

Nineteenth-Century Strata

Call for Papers

INCS March 24-27, 2022, Salt Lake City, Utah



Held in a region of rich fossil beds, towering crags, plunging canyons, and the snow-capped Rocky Mountains, the 2022 INCS Annual Conference in Salt Lake City will dig deep into questions about stratification – physical and social, spatial and temporal, visual and textual. We invite papers that consider the myriad varieties of literal and figurative layering that played out across the nineteenth century. This conference will foreground how exploratory and creative acts of digging down and building up expose new truths and generate new knowledge – both in the nineteenth century and in our present work as scholars of the period. Please join us in our transdisciplinary and interconnected investigations into what lies below, above, and on the surface.

Papers might address:

- Class Interaction, Wealth Distribution
- Race and Racial Uplift
- Layering and Bending Gender and Sexuality
- Social Climbing, Passing, Transvestivism
- Family Trees and Generational Conflict
- Descent and Breeding
- Secrets and Skeletons in the Closet
- Memory and the Subconscious
- Food Chain, Foodways, and Cookery
- Fads and Fashions
- Disability and Access
- Geology, Deep Time, the Longue Durée
- Evolution and “Lower” Animals
- Taxonomy and Classification
- Museum Display and Public Spectacle
- Archeology and Paleontology
- Exploration, Excavation, and Exhumation
- Horticultural Layering
- Urban Planning and Architecture
- Photomontage and Trick Photography
- Pastiche, Collage, Patina
- Empire, Center, and Periphery
- Displacement, Migration, and Travel
- Self and Soul, Spiritual Layering
- Surface Reading/Deep Reading
- Neo-Victorianism and Writing Over the Past
- Drafts, Revisions, Palimpsests
- Digging in the Archives
- Digital Mapping and New Media
- Victorian Historiography and Scholarly Presentism
- Any 19th-Century Topic

INCS has a unique panel format to facilitate discussion and collaboration. Presenters precirculate a written version of the papers shortly before the conference and give a 7-8 minute synopsis during their panels, leaving ample time for dialogue and exchange.

Conference website: incs.utah.edu

For paper proposals, send a 200-word abstract and a one-page CV to INCS2022@utah.edu by October 8, 2021. For panel proposals, please provide a brief overview of the panel in an e-mail message and attach all paper proposals and CVs.

For more information, contact Jessica Straley, jessica.straley@utah.edu or Leslee Thorne-Murphy, lesleetm@byu.edu.

George Cruikshank, “The British Beehive,”
1867. Courtesy of historyhome.co.uk

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Attendees will enjoy...

- Opening reception at the Utah Natural History Museum
- Optional study day at archives with extensive nineteenth-century print, manuscript, and art collections
- Guided city walks
- Extended feedback and discussion during each panel
- Undergraduate poster session

Locale

Held at the Hilton Hotel in historic downtown Salt Lake City, accessible via public transportation from the airport and within walking distance of museums, shopping, bars, and dining

A Short Drive Away

- Skiing, boarding, and snowshoeing in the Wasatch Mountains—nearby resorts include Alta, Brighton, Deer Valley, Park City, Snowbird, and Solitude
- Great Salt Lake's Antelope Island State Park, home to free-ranging bison
- Park City, a nineteenth century mining town that now hosts art galleries, fine dining, and mountain activities

Farther Afield

- Southern Utah's red rock national parks—Arches, Bryce Canyon, Canyonlands, Capitol Reef, Zion
- Bonneville Salt Flats, an otherworldly salt-encrusted landscape, residue of the ancient Lake Bonneville
- Golden Spike National Historical Park, marking the site where the transcontinental railroad was completed
- Anasazi State Park, site of one of the largest Ancestral Puebloan communities west of the Colorado River (c. 1050-1200)

Keynote Speakers

Tanya Agathocleous

Associate Professor of English, Hunter College, CUNY

Tanya Agathocleous' integrative and interdisciplinary scholarship considers stratification in political, legal, architectural, and corporeal contexts, making visible the effects of imperial structures and spaces on lived experience. Her latest book *Disaffected: Emotion, Sedition, and Colonial Law in the Anglosphere* examines the far-reaching effects of anti-sedition law on the overlapping and discordant political spheres of India and Britain.

Jennifer Tucker

Associate Professor of History, Wesleyan University

Deftly blending the fields of visual history and the history of science in *Nature Exposed: Photography as Eyewitness in Victorian Science*, Jennifer Tucker explores the cultural, legal, and medical meanings evoked by the photograph in its early development. Her current work on mining and chemical extraction exposes the labor history and environmental effects beneath photography's glossy finish.

Plenary Panelists

Göran Blix

Professor of French, Princeton University

In *From Paris to Pompeii: French Romanticism and the Cultural Politics of Archaeology*, Göran Blix shows how archeology's acts of excavation bequeathed a metaphor through which nineteenth-century historians, visual artists, and authors theorized the interlocking relationship between past and present. His recent work maps out a subterranean genealogy of biophilia and ecoapathy from Rousseau to Zola.

Judith Madera

Associate Professor of Literature, Wake Forest University

Judith Madera's *Black Atlas: Geography and Flow in Nineteenth-Century African American Literature* incisively redefines place as a palimpsest of local, regional, national, and hemispheric histories, metaphors, and allegiances working both in consort and conflict. Her new project explores the radical geographies of African American and Caribbean literatures and the Black emancipatory politics of the abolition epoch.

Shundana Yusaf

Associate Professor of Architecture, University of Utah

As an historian of architecture, Shundana Yusaf explores the spatialization of politics and culture, replacing visual modes of understanding design with attention to the oral and aural practices that characterize built environments. Her book in progress, *The Resonant Tomb: A Feminist History of Sufi Shrines in Pakistan*, explores gender contestation in public sacred spaces including those excavated in the nineteenth century.