

CHARLOTTE LEIB

New Haven, CT | charlotteleib.com | charlotte.leib@yale.edu

EDUCATION

Aug 2019—

Yale University

Doctoral Candidate in History

Field: US – Environmental

Graduate Certificate in the Environmental Humanities, completed December 2022

Dissertation:

"Of Meadows and Meadowland Worlds: An Environmental History of the New Jersey Meadowlands."

The first extensive appraisal of the intellectual currents and material and technological developments that shaped the Meadowlands & its region from early modern times to present.

Committee members: Paul Sabin (Chair, Yale University); Lauren Benton (Yale University);

Joyce Chaplin (Harvard University); and Sonja Dümpelmann (LMU Rachel Carson Center).

Comprehensive exams fields (passed, Feb. 2021)

US History (Major field)

Examiner: Paul Sabin

Early American Climate and Environmental History

Examiner: Joyce Chaplin

Landscape History and Theory

Examiner: Sonja Dümpelmann

Spatial History

Examiner: Bill Rankin

Aug 2015—

Harvard University, Graduate School of Design

May 2019

Master in Landscape Architecture

Master in Design Studies in the History and Philosophy of Design and Media, *with Distinction*

Sep 2009—

Princeton University

Jun 2013

A.B. in Architecture

Certificates in American Studies and Urban Studies

PUBLICATIONS

in development

Leib, Charlotte, with Meg Griscom and Beka Sturges. "From Consumption to Care: Watering for the Planthropocene." *Landscape Research* Special Issue on 'Landscapes and Care', edited by Zannah Mae Matson and Tim Waterman.

under peer-review

Leib, Charlotte. "'Green Acres,' Toxic Waters: Landscapes of Justice and Injustice in Newark's 'Sacrifice Zone.'" *New Jersey's Natures: Environmental Histories of the Garden State*. Edited by Raechel Lutz (Rutgers University Press, forthcoming).

in press

Leib, Charlotte, and Thaisa Way. "Fountain Square," "West Austin Historic District," "Temple Square," and "Salt Lake City Capitol Historic District." *Society of Architectural Historians Archipedia*. Edited by Gabrielle Esperdy and Karen Kingsley. Charlottesville: UVaP, 2012—.

2023

Leib, Charlotte, John Dean Davis, Margot Lystra, and Pollyanna Rhee. "Turning Towards Action in Landscape History." *PLATFORM Conversation*. Online (January 9, 2023).

2020

Leib, Charlotte. "Review of Jane Hutton, *Reciprocal Landscapes: Stories of Material Movements* (Routledge, 2020)." *Journal of Landscape Architecture* 15, no. 2 (2020): 86–87.

Leib, Charlotte, Evan Friss, and Catherine McNeur (commentators); Sonja Dümpelmann (author); and Kara Schlichting (editor). "Dümpelmann, Seeing Trees: A History of Street Trees in New York City and Berlin (Yale University Press, 2019)." *H-Environment Roundtable Review* 10, no. 2.

2019

Leib, Charlotte. "Site and Shelter: Design for the 'Whole Landscape.'" *Platform 12: How About Now?*. Edited by Carrie Bly, Isabella Frontado, and Natasha Hicks. Harvard University Graduate School of Design; Actar, 2019. [MDes. Thesis Profile and Excerpts]

2017

Leib, Charlotte, et al. "The Desert Bloom File." *Platform 10: Live Feed*. Edited by Jon Lott and John May. Harvard University Graduate School of Design; Actar, 2017. [Landscape Architecture Core IV Studio Project; Instructor: Pierre Bélanger]

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UPCOMING CONFERENCES, TALKS & EVENTS

- 2023 Guest speaker. "Sustainable Urban Design Theory" Master's course. Taught by Pollyanna Rhee, Assistant Professor, Department of Landscape Architecture, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. November 7.
- Presenter/panelist. "Extraction's Visual Cultures: Workshopping Media, Materiality, and Methods." Chair: Dolly Jørgensen. American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Denver, Colorado. April 3-7.
- Commentator. "Reimagining Flooding in the Era of Climate Change: What Environmental History Offers to Navigate a Watery World." Chair: Preston Decker. American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Denver, Colorado. April 3-7.
- 2024 Presenter, " 'A Most Attractive Laboratory': The New Jersey Meadowlands, Warfare, and the Making of the 'Petroleum World' (1880-1972)," and co-convener, with Blake Earle (Texas A&M Galveston). "The Petroleum Century and the Transformation of Global Landscapes." Double panel session. World Congress on Environmental History, Oulu, Finland. August 19-23.

RECENT CONFERENCES, TALKS & EVENTS

- 2023 Presenter/co-convener, with Meg Griscom (Senior Associate, Reed Hilderbrand). Deep Dive Session: "Water or Waste? Adaptive Approaches to Water Resources Management." American Society of Landscape Architects Annual Conference on Landscape Architecture, Minneapolis, MN, October 27-30.
- Commentator. Abigail Goode (Plymouth State University). "Agrotopias: Agrarianism, Eugenics, and Sustainability." Yale Agrarian Studies Colloquium. Yale University, New Haven, CT. October 13.
- Presenter/participant. "Black and Green? Towards an Environmental History of the Oil Industry." Paper Workshop. Organizers: Odinn Melsted, Cyrus Mody, and Simone Schleper (Maastricht University), Christof Mauch (Rachel Carson Center). LMU Munich/Rachel Carson Center, Munich, Germany. June 15-16.
- Presenter/participant. "Mapping Lively Landscapes." Roundtable: "How to Map: A Roundtable on Cartography and GIS for Environmental Historians." Chair: Kathleen Brosnan. American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Boston, MA. March 22-26.
- Presenter/participant. "Practice-Related Approaches to Studying Material Flows." University College London Human Geography Seminar. Hybrid in-person/online event. February 7.
- 2022 Presenter/participant. "Landscapes of Petroleum Transfer." Yale Environmental Humanities Graduate Research Symposium. New Haven, CT. December 14.
- Presenter/panelist. "Studying and Shaping Landscapes as Systems, Technologies, and Vivifacts." Panel: "Writing and Making the Constructed Environment: Grounding Creative Practices in Histories of Technology." Chair: Saima Akhtar. Society for the History of Technology Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA. November 12.
- Presenter/panelist. "Provisioning Parks in Petrochemical America." Panel: "Viscous Histories: Landscapes of the US Petroleum Industry." Chair: Eve Blau. Society for American City and Regional Planning History Conference, Harlem, NY. October 22.
- Presenter. "Scaling Landscape History." Panel: "Landscape Inquiries: New Directions." Chair: D. Fairchild Ruggles. Society of Architectural Historians, Annual International Conference, Pittsburgh, PA. April 27–May 2.
- Presenter. "'Green Acres,' Toxic Waters: Landscapes of Justice and Injustice in Newark's 'Sacrifice Zone.'" Panel: "New Jersey's Natures Part 2: Environmental Histories in the 20th Century." Chair: Neil Maher. American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Eugene, OR. March 23–27.
- Commentator. "Forest Planting and Community Renewal in Urban Landscapes." Chair: Joanna Dean. American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Eugene, OR. March 23–27.
- 2021 Event Organizer. "Landscape Citizenships, A Roundtable." Yale Environmental Humanities and Yale Environmental History Virtual Public Event with Thaisa Way, Ed Wall, Tim Waterman & Jane Wolff. October 29.
- Presenter/panelist. "The Designed Landscapes of the Black Freedom Movement in Watts, Los Angeles." Panel: "Change, Time, and Designed Landscapes." Chair: Marc Treib. Society of Architectural Historians 74th Annual International Conference, April 14–19. A recording of the paper presentation is available [here](#).

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PAST CONFERENCES, TALKS & EVENTS (SELECTED)

- 2021 Moderator. "Urban Lowlands: A History of Neighborhoods, Poverty, and Planning." Yale Environmental History Author Talk with Steven T. Moga, Yale University. March 3.
- 2020 Presenter, with Kristine Ericson. "Design Thinking and Historical Practice." Holmes Workshop, Program in the History of Science and Medicine, Yale University, November 9.
- 2019 Presenter/panelist. "Urban Agriculture in Los Angeles, 1965–2019." Panel: "Urban Landscapes in Flux: Environmental Visibility and Change in 19th and 20th Century Cities." Society for American City and Regional Planning History Biennial Conference, Arlington, VA, November 2.
- 2018 Presenter/panelist. "Surveying Sites Unseen: Trees, Representation and Power." Panel: "Environmental Images and Calculations." American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Riverside, CA, March 17. For a condensed version, see my [#ASEH2018Tweets Presentation](#).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2022 - Fall **Teaching Fellow for American Architecture & Urbanism (ARCH 280 / HSAR 219 / AMST 197 / URBN 280)** taught by Elihu Rubin, Associate Professor of Architecture, Urbanism, and American Studies, Yale University.
- 2022 - Spring **Teaching Fellow for American Energy History (HIST 199 / HSHM 207 / AMST 236 / EVST 318)** taught by Paul Sabin, Townsend Professor of History, Yale University.
- 2021 - Fall **Teaching Fellow for Introduction to Urban Studies (URBN 160 / ARCH 160)** taught by Elihu Rubin, Associate Professor of Architecture, Urbanism, and American Studies, Yale University.
- 2021 - Spring **Teaching Fellow for Global Catastrophe Since 1750 (HIST416 / HSHM 211 / ENVST 211 / EPS 211)** taught by Bill Rankin, Associate Professor in the History of Science, Yale University.

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- 2024 Samuel J. Smith Fellowship for Research in New Jersey History, New Jersey Historical Commission (\$20,000)
American Philosophical Society Digital Humanities Fellowship, Philadelphia, PA (\$6,000)
John Carter Brown Library Short-Term Fellowship, Providence, RI (\$4,500)
Early Career Digital Publications Grant, Leventhal Map & Education Center, Boston Public Library (\$1,200)
- 2023 Yale History Department Post-Candidacy Research Grant (\$3,000)
Yale Club of Philadelphia Research Fellowship (\$2,500)
- 2022 Society for the History of Technology Annual Conference, Travel Grant (\$425)
Society of Architectural Historians Annual Conference, Graduate Student Fellowship (\$1,000)
Yale History Department Pre-Candidacy Research Grant (\$2,000)
- 2020 National Science Foundation Travel Grant, to attend the 2020 ASEH Conference [cancelled due to COVID-19]
- 2019 Best Paper on Housing Prize, for MDes. Thesis, from the Harvard Joint Center for Housing Studies (\$250)
Getty Specialized Library Research Grant, for travel to the Getty Research Institute in Los Angeles, CA (\$2,000)
Mellon Symposium Award, for travel to the Landscape, Sport, Environment Symposium at Dumbarton Oaks
New-York Historical Society Short-Term Fellowship, for research at the N-YHS in New York City (\$2,500)
Oak Spring Garden Foundation Travel Grant, for research at the Oak Spring Garden Library in Upperville, VA
- 2018 Harvard Joint Center for Housing Studies Travel Grant, for research at the National Archives in College Park
MDes. Project Research and Development Award, Harvard University Graduate School of Design (\$1,000)
Student Forum Conference Fund Travel Grant, Harvard University Graduate School of Design (\$600)
National Science Foundation Travel Grant, to present at the 2018 ASEH Conference in Riverside, CA
- 2017 Bell Fellowship, for research at the Forest History Society in Durham, NC (\$2,000)
Bliss Symposium Award, for travel to the Landscapes of Pre-Industrial Cities Symposium at Dumbarton Oaks
Penny White Project Fund Award, Harvard University Graduate School of Design (\$5,000)
- 2016 Doebele Community Service Fellowship, Harvard University Graduate School of Design (\$7,500)
- 2013 Shanley Prize, Princeton University School of Architecture (\$5,000)

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CURRENT & PAST POSITIONS (SELECTED)

- Nov 2023—
Oct 2021—
Oct 2023
Independent Contractor to Reed Hilderbrand, LLC, New Haven, CT (ad-hoc)
Works as schedule allows to contribute to the firm's ongoing research efforts. Research currently focuses on reducing water and plastic waste in designed landscapes, and on developing plastic-free irrigation prototypes.
- Oct 2021—
Oct 2023
Landscape Designer/Research Advisor, Reed Hilderbrand, LLC, New Haven, CT (part-time)
Advanced the New Haven Studio's research and equity initiatives; supported the work of the Principal, Beka Sturges, and Senior Associate Meg Griscom; advised interns and managed the studio's internship program while pursuing PhD
- Jul 2020—
Apr 2022
Graduate Student Coordinator, Yale Environmental History, Yale University, New Haven, CT
Organized paper workshops, guest presentations, and other environmental history activities.
- Jan 2020
Research Assistant, Brian Goldstein, Assistant Professor of Art History, Swarthmore College
Located and photographed materials in the Yale Manuscripts and Archives related to the career and work of African-American architect J. Max Bond for historian Brian Goldstein.
- Jun 2019—
Mar 2020
Tree Inventory Intern and Graphic Designer, City of Cambridge Department of Public Works
Field surveyed on foot ~6 miles per day to collect information on city trees, including caliper, species, and location. Designed materials for an Adopt-A-Tree graphic campaign. Created the [*Cambridge Guide to City Trees*](#) (2020).
- Sep 2015—
May 2019
Technical Assistant, Harvard GSD Fabrication Lab, Cambridge, MA
Assisted students in safely completing projects in the Graduate School of Design woodshop. Maintained tools. Practiced woodworking techniques under the instruction of Burton LeGeyt, Fabrication Lab Supervisor.
- 2019
Curatorial Intern, 'The Bauhaus and Harvard', Harvard Art Museums, Cambridge, MA
Led gallery talks and walking tours based on original research. Assisted Curators Laura Muir & Melissa Venator.
- Contributing Artist, 'The Bauhaus Studio: Primary Materials, Secondary Sources', Allston, MA**
Exhibited two works: "Color architecture at the Bauhaus and after," colorized and annotated archival photos; video projection, Harvard Ed Portal, April 5–May 10; and "Specimens from the space-garden," painted wooden blocks and photograms of plant materials original to the Harvard Graduate Center landscape, Harvard ArtLab, May 4–10.
- 2018
Research Consultant, 'Hudson Rising', New-York Historical Society, New York, NY
Reviewed texts prepared by Associate Curator Jeanne Haffner for an exhibition on the environmental history of the Hudson River (Mar. 1–Aug. 4, 2019). Contributed original research materials on the representation and preservation of the Adirondack Forest and Hudson River Watershed during the late-nineteenth century.
- Sep 2014—
Jul 2015
Studio Assistant, SCAPE Landscape Architecture, New York, NY
Wrote project proposals; managed SCAPE web content; assisted project teams with landscape and urban design projects; assisted in production of [*Toward an Urban Ecology*](#) (The Monacelli Press, 2016); left to pursue MLA degree.
- Jan—May 2014
Junior Architectural Designer, Design Made, Morristown, NJ
Engaged in client relations, drafting, modeling, cost estimation; left to pursue landscape architecture.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2017—19
Dean's Merit Scholarship Recipient, for MDes. at Harvard University
- 2016—17
Boston Society of Landscape Architects Scholarship Recipient, for MLA at Harvard University
- 2016—17
The Land Conservancy of New Jersey Scholarship Recipient, for MLA at Harvard University
- 2009—10
Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar, State of New Jersey

SERVICE, OFFICES & MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- 2022—
2021—
2019—
2018—
2017—
2018—19
2016—19
2016
Graduate Student Representative, Yale Environmental Humanities Steering Committee
Member, Landscape Research Group
Member, Society for American City and Regional Planning History
Member, Society of Architectural Historians, Landscape History Chapter
Member, American Society for Environmental History
Media Officer, American Society for Environmental History Graduate Student Caucus
Project Leader, Women in Design Lineage Project, Frances Design Loeb Library, Harvard GSD
Doebele Community Service Fellow, Urban Farming Institute of Boston, Roxbury, MA