

33rd Conference of Irish Historians: Borders and Boundaries, Historical Perspectives

33rd Irish Conference of Historians

The Irish Committee of Historical Societies, in association with NUI Galway, is hosting the 33rd Irish Conference on 20-21 May 2021, this year's theme is Borders and Boundaries. 45 speakers will cover a range of topics, including 'Re-discovering St. Willibrord, the Irish Border, Medieval Borders, Boundaries in Irish Society, Partition Perspectives, Beyond the Pale, Boundaries in the Irish Free State, Women Writing History, North American Borders, eighteenth (and nineteenth century borders, Transnational Borders, All History in Local and Troubles. Our keynote speakers are Professor Raingard Esser of the University of Groningen, Professor Tom Lodge of the University of Limerick and Professor Jim Livesey of NUI Galway. Over the course of history, the functions and roles of borders and boundaries have changed continuously. They can only be understood within their context. Borders have been actively contested and negotiated, appearing and disappearing. They are not static, but are complex spatial and social phenomena which are highly dynamic.

Attendance will be free although attendees are asked to register through Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/33rd-irish-conference-of-historians-tickets-150747274155> .

Programme

Thursday 20 May 2021

9.00-10.30 Session 1

Panel 1A

'Re-discovering St. Willibrord, Patron Saint of Luxembourg, First Apostle of the Netherlands and his County Carlow Connection'

Dáibhí Ó Cróinín (NUI Galway)

Michel Summer (TCD)

Dermot Mulligan (Carlow County Museum)

Panel 1B: The Border

Martin O'Donoghue (University of Sheffield), 'Faith and Fatherland'? The Ancient Order of Hibernians and the border question, 1912-25'

Brian Hughes (Mary Immaculate College), 'The 'wrong' side of the border: organised loyalism in Cavan, 1912-31'

Ian d'Alton, 'No border? The idea of the 'Protestant Free State' within independent Ireland after 1922'

Panel 1C: Boundaries in 20th Century Irish Society 1

Ciara Molloy, 'Beyond the pale? Representations of the Teddy boy subculture in Irish theatre, 1955-1965'

Barry Keane, 'The boundaries of Protestant Sex before 1916: Abstracts from the 1901 and 1911 census data'

Tomas Finn (NUI Galway), 'Politics and the praxis of power: the political establishment and the talented young in post WWII Ireland'

10.30-10.45 **Break**

10.45-12.15 **Session 2**

Panel 2A: **Medieval Borders**

Catherine Swift (Mary Immaculate College), 'Limerick c. AD 1200 – A frontier city in Europe's Wild West'

Seán Ó Hoireabhárd, 'Territorial changes in late pre-invasion Ireland'

Kieran Hoare (NUI Galway), 'Urban Oligarchies and Border Society in later medieval Ireland'

Panel 2B: **North American Borders**

Kate Bevan-Baker (Concordia University), 'Archipelago Soundscape: Finding Irish Fiddling on Prince Edward Island'

David T. Gleeson (Northumbria University), '“Didn't those cowardly Linconlites Tremble”: Irish American Identities in the 'Border' States'

Bryan McGovern (Kennesaw State University), 'Young Ireland and Transnational Borders'

Panel 2C: **Partition Perspectives 1**

Neil Fleming (University of Worcester), 'The Conservative Right, Ulster unionism, and the Partition of Ireland'

Patrick Mulroe (Independent Scholar), 'Localised factors and border violence in Lifford, Clones and Dundalk 1971-1975'

Thomas Leahy (Cardiff University), 'The British Intelligence War Against the Provisional IRA in Rural Borderland Counties of Armagh, Fermanagh and Tyrone, 1969-1998'

12.15-13.30 **Break**

14.00-15.30 **Session 3**

Panel 3A: **Partition Perspectives 2**

Elaine Callinan (Carlow College), '“We go forward not accepting the Partition of Ireland Act, but rejecting it...”: Partition Propaganda during elections campaigns from 1918 to 1921'

Mícheál Ó Fathartaigh & Liam Weeks, (NUIG), 'The Prospect of an Irish Border: The Response in Dáil Éireann during the Treaty debates, December 1921–January 1922'

Cormac Moore, 'The Day-to-Day Effects of Partition'

Panel 3B: Beyond the Pale

Neil Murphy (Northumbria University), 'The 1529 Laws of Guînes, the defence of the Calais Pale and the re-emergence of English colonialism'

Steven Ellis (NUIG), 'Ireland's English Pale: the making of a Tudor province'

Chris Maginn (Fordham University), 'The Final Tudor Frontier: the north-west of Ireland'

15.30 – 15.45 Break

15.45-17.15

Keynote Session 1

"Good fences make good neighbours"? Borders and their management in early modern times'

Raingard Esser, University of Groningen

17.15 – 18.30

Book Launch

Professor Nicholas Canny, NUI Galway, will launch Deirdre Fennell, *A Tudor viceroy: Sir William Fitzwilliam of Milton, 1560-1575, the reluctant lord deputy* (Hannover, 2020); and Carla Lessing, *Promoting 'English civility' in Tudor Ireland: ideology and the rhetoric of difference* (Hannover, 2021). The form volumes 11 and 12 of *The Formation of Europe/Historische Formationen Europas* series (Wehrhahn Verlag, Hannover).

Friday 22nd May, 2021

9.00-10.30 Session 4

Panel 4A: Boundaries in 20th Century Irish Society 2

Barry Sheppard (QUB), 'A peripatetic university of social ideas' –John Hayes and the international origins of Muintir na Tire's 'Rural Weeks'

Gerard Hanley (DCU), 'Fault Lines of Trade Union Disunity, 1922-1939'

Lia Brazil (European University Institute, Florence), 'Rooted in Rebellion: The Red Cross in Ireland'

Panel 4B: Breaking Boundaries

Ann Marie O'Brien (Maynooth University), 'Pushing boundaries: the transnational activities of Irish women, 1915-39'

Caoilfhionn Ní Bheachán and Angus Mitchell (UL), 'Rethinking Irish (Proto)Diplomacy: The Case of Alice Stopford Green and Jean Jules Jusserand'

Leslie Herman (Columbia University), 'Building Narratives: Ireland and the Borders of Architectural History'

Panel 4C Early Modern Boundaries

Tracy McCarthy (Mary Immaculate College), 'The earl of Carhampton's extra-legal suppression of Defenderism in Connacht, 1795'

Ciarán O'Scea (Independent Scholar), 'The importance of lordship and parish boundaries in Irish emigrant residence patterns in Madrid (1620-1680)'

Ciarán McDonnell (Independent Scholar), 'Soldiers beyond borders: the Irish Brigade in the French Revolution'

10.30-10.45 Break

10.45-12.15 Keynote Session 2

'Contact Zones and Borders in Intellectual History: The Kingdom of Ireland and the Concept of Sovereignty 1541-1801'

Prof Jim Livesey, NUI Galway

12.15 – 13.30 Lunch

13.30-15.00 Session 6

Panel 6A: Transnational Studies

Kevan Malone (University of California), 'Gateways and Barriers: Urban Growth, Environmental Conflict, and the Making of a US-Mexico Border, 1945-1965'

Gerald Power (Anglo-American University, Prague), 'The limits of culture: the British Council and cultural diplomacy in the Arab Gulf, 1955-67'

Connal Parr (Northumbria University), 'Other People's Struggles: Irish-South African Borders and the Anti-Apartheid Movement'

Panel 6B: All history is local

Brendan Scott (Irish Roots), 'Glangevlin, County Cavan: a kingdom within a county'

Niall Murray (UCC), 'Republican command boundaries in the Irish War of Independence – strategic borders or causes of division?'

Panel 6C: Troubles, AM105

Chris Reynolds (Nottingham Trent University), 'Expanding the borders of memory:

Northern Ireland and the global '1968'

Stuart Aveyard (Manchester Metropolitan University), 'Contesting the boundaries of the 'Troubles': the use of other conflicts in Northern Ireland'

Stephen Kelly (Hope University, Liverpool), 'Margaret Thatcher, partition and the Irish border, 1979-1990'.

15.00-15.15 Break

15.15- 17.00

Keynote Session 3,

'Imposed identity: Nigerian nation building before and since the Civil War'

Prof Tom Lodge, (University of Limerick)