Economy, <https://doi.org/10.1525/gp.2024.95018>.
- 2022 “Designs for Politics in Intellectual History,” *Modern Intellectual History* 19, n. 3 (September 2022): 958-970.
- 2021 “Industrious and Imitative Art: Manufacturing Artistic Expertise in Nineteenth-Century Britain,” *Journal of Design History* 34, n. 1 (March 2021): 21-36.
- 2018 “Gaming Paradise in the Space Age,” *PLAN* 73, n. 2 (Summer 2018): 81-86.
- 2018 “Beyond Green: Environmental Building Technologies for Social and Economic Equity,” *Architectural Design* (July 2018): 94-101.

REVIEWS, COMMENTARY, AND PUBLIC WRITING

- 2024 “Whose Trees? Our Trees?” *Landscape Architecture Magazine*, (June 2024)
- 2024 “Passing Through Looking Through,” *TANK Magazine*, (Spring 2024)

Rhee, short CV, October 2024

- 2023 “No Green Pill,” *Landscape Architecture Magazine* (March 2023)
- 2023 “Landscape History Now,” *PLATFORM*
<https://www.platformspace.net/home/landscape-history-now-part-2>
- 2023 “Turning Towards Action in Landscape History,” *PLATFORM*
<https://www.platformspace.net/home/turning-towards-action-in-landscape-history>
- 2022 Review of Jenny Price, *Stop Saving the Planet! An Environmentalist Manifesto* (New York: W.W. Norton, 2021), *H-Environment Roundtable Reviews* with Sarah Dimick, Rob Gioielli, Nicole Welk-Joerger, https://networks.h-net.org/system/files/contributed-files/env-roundtable-12-2_0.pdf
- 2022 “A Collective Gasp,” *Landscape Architecture Magazine* (August 2022)
- 2020 Review of Carla Yanni, *Living on Campus: An Architectural History of the American Dormitory* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2019), *The Architect’s Newspaper* (February 10, 2020).
- 2019 “From Boston to Berlin,” *The Avery Review* 40 (May 2019).
- 2018 “Vandenburg Air Force Base” and “Hangar One,” in *SAH Archipedia: California*, ed. Gabrielle Esperdy and Karen Kingsley (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press).
- 2016 “How Can You Live in the City? Martha Rosler’s “If You Can’t Afford to Live Here Mo-o-ove!”” *Gotham Center for New York City History* (online), July 2016.
- 2015 “Under One Condition,” *The Architect’s Newspaper* (September 8, 2015).
- 2015 “Kinder Network,” *The Architect’s Newspaper* (March 18, 2015).

BOOK REVIEWS FOR ACADEMIC JOURNALS

- 2021 Review of Larry Busbea, *The Responsive Environment: Design, Aesthetics, and the Human in the 1970s* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2020), *Buildings and Landscapes* 28, n. 2.
- 2021 Review of Robert Krueger, Tim Freytag, and Samuel Mössner, *Adventures in Sustainable Urbanism* (Albany: SUNY Press, 2019), *H-Environment Reviews* (October 2021).
- 2020 Review of Joanna L. Dyl, *Seismic City: An Environmental History of San Francisco’s 1906 Earthquake* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2017), *Planning Perspectives* 35, no. 3 (July 2020).
- 2020 Review of David B. Williams, *Stories in Stone: Travels Through Urban Geology* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2019), *Environmental History* 25, no. 2 (April 2020).
- 2015 Review of Shundana Yusaf, *Broadcasting Buildings: Architecture on the Wireless, 1927 – 1945* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2014). *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* 74, no. 3 (September 2015): 370 – 371.

INTERVIEW

- 2022 “Bookended by Disaster: White Affluent Environmentalism in Santa Barbara,” L.A. Forum for Architecture and Urban Design, <https://laforum.org/Interview-Pollyanna-Rhee>

Fellowships and Awards

2024-2025	Cardiff University-Discovery Partners Institute Travel Grant
2024	Humanities Research Institute Summer Faculty Research Fellowship, University of Illinois
2024	Wadsworth Endowment Funds, Department of Landscape Architecture, University of Illinois
2023	Critical Book Lab grant, Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory, University of Illinois
2023	Visiting Fellowship, Centre for Architecture Criticism, Theory, History, University of Queensland, Australia
2022	Humanities Released Time, University of Illinois
2021-2022	Wadsworth Endowment Funds, Department of Landscape Architecture, University of Illinois
2021	Mellon Fellowship in Urban Landscape Studies, Dumbarton Oaks
2018-2020	Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
2018-2019	William T. Golden Fellowship, American Philosophical Society

Invited Talks

2023	“The Battle against the Unsightly,” University of Queensland, March.
2023	“Method Acts,” Society of Architectural Historians, March online.
2021	“Methods for the History of the Built Environment,” Society of Architectural Historians, March, online.
2019	“Eugenic Ideals at Home,” American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia.
2019	“From Counterintuitive to Common Sense: Urban Modeling and the Politics of Distance in the United States,” KTH Royal Institute of Technology, School of Architecture, Stockholm, Sweden.
2018	“Inventing Native America: Nature and Nation in American Architecture,” Iowa State University College of Architecture.

Conferences and Workshops

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

2023	Capitalism, Climate Change, and Cultural Study organized with John Levi Barnard, University of Illinois, September 28-29.
2022	Aesthetics of Infrastructure/Infrastructure of Aesthetics organized with Rebecca Oh, University of Illinois, April 21-22.
2020	Experimental Environments organized with Robert Morrissey and Leah Aronowsky, University of Illinois, March 5-6.

PANELS AND ROUNDTABLES ORGANIZED OR CHAIRED

2024	“Environment and the Built Form in the Anthropocene,” Vernacular Architecture Forum Annual Conference, Keweenaw, Michigan, June.
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- 2022 “Mobility and Access in Modern Urban Landscapes,” Society of Architectural Historians Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, April.
- 2022 “Activating American Architecture,” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, April.
- 2022 “On Olmsted,” keynote chair, Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture Annual Conference, March.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND ROUNDTABLES

- 2024 “Extraction’s Visual Cultures: Workshopping Media, Materiality, and Methods,” American Society for Environmental History annual conference, Denver, April.
- 2023 “Safety First: Turning Urban Design into Urban Security,” Symposium of Urban Design History and Theory, TU Delft, November.
- 2023 “Seeing Blue and Green,” Urban History Association biennial meeting, Pittsburgh, October.
- 2023 “Building Nature’s New Conservatism,” European Architectural History Network conference, Reykjavik, October.
- 2023 “Safe Inside?: The Surveillance Landscapes of Domestic Spaces,” Privacy Matters conference, Royal Danish Academy, Copenhagen, April.
- 2022 “Variety, Contingency, and Modernity in Architectural History,” European Architectural History Network, Madrid, June.
- 2022 “The Artifice of Media: Aesthetic Infrastructures of the ‘Palace of Ether,’” Aesthetics of Infrastructure/Infrastructure of Aesthetics conference, University of Illinois
- 2021 “Data Over Politics: Technocratic Faith in Urban Design in the 1970s,” Histories of Urban Design conference, ETH Zürich, November.
- 2021 “Inventing Environmental Quality,” History and Future of the Moral Economy conference, via Zoom, June.
- 2020 “The Infrastructure of Leisure: American Comforts in New Climates,” Society of Architectural Historians Annual Conference, via Zoom, May.
- 2020 “Data and Designing an Environment of Any Place,” Experimental Environments conference, University of Illinois, March.
- 2019 “Engineering an Ideal Urbanity: Technology, Democracy, and Urban Planning in the United States,” Governing Urban Natures conference, Aarhus University, Denmark, December.
- 2019 “Establishing Transience: Building American Comforts in the Panama Canal Zone,” International Association for the History of Transport, Traffic and Mobility Annual Conference, Paris, October.
- 2019 “‘Be at Home in the Open’: Nature, Norms, and Nation in the British Girl Guides,” European Society for Environmental History Biannual Conference, Tallinn, Estonia, August.
- 2019 “Toward an Improved Ecology: Ellen Swallow Richards and the Creation of an Efficient and Modern Domesticity,” Modernism in the Home Conference, University of Birmingham (UK), July.