

# 2024 Dublin Seminar

## Into the Woods: New England Forests in Fact and Imagination

### OPTIONAL PRE-PROGRAM

Spaces are limited, but registrants may sign up to attend all, some, or none of these events.

#### **Friday, June 28**

- 9:30-10:00     **Library Group A** (limit 15) meets at the Memorial Libraries for “Into the Books: An Exploration of Library Resources.” Discover four centuries of library resources on the wonders of wood with librarian Jeanne Solensky. Examine treatises on deforestation and native trees of North America, technical manuals on the properties and uses of wood, design sources for carving and ornamentation, and veneer and inlay samples.
- Flynt Group A** (limit 15) meets in Flynt Center Lobby for *A Walk in the Woods: Crafting Early American Furniture* - Join assistant curator, Dan Sousa, on a tour of the museum's furniture gallery to explore how early American cabinetmakers harvested and prepared wood to build furniture, and used its striking natural features for decoration and as inspiration for other ornamentation.
- 10:00-10:15     Travel time for groups to switch locations
- 10:15-10:45     **Library Group B** (limit 15) meets at the Memorial Libraries with Jeanne Solensky
- Flynt Group B** (limit 15) meets in Flynt Center Lobby with Dan Sousa
- 11:00-12:15     **Walking Tour along the Channing Blake Footpath** with naturalist Laurie Sanders, co-director of Historic Northampton (limit 25; \$10 registration fee; park in Visitor Parking and meet at the sign for the Channing Blake Footpath north of the Deerfield Inn; comfortable walking shoes recommended).  
“Seeing the Forest and the Trees: Exploring the Interrelationships between the Landscape and Local History”
- 12:15-1:15     *Lunch on your own*

### PROGRAM

- 12:30             Deerfield Community Center opens, name badges and information packets available, along with refreshments
- 1:10              Virtual sign-in opens
- 1:15-1:30        Welcome
- 1:30-3:00        **Session #1 - Experiencing and Engaging with the Woods**

Ann M. Little, Professor, Department of History, Colorado State University: “Forests, Trees, and Women’s Ecological Thinking at the Turn of the Nineteenth Century”

Jane E. Radcliffe, curatorial consultant, Vaughan Woods & Historic Homestead (Hallowell, ME): “Boston Rusticators in the Maine Woods During the 1870s”

Jeffrey S. Debies-Carl, Professor, Psychology & Sociology Department, University of New Haven: “The Shadows Beneath the Trees: Transformative Effects of Contemporary Legends and Folklore on New England’s Forested Landscapes”

3:00-3:15 Break

3:15-4:45 **Session #2 - Identity & Claiming the Forest**

Daniel Bottino, Doctoral Candidate, Department of History, Rutgers University: “Ancient Landmarks, Ancient Inhabitation: The Marked Trees of Seventeenth-Century Maine”

Christopher J. Slaby, Ph.D. Candidate, American Studies Program, William & Mary: “Indigenous Homelands and Thomas Cole’s Cabins in the Woods; or, Putting the Settler in Settler Colonialism”

Benjamin Trumble, Doctoral Student, Department of Geography, University of Washington: “Losing the Trees for the Forest: Shifting Rural Character in Weare, New Hampshire”

4:45-7:00 Dinner on your own

7:00-8:00 **Keynote Address by Margaretta Lovell**

“The Lumber and the Trees: Fitz H. Lane, Winslow Homer, and the Nineteenth Century Forest”

Margaretta Lovell is the Jay D. McEvoy, Jr. Chair of the History of American Art University of California, Berkeley

**Saturday, June 29**

8:30 Deerfield Community Center opens, name badges and information packets available, along with refreshments

9:00-10:30 **Session #3 - Out from the Woods: Extraction and its Legacies**

Peter A. Thomas, Department of Anthropology, University of Vermont (retired): “Turpentine Extraction & the Metamorphosis of the Local Woodlands, 1689-1713”

Tom Kelleher, Historian & Curator of Mechanical Arts, Old Sturbridge Village: “Maple Sugaring Before Syrup”

Sarah Skinner, Archaeologist, USDA Forest Service, Green Mountain & Finger Lakes National Forests: “19<sup>th</sup> Century Logging & Charcoal Manufacturing at Mount Tabor, Vermont and Landscape Changes that Influenced the Creation of the Green Mountain National Forest”

10:30-10:45 Break

10:45-12:15 **Session #4 - Framing Stories in Buildings**

William A. Flynt, dendroarchaeologist: “Waney Edges: Dendroarchaeology, and What the Timbers Tell Us”

Philippe Halbert, Richard Koopman Associate Curator of American Decorative Arts, Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art: “Woodwork: Labor, Lumber, and Luxury at Staddle Hill”

Nevan Carling, conservation timber framer & MSc student in Timber Building Conservation, University of York, UK, “Reconstructing the Landscape: The Hidden Ecology of New England's Historic Houses”

12:15-1:45 Lunch (buffet at the Deerfield Inn or on your own)

1:45-3:15 **Session #5 - Work in the Woods**

Aaron Ahlstrom, Instructor, Preservation Studies Program, Boston University: “Timberlands and Tourist Cabins: The CCC’s Transformation of Massachusetts’s Mohawk Trail State Forest”

Pamela Snow Sweetser, Independent Historian & Retired Educator: “Horse Sweat: The Making of a Logging Empire”

Kaycie Haller, PhD Candidate, Department of History, University at Albany: “‘Not Suited by Nature’: Democratic Imaginaries of the Environment and Citizenship in the Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933-1942”

3:15-3:30 Break

3:30-5:00 **Session #6 - Complicating Narratives of Decline**

Dona Brown, Professor Emerita, Department of History, University of Vermont: “Farming the Re-Forested Hills: The Case of Jamaica, Vermont, 1930”

Joseph Yauch, PhD Candidate, Department of History, Brandeis University: “Take All the Pine and Spruce You Want: Industrial Lumbering Companies and Penobscot People in 19th-Century Northern Maine”

James S. Peters, PhD (Forestry) JSP Associates & Visiting Scholar, Department of History, University of Massachusetts, Amherst: “A View from the Land: 400 Years of New England Forests, Lumber, and Dwellings”

5:00-5:05 Closing remarks