

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, Program in Sustainable Design, 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
M.Phil, History and Theory of Architecture, 2014
M.S., Critical, Curatorial, and Conceptual Practices in Architecture, 2011

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

- BA, Politics and History, 2001

Publications

BOOKS

Natural Attachments: The Domestication of American Environmentalism, 1920-1975, book manuscript near completion.

Architects' Journeys: Building, Traveling, Thinking (New York: GSAPP Books/T6 Ediciones, 2011).
Edited with Craig Buckley.

ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS

In preparation "A Home in Community, c. 1926," in *The North American Model Home*, Elaine Stiles and Greg Castillo, ed.

In preparation "Inventing Environmental Quality" invited article for *Global Perspectives* special issue on Moralizing Political Economy

Under review "Space-Age Simplification: Urban Planning and the Creation of Participatory Technocracy" under review at *Grey Room*

Forthcoming "Designs for Politics in Intellectual History," *Modern Intellectual History*, preprint:
<https://doi.org/10.1017/S1479244321000020>

- 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

- Forthcoming* Review of Sara Jensen Carr, *Topographies of Wellness* (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2021), *Landscape Architecture Magazine*.
- Forthcoming* “Landscape History Now,” *PLATFORM*
- Forthcoming* 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, Rob Nixon.
- Forthcoming* “Fears for the Future: The Roots and Lingering Impacts of Rudy Giuliani’s Quality of Life Program,” *Gotham Center for New York City History*.
- 2022 Review of Klaus K. Loenhardt, ed. *Breathe—Investigations into Our Atmospherically Entangled Future* (Basel: Birkhäuser Verlag, 2021), *Landscape Architecture Magazine* (August 2022).
- 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).
- 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 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.
- 2015 “Under One Condition,” *The Architect’s Newspaper* (September 8, 2015).
- 2015 “Kinder Network,” *The Architect’s Newspaper* (March 18, 2015).

Fellowships and Awards

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
2017	American Society for Environmental History/National Science Foundation Grant
2016	Society of Architectural Historians Graduate Student Travel Fellowship
2016	Giles and Elise Mead Foundation Fellowship, Huntington Library
2011	Temple Hoyne Buell Center for American Architecture Research Fellowship
2011	Ali Jawad Malik Memorial Prize in History and Theory of Architecture, Columbia University

Invited Talks

2022	“Inventing Environmental Quality,” Dickinson College, April
2021	“Methods for the History of the Built Environment,” Society of Architectural Historians, 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.
2018	“Nature and Nurture: Progress, Perfectionism, and the Individualizing Impulses of Environment,” New York Metro Seminar for Environmental History.
2016	“Test Cases for the Total Environment: Data and Democracy, Process and Planning in the 1970s,” Los Angeles History and Metro Studies Group, Huntington Library.
2016	“‘Education, Not Legislation’: Environmental Activism Comes Home,” Intellectual and Cultural History Workshop, Columbia University

Conferences and Workshops

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

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

2022	“Mobility and Access in Modern Urban Landscapes,” Society of Architectural Historians Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, April.
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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

2022 Challenging the “Price of World Affluence”: Quality of Life and Visions of Environmental Futures in the 1970s,” European Society for Environmental History, University of Bristol (UK), July.

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,’”

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 “Establishing Transience and Looking for Leisure in the Panama Canal Zone,” Architectures of Power conference, University of Cambridge, June. [Postponed due to COVID-19]

2020 “Beauty for America: Women and the Creation of Postwar Visions of Urban Design,” How Women Build conference, Manchester School of Architecture, June. [Postponed due to COVID-19]

2020 “Toward an Improved Ecology: The Home as Site of Nature’s Flourishing,” Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Genders and Sexualities, Baltimore, May. [Postponed due to COVID-19]

2020 “Conflicting Ecosystems: Visualizing the Environmental Consequences of Infrastructural Development,” Material Assemblages Conference, Hanover, Germany, May. [Postponed due to COVID-19]

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.
- 2019 “Assimilation and Uplift?: Local Arts Patronage and the Carnegie Corporation of New York,” Arts Patronage in Modern America Conference, Rothermere American Institute, University of Oxford, June.
- 2019 “Quality Skiing in Quality Nature: Winter Sports and American Environmentalism,” American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Columbus, Ohio, April 2019.
- 2018 “Industrious and Imitative Art: Manufacturing Artistic Expertise in Nineteenth-Century Britain,” Art and Work conference, Northwestern University, February.
- 2017 “The Hazards of Paradise: Making Place and Image in the Shadow of Oil,” Design History Society Annual Conference, Oslo, Norway, September.
- 2017 “‘An Opportune Thing Perhaps’: Perfecting a City through Disaster,” Society of Architectural Historians Annual Conference, Glasgow, Scotland, June.
- 2017 “The Hazards of Paradise: Place, Public Image, and the 1969 Santa Barbara Oil Spill,” American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Chicago, April.
- 2017 “‘Education, Not Legislation’: Environmental Activism Comes Home,” California Design Colloquium, University of California, Berkeley, March.
- 2016 “‘An Opportune Thing Perhaps’: Perfecting a City through Disaster,” Cities and Natural Disasters Conference, Institute of Historical Research, University of London, November.
- 2016 “Test Cases for the Total Environment: Data and Democracy, Process and Planning in the 1970s,” Young Bauhaus Research Colloquium, Weimar, Germany, October.
- 2015 “Building Up on the Periphery: On the Lost Town of Tyrone, New Mexico,” International Conference of Historical Geographers, London, England, July.
- 2015 “‘Latin American, Rather than Norte Americano’: Accommodations and Amenities in the Panama Canal Zone,” Savannah Symposium on Architectural History, Savannah, February.
- 2014 “‘Your Opportunity is Here’: Modernizing through History at the 1915 Panama-California Exposition,” Society for U.S. Intellectual History Conference, Indianapolis, October.

INVITED WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

- 2018 Western History Dissertation Workshop, Center for the American West, University of Colorado, Boulder, May.
- 2017 “Communicating the Climate,” Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich, Germany, August.
- 2015 Graduate Student Writing Workshop, American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., March.
- 2013 “Domestic Impressions: The Visual and Material Culture of the American Family Home, 1750 – 1890,” Center for Historic American Visual Culture, American Antiquarian Society, July.

Teaching Experience

AS PRIMARY INSTRUCTOR

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
American Wastelands (undergraduate honors seminar)
Health and Urban Landscapes (graduate seminar)
History of World Landscapes (undergraduate/graduate lecture)
Modern Landscape History (undergraduate/graduate lecture)
Methods in Architectural and Landscape History (graduate seminar)
California College of the Arts, Department of Interior Design
History and Theory of Interiors, 1850 – Present (undergraduate lecture)
New York Institute of Technology, School of Architecture
Modern Architecture, 1800 – Present (undergraduate lecture)

AS TEACHING FELLOW

Barnard College, Department of History
Emerging Cities in Nineteenth-Century Europe and the Americas
Columbia University, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation
Architectural History I, 1680-1890
Architectural History II, 1890-1960
History of Architectural Theory
Metropolis (Architecture, 1960-2000)
Arguments (Contemporary Architecture)

GRADUATE ADVISING

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Michael King, Landscape Architecture, PhD 2021, committee member
Ellen Hartman, Landscape Architecture, PhD in progress, committee member
Blair Winter, Art History, PhD in progress, qualifying exam committee member
Johnny Baakliny, Landscape Architecture, Master of Landscape Architecture, 2023, thesis committee chair
Sareen Ohannessian, Landscape Architecture, Master of Landscape Architecture 2022, thesis committee member

Design Juries

Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation (Architecture, Urban Design); Iowa State University College of Design (Architecture); University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (Architecture, Landscape Architecture)

Service

Committee on Honorary Degrees, University of Illinois, 2021-2023
Department of Landscape Architecture Representative to the Faculty Senate, University of Illinois, 2021-2022
Joint Architecture-Landscape Architecture PhD Program Executive Committee, University of Illinois, 2020-

Events Committee, Department of Landscape Architecture, University of Illinois, 2020-
Co-director, Environmental Humanities Research Cluster, Humanities Research Institute, University
of Illinois, 2020-
Member, Environmental Humanities Research and Working Group, University of Illinois, 2018 -
2020
Coordinator, Art History/Architecture Forum, Columbia University, 2016 – 2018
Researcher, Temple Hoyne Buell Center for American Architecture, 2012 - 2015
Mellon Intern in Primary Sources, Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library, 2010 - 2011
Research Fellow, Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, 2010