



GOLD RUSH IMPERIALISM: GOLD MINING & GLOBAL HISTORY IN THE AGE OF IMPERIALISM  
A CONFERENCE AT THE ROTHERMERE AMERICAN INSTITUTE, 16-17 APRIL 2015

## Programme of Events

### Day 1: Thursday 16 April 2015

14:00 - 14:15: Arrival/ Tea & Coffee

14:15 - 14:30: Welcome

14:30 - 16:30: Keynote Address

**James Belich** (Oxford), TBC

16:30 - 17:30: Exhibition @RAI (curator's talk - tbc)

17:30 - 18:30: Drinks @ RAI

18:30 - Informal dinner in Oxford

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### Day 2: Friday 17 April 2015

9:00 - 10:30: Panel 1

**Frontiers:  
Settler Societies, State Power, and the Pathways of Gold Rushes**

Chair: Miles Larmer (Oxford)

**Elliot West** (Arkansas), 'The Great Coincidence: The California Gold Rush and its Transformations.'

**David Goodman** (Melbourne), 'Fundamental choices and assumptions in the cycle of British-world Gold Rushes, 1829-1870.'

**Benjamin Mountford** (Oxford), 'Lest they parallel California, in crime and disorder: Policing the British Empire's Goldfields in the 1850s and 60s.'

10:30 - 11:00: Tea Break

11:00 - 12:30: Panel 2



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**Capital and Capitalism:  
The Economics of Gold Rushes**

Chair: TBC

**Jan-Georg Deutsch** (Oxford), 'The Rush for Gold. Economic Imperialism, Primitive Accumulation and Time-Space Compression, c. 1848-1914.'

**Cassandra Mark-Thiesen** (Basel), 'The 'Johannesburg of West Africa' that did not come true: Ghana's Moment in the Global Rush for Gold.'

**Ian Phimister** (Sheffield/Free State), 'Frenzied Finance: Gold Mining in the Globalising South, c. 1886-1896.'

12:30 - 13:30: Lunch

13:30 - 15:00: Panel 3

**The Conquest of Nature:  
Industrial technologies, Expertise, and the Environment of Gold Rushes**

Chair: Karen Jones (Kent)

**Steve Tuffnell** (Oxford), 'Engineering Gold Rushes: Expertise, Technology, and the Apparatus of Globalisation.'

**Keir Reeves** (Federation), 'Exploring the regional and international historical connections of the nineteenth century South-West Pacific gold rushes.'

**Andrew Isenberg** (Temple), 'The Nature of Gold Rushes: Mining and the Environment in Transnational Perspective.'

15:00 - 15:30: Tea Break

15:30 - 17:00: Keynote Address

**Mae Ngai** (Columbia), 'Chinese gold miners, the "Chinese question," and global politics (1848-1910).'

17:00 - 17:30: Final Remarks



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**John Darwin** (Oxford)

18:30 - 19:00:            Drinks at Corpus

19:00:                    Conference Dinner at Corpus