

VICKY MCALISTER
Department of History
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Southeast Missouri State University
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EDUCATION

University of Dublin, Trinity College, Dublin, Republic of Ireland

Ph.D., History, commencement June 2013

Advisor: Prof. Terry Barry *Internal Examiner:* Dr. Mark Hennessy *External Examiner:* Dr. Kieran O'Connor (National University of Ireland, Galway)

Dissertation: "Tower Houses and the Maritime Economy c. 1400-1641: a County Down case study"

Graduate courses in: GIS, paleography and diplomatic, medieval Latin

University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom

M.Phil., World Archaeology, 2007

Advisor: Dr. Catherine Hills

Thesis: "Landscape Considerations in the Location and Function of Tower Houses in the Strangford Lough Area of County Down"

Examination subjects: Medieval Britain, Anglo-Saxon England, The Principles of Archaeology (archaeological theory), The Practice of Archaeology (archaeological methods)

University of Dublin, Trinity College, Dublin, Republic of Ireland

B.A. (Hons.), History and Political Science, 2006

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau MO

Assistant Professor of Medieval History, 2014 – present

Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau MO

Instructor of Medieval History (One-year position), 2013 – 2014

St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra, Republic of Ireland

Teaching Assistant, 2012 – 2013

Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, Republic of Ireland

Teaching Assistant, 2008 - 2010

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Medieval History, Early Modern History, Social History, Economic History, Digital History, Public History, Maritime History, Settlement Usage and Patterns, Historic Land Use, Castles and Fortifications, Archaeology.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of record

Southeast Missouri State University

Courses taught

Graduate level: WH620 European Settlement from the Fall of Rome to the Industrial Revolution

Upper-division: EH480 Crusades
EH416 Britain to 1688
EH400 Castles in Context
EH364 Early Modern Europe
EH362 Medieval Europe

Surveys: EH101 Early European Civilization (face-to-face and online)
EH115 Ancient Greece and Rome

Trinity College Dublin

Spring semester 2012: Occasional lecturing on Medieval Britain and Ireland
Spring semester 2010: Castles in the Landscape (extra-mural eight week course)

Teaching Assistant

St. Patrick's College Drumcondra

Fall semester 2012: Ireland 1690-1850: politics, economy and society in the era of Protestant 'Ascendancy'
America: from colony to nation 1492-1840
Early Medieval Ireland 431-1169: history and society

Spring semester 2013: Europe in the Era of Enlightenment and Revolution c. 1740 - c. 1830
Russia: reform, reaction and revolution 1801-1929
Death and Disease in History

Trinity College Dublin

Spring semester 2010: Anglo-Saxon and Viking England
Academic year 2008-09: Britain ca. 1066 – 1460: conquest and domination

RESEARCH

Publications

Edited Volume

McAlister, V. & Barry, T., 2015 (eds). *Space and Settlement in Medieval Ireland*. Dublin: Four Courts Press.

Articles and book chapters

"Castles and Connectivity: Exploring the Economic Networks between Tower Houses, Settlement, and Trade in Late Medieval Ireland", *Speculum* 91:3 (July 2016).

The Death of the Tower House? Reasons for the decline of the 'late medieval' tower house in seventeenth century Ireland. In V. McAlister & T. Barry eds. 2015. *Space and Settlement in Medieval Ireland*. Dublin: Four Courts Press.

Book reviews

Review of Sparky Booker and Cherie N Peters, "Tales of Medieval Dublin" (Dublin, 2014) in *Studia Hibernica*, 41 (2015).

Review of Brian Lacey, "Lug's Donegal Kingdom: the archaeology, history and folklore of the Sil Lugdach of Cloghaneely" (Dublin, 2012) in *Studia Hibernica*, 40 (2014).

Review of Sean Duffy (ed.), "Medieval Dublin XIII" (Dublin, 2013) in *Studia Hibernica*, 40 (2014).

Review of Brendan Smith, "Crisis and Survival in Late Medieval Ireland" (Oxford, 2013) in *Studia Hibernica*, 39 (2013).

In progress

Ongoing book project examining the social, economic, and environmental contexts of the late medieval Irish tower house.

Presentations

Conference Presentations – forthcoming

- June 2016, "Watery Worlds: The Exploitation and Use of Rivers at Late Medieval Irish Tower House Sites", Fourth Annual Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies, St. Louis University, St. Louis, MO, United States of America (accepted).
- May 2016, "Chicken Coop, Pigeon Loft, or Tower House? Chasing Medieval Settlement and Landscape Features in the Present Day", 51st International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo MI, United States of America (accepted).

Conference Presentations

- March-April 2016, “A whole army might be victualled from the fishings’: physical manifestations of river exploitation in later medieval eastern Ireland”, American Conference for Irish Studies, South Bend IN, United States of America.
- October 2015, “Little Rocks in Rivers: Connections Between Rivers and Tower Houses in Late Medieval Ireland”, Southeastern Medieval Association annual conference, Little Rock AR, United States of America.
- May 2015, “Fisherman’s Blues: economic networks at tower house castles in the late medieval Irish Sea region”, 50th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, United States of America.
- October 2014, “Rethinking Conflict at the Tower House Castle in Late Medieval Ireland”, Southeastern Medieval Association annual conference, Atlanta, GA, United States of America.
- June 2014, “The Irish Tower House Castle as Settlement Center in the Late Medieval World,” Second Annual Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies, St. Louis University, St. Louis, MO, United States of America.
- May 2014, “A place of good importance to answer the service both by sea and land’: the position of Irish castles in the medieval world,” 49th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, United States of America.
- March 2014, “To the Manor Born? The economic relationship between tower houses as manorial centres and associated settlement,” New College Conference on Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Sarasota, FL, United States of America (paper given *in absentia*).
- April 2013, “Issues of Scale and Region: the case of the late medieval Irish tower house,” The Medieval Academy of America Annual Meeting, Knoxville, TN, United States of America.
- September 2012, “Castles and Commerce: the role of the tower house in the late medieval Irish economy,” 5th International Research Congress of Medieval and Modern Archaeology, Helsinki, Finland.
- May 2012, “Identifying Regional Commerce: interactions between tower houses, settlements and commercial networks,” Space and Settlement in the Middle Ages III, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland.
- September 2010, “The Death of the Tower House? Economic motivations for the decline of the Irish tower house’, 19th European Archaeological Association Congress, Den Haag, The Netherlands.
- August 2010, “The Death of the Tower House? Economic motivations for the decline of the Irish tower house” (abridged version of above), People, Places and Memory: Early Modern Ireland conference, National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland.
- May 2010, “Evidence For Trade in Tower Houses,” Space and Settlement in the Middle Ages I, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland.
- June 2005, “The architecture of the tower houses of County Down,” Trinity College Dublin History Undergraduate Conference, Dublin, Ireland.

Colloquia and Research Seminar Presentations

- February 2010, “Tower houses and the maritime landscape: location and architecture: the case of Strangford castle,” Society for Medieval Archaeology Postgraduate Colloquium, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom.

- February 2009, “The maritime functions of tower houses in the medieval port of Ardglass, County Down,” Trinity College Dublin Postgraduate History Lunchtime Seminar series, Dublin, Ireland.
- January 2009, “The maritime functions of tower houses in County Down in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries,” Otway-Ruthven Centre for Medieval History, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland.

Public Talks

- September 2015, “The Castles of Medieval Ireland: image and reality,” Southeast Missouri State University Kent Library Athenaeum Series.

Relevant Competitive Grants and Awards

- Southeast Missouri State University, Kent Library Endowment Fund, 2016.
\$3490.60 for book purchasing to support teaching.
- Southeast Missouri State University, Summer Research Grant, 2015.
\$5000.00 for research in Ireland and the United Kingdom.
Southeast Missouri State University, Grants and Research Funding Committee.
\$5959.00 for research in Ireland.
- Southeast Missouri State University, Kent Library Endowment Fund, 2015.
\$3498.27 for book purchasing to support teaching.
- Southeast Missouri State University, Kent Library Endowment Fund, 2014.
\$3452.00 for book purchasing to support teaching.
- Trinity College Dublin, Trinity Postgraduate Research Studentship, 2009 – 2010.
PhD scholarship.
- Trinity College Dublin, Frank Mitchell Benefaction, 2010.
Travel grant.
- Trinity College Dublin, Graduate Studies Travel Grant, 2010.
Travel grant.
- Trinity College Dublin, Grace Lawless Lee Benefaction, 2009 – 2010 & 2007 – 2008.
Research grant.

SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATION

University service

- 2015-17, Committee Member:
IT Committee
Commencements Committee

Departmental service

- 2013-15, Committee Member:
Graduate Committee, Department of History

Advising

- Senior Paper advisor 2013-15

Spring 2015: committee member for MA thesis by Michelle Matheny: The Hollow Crown in Shakespeare's Second Tetralogy. Winner of the School of Graduate Studies Excellence in Research Award.

Professional service

Committee member

American Society of Irish Medieval Studies, 2015-17

Conference Organizer

"Space and Settlement in the Middle Ages I-IV", 2010-2013

Member of small organizing committee for annual interdisciplinary conference. Special responsibility for marketing and administration.

Roundtable participant

"After the Dissertation", Southeastern Medieval Association, Atlanta GA, October 2014

Session Chair

"In the Margins: Image, Text, and Context", Southeastern Medieval Association, Boone NC, October 2013

Session Organizer

"Medieval Settlement and Landscape in Modern Ireland", 51st International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo MI.

"Material culture of medieval Ireland: uniting with the world, or worlds apart?", American Conference for Irish Studies, South Bend IN.

Seminar/workshop leader

"Marketing and social media for the heritage sector", Summer 2012

Given as part of National Print Museum of Ireland & FÁS Training Initiative in Culture and Heritage Studies.

Conference Volunteer

"Ireland in a Roman World", October 2012

"Sixth World Archaeological Congress", June-July 2008

Site Assistant

"Access Cambridge Archaeology", April 2007

Discovery Programme Medieval Rural Settlement programme, Summer 2006

MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Medieval Academy of America, Southeastern Medieval Association, American Society for Irish Medieval Studies, American Conference for Irish Studies, Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement.

SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

- Paleography and diplomatic
- Languages: intermediate level Medieval Latin; basic level Spanish

- Computer programs including: html and web management; GIS; online marketing and outreach programs and in social media
- Online teaching using Moodle (completed training course in Moodle August 2013)
- Digitization of historic documents and manuscript material