

# Kenna Lang Archer

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Angelo State University  
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## Education

- Ph.D. in American History, Texas Tech University, 2012; advisor: Dr. Mark Stoll
- M.E.S in Environmental Studies, Baylor University, 2007; advisor: Dr. Susan Power Bratton
- B.A. in University Scholar Program, Baylor University, 2004; Valedictorian, Phi Beta Kappa, *summa cum laude*, GPA 4.0

## Professional Employment

- Assistant Professor, Department of History, Angelo State University, January 2019 – Present
- Senior Instructor, Department of History, Angelo State University, August 2018 – December 2018
- Instructor, Department of History, Angelo State University, August 2013 – May 2018
- Adjunct, Department of History, Angelo State University, August 2012 – May 2013

## Courses Taught

- HIST 1301: US History to 1865 (online & in person)
- HIST 1302: US History Since 1865 (online & in person)
- HIST 3301: Texas History
- HIST 3302: American Colonial History to 1763
- HIST 3303: Revolutionary America, 1763 – 1840
- HIST 3344: American Environmental History
- HIST 4361: Environment & War
- HIST 4391: Independent Research

## Publications

### Books

John Opie, Char Miller & Kenna Lang Archer, eds. *Ogallala: Water for a Dry Land*, Third Edition (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2018)

Kenna Lang Archer. *Unruly Waters: A Social & Environmental History of the Brazos River* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2015)

- Winner of a Guittard Book Award for Historical Scholarship, Baylor University, 2016
- Finalist for a Spur Award – Contemporary Non-fiction, Western Writers of America, 2016

## Books Under Contract

Kenna Lang Archer, *Dog Days & Cat Naps: A History of Keeping Cool in Texas* (under contract: Trinity University Press)

Kenna Lang Archer & Jason Pierce, eds. *Lone Star Ecologies: Essays on the Environmental History of Texas* (under contract: Texas Tech University Press)

## Book Chapters

- “‘The Hardest Matter Possible:’ Hydrological Development, Public Discourse, and the Political Process in Texas,” in Kenna Archer and Jason Pierce, eds. *Lone Star Ecologies: Essays on the Environmental History of Texas* (Lubbock: Texas Tech University Press, forthcoming) [under contract].

## Articles

- “When the Wells Run Dry: A Brief History of Land Usage, Technology & Groundwater within the Ogallala Aquifer,” *2020 Southern Plains Conference Proceedings* (March 2021)
- “A Defiant River, a Technocratic Ideal – Big Dams & Big Dam Schemes along the Brazos River, 1929 – 1958” *The East Texas Historical Journal* (October 2015)
- “Forest Succession & Grazing in William Cameron Park, an Urban Natural Area in Waco, Texas,” co-authored with Dr. Susan P. Bratton. *Castanea* 75:1 (March 2010): 39-51

## Book Reviews

- Review of Sarah E. M. Grossman, *Mining the Borderlands: Industry, Capital & the Emergence of Engineers in the Southwest Territories, 1855 – 1910* (Reno: University of Nevada Press, 2018), in *H-Environment* (October 2020)
- Review of Seamus McGraw, *A Thirsty Land: The Making of an American Water Crisis* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 2018), in *Western Historical Quarterly* (February 2019)
- Review of Timothy Bowman, *Blood Oranges: Colonialism & Agriculture in the South Texas Borderlands* (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2016), in *Environmental History* (April 2018)
- Review of Shane K. Bernard, *Teche: A History of Louisiana's Most Famous Bayou* (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2016), in *Louisiana History* (Spring 2018)
- Review of John Williams, *The Untold Story of the Lower Colorado River Authority* (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2016), in *Central Texas Studies Journal* (December 2016)
- Review of Patrick Dearen, *Bitter Waters: The Struggles of the Pecos River* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2016), in *Southwestern Historical Quarterly* (October 2016)
- Review of John S. Sledge, *The Mobile River* (Columbia: The University of South Carolina Press, 2015), in *The Journal of Southern History* (August 2016)
- Review of Dorothy Zeisler-Vralsted, *Rivers, Memory & Nation-Building: A History of the Volga & Mississippi Rivers* (New York: Berghahn Books, 2014), in *Environmental History* (January 2016)
- Review of Margaret A. Bickers, *Red Water, Black Gold: The Canadian River in Western Texas, 1920 – 1999* (Denton: Texas State Historical Association, 2014), in *Western Historical Quarterly* (Winter 2015)
- Review of Robert L. Crawford & William R. Brueckheimer, *The Legacy of a Red Hills Hunting Plantation: Tall Timbers Research Station & Land Conservancy* (Gainesville: University of Florida, 2012), in *Journal of Southern History* (February 2014)

- Review of Mike Burns, *The Only One Living to Tell: The Autobiography of a Yavapai Indian* (Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 2012), in *Southwestern Historical Quarterly* (April 2013)
- Review of Jim Kimmel, *Exploring the Brazos River: From Beginning to End* (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2011), in *Southwestern Historical Quarterly* (July 2012)
- Review of John L. Busch, *Steam Coffin: Captain Moses Rogers & The Steamship Savannah Break the Barrier* (New Canaan: Hodos Historia, 2010), in *Southern Historian* (April 2012)

### **Encyclopedia Articles**

- “Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr.,” “Harry Augustus Garfield,” in *The International Encyclopedia of the First World War* (Freie Universität Berli: 2014)
- “National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA),” “National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR),” “National Climatic Data Center (NCDC),” “Medieval Warm Period,” “Nineteenth Century Literature & Art,” “World Climate Research Programme (WCRP),” in Gary Weisel, ed., *Climate Change: An Encyclopedia of Science & History* (ABC-Clio: 2012)
- “Pesticides,” in Matt Lindstrom, ed., *Encyclopedia of the U.S. Government & the Environment: History, Policy & Politics* (ABC-Clio: 2010)
- “Eco-terrorism,” “Columbian Exchange,” “George Washington,” “Mexican Land Grants,” in Kathleen Brosnan, ed., *Encyclopedia of American Environmental History* (Facts On File: 2010)
- “The Consumer Revolution in British North America,” in Jeffrey Diamond & Dane Morrison, eds., *World History Encyclopedia, Era 6* (ABC-Clio: 2010)

### **Blog Posts**

- “Unruly Waters, Dam Dreams & the House that Art Built: A (Brief) History of Development along the Brazos River.” *Baylor University Texas Collection* (October 2015)
- “A User’s Guide to the Texas Collection, Part 3, Or, How to Know that Enough is Enough.” *Baylor University Texas Collection* (September 2013)
- “A User’s Guide to the Texas Collection, Part 2, Or, Dealing with Challenging Resources.” *Baylor University Texas Collection* (August 2013)
- “A User’s Guide to the Texas Collection, Part 1, Or, How I Survived the Rigors of Research.” *Baylor University Texas Collection* (July 2013)

### **Conferences**

#### **Chair**

- *Environmental History of the Trinity River*. Panel, Texas State Historical Association, San Marcos, TX, March 2018 (Chair)

#### **Panelist**

- “Muddied Waters: Public Policy, Riparian Development, and the Question of Place along the 20th Century Brazos River,” Paper, *Western History Association*, Albuquerque, NM, October 2020 (cancelled due to COVID-19 Pandemic).
- “Floods, Droughts & the Politics of Water in Twentieth Century Texas,” *American Society for Environmental History*, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, March 2020 (cancelled due to the pandemic)
- “Cascading Floods, Withering Droughts, a Persistent Hope: A History of Riparian Development & Public Policy in Texas,” *Texas State Historical Association*, San Antonio, TX, February 2020

- “Keeping Cool in Texas: A History.” *Southern Forum on Agricultural & Rural Environmental History (S-FARE)*, Wichita Falls, TX, April 2019 (presented *en absentia*)
- “Ecological Diversity, Riparian Development & Public Policy in Texas.” *Western History Association*, San Antonio, TX, October 2018
- “The Politics of Power: Hydroelectricity, Riparian Development & Social Rhetoric in 20th Century Texas.” *Texas State Historical Association*, Houston, TX, March 2017 (presented *en absentia*)
- “Reimagining Old Man River: The Brazos River, the Gulf Coast & a Southern Model of Development.” *Gulf South History & Humanities Conference*, Mobile, AL, October 2016 (presented *en absentia*)
- “‘PROPER development of the Brazos River Valley’ – Dam Questions, Power Struggles & the Ideal of Improvement along the Brazos River, 1929 – 1958” *American Society for Environmental History Conference*, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, April 2013
- “Improving & Democratizing the ‘Mississippi of Texas’: Locks, Dams, Jetties & Progressive-Era Plans for the Brazos River.” *Organization of American Historians & Society for Historians of the Gilded Age & Progressive Era (SHGAPE)*, Milwaukee, WI, April 2012
- “Methinks it is good to be here!: Immigrants & Improvement along the Mid-Nineteenth Century Brazos River.” *Southern Forum on Agricultural & Rural Environmental History (S-FARE)*, Jackson, MS, April 2012
- “Struggles in God’s Land: Continuity, Competition & Development along *el Rio Brazos*.” *American Society for Environmental History Conference*, Phoenix, AR, April 2011 (panel organizer)
- “Prairie-fairies, Posy-Pickers, Tree-Huggers: Nature, Gender & the White Male Leadership of the Radical Environmental Movement.” *American Society for Environmental History Conference*, Portland, OR, April 2010
- “Where Rivers Flow, Cities Grow: A Conversation between Environmental & Urban Historians.” *Western Social Sciences Conference*, Albuquerque, NM, April 2009
- “Building off the ‘Great Tohomoho’ – An Urban-Environmental History of Waco, Texas & the Middle Brazos River.” *Mid-America Conference on History*, Springfield, MO, September 2008

#### **Poster**

- “Oils, Glees & Stanzas: The Cultural Significance of the Brazos River.” *American Society for Environmental History Conference*, Madison, WI, March 2012

#### **Forthcoming**

- “Muddied Waters: Public Policy, Riparian Development & the Question of Place,” Paper, *Western History Association*, Portland, OR, October 2021

#### **Invited Lectures**

##### **Keynote Speaker**

- “When the Wells Run Dry: A Brief History of Land Usage, Technology & Groundwater within the Ogallala Aquifer.” Keynote Address, *Southern Plains Conference*, Canyon, TX, February 2020

##### **Public Lectures**

- “Dog Days, Cat Naps & ‘Fiery Old Sol’ – A History of Keeping Cool in Texas.” Invited Lecture, Portal to Texas History/Digital Libraries Division, University of North Texas, Denton, TX, April 2019
- “Mucking it up: A History of Rivers, Politics & Improvements in Texas.” Invited Lecture, Special Collections, University of North Texas, Denton, TX, July 2018

- “Dam Dreams along the Brazos River: A Review of *Unruly Waters*.” Invited Lecture & book signing, Brazoria County Historical Museum, Angleton, TX, June 2016
- “Unruly Waters, Dam Dreams & the House that Art Built: A (Brief) History of Development Along the Brazos River.” Invited Lecture, Texas Collection, Baylor University, Waco, TX, October 2015
- “Riparian Acne, a Muddy Stream & Outright Insolence by the Brazos River: A Top Ten List of One River’s Resistance to Development.” Invited Talk, Lions’ Club, San Angelo TX, October 2015
- “To highlight the hills, to corral the creeks: Mapwork along the Brazos River.” Invited Lecture, Texas Map Society, Baylor University, Waco, TX, April 2014
- “We have devastated the land: Environmental Thought, Ruination & the American Civil War.” Invited Lecture, Civil War Lecture Series, Angelo State University, San Angelo, TX, January 2014
- “The Brazos River & the Baylor Archives – A History of Floods & Droughts, a Story of Resilience & Stubbornness.” Invited Lecture, Texas Collection, Baylor University, Waco, TX, March 2013
- “Environmental Degradation in the Former Soviet Union: A History.” Invited Lecture, *Russian Enrichment Program*, Angelo State University, San Angelo, TX, November 2011

### **Roundtables**

- Screening of *Latino Americans History Series*, Episode 5: “Prejudice & Pride,” Discussion Moderator, Angelo State University in partnership with the National Endowment for the Humanities & the American Library Association, San Angelo, TX, October 2015
- Screening of *Latino Americans History Series*, Episode 1: “Foreigners in their own Land,” Discussion Moderator, Angelo State University in partnership with the National Endowment for the Humanities & the American Library Association, San Angelo, TX, September 2015
- “Running (Out of) Water.” Panel, San Antonio Book Festival, San Antonio, TX, April 2015
- “Christopher Morris’ *Big Muddy: An Environmental History of the Mississippi & its Peoples from Hernando de Soto to Hurricane Katrina*.” Panel, *Society for Literature, Science & the Arts*, Dallas, Texas, October 2014

### **Forthcoming**

- “Curled Collars & Stained Shirts: A Brief History of Keeping Cool in Texas,” History Lecture Series, Angelo State University, San Angelo, TX, Fall 2021

### **Media Interviews**

#### **Documentaries**

- Historical Consultant to Chris Scott, “What about Waco, Episode 1: A Bridge & Troubled Water” (July 2017)

#### **Podcasts, Television & Digital Media**

- “Cameron Park – Part 2.” Podcast, Interview with Waco History Podcast, October 2021.
- “The Brazos River.” Podcast, Interview with Waco History Podcast, April 2019
- “Three Questions with Kenna Lang Archer.” Interview with University Libraries, University of North Texas, Denton, TX, July 2018
- “The Case of the Disappearing River.” Podcast, Interview with Jason Ridgeway, December 2016
- “New Books in History Podcast.” Podcast, Interview with Dr. Christine Lamberson, May 2016
- “Keeping Cool.” Television interview with Rob Harris & KIDY Fox, August 2015

- “The Brazos River & the Texas Collection.” YouTube Interview with Texas Collection, Baylor University, Waco, TX, November 2011

### **Newspapers**

- Interviewed by Baylor Lariat. In “Brazos untamed: a battle between man & nature” by Josh Day, March 2013
- Interviewed by Waco Tribune-Herald. In “Lecture to Reveal Brazos River has been Tough to Tame” by J.B. Smith, March 2013
- Interviewed by Lubbock Avalanche Journal. In “Earth Day grows from grassroots effort in 1970 to global phenomenon” by Alyssa Dizon, April 22, 2010
- Interviewed by Waco Tribune-Herald. In “Study: Cameron Park's forest fragile, threatened by humans & invasive species” by J.B. Smith, September 2007
- Interviewed by Baylor Lariat Newspaper. In “Study finds clues to history, development of Cameron Park” by Shannon Daily, August 2007
- Interviewed by Baylor Public Relations Office. In “First Historical Look at Waco's Cameron Park Emerges from Baylor Study” by Matt Pene, June 2007

### **Honors, Awards & Fellowships**

- Finalist, President’s Award for Faculty Excellence – Teaching, Angelo State University, 2021.
- Nominee, Robert Foster Cherry Award for Great Teaching, Baylor University, 2021
- Nominee, Gary & Pat Rodgers Distinguished Faculty Award, Angelo State University, 2020
- Wardlaw Research Fellowship, Texas Collection, Baylor University, 2020
- First Year Faculty Research Grant, Angelo State University, 2020
- Portal to Texas History Research Fellowship, Digital Collections, University of North Texas, 2018
- Special Collections Research Fellowship, Special Collections, University of North Texas, 2018
- Winner of a Guittard Book Award for Historical Scholarship for *Unruly Waters: An Environmental & Social History of the Brazos River*, Baylor University, 2016
- Finalist for a Spur Award – Contemporary Non-fiction for *Unruly Waters: An Environmental & Social History of the Brazos River*, Western Writers of America, 2016
- Wonderful Woman of A.S.U., Angelo State University, 2015
- Moody Research Grant, Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library, University of Texas, 2014 (declined)
- Wardlaw Research Fellowship, Texas Collection, Baylor University, 2011
- John & JD Dowdy Memorial Congressional Research Endowed Fellowship, Poage Legislative Library, Baylor University, 2011
- Helen Jones Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, Texas Tech University, 2010
- Paul Whitfield Horn Fellowship, University Women’s Club, Texas Tech University, 2010
- Summer Dissertation Research Award, Graduate School, Texas Tech University, 2010
- Cash Family Endowed Fellowship (sole recipient), Texas Tech University, 2009
- William & Madeline Smith Research Travel Award, Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, University of Texas, 2009
- Outstanding Graduate Student, Department of History, Texas Tech University, 2008
- David & Winifred Vigness Memorial Scholarship, Department of History, Texas Tech University, 2007 & 2008
- Outstanding Laboratory Teaching Award, Department of Environmental Studies, Baylor University, 2006
- Gus Glasscock Scholarship, Department of Environmental Studies, Baylor University, 2005

- Clara Yates Wieland Endowed Scholarship, Department of Environmental Studies, Baylor University, 2004

## **University Service**

### **Chair, University and Departmental Committees**

- Chair, Departmental Merit Pay Committee, Angelo State University, Fall 2021 – present.
- Chair, History Lecture Series Advisory Committee, Angelo State University, Fall 2021 – present.
- Chair, Assistant Professor of History (Texas) Search Committee, Department of History, Angelo State University, 2019 – 2020
- Chair, Scholarship Committee, Department of History, Angelo State University, Fall 2019 – pres.

### **Member, University and Departmental Committees**

- Member, Faculty Advisory Committee for T.S.A.R. Undergraduate Journal, Angelo State University, Spring 2021 – pres.
- Member, Departmental Tenure and Promotion Policy Committee, Fall 2020 – pres.
- Member, Departmental Curriculum Committee, Angelo State University, Spring 2020 – pres.
- Member, ADA Committee on Accessibility of Facilities & Services, Fall 2019 – Spring 2021
- Member, Scholarship Committee, Department of History, Angelo State University, Spring 2019
- Member, Visiting Assistant Professor of History Search Committee, Department of History, Angelo State University, 2018 – 2019
- Member, Geography Search Committee, Department of History, Angelo State University, 2018 – 2019
- Member, Instructor of History Search Committee, Department of History, Angelo State University, 2018 – 2019

### **Miscellaneous Service**

- Organizer, History Lecture Series, Angelo State University, Spring 2021 – pres.
- Moderator/Light User, Departmental Website, Angelo State University, Fall 2020 – pres.
- Advisor, Green Action Club, Angelo State University, Summer 2019 – pres.
- Departmental Representative, Experience ASU – Academic Department Fair, Angelo State University. San Angelo, Texas. Fall 2015

## **Professional Service**

- Judge, Texas History Days, Texas State Historical Association. 2014, 2015 (Captain), 2020, 2021
- Member, Book Award Committee, Center for the Study of the American West, West Texas A&M University, Canyon, Texas, 2019 – 2021
- Board Member, West Texas/Eastern New Mexico Phi Beta Kappa Association. Lubbock Texas. Fall 2017 – present
- Organizer, “Cyber Conflict: Present & Future Challenges in the Cyber Domain,” Lecture with Paul Springer, Hosted by the West Texas/Eastern New Mexico Phi Beta Kappa Association, April 2017
- Volunteer Archival Assistant, Fort Concho National Historic Landmark, March 2012 – July 2014
- Volunteer, “When Indians Play Indian: A Symposium,” Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas. November 2009

## **Community Service**

- Judge, Children's Art Contest, Christmas at Old Fort Concho, Fort Concho National Historic Landmark. San Angelo, Texas. 2014 – 2019
- Scholarship Committee, San Angelo Community Band. San Angelo, Texas. 2014 – 2015
- Public Relations Liaison, Christmas at Old Fort Concho, Fort Concho National Historic Landmark. San Angelo, Texas. 2012 – 2013
- Grant Review Panel, San Angelo Cultural Affairs Council. San Angelo, Texas. 2013
- Board of Directors, San Angelo Symphony Orchestra. San Angelo, Texas. 2012 – 2014
- Chair, Nominations Committee, Board of Directors, San Angelo Community Band. San Angelo, Texas. 2012 – 2013
- Board of Directors, San Angelo Community Band. San Angelo, Texas. 2009 – 2017

## **Professional Memberships**

American Historical Association  
American Society for Environmental History  
Organization of American Historians  
Texas State Historical Association  
Western History Association

## **Research & Teaching Interests**

Environmental History, History of Science & Technology, Water Development & Water Politics,  
Colonial American History, History of the American Revolution