

# Reading the Country House

Manchester Metropolitan University, 16-17 November 2018



## Provisional programme

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November

9:00–10:45am: Registration

10:45–11:00am: Opening Remarks / Welcome Address

11:00am–1:00pm: **Panel 1: Narrating and Interpreting Heritage**

Isabel Budleigh, *The National Trust Guidebook: Interpreting the Country House for the Visiting Public from the 1940s to the Present Day*

Kayla Jones, *Welsh Identity in Guidebooks: National Trust's Penrhyn Guidebooks from 1952–2009*

Dan O'Carroll, 'Steal a Mountain, and they make you a Lord': *Critical Heritage Storytelling at Penrhyn Castle*

Matthew Constantine, 'Elegant and Useful?': *Interpreting Thomas Chippendale and Nostell*

1:00–2:00pm: Lunch

2:00–3:00pm: **Plenary 1: Prof. Kathryn Sutherland (University of Oxford)**

3:00– 4:30pm: Parallel Panels

**Panel 2: Reading the Eighteenth-Century Country House**

Freya Gowrley, *Publishing Wilkes's 'Villakin': Reading, Reception and Reputation at Sandown Cottage*

Peter Collinge, *'A tasteless, wasteful grandeur, as dreary and ill-kept as possible': The Response to and of Uninvited Visitors to Eighteenth-Century English Country Houses*

Jemima Hubberstey, *Reading Between the Lines: The Athenian Letters and the Mithraic Altar at Wrest Park*

**Panel 3: Modernism and Modernity**

Teresa Trout, *Paradise Reclaimed: Canonicity and the Country House in Modernist Literature*

Angelica Michelis, *'Some folk can not abide here': The Country House in Early Twentieth-Century British Crime Fiction*

Gary Kelly, *Castles in Ireland: Castle Rackrent, Edgeworthstown, and Modernity*

4:30–5: 00pm: Tea/coffee

5:00– 6:30pm: **Parallel Panels 4 and 5**

**Panel 4: The Politics of Style**

Helen Bates, *'Prodigious quantity of pedigrees heaped all over the House': Re-reading the Gothic Revival: the 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke of Montagu's Obsession with Reviving Feudal-Style Rights and its Physical Legacy in his Country House and Estates*

Andrew Hann, *Reading and Writing a Classical Aesthetic: Sir Charles Monck's Transformation of the Belsay Estate in Northumberland*

Shaun Evans, *Anglicised Enclaves? Welsh Ancestral Patriotism in the Country Houses of Wales: An Analysis of Herbert Sidney's 'The Escape of Henry Tudor from Mostyn Hall' (1886)*

**Panel 5: Marginalised Perspectives**

Amy Lim, *The Appraising Eye of Celia Fiennes*

Becky Harvey and Sarah Plumb, *'They Liked to be cut off and lonely': Questions of Isolation and Loneliness in Historical and Contemporary Readings of Calke Abbey*

Charlotte Furness, *Portraits on a Wall: Discovering the Forgotten Stories of Women of the Country House*

6:30: wine reception

Dinner at delegates' own expense in a nearby restaurant

## Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November:

9:30-11:00am: **Panel 8: Parallel Panels 6 and 7**

### Panel 6: The Houses of Poetry and Prose

Anthony Walker-Crook, *'Shock'd at the Place we hasted to return, / And left the horrid Mansion far behind': Mary Leapor's Chthonic Country House*

Emma Liggins, *Elizabeth Gaskell at Capesthorpe Hall: Venerating the Old in Victorian Haunted House Narratives*

### Panel 7: Reading decoration and display

Clare Taylor, *The Flock Train: Re-thinking Hierarchies of Decoration in the Country House*

Elizabeth Jamieson, *How Well Equipped is your Stable? The Country House Stable and its Contents, 1789–1914*

Nicola Walker, *Displays of Purpose in the Country House from Home to Museum: Reading Spaces through Consumption and Display in the Long Eighteenth Century at Cannon Hall*

11:00-11:30am: Tea / Coffee

11:30am- 12.30pm: **Parallel Panels 8 and 9**

### Panel 8: Reading Curiosities

Hannah Lee, *Readings and Re-readings of 'Moor' Figurines in Country Houses in England and Italy 1600–1800*

Emile de Bruijn, *Reading Orientalism: The Pagoda as Topos in the Context of the Country House*

### Panel 9: The Italianate Impulse

Valerio Tolve, *Villa Madama in Rome: Raffaello's dream about 'Le belle forme degli edifice antichi'*

Amy Parrish, *'I am so tired with copies of the pictures he has chosen, that I would scarce hand up the originals': The Reaction to Copies after Guido Reni in Eighteenth-Century Country Houses*

12:30–1:30pm: Lunch

1:30–2:30pm: **Plenary 2: Prof. Phillip Lindley (Loughborough University)**

2:30–4:00pm: **Panel 10: Perspectives Past, Present and Future**

Simon Spier, *When is a Country House Not a Country House? The Mixed Reception of Mrs Bowes' Mansion and Museum*

Emma Slocombe, *'A House that Smoulders rather than Sparkles': Interpreting the Visitor Experience at Knole*

Barbara Wood, *Contemporary Readings and Future Meanings*

Registration details to follow shortly – for further information, please contact Prof. Jon Stobart: [j.stobart@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:j.stobart@mmu.ac.uk)