



Arctic Infrastructures: Histories of Exploration, Colonization and Industrial Development

Workshop organized by the ERC Advanced Grant Project InfraNorth

June 14, 2022 | 9am-5:30pm & June 15, 2022 | 9am-12:45pm
Hosted by Luleå University of Technology & Online

Program below

Workshop Description

The Arctic, which often has been recognized by residents of temperate climate zones for its supposed unspoiled nature, has a long history of colonization, urbanization and industrial exploitation. From the days of Arctic whaling to gold rushes and oil booms, the Arctic has a rich legacy of built environment serving as infrastructure mainly for non-arctic resource exploitation and domination. While the ERC project InfraNorth is focused on transport infrastructures, this workshop takes a broader view and explores infrastructures from mining to hydro-power to military. It will bring together a number of academic experts working in different parts of the Arctic and aims at exploring the developments that led to the contemporary entanglements between local communities and infrastructures. The workshop will take place in a hybrid format - on-site at the Luleå University of Technology and on-line. To participate online, please register here: [Zoom registration](#)





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Day 1, Tuesday, June 14, 2022 | 9am-5:30pm

Lecture hall A109, Universitetsvägen 1, Luleå University of Technology & Online

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- 9:00 Dag Avango (Luleå University of Technology, Sweden): Introduction
 - 9:15 Philip Wight (University of Alaska Fairbanks, USA): *Cracking Open the North? Contesting Access on Alaska's Dalton Highway*
 - 9:45 Sverker Sörlin (KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden): *The Movement Heritage: Mobilities and Pathways in the Anthropocene*
 - 10:30 Coffee Break
 - 11:00 Peter Schweitzer & Olga Povoroznyuk (University of Vienna, Austria): *Beyond Wilderness: InfraNorth and the Anthropology of Arctic Infrastructures*
 - 11:30 Andreas Womelsdorf (University of Vienna, Austria): *Rivers, Energy, and Border Control: Some Notes about the Fluidity of the Alaska-Yukon Borderlands, 1890-1960*
 - 12:00 Tobias Holzlehner (Martin-Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany): *Towards a Social Archaeology of the Built Environment*
 - 12:30 Lunch
 - 14:00 Dag Avango (Luleå University of Technology, Sweden): *Built Environments and Material Cultures of Mining in Svalbard Geopolitics*
 - 14:30 Alexandra Meyer (University of Vienna, Austria): *From Coal Mining Company Town to 'Gran Svalbardia', Research Station, or Sustainable Showcase? Longyearbyen's Built Environment in the Context of Multi-layered Change*
 - 15:00 Julia Lajus (Max-Planck Institute for the History of Science, Germany): *Encounters of Connectedness and Remoteness along the White Sea Coasts*
 - 15:30 Coffee Break
 - 16:00 Dmitrii Arzyutov (Oulu University, Finland): *Tempering Seeds with Cold: Building Agricultural Infrastructures in the Russian North*
 - 16:30 P. Whitney Lackenbauer (Trent University, Canada): *Military Modernization: Continental Defence Infrastructure and the Cold War Canadian Arctic*
 - 17:00 Sophie Elixhauser (University of Vienna, Austria): *The Histories of East Greenland's Airports: Military Interests, Geopolitics and Sociocultural Changes*
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Day 2, Wednesday, June 15 | 9am-12:45pm

Lecture hall A109, Universitetsvägen 1, Luleå University of Technology & Online

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| 9.00 | Judit Malmgren (Luleå University of Technology, Sweden): <i>Historical Mining and Land-Use in Arctic Sweden</i> |
| 9.30 | Jennie Sjöholm (Luleå University of Technology, Sweden): <i>Moving Kiruna: Relocating Infrastructures in a Contested Arctic Landscape</i> |
| 10.00 | Gunhild Rosqvist (Luleå University of Technology & Stockholm University, Sweden): <i>Multiple Pressures from Changes in Land Use and Climate on Northern Landscapes</i> |
| 10.30 | Coffee Break |
| 11.00 | Johan Cederqvist (Luleå University of Technology, Sweden): <i>Lost Salmon: An Environmental History of Hydropower Expansion and Extinction in Arctic Sweden 1945-72</i> |
| 11.30 | Roundtable and Final Discussion on History and Anthropology in Arctic Infrastructure Studies |
| 12.30 | Closing |
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