

Civil and Environmental Engineering

Present

Dependence, Damage, and Displacement: Unintended Consequences of Technological Change.

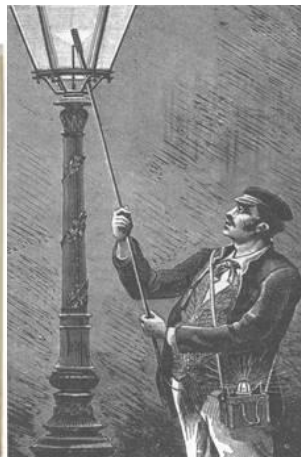
Speaker:

Professor Peter C. Baldwin

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University of Connecticut

Three technological developments in the nineteenth century –public water systems, modern street lighting, and automobiles – all had unexpectedly disruptive effects on urban life. This presentation will sketch out initial perceptions of these technologies, and the unanticipated problems they presented. Adapting to these technologies proved to be a lot trickier than city people had imagined.



Peter C. Baldwin was born in New York City and grew up in Ithaca, New York. He graduated from Wesleyan University in 1984. For the next seven years, he worked as a newspaper reporter for the *Hartford Courant*. He received his M.A. in history from Brown University in 1992 and his Ph.D. in history from Brown in 1997. From 1997 to 2001, he served as an assistant professor of history at DePaul University in Chicago. He came to the University of Connecticut in 2001.

Prof. Baldwin teaches classes in the History of Urban America, and America Since 1877. His second book, *In the Watches of the Night: Life in the Nocturnal City, 1820-1930*, was published in 2012 by the University of Chicago Press. It examines the social history of night in American metropolitan centers during the years when the city became illuminated by gas and electricity. He is now working on a microhistory of religion and sexuality in nineteenth century America, focusing on the diaries of a Massachusetts educator.

Monday, November 12, 2018, 12:20 – 1:10 PM, EII Room 322