

Limerick's Built Heritage

7th Series of
Exploratory Lectures



This series is
organised and
funded by
**Limerick City &
County Council**

2015

Tuesday 8pm

- Sep 29** Domestic architecture in prehistory focussing on evidence from Lough Gur
Venue: Woodlands Hotel Adare
- Oct 13** Contemporary design and its contribution to Irish domestic architecture
Venue: Woodlands Hotel Adare
- Oct 27** The major castles of late medieval Co. Limerick
Venue: Woodlands Hotel Adare
- Nov 10** Medieval art and Architecture of the mid-West
Venue: Woodlands Hotel Adare
- Nov 24** Hidden dwellers within our built heritage
Venue: Woodlands Hotel Adare

| Admission Free |

For further information contact:

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Limerick’s Built Heritage

7th in the series of Exploratory Lectures

Introduction

The built landscape of Limerick is the result of what our ancestors created and deemed important. What we design, build and preserve today will become Limerick in the future. The built heritage is a reflection of our society, its values, its hierarchies, its fashions and its trends

This series of lectures will look at a variety of architecture through the ages including the earliest houses from prehistory at Lough Gur, to the great castles, and the range of medieval art and architecture in the region, to consideration of hidden dwellers in our structures to contemporary domestic design for 21st century Limerick.

The lectures are organised and funded by Limerick City & County Council and are free.

All are welcome



1.

Domestic architecture in prehistory focussing on evidence from Lough Gur

In her lecture **Rose Cleary** will focus on Lough Gur, a place renowned in archaeology not only in Ireland but also in Western Europe. Neolithic and Bronze Age settlements were recorded in Lough Gur when these were practically unknown elsewhere. Much archaeological research and fieldwork has altered this picture but Lough Gur remains one of the few places where the monuments are both abundant within a relatively small area and where some date back several millennia. This lecture reviews the dating and architecture of prehistoric Lough Gur in the light of early twenty-first century archaeological knowledge and examines both the profane and sacred.

Lecturer

Rose Cleary has worked in the Department of Archaeology University College Cork since 1980. Her research interests lie in prehistoric pottery, with a particular interest in ceramic technology, petrology studies and characterisation of clay sources. She is also involved in long-term research on the prehistoric archaeology of north Munster, with particular reference to the Lough Gur landscape. She has extensive fieldwork experience, having undertaken excavations at numerous prehistoric sites in that region. She has published widely on projects connected to pipeline and infrastructural projects, including urban regeneration schemes in Cork city. She became a Fellow of the Society of Antiquarians in 2007.

Date Venue

September 29th | 8pm
Woodlands Hotel Adare
Admission Free

2.

Contemporary design and its contribution to Irish domestic architecture

Michael O’Connor will focus on modern architecture and how it can create innovative solutions that respond to the needs of modern living and the context and qualities of the site. In his lecture he will use a number of examples to demonstrate this, including ‘CK House’, which was commended in the Best House category in the Irish Architecture Awards 2015.

Lecturer

Michael O’Connor is the founder of Praxis Architecture. He has over twenty years experience in private practice and involvement in a diverse range of projects in Ireland and internationally. His designs demonstrate carefully considered buildings from the small domestic extension, new build family homes to large scale projects including office complexes, public parks, and the renovation and refurbishment of Georgian and Victorian buildings. Michael's CK House was commended in the Best House category in the Irish Architecture Awards 2015 and his practice was also commended in the Best Emerging Practices category.

Date Venue

October 13th | 8pm
Woodlands Hotel Adare
Admission Free



3.

The major castles of late medieval Co. Limerick

In his lecture **Tom McNeill** considers that when we compare the four great late medieval castles of Limerick with the contemporary castles of France or England, we can understand better the priorities for which they were built. Each is a balance of public architectural display, a plan to accommodate the lord and his household in such a way as to provide for ceremony and hierarchy and the desire for defence; of these the last is very much the least important. These observations challenge the picture of late medieval Ireland as culturally isolated and divided into “two nations”, often at war with each other.

Lecturer

Prior to his retirement, **Dr. Tom McNeill** was Senior Lecturer in Medieval Archaeology at Queen’s University, Belfast, where he guided and inspired many students in castle research. He has published extensively in journals and written many books on his preferred topic including *Anglo-Norman Ulster*, *Carrickfergus Castle*, *The English Heritage Book of Castles* as well as the seminal publication *Castles in Ireland*. More recently he contributed a paper on *The Larger Castles of Later Medieval Limerick* to the British Archaeological Association Conference.

Date Venue

October 27th | 8pm
Woodlands Hotel Adare
Admission Free

4.

Medieval art and Architecture of the mid-West

Rachel Moss will concentrate on some of the buildings and artworks produced in Limerick and its wider environs during the medieval period. Key works will be placed in their wider context, and an examination of craftsmanship and patronage will demonstrate how material culture of the period can provide a fascinating insight into the piety and politics of our medieval ancestors.

Lecturer

Dr. Rachel Moss is an Assistant Professor in the Department of History of Art and Architecture in Trinity College Dublin. Her main area of research is the architecture of late medieval Ireland. She is currently Principal Investigator on the Irish Research Council-funded Monastic Ireland Landscape and Settlement Project and academic partner on the Bank of America Merrill Lynch – TCD Gospel Books Project. She was editor and principal author of volume 1 of the Royal Irish Academy’s Art & Architecture of Ireland series, published by Yale University Press in November, 2014.

Date Venue

November 10th | 8pm
Woodlands Hotel Adare
Admission Free

5.

Hidden dwellers within our built heritage

Kate McAney will highlight the importance to Ireland’s wildlife of a range of structures, including souterrains, castles, belfries and bridges. She will describe why mammals and birds seek refuge in such places and the impact that the deterioration or renovation of these can have on their, often unseen, tenants.

Lecturer

Dr. Kate McAney works for The Vincent Wildlife Trust in Ireland and has done so since 1991. Before joining the Trust she graduated from NUIG in 1987 with a PhD on the summer activity of the lesser horseshoe bat in County Clare. She manages 13 buildings used as maternity roosts by this species and recently edited a special publication on the horseshoe bat for the Irish Naturalists’ Journal. An increasing feature of her work is providing information and supporting research on other Irish mammals, including the Irish stoat and pine marten.

Date Venue

November 24th | 8pm
Woodlands Hotel Adare
Admission Free