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From Common Lands to Second Nature: The Scholarship of Richard W. Judd and the Future of Eastern Environmental History

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“From Common Lands to Second Nature: The Scholarship of Richard W. Judd and the Future of Eastern Environmental History”

Panel held Friday, May 4th, 3-5 PM, in the Bangor Room, Memorial Union, at the University of Maine

Recording outline:

1__FromCommonLandstoSecondNature_May 4_2018_UniversityofMaine

Eileen Hagerman introduction 0 – 5:35

Brain Payne intro 5:42 – 12:54

Matt McKenzie 12:54 – 23:00

Kate Viens 23:30 – 29:59

2__FromCommonLandstoSecondNature_May 4_2018_UniversityofMaine

Kate Viens 0 - 6:30

John Cumbler 6:30 – 13:00

Brian Donahue 13:00 – 29:59

3__FromCommonLandstoSecondNature_May 4_2018_UniversityofMaine

Brian Donahue 0 – 3:05

Brian Payne 3:05 – 7:25

Questions (can be hard to hear) 7:25 – end

4__FromCommonLandstoSecondNature_May 4_2018_UniversityofMaine

Questions (can be hard to hear) 0 – 23:40

Scroll down to view full transcript without timestamps.

Transcript generated by YouTube transcription software and may contain errors.

Transcript

00:01

hello hello everyone welcome to from

00:08

common lands to second nature the

00:09

scholarship of Richard jug and the
00:11
future of Eastern environment of the
00:13
stream thank you all so much for being
00:14
here today
00:15
my name is Eileen Hagerman and as an
00:18
environmental historian and a doctoral
00:19
candidate in history in the history
00:21
department here at UMaine who like
00:23
several others here in this room today
00:25
have worked with Professor John since
00:27
beginning the master's program in 2011
00:30
and you can see a fun picture of some of
00:33
us that stick on our way to a conference
00:36
a few years back sorry
00:44
I'm so excited to have been able to play
00:47
a role in organizing this panel I can't
00:49
think of a more hard-working kind and
00:51
patient advisor and anyone who knows
00:53
professor Doug also knows that he's
00:54
never been one to self-promote he was
00:57

probably embarrassed beyond belief when

00:58

he got wind of what we were planning but

01:00

here we are sorry Dave

01:03

in all seriousness professor generally

01:05

does prefer as he has said many times in

01:07

the past to just put his dead head down

01:09

and quote do the work and his dedication

01:12

of scholarship is reflected in my work

01:14

in so many ways

01:15

as such I'm truly honored to be one of

01:17

his graduate students and to have

01:18

benefited from his insights into support

01:20

over the years my colleague Brian Payne

01:23

will be up here in a moment to introduce

01:25

all the panelists and share a few of his

01:26

own words about professor Jenna but as

01:29

you made history Department tradition

01:31

dictates someone was introduced the

01:32

introducer first however I wanted to

01:36

very quickly express my gratitude to the

01:38

following first to the panelists all of
01:40
whom have traveled from the bar to
01:42
participate in this event the chat
01:44
monetary at UMass Lowell who first came
01:46
up with this idea come up with came up
01:49
with the idea for this panel that
01:50
couldn't be a part of it due to various
01:51
scheduling conflicts to the humane
01:54
history department and the history
01:55
Graduate Student Association
01:57
generous sponsorship of this event their
01:59
funding made it possible to offer the
02:01
glorious snack spread they did a little
02:03
bit without taking notice of in the back
02:05
of the rooms please continue to help
02:06
yourselves to those of you who help
02:10
promote this event by circulate acquires
02:11
email lists the word of mouth to those
02:14
who couldn't be here in person but are
02:15
tuning in via YouTube livestream right
02:17

now hello if any of you are actually I
02:19
think we have one person I think there
02:23
will be more those who couldn't be here
02:25
in oh yeah
02:27
- Brian cane for lending his event
02:29
planning expertise and for agreeing to
02:31
chair and sort of low-key you moderate
02:33
this panel but perhaps most of all is
02:36
Emma
02:36
Schrader who is another doctoral
02:38
candidate in this department and has
02:40
been a fantastic cooking spirit or
02:41
through all of this
02:42
Emma did immense amount of work securing
02:44
this room were all gathered in today as
02:46
well as refreshments while enjoying the
02:49
parking passes and honorariums for
02:50
panelists and countless of your details
02:52
that I probably overlooked and moreover
02:54
she is just generally a really nice
02:55

person without her this event could not
02:59
happen and as the kids are fond of
03:01
saying nowadays you're the real MVP Emma
03:03
so let's give these folks a round of
03:05
applause
03:12
and now I'm very pleased to introduce
03:14
Brian Payne who is an associate
03:16
professor professor of history at
03:18
Bridgewater State University for many of
03:20
us in the history department here at
03:21
UMaine professor painting needs little
03:23
introduction he earned his PhD from her
03:25
program in 2006 his dissertation
03:27
entitled fishing a borderless feed
03:29
environmental territorials in the North
03:31
Atlantic 1871 to 1910 was later
03:34
published as a monograph by Michigan
03:36
State University lieutenant he's
03:38
authored numerous articles on the
03:39
maritime industry of New England and
03:41

Atlantic Canada covering topics ranging
03:43
through Fisheries regulation and
03:44
stewardship to labor systems within the
03:47
region's fish processing industry he has
03:49
presented at dozens of conferences in
03:51
the field and collaborated extensively
03:52
with other scholars helping to found the
03:54
organization Northeast Atlantic region
03:56
environmental history also known as near
03:58
eh formerly known as Natchez his current
04:02
projects include editing the ocean the
04:04
culture and politics of seafood
04:06
consumption in Canada 1900 to 1950
04:08
relief feeding food and poverty politics
04:11
in the United States Canada and Great
04:13
Britain and several co-edit volumes
04:14
among them nature through Creek
04:17
Formation captivity nature reclamation
04:19
in New England a story of rewilding
04:21
needs the project teachers of
04:22

mackynzie's was also there today and the
04:25
greater both an environmental history of
04:27
the Gulf of st. Lawrence which is under
04:28
contract with Philippines University
04:30
rice is also in the past served as an
04:33
associate editor editor for the grid
04:35
water review named history and the u.s.
04:37
Canadian public policy journal
04:38
professor Kane was in 26
04:41
17 recipient of a Fulbright Sunday
04:43
fellowship or educational exchange
04:45
between Canada and the United States
04:46
Nia's are numerous teaching awards
04:48
including the outstanding faculty award
04:50
for the Honors Program at Bridgewater
04:52
State in spring 2015 and the rising star
04:55
faculty award at Old Dominion University
04:57
in spring of 2010 he also currently
04:59
serves as a graduate program coordinator
05:01
for the history department at
05:02

Bridgewater State and the spring began
05:03
serving as a grievance officer for the
05:06
Bridgewater chapter of the Massachusetts
05:07
College Teachers Association and the
05:09
organization has been active in since at
05:11
least 2014 so basically go to Brian
05:14
Payne if you have a problem or if you
05:15
just feel like complaining all jokes
05:18
aside this problem-solving abilities and
05:20
this ability to bring people together
05:21
really do play a role making this event
05:22
possible today and we're very grateful
05:24
to happen pick with us and now without
05:27
further ado I'll hand this thing over to
05:29
Professor Payne
05:30
take it away O'Brien they may the fourth
05:41
thank you for that introduction that was
05:44
everything I've ever done I thought
05:56
there'd be some kind of big throne that
05:58
we thank you for that thank you for
06:07

inviting me I'm happy to have the
06:09
opportunity to introduce our panels and
06:11
to moderate the discussion afterwards
06:14
none of the people on this panel need
06:15
any kind of introduction but it has
06:17
fallen to me the responsibility
06:20
providing some in anyway so I'll do so
06:22
very quickly and then shut up and let
06:25
them say the really smart stuff before I
06:28
get to that though I'd just like to take
06:30
one moment to point out that of the five
06:32
of us who are up here I'm the only one
06:35
to have actually sat in a seminar as a
06:37
student of Professor Richard judge I had
06:40
the great fortune of having dick on both
06:42
my MA and PhD committees even though he
06:45
might be trying to block that memory out
06:47
I distinctly remember the day when my
06:51
own advisor Scott seed told me that I
06:53
had I couldn't take a graduate seminar
06:55

class or pick judge largely because he
06:57
was the only New England historian in
07:00
the department at that time dick was
07:02
scheduled to teach his environmental
07:04
history graduate seminar that semester
07:07
and I had absolutely no interest in
07:10
environmental history and I love the
07:13
idea of taking an entire seminar on tree
07:16
huggers needless to say I went in a
07:20
grudgingly within five minutes I was
07:23
completely caught looking back I now
07:26
know that I did in fact have a strong
07:28
environmental ethic as a member of a
07:31
white working class I had previously
07:33
thought environmentalism was something
07:36
kids from work we did or hippies and
07:38
other places around the country
07:41
environmentalism was certainly not
07:42
something that was talked about over the
07:45
dinner table and my my family of
07:47

blue-collar Reagan Republicans and if it
07:51
was it was not often a positive
07:54
interpretation of what environmentalism
07:56
was but thick showed me the important
07:59
intersection between labor and
08:01
environmental history that had since
08:03
shaped my academic work before that I am
08:05
deeply grateful dick showed me that my
08:08
memories as a child driving past on my
08:11
way to my family's house driving past
08:14
all the factories of chemical processing
08:17
plants in Niagara Falls New York working
08:20
in Love Canal as part of the opening of
08:24
Love Canal tearing up asbestos tiles
08:27
from my dad's for covering business and
08:31
helping past employers cover things up
08:36
just before OSHA inspectors showed up
08:39
all had very important environmental
08:42
history components to them that I was
08:44
never fully
08:45

able to comprehend until dick showed me

08:48

those important connections but there

08:51

are far more important people here today

08:53

than me they're going to talk about just

08:55

academic work and I'd like to jump into

08:57

my introductions of our speakers I'll

09:00

introduce them all now and then we'll

09:03

we'll let them give their talks and then

09:05

we'll have an open conversation after

09:09

they present their discussions Matt

09:12

McKenzie joins us from the University of

09:14

Connecticut where he's been teaching New

09:16

England environmental and maritime

09:18

history since 2006 Matt is the author

09:21

clearing the coastline and the

09:23

forthcoming work breaking the banks

09:25

along with over a dozen articles and

09:28

book chapters that span disciplinary

09:30

boundaries Matt mistaken his academic

09:33

work into the realm of public policy as

09:35

a member of the New England fisheries
09:37
management Council and the International
09:39
Council for the exploration of the sea
09:41
Matt will bring forward his expertise on
09:43
interdisciplinary research which often
09:46
bridges the gap between humanities
09:48
science and public policy and speak to
09:51
us today about how dicks work
09:52
established a firmer foundation for the
09:55
maritime peninsulas environmental
09:57
history while also touching on the
09:59
important role played by both science
10:02
and history and public policy debate
10:05
Kate Vance is the director of research
10:07
at the Massachusetts Historical Society
10:09
palmed the Boston environmental history
10:12
seminar kate has been death message to
10:14
society since 2009 after serving in
10:17
numerous public history venues across
10:19
Massachusetts in Rhode Island the list
10:22

of consulting work editorial work
10:24
exhibition work and such as far to thank
10:27
you capturing this brief introduction
10:28
she's also currently finishing up her
10:31
HD on the Massachusetts railroad
10:33
industry at the University of Boston
10:36
Kate will tap into this rich and diverse
10:38
experience and discuss how professor
10:40
richard judged work has enriched the
10:42
field of environmental history in
10:44
addition as a doctoral candidate with a
10:46
field and environmental history
10:48
she will describe the influence of big
10:50
scholarship on her own work finally as a
10:53
proud parent of a black bear alumni
10:56
laughter in science and environmental
10:59
science in 2012 she looks forward to
11:03
thanking professor judd for the ways in
11:05
which he has contributed to the
11:07
intellectual rigor and the support of
11:09

educational environment that the
11:11
university maine offers to his students
11:13
john humbler recently 2015 retired from
11:17
a long and successful career at the
11:19
university
11:20
John is the author of seven books that
11:23
lectic job began in labor history and
11:26
transitioned into environmentalism his
11:29
latest work is on the environmental
11:31
history of his beloved Cape Cod John
11:33
will talk about how big represents
11:35
environmental historians who came out of
11:37
the labor social of history field and
11:40
how that informed his work and the field
11:43
of environmental history more generally
11:45
finally Brian Donohue joins us from
11:48
Brandeis University where he has been
11:50
teaching environmental history since
11:52
t97 brian has written co-authored
11:55
numerous books articles and chapters and
11:58

environmental history and policy with a
12:00
particular focus on sustainable
12:02
agriculture and food production most
12:04
notably are reclaiming the Commons in
12:07
the Great Meadow Brian brings with them
12:09
great intimate knowledge of working with
12:11
the landscape
12:12
perhaps invest speak on dicks influence
12:14
on the role of common people playing man
12:17
played and managing and protecting
12:20
common lands so thank you all for coming
12:23
to or not today to gross weight to honor
12:37
dick Jones for his exceptional work as a
12:40
scholar a teacher and perhaps most
12:42
important to me
12:43
a mentor of students and academics
12:46
across the United States Canada and even
12:48
beyond let's start
12:54
[Applause]
13:02
so I want to thank the organizers for
13:05

inviting me to be here today to honor

13:07

dick judge

13:08

I came to dick judge knowledge of his

13:10

work relatively late in my career thank

13:12

God because if I had to sit in one of

13:14

seminars I probably would've finished

13:15

credit school so thank you for coming to

13:18

my world

13:18

late but it's a better late than never

13:21

and suppose um like many of us I came to

13:25

know dicta through his work I recall

13:27

reading in a cold sweat as common lands

13:29

common people realizing that the project

13:32

I was then well into is proving to be

13:33

nothing more than a long-winded footnote

13:35

to this magnificent study rural farmers

13:38

and hundreds of development of a 19th

13:39

century conservation ethic what I also

13:41

noted quite powerfully in that book and

13:44

it is until garden was his sense of New

13:46

England exceptionalism dicks work I
13:49
think I can say all focuses around the
13:51
fact that there was something different
13:52
and special and unique about this corner
13:55
of the continent in his books and
13:57
articles I found a shared view about the
13:59
particular role this region played in
14:01
American social cultural and ecological
14:02
development but dick knew how and why
14:05
this happened I did and over the past
14:09
decade however I through his work I've
14:11
come to see things far more clearly than
14:13
I could have ever done so before and
14:15
articulated for more cogently than
14:17
everything
14:18
never I probably will be able to do in
14:20
the future dicks focus on a specific
14:22
place throughout specific time in
14:25
particular brought New England's
14:27
distinctiveness into clearer focus
14:28

remember while he has concentrated most
14:31
of his work on northern New England his
14:32
writing speak to a larger region that in
14:35
second nature
14:35
he turkey dubbed the maritime Peninsula
14:38
defined loosely as the lands falling
14:40
south of the st. Lawrence and east of
14:42
Hudson he put into concrete Geographic
14:51
terms of cultural zone that while far
14:53
from uniform shared farming or across an
14:55
international border and what was with
14:58
that border was trying to depart in many
15:00
ways this approach is not new indeed
15:03
Inklings of such abuse stretch back to
15:04
Francis Parkman and others before him
15:06
but unlike Parkman and others did routed
15:09
his views not a romantic notions of
15:10
sharing Englishness or conflict of
15:12
Native American groups or some other
15:14
intangible unifying thread predict what
15:17

United this region is a shared
15:19
experience to time New England Atlantic
15:21
Canada and southern portions of Quebec
15:23
all shared at roughly the same time four
15:26
hundred years ago what he called the
15:28
pioneering moment
15:32
the economic cultural social and
15:34
ecological responses that unfolded since
15:36
that moment created dialogue between the
15:38
people in place that dialogue in turn as
15:42
dick as shown has shaped and profound
15:44
and evocative ways the evolution of our
15:46
region's unique emotional economic and
15:48
cultural attitudes towards wilderness
15:50
and human excuses that's realness indeed
15:54
this is what I feel thicknes already has
15:56
really accomplished in our field
15:58
revealing the share trajectory since the
16:00
pioneering moment the better for worse
16:02
that is defined this region across
16:04

borders by the pioneering moment is
16:07
fairly easily defined when North
16:09
American lands and resources may drift
16:11
out of Native American productive
16:12
practices and pull headlong in the
16:14
European market production the moment
16:19
appeared most visibly in cleared forest
16:21
lands and Europeans higher cultural
16:22
production tendrils of that process
16:25
emerged earlier however as scholars such
16:27
as Christmas story Peter Polk and Andrew
16:29
Lippmann have all recently demonstrated
16:30
but it was a head-on engagement with
16:32
North American forests and the work
16:34
needed to make them productive in
16:36
european-style manner that marked the
16:38
impactful force of the pioneering
16:40
activity while most other early American
16:43
scholars see this moment as a material
16:45
one wherein American lands became
16:47

something

16:48

larger economic stream economical field

16:51

dictates how this moment shaped colonial

16:53

consciousness and immaterial spiritual

16:57

scientific thought and ultimately

16:59

spiritual inclinations as the argued in

17:02

second nature that the transcendentalist

17:04

in 19th century in many ways represented

17:06

in wing leaders attempts to blend these

17:08

two things the experience with forests

17:10

with a sense of spirituality and faith

17:12

and logic that that forest elicited

17:15

deeper in their souls it's a vision that

17:19

explains a lot about the cultural

17:20

presence presence of the maritime

17:22

Peninsula our non-human species because

17:25

of our long history of use and

17:26

abandonment fall far short of the pure

17:29

wilderness that other scholars of the

17:31

environmental history of the US and

17:32

Canadian West often invoke but that
17:35
doesn't make them any less important
17:37
words as places where we can meet the
17:39
sublime the nonhuman and the natural
17:42
indeed what dicks work illustrates most
17:44
clearly is that residents of the
17:46
maritime limits or have come to love
17:48
nature but as a material object existing
17:50
beyond us but rather is a series of
17:52
processes we valued the work in clearing
17:55
land carefully and selectively than
17:58
using those resources with a mindfulness
18:00
or respect that is Pullman in our
18:01
region's tradition of craftsmanship we
18:04
embrace farm fields that while clearly a
18:06
product of human labor and choices still
18:08
remind us every spring the power of life
18:10
to rise again to provide sustenance and
18:13
joy to all of us and spring has arrived
18:15
in something where we hang on is never
18:17

on his own
18:19
indeed as dick has worked is often
18:21
reminded us we often return to these
18:23
reforested areas once used by humans but
18:26
now recolonize by non-human life of our
18:28
boasts for the recreation and nurturing
18:30
of our human soul our region's cultural
18:33
emphasis upon getting into the woods
18:35
does not need old-growth orb so there
18:38
are still very few horses understood
18:40
around we can make dua six and seven or
18:43
synthetic what's available to us and
18:45
those we can still find the same peace
18:48
calm perspectives and knowledge of
18:50
ourselves into the larger ecosystem of
18:52
which we are part by returning to those
18:54
areas that illustrated to us it's
18:56
Thoreau pointed we go to the places
18:58
where nature makes men's works now
19:01
bright and reminded man the drive-up
19:03

does also supposed to talk about science
19:05
and public policy so this is where I
19:06
start winging where does this on land
19:11
this is a very clear process we know
19:13
colonists arrived 400 years ago and
19:16
started putting the land to soil but
19:19
most of my work deals with the Gulf of
19:20
Maine and the marine resource management
19:22
and I would argue because of dips
19:24
pinpointing identification of the
19:26
pioneering moment that is provided a
19:28
very important tool for scientists and
19:30
policy and decision makers and how we
19:33
view marine resource management in the
19:36
Gulf of Maine and southern New England
19:38
while the Pioneer moment may have passed
19:40
400 years ago on land I would
19:45
about 2030 that if you look at behavior
19:48
if you look at how people use and view
19:51
resources the catch-as-catch-can the the
19:54

freedom of maneuver outside the bounds
19:57
of civilization beyond a frontier that
20:00
fighting any moment lasted well until
20:02
the 1990s when I would argue the
20:04
convergence of forces GPS technology and
20:07
the fact that that GPS technology now
20:09
allowed us to start going to the exact
20:11
same spot time and time again in the
20:14
ocean to see what's happening that
20:16
allowed us to start for better or worse
20:18
foot boxes on the ocean floor in any
20:20
water planets no we haven't quite gotten
20:24
to the point and see where we are on
20:27
land where we are working with natural
20:29
processes to allow for recovery
20:32
reforestation to allow that dialogue
20:34
between humans and the monotony of the
20:36
world to exist and creating something
20:38
new marine scientist called use this
20:41
term recovery I think dick we caution
20:45

against Allah as he makes very clear in
20:47
his book second nature the reef orcid
20:50
landscape is not only covered with
20:52
Scouten something that's totally new its
20:53
curated it's different it's not less
20:56
natural it's just we've been anybody's
20:59
something of us we're getting to that at
21:02
sea we've just established some marine
21:05
protected it well I'm not supposed to
21:07
say
21:07
various conservation zones habitat
21:10
management areas in the Gulf of Maine
21:11
that promise to deliver some of this to
21:14
allow that process to start the work to
21:16
try to rebuild send the stocks that need
21:19
fish down and so when we think about
21:24
behaviors and attitudes and scientific
21:27
inclinations towards marine recent
21:29
marine environment that moment this idea
21:32
the play near moment is very very
21:33

important to us because it marks the
21:35
signal turn in behavior and
21:38
consciousness that's something managers
21:40
in scientists are only just starting to
21:41
figure out fishermen have been there for
21:44
a long time some have some haven't but
21:47
it's a it's what we need to change
21:48
culture better that well I think going
21:51
back to the marine resources that this
21:53
region needs to bring back so I would
21:57
argue in short that Dick's work allows
21:59
us to see that in this particular place
22:02
the United States and this is true for
22:04
New England as much as it is for
22:06
Atlantic Canada for attitudes about the
22:09
pioneering moment and how a dialogue
22:11
exists between people
22:13
the non-union world really has to be a
22:15
force by which we can again not recover
22:19
but bring something math that we had one
22:22

still though ultimately I think dik-diks
22:25
work shows us that we aren't nearly as
22:27
big as we think we I mean when you walk
22:30
through some of these reforested glands
22:32
I feel very small but we're big enough
22:35
bidding up the foul things up it's left
22:37
to our own devices
22:38
what Dick's work has shown me was and
22:42
remains the power of what we can do if
22:45
we harness that energy outside of our
22:48
force ourselves to bring something new
22:50
about and be okay that's really what I
22:53
think is done through our field control
22:56
understand
22:57
history of this region it is initially
23:00
has because it is all about it's gone
23:05
Thank You dick and thank you all
23:08
[Applause]
23:32
good afternoon
23:35
I'd like to thank the history department
23:37

Emma and Eileen for their invitation to
23:39
reflect on Dick's influential career and
23:42
the direction of environmental history
23:44
today I'd like to thank my fellow
23:46
panelists for sharing their ideas and
23:49
most of all I'm delighted to have the
23:51
chance to say congratulations and thank
23:54
you to Dick in person on my own behalf
23:56
and on behalf of the Massachusetts
23:58
Historical Society in some ways the
24:02
environment of the NHS itself could not
24:04
be more different from that of Oaredoo
24:06
in the heart of Back Bay the marble
24:09
halls of our building overlook a stream
24:11
of car traffic outside our door Berkeley
24:14
college students wheel their musical
24:16
instruments down a sidewalk crowded with
24:19
Red Sox fans making their way to Fenway
24:21
Park but as many of you know the NHS -
24:25
it's an important place to research
24:27

write and discuss environmental history

24:30

since 2001 the Boston environmental

24:34

history seminar hosted by the NHS has

24:36

given faculty and students from

24:38

throughout the region the opportunity to

24:40

receive feedback on their works in

24:42

progress the series meets seven times

24:45

during the academic year dick and our

24:48

fellow panelists have all participated

24:50

as presenters commentators and faithful

24:53

attendees it was almost exactly a year

24:56

ago that dick commented on a paper by

24:59

Jason Newton of Syracuse University the

25:02

winter works Cape weather and the

25:04

meaning of industrial capitalism

25:06

northern forest 1850 to 1950 a program

25:11

that ironically had been postponed due

25:13

to snow dick has always generously been

25:18

willing to drive down from Orono to take

25:20

part in the seminar and this is the

25:22

service to the NHS and the field for
25:25
which we are very grateful and I'm
25:27
pleased to announce that next year dick
25:29
student Mike Brennan will present his
25:31
work on environmental racism and
25:34
environmental justice in Boston in the
25:36
seminar series in 2006 the society
25:41
organized the conference remaking Boston
25:44
and Brian Donnie you gave the keynote
25:45
address in 2009 the University of
25:49
Pittsburgh Press published the essay
25:51
collection remaking Boston and
25:54
environmental history of the city and
25:56
its surroundings edited by Conrad right
25:58
of the MHS and Tony Penna of
26:01
Northeastern University and in 2012 when
26:04
dick Tony Matt Ryan and others organized
26:08
the Northeast and Atlantic Canada
26:10
environmental history workshop the NHS
26:12
was honored to host itself ural eating
26:15

and I was fortunate to present my own
26:17
work in the program last year at Avery
26:20
point and to receive comments from Dick
26:22
and other valued colleagues not to be
26:26
outdone by our programming the NHS
26:28
collections department makes important
26:30
environmental history resources
26:32
available to scholars I know that many
26:35
of you
26:36
to our rich collection of colonial
26:38
records but our 20th century Holdings
26:41
are especially important these include
26:43
the records of the environment to League
26:45
of Massachusetts and the Massachusetts
26:47
Audubon Society
26:48
Henry Foster's oral history interviews
26:51
with former secretaries of the
26:53
Massachusetts Executive Office of
26:54
Environmental Affairs and the papers of
26:57
Frances Sergeant Gary Studs and Leverett
26:59

Saltonstall

27:00

to support scholars working in the

27:03

archives the NHS research department

27:05

Awards fellowships we gave one of our

27:08

recent grants to Dick student Danseuse

27:11

ei for his project on conflict and the

27:13

northern border lands during the

27:15

American Revolution so you see the the

27:18

pattern I'm establishing here both of

27:20

Dick's own active scholarship and the

27:23

generations of scholars with whom he

27:25

leaves worked and to Indies

27:28

so I think you can see why I'm here as a

27:31

representative of the Massachusetts

27:33

Historical Society the NHS is strongly

27:36

invested in environmental history

27:38

collections and the environmental

27:40

history community we've especially

27:43

valued our relationship with the

27:45

University of Maine history department

27:46

with dick and four generations of his
27:49
students however I'd like to turn now to
27:51
describe for you the impact that dick
27:53
has had on my own work as a scholar
27:56
dick's influences research major I've
27:59
reached me directly in conversations
28:01
through his extensive published
28:03
scholarship through the generations of
28:06
colleagues whom he's influenced and
28:08
through this service to the University
28:10
some of you are well all of you now that
28:13
Brian may be the introduction are aware
28:15
than the PhD candidate in American and
28:17
New England studies at Boston University
28:19
and I'm writing a dissertation on myth
28:22
the development of Massachusetts
28:23
railroads in the 1830s and their
28:26
relationship to industrialization and
28:28
improvements in villages and rural areas
28:32
following war of 1812 I'm working with
28:35

Sarah Phillips with whom I read
28:37
environmental history field and
28:39
no show for me as an American Studies
28:43
scholar environmental history sits at
28:46
the center of a constellation of fields
28:48
that include American literature and art
28:51
material culture including landscapes
28:54
and the built environment I'm thinking
28:56
about the theories of Jamie Jackson and
28:59
historical archaeology as well as
29:01
environment science apart from his
29:05
collaborations with colleagues in other
29:07
fields in was essay collections and his
29:09
other work dicks unique contribution to
29:12
environmental history has resonated in
29:14
these other fields in ways that are
29:16
vitaly important the narrative of
29:20
environmental history American
29:22
environmental history is focused on the
29:24
American West and it picks up this
29:26

hyperbole as it moves toward the Pacific
29:29
Ocean from the big money to the Great
29:31
Salt Lake to the Grand Canyon not to be
29:34
outdone by the Grand Tetons to the giant
29:36
sequoias and euro-americans rose to the
29:40
challenge of this expanse with
29:42
devastating consequences for Native
29:45
communities
29:46
they invented the Winchester and Wells
29:50
Fargo highway network at the Hoover Dam
29:53
the cavalry soldier and cowboy the miner
29:58
and the missile

Full Transcript Sans Timestamps

Transcript

hello hello everyone welcome to from
common lands to second nature the
scholarship of Richard jug and the
future of Eastern environment of the
stream thank you all so much for being
here today
my name is Eileen Hagerman and as an
environmental historian and a doctoral
candidate in history in the history

department here at UMaine who like several others here in this room today have worked with Professor John since beginning the master's program in 2011 and you can see a fun picture of some of us that stick on our way to a conference a few years back sorry

I'm so excited to have been able to play a role in organizing this panel I can't think of a more hard-working kind and patient advisor and anyone who knows professor Doug also knows that he's never been one to self-promote he was probably embarrassed beyond belief when he got wind of what we were planning but here we are sorry Dave

in all seriousness professor generally does prefer as he has said many times in the past to just put his head down and quote do the work and his dedication of scholarship is reflected in my work in so many ways

as such I'm truly honored to be one of his graduate students and to have benefited from his insights into support over the years my colleague Brian Payne will be up here in a moment to introduce all the panelists and share a few of his own words about professor Jenna but as you made history Department tradition dictates someone was introduced the introducer first however I wanted to very quickly express my gratitude to the following first to the panelists all of whom have traveled from the bar to participate in this event the chat monetary at UMass Lowell who first came up with this idea come up with came up with the idea for this panel that couldn't be a part of it due to various

scheduling conflicts to the humane history department and the history Graduate Student Association generous sponsorship of this event their funding made it possible to offer the glorious snack spread they did a little bit without taking notice of in the back of the rooms please continue to help yourselves to those of you who help promote this event by circulate acquires email lists the word of mouth to those who couldn't be here in person but are tuning in via YouTube livestream right now hello if any of you are actually I think we have one person I think there will be more those who couldn't be here in oh yeah

- Brian cane for lending his event planning expertise and for agreeing to chair and sort of low-key you moderate this panel but perhaps most of all is Emma

Schrader who is another doctoral candidate in this department and has been a fantastic cooking spirit or through all of this

Emma did immense amount of work securing this room were all gathered in today as well as refreshments while enjoying the parking passes and honorariums for panelists and countless of your details that I probably overlooked and moreover she is just generally a really nice person without her this event could not happen and as the kids are fond of saying nowadays you're the real MVP Emma so let's give these folks a round of applause

and now I'm very pleased to introduce Brian Payne who is an associate

professor professor of history at
Bridgewater State University for many of
us in the history department here at
UMaine professor painting needs little
introduction he earned his PhD from her
program in 2006 his dissertation
entitled fishing a borderless feed
environmental territorialisms in the North
Atlantic 1871 to 1910 was later
published as a monograph by Michigan
State University lieutenant he's
authored numerous articles on the
maritime industry of New England and
Atlantic Canada covering topics ranging
through Fisheries regulation and
stewardship to labor systems within the
region's fish processing industry he has
presented at dozens of conferences in
the field and collaborated extensively
with other scholars helping to found the
organization Northeast Atlantic region
environmental history also known as near
eh formerly known as Natchez his current
projects include editing the ocean the
culture and politics of seafood
consumption in Canada 1900 to 1950
relief feeding food and poverty politics
in the United States Canada and Great
Britain and several co-edit volumes
among them nature through Creek
Formation captivity nature reclamation
in New England a story of rewilding
needs the project teachers of
mackenzie's was also there today and the
greater both an environmental history of
the Gulf of St. Lawrence which is under
contract with Philippines University
rice is also in the past served as an
associate editor editor for the grid
water review named history and the u.s.

Canadian public policy journal
professor Kane was in 26
17 recipient of a Fulbright Sunday
fellowship or educational exchange
between Canada and the United States
Nia's are numerous teaching awards
including the outstanding faculty award
for the Honors Program at Bridgewater
State in spring 2015 and the rising star
faculty award at Old Dominion University
in spring of 2010 he also currently
serves as a graduate program coordinator
for the history department at
Bridgewater State and the spring began
serving as a grievance officer for the
Bridgewater chapter of the Massachusetts
College Teachers Association and the
organization has been active in since at
least 2014 so basically go to Brian
Payne if you have a problem or if you
just feel like complaining all jokes
aside this problem-solving abilities and
this ability to bring people together
really do play a role making this event
possible today and we're very grateful
to happen pick with us and now without
further ado I'll hand this thing over to
Professor Payne
take it away O'Brien they may the fourth
thank you for that introduction that was
everything I've ever done I thought
there'd be some kind of big throne that
we thank you for that thank you for
inviting me I'm happy to have the
opportunity to introduce our panels and
to moderate the discussion afterwards
none of the people on this panel need
any kind of introduction but it has
fallen to me the responsibility
providing some in anyway so I'll do so

very quickly and then shut up and let them say the really smart stuff before I get to that though I'd just like to take one moment to point out that of the five of us who are up here I'm the only one to have actually sat in a seminar as a student of Professor Richard Judge. I had the great fortune of having Dick on both my MA and PhD committees even though he might be trying to block that memory out. I distinctly remember the day when my own advisor Scott Seed told me that I had I couldn't take a graduate seminar class or pick Judge largely because he was the only New England historian in the department at that time. Dick was scheduled to teach his environmental history graduate seminar that semester and I had absolutely no interest in environmental history and I love the idea of taking an entire seminar on tree huggers. Needless to say I went in a grudgingly within five minutes I was completely caught looking back. I now know that I did in fact have a strong environmental ethic as a member of a white working class. I had previously thought environmentalism was something kids from work we did or hippies and other places around the country. Environmentalism was certainly not something that was talked about over the dinner table and my my family of blue-collar Reagan Republicans and if it was it was not often a positive interpretation of what environmentalism was but Dick showed me the important intersection between labor and environmental history that had since shaped my academic work before that I am

deeply grateful dick showed me that my memories as a child driving past on my way to my family's house driving past all the factories of chemical processing plants in Niagara Falls New York working in Love Canal as part of the opening of Love Canal tearing up asbestos tiles from my dad's for covering business and helping past employers cover things up just before OSHA inspectors showed up all had very important environmental history components to them that I was never fully able to comprehend until dick showed me those important connections but there are far more important people here today than me they're going to talk about just academic work and I'd like to jump into my introductions of our speakers I'll introduce them all now and then we'll we'll let them give their talks and then we'll have an open conversation after they present their discussions Matt McKenzie joins us from the University of Connecticut where he's been teaching New England environmental and maritime history since 2006 Matt is the author clearing the coastline and the forthcoming work breaking the banks along with over a dozen articles and book chapters that span disciplinary boundaries Matt mistaken his academic work into the realm of public policy as a member of the New England fisheries management Council and the International Council for the exploration of the sea Matt will bring forward his expertise on interdisciplinary research which often bridges the gap between humanities science and public policy and speak to

us today about how dicks work
established a firmer foundation for the
maritime peninsulas environmental
history while also touching on the
important role played by both science
and history and public policy debate
Kate Vance is the director of research
at the Massachusetts Historical Society
palmed the Boston environmental history
seminar kate has been death message to
society since 2009 after serving in
numerous public history venues across
Massachusetts in Rhode Island the list
of consulting work editorial work
exhibition work and such as far to thank
you capturing this brief introduction
she's also currently finishing up her
HD on the Massachusetts railroad
industry at the University of Boston
Kate will tap into this rich and diverse
experience and discuss how professor
richard judged work has enriched the
field of environmental history in
addition as a doctoral candidate with a
field and environmental history
she will describe the influence of big
scholarship on her own work finally as a
proud parent of a black bear alumni
laughter in science and environmental
science in 2012 she looks forward to
thanking professor judd for the ways in
which he has contributed to the
intellectual rigor and the support of
educational environment that the
university maine offers to his students
john humbler recently 2015 retired from
a long and successful career at the
university
John is the author of seven books that
electic job began in labor history and

transitioned into environmentalism his latest work is on the environmental history of his beloved Cape Cod John will talk about how big represents environmental historians who came out of the labor social of history field and how that informed his work and the field of environmental history more generally finally Brian Donohue joins us from Brandeis University where he has been teaching environmental history since 1977 Brian has written co-authored numerous books articles and chapters and environmental history and policy with a particular focus on sustainable agriculture and food production most notably are reclaiming the Commons in the Great Meadow Brian brings with them great intimate knowledge of working with the landscape perhaps invest speak on Dick's influence on the role of common people playing managed and managing and protecting common lands so thank you all for coming to or not today to give weight to honor Dick Jones for his exceptional work as a scholar a teacher and perhaps most important to me a mentor of students and academics across the United States Canada and even beyond let's start [Applause] so I want to thank the organizers for inviting me to be here today to honor Dick Judge I came to Dick Judge knowledge of his work relatively late in my career thank God because if I had to sit in one of seminars I probably would've finished credit school so thank you for coming to

my world

late but it's a better late than never
and suppose um like many of us I came to
know dicta through his work I recall
reading in a cold sweat as common lands
common people realizing that the project
I was then well into is proving to be
nothing more than a long-winded footnote
to this magnificent study rural farmers
and hundreds of development of a 19th
century conservation ethic what I also
noted quite powerfully in that book and
it is until garden was his sense of New
England exceptionalism dicks work I
think I can say all focuses around the
fact that there was something different
and special and unique about this corner
of the continent in his books and
articles I found a shared view about the
particular role this region played in
American social cultural and ecological
development but dick knew how and why
this happened I did and over the past
decade however I through his work I've
come to see things far more clearly than
I could have ever done so before and
articulated for more cogently than
everything

never I probably will be able to do in
the future dicks focus on a specific
place throughout specific time in
particular brought New England's
distinctiveness into clearer focus
remember while he has concentrated most
of his work on northern New England his
writing speak to a larger region that in
second nature

he turkey dubbed the maritime Peninsula
defined loosely as the lands falling
south of the st. Lawrence and east of

Hudson he put into concrete Geographic terms of cultural zone that while far from uniform shared farming or across an international border and what was with that border was trying to depart in many ways this approach is not new indeed Inklings of such abuse stretch back to Francis Parkman and others before him but unlike Parkman and others did routed his views not a romantic notions of sharing Englishness or conflict of Native American groups or some other intangible unifying thread predict what United this region is a shared experience to time New England Atlantic Canada and southern portions of Quebec all shared at roughly the same time four hundred years ago what he called the pioneering moment the economic cultural social and ecological responses that unfolded since that moment created dialogue between the people in place that dialogue in turn as dick as shown has shaped and profound and evocative ways the evolution of our region's unique emotional economic and cultural attitudes towards wilderness and human excuses that's realness indeed this is what I feel thicknes already has really accomplished in our field revealing the share trajectory since the pioneering moment the better for worse that is defined this region across borders by the pioneering moment is fairly easily defined when North American lands and resources may drift out of Native American productive practices and pull headlong in the European market production the moment appeared most visibly in cleared forest

lands and Europeans higher cultural production tendrils of that process emerged earlier however as scholars such as Christmas story Peter Polk and Andrew Lippmann have all recently demonstrated but it was a head-on engagement with North American forests and the work needed to make them productive in European-style manner that marked the impactful force of the pioneering activity while most other early American scholars see this moment as a material one wherein American lands became something

larger economic stream economical field dictates how this moment shaped colonial consciousness and immaterial spiritual scientific thought and ultimately spiritual inclinations as the argued in second nature that the transcendentalist in 19th century in many ways represented in wing leaders attempts to blend these two things the experience with forests with a sense of spirituality and faith and logic that that forest elicited deeper in their souls it's a vision that explains a lot about the cultural presence presence of the maritime Peninsula our non-human species because of our long history of use and abandonment fall far short of the pure wilderness that other scholars of the environmental history of the US and Canadian West often invoke but that doesn't make them any less important words as places where we can meet the sublime the nonhuman and the natural indeed what dicks work illustrates most clearly is that residents of the maritime limits or have come to love

nature but as a material object existing beyond us but rather is a series of processes we valued the work in clearing land carefully and selectively than using those resources with a mindfulness or respect that is Pullman in our region's tradition of craftsmanship we embrace farm fields that while clearly a product of human labor and choices still remind us every spring the power of life to rise again to provide sustenance and joy to all of us and spring has arrived in something where we hang on is never on his own indeed as dick has worked is often reminded us we often return to these reforested areas once used by humans but now recolonize by non-human life of our boasts for the recreation and nurturing of our human soul our region's cultural emphasis upon getting into the woods does not need old-growth orb so there are still very few horses understood around we can make dua six and seven or synthetic what's available to us and those we can still find the same peace calm perspectives and knowledge of ourselves into the larger ecosystem of which we are part by returning to those areas that illustrated to us it's Thoreau pointed we go to the places where nature makes men's works now bright and reminded man the drive-up does also supposed to talk about science and public policy so this is where I start winging where does this on land this is a very clear process we know colonists arrived 400 years ago and started putting the land to soil but most of my work deals with the Gulf of

Maine and the marine resource management and I would argue because of dips pinpointing identification of the pioneering moment that is provided a very important tool for scientists and policy and decision makers and how we view marine resource management in the Gulf of Maine and southern New England while the Pioneer moment may have passed 400 years ago on land I would about 2030 that if you look at behavior if you look at how people use and view resources the catch-as-catch-can the the freedom of maneuver outside the bounds of civilization beyond a frontier that fighting any moment lasted well until the 1990s when I would argue the convergence of forces GPS technology and the fact that that GPS technology now allowed us to start going to the exact same spot time and time again in the ocean to see what's happening that allowed us to start for better or worse foot boxes on the ocean floor in any water planets no we haven't quite gotten to the point and see where we are on land where we are working with natural processes to allow for recovery reforestation to allow that dialogue between humans and the monotony of the world to exist and creating something new marine scientist called use this term recovery I think dick we caution against Allah as he makes very clear in his book second nature the reef orcid landscape is not only covered with Scouten something that's totally new its curated it's different it's not less natural it's just we've been anybody's something of us we're getting to that at

sea we've just established some marine
protected it well I'm not supposed to
say
various conservation zones habitat
management areas in the Gulf of Maine
that promise to deliver some of this to
allow that process to start the work to
try to rebuild send the stocks that need
fish down and so when we think about
behaviors and attitudes and scientific
inclinations towards marine recent
marine environment that moment this idea
the play near moment is very very
important to us because it marks the
signal turn in behavior and
consciousness that's something managers
in scientists are only just starting to
figure out fishermen have been there for
a long time some have some haven't but
it's a it's what we need to change
culture better that well I think going
back to the marine resources that this
region needs to bring back so I would
argue in short that Dick's work allows
us to see that in this particular place
the United States and this is true for
New England as much as it is for
Atlantic Canada for attitudes about the
pioneering moment and how a dialogue
exists between people
the non-union world really has to be a
force by which we can again not recover
but bring something math that we had one
still though ultimately I think dik-diks
work shows us that we aren't nearly as
big as we think we I mean when you walk
through some of these reforested glands
I feel very small but we're big enough
bidding up the foul things up it's left
to our own devices

what Dick's work has shown me was and remains the power of what we can do if we harness that energy outside of our force ourselves to bring something new about and be okay that's really what I think is done through our field control understand

history of this region it is initially has because it is all about it's gone

Thank You dick and thank you all

[Applause]

good afternoon

I'd like to thank the history department Emma and Eileen for their invitation to reflect on Dick's influential career and the direction of environmental history today I'd like to thank my fellow panelists for sharing their ideas and most of all I'm delighted to have the chance to say congratulations and thank you to Dick in person on my own behalf and on behalf of the Massachusetts Historical Society in some ways the environment of the NHS itself could not be more different from that of Oaredoo in the heart of Back Bay the marble halls of our building overlook a stream of car traffic outside our door Berkeley college students wheel their musical instruments down a sidewalk crowded with Red Sox fans making their way to Fenway Park but as many of you know the NHS - it's an important place to research write and discuss environmental history since 2001 the Boston environmental history seminar hosted by the NHS has given faculty and students from throughout the region the opportunity to receive feedback on their works in progress the series meets seven times

during the academic year dick and our fellow panelists have all participated as presenters commentators and faithful attendees it was almost exactly a year ago that dick commented on a paper by Jason Newton of Syracuse University the winter works Cape weather and the meaning of industrial capitalism northern forest 1850 to 1950 a program that ironically had been postponed due to snow dick has always generously been willing to drive down from Orono to take part in the seminar and this is the service to the NHS and the field for which we are very grateful and I'm pleased to announce that next year dick student Mike Brennan will present his work on environmental racism and environmental justice in Boston in the seminar series in 2006 the society organized the conference remaking Boston and Brian Donnie you gave the keynote address in 2009 the University of Pittsburgh Press published the essay collection remaking Boston and environmental history of the city and its surroundings edited by Conrad right of the MHS and Tony Penna of Northeastern University and in 2012 when dick Tony Matt Ryan and others organized the Northeast and Atlantic Canada environmental history workshop the NHS was honored to host itself ural eating and I was fortunate to present my own work in the program last year at Avery point and to receive comments from dick and other valued colleagues not to be outdone by our programming the NHS collections department makes important environmental history resources

available to scholars I know that many of you to our rich collection of colonial records but our 20th century Holdings are especially important these include the records of the environment to League of Massachusetts and the Massachusetts Audubon Society Henry Foster's oral history interviews with former secretaries of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs and the papers of Frances sergeant Gary studs and Leverett Saltonstall to support scholars working in the archives the NHS research department Awards fellowships we gave one of our recent grants to dick student danseuse ei for his project on conflict and the northern border lands during the American Revolution so you see the the pattern I'm establishing here both of dicks own active scholarship and the generations of scholars with whom he leaves worked and to Indies so I think you can see why I'm here as a representative of the Massachusetts Historical Society the NHS is strongly invested in environmental history collections and the environmental history community we've especially valued our relationship with the University of Maine history department with dick and four generations of his students however I'd like to turn now to describe for you the impact that dick has had on my own work as a scholar dicks influences research major I've reached me directly in conversations through his extensive published

scholarship through the generations of colleagues whom he's influenced and through this service to the University some of you are well all of you now that Brian may be the introduction are aware than the PhD candidate in American and New England studies at Boston University and I'm writing a dissertation on myth the development of Massachusetts railroads in the 1830s and their relationship to industrialization and improvements in villages and rural areas following war of 1812 I'm working with Sarah Phillips with whom I read environmental history field and no show for me as an American Studies scholar environmental history sits at the center of a constellation of fields that include American literature and art material culture including landscapes and the built environment I'm thinking about the theories of Jamie Jackson and historical archaeology as well as environment science apart from his collaborations with colleagues in other fields in was essay collections and his other work dicks unique contribution to environmental history has resonated in these other fields in ways that are vitally important the narrative of environmental history American environmental history is focused on the American West and it picks up this hyperbole as it moves toward the Pacific Ocean from the big money to the Great Salt Lake to the Grand Canyon not to be outdone by the Grand Tetons to the giant sequoias and euro-americans rose to the challenge of this expanse with devastating consequences for Native

communities

they invented the Winchester and Wells

Fargo highway network at the Hoover Dam

the cavalry soldier and cowboy the miner

and the missile