



Blue Box Seminar Series

Department of Geography

PRESENTS:

Friday, March 17th, 2023

3-4pm SN2025

Dr. Katherine Side

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Making Borderscapes: Place Making and Citizenship in Mosney's Transitions

In this paper, I trace the historical and material transition of the geographic locale of the site of Mosney in County Meath, Ireland to examine relationships among borderscapes, belonging, and citizenship. For over eight decades, the geographic locale of Mosney has retained varied ties to ideals and aspirations of citizenship, although the site itself has undergone transition. Existing as a primarily agricultural site, it was chosen as a site for the development of Ireland's first holiday village; later, it was distinguished as cultural site of Ireland's community games, and then was transitioned into its current use, as a direct provision center to accommodate asylum seekers in an institutionalized setting. In this presentation, I trace the site's construction as a borderscape and its various relations to gendered citizenship. Through the lens of intentional place

making, I demonstrate how Mosney's history has been continuously made and re-made as a borderscape that establishes, solidifies, and disrupts social relationships of belonging and unbelonging within Ireland and within Europe.