

ELIZABETH HECKENDORN COOK

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Education

1990 Ph.D., Comparative Literature, Stanford University
1982 M.A., Comparative Literature, Indiana University
1980 B.A., French (Honors) and English Literatures, Whitman College

Employment

1997 - present Associate Professor of English, University of California, Santa Barbara
2000 - 2005 Associate Dean, Humanities & Fine Arts, College of Letters & Science (50% appt.)
1995 - 1997 Assistant Professor of English, UCSB
1990 - 1995 Assistant Professor of English, Yale University
1983 - 1984 Instructor, Department of Foreign Languages, Yunnan University, People's Republic of China

Grants, Awards, Honors

2006 Regents' Humanities Faculty Fellowship, UCSB (sabbatical-leave supplement for one quarter)
2002 RHFF, UCSB (sabbatical-leave supplement for one quarter)
2001 Interdisciplinary Humanities Center Research Grant, UCSB (one course relief)
1999 Faculty Career Development Award, UCSB (one course relief)
1998 IHC Research Grant, UCSB (one course relief)
1997 RHFF, UCSB (summer stipend)
1996 FCDA, UCSB (one-quarter research leave)
1995 Griswold Faculty Research Fund, Yale University
Frederick W. Hilles Publication Fund, Yale
1993 Morse Fellowship, Yale (year-long research leave)
1992 Noble Foundation grant, Yale Studies in the Environment Program (curricular development)
1990 American Society for 18th-C. Studies, Graduate Student Paper Award
Dumbarton Oaks Post-Doctoral Fellowship (declined)

Current Research

Book ms: "British Sylva Culture: Trees and Forests in Long-Eighteenth-Century Literature"

An interdisciplinary study of British representations of trees, woodlands, and Crown forests from the 1660s to the 1820s. Argues that these representations grounded ethical and political debates about utilitarianism and identity. Chapters on silvicultural handbooks (including John Evelyn's *Sylva*) and the early-modern material history of trees and timber-management; trees in natural-history writing and popular collections of engravings; pastoral elegies on tree-felling and disafforestation, from Cavendish to Cowper; Romantic novels set in British Crown forests by Egeworth and Burney; a coda on colonial forests and current debates on preservation vs. profit.

Article: "Migration and Romantic Authorship: Charlotte Smith and 'The Swallow'"

Examines Romantic women writers' complex repositioning of songbird *topoi* (nightingale vs. swallow) in the context of 18th-c. natural-historical debates about avian migration and discusses Smith as naturalist, novelist, and poet.

Publications

Forthcoming: Review of Susan Scott Parrish's American Curiosity: Cultures of Natural History in the Colonial British Atlantic World, for Early Science and Medicine.

"The Epistolary Novel": 2500-word article for the Encyclopedia of British Literature (Oxford Univ. Press, 2006).

Review of Ted Dadswell's The Selborne Pioneer: Gilbert White as Naturalist and Scientist. In Early Science and Medicine, IX(2), 182-83.

Review of James How's Epistolary Spaces: English Letter Writing from the Foundation of the Post Office to Richardson's "Clarissa." In Prose Studies 26(3), 437-40.

"Enlightenment Landscapes": 3000-word article for the Encyclopedia of Enlightenment (Oxford Univ. Press, 2003).

Review of Thomas O. Beebee's Epistolary Fiction in Europe 1500-1850. In Eighteenth-Century Fiction, October 2000.

"'Perfect' Flowers, Monstrous Women," in "Defect": Engendering the Modern Body, eds. Helen Deutsch and Felicity Nussbaum (Univ. of Michigan Press, 2000).

"Crown Forests and Female Georgic: Frances Burney and the Reconstruction of Britishness," in The Country and the City Revisited: England and the Politics of Culture, 1560-1840, eds. Donna Landry, Gerald MacLean, and Joseph Ward (Cambridge Univ. Press, 1998).

Review of Ann B. Shteir's Cultivating Women, Cultivating Flowers: Flora's Daughters and Botany in England, 1760-1860. In Victorian Studies, Autumn 1997.

Review of Nigel Everett's The Tory View of Landscape. In Criticism, Winter 1997.

Epistolary Bodies: Gender and Genre in the Eighteenth-Century Republic of Letters (Stanford Univ. Press, 1996).

Conference and Colloquium Presentations

"Trees Talk Back." Accepted for American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, April 2007.

"Oak Exceptionalism: Talking Trees, Rethinking Improvement." ASECS, April 2006.

"John Evelyn's Sylva and the Political Agenda of Natural History." ASECS, April 2005.

"Sylva: One Hundred Years of Natural History." DeBartolo Conference on 18th-C. Studies, February 2005.

"Three Ways of Looking at a Swallow: Migration and Romantic Authorship." Northwest Society for 18th-C. Studies, November 2002.

Longer versions of this talk were presented by invitation to the Berkeley 18th-C. Studies Working Group, November 2002; the Southern California 18th-C. Studies group, January 2003; and the UCSB Department of History Gender Studies group, March 2003.

"The 'window in the breast': Gender and Epistolarity in Wright of Derby's Early Candlelight Studies." ASECS, April 2000.

"Enlightenment Landscapes." Series on Enlightenment Studies, co-sponsored by the UCSB Interdisciplinary Humanities Center and the Karpeles Manuscript Library, November, 1999.

“Landscaping Nationalism: ‘Celtic Fringe’ Landscapes in Late 18th-C. Literature.” American Conference on Romanticism, October, 1998.

“Enterprising Letters: Defoe, Correspondence, and the Public Sphere.” Modern Language Association, December, 1997.

“‘Perfect’ Flowers, Monstrous Women.” UCLA Center for Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-C. Studies workshop: “Monstrosity, Deformity, and Gender,” October 1996 (invited).

“Natural Identities.” Northeastern American Society for Eighteenth-C. Studies, September, 1996.

“‘China’: Horner and the Critics.” ASECS, March 1996.

“Natural Histories, National Identities.” Stanford Seminar on Enlightenment and Revolution conference, “Regimes of Description,” January 1996 (invited).