Sustainability & Preservation: Local + Regional + Global

Historians tend to focus on change; the ways in which world history is tightly intertwined with questions of globalization further emphasize our attention to transformation. What happens when we shift our gaze to instead look carefully at what persists, and why? What environmental and cultural attributes have staying power? What practices, objects, texts, monuments, and resources do communities invest in maintaining? How do teachers, activists, and scholars navigate the inherent tensions between the lure of “the past as it’s always been” and the incessant tugs of transformation? How do we approach the challenges of sustainability & preservation while acknowledging the power of change?

Presentations & panels may investigate sustainability & preservation in any register, including:

- the environment
- water and water rights
- air quality
- climate
- indigenous communities
- immigration
- religious history
- borderlands, including in the US West
- education and pedagogy

We encourage panels that seek to situate processes of sustainability, preservation, and transformation in local, regional, or global contexts. We appreciate the unique culture and environment of Utah and the US West, and hope some contributions discuss the historical and contemporary challenges facing this region.

As always, the program committee will also accept proposals that do not relate to the annual theme. Submissions are due no later than Monday, December 16.