

SARAH T. PHILLIPS

History Department, Boston University
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Academic Employment

Boston University, History Department, Associate Professor, September 2012-
Boston University, History Department, Assistant Professor, 2009-2012
Columbia University, History Department, Assistant Professor, 2004–2009
Boston University, History Department, Lecturer, 2003–2004
Boston University, College of Arts and Sciences Writing Program, Instructor, 2002–2003

Education

Ph.D. 2004, Boston University
B.A. 1996, Florida State University (Music, *summa cum laude*)

Areas of Research

Twentieth-Century U.S. History, Political History, Environmental and Agricultural History

Editorial Position

Founding Executive Co-Editor, with Brooke Blower, of *Modern American History* (Cambridge Univ. Press), 2016-

Honors, Fellowships, and Awards

Organization of American Historians (OAH) Distinguished Lecturer, 2015-2018, [Reappointed, 2018-2021]
Henderson Senior Research Fellowship, Boston University Center for the Humanities, Fall 2017
Neu Family Award for Excellence in Teaching, Boston University College of Arts & Sciences, 2016
Gitner Family Undergraduate Teaching Prize, Boston University Department of History, 2016
Fellowship, Charles Warren Center, Harvard University, "North America in Global Context," 2010
Gilbert C. Fite Dissertation Award, Agricultural History Society, 2004
Miller Center of Public Affairs, University of Virginia, Fellow in History, Public Policy, and American Politics, 2000–01
Grants: Lyndon B. Johnson Foundation (2000), Hoover Presidential Library (2001),
Harry S. Truman Library (2001), Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute (2001)
Edwards Memorial Article Prize, Agricultural History Society, 1999

Publications

Books: *This Land, This Nation: Conservation, Rural America, and the New Deal* (Cambridge Univ. Press, 2007)

The Kitchen Debate and Cold War Consumer Politics: A Brief History with Documents, with Shane Hamilton (Bedford/St. Martins, 2014)

Current Project: *The Price of Plenty: From Farm to Food Politics in Postwar America* (under contract with Oxford Univ. Press)

Chapters in collected volumes:

"Agricultural Policy in the Twentieth Century," in *A Companion to American Agricultural History*, ed. R. Douglas Hurt (Wiley-Blackwell, forthcoming 2020)
"Environmental History," in *American History Now*, edited for the American Historical Association by Eric Foner and Lisa McGirr (Temple University Press, 2011)
"Resourceful Leaders: State Governors and the Politics of the American Environment," in *A Legacy of Innovation: Governors and Public Policy*, ed. Ethan Sribnick (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2008)
"FDR, Hoover, and the New Rural Conservation, 1920-1932," in *FDR and the Environment*, ed. David Woolner and Henry Henderson (Palgrave, 2005)
"Drylands, Dustbowl, and Agro-Technical Internationalism in Southern Africa," in *Transatlantic Rebels: Agrarian Radicalism in Comparative Context*, ed. James Scott and Thomas Summerhill (Michigan State University Press, 2004)

Journal Articles:

"What Next? The USDA at One Hundred and One Hundred Fifty Years Old," *Agricultural History* (Summer 2013)
"Antebellum Agricultural Reform, Republican Ideology, and Sectional Tension," *Agricultural History* 74 (Fall 2000)
"Lessons From the Dust Bowl: Dryland Agriculture and Soil Erosion in the United States and South Africa, 1900–1950," *Environmental History* 4 (April 1999)

Short Pieces:

- H-Environment Roundtable Review: *Crisis of the Wasteful Nation: Empire and Conservation in Theodore Roosevelt's America* (Ian Tyrrell, 2015), (March 2016)
- H-Environment Roundtable Review: *The Bet: Paul Ehrlich, Julian Simon, and Our Gamble over Earth's Future* (Paul Sabin, 2013), (September 2014)
- "Histories of Place: Environmental and Landscape Histories of the Northeast," *The Massachusetts Historical Review* 14 (2012). [Review essay of Blake Harrison and Richard W. Judd, eds., *A Landscape History of New England* (2011), and David Stradling, *The Nature of New York: An Environmental History of the Empire State* (2010)]
- "Dust Bowl" and "Lyndon B. Johnson," in Kathleen A. Brosnan, ed., *Encyclopedia of American Environmental History* (Facts on File, 2010)
- "Economy and Politics, 1920-1945," in Michael Kazin, ed., *Princeton Encyclopedia of American Political History* (Princeton University Press, 2009)

Book Reviews:

- The Slain Wood: Papermaking and its Environmental Consequences in the American South* (William Boyd, 2015), *Business History Review* (Autumn 2016)
- Crisis of the Wasteful Nation: Empire and Conservation in Theodore Roosevelt's America* (Ian Tyrrell, 2015), *Agricultural History* (Spring 2016)
- Planning Democracy: Agrarian Intellectuals and the Intended New Deal* (Jess Gilbert, 2015), *Environmental History* (April 2016)
- Breadlines Knee-Deep in Wheat: Food Assistance in the Great Depression* (Janet Poppendieck, 1986, Updated and Expanded, 2014), *Kansas History* (Summer 2015)
- Car Country: An Environmental History* (Christopher W. Wells, 2013), *Business History Review* (Winter 2014)
- Tangled Roots: The Appalachian Trail and American Environmental Politics* (Sarah Mittelfehldt, 2013), *American Historical Review* (Oct. 2014)
- Pesticide Drift and the Pursuit of Environmental Justice* (Jill L. Harrison, 2011), *Review of Policy Research* (May 2013)
- Transplanting the Great Society: Lyndon Johnson and Food for Peace* (Kristin Ahlberg, 2008), *Agricultural History* (Winter 2012)
- Managing the Mountains: Landscape Planning, the New Deal, and the Creation of a Federal Landscape in Appalachia* (Sara Gregg, 2010), *Agricultural History* (Spring 2011)
- A Revolution Down on the Farm* (Paul Conkin, 2007), *Business History Review* (Summer 2010)
- Public Lands and Political Meaning: Ranchers, the Government, and the Property Between Them* (Karen R. Merrill, 2002), *Nevada Historical Society Quarterly* (Fall 2009)
- American Pests: The Losing War on Insects From Colonial Times to DDT* (James E. McWilliams, 2008), *American Historical Review* (Dec. 2009)
- Plowed Under: Agriculture and Environment in the Palouse* (Andrew P. Duffin, 2007), *Business History Review* (Summer 2008)
- Nature's New Deal: The Civilian Conservation Corps and the Roots of the American Environmental Movement* (Neil M. Maher, 2007), *North Carolina Historical Review* (July 2008)
- A Rediscovered Frontier: Land Use and Resource Issues in the New West* (Philip L. Jackson and Robert Kuhlken, 2006), *Environmental History* 13 (Jan. 2008)
- The Defining Moment: FDR's Hundred Days and the Triumph of Hope* (Jonathan Alter, 2006), *Political Science Quarterly* 121 (Winter 2006-07)
- Toxic Drift: Pesticides and Health in the Post-World War II South* (Pete Daniel, 2005), *Journal of Southern History* 73 (Feb. 2007)
- Ecology and Empire: Environmental History of Settler Societies*, (Tom Griffiths and Libby Robin, eds., 1997), *Environmental History* 3 (July 1998)

Invited Talks and Lectures

- "What We Should Remember About the New Deal," Presentation on the Green New Deal, New York University, April 22, 2019
- National History Center, Congressional Briefing, "Historical Perspectives on Federal Agricultural Policy, Aug. 20, 2018 (C-SPAN recording: <https://www.c-span.org/video/?449982-1/history-us-agricultural-policies>)
- "Franklin Roosevelt, the New Deal, and the West," Forum Talk for the City of Boise, ID (OAH Distinguished Lecture), Oct. 2017
- "The Evolution of Federal Farm Policy in the Twentieth Century," Guest Lecture for Food System Sustainability, Health, and Equity, Northeastern University, Jan. 2017
- "From Farm to Food Politics in the 1960s," German Historical Institute, Washington DC, July 2016

- "The New Muckrakers and the Old Farm Bloc: The Twentieth-Century Politics of Surplus and Abundance," MIT Seminar in Agricultural and Environmental History, April 2016
- "The Price of Plenty: From Farm to Food Politics in the 1960s," Plenary Speaker, Annual Conference of the Historians of the Twentieth-Century United States (HOTCUS), University of Reading, UK, Sept. 2014
- Opening Plenary Panelist, "1862: Agriculture Meets the State," Annual Conference of the Agricultural History Society (AHS), Manhattan, KS, June 2012
- "Could an American Farm Election Change the World?" Charles Warren Center, Harvard University, Nov. 2010
- "Food and American Life," Columbia University, Fall 2010. A series of four invited lectures on the history of food, industrialization, and environmental change for an undergraduate seminar in American Studies.
- Roundtable, "The New Deal Now" with David M. Kennedy and Eric Rauchway, University of California-Davis, Nov. 2008
- "So What Was the TVA Anyway?" Contemporary History Institute, Ohio University, Jan. 2008
- "Lyndon Johnson, Rural America, and the New Deal," Miller Center of Public Affairs, University of Virginia, April 2006
- Historical Roundtable, "Hurricane Katrina and the Past, Present, and Future of New Orleans," Columbia University, Oct. 2005
- "New Deal Conservation," University of Georgia, Nov. 2004
- "FDR, Herbert Hoover, and the New Rural Conservation," Roosevelt Institute, Hyde Park NY, Oct. 2002

Conference Papers

- "The Fault Lines of Farm Policy," Agricultural History Society (AHS), Washington, DC, June 2019
- "Family Farms, Food Stamps, and Segregation in the 1960s," Historians of the Twentieth-Century United States (HOTCUS), Cambridge, UK, June 2018
- "Agricultural Abundance and a New History of Neoliberalism," Boston-California-London History Consortium, Boston, MA, April 2018
- "The 1960s Origins of the American Farm Bill," Global Food + Symposium, Harvard University, Feb. 2017
- "Why Keynes Couldn't Solve the American Farm Problem," Policy History Conference (PHC), Nashville, TN, June 2016
- "Political Ideology and American Farm Policy Since WWII," Harvard Business School, Conference on "The Political Economy of Food," June 2015
- "Ideology and Farm Policy in Postwar America," Policy History Conference (PHC), Columbus, OH, June 2014
- "Food and Agriculture in the Cold War World," Roundtable with Nick Cullather, Shane Hamilton, and Daniel Immerwahr, Organization of American Historians (OAH), Atlanta, GA, April 2014
- "Revisiting the Southern Democrats," Agricultural History Society (AHS), Banff, AB, June 2013
- "Agricultural History in the Age of Michael Pollan," Agricultural History Society (AHS), Banff, AB, June 2013
- "From Farm to Food Politics in the Kennedy Era," Agricultural History Society (AHS), Manhattan, KS, June 2012
- "Liberals and the Environment," BU-Cambridge-Princeton Political History Conference, Boston University, April 2009
- "From Food Aid to the FAO: George McGovern's Agricultural Advocacy and the Limits of Liberal Internationalism," Organization of American Historians (OAH), Seattle, WA, March 2009
- "Approaches to Radical Environmental History: Methodologies and Movements," Roundtable, American Historical Association (AHA), New York, Jan. 2009
- "So What Was the TVA Anyway?" Agricultural History Society (AHS), Cambridge, MA, June 2006
- "New Deal Conservation and the Environmental Limitations of Agrarian Policy," American Society of Environmental History (ASEH), Victoria, BC, April 2004
- "Postwar Development and Environmental History: The Overlapping Politics of Conservation and Preservation," Organization of American Historians (OAH), Washington, D.C., April 2002
- "Shirt-Sleeve Diplomacy: American Technical Assistance and World Reconstruction, 1940–1955," Social Science History Association (SSHA), Chicago, IL, Nov. 2001
- "A Political Interpretation of New Deal Conservation," American Society of Environmental History (ASEH), Durham, NC, March 2001
- "Drylands, Dustbowl, and Agro-Technical Internationalism in South Africa," Michigan State University, Nov. 2000
- "The New Deal as Crossroads in Federal Resource Management," Social Science History Association (SSHA), Pittsburgh, PA, Oct. 2000.

Conference Participation

- Roundtable Participant, "Pete Daniel and Southern Agriculture," AHS, Washington, DC, June 2019
- Concluding Faculty Panel, Harvard University Graduate Student Conference, "Capitalism in the Countryside," Oct. 2017
- Chair and Comment, "Building the Rural Great Society," PHC, Nashville, TN, June 2016
- Comment, BU Graduate Student American Political History Conference, April 2016
- Chair and Comment, "Agrarian Intellectuals," AHS, Lexington KY, June 2015

Concluding Faculty Panel, Northeast Environmental History Conference, Yale University, April 2015
 Comment, "Country Nation: Politics, Rural Cultures, and Landscapes of Normalcy," AHA, New Orleans, LA, Jan. 2013
 Comment, "The Green Revolution and Beyond," AHA, New Orleans, LA, Jan. 2013
 Chair and Comment, "Farmers, Experts, and Governments," AHS, Manhattan, KS, June 2012
 Comment, "Scientific Experimentation and Technology," Yale Environmental History Conference, New Haven, CT, April 2012
 Chair and Comment, "The New Deal and Global Environmental Politics," ASEH, Madison, WI, March 2012
 Chair and Comment, "Seeing Like a New Dealer," AHS, Springfield, IL, June 2011
 Comment, BU Graduate Student American Political History Conference, April 2011
 Chair, "Finding Rejuvenation in Nature," Yale Environmental History Conference, New Haven, CT, March 2011
 Chair, "Agriculture and the State: New Directions," AHS, Winter Park, FL, June 2010
 Comment, BU-Cambridge-Princeton Political History Conference, Princeton, April 2010
 Chair and Comment, "Food, Aesthetics, and Cuisine in the Atlantic-African World," AHS, Cambridge, MA, June 2006

Courses Taught at Boston University (starting Fall 2009)

HI 152 The United States Since 1865
 HI 291 Politics of the American Environment
 HI 315 The American West
 HI 337 America in Depression and War: 1890-1945
 HI 338 Cold War America: 1945-1968
 HI 401/402 Senior Honors Seminar
 HI 467 Postwar America, 1945-1968
 HI 589 Nature's Past: Histories of Environment and Society
 HI 801 Historian's Craft
 HI 850 American Historiography
 HI 851 Recent American History
 HI 852 Readings in American Political History
 ML 713 Agricultural History (for MET Gastronomy Program)

Selected Courses Taught at Columbia University (2005-2009)

Undergraduate: Food and American Life/ U.S. Between the Wars/ U.S. Since 1960/Thesis Seminar
 Graduate: Twentieth-Century U.S. History/ U.S. Political History/ Research Seminar

BU Guest Lectures and Presentations (External to History)

"Liquid Boston: Water, Sludge, and the City's Political Pipes," Guest Lecture, American Studies (AM) 202, Feb. 2015
 "The Dust Bowl: New Arguments and New Data," Guest Lecture for Catherine West, Archaeology (AR) 290, March 2014
 Panelist, "The Global Land Rush: The Future of Food, Fuel, and Agricultural Development," Pardee House Seminar, Nov. 2011

Affiliations

American Historical Association (AHA)
 Organization of American Historians (OAH)
 American Society of Environmental History (ASEH)
 Agricultural History Society (AHS), [elected member, Executive Board 2009-2012]

University Service, Boston University (beginning 2009)

Graduate Academic Affairs Committee (GAAC), 2018-
 CAS Teaching Awards Committee, March 2018
 Graduate Academic Affairs Committee, 2014-2016
 Reviewer, Moorman-Simon Fellowship for Civic Engagement, 2014, 2015
 Trustee Scholarship Selection Committee, 2013-2014
 University Committee on Scholarly Activities and Libraries, 2013-2014
 University Council Committee on Curriculum and Degrees, 2012-2013
 CAS Representative, Faculty Council Committee on Teaching, Learning, and Instructional Resources, 2009-2010

Departmental Service, Boston University (beginning 2009)

Director of Graduate Studies, July 2018-
 Midtenure Review Committee, Andrew Robichaud, March 2018

Tenure Evaluation Committee, Philip Haberkern, 2017
 Director of Graduate Studies, 2014-2016
 Director of Undergraduate Studies, 2011-2014
 Graduate Admissions Committee, 2014
 AMNESP (American and New England Studies Program) program committee, 2013-2014
 Pilot Instructor and Coordinator, History Honors Program (HI 401/402), 2012-2014
 Lead Faculty Member, Provost's RULE grant to the History Department (HI 190 course planning), 2011-2012

BU Student Advising (beginning 2009; excluding routine undergraduate advising and 3 years of HI 401/402)

PhD Graduate Advisor: Neal Knapp (Sept. 2018, AMNES); Benjamin Kochan (History); Kathryn Viens (AMNES); Elizabeth Hameeteman (History); John Williams (History); Alyssa Kreikemeier (AMNES); Warren Dennis (History)
 Second Reader: Jessica Samuel (AMNES); Jeanna Kinnebrew (History); Mary Potorti (Dec. 2014, AMNES); Seth Blumenthal (April 2013)
 Additional Dissertation Committees: Dalia Haitayan (in progress); Aaron Ahlstrom (AMNES, in progress); Cari Babitzke (in progress); Matthew Lavalley (in progress); Jamie Grischkan (in progress); David Shorten (Dec. 2019); Krista Kinslow (May 2019); Ian Stevenson (March 2019); Robert Shimp (April 2018); Daniel Burge (Nov. 2017); Benjamin Twagira (August 2017); Christopher Conz (March 2017); Matthew Pressman (March 2016); Patricia Peknik (March 2015); Rosemary Hynes (July 2014); Andrew Ballou (May 2013); Ellen Wald (July 2012); Anne Blaschke (April 2012); Zachary Smith (Dec. 2011); Kathryn Brownell (March 2011); Carney Maley (May 2010, AMNES); Kate Jewell (April 2010); Melissa Graboyes (April 2010)
 MA Advisor: Lacey Brantley (JD/MA May 2016); Jordan Goneau-Concalves (May 2019)
 Oral Exam Committees: Seth Anderson (Dec. 2019); Alex Olkovsky (Oct. 2019, AMNES); Alyssa Kreikemeier (Feb. 2019, AMNES); Charley Binkow (Jan. 2019); Elizabeth Hameeteman (Sept. 2018); John Williams (Mar. 2018); Jeanna Kinnebrew (Feb. 2018); Megan Lebaron (Feb. 2018, AMNES); Jamie Grischkan (Jan. 2018); Patrick Browne (Jan. 2018); Aaron Ahlstrom (Oct. 2017, AMNES); Ian Stevenson (Jan. 2017, AMNES); Matthew Lavalley (Nov. 2016); Hannah Metheny (Oct. 2016); Sam Palfreyman (Feb. 2016, AMNES); Kathryn Viens (Dec. 2015, AMNES); Benjamin Kochan (Nov. 2014); Amanda Mayo (Oct. 2014, AMNES); Sam Shupe (May 2014, AMNES); Adrea Hernandez (May 2014, AMNES); Christopher Conz (April 2014); Robert Shimp (Feb. 2014); Philip Rotz (Jan. 2014); Neal Knapp (April 2013, AMNES); Benjamin Twagira (April 2013); Paul Hutchison (March 2013, AMNES)
 Graduate Directed Studies: Warren Dennis; Seth Anderson; Alyssa Kreikemeier (AMNES), Charley Binkow; Elizabeth Hameeteman; Matthew Lavalley; Sam Palfreyman (AMNES); Ian Stevenson (AMNES); Aaron Ahlstrom (AMNES); Leeann Sullivan (International Relations); Christopher Conz; Benjamin Twagira; Philip Rotz; Benjamin Kochan; Emma Newcombe (AMNES); Kathryn Viens (AMNES)
 Major-Paper Reader for American Studies PhD Program: Emma Newcombe, Sean Case
 Senior Thesis Advisor: Elizabeth Alva, 2015-16, Andrew Cho (AMNES), 2015-16
 Senior Thesis Defense Committees (Before 401/402): Joseph Clark (2010), Jacob Slutsky (2012)
 Faculty Advisor, BU Academy Senior Thesis in History: Jessica Brown (2017-18); Gianpaolo Carpinito (2009-10)

Outside Dissertation Committees

Harvard University (Rachel Steely, in progress); Brandeis University (Sarah Sutton, July 2016); Columbia University (Keith Orejel, May 2015); University of Sheffield UK (Thomas Keep, Oct. 2014—External (Primary) Examiner); Boston College (John Spiers, Dec. 2012); University of Virginia (Laura Kolar, April 2011)
 Columbia University (2004-2009): Nicole Hemmer, Neil Young, Jefferson Decker, Sarah Vogel, Elizabeth Pillsbury, Alexander Cummings

Article Review

Agricultural History, Business History Review, Environmental History, Environment and History, The Historical Journal, Journal of American Studies, Journal of Policy History, Journal of Southern History, Journal of Urban History, Social History, Technology & Culture, Western Historical Quarterly

Book Manuscript Review

University Press of Kansas, Cambridge University Press, University of Pennsylvania Press, Oxford University Press, University of Chicago Press, Princeton University Press, Yale University Press, Routledge, Wiley Blackwell

Blurbs

Richard Andrews, *Managing the Environment, Managing Ourselves: A History of American Environmental Policy* (Yale University Press, 2020)

Douglas Sheflin, *The Legacies of Dust: Land Use and Labor on the Colorado Plains* (University of Nebraska Press, 2018)

Tore Olsson, *Agrarian Crossings: Reformers and the the Making of the U.S. and Mexican Countryside* (Princeton University Press, 2016)

Jefferson Decker, *The Other Rights Revolution: Conservative Lawyers and the Remaking of American Government* (Oxford University Press, 2016)

Daniel Amsterdam, *Roaring Metropolis: Businessmen's Campaign for a Civic Welfare State* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2016)

Erik Loomis, *Empire of Timber: Labor Unions and the Pacific Northwest Forests* (Cambridge University Press, 2015)

David Welky, *The Thousand-Year Flood: The Ohio-Mississippi Disaster of 1937* (University of Chicago Press, 2011)

Service to Professional Societies

Local Arrangements Committee for the Annual Meeting of American Society for Environmental History in Boston (2021)

Agricultural History Society, Program Committee for Centennial Anniversary Meeting, Washington, D.C., 2018-19

Agricultural History Society, Saloutos Book Award Committee, 2014-16. Chair in 2016

Forest History Society, Project Evaluator for the Rosenberry Graduate Fellowship, 2016

Agricultural History Society, Program Committee, 2013-14

Forest History Society, Weyerhaeuser Book Award committee, 2011

Agricultural History Society, elected member, Executive Board, 2009-12

Agricultural History Society, Fite Dissertation Prize committee, 2005-07

Promotions

Tenure Reference Letter, University of Virginia, Aug. 2019

Promotion Reference Letter, Arcadia University, March 2019

Tenure Reference Letter, New Mexico State University, Aug. 2016

Tenure Reference Letter, University of Kansas, July 2013

Collegial Support

Manuscript Conference Commentator, David Engerman (Brandeis University), *Development Politics*, Sept. 2016

"Dream Mentor," Miller Center of Public Affairs Fellowship Program, 2012-13 (Tore Olsson, Ph.D., University of Georgia; Assistant Professor, University of Tennessee, 2013-)

Secondary Teacher Education

Teaching American History (TAH) lecturer for secondary school teachers: Dec. 2004, Dec. 2007, Jan. 2008, Oct. 2008, Feb. 2010, Feb. 2012

Scholar-Lecturer: "The Great Depression," Gilder Lehrman Professional Teacher Development Workshop, New York City, March 2015

Scholar-Lecturer: "The Wilderness Warrior?" and "Voices on the Left," Gilder Lehrman Professional Teacher Development Workshop, Boston, July 2015; "Cleaning up the City," GLI Boston, July 2016