Irish Manuscripts Commission
Coimisiún Lámhscríbhinní na hÉireann
Catalogue 2011 – 2012
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Since 1928, when the Commission was established by the Irish Government, scholarship and learning have expanded beyond anything that could have been conceived at the time. The Commission has played a significant role in this process by publishing to the highest scholarly standard editions, calendars and lists of primary materials.

The Irish Manuscripts Commission is committed to promoting public awareness of primary source materials and their importance for the history, heritage and culture of Ireland.

The experience gained by the Commission over the years makes it especially suited to advise on policy towards preserving and making accessible sources of our past. Through its publication programme, the Commission can bring these sources to the widest possible readership within Ireland and worldwide.

Ó 1928, nuair a bhunaigh Rialtas na hÉireann an Coimisiún, tá borradh thar cuimse tagtha ar léann is foghlaim na tire. Bhí páirt nach beag ag an gCoimisiún sa phróiseas seo ag foilsiú, den chaighdeán is aoirde, eagráin, cailenadair agus liostaí de bhunabhair.

Tá cúram ar an gCoimisiún eolas poiblí a chur chun cinn faoi fhoinseí bhunabhair agus a dtabhacht i leith stair, oidhreacht agus cultúr na hÉireann.

Leis an cleachtadh atá faighte ag an gCoimisiún le blianta anuas tá ar a chumas comhairle a thabhairt ar pholasáí faoi chaomhnú agus inrochtaineacht fhoinseí stairiúla.

Tríd a chlár foilseacháin tá ar chumas an Choimisiúin na foiní seo a chur ós chomhar an phobail is fairsinge in Éirinn agus ar fud an domhain.
Origins and work of the Irish Manuscripts Commission

President of the Executive Council William T. Cosgrave announced the establishment of the Irish Manuscripts Commission in the Dáil on 17 October 1928. Its brief was to report on the nature, extent and importance of manuscripts of historical interest relating to Ireland, to undertake their publication as necessary and advise on their protection and preservation. The Commission held its first meeting at 5 Ely Place, Dublin on 15 January 1929.

Bringing together scholars from across Ireland, the Commission has always been a representative independent voice in the cultural heritage sector and its cross-border membership has given it an important North-South dimension.

The IMC is at the cutting edge of historical scholarship and, on occasion, of technological innovation. In the 1930s the Commission introduced new photographic and printing techniques, including microfilming, to Ireland, and in recent years IMC has been involved in developing a policy on best practice in digitisation.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION AND THEIR ROLE

Led by Chairman Eoin MacNeill, the members of IMC—Ireland's leading historians, librarians and archivists—began work in 1929 with an ambitious attempt to gather together the most important of the remaining source materials for Ireland's histories. They sought copies of what had been lost in the Four Courts fire, in the great archives of Britain and Europe and, often through specially appointed inspectors, searched for new and undiscovered materials, while demonstrating at local and national level the importance of preserving historical sources.

During the paper shortages of the Second World War the members of the Commission alerted the Irish public to the need to safeguard valuable records, which could be destroyed by accident. They also urged Government departments to ensure the security of historic records from possible wartime damage, particularly destruction from air attack.

Since the 1950s, under successive chairmen—R. I. Best, Edward MacLysaght, Rev. Patrick Corish, Rev. Donal Cregan, Brian Trainor, Geoffrey Hand and James McGuire—the IMC has advocated the need to develop viable national structures for the preservation of historical sources.

From the 1960s the IMC pioneered the preservation of records in private hands, most importantly, business records.

PUBLICATIONS

Through its publications IMC has for eighty years made the fundamentals of Irish History accessible to the widest audience. In its early years the Commission published the great codices of early, medieval and early modern Irish history. Since the 1990s the Commission has consciously broadened its remit to publish primary source material from all ages and centuries of Irish history.

Since 1930 IMC has published over 170 editions of primary sources for periods from the medieval to the twentieth century. Single volume and multi-volume, transcripts and facsimiles, they cover events of central importance to the history of the island of Ireland.

Several series are included in these publications, the most important of which are: The Civil Survey, 1654–56 edited by R. C. Simington (10 vols, 1931–61); Calendar of Ormond Deeds edited by Edmund Curtis (6 vols, 1932–43); Commentarius Rinuccinianus edited by Fr Stanislaus Kavanagh (6 vols, 1932–49); The Correspondence of Daniel O'Connell edited by Maurice O'Connell (8 vols, 1973–7).

Forty-two issues of IMC's serial publication, Analecta Hibernica, have been published since the first volume in 1930 edited by James Hogan of University College Cork. Today Analecta Hibernica is edited by James Kelly of St Patrick's College, Drumcondra and it continues to publish important documents that are too short to form a stand-alone publication. In the early days it played an important role in the publication of reports by the Commission's inspectors on collections of documents in public and private archives.

IMC looks forward to the future with renewed energy, fully committed to raising awareness of the scholarship contained in its publications and to making that knowledge available to the widest possible audiences via print and digital editions.
The correspondence of James Ussher, 1600–1656
Elizabethanne Boran, editor

James Ussher constructed a circle of correspondents that spread across the religious boundaries and disciplinary fields of seventeenth-century Europe. He has justifiably been described as Trinity College Dublin’s greatest scholar and one of the most influential intellectuals of early modern Europe. His correspondence reflects his political and ecclesiastical role at the head of the Church in Ireland at a crucial time of forging its identity as a separate enclave from the Church of England but it is his scholarly network which reveals his pivotal role in Irish, British and European intellectual life. This edition of the Ussher correspondence provides a vital research tool for anyone interested in the connections between Irish and European intellectual, cultural, religious and political life in the first half of the seventeenth-century.


Elizabethanne Boran is the librarian of the Edward Worth Library, Dr Steevens’ Hospital, Dublin.

The Irish Defence Forces 1940–1949, The Chief of Staff’s reports
Michael Kennedy and Commandant Victor Laing, editors

This edition presents the ‘General Report on the Army’ for the years 1940–9 and brings into print a primary source for World War II and the years immediately following. World War II saw Ireland rapidly expand its military forces to meet the global crisis and defend the state in the event of invasion. The Chief of Staff of the Defence Forces, Lieutenant General Dan McKenna, reported annually to Minister for Defence Oscar Traynor on the forces under his command.

Detailing the expansion of the Defence Forces from a small volunteer army of 8,000 to a two division force of over 40,000, the Chief of Staff’s yearly reports from 1940 to 1949 provide a never before published account of the Defence Forces during the Emergency, detailing defence plans, equipment, the condition of the forces and attempts to upgrade and modernise training and equipment.


Michael Kennedy is executive editor of the Royal Irish Academy’s series Documents in Irish Foreign Policy and Victor Laing is the Officer in Charge of the Military Archives.

Pauper Limerick. The register of the Limerick House of Industry, 1774–1793
David Fleming and John Logan, editors

Of the twelve houses of industry established under the Irish poor law of 1771–2, this is the only admission book known to have survived. The register of the Limerick House of Industry contains information on the age, sex, place of origin, religion, medical condition, admission and discharge, amongst other details, for 2,747 inmates for the period 1774–1793.

While revealing the mechanisms employed to administer a significant institution, the register also provides a singular record for a social group whose history is necessarily elusive. There is evidence of individual strategies for dealing with poverty, infirmity, disease and lunacy. Genealogists researching families in Limerick, Clare, Tipperary and Cork (the places in which most of the inmates originated) will also find it useful.

ISBN 978-1-906865-10-8, c. 200 pp, c, €45, Summer 2011

David Fleming and John Logan both lecture in history at the University of Limerick.
Forthcoming titles 2011–12

**Analecta Hibernica 42**

James Kelly, editor

Issue 42 of the Irish Manuscripts Commission’s serial publication includes a report to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport for 2010 and the following papers:

- ‘A viceroy’s condemnation: matters of inquiry into the Sidney administration, 1578’ (David Edwards);
- ‘Some remarks on those who were friends and enemies to the Duke of Ormonde and to the Acts of Settlement of Ireland’, c. 1692 (John Gibney);
- ‘Landscape in transition: descriptions of forfeited properties in counties Meath, Louth and Cavan in 1700’ (Arnold Horner and Rolf Loeber) (includes an index of persons and place names);


James Kelly, MRIA, is Cregan Professor of History at St Patrick’s College, Drumcondra.

**Arrangements for the integration of Irish immigrants in England and Wales**

by Anthony E.C.W. Spencer. Mary E. Daly, editor

This is the first publication of a report commissioned by the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) on Irish immigrants in England and Wales and the response to that report from the Catholic Social Welfare Bureau (CWSB) which had responsibility for the religious and moral welfare of Irish immigrants. The report was prepared for the ICMC by Anthony Spencer when he was director of the Newman Demographic Survey (NDS). Though the report was prepared for presentation to the ICMC’s congress in Ottawa in August 1960, it was never presented there, nor published by Spencer following the de-classification of all NDS reports and papers in 2005.

Spencer’s observations on religious practice and the role of religion in the lives of Irish men and women at home and abroad can be ranked among the first studies in the sociology of religion in Ireland. The controversy which Spencer’s report triggered is an important insight into the attitudes of an important section of the Irish (and British) hierarchy towards Irish emigrants and Irish society in 1960.


**Mapping Ireland c. 1550–1640. An illustrated catalogue of manuscript maps of Ireland, including maps relating to plantation**

Annaleigh Margey, editor

This book provides the first combined catalogue and visual portfolio of all extant manuscript maps of plantation Ireland. Surveying and mapping were core elements of English plantation policy and practice in Ireland; they were crucial for ascertaining the extent and quality of lands escheated to the Crown and monitoring the progress of plantations throughout Ireland.

The catalogue contains data and images of c. 625 maps (some never published before) and has a strong geographical structure by province, county, location and date.

ISBN 978-1-906865-03-0, full-colour, large format, c. €130, Spring 2012

Annaleigh Margey is a graduate of NUI Galway and is currently the Clothworker’s Company Fellow at the Centre for Metropolitan History, Institute of Historical Research, University of London.

**Anthony Spencer was the former director of the Newman Demographic Survey and a lecturer at Queen’s University, Belfast and he has written and researched widely in sociology in Ireland and the UK. Mary Daly is the Principal of the UCD College of Arts & Celtic Studies and writes on 20th century history.**
Calendar of material relating to Ireland from the High Court of Admiralty examinations, 1641–1660
Elaine Murphy, editor
This volume calendars the papers relating to Ireland from 1641 to 1660 in the High Court of Admiralty files held in the National Archives at Kew in London. The calendar continues on from that edited by John C. Appleby in 1992 and published by the Irish Manuscripts Commission, A calendar of material relating to Ireland from the High Court of Admiralty examinations, 1536–1641.

The period covered by this calendar was one of intense maritime activity in the seas around Ireland. The war at sea dominates High Court of Admiralty records concerning Ireland from the outbreak of the Ulster rising in October 1641 to the surrender of Inishboffin Island to Cromwellian forces in July 1653. As well as the naval conflict these documents shed light on a range of mid-seventeenth century maritime issues including trade to and from Ireland, ship ownership and seamen, the development of naval technologies, privateering and naval administration.

ISBN 978-1-906865-14-6, Autumn 2011

The proclamations of Ireland, 1660–1820
James Kelly and Mary Ann Lyons, editors

The proclamations were a crucial instrument of government and administration in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries; it was also the most frequently encountered item of official print. Long published, promulgated and posted in the immediately recognisable broadside format, and subsequently printed in the Dublin Gazette, proclamations were normally issued by the Lord Lieutenant (or Lords Justices) and Privy Council. Since they engaged with virtually every aspect of government, they were an essential complement to the act of parliament in the governance and administration of the kingdom.

On average, between ten and thirty proclamations were issued annually between 1660 and 1820, though the frequency with which they were issued, and the subjects they engaged with, depended on the political state of the kingdom. An exceptional number were issued during the 1660s, late 1680s, 1690s, and 1790s, in keeping with the then fraught condition of the country politically, but even the less obviously eventful reigns of George I and George II were not without incident.

This edition, arranged in five volumes, presents the texts or a detailed guide to the content of some two and a half thousand proclamations, and allied documents, issued in Ireland as follows:
Volume I: Charles II, 1660–85;
Volume II: James II, 1685–91; William and Mary, 1689–1702; Anne, 1702–14;
Volume III: George I and George II, 1714–60;
Volume IV: George III, 1760–90;

5 volumes, available separately, 2012

1641 Depositions
Aidan Clarke, general editor

The 1641 Depositions are witness testimonies mainly by Protestants, but also by some Catholics, from all social backgrounds, concerning their experiences of the 1641 Irish rebellion. The testimonies document the loss of goods, military activity, and the alleged crimes committed by the Irish insurgents. This body of material is unparalleled anywhere in early modern Europe, and provides a unique source of information for the causes and events surrounding the 1641 rebellion and for the social, economic, cultural, religious, and political history of seventeenth-century Ireland, England and Scotland.

In total, 19,010 manuscript pages in 31 bound volumes have been transcribed and are arranged for publication from 2012 onwards as follows:
Volume I – Armagh, Louth, Monaghan;
Volume II – Cavan, Fermanagh;
Volume III – Antrim, Derry, Donegal, Down, Tyrone;
Volume IV – Dublin;
Volume V – Kildare, Meath;
Volume VI – Laois, Offaly;
Volume VII – Wexford;
Volume VIII – Carlow, Kilkenny, Waterford, Wicklow;
Volume IX – Clare, Kerry, Limerick, Tipperary;
Volume X – Cork, Part 1;
Volume XI – Cork, Part 2;
Volume XII – Connacht, Longford, Westmeath.

12 volumes, available separately, 2012 onwards
Verse travesty in Restoration Ireland: the ‘Purgatorium Hibernicum’, the ‘Fingallian Travesty’ and The Irish Hudibras
Andrew Carpenter, editor

The manuscripts of the ‘Purgatorium Hibernicum’ (c. 1670) and the ‘Fingallian Travesty’ (1686), together with the printed Irish Hudibras (1689), constitute a significant group of hitherto unexplored literary texts from Restoration Ireland. All three are verse travesties — in Hiberno-English and ‘Fingallian’ — of Book VI of the Æneid. The ‘Purgatorium’, the earliest of the three, contains many otherwise unrecorded linguistic coinages as well as syntactical and grammatical features borrowed from the Irish language. Many of these are amended in the second and third texts, and a study of these changes sheds interesting light on the interaction between the cultures and languages of late-seventeenth century Ireland. The poems are also a rich source of information on the lives and possessions of those living in Restoration Fingal.

The three texts will be presented in sequence, in diplomatic editions with full annotation. Direct comparison between parts of the texts will be possible in the appendix. Scholars of many disciplines — cultural, linguistic and literary historians of both Irish and Hiberno-English, historical geographers, social historians and those concerned with material culture, for instance — will find much to interest them in these hitherto inaccessible texts; in particular, the volume will facilitate work on a period of Irish literary history on which very little work has been done.


A calendar of Irish Chancery Letters c. 1244–1509
Peter Crooks, editor

The Irish chancery was a key organ of English government in medieval Ireland. The original rolls of chancery suffered a series of calamities from the late thirteenth century onwards, culminating in 1922 with an explosion in the Public Record Office of Ireland at the Four Courts, Dublin. A calendar of Irish Chancery Letters, c. 1244–1509, is being created by collating all known transcripts and calendars of Irish chancery letters ranging in date from the fourteenth to nineteenth centuries. These records are located in various archival repositories in Ireland and the United Kingdom.

This calendar will advance our understanding of the ‘making of Ireland’ between the high Middle Ages and the dawn of the modern era. This edition is arranged as follows:
Volume 1, Henry III to Edward II (1244–1327);
Volume 2, Edward III (1327–77);
Volume 3, Richard II and Henry IV (1377–1413);

4 volumes, available separately, 2013

Calendar of State Papers, Ireland, Tudor period, 1566–1567 & 1568–1571
Bernadette Cunningham, editor

These two volumes calendar material in the National Archives in London relating to policy towards Ireland and the governance of Ireland in the late Tudor period. Sir Henry Sidney was lord deputy of Ireland from 20 January 1566 until March 1571. These state papers do not merely document the workings of central government, but also reveal much incidental detail on life and politics in the provinces. While English perspectives on Ireland predominate, historians wishing to concentrate on themes relating to ‘natives’ rather than ‘newcomers’ will find this edition an invaluable source.

Calendar of State Papers, Ireland, Tudor period, 1566–1567

Calendar of State Papers, Ireland, Tudor Period 1568–1571

Bernadette Cunningham is deputy librarian at the Royal Irish Academy and has published extensively on early modern Ireland.
Recent titles from IMC

The Clements archive
A.P.W. Malcomson, editor

This calendar of the papers of the Clements family is based on material in the National Library of Ireland, Trinity College Dublin, the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland and at Killadoon, the family estate, and on the associated papers of the Stewart, Molesworth and Warren families. Smaller collections of material in private and institutional hands are also covered.

The papers are of interest to historians in general and the local historians of Cavan, Leitrim, Kildare, Mayo, Galway, Donegal and Dublin.

The archive illuminates the careers of the three best-known members of the Clements family: Nathaniel Clements (1705–77); Robert Bermingham, Lord Clements (1805–39); and William Sydney Clements, 3rd Earl of Leitrim (1806–78).


Anthony Malcomson was director of the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland from 1988–98 and he has published widely on the eighteenth century.

The Conolly archive
Patrick Walsh and A.P.W. Malcomson, editors

The Conolly archive, now dispersed among a number of repositories in Ireland, comprises c. 15,000 letters and papers ranging in date from 1570 to 1953. It relates mainly to William Conolly (1662–1729), Speaker of the Irish House of Commons (1715–29), generally considered to be the richest man in Ireland, but also to his nephew and grandnephew.

There is material here of national interest but also papers relating to estates in counties Kildare, Leitrim, Offaly, Meath, Westmeath, Roscommon, Donegal, Fermanagh, Wexford, Waterford, Dublin and Derry as well as estates in England and Wales.


Patrick Walsh is a post-doctoral research fellow in the School of Histories and Humanities, Trinity College Dublin. His publications include The Making of the Irish Protestant Ascendancy: William Conolly, 1662–1729 (Boydell & Brewer, 2010).

Reconstructing Ireland’s Past: a history of the Irish Manuscripts Commission
Michael Kennedy and Deirdre McMahon

Written to mark the 80th anniversary of the foundation of the Irish Manuscripts Commission, this book records the history of the IMC and its role in preserving sources for Irish history since 1928. Having published over 170 editions of historical documents and 42 issues of its serial publication (Analecta Hibernica) to date, the IMC continues to promote the development of history as a discipline in Ireland and it supports a wide range of initiatives to improve public awareness of the importance of historical sources and of the need to preserve those sources.


Michael Kennedy is the editor of the Royal Irish Academy’s series Documents in Irish Foreign Policy and Deirdre McMahon lectures in 20th century history at the University of Limerick. Both are members of IMC since 2006.
Recent titles from IMC

Charlotte Brooke’s Reliques of Irish Poetry
Lesa Ní Mhunghaile, editor

This volume contains a full facsimile of a 1789 edition of Brooke’s ‘Reliques of Irish Poetry’. The editor also adds new translations and analyses of the poems, songs and other writings in Irish translated by Charlotte Brooke. This publication in 1789 marked one of the first interactions between the oral tradition in the Irish language and print culture in Ireland. It is important in the wider context of the ‘discovery’ of popular culture by the upper classes and an associated interest in antiquarianism, at a time when traditional popular culture was seen to be in retreat. The interdisciplinary aspect of this work will appeal to students of history, literature and culture of Ireland and to those with a wider interest in cultural, postcolonial and translation studies.

…the originality of Ní Mhunghaile’s meticulous scholarship is at all times apparent. This book will be of immense interest to all concerned with eighteenth-century Ireland…

— ANNE MARKEY, EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY IRELAND

I have run out of superlatives! This really is a de-luxe and noble edition, which does justice to a very important Lady and her major contribution to the collecting and publicising of the heroic lays in Ireland.

— DONALD MEEK, UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH


Lesa Ní Mhunghaile lectures in Irish at Mary Immaculate College, University of Limerick.

World War I and the question of Ulster. The correspondence of Lilian and Wilfrid Spender
Margaret Baguley, editor

Based on papers in the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, this collection is an edited selection of the correspondence of Wilfrid Spender and his wife Lilian during the First World War. A former quartermaster general of the Ulster Volunteer Force, Spender served as a captain during the war and was subsequently responsible for laying the foundations for the civil service of Northern Ireland. He served as Secretary to the Northern Ireland Cabinet (1921–1925) and Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Finance (1925–1944). Their letters provide both a fascinating insight into economic and social life in wartime London and show in vivid detail the horrors of total war and life on the front line.

The correspondence is as significant for its political news from London communicated by Lilian as it is for the military news from the Western Front. As an editor, and as the author of a helpful introduction, Margaret Baguley’s work is impeccable.

— KENNETH FERGUSON, THE IRISH SWORD


Margaret Baguley worked at the BBC World Service and subsequently studied history at Queen’s University Belfast.

Proceedings of the Irish House of Lords, 1771–1800
James Kelly, editor

This ground breaking, three-volume set reconstructs for the first time the proceedings of the Irish House of Lords during the busy years of the late eighteenth century. Based in the first instance on press reports, this edition also brings together reports of individual debates and high-profile speeches to provide a unique vista on the personalities, policies and politics of the parliament over three decades.

Presented with an extensive introduction and index, this work amplifies our understanding of the role and significance of the upper house of the Irish parliament at a crucial moment of its history.

No library should be without a set, and no scholar of the period should ignore them... As we would expect from Professor Kelly, this is a work of meticulous scholarship and considerable importance. It is as indispensable as the Parliamentary Register in any study of late eighteenth-century Irish politics…

— NEAL GARNHAM, EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY IRELAND

James Kelly and the Irish Manuscripts Commission have done a major service by editing these excellently referenced volumes…

— MARTIN MANSERGH, THE IRISH TIMES


James Kelly, MRIA, is Cregan Professor of History at St Patrick’s College, Drumcondra, Dublin.
The Register of Milo Sweteman, Archbishop of Armagh, 1361–1380
Brendan Smith, editor

Milo Sweteman was Archbishop of Armagh during one of the most turbulent periods in Irish history. His register, the first of its kind to survive from medieval Ireland, offers remarkable insights into how the Church operated in the midst of a divided society in the middle of the fourteenth century. The register recounts Sweteman’s disputes over ecclesiastical primacy with the Archbishop of Dublin and his uneasy relations with Irish rulers such as Niall Ó Néill who threatened ‘like a pope or an emperor’ to seize all his lands in Armagh, Ó hAnluain who assaulted and threatened his servants, and Mac Aonghusa who made a devastating raid into County Louth in 1374.


The Register of Nicholas Fleming, Archbishop of Armagh, 1404–1416
Brendan Smith, editor

Nicholas Fleming was Archbishop of Armagh at a time when English power in Ireland was at its weakest, and when the western Church was bitterly divided by schism. His attempts to maintain peace and order in his troubled province, and his involvement in initiatives to restore the prestige of the papacy are two aspects of his busy primacy that receive attention in his register.

Issues dealt with in Fleming’s register show that, like Sweteman, he was still trying to protect his tenants from the rapacity of Ó Néill and Ó hAnluain, while the poverty of his own diocese encouraged him to look to the church in Meath for resources.


The Register of Octavian de Palatio, Archbishop of Armagh, 1478–1513
Mario Sughi, editor

The register of Archbishop Octavian casts a new light on the whole of the Irish church and society at the close of the middle ages. A sophisticated system of ecclesiastical courts, working subject to the archbishop, is revealed. A picture of an entire society, its organization and its mentality, emerges from the accounts of dispossessed priests, illegally married couples, forgers, perjurers and a myriad of litigants and offenders who came before the officials of the courts to reveal their stories and make amends for their faults.

This two volume boxed set allows the reader fully to appreciate and have full access to one of the richest sources of Irish medieval history. Volume I presents an historical introduction and synopses of the documents and Volume II presents Latin transcriptions of the original manuscript.

The Papal Registers preserved in the Vatican Archives cover the period from the late 12th century to the 16th century. They constitute an almost continuous record of bulls, rescripts, and less formal letters between the Papal Curia and royal, noble and humbler personages. They also contain diplomatic mandates concerning ecclesiastical appointments, confirmations of monastic foundations and endowments, privileges, dispensations and exemptions for laymen and clerics and a vast amount of miscellaneous matter arising out of the administrative and judicial activity of the Church and the Papal Curia. These calendars are an invaluable source for historians of Britain and Ireland.

Calendar of entries in the Papal Registers relating to Great Britain and Ireland. Papal Letters 1484–1492, Volume XIV
J. A. Twemlow, editor

The pontificate of Innocent III coincided in England with the last years of the reign of Richard III and the first seven years of the Tudor dynasty. Recorded here are proceedings against Irish bishops for their adherence to Lambert Simnel, while the majority of the letters recorded here are mandates for provision to religious houses and benefits in Ireland because the Statutes of Provisors were not applied to that country.

vi + 418 pp, €95, 1960

This book does not have an ISBN and is only available in limited quantities from the IMC office.

Calendar of entries in the Papal Registers relating to Great Britain and Ireland. Papal Letters Volume XV, 1484–1492, Innocent VIII
Michael J. Haren, editor

This volume continues the series of calendars formerly published by HMSO London. In addition to a full rendering of the historical information in the register entries, it includes two introductory essays. The first is an illuminating account of the administrative procedures of the papal chancery under Pope Innocent VIII. The second, with its accompanying Formulary, examines the diplomatic and legal content of the bulls, providing one of the most comprehensive statements yet published of the common form of papal letters for the period.


Anne P. Fuller, editor

This calendar carries on from Volume XVI and provides full English summaries of all the British and Irish material in the Vatican Registers of Alexander VI (1492–1503). The bulk of the entries—typically Scottish and Irish—are letters expedited by the camera and the apostolic secretariat. This volume makes accessible a mass of valuable material, ranging from a dispensation for the poet laureate of Arthur, Prince of Wales, to the reform of a Benedictine abbey and from the rehabilitation of an Irishman who had conspired against his bishop to the excommunication of marauding bands in the Scottish Highlands.

Anne P. Fuller, editor

Following on from Volume XVII, Part I this calendar provides summaries of the remainder of the letters of British and Irish interest in the Vatican Registers of Alexander VI. However, the main interest of the volume is its coverage of the pope’s Secreta or private office registers. This was a highly classified source and illustrates the course of Anglo–Papal relations at the highest level.

The introduction explores the world of the pope’s private secretaries—one of them an agent of Henry VII—and considers how the registers came to be mutilated.

Equipped with indices and apparatus, the volume is an essential research tool for students of British and Irish history in the pre–Reformation period.


Calendar of entries in the Papal Registers relating to Great Britain and Ireland. Papal Letters Volume XIX, 1503–1513, Julius II, Lateran Registers, Part II
Michael J. Haren, editor

This volume completes the survey of the chancery registers of Pope Julius II (1503–1513) and includes tables of lost registered letters, extracted from the Vatican Archives’ Indici, relating to the whole of the pontificate and for the short pontificate of Julius’s predecessor, Pius III.


Calendar of entries in the Papal Registers relating to Great Britain and Ireland. Papal Letters Volume XX, 1513–1521, Leo X, Lateran Registers Part I
Anne P. Fuller, editor

This volume of papal letters covers the first tranche of the chancery, or Lateran Registers, of Leo X (1513–21) and brings to light a great mass of biographical and topographical information illustrating the ecclesiastical landscape of Great Britain and Ireland at a critical moment.

The letters imply a constant traffic between the British Isles and the Curia and provide valuable insights into relations between the national churches and the papacy in the run-up to the break with Rome. These are essential background papers for students of the Reformation.

ISBN 978-1-874280-78-1, lxxix + 852 pp, €80, 2005

The concluding volumes (XXI, XXII and XXIII) in the Calendar of entries in the Papal Registers relating to Great Britain and Ireland, Papal Letters series will be published from 2012 onwards.
The changes that took place in natural science in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries represent some of the most profound in human history. The many scientific societies of the time played a central role in bringing these ideas to a wider audience and the Dublin Philosophical Society constituted Ireland’s most direct response to the ‘new science’ of the time. Its members saw themselves as belonging to a universal world of learning and were in touch with colleagues in England, Scotland, France, Italy, Germany and the Low Countries. This edition of the complete papers of the society, taken from numerous archives and libraries throughout Europe and published in a scholarly and annotated format, constitutes an important contribution to Irish history and to the general intellectual history of the time.


K. T. Hoppen is Emeritus Professor of History at the University of Hull, a Fellow of the British Academy and an Honorary Member of the Royal Irish Academy.

Theodore Hoppen has produced nearly one thousand pages of text, handsomely printed and indexed. Every good library needs to own it and every student of the period will have to consult it.

–MARGARET C. JACOB,
Times Literary Supplement

Professor Hoppen’s exemplary edition stands as an awe-inspiring monument – both to pioneering savants and to a meticulous scholar.

–TOBY BARNARD,
Eighteenth-Century Ireland

Aside from the obvious value of these volumes to those concerned with the early history of science in Ireland, they will have a much wider appeal for they cast light on many aspects of social, economic and intellectual history as well as containing material simply to delight the curious.

–RAYMOND GILLESPIE,
Studia Hibernica

The de Vesci papers are one of the most significant family archives in public ownership in Ireland. Appertaining in the first instance to the Vesey estates in County Laois, sections of the archive also concern these families’ interests in counties Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Carlow, Galway, Kildare, Kilkenny, Offaly, Mayo, Roscommon, Waterford, Wexford and a variety of locations in England. Nationally, at least two of the Vesey forebears (Archbishop John Vesey and Denny Muschamp) were major figures in Irish history.

This calendar, while containing much interesting and useful material in its own right, will further assist historians, genealogists and others interested in the history of early modern and modern Ireland to use the collection, now in the National Library of Ireland.

The catalogue has placed the historians who will mine this incredible archive in Dr Malcomson’s debt, for surely it will become a frequently consulted first port of call for a wide range of researchers interested in Irish social and economic history.

— LIAM CHAMBERS, IRISH ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL HISTORY

The Rosse papers are one of the most important collections of manuscripts in private ownership in Ireland. Extending from the early seventeenth century, when members of the family first established roots in the country, to the present, the core of the family archive is provided by the papers of successive members of the Parsons family, held primarily at Birr Castle.

This calendar is essential reading for anyone interested in the history of seventeenth and eighteenth-century Ireland, science in the nineteenth century and the evolving story of the surviving families of the Irish landed elite in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.


The papers are of interest to historians in general and the local historians of Cavan, Leitrim, Kildare, Mayo, Galway, Donegal and Dublin.

The archive also illuminates the careers of the three best-known members of the Clements family: Nathaniel Clements (1705–77); Robert Bermingham, Lord Clements (1805–39); and William Sydney Clements, 3rd Earl of Leitrim (1806–78).

ISBN 978-1-906865-08-0, liv + 824 pp, €85, 2010

The Conolly archive, now dispersed among a number of repositories in Ireland, comprises c. 15,000 letters and papers ranging in date from 1570 to 1953. It relates mainly to William Conolly (1662–1729), Speaker of the Irish House of Commons (1715–29), generally considered to be the richest man in Ireland, but also to his nephew and grandnephew.

There is material here of national interest but also papers relating to estates in counties Kildare, Leitrim, Offaly, Meath, Westmeath, Roscommon, Donegal, Fermanagh, Wexford, Waterford, Dublin and Derry as well as estates in England and Wales.

The Drennan-McTier correspondence is unique: between 1776 and 1819, William Drennan, a doctor in Newry and Dublin, and his sister Martha McTier in Belfast exchanged over 1,400 letters, discussing every aspect of their lives. William campaigned for political reform and Roman Catholic emancipation. He was a founder of the United Irishmen, and was tried for sedition in 1794. Martha shared his political convictions and their letters provide a first-hand account of the events that led up to the 1798 Rebellion and its aftermath. William later became a well-known political writer and poet. The measure of the importance of this correspondence to both of them is that it has survived virtually intact, providing the historian with a wealth of information about the period, and the general reader with a unique window on to late eighteenth-century life.

Volume 1: 1776–1793 — Out of print
Volume 2: 1794–1801
Volume 3: 1802–1819

Directory of Sources for Women’s History in Ireland
Women’s History Project

From October 1997 to June 1999 the Women’s History Project undertook a survey of public and private repositories in Ireland and in Northern Ireland for collections or information relating to the history of women in Ireland from the earliest times to the end of the 20th century. The Project, under the directorship of Dr Maria Luddy, was managed by a committee appointed by the Women’s History Association of Ireland. The Management Committee was made up of archivists, librarians, history researchers as well as academic historians.

This CD-ROM based directory, which contains information and descriptions of over 14,000 collections and sources in 262 repositories, is the result of the survey. Fully searchable by repository, geographical area or keyword.

CD-ROM – electronic resource only

The Minutes of the Ulster Women’s Unionist Council and Executive Committee, 1911–40
Diane Urquhart, editor

Established in 1911, the Ulster Women’s Unionist Council attracted an unprecedented number of women into politics. Within a year of its inauguration the Council was the largest female political organisation Ireland had ever seen, with hundreds of thousands of members. Although led by members of Ulster’s aristocratic elite, the Council aimed and succeeded in having both ‘the peeress and the peasant’ represented in its ranks.

Formed with the primary objective of assisting male unionists resist home rule for Ireland, the UWUC quickly became a very significant propaganda, electioneering and fundraising machine. Taking on a more philanthropic role during the First World War, the subsequent introduction of votes for women swathe political focus of the organisation become resumed with renewed vigour.

Published here for the first time, the highly readable minutes of the Ulster Women’s Unionist Council reveal the pivotal work of a unique organisation at a time of great change, not only in the history of women, but in the history of Ireland.

Guides to sources and repositories

British sources for Irish history, 1485–1641.
A guide to manuscripts in local, regional and specialised repositories in England, Scotland and Wales
Brian C. Donovan and David Edwards, editors

This catalogue attempts to fill in some of the gaps left in primary source material for the period 1485–1641 caused by the 1922 fire in the Dublin Public Record Office, listing relevant material still extant across Britain. This seminal guide to Irish-related manuscripts held in local, regional and specialised repositories in England, Scotland and Wales has become an essential reference work and research tool for all students of late medieval and early modern Ireland.


The Edith Ónone Somerville archive in Drishane. A catalogue and an evaluative essay
Otto Rauchbauer, editor

Writer, artist, farmer and suffragette activist Edith Ónone Somerville (1858–1949) left over 3,800 items at her family home in Drishane, Co Cork. This is an indispensable catalogue to the Edith Ónone Somerville Archive — a collection that comprises more than three thousand eight hundred items including letters, account books, diary entries, illustrations, photographs and press cuttings dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.


Select guide to Trade Union records in Dublin with details of unions operating in Ireland to 1970
Sarah Ward-Perkins, editor

Since the early decades of the nineteenth century a large number of local, national and United Kingdom craft and trade societies and unions have operated in Dublin. This guide, based mainly on an extensive survey of trade union records in union premises and institutions in Dublin, is an invaluable reference book. It includes outline histories, membership figures and descriptions of the records for 128 unions, as well as listing over 950 trade societies and unions that operated in Ireland until c.1970. The trade union records listed in this volume illustrate not only the development of industrial relations, but also social, economic and industrial conditions throughout Ireland.

Documents on the Affairs of Ireland before the King’s Council
G. O. Sayles, editor

These documents (in French and Latin) contain a wealth of information relating to Ireland during the 13th and 14th centuries. From 1216 until 1404, the accounts range from official reports by the Irish council on the state of the nation in general to specific calamities like the Bruce invasion of 1315–18. Each document is preceded by a brief summary in English and a full index is provided.


The Irish Cartularies of Llanthony Prima & Secunda
Eric St John Brooks, editor

This publication provides scholars of medieval Ireland with easy access to Latin texts of the cartularies of Irish lands pertaining to the priories of Llanthony. The two monasteries, Llanthony prima and secunda, were represented in Ireland respectively by the houses of Colp and Duleek in county Meath. An index of names and places shows the extent of the lands held by the two monasteries, demonstrating significant holdings in Meath as well as property in counties Wicklow, Dublin, Louth and elsewhere.


Irish Exchequer Payments, 1270–1446
Philomena Connolly, editor

The Irish Exchequer records held in the National Archives, London are an important but under-used source of history for medieval Ireland. The issue rolls and enrolled accounts calendared here provide a record of Dublin governmental expenditure between 1270–1446 and throw light on many aspects of government activity during that period. The information which they contain will be of use not only to political, military and administrative historians, but also to researchers in the fields of local history, settlement studies, archaeology and historical geography.


Irish Exchequer Payments Vol. I, 1270–1326

Irish Exchequer Payments Vol. II, 1326–1446

William Herbert’s Croftus Sive de Hibernica Liber
J. A. Madden and Arthur Keaveney, editors

Protestant, planter and political scientist, Sir William Herbert (1553–1593) was all these things. In Croftus he set out the ills of contemporary Ireland and what he believed to be their causes. He was also ready with the solutions: Anglicisation, religious conversion and the introduction of ‘civility’.

In this edition, which is the first for over 100 years, the original Latin text has been freshly edited and equipped with a side-by-side English translation. Extensive commentary, an introduction and appendices are designed to help facilitate modern readers of this important treatise.

This important publication contains summaries of the Latin calendars of inquisitions regarding landholding and property for Co. Dublin for the period Henry VIII to William III (with one item for Henry VI), prepared by the Record Commission of 1810–1830, the originals of which perished in the destruction of the Public Record Office in 1922.


This volume showcases a series of papers, letters and documents relating to the family of O Doyne (Ó Duinn), compiled from material in Marsh's Library, Dublin. It primarily concerns the lengthy inheritance lawsuit between Charles O Doyne, a Master in the Irish Court of Chancery who died in 1617, and his elder brother Thady O Doyne; both sons of another Tadhg Ó Duinn, lord of Iregan. This volume sets out in detail the various rents and exactions of Ó Duinn as lord of the county, and follows with a recital of the landowners of Iregan and their lands.


This calendar of the High Court of Admiralty examinations makes available a wide body of material, much of which was previously unknown or inaccessible to students of Irish history.


This volume contains three surveys of monastic lands in Ireland, carried out by Henry VIII’s commissioners in late 1540 and early 1541, now held in the National Archives in London. These are supplemented by a fourth manuscript in the British Library that comprises a survey of the Earl of Kildare’s possessions, beginning in 1518. The surveys and land rental material remain an excellent source for historians of early Tudor Ireland.


This is the final volume of a series of publications calendaring the deeds of one of the most important noble families of medieval and early modern Ireland. It remains a useful mine of information for historians of the period as well as for genealogists. It is the last remaining volume in print.

16th century and 17th century

Victor Treadwell, editor

The papers edited in this volume were generated by the wide-ranging commission of enquiry sent to Ireland in the spring of 1622. Appointed by James VI and I, this body investigated the political, religious and administrative state of the country. The commissioners examined the impact of the large Elizabethan and Jacobean plantations in Munster and Ulster and of the smaller English and Scottish settlements elsewhere. They also looked at the position of the established church, the Irish customs and the legal reforms required in the Irish judicial system.

Bringing together material from a number of different archives, including the Bodleian Library Oxford, Trinity College Dublin and the National Libraries of both Ireland and Scotland, this book will be invaluable for historians of Stuart Ireland, while the extensive indices of persons and places will be a great resource for local and family historians.

Victor Treadwell’s volume presents a vivid snapshot of early seventeenth-century Ireland at a crucial moment in its evolution…
— RAYMOND GILLESPIE, STUDIA HIBERNICA


Court of Claims: Submissions and Evidence, 1663
Geraldine Tallon, editor

The Court of Claims was appointed by Charles II to administer the Act of Settlement, 1662. The submissions and evidence presented before this body were recorded in a manuscript that is edited here for the first time, listing about 900 claims of ‘innocence’ submitted from 28 January to 20 August 1663. Complete with extensive indices of place and personal names as well as an introduction by J.G. Simms, historians of seventeenth-century Ireland and those interested in the history of landholding and estates, both local and national, as well as family historians, will find this book invaluable.


Commentarius Rinuccinianus. De Sedis Apostolicae Legatione ad Foederatos Hiberniae Catholicos. Volume 6
S. Kavanagh, editor

Volume 6 comprises essays on the ‘History and Authorship’ of the Commentarius as well as detailed indices and a synopsis in English of the first five volumes which are in Latin and are now out of print. It is an essential companion for anyone specializing in the British and Irish civil wars of the mid-seventeenth century.


A Census of Ireland circa 1659 with essential materials from the Poll Money Ordinances, 1660–1661
Séamus Pender, editor, with a new introduction by William J. Smyth

The ‘1659 Census’ is one of the most comprehensive and accessible of the ‘survey’ documents that have come down to us from the mid-seventeenth century. Yet the ‘Census’ has received little scholarly analysis. In this volume Séamus Pender’s 1939 edition of the ‘1659 Census’ is reproduced with a detailed new introduction by William J. Smyth.

What Professor Smyth succeeds in demonstrating is that the ‘Census’ is a better, more consistent and much more important source of information than has been allowed for in the existing literature. He also locates the ‘Census’ in the context of William Petty’s overall objectives in the 1660s, and by way of a series of island-wide maps, reveals the relevance of the ‘Census’ to ongoing research on seventeenth century Ireland.


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16th century and 17th century

The Letter Book of the Earl of Clanricarde, 1643–1647
John Lowe, editor

This volume brings together an important collection of letters relating to one of the key figures in mid-seventeenth century Irish politics. Ulick Burke, fifth earl of Clanricarde, was a devout Catholic but also a confirmed royalist and one of the richest landowners in the kingdom who was inclined to be English rather than Irish in his outlook. He turned to the king’s advantage a strategically influential position between the government and the Irish Catholics during the Confederate period. It is an essential work for anyone specialising in the history of the Irish and British civil wars of the 1640s.


The Civil Survey, 1654–1656, Volume 7, County Dublin
R. C. Simington, editor

This section of the Civil Survey of 1654–1656 provides detail regarding landowners and landholdings in County Dublin. It remains a useful resource for historians of the period as well as for genealogists.


The Council Book for the Province of Munster, c. 1599–1649
Margaret Curtis Clayton, editor

Preserved in the British Library, MS Harleian 697—‘The Council Book for the Province of Munster’—provides a rare insight into the workings of English provincial government in early seventeenth-century Ireland. Here are a wide variety of administrative records, the likes of which have rarely survived from other regions, such as presidential court cases, county assizes and gaol deliveries, protections, concordata, and proclamations, as well as correspondence with Dublin and with the privy council in London.

This edition of a rare example of a wide-ranging provincial primary source provides a full transcription of what is the only extant register of the body that administered Munster in the first half of the seventeenth century. It offers a unique and richly detailed insight into life at the time and is an invaluable resource to scholars of early modern Ireland, particularly those specialising in legal, administrative, religious and social history.


The Minute Book of the Corporation of Clonmel, 1608–1649
Brid McGrath, editor

The Minute Book of the Corporation of Clonmel, held in the National Library of Ireland, records details of the town’s administration between 1608 and 1649. Through this detailed transcription we can see Clonmel’s institutions and their workings, its officers and their operations, and the various groups of people that made up the community—the Free burgesses who managed the town through their membership of the town council, the merchants and their guild, the skilled tradesmen and their trade companies, other groups of workers, women, the church and the poor. It also sets out the arrangements for the defence of the town during the civil wars of the mid-seventeenth century. The edition adds greatly to our understanding of urban communities and the social makeup of Ireland in the early modern period.

These volumes provide historians with easy access to important French correspondence relating to the Glorious Revolution and the Williamite war in Ireland. Very little documentary evidence has survived in English from the Jacobite side of the conflict but French manuscripts give an account of events as seen through the eyes of James' French allies. These documents complement the additional material contained in James Hogan’s edition of the correspondence of le Comte d’Avaux (IMC, 1934). They cover every aspect of the war from military and naval engagements to the cost of a horseman’s uniform, providing an unparalleled source for the study of the Jacobite side of this war, one with significant Irish and European perspectives.


Franco-Irish Correspondence, 1688–1692
Volume I
Sheila Mulloy, editor

Negociations de M le Comte d’Avaux en Irlande (1689–90), reflex facsimile
J. Hogan, editor

This volume brings together correspondence and papers relating to the twelve-month mission to Ireland of French ambassador Jean-Antoine de Mesmes, Comte d’Avaux. During his stay he exchanged a very large number of letters with Louis XIV, Louvois, Seignelay and Colbert de Croissy giving them a detailed account of the state of the country, of the composition of the army which Tyrconnel had built up and of the aims of the various parties.

In short, his minutely detailed despatches constitute a contemporary source of information for the first year of the Williamite War of great trustworthiness and detail.


Franco-Irish Correspondence, 1688–1692
Volume II

T. W. Moody and J. G Simms, editors

The Irish Society was the body instituted by the common council of the City of London in 1610 to manage the property acquired by the City as a collective undertaker in the Ulster Plantation scheme of the area renamed in 1613 the county of Londonderry. Relations between the society and the bishop of Derry during the seventeenth century were characterized by chronic controversies over fisheries and lands on the west bank of the Foyle. This volume continues the story from 1670, and culminates under Bishop King (1690–1703) in a constitutional collision between the Irish and the English house of Lords (1697–1700).

The documents here printed illustrate in unusual detail the civil and ecclesiastical administration and the economic and social life of the Foyle–Bann region, as well as providing a wealth of detail about seventeenth century fishery practice.


Please note: Volume I of this collection is out of print.
The correspondence of Daniel O’Connell, Volume III: 1824–1828
Maurice R. O’Connell, editor

The correspondence of Daniel O’Connell is essential reading for all students of both British and Irish history in the first half of the nineteenth century. The letters generally, but in particular of O’Connell and his wife, are a unique source for Irish social history.

Volume III of his correspondence, covering the period 1824–28, describes the foundation of the Catholic Association in 1824. The progress and financial difficulties of the O’Connell family are intermingled with election news, as O’Connell was elected MP for Clare in 1826, and the correspondence with his wife at this time of political activity is extensive. The volume ends with the last stages in the struggle for Catholic Emancipation.


The Convert Rolls—the calendar of the Convert Rolls, 1703–1838, 2nd edition
Eileen O’Byrne, editor with Fr Wallace Clare’s annotated list of converts 1703–78 edited by Anne Chamney

The publication in 1981 of The Convert Rolls, edited by Eileen O’Byrne, provided historical researchers with easy access to the main documentary record of those who converted to the Established Church in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The extensive alphabetical listing of converts is complemented by the inclusion of Fr. Clare’s annotated list of converts, 1703–78, which presents elusive biographical data on 1,207 converts, some not present in the official convert rolls, which adds to the value and usefulness of the original.

The Commission performed a valuable service for social historians and genealogists in publishing the first edition. This has been considerably enhanced by the addition of Fr. Clare’s notes in this new edition… it will be an indispensable source for researchers.

— THOMAS P. POWER, STUDIA HIBERNICA


The census of Elphin, 1749
Marie-Louise Legg, editor

The census of the Diocese of Elphin was organized by Bishop Edward Synge in 1749 so he could establish the numbers of Protestants and Roman Catholics in his diocese, which embraced most of Co. Roscommon, part of south-east Co. Sligo and part of north-east Co. Galway. The census covers 69 parishes, and the major towns of Sligo, Roscommon, Boyle and that part of Athlone which is in Co. Roscommon.

The editor has written an introduction to each parish, establishing the background of many of the inhabitants and the quality of the land upon which they depended for their livelihood. Additionally, Brian Gurrin has placed the Census in the context of other population data of the period, and has conducted a statistical analysis of the Census material to establish the size of families and their households.

The Census of Elphin is an important, and largely unexplored, historical document and this edition will be of particular use to historical demographers, local historians and genealogists.

An electronic version for this document is available through the Irish Origins web site (retrieval of detailed records attracts a charge).

A Volley of Excrasions, The letters and papers of John FitzGibbon, Earl of Clare, 1772–1802
D. A. Fleming and A. P. W Malcomson, editors

This volume brings together over 600 pieces of correspondence and other material deriving from John FitzGibbon, 1st earl of Clare, a man who, as attorney general (1783–9), and lord chancellor (1789–1802), played a dominant role in Irish public life. His letters, with their characteristically abusive and funny writing style, show that he was a determined, turbulent man, yet they also express the disappointment of a failed political harmoniser—one of the facets of his career stressed in Malcomson’s introductory reassessment of Clare.

The edition forms a significant resource for anyone interested in eighteenth century men and manners and those who have a specialist interest in Irish affairs in the last decades of the eighteenth century.

[FitzGibbon] incurred the wrath of the Irish Lord Chancellor who referred to him as an “arrogant, presumptuous, ignorant and insolent little prig” and then a “fool and coxcomb” to boot. Temperate this is not. A good example of the entertaining “volley of execrations” contained in this fine book, it most certainly is.
— Eoin Magennis, Eighteenth-Century Ireland


The letters of Marmaduke Coghill, 1722–1738
D. W. Hayton, editor

The politician Sir Marmaduke Coghill (1673–1739) was one of the pillars of the Protestant ascendancy in early eighteenth-century Ireland. A civil lawyer by profession, playing a key role in the administration of the established church, he was also a Member of the Irish Parliament and an active politician, and from 1728 until his death occupied a position at the centre of government, as principal revenue commissioner and chancellor of the Irish exchequer.

His surviving correspondence, drawn from a variety of sources in Ireland, England and the U.S.A., reflects the broad range of his interests—not only in politics and government, but also in trade and economic development, in the affairs of Trinity College, and within the private sphere, in promoting innovation in architecture, gardening, and the consumption of luxury goods. In exposing the milieu of a ‘man of business’ with influence on almost every facet of Irish public life in the period, these letters offer a flood of new information and revealing insights into the ‘official mind’ of the Dublin Castle administration in the age of Swift.

…this collection will inform and enliven the current re-consideration of eighteenth-century Irish history
— Liam Chambers, Mary Immaculate College


Proceedings of the Dublin Society of United Irishmen
R. B. McDowell, editor

The Dublin Society of the United Irishmen was, from its foundation in 1791 to its suppression in 1794, the leading radical club in Dublin. This volume brings together over a hundred of the letters of the member Thomas Collins, held in the National Archives in Dublin, who for two and a half years regularly transmitted information about its proceedings to the government.

Collins’ reports are thorough and methodical and he can at times express himself with crude vigour. In addition to summarizing the evening’s proceedings he often enclosed lists of candidates for membership and gives thumb-nail sketches of the more outstanding members. His communications throw considerable light not only on Dublin radicalism, but also on popular political organization in the eighteenth century.

Reconstructing Ireland’s Past: a history of the Irish Manuscripts Commission
Michael Kennedy and Deirdre McMahon

Written to mark the 80th anniversary of the foundation of the Irish Manuscripts Commission, this book records the history of the IMC itself as its role in preserving sources for Irish history has evolved since 1928. The IMC continues to promote the development of history as a discipline in Ireland and it supports a wide range of initiatives to improve public awareness of the importance of historical sources and of the need to preserve those sources.


The American Commission on Irish Independence 1919. The diary, correspondence and report
F. M. Carroll, editor

The diary, correspondence and report of the American Commission on Irish independence are the principal documents relating to the cause of Irish nationalism at the Paris peace conference in 1919. This publication provides historians and general readers with a unique insight into the deliberations and workings of this important American Commission during a key moment in Irish history.


Sir Roger Casement’s Heart of Darkness: the 1911 Documents
Angus Mitchell, editor

In early 1911, Sir Roger Casement returned from a five month journey of arduous investigation into atrocities in the Amazon and set to work writing the reports that would expose these crimes against humanity. Travelling between London, Dublin and Belfast he initiated one of the most detailed official investigations into Native American culture in the ‘New World’. The Putumayo atrocities, as the case would be called, became a forum for the scrutinizing of the darkness at the heart of imperial civilization before the outbreak of the First World War.

The documents are gathered from the Casement Papers held in the National Library of Ireland and the National Archives in London. Further material is gathered from the Bodleian Library Oxford, the British Library for Political and Economic Science and the New York Public Library. Richly illustrated with maps and photographs this volume of documents will be a valuable research tool for those investigating the history of human right abuses, ecumenism, postcolonial and Irish studies, as well as Anglo–American diplomacy, Native American culture and socio–economic history in South America.


World War I and the question of Ulster. The correspondence of Lilian and Wilfrid Spender
Margaret Baguley, editor

Based on papers in the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, this collection is an edited selection of the correspondence of Wilfrid Spender and his wife Lilian during the First World War. A former quartermaster general of the Ulster Volunteer Force, Spencer served as a captain during the war and was subsequently responsible for laying the foundations for the civil service of Northern Ireland, serving as Secretary to the Northern Ireland Cabinet (1921–1925) and Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Finance (1925–1944). Their letters provide both a fascinating insight into economic and social life in wartime London and show in vivid detail the horrors of total war and life on the front line.

The correspondence is as significant for its political news from London communicated by Lilian as it is for the military news from the Western Front. As an editor, and as the author of a helpful introduction, Margaret Baguley’s work is impeccable.

— KENNETH FERGUSON, THE IRISH SWORD

Analecta Hibernica

Includes a report to the Taoiseach and the following papers:

Inquisitions of 1224 from the Miscellanea of the Exchequer (K. W. Nicholls); A charter of William De Burgo (K. W. Nicholls); Sir William Betham’s manuscripts (P. B. Phair); Some unpublished Barry charters (K. W. Nicholls); Sir Paul Rycaut’s memoranda and letters from Ireland, 1686–1687 (Patrick Melvin). Includes indexes of persons and places.


Analecta Hibernica 28

Includes a report to the Taoiseach and the following papers:


Analecta Hibernica 29

Includes two reports to the Taoiseach and the following papers:

The administration of Ireland: Introduction (reprint) (G. O. Sayles); Parliaments and Great Councils, 1483–99: Addenda and Corrigenda (S. G. Ellis); Unpublished papers of Owen Roe O’Neill (Jerrold Casway); The background to the arrest of Sir Christopher Preston in 1418 (Jocelyn Otway-Ruthven); The Lynch Blosse Papers (K. W. Nicholls). Includes indexes of persons and places.


Digitising the IMC heritage

IMC is committed to improving access to primary sources for Irish history both nationally and internationally using modern technology.

In 2009, IMC’s serial publication, Analecta Hibernica, was digitised and made available as part of the ‘Ireland’ collection on JSTOR. This is an interdisciplinary collection of journals and other materials which form the basis of Irish Studies research.

IMC has recently begun a project to digitise its own out-of-print publications which will be available to read on the IMC website. This will ensure the widest possible audience for these texts in line with IMC’s public service remit. These digital editions will also be promoted through Europeana - Europe’s cultural heritage portal www.europeana.eu.
Analecta Hibernica 30
Includes two reports to the Taoiseach and the following papers:

The enrolled account of Alexander Bicknor, Treasurer of Ireland, 1308–1314 (James F. Lydon); Report on a survey of manuscripts of Irish interest in Yale University Library (David Craig); An Irish parliamentary diary from the reign of Queen Anne (David Hayton); An account of military expenditure in Leinster, 1308 (Philomena Connolly); The Papers of the Dublin Philosophical Society 1683–1708: Introduction and Index (K. Theodore Hoppen); The Subsidy Roll of County Waterford, 1662 (Julian C. Walton). Includes indexes of persons and places and an obituary for John Francis Ainsworth.


Analecta Hibernica 31
Includes a report to the Taoiseach and the following papers:

List of Irish material in the class of Chancery Files (Recorda) (C. 260) in the Public Record Office, London (Philomena Connolly); Interrogation carried out in Cork in 1600 by the Ecclesiastical High Commission for Recusancy – a document from Laud MS 612, Bodleian Library, Oxford (Anthony J. Sheehan); The Common Bench Plea Roll of 19 Edward IV (1479–80) in the Public Record Office of Ireland (Steven G. Ellis); Irish Concealed Lands Papers in the Hastings manuscripts in the Huntington Library, San Marino, California (Mary O'Dowd). Includes indexes of persons and places and an obituary for Professor Aubrey Gwynn, SJ.


Analecta Hibernica 32
Includes two reports to the Taoiseach and the following papers:

Manuscript collections in private keeping: reports in National Library of Ireland (John Ainsworth and Michael Hewson); Abstracts of Manderville Deeds, NLI MS 6136 (K. W. Nicholls); Letters of Lord Longford and others on Irish affairs 1687–1702, Ellis Papers BL MS (Patrick Melvin). Includes indexes of persons and places and obituaries for Theodore William Moody and Edmond Keane.

Analecta Hibernica 33
Includes a report to the Taoiseach and the following papers:
Papal secretariate and datary correspondence relating to Great Britain and Ireland in the fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries: summary report of a survey in the Vatican Archives (Michael J. Haren); A document on the parliament of 1613 from St Isidore’s College, Rome (Brian Jackson); An account of a debate in the Irish Parliament, 1787 (Gerard O’Brien); The Sligo papers, Westport House, Co. Mayo: a report (Sean Murphy); Manuscripts of Irish domestic interest in repositories in Philadelphia: a report (David Dickson); Letters from Bartholomew Van Homrigh to General Ginkel, Earl of Athlone, 1692 to 1700: from the Huisarchief Amerongen, Amerongen Castle near Utrecht (Wouter Troost). Includes indexes of persons and places and an obituary for Edward MacLysaght.


Analecta Hibernica 34
Includes a report to the Taoiseach and the following papers:
Mathew De Renzy’s letters on Irish affairs 1613–1620 (Brian Mac Cuarta); Irish material in the class of Ancient Petitions (SC8) in the Public Record Office London (Philomena Connolly); A minister’s money account for Clonmel, 1703 (Thomas Power). Includes indexes of persons and places.


Analecta Hibernica 35
Includes a report to the Taoiseach and the following papers:
Commissions of the Peace in Ireland, 1302–1461 (Robin Frame); Rotulus Clausus De Anno 48 Edward III: a reconstruction (Elizabeth Dowse and Maragret Murphy); Three certified Gross Survey transcripts for County Galway (Gerard J. Lyne); The improvement of Ireland (Patrick Kelly). Includes indexes of persons and places and obituaries for John Gerrard Barry, Annette Jocelyn Otway-Ruthven, Robert W. Dudley Edwards.


Analecta Hibernica 36
Includes a report to the Minister for Arts, Culture and the Gaeltacht and the following papers:
List of entries on the Memoranda Rolls of the English Exchequer, 1307–27 (Philomena Connolly); A booke of questions and answars concerning the warrs of rebellions of the Kingdome of Ireland (Hiram Morgan); Irish material in the class of Chancery Warrants Series I (C 81) in the Public Record Office, London (Philomena Connolly); The supplication of the blood of the English most lamentably murdered in Ireland, cryeng out of the yearth for revenge (1598) (Willy Maley). Includes indexes of persons and places and obituaries for Seamus Pender, George Osbourne Sayles, León Ó Broin and Michael Hewson.

Analecta Hibernica 37

Includes a report to the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands and the following papers:

The Irish sections of Fynes Moryson’s unpublished itinerary (Graham Kew); Irish Exchequer records of payments of the Fee Farm of the City of Cork in the later Middle Ages (A. F. O’Brien); British sources for Irish history before 1485 (Brian C. Donovan and David Edwards); An unspeakable parliamentary fracas: the Irish House of Commons, 1613 (John McCavitt); The defence of Ireland: a naval journal of 1627 (John C. Appleby); The ship’s journal of Captain Thomas Powell, 1642 (David Edwards); Letters of John Mitchel (Thomas G. Connors). Includes indexes of persons and places and an obituary for Donal Francis Cregan, CM.


Analecta Hibernica 38

Includes a report to the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism and the following papers:

Three tracts on Ireland c.1613 (Raymond Gillespie); The Hearth Tax Roll for Dublin City 1663 (Brian Gurrin); The manor courts of the Earl of Thomond, 1666–1686 (S. C. O’Mahony); The operation of the Censorship of Publications Board: the notebooks of C. J. O’Reilly, 1951–55 (James Kelly). Includes obituaries for Leonard Boyle, Francis Xavier Martin and Brian Ó Cuív.


Analecta Hibernica 39

Includes a report to the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism and the following papers:

Calendar of the documents relating to medieval Ireland in the series of Ancient Deeds in the National Archives of the United Kingdom (Paul Dryburgh & Brendan Smith); The landowners of the late Elizabethan Pale: ‘The Generall Hosting Appointed to Meet at Ye Hill of Tarragh on the 24 September 1593’ (Brendan Scott); Three eighteenth-century surveys of County Wicklow (Brian F. Gurrin); Journal of Abigail Boles of her life as a Quaker preacher, Dublin – Philadelphia – Salem – Cork, 1725–7 (Kevin Herlihy). Includes obituaries for Gearóid MacNiocaill and Máirtín Ó’Bríain.

Includes a report to the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism and the following papers:

The background to the arrest of the fifth earl of Kildare and Sir Christopher Preston in 1418: a missing membrane (Peter Crooks);
Sir William Domville, ‘A disquisition touching that great question whether an act of parliament made in England shall bind the Kingdom and people of Ireland without their allowance and acceptance of such act in the Kingdom of Ireland’ (Patrick Kelly);
The Lucas diary, 1740–41 (Brian Ó Dálaigh);
The correspondence of Eyre Coote with his brother, Charles Henry Coote, and others on the Irish Act of Union, 1799–1800 (David Fleming);
On the present condition of agriculture in the counties of Cork and Kerry, February 1867 — a report by W. R. Robertson (Aileen McClintock). Includes obituaries for Margaret Catherine Griffith and Breandán MacGiolle Choille.


Includes a report to the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism and the following papers:

Luke Wadding’s petition to the papacy on behalf of Dutch and Flemish migrants in Waterford, 1642–43 (Benjamin Hazard); New light on the Marquis of Antrim and the ‘Wars of the Three Kingdoms’ (Hector McDonnell and Jane Ohlmeyer);
Mediations by Katherine Manners, Duchess of Buckingham, 1646 (Hector McDonnell and Jane Ohlmeyer); The library of Dennis Molony, 1650–1726, an Irish Catholic lawyer in London (John Bergin and Liam Chambers); My Dear Lady C: the letters of Lady Arbella Denny to Lady Caldwell, 1754–1777 (Rosemary Raughter); The Irish Settlement meeting of the Unionist Party, 7 July 1916 (Deirdre McMahon). Includes an obituary for Mairead Dunlevy.


Issue 42 of the Irish Manuscripts Commission’s serial publication includes a report to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport for 2010 and the following papers:

‘A viceroy’s condemnation: matters of inquiry into the Sidney administration, 1578’ (David Edwards); ‘Some remarks on those who were friends and enemies to the Duke of Ormonde and to the Acts of Settlement of Ireland’, c. 1692 (John Gibney); ‘Landscape in transition: descriptions of forfeited properties in counties Meath, Louth and Cavan in 1700’ (Arnold Horner and Rolf Loeber) (includes an index of persons and place names); ‘Samuel Turner’s information on the United Irishmen, 1797–8’ (C. J. Woods).


Individual articles from volumes 1–39 of *Analecta Hibernica* are available for purchase through the JSTOR ‘Ireland’ collection at http://www.jstor.org/action/showPublication?journalCode=analhibe
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