

NOT EVEN PAST



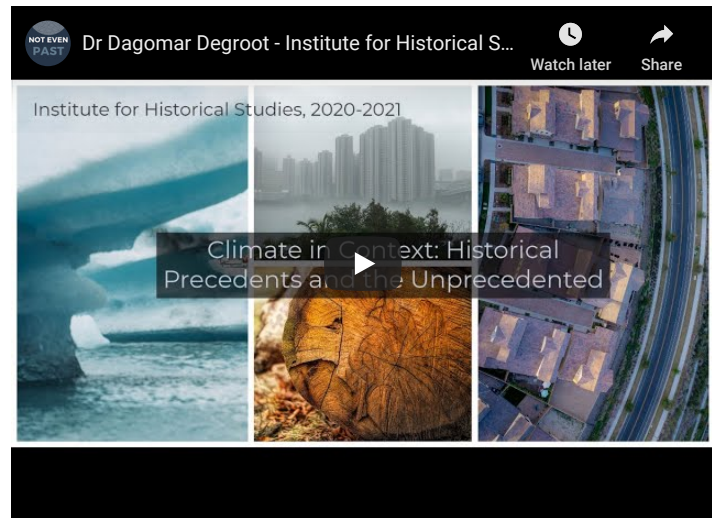
IHS Climate in Context: "Lessons From Little Ice Ages? Resilience and Complexity in Societal Responses to Climate Change"

Like 0
Tweet



In September 2020, Dr Dagomar Degroot of Georgetown University delivered a **talk** as part of the Institute for Historical Studies 2020-21 **Climate in Context** theme. The abstract of the talk was as follows:

Although the speed, scale, and human origin of present-day global warming has no historical parallel, many societies of the past endured profound changes in regional climate. A large and growing scholarship now finds that these natural changes provoked food shortages that plunged civilizations into crisis – or even caused them to collapse. Yet in recent years, historians and archaeologists have found that social responses to past climate change were more complex and more varied than scholars have previously imagined. This talk will introduce new research on the resilience of societies to two periods of climatic cooling – the “Late Antique Little Ice Age” of the sixth century CE and the “Little Ice Age” of the thirteenth to nineteenth centuries – before considering whether the distant past can tell us anything about the uncertain future.



Dagomar Degroot is Associate Professor of History at Georgetown University, and an environmental historian who bridges the humanities and sciences to explore how

societies have thrived – or suffered – in the face of dramatic changes in the natural world. His first book, *The Frigid Golden Age: Climate Change, the Little Ice Age, and the Dutch Republic, 1560-1720* (Cambridge University Press) explains how one society – the Dutch Republic – prospered as many others faltered when volcanic eruptions changed Earth's climate in the seventeenth century. His second book, "Ripples on the Cosmic Ocean: An Environmental History of Humanity's Place in the Solar System" (under contract with Harvard University Press/Penguin Random House), argues that dynamic environments across the solar system have played a bigger role in human history than previously imagined. Read more about Dr. Degroot's work on his [professional homepage](#).

This talk is part of the Institute's 2020-2021 theme, "Climate in Context: Historical Precedents and the Unprecedented."

Sponsored by: Institute for Historical Studies in the Department of History, Planet Texas 2050, and Center for European Studies

Further reading:

"IHS Climate in Context: Understanding Resilience in the History of Climate Change" by Dagomar Degroot

[Exploring Scholarship on the Little Ice Age](#) by Raymond Hyser

[Tools and Resources for Studying Environmental History](#) by Brittany Erwin

Posted October 12, 2020

[More IHS & Public History](#)

19th century **20th Century** African American History american history Asia Asia & Middle East book review Brazil British Empire China Civil War Cold War Colonialism communism cultural history digital history Early Modern Europe Europe film gender history History of Science immigration India islam Latin America Latin American History Mexico Not Even Past Public History race religion Russia slavery Texas Texas History Texas History Day Transnational Twentieth Century History United States US History USSR Womens History world history World War II

NOT EVEN PAST is produced by
The Department of History
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
We are supported by the College of Liberal Arts
And our **READERS**

DONATE

CONTACT

All content © 2010-present NOT EVEN PAST and the authors, unless otherwise noted

Sign up to receive the monthly Not Even Past newsletter

Your email address

SUBSCRIBE

FEATURES

BOOKS

TEACHING

DIGITAL & FILM

BLOG

IHS & PUBLIC HISTORY

TEXAS

ABOUT