

'Cities of Business, the Business of Cities...'

**Association of Business Historians Annual Conference 2009
University of Liverpool Management School, 3rd-4th July 2009
Call for Papers**

In view of the location for this conference, a city once central to Britain's global business activity but one which has subsequently passed through periods of decline and resurgence, we propose that the 2009 ABH conference should focus on the urban nature and context of most modern business activity. Cities such as Liverpool have been both an arena for business, a place in which business services, networks, elites, and particular patterns of urban consumption develop, and a conduit for business activity, linking hinterlands with other regions and with the overseas world through flows of goods, money, people, and ideas.

Themes for the conference may include:

- The Role of cities in international business
- Urban business networks and elites
- Urban consumption: the growth of mass marketing and modern retailing
- Municipal and public sector business
- Financial centres
- Cities as transport and communication hubs
- Markets and exchanges
- Businessmen, patronage, and philanthropy
- Commodity trades and industries
- Business and the regeneration of cities
- The business infrastructure of cities
- The business of sport and leisure
- Cities and their hinterlands
- Cities, regions and industrial districts
- Business and the building of cities, cities and the creation of businesses
- Types of business city (financial vs. manufacturing, metropolitan vs. regional)
- Businesses big and small in the city
- Global cities
- The rise and decline of business cities
- Interactions with other historical disciplines, e.g. urban history, historical geography

As is traditional, the organizers also welcome papers on any topic related to business history, even where it does not focus on the conference theme, and on any time period or country.

Proposals are welcome for either individual papers or entire sessions (each normally of one-and-a-half hours). Each paper proposal should include a short (one-page) abstract, a list of 3 to 5 keywords and a brief CV. Proposals for sessions should also include a cover letter containing a Session title and

a brief description of or rationale for the proposed session. If you any questions, please contact either of the local organizers, Rory Miller and Andrew Popp, at abh2009@liv.ac.uk.

The deadline for submission is 31 December 2008

Please send proposals electronically to abh2009@liv.ac.uk

or by mail to

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