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Fredric L. Quivik Social Sciences Michigan Tech

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**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
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**Fredric L. Quivik**



Professor of History  
Editor, IA: Journal of the Society for Industrial Archeology  
PhD, History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania, 1998  
MS, Historic Preservation, Columbia University, 1977

For more than fifteen years prior to coming to Michigan Tech, my main source of income was as an expert witness in Superfund and related environmental litigation, usually working for the U.S. Department of Justice. Many Superfund and other environmental cases involve damage to the environment that occurred decades ago. The litigation has two purposes: 1) to determine the facts of how the damage occurred, and 2) to determine how the law applies to the facts. Because there are often few, if any, living witnesses to the causes of environmental harm in past decades, the courts and both sides in the litigation typically rely on expert historians to research and draw conclusions (called expert opinions in legal parlance) about past events. I have worked on several large cases, including U.S. v. Arco, et al, the Clark Fork Superfund case in Montana involving the consequences of industrialized copper mining and smelting that led to largest Superfund site in the nation, and U.S. v. Sunoco, et al, a case in Philadelphia involving groundwater contamination by millions of gallons of refined petroleum product.

of the Department of Social Sciences, graduate program in Industrial, Archaeology, and Intercultural Heritage, and I am affiliated with our graduate program in Environmental & Energy Policy.

My current research and writing projects involve revising some of my reports completed over the past several years. The audience for an expert report is the judge, and perhaps the attorneys, working for the other side. My challenge now is to revise and revise some of those reports so that they will be suitable for publication to a wider audience. My main current project is the revision of the report I wrote in U.S. v. Arco, et al, the three-year Hill Superfund case in Idaho, in that history, social conflict arose as farmers and the mining industry sought to shape the same environmental space to the purposes for which each of them thought it was best suited. Their efforts were incooperative, and the means they each used in trying to prevail over the adversary established patterns we still see in environmental conflicts today.

Prior to joining Michigan Tech's faculty in 2010, I had worked for more than two decades as a consultant, first in historic preservation, and then from 1994 onward, as an expert witness (expert

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