

Southern Historical Association
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Southern Historical Association announces Jack Temple Kirby Award Winner

Athens, GA: The Southern Historical Association is pleased to announce that the 2019 winner of the Jack Temple Kirby Award is Caroline Peyton, Instructor at University of Memphis in Memphis, TN, for her *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* article, "Kentucky's Atomic Graveyard: Maxey Flats and Environmental Inequity in Rural America."

The Jack Temple Kirby Award was established in 2010 to commemorate the scholarship and SHA service of Jack Kirby, who was the current SHA President when he died in August 2009. In keeping with Professor Kirby's scholarly contributions to southern history, the Kirby Prize is awarded to the author of the best journal article in either southern agricultural or environmental history over a two-year period.

Caroline Peyton's article focuses on the little-known story of radioactive dumping and leakage in rural Kentucky that continues to affect the region today. In making this year's award, the prize committee particularly complimented Peyton's "success at uncovering the tangled mesh of state regulations, commercial interests, poverty, geography, scientific knowledge, and the physical properties of radioactive materials." "It provides us with an important case study in the history of toxic dumping and environmental injustice in the South," concluded the committee, and it's an important chapter "within the much longer history of competing private and public interests in economic development and the environment."

About the SHA: The Southern Historical Association was organized on November 2, 1934 and charged with promoting an "investigative rather than a memorial approach" to southern history. Its objectives are the promotion of interest and research in southern history, the collection and preservation of the South's historical records, and the encouragement of state and local historical societies in the South. As a secondary purpose the Association fosters the teaching and study of all areas of history in the South. The Association holds an annual meeting, usually in the first or second week of November, and publishes *The Journal of Southern History*.

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