



Excavating the Castle

Early Examples of the Gothic Concept and a Lost Tradition of Gothic

Studies, 1814 – 1921

By Joshua B. Tuttle

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Investigates Gothic's place in English literary history from 1814 to 1921, revealing its earlier and deeper integration into the selective tradition than previously recognized, and challenging long-held assumptions in Gothic studies and literary historiography

Excavating the Castle demonstrates that the serious and respectable historiography of the Gothic begins not in 1921 but in the early nineteenth century and that the Gothic concept crystallized more than half a century earlier than historians of the Gothic had realized previously.

Key selling points

Reveals a previously unrecognized tradition of respectable appreciation for the Gothic novel

Demonstrates the way previously under-studied classes of knowledge products such as general and specialized encyclopedias affected the development of the historiography of the Gothic

Theorizes a model of literary history investigation filling a gap between the view from above ("distant reading," à la Moretti) and the view from below (minute attention to accounts of individual common readers, à la Jonathan Rose): attending to consolidation points

Formulates new questions about the ways in which we come to understand the past

About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Joshua B. Tuttle is Assistant Professor of English at Concordia University Chicago. He holds a PhD in English from The Pennsylvania State University.

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