

BRIAN GRABBATIN

Curriculum Vitae

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Mailing Address:

Midlands Technical College
1260 Lexington Avenue
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West Columbia SC 29170

Research Focus: Political ecology, Property, Territory, Cultural Landscape, American South, Ethnography, and Archival Methods

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate in Geography, University of Kentucky (defense date, November 2014)
Dissertation – The Political Ecology of Heirs’ Property Loss and Preservation in the Gullah-Geechee Communities of the Southeastern United States
Committee – Richard Schein, Morgan Robertson, Tad Mutersbaugh, Ann Kingslover

Graduate Certificate in College Teaching and Learning, University of Kentucky (2011)
Program – Preparing Future Faculty
Faculty Mentor – Morris Grubbs

M.S. in Environmental Studies, College of Charleston (2008)
Thesis – Sweetgrass Basketry: The Political Ecology of an African American Art
Committee – Patrick Hurley, Angela Halfacre (advisors), John Rashford, Dale Rosengarten

B.S. in Anthropology, College of Charleston (2003)
Thesis – Nonviolence as a Revitalization Movement
Advisor – John H. Rashford

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Teaching Positions

Geography Faculty, Midlands Technical College, Social & Behavioral Sciences (2013–Present)
Adjunct Instructor, College of Charleston, Department of Political Science (2011–2013)
Adjunct Instructor, Midlands Technical College, Social & Behavioral Sciences (2011–2013)
Teaching Assistant Instructor, University of Kentucky, Department of Geography (2008 – 2011)

Research Assistantships

Conservation Subdivision Study, College of Charleston (2007)
Native Species Garden Development Project, College of Charleston (2006-08)
Catawba Cultural Preservation Project, Rock Hill South Carolina (2003)

Additional Academic Employment

Tutor, Center for Academic Enrichment Services, University of Kentucky (2009-11)
Library Assistant, Jackson Library, Lander University (2007-2008)

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2012** Grabbatin B. and A. Fickey. "Service-Learning: Critical traditions and geographic pedagogy." *Journal of Geography*, 11 (6): 254-260.
- Grabbatin B. and J. Rossi. "Political Ecology: Nonequilibrium science and nature-society research." *Geography Compass*, 6 (5): 275-289.
- 2011** Grabbatin B., P. T. Hurley, and A. Halfacre. 2011. "'I Still Have the Old Tradition': The co-production of sweetgrass basketry and coastal development." *Geoforum*, 42: 638-649.
- Grabbatin B. and J. L. Stephens. "Wigfall v. Mobley et al.: Heirs' property rights in family and in law." *Disclosure: A Journal of Social Theory*, 20: 133-150.
- 2010** Halfacre A., P. T. Hurley, and B. Grabbatin. 2010. "Sewing Environmental Justice into African American Sweetgrass Basket-Making in the South Carolina Lowcountry." *Southeastern Geographer*, 50 (1): 147-168.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

- 2015** Hurley P.T., M. Emery, R. McLain, M. Poe, B. Grabbatin, and C. Goetcheus. Chapter 7: "Whose Urban Forest? Plant gathering and the political ecology of urban Non-Timber Forest Products." Pages 187-212 in *Sustainability in the Global City: Myth and Practice*, edited by C. Isenhour, M. Checker, and G. McDonogh. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- 2012** Hurley P.T., B. Grabbatin, C. Goetcheus, and A. C. Halfacre. "Gathering, Buying, and Growing Sweetgrass (*Muhlenbergia sericea*): Urbanization and social networking in the sweetgrass basket-making industry of lowcountry South Carolina." Pages 153-174 in *African Ethnobotany in the Americas*, edited by R. Voeks and J. Rashford. New York: Springer.

Essays and Commentaries

- 2012** Grabbatin B. "Co-producing Space Along the Sweetgrass Basket Makers' Highway in Mount Pleasant South Carolina." Cover art and essay for *Southeastern Geographer*, 52 (3): 249-251.
- Grabbatin B. "Sweetgrass: Protecting ecology, culture, and livelihoods." *The Journal of the South Carolina Native Plant Society*, Winter: 1-5. <http://scnps.org/scnps-news/newsletters/>.
- Grabbatin B. and P. Bigger. "Dimensions of Political Ecology." *Anthropologies*, 14: <http://www.anthropologiesproject.org/2012/09/dimensions-of-political-ecology.html>.
- Grabbatin B. "Seeing South Carolina from a Harlem Archive." *Political Ecology Working Group: Notes from the Field*, 2: <http://www.politicaecology.org/2012/09/notes-from-field-2.html>
- 2011** Grabbatin B. "Political Ecology: An interdisciplinary bridge." *Anthropologies*, 6: <http://www.anthropologiesproject.org/2011/09/issue-6.html>.

Grabbatin B. "Political Ecology Working Group Brings Environmental Scholars to Campus." *The University of Kentucky's Sustainability Newsletter*, 2 (4): 5. <http://www.sustainability.uky.edu/node/156>.

Book Reviews

- 2014** Grabbatin B. A Delicate Balance: Constructing a Conservation Culture in Lowcountry South Carolina by A.C. Halfacre. *Southern Cultures* 20 (2): 109-111.
- 2013** Grabbatin B. Blue Ridge Commons: Environmental Activism and Forest History in Western North Carolina by K. Newfont. *Journal of Historical Geography* 41(July): 92.
- Grabbatin B. Rent from the Land: A Political Ecology of Postsocialist Rural Transformation by J. Stahl. *Environment and Planning A*, 45(2): 487-488
- 2012** Grabbatin B. and P. Bigger. "Global Natures: From utter failures to the possible." Review forum on Global Political Ecology edited by R. Peet, P. Robbins, and M. Watts. *Area*, 42 (2): 259-260.
- Grabbatin B. American Property: A History Of How, Why, and What We Own by S. Banner. *Journal of Historical Geography*, 38 (4): 479-480.
- Grabbatin B. Planning Paradise: Politics And Visioning Of Land Use In Oregon by P. A. Walker and P. T. Hurley. *Environment and Society*, 3: 148-150.
- 2011** Grabbatin B. Landscape: Property, Environment, Law by N. Graham. *Environment and Planning A*, 43 (8): 1999-2000.
- Grabbatin B. In the Shadow of Slavery: Africa's Botanical Legacy in the Atlantic World by J. A. Carney and R. N. Rosomoff. *Southeastern Geographer*, 51 (3): 497-499.
- Grabbatin B. New Deal, New Landscape: The Civilian Conservation Corps And South Carolina's State Parks by M. Mielnik. *The Post and Courier* (Charleston), 20 November.
- Grabbatin B. 1493: Uncovering the New World Columbus Created by C. Mann. *The Post and Courier* (Charleston), 18 September.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Paper Awards and Academic Honors

- 2014** John & Susan Roueche Excellence Award – League for Innovation in the Community College.
- 2011** Outstanding Article in *Southeastern Geographer* – Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers
- Academic Excellence Award – Student Government Association, University of Kentucky: \$1,000
- 2010** Best Graduate Paper on the American South – American South Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers
- Outstanding Teaching Award Finalist – Office of the Provost, University of Kentucky
- 2003** Scholarly Honors – National Anthropological Honors Society, College of Charleston

Research Grants

- 2012-14** Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant – National Science Foundation, Geography and Spatial Sciences Program: \$11,513
- 2012** Anne U. White Research Award – Association of American Geographers: \$1,500
Dissertation Research Grant – Association of American Geographers: \$500
- 2011** Graduate Research Award – Graduate Student Affinity Group, Association of American Geographers: \$500
Commonwealth of Kentucky Research Fellowship – Association of Emeriti Faculty, University of Kentucky: \$2,000
Dissertation Enhancement Award – Barnhart Withington Fund, University of Kentucky: \$1,200
- 2010** Pre-Dissertation Research Grant – Barnhart Withington Fund, University of Kentucky: \$400
- 2009** Pre-Dissertation Research Grant – Barnhart Withington Fund, University of Kentucky: \$300

Conference Development Grants and Awards

- 2011** Conference Award – Vice-President of Research, University of Kentucky: \$3,000
Enrichment Grant – College of Arts and Sciences, University of Kentucky: \$500
Project Grant – Student Sustainability Council, University of Kentucky: \$2,000
Project Grant – Student Government Association, University of Kentucky: \$500

TRAINING

Qualitative Methodologies

- 2011** Responsible Research Certificate – Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative
- 2008** Human Research Training Certificate – Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative
- 2005** Human Participant Protections Certificate – National Institute of Health

Mapping Techniques

- 2011** Using Arc Catalog – ESRI Online Course
The 15-Minute Map – ESRI Online Course
- 2009** ArcGIS Desktop II – Two-day Workshop, University of Kentucky
- 2008** Customizing ARC IMS – ESRI Online Course
Basics of Geodatabases – ESRI Online Course
FEMA HAZUS Certificate – Three-day Workshop, College of Charleston
GIS Technology Applications II – Graduate Course, College of Charleston

- 2007** Labeling in ArcMap – ESRI Online Course
Creating and Editing Labels – ESRI Online Course
GIS Technology Applications I – Graduate Course, College of Charleston

Pedagogy and Instructional Technology

- 2013** New Faculty Learning Community, Pedagogical Training– Midlands Technical College
2012 Online Course Development, D2L Level I Training – Midlands Technical College
2011 Graduate Certificate in College Teaching and Learning – University of Kentucky
2010 Field-Based Teaching Workshop, Department of Geography – University of Kentucky
2009 Active Learning Workshop – Southeast Association American Geographers
2009 Blackboard Course Development Software Training – University of Kentucky

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

- 2014** “Ukraine: Fractured Geopolitics and Competing Cultural Landscapes” presentation for the *Political Science Forum at Midlands Technical College*, March.
2012 “Sweetgrass: Protecting ecology, culture, and livelihoods” presentation for the *South Carolina Native Plant Society*, November.
2011 “College Teaching and Learning” workshop leader at the *Graduate School Teaching Workshop*, University of Kentucky, January.
2010 “Bin Yah: There’s no place like home” presenter and discussant at the *Geography Film Series*, University of Kentucky, March.
2007 “Spatial and Ethnographic Methodologies” guest presentation for *History 400: Eastside/Westside Charleston’s ethnic neighborhoods*, College of Charleston, March.

Conference Presentations

- 2015** “Property as Practice: Reproducing the Family Commons in Coastal South Carolina.” Paper presentation at the *Association of American Geographers* annual meeting in Chicago, IL, April.
2014 “Mobilizing the Past: The historical political ecology of heirs’ property conflicts.” Paper presentation at the *Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers* in Athens SC, November.
“They Left Us Land: The historical political ecology of heirs’ property coordination and conflict in coastal South Carolina.” Paper presented at the *Association of American Geographers* annual meeting in Tampa FL, April.

- “Translations of Tenure: Heirs’ Property and the Revitalization of the Family Commons”
Paper presented at the *Dimensions of Political Ecology: Conference on Nature-Society* in Lexington KY, February.
- 2013** “Whose Law of the Land? Heirs’ Property Conflicts in Coastal South Carolina.” Paper presented at the *Dimensions of Political Ecology: Conference on Nature-Society* in Lexington KY, March.
- 2012** “Land and Value: Conflicting visions of place, property, and ownership.” Paper presentation at the *Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers* in Asheville NC, November.
- “The Labor of Heirs: Locke, law, and property in coastal South Carolina.” Paper presented at the *Dimensions of Political Ecology: Conference on Nature-Society* in Lexington KY, April.
- “Experiential Service-Learning: Critical traditions and geographic pedagogy.” Paper presented at the *American Association of Geographers* annual meeting in New York NY, February.
- 2011** “Heirs’ Land and the Unsettling of Property in *Wigfall v. Mobley*.” Paper presented at the *American Association of Geographers* annual meeting in Seattle WA, April.
- 2010** “Enclosure in the Land of Fever: An environmental history of African American landownership in the Lowcountry.” Paper presented at the *Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers* annual meeting in Birmingham AL, November.
- “Nature in (Non) Equilibrium: From environmental science to conservation practice” with J. Rossi. Paper presented at the *Conference on Critical Geography* in Milwaukee WI, November.
- “The Political Ecology of Equilibrium and Conservation: Does management based on nonequilibrium ecology encourage local environmental knowledge?” with J. Rossi. Paper presented at the *Association of American Geographers* meeting in Washington DC, April.
- “Social Justice and Ecological Science: New approaches to conservation and restoration” with J. Rossi. Paper presented at the *Graduate Student Interdisciplinary Conference* in Lexington KY, March.
- “Property Matters: African American heirs’ claims to land.” Paper presented at the *Landscape Place and Space Conference* in Bloomington IN, March.
- 2009** “A New Ecology for Sweetgrass (*Muhlenbergia filipes*): Harvesting practices and land management along the South Carolina coast” with P.T. Hurley. Paper presented at the *Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers* annual meeting in Knoxville TN, November.
- “Urbanization and NTFP Transformations: The political ecology of sweetgrass (*Muhlenbergia filipes* or *M. sericea*) in Greater Mt. Pleasant” with P.T. Hurley, C. Goetcheus, and A. Halfacre. Paper presented at the *Society for Economic Botany* annual meeting in Charleston SC, June.

“Rights of Passage: Urbanization and land-based livelihoods along the South Carolina coastline” with P.T. Hurley, C. Goetcheus, and A. Halfacre. Paper presented at the *Graduate Student Interdisciplinary Conference* in Lexington KY, March.

“Gathering, Growing, and Buying ‘Grass’: Social networking and NTFP practices in the sweetgrass basket-making communities of South Carolina’s Lowcountry” with P.T. Hurley, C. Goetcheus, and A. Halfacre. Paper presented at the *Association of American Geographers* annual meeting in Las Vegas NV, March.

2008 “Negotiating the Changing Spaces of Sweetgrass Basket-making: Land-use and livelihoods in South Carolina’s Lowcountry,” with A. Halfacre, and P.T. Hurley. Paper presented at the *International Symposium on Society and Resource Management* in Burlington VT, July.

2007 “Sweetgrass Basketry: The political ecology of an African American art” with A. Halfacre, and P.T. Hurley. Paper presented at the *Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers* annual meeting in Charleston SC, November.

“Sewing Environmental Justice into African American Sweetgrass Basket-Making in the South Carolina Lowcountry” with A. Halfacre, and P.T. Hurley. Paper presented at *Environmental Justice in America Conference*, Washington DC, March.

Discussant and Panel Participation

2012 “Social Movements III: Communities” at the *Dimensions of Political Ecology: Conference on Nature-Society* in Lexington KY, April.

2011 “Gullah/Geechee Communities in the Changing Lowcountry Landscape” at the *Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers* in Savannah GA, November.

Research Posters and Photography Exhibits

2012 “Mary’s Basket Stand: The co-production of land-use and livelihoods.” Photograph displayed in the Cultural Landscape Photography Exhibition at the *American Association of Geographers* annual meeting in New York NY, February.

2007 “Sweetgrass Basketry: The political ecology of an African American art.” Poster presented at the *College of Charleston Graduate School Research Symposium* in Charleston SC, November.

SERVICE

Leadership Positions and Committee Participation

2013-14 Organizer – *Geography Awareness Week* events at Midlands Technical College

2011-12 Organizer – Graduate Research Paper Competition, *Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference*

2010-11 President and Co-Founder – Kentucky Political Ecology Working Group

Co-Chair – *Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference*

Student Representative – Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Department of Geography, University of Kentucky

- 2009-10** Student Representative – Graduate Student Congress, University of Kentucky
Committee Member – *Graduate Interdisciplinary Conference*, Lexington KY
Student Representative – Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Department of Geography, University of Kentucky

Peer Review Duties

- 2014** Reviewer – Area, Natural Resources Forum: A United Nations Sustainable Development Journal
- 2013** Reviewer – Area, Natural Resources Forum: A United Nations Sustainable Development Journal, Journal of Rural Studies, Journal of Geography: Journal of the National Council for Geographic Education
- 2012** Judge – Undergraduate Paper Competition, Dimensions of Political Ecology: Conference on Nature-Society

Paper Sessions and Panels Organized

- 2012** “Political Ecology I, II, and II: Agro-food movements; Governance; Risk and sustainability” at the *Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers* in Asheville NC, November.
- 2011** “Gullah/Geechee Communities in the Changing Lowcountry Landscape” at the *Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers* in Savannah GA, November.
“Political Ecology of Land Tenure I & II: Conflicts, Rights, and Alternative Claims of Ownership” at the *Association of American Geographers* annual meeting in Seattle WA, April.
“Methodologies for Nature-Society Research Panel” at the *Dimensions of Political Ecology: Conference on Nature-Society* in Lexington KY, February.
- 2010** “Environmental Policy and Green Development” at the *Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers* annual meeting in Birmingham AL, November.
“Critical Natures I, II, & III: Governing resources; Conflicting natures; Ecological knowledge” at the *Conference on Critical Geography* in Milwaukee WI, November.
- 2009** “Political Ecology I & II: Primary Resources in the first world; Protected areas and the state” at the *Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers* annual meeting in Knoxville TN, November.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association of American Geographers
Cultural and Political Ecology Specialty Group
Ethics, Justice, and Human Rights Specialty Group
Geography Education Specialty Group
Historical Geography Specialty Group
Landscape Specialty Group
Study of the American South Specialty Group

National Council for Geographic Education

South Carolina Geographic Alliance

University of Kentucky Political Ecology Working Group

REFERENCES

Richard Schein

Professor, Department of Geography at the University of Kentucky
817 Patterson Office Tower, Lexington KY 40506-0027
(859) 257 – 2119
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Assistant Professor, Department of Geography at the University of Wisconsin
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Phil Jos

Professor, Department of Political Science at the College of Charleston
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Jennie Stephens

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