Locating George Herbert: Family, Place, Traditions

13–16 October 2011
Gregynog Hall Conference Centre, Newtown, Powys
Thursday 13 October 2011

Registration during the afternoon, at the desk inside the main entrance to the Hall
Afternoon tea available in the Blayney Room

During the afternoon there will be an opportunity to visit the Gregynog Press – please gather outside the door of the Music Room at 3.30 or 4pm
Throughout the conference, there will be a display of books connected with the Herberts and Gregynog, and an exhibition of book-related art work by Emma Hobbins, ‘The Fragmented Museum’ – in the Joicey Room

Introduction (4.30–5.30) in the Music Room – presentation on the history of Gregynog Hall and the Gregynog Press, by the librarian, Mary Oldham

Session 1 (5.30–7pm) – choice of two parallel panels

(a) The Herbert Family – Magdalene Herbert and her talented sons (Music Room):
Sarah Hutton (Aberystwyth University), ‘The Perils of being a Renaissance Man: Lord Herbert of Cherbury and his posthumous reputation’; Jayne Archer (Aberystwyth University), ‘Henry Herbert and Magdalene Herbert as patrons to natural philosophy’; Craig Hartley (University of Cambridge), ‘Edward Herbert’s Lute Book’; chaired by Cristina Malcolmson (Bates College, Maine)

(b) Herbert’s international connections (Library):
Andrew Harvey (Grove City, Pennsylvania), ‘Understanding Something about Herbert’s “Prayer”’; Fahimeh Naseri (Durham University), ‘Herbert and the Persian tradition’; Anne-Marie Miller Blaise (University of the Sorbonne / Paris IV), ‘George Herbert’s French Connections’; chaired by Christopher Hodgkins (Greensboro)

Dinner (7.15pm) in the Refectory

Session 2 (8.30–10pm) in the Music Room – poetry reading, chaired by John Herbert, Earl of Powis
Greg Miller (Millsaps College, Mississippi), followed by Gillian Clarke (National Poet of Wales)
Friday 14 October

Breakfast (8–9am) in the REFECTORY

SESSION 3 (9–10.30) – choice of two parallel panels

(a) George Herbert’s Family Matters (MUSIC ROOM):

  Erik Ankerburg (Wisconsin Lutheran College), ‘”Happy is he, whose bottom is wound up”: George Herbert and a Tradition of Spiritual Care’; Chauncey Wood (emeritus, McMaster University, Ontario), ‘George Herbert and his Mother’; Joe Sterrett (Aarhus University, Denmark), ‘Herbert, Vaughan, and Cain: Paradoxical Siblings’; chaired by Sean McDowell (Seattle University)

(b) Body and soul, or spiritual and material contexts (LIBRARY):

  Paul Dyck (Canadian Mennonite University), ‘Tricks with Books: The Importance of the Small-Format Bible in George Herbert’s Verse’; Eelco van Es (Groningen University, The Netherlands), ‘Temperance and Self-Control in Herbert’s poetry and prose’; Curt Whitaker (Idaho State University), ‘Pharmacology in Cyrmu: Vaughan, Herbert, and Welsh medicinals’; chaired by Robert Whalen (Northern Michigan University)

Coffee (10.30–11.15) in the BLAYNEY Room (optional tour of the Gregynog Press: please gather outside the door of the Music Room at 10.45)

SESSION 4 (11.15–12.15) in the MUSIC ROOM – first plenary lecture

  John Drury (All Souls, Oxford), ‘Friend and Brother: George Herbert, Lancelot Andrews and Edward Herbert’, chaired by Peter Webster (Bemerton)

Lunch (12.30–1.30) in the REFECTORY

SESSION 5 (2–3.30) – choice of two parallel panels

(a) Edward, Lord Herbert of Cherbury (MUSIC ROOM):

  Angela Balla (University of Alabama), ‘George and Edward Herbert’s Intertwined Paths Towards Toleration’; Nancy Zaice (Francis Marion University, South Carolina), ‘”Treacherous Lord Herbert” no more: Edward Herbert of Chirbury’s Surrender of Montgomery Castle’; Cristina Malcolmson (Bates College, Maine), ‘Edward Herbert’s The Amazon’; chaired by Greg Miller (Millsaps College, Mississippi)

(b) Herbert and Vaughan (LIBRARY):

  Sean McDowell (Seattle University), ‘Herbert as Bard in the Imagination of Henry Vaughan’; Jonathan Nauman (Usk Valley Vaughan Association), ‘”With
Patriarchs and Prophets: Herbert in Vaughan’s *Mount of Olives*; Erin McCarthy (Ohio State University), ‘Situating the Silurist: Henry Vaughan, George Herbert, and Literary History’; chaired by Joe Sterrett (Aarhus University, Denmark)

Tea (3.30–4) in the BLAYNEY ROOM (optional tour of the Gregynog Press: please gather outside the door of the Music Room at 3.35)

**SESSION 6 (4–5.15pm) in the MUSIC ROOM**

(a) Digitising Herbert:

Robert Whalen (Northern Michigan University) and Christopher Hodgkins (University of North Carolina, Greensboro), *The Digital Temple: Telescope for a “book of starres”*

followed by

(b) Herbert and Music:

David Evans (Bangor University, Wales), ‘The Herberts and music in the Marches of Wales in the early seventeenth century’; Simon Jackson (Cambridge University), “Double Motion”: Herbert and seventeenth-century polyphonic practice; chaired by Helen Wilcox (Bangor University)

[5.15 pm George Herbert Society business meeting]

Music before dinner (6.30–7.15pm) in the MUSIC ROOM – original settings of lyrics from *The Temple*, and incidental music inspired by Herbert

Conference Dinner (7.30pm) in the REFECTORY

After dinner, two talks in the MUSIC ROOM on local history and the Herbert genealogy: by Roger Brown, secretary of the Powysland Club, and by John Herbert, Earl of Powis (as preparation for the visits the following day)

**Saturday 15 October**

Breakfast (8–9am) in the REFECTORY

**SESSION 7 (9–10.30) – choice of two parallel panels**

(a) Herbert’s maternal images in Latin and English (MUSIC ROOM):

Greg Miller, Catherine Freis and Richard Freis (Millsaps College, Mississippi), on translating and locating Herbert’s *Memoriae Matris Sacrum*; Jennifer Newton (California Baptist University), “At first thou gav’st me milk”: Images of maternal nourishment in George Herbert’s poetry; chaired by Chauncey Wood (McMaster University, Ontario)
(b) Herbert and Welsh writers (LIBRARY):

Gina Hurley (Purdue University), “All in sport to geere at me“: George Herbert and Gerald of Wales as Models of Response to Marginality; Dan Strait (Asbury University, Kentucky), “I build my bellowing ark”: voice and anguish in George Herbert and Dylan Thomas; Colleen Wethered (Bangor University), ‘George Herbert, R.S. Thomas and Rowan Williams: a flock of words’; chaired by Curt Whitaker (Idaho State University)

Coffee (10.30–11) in the BLAYNEY ROOM

SESSION 8 (11–12) in the MUSIC ROOM – second plenary lecture

Achsah Guibbory (Barnard College, New York), ‘Devotional Poetry and the Temple of God’; chaired by Christopher Hodgkins (Greensboro)

Lunch (12.15) in the REFECTORY

Coaches to Powis Castle (1pm)

Time for tour of castle or walk in grounds

SESSION 9 (2.45–4.15pm) – choice of two parallel panels, to be held in the Earl of Powis’s private wing of the Castle

(a) Herbertian households (MUSIC ROOM, POWIS CASTLE):

Kate Narveson (Luther College, Iowa), ‘Household as church: Herbert, place and authority’; Ronald W. Cooley (University of Saskatchewan), ‘The Herberths and the Manor of Ribbesford’; Jean-Christophe Van Thienen (Charles de Gaulle – Lille 3 University), ‘Family dispute and disputatio in George Herbert’s poetry and prose’; chaired by Paul Dyck (Canadian Mennonite University)

(b) Herbert and early modern culture (LORD POWIS’ LIBRARY):

Jesse Sharpe (University of St Andrews), ‘The Poetics of a “Plain Style”: Philip Sidney’s Apology for Poetry and George Herbert’s The Temple’; Arthur Lindley (University of Birmingham), ‘George Herbert, Augustinian Privation and the Stuart Grotesque’; Debra Rienstra (Calvin College), “Mend My Rhyme”: Revising Resolutions from Psalms and Sonnets’; chaired by Roger Sell (Abo Akademi, Finland)

Coach to Montgomery (4.30pm)

Time for a stroll in Montgomery (weather permitting!)

Light Buffet in Montgomery Town Hall (6.15pm)
Concert in Montgomery parish church (7.30) by the Brabant Ensemble (Oxford), featuring music known to have been written, transcribed and/or performed in the Welsh borders in the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries; open to the general public too

Coach back to Gregynog

**Sunday 16 October**

Breakfast (8–9am) in the REFECTORY

Service of Holy Communion (9–10) in the MUSIC ROOM (preacher, Canon Judy Rees; music, Barry Ferguson)

**SESSION 10 (10.10–11.30)** – choice of two parallel panels

(a) Herbert as Country Parson (MUSIC ROOM):


(b) Herbert’s poems and their readers (LIBRARY):


Coffee in the BLAYNEY ROOM (11.30–11.45)

**SESSION 11 (11.45–12.45)** in the MUSIC ROOM – third plenary lecture

Christopher Hodgkins (University of North Carolina, Greensboro), ‘Family Relations and Aesthetic Anxiety in “The Forerunners”’, chaired by Helen Wilcox (Bangor University)

Conclusions – on the conference theme, and on plans for the future

Lunch (1pm) in the REFECTORY

End of conference

Minibuses to Newtown station (in time for the 14:46 train)