

Evans, J.P. 2017. **A Place on the Plateau: 200 years of land-use change and forest ecology at the King Farm on the Domain.** A Sense of Space and Place: Global and Local Perspectives. Second Annual Interdisciplinary Conference. The University of the South, Sewanee, TN. (April 6–8).

Small abandoned farms dot the Southern Appalachian landscape where current ecological communities often reflect unique trajectories of past human land-use. This presentation traces the complex natural and cultural history of a 30 acre parcel on the southern Cumberland Plateau in Tennessee from its pre-history to the present. Located within the current boundary of the University of the South, this tract known, locally as the “King Farm,” was the location of one of the first homesteads in the Sewanee area in the early 1800’s. The study reveals a 200 year progression of different land-uses that occurred at this improbable place and addresses three questions: 1) why was this remote place chosen as a site for these different land-uses? 2) how were these land-uses sustained given the location and poor soil conditions? 3) how is the current forest community a product of the ecological legacies generated by this land-use history?