

Timothy H. Johnson

Curriculum Vitae

Department of History
University of Georgia
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. expected summer 2016, History

University of Georgia, Athens, GA

Dissertation: "Feeding the Plants that Feed the World: The Political Economy of Fertilizer in the United States, 1865-1947," Shane Hamilton (chair), James C. Cobb, Daniel Rood, Paul Sutter

Exam Fields: American History since 1865, Environmental History, American History to 1865, Modern Latin American History, passed 2012

M.A. in History, December 2010

University of Georgia, Athens, GA

Thesis: "Growth Industry: Fertilizer and the Politics of Agriculture on the Georgia Cotton Belt, 1840-1900"

**Winner of the James Bonner Award for the Best Thesis on Georgia History, presented biennially by the Georgia Historical Society and Georgia College and State University*

B.A. in History with Distinction, June 2005

Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

"Nitrogen Nation: The Legacy of World War I and the Politics of Chemical Agriculture in America, 1916-1930," *Agricultural History*, 2016 (Vol. 90, 2)

"Reconstructing the Soil: From Slavery to Chemical-Intensive Agriculture on the Georgia Cotton Belt," chapter in *The Blue, The Gray, and The Green: Toward an Environmental History of the Civil War*, University of Georgia Press, 2015

"Toward a Global Law of the Minimum: The Geopolitics of N-P-K Sourcing," chapter in *Phosphorus and the Opening of the Plantationocene*, Rachel Carson Center "Perspectives" Series, forthcoming 2017

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2016 Graduate Research Award, Willson Center for Humanities and Arts,
University of Georgia
- 2015 Allington Dissertation Fellowship, Beckman Center for the History of
Chemistry, Chemical Heritage Foundation, Philadelphia, PA
- Jason Manthorne Memorial Award, University of Georgia History
Department
- 2014 Research Fellowship, Consortium for the History of Science, Technology,
and Medicine, Philadelphia, PA
- Warner-Fite Award, University of Georgia History Department
- 2013 Harvard History Project Research Grant, Joint Center for History and
Economics, Cambridge and Harvard Universities
- History of Capitalism Summer Camp, Cornell University, *declined*
- Society for the Colonial Dames American History Annual Scholarship
Award
- 2012 Dissertation Proposal Development Fellow, Social Science Research
Council (Ecological History Field)
- James Bonner Award for the Best MA Thesis in Georgia History, Georgia
Historical Society and Georgia College and State University
- Carl Vipperman Teaching Award, University of Georgia History
Department
- National Science Foundation Travel Grant, American Society for
Environmental History Conference
- 2010 Excellence in Student Research Using Historical Records, Georgia
Secretary of State and Georgia Historical Records Advisory Board
- Gregory and Amanda Gregory Research Award for studies in Civil War
History, University of Georgia

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

[“The Documents that Trapped Poor Southern Farmers in a Dangerous Form of Debt,”](#) The Vault, Slate.com, (Jan. 2015)

"A Brief, Explosive History of Man-Made Fertilizer," opinion piece in the *Atlanta Journal Constitution* "Political Insider," (Apr. 2013)

Review of *An Agrarian Republic: Farming, Antislavery Politics, and Nature Parks in the Civil War Era*, Adam Wesley Dean, *Environmental History*, (Winter 2015)

Review of *Stinking Stones and Rocks of Gold: Phosphate, Fertilizer, and Industrialization in Postbellum South Carolina*, by Shepherd W. McKinley, *Agricultural History* (Summer 2015): 476-477

Review of *The American Reaper: Harvesting Networks and Technology, 1830-1910* by Gordon M. Winder, *Enterprise and Society*, (Aug. 2013): 659-660

PRESENTATIONS, INVITED TALKS and WORKSHOPS

2016 "Toward a Global Law of the Minimum: The Geopolitics of N-P-K Sourcing," at the "Phosphorus and the Opening of the Plantationocene" Workshop, Rachel Carson Center, Munich

"Racial Profiling: Soil Management and the Politics of the Fertilizer Trade in the Jim Crow South," American Society for Environmental History Conference, Seattle, WA

"Fertilizer Bomb: Are We Really 'Eating the Leftovers' of World War II?" Agricultural History Conference, New York, NY

2015 "Guano Happens: An Illustrated History of Fertilizer in America," Science on Tap Philadelphia

2014 "Population Boom: Warfare, Fertilizers, and the Chemicalization of American Agriculture," Brown Bag Lecture, Chemical Heritage Foundation, Philadelphia

Workshop on the History of Environment, Agriculture, Technology and Science (WHEATS), hosted by Kansas University

"Nitrogen Nation: World War I and the Birth of Chemical Agriculture in America," Southern History of Science and Technology Conference (SoHost), Georgia Institute of Technology

2013 "The TVA and the End of Conservation: Rethinking the Muscle Shoals Controversy," Workshop for the History and Geography of Food, Place, and Power, University of Georgia

"Growing Concerns: Selective Science and the National Fertilizer Association, 1910-1950," paper presentation at the History of Science Society Conference, Boston, MA

- 2012 James Bonner Award Presentation, invited talk at Georgia College and State University
- “Making Nature Strategic: Landscapes of Modern Warfare” (Panel organizer and paper presenter), American Society for Environmental History Conference, Madison, WI
- 2011 “Captive to Strange Gods,” paper presentation at the Uncivil Wars Conference, Athens, GA
- “General Sherman on Southern Soil,” Paper workshop at the Southern Roundtable, University of Georgia
- “Food in the Land of Fiber,” paper presented at the Agricultural History Conference, Springfield, IL
- 2010 “Politics and the Dung Heap: The Arrival of Fertilizer on the Georgia Cotton Belt,” paper presented at the Business History Conference, Athens, GA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Georgia, Athens, GA

Graduate Teaching Assistant, U.S. History, 2008-2014

Research assistant and contributor to the digital humanities initiative
“History on the Move,” 2012-2013

Courses prepared: U.S. Survey, U.S. Environmental History, Civil War and Reconstruction, America in the Gilded Age, Commodities and the Making of the Modern World

SERVICE AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Americorps member and night staff at the Athens Area Homeless Shelter, 2007-2010

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Agricultural History Society

American Society for Environmental History

Business History Conference

Organization of American Historians

Society for the History of Technology

FOREIGN LANGUAGE SKILLS

Spanish (reading fluency)