“Mr. Gookin out of Ireland, wholly upon his owne adventure: Intercolonial and Transatlantic Connections in the Seventeenth Century.

Daniel Gookin Jr. is perhaps one of the better-known figures in colonial Massachusetts history, as an important civil servant and military leader. The third son of an English planter from Kent who settled in County Cork during the second phase of the Munster Plantation in 1611, Daniel Gookin Jr. was born in Ireland, and became involved in his father’s plantation projects in Virginia, migrating to North America in 1625. He was a Puritan, which became the catalyst for him to go to Massachusetts in 1644 where he remained until his death in 1687.

This paper will outline the biography of Daniel Gookin Jr. and the influences from Ireland he brought with him to Massachusetts. Though the period of time that Gookin spent in Ireland was brief compared to the other places he lived, it was his first experience in a colonial project, and he carried the knowledge he gained from this venture into North America. Complex social networks between Gookin and his family in Ireland, trade partnerships in New England and the Chesapeake, and his role as a military commander and mediator between Indians in Virginia and Massachusetts can be traced historically, but the archaeological record provides a compelling dataset of material remains that flesh out Daniel Gookin’s dynamic colonial career.