



Thursday, 11 June 2026

9:30 Registration
Maths Building, Ground Floor



9:45 Welcome and Introductions: Emma Griffin (Head of the History Department, QMUL), Bronagh Ann McShane (Trinity College Dublin, President of the H-WRBI Network), and Delfi I. Nieto-Isabel (QMUL, Conference Chair)
Maths Building, Room 503

10:00-11:30 Block 1 (Parallel sessions 1A, 1B and 1C)

Session 1A: The Materiality of Women's Religious Networks

Graduate Centre, Room 602
Chair: Einat Klafter (Tel Aviv University)

- Craig Cessford (Cambridge Archaeological Unit, University of Cambridge) – **Accounts and Archaeology: Quotidian Networks and the Nunneries of the High/Late Medieval Diocese of Ely**
- Romana Mastrella (Sapienza University of Rome) – **Threads of Power: Female Leadership, Patronage, and Networks in the Barberini Tapestry Manufactory**
- Sarah J. Moran (independent) – **Patronage, Family Networks, and the Four Evangelists Confessionals at the Grand Beguinage of Mechelen**

Session 1B: Women Religious & Politics

Graduate Centre, Room 603
Chair: Liesbeth Corens (QMUL)

- Lois Newby (Queen's University, Belfast) – **“My duty and affection for y^{or} Exc^{yes} service”.: Abbess Mary Knatchbull and the Reconstruction of Royalist Intelligence Networks after 1655**
- Bernadette Cunningham (Trinity College Dublin) – **‘Whatever you have learned from me...put it into practice’ (Philippians 4:9): Spiritual Formation and Lived Theology in Female Religious-Run Irish Institutions from 1922**

Session 1C: Patronage networks

Graduate Centre, Room 604

Chair: Jane Freeland (QMUL)

- Harriet Guinn Jennings (Winchester) – **Female Agency at Amesbury Priory**
- Ruth Ferris (University College Dublin) – **Patronage and the Power of the Pen: Mother Gertrude Reddin’s Network of Influence in Loreto Convents and Beyond in the Late Nineteenth Century**
- Paul Shaw (Central Congregational Archivist of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God), and Mary Kenefick (SMG) – **The Founding and Work of St Aloysius’ Convent Carrigwohill: A Case Study of Patronage and Support Networks 1875-2025**

11:30-11:45 Coffee break
Graduate Centre, 6th Floor Foyer



11:45 - 1:15 Block 2 (Parallel sessions 2A, 2B and 2C)

Session 2A: Affective & Emotional Webs

Graduate Centre, Room 602

Chair: Amanda Langley (HWRBI)

- Remon Badan (Sorbonne Université) – **Turning Vulnerability into Structure: Negative Emotion and Network Formation in Julian of Norwich and Margery Kempe**
- Alice Brooke (Oxford) – **Spiritual and Poetic Friendship: Cecilia del Nacimiento and Ana de la Trinidad**

Session 2B: Economic Agency & Patronage

Graduate Centre, Room 603

Chair: Catriona Delaney (University College Dublin)

- Attracta Brownlee (Independent Researcher) – **Women Religious, Patronage and Communal Reciprocity in Ireland**
- Juan Carlos García Cacho (Puerto Rico) – **Building on Local Prestige in Early Medieval León. Social Networking around Religious, Aristocratic and Proprietary Women in San Vicente, a Pre-Benedictine Monastery**

Session 2C: The 'Business' of Soul-Saving

Graduate Centre, Room 604

Chair: Reuben Loffman (QMUL)

- Noah Petts (Oxford) – **'A call upon me to cast in my mite': Women Benefactors to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, 1701-1753**
- Apurtha Lilly Antony (KU Leuven) – **Women Religious within Missionary Networks: Negotiating Gendered Collaboration in the JMJ–Mill Hill Mission in Colonial India (1904-1945)**

1:15-2:30 Lunch
Graduate Centre, 6th Floor Foyer



2:30 - 3:30 Annual General Meeting
Graduate Centre, Room 604



3:30-3:45 Coffee break
Graduate Centre, 6th Floor Foyer



3:45 - 5:15 Block 3 (Parallel sessions 3A, 3B and 3C)

Session 3A: Transnational Flows

Graduate Centre, Room 602

Chair: David Geiringer (QMUL)

- Jo Luyten (KADOC, Leuven) – **An Anglo-Belgian network revealed: From a community of Belgian Apostolines of the Immaculate Conception in Aberdeen to a new institute of Tertiary Carmelite Sisters in Wells**
- Eilish Gregory (Durham) – **The Global Networks of the Little Company of Mary, 1877-1941**

Session 3B: Social Hierarchies

Graduate Centre, Room 603

Chair: Bronagh Ann McShane (Trinity College Dublin)

- William Barham (Royal Holloway) – **Choir, Grey, Blue & Black: Orders and Social Stratifications within Anglican Sisterhoods**
- Deirdre Rafferty (University College Dublin), Catriona Delaney (University College Dublin) – **Expanding Ministries: Irish Women Religious and their Networks, 1780-1880**

Session 3C: Roman Centres of Power

Graduate Centre, Room 604

Chair: David Harrap (QMUL)

- Einat Klafter (Zvi Yavetz School of Historical Studies, Tel Aviv University) – **When in Rome: Margery Kempe's spiritual networks in the Eternal City**
- Ilaria Arcangeli (Chieti-Pescara) – **Patronage, Artistic Agency and Spiritual Networks in a Roman Female Monastery: Santa Maria dell'Umiltà**

5:15 - 5:45 Awards and wine reception
Graduate Centre, Room 701 & Terrace



The Orange Room Restaurant
6:15 Conference dinner



Friday, 12 June 2026

9:30 – 10:30 Keynote lecture by Delfi I. Nieto-Isabel (Queen Mary University of London)

Chair: Miri Rubin (QMUL)

Maths Building, Room 503



10:30 - 10:45 Coffee break
Graduate Centre, 6th Floor Foyer



10:45 - 12:15 Block 4 (Parallel sessions 4A, 4B and 4C)

Session 4A: Artistic & Intellectual Networks

Graduate Centre, Room 602

Chair: Anna Chrysostomides (QMUL)

- Laura Gisseleire (Kent/King's College London) – **The Mortuary Roll of Matilda of Caen: Anglo-Norman Occasional Poetry and Literary Networks in Commemorative Manuscripts**
- Guendalina Serafinelli (Rome, University of Tor Vergata) – **A Cloistered Roman Community and its Networks: Anna Vittoria Dolara (1764-1827), Art, Restoration and Patronage at Santi Domenico e Sisto**

Session 4B: Leadership & Institutional Growth

Graduate Centre, Room 603

Chair: Brian Heffernan (KU Leuven – UCLouvain)

- Carol Baxter (Trinity College Dublin) – **Networking as an Instrument in the Development of a Religious Order: Jeanne de Chantal and the first leaders of the Visitation Order**
- Catherine Nowlan-Roebuck (University College Dublin) – **Presentation Convent Georgetown a Successful Foundation in Spite of the Odds**

Session 4C: Modern Crises and Connections

Graduate Centre, Room 604

Chair: Eilish Gregory (Durham)

- Carmen Mangion (Birkbeck, University of London) – **Catholic women religious, HIV/AIDS ministries and the voluntary sector in Britain, 1980s-2000s**
- Alexandra Verini (Durham) – **Pioneering Social Activism: the Poor Schools of the Faithful Companions of Jesus**
- Kirsten Schouwenaars-Harms (St Mary's University, Twickenham) – **The Few for the Many: Exploring the Unique Relationship of Women Religious and Domestic Churches in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Aberdeen**

12:15 - 1:30 Lunch
Graduate Centre, Room 701 & Terrace



1:30 - 3:00 Block 5 (Parallel sessions 5A, 5B and 5C)

Session 5A: Women's Networks and the Digital Turn

Graduate Centre, Room 602

Chair: Delfi I. Nieto-Isabel (QMUL)

- Katia Riccardo (Masaryk University) – **Gendered Testimony and Network Analysis of Apostolic Sociability: Male and Female Depositions in Bologna (1291–1310)**
- Julia King (British Library) – **The Syon Abbey Sisters' Networks and 'Big' Data**
- Joanne S. Campbell (Rosemont College) – ***Gaudium et Spes*. Stewarding Sacred Space: Postdigital Ecopedagogy, Women Religious, and the Built Environment of Rosemont College**

Session 5B: Networks and Space

Graduate Centre, Room 603

Chair: Elena Paulino (UNED, Spain)

- Giulia Ghiglia (Turin) – **Beyond the Cloister: Female Cistercians and Local Communities in Northern Italy (13th–14th Centuries). The Case of the Monastery of Saint Stephen in the Bormida Valley**
- Victoria Yuskaitis (Independent Scholar) – **Archaeology and Anchorites: Medieval and Modern Anchoritic Networks**

Session 5C: Networks of Silence

Graduate Centre, Room 604

Chair: Sarah J. Moran

- Hannah Thomas (Bar Convent), Isobel Staton (Bar Convent) – **Fragmented Networks and the Formation of Community Histories in the English Houses of Mary Ward's Institute, 1700–1820**
- Laura Granda Mateu (Edge Hill University) – **Hearing the Sisters: Recovering Fragmentary Stories of Women Religious in Nineteenth-Century North-West England**
- Mirosława Hanusiewicz-Lavallee (John Paul Catholic University of Lublin) – **Neglected Ministry: Translating the Spiritual Books for Reformed Benedictine Nuns in Poland-Lithuania**

3:00-3:15 Coffee break
Graduate Centre, 6th Floor Foyer



3:15 - 4:45 Block 6 (Parallel sessions 6A and 6B)

Session 6A: Supporting networks

Graduate Centre, Room 602

Chair: Emily Vine (University of Exeter)

- Virginia Bainbridge (Oxford Department for Continuing Education/Independent Researcher) – **At Home with the Windsors: Prioress Margaret Windsor and the survival of Syon Abbey after 1539**
- Petra Caruana Dingli (University of Malta) – **Writing Sanctity, Claiming Lineage: Family Networks and Female Monastic Hagiography in Seventeenth-Century Naples and Palermo**
- Wioletta Pawlikowska (Institute of History of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw) – **Under the Episcopal Umbrella: Benedictine Nuns in Seventeenth-Century Grand Duchy of Lithuania**

Session 6B: Expanding Networks

Graduate Centre, Room 603

Chair: Brian Heffernan (KU Leuven – UCLouvain)

- Tonya Moutray (Russell Sage College) – **Northeast by Midwest: The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and the Albany Mission**
- Karen Hanrahan (University College London) – **‘Ponder and Pray; Don’t Dodge or Delay!’: Actors and Networks in the Recruitment of Women Religious, 1930s–1960s**

4:45 - 5:15 Final remarks
Maths Building, Room 503

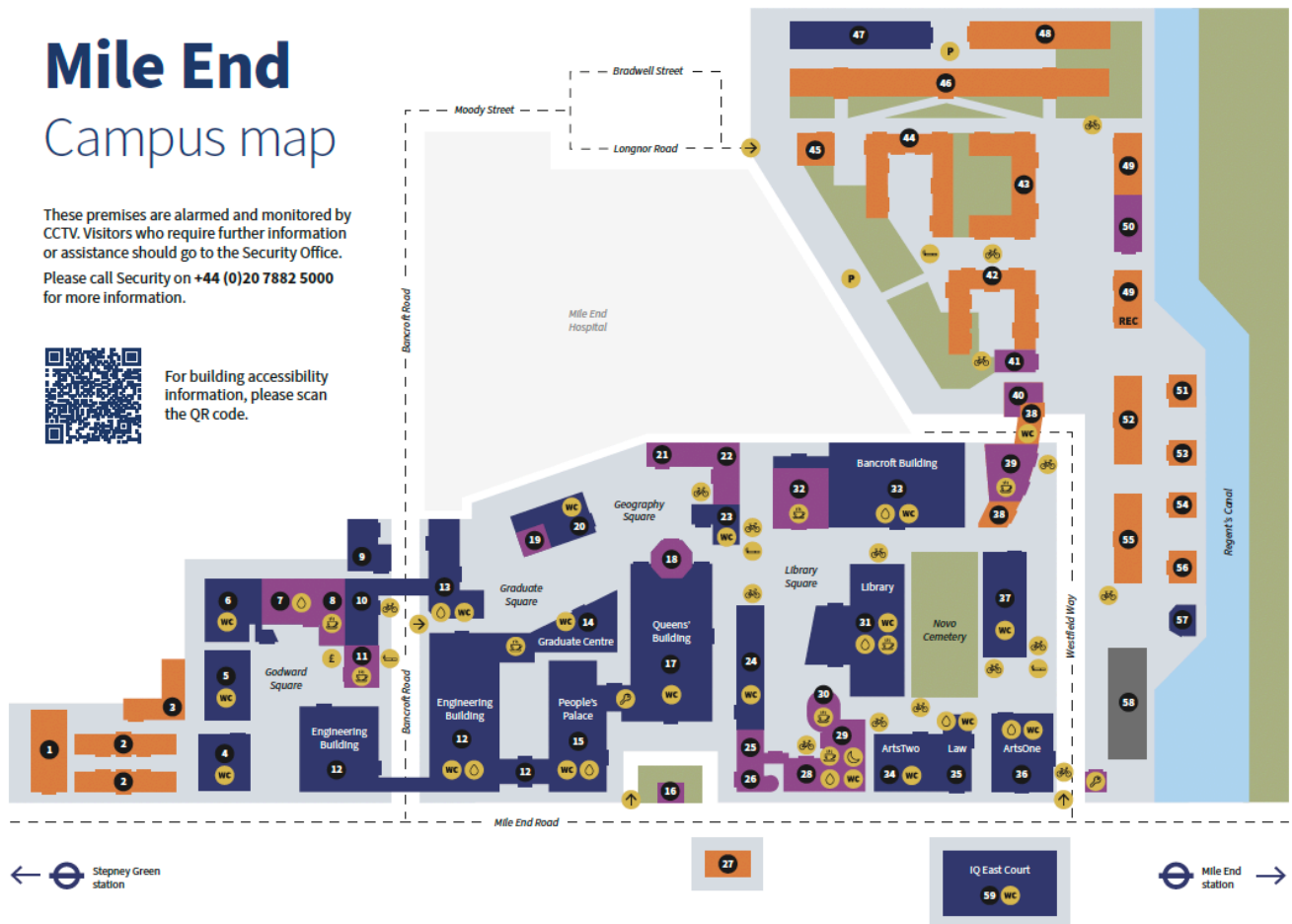


Mile End Campus map

These premises are alarmed and monitored by CCTV. Visitors who require further information or assistance should go to the Security Office. Please call Security on **+44 (0)20 7882 5000** for more information.



For building accessibility information, please scan the QR code.



Key

- Accessible toilet
- Bicycle parking/lockers
- Cafés/bars/restaurants
- Campus entrances
- Cash point/ATM
- Multi-faith Centre
- Security
- Smoking area/shelter*
- Staff parking
- Water fountain

Toilets
All academic buildings have male/female toilet facilities. Gender-neutral toilets can be found in buildings; 13, 14, 17, 24, 29, 31, 33 and 37.

Academic/Research buildings

ArtsOne	36
ArtsTwo	34
Bancroft Building	33
Engineering Building	12
Geography Building	23
Graduate Centre	14
G.E. Fogg Building	13
G.O. Jones Building	24
Informatics Teaching Laboratory	5
IQ East Court	59
Joseph Priestley Building	37
Library	31
Lock Keeper's Cottage	57
Law	35
Mathematical Sciences	4
Occupational Health and Safety	9
People's Palace	15
Peter Landin Building	6
Peter Landin Teaching Rooms	10
Queens' Building	17
Scape Canalside Teaching Rooms	47
Temporary Building	20

Facilities

Advice and Counselling Service	21
The Curve	39
Canalside	50
Clock Tower	16
Drapers Bar and Kitchen	8
Ground Café	30
Housing Hub	40
The Nest	25
The Octagon	18
Occupational Health / Student Health Service	22
Portering and Postal Services	19
Qmotion Sport and Fitness Centre / Sports Hall	7
QM Social	32
Security Office	17
St Benet's Chaplaincy	26
Students' Union Hub / Multi-faith Centre	29
Union Shop	11
Village Shop	41
Zero Waste and Community Shop	28

Residential buildings

Albert Stern Cottages	3
Albert Stern House	1
Beaumont Court	42
Chapman House	56
Chesney House	54
Creed Court	43
Feilden House	38
France House	49
Ifor Evans Place	2
Lindop House	27
Lodge House	53
Lynden House	45
Maurice Court	44
Maynard House	55
Pooley House	46
Scape Canalside (Residents only)	48
Selincourt House	51
Varey House	52
Reception - REC	49

Under construction

School of Business and Management Building - expected to be completed in 2027	58
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*The smoking of cigarettes or tobacco products is only permitted at designated smoking areas/shelters indicated on this map. Electronic cigarettes permitted on outside spaces only.