

Project description

My second-book project, *Adapted Landscapes*, focuses on the history of the city in the post-Roman world. The twilight period between the sixth and eleventh centuries is usually seen as a time of decline of urbanity, but it was also a time of adaptation and transformation. The Long Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages were replete with innovative forms of urbanity: their creation was tightly connected, through a process of reciprocal formation, with institutionalized forms of religious life. My project investigates how movements like monasticism and structures like church organization influenced existing urban spaces and created new ones. Through textuality, adaptation, and social interaction these helped to create a cornucopia of urban and para-urban landscapes, unique in their ability perform urban functions in a world transformed. These landscapes were a foundation of the urban explosion of the High Middle Ages and shape our urbanities to this day.