

Uses of the Past in Divided Societies: Northern Ireland and the US

A Lecture by Olwen Purdue



Dr. Olwen Purdue is Director of the Centre for Public History at Queen's University Belfast. Her work focuses on Public History in divided societies, looking in particular at Northern Ireland where she works on the role of cultural institutions in dealing with conflict, and on the relationship between history, identity and community. She has just completed a Wellcome Trust-funded project on heritage and wellbeing among inner-city communities in Belfast and is also Principal Investigator on a public history project among communities in Dhiban, Jordan.

Dr. Purdue works closely with a range of cultural institutions. She is historic advisor for the Ulster Museum's 'The Troubles and Beyond' gallery and was the historical consultant for Titanic Belfast, recently voted the world's best tourist attraction. She is International Editor of the *Public Historian*, a juror for the Royal Historical Society's Public History Prize, and a Director of the Irish Museums Association.

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Boston University College of Arts & Sciences, 725 Commonwealth Avenue, Room B36

