Irish Manuscripts Commission

Coimisiún Lámhscríbhinní na hÉireann

Catalogue 2012 – 2013
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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.
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.

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. In recent years IMC has been involved in developing a policy on best practice in digitisation.

To date IMC has published 175 editions of primary sources for periods from the medieval to the twentieth century. Single volume and multi-volume, transcripts, facsimiles and calendars, these editions 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-three 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.

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—IMC has advocated the need to develop viable national structures for the preservation of historical sources.

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

Through its publications IMC has for more than 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.
Letters to and from internment camps in Ireland, 1920–1921
William Murphy, editor

November 1920 marked a turning-point in the Irish War of Independence as increasing violence prompted the British authorities to institute a range of stronger security measures, including widespread internment.

In the following months internment camps were established at locations across Ireland, including Ballykinlar, Co. Down, the Curragh, Co. Kildare, and Spike and Bere Islands in Co. Cork. 3,311 men were held at these places by late June 1921.

The letters transcribed in this edition throw light on the impact of internment on the families and communities of the internees as well as the conditions and conflicts in the camps and the camp cultures that emerged. More importantly, the correspondence expresses the loneliness of husbands, the anxiety of mothers, and the solidarity of siblings.

British perspectives on the 1916 Rising
Deirdre McMahon, editor

The first of the two collections presented in this volume consists of British military and intelligence records from the de Valera Papers in UCD Archives. These papers were given to de Valera in 1967 when he was President of Ireland and contain documents not available in other archives in Ireland or Britain. Extending from March 1916 to the spring of 1917, they contain correspondence between the Irish Executive at Dublin Castle and the Irish Command at Parkgate Street, and between GHQ Home Forces, the War Office and the British Cabinet in London. Included are reports on the activities of Sinn Fein and the Irish Volunteers, the Rising in Dublin and the subsequent executions and aftermath.

The second collection of documents consists of the 1916 papers of Andrew Bonar Law. Law was the leader of the Conservative Party who in December 1916 became Chancellor of the Exchequer and Leader of the Commons. The papers place the Rising within the context of the First World War and the need to secure active American support for the British war effort. They include descriptions of the fighting in Dublin, and the arrest and execution of the leaders including Roger Casement. The Bonar Law documents also chart the British government’s efforts to find a political solution in the wake of the Rising, notably the Lloyd George proposals in the early summer of 1916. Recruiting for the war, the threat of conscription, and the gradual decline of John Redmond and the Irish Party are other prominent subjects in 1916–17.

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.


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 E. Daly is a professor of history at University College Dublin and writes on 20th century history.

The account books of the Franciscan House, Broad Lane, Cork, 1764–1921
Liam Kennedy and Clare Murphy, editors

The records of the Catholic Church in Ireland have a greater significance for the study of the past than is true of many other western European countries. This is partly because of the destruction of Irish public records in the early twentieth century but also because the Roman Catholic church and its various institutions possessed a degree of continuity, formal organization and geographical coverage that is unmatched by any other private body.

The Franciscan Order in Ireland kept especially good records. While the potential of these archival treasures has yet to be fully realized, this volume makes available for the first time a substantial slice of the records of the famous Franciscan convent at Broad Lane in the city of Cork. These unique sources consist of the hand-written account books that recorded the day-to-day expenditures of the Cork Franciscans, stretching from the year 1764 through to 1921. The books offer a revealing window on economic, social and cultural change in the city, while also throwing light on the progress of the Cork Franciscans, and the Catholic church more generally, in this formative period of modern Irish history.


Liam Kennedy is Professor of Economic and Social History at Queen’s University, Belfast. Dr Clare Murphy is a former tutor and lecturer in modern history at the School of History and Social Anthropology, Queen’s University, Belfast.

Infanticide in the Irish Crown Files at Assizes, 1883–1900
Elaine F. Farrell, editor

This book presents records relating to 115 suspected infant murder and concealment of birth cases detected in Ireland between 1883 and 1900. The material transcribed in this volume, taken from the Crown Files at Assizes held at the National Archives of Ireland, comprises 1,140 witness statements sworn before coroners and magistrates.

Statements from police officers, doctors and the suspect’s wider social circle provide much detailed information about the lived realities of nineteenth-century Ireland. They highlight contemporary attitudes towards illegitimacy, single mothers and the extent to which an unwanted pregnancy impacted upon entire households.

This text offers a unique insight into the intimate lives of some of Ireland’s inhabitants during the late nineteenth century.


Elaine Farrell is a lecturer at the School of History and Social Anthropology, Queen’s University, Belfast.
The correspondence of James Ussher, 1600–1656
Elizabetanne 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.


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

Letterbook of George, 16th earl of Kildare
Aidan Clarke and Bríd McGrath, editors

The letterbook presented here consists for the most part of copies of the incoming correspondence of George Fitzgerald (1612–1656/7), 16th earl of Kildare, from 1628, when he was sixteen years of age, to 1634, with a few later items. The letters deal principally with matters arising from the acquisition of George’s wardship by Richard Boyle, 1st earl of Cork, in 1629 and the attainment of his majority in 1633, but the ever-present theme is the condition of the Kildare estates. The letterbook is in the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland.

The text is supplemented by a transcription of BL MS Add. 19937, a schedule of lands in Ireland belonging to the earl of Kildare and relations but in the possession of others. This was to be used to identify and discover lands affected by an ongoing dispute with Lady Lettice Digby.


Mapping Ireland c. 1550–1636: an illustrated catalogue
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. 600 maps (some never published before) and has a strong geographical structure by province, county, location and date.

ISBN 978-1-906865-03-0, c. 600 pp, 325 mm x 440 mm, c. €150, 2013

Annaleigh Margey is a graduate of NUI Galway and is currently a Postdoctoral Research Fellow on the Landed Estates of Ireland Project – Rentals and Mapped Surveys, CSHIHE, Department of History, NUI Maynooth and Manuscripts Department, National Library of Ireland.
The proclamations of Ireland, 1660–1820
James Kelly with Mary Ann Lyons, editors

The proclamation was 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.

This edition, arranged in five volumes, presents the texts, or a detailed guide to the content of some 2,500 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
ISBN 978-1-906865-20-7;
Volume IV: George III, 1760–90
ISBN 978-1-906865-21-4;
Volume V: George III, 1791–1820
5 volumes, available separately, 2013

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 2013 onwards as follows:

Volume I: Armagh, Louth, Monaghan
Volume II: Cavan, Fermanagh
Volume III: Antrim, Derry, Donegal, Down, Tyrone
Volume IV: Dublin;
Volume V: Meath, Kildare;
Volume VI: Laois, Offaly;
Volume VII: Wexford;
Volume VIII: Carlow, Kilkenny, Waterford, Wicklow;
Volume IX: Tipperary, Clare, Limerick, Kerry;
Volume X: Cork, Part 1;
Volume XI: Cork, Part 2;
Volume XII: Connacht, Westmeath, Longford.
12 volumes, available separately, 2013 onwards

Digitising the IMC heritage

Recognising the importance of digitisation in the preservation of sources for Irish history and culture, IMC is making its editions of primary sources accessible online to the widest possible audience.

In 2012–13 IMC will continue to digitise its out-of-print publications. Forty-three editions are currently available to read and search on the IMC website, including major series such as the Books of survey and distribution, Ormond deeds and The correspondence of Daniel O’Connell. Seventy-three more titles will be added to this online resource in 2012.

IMC regards the digitising of its backlist as an intrinsic part of its public service remit to improve access to and awareness of the primary manuscript sources it has preserved in print. Within the means and resources available to it, IMC makes every effort to source and credit the rights owners of all material used on the Digital Editions section of its web site. IMC invites rights owner who believe they have not been properly identified on the IMC website to contact IMC by e-mail at support@irishmanuscripts.ie or by telephone at +353 1 676 1610.
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 — 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 I: Henry III to Edward II (1244–1327)
ISBN 978-1-906865-32-0;

Volume II: Edward III (1327–77)
ISBN 978-1-906865-33-7;

Volume III: Richard II and Henry IV (1377–1413)
ISBN 978-1-906865-34-4;

Volume IV: Henry V to Henry VII (1413–1509)

4 volumes, available separately, 2013

The letterbook of Richard Hare, Cork merchant, 1771–1772
James O’Shea, editor

Relatively little primary source material on mercantile activities in Cork survives for the eighteenth century. The Hare letterbook is by far the most comprehensive extant work for a Cork export business and it contains 843 letters covering the period 1771 to 1772 (with occasional gaps). It records Richard Hare’s exchanges with some 265 correspondents, mostly in Britain (London, Bristol and Liverpool), but also in Ireland, the West Indies and Europe.

The correspondence recorded in this merchant letterbook provides an important primary source for local history, genealogy, biography, landed estates, social and economic history, and for students of business administration.

Announcing titles for 2013–14

Catholics and Protestants in eighteenth-century Ireland: Irish religious censuses of the 1760s
Brian Gurrin and Kerby Miller with Liam Kennedy, editors

This edition presents abstracted religious census data from the two national religious surveys conducted in Ireland during the 1760s: the first, during 1764 and 1765, by the hearth-money collectors, and the second, in the first half of 1766, by the parish ministers of the Established Church.

This edition has identified surviving material from both surveys and abstracted the data and compiled it by administrative divisions, into a consistent, standardised format. Colour distribution maps are included for each county.

Researchers examining developments in eighteenth-century Irish society and social inquiry will find these sources extremely useful. No other pre-census source comes close to providing the wealth of demographic and social information contained in these censuses.


IMC participates in Culture Night, held each year in September, when it showcases its publications and the work of IMC to highlight the relevance and value of preserving records of all kinds, personal, business and government.

In 2012 IMC is launching an advisory leaflet (also available online) which addresses questions asked frequently by the public on Culture Night concerning the preservation and safe keeping of personal records.
Recent titles from IMC

**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.


David Fleming and John Logan both lecture in history at the University of Limerick.

**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 was formerly the Officer in Charge, Military Archives.

**Calendar of material relating to Ireland from the High Court of Admiralty, 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 Inishbofin 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.


Elaine Murphy is a research associate on the Writings and speeches of Oliver Cromwell project at Cambridge University. She previously worked on the 1641 Depositions project at Trinity College, Dublin.
Recent titles from IMC

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, Waterford, Dublin and Derry as well as estates in England and Wales. The book is essential for historians of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Ireland.


Patrick Walsh is an IRCHSS CARA mobility fellow at University College Dublin & University College London.

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 in particular.

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). It is an essential resource for all libraries.


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

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 when 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 ‘native’ rather than ‘newcomers’ will find this edition an invaluable source.


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


About the Registers of the Archbishops of Armagh
Since the destruction of the public and other records in the Four Courts in 1922, one of the most important collections of original medieval records to survive in Ireland are the seven volumes of what are commonly known as the Armagh Registers. To date full transcriptions of the records of Archbishops Sweteman, Fleming and Octavian have been published by IMC. Together with the separately published records of Archbishop Mey they provide historians of late medieval Ireland with a rich source, which until now was available only in manuscript. Relevant to historians of ecclesiastical history, the registers also provide much information relating to the political, social and economic conditions of the time. Each of the three IMC editions contain the full Latin text of the original manuscript, annotated and with English summaries for each entry, and are further enhanced by indices of both persons and places and subjects and procedure.
Calendar of papal registers series

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 Volume XIV, 1484–1492
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.


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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.


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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

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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 are in preparation.

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Calendar of entries in the Papal Registers relating to Great Britain and Ireland. Papal Letters Volume XVIII is out of print
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

Family & estate archives

Calendar of the Rosse papers
A. P. W. Malcomson, editor

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 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 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). It is an essential resource for all libraries.


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. The book is an indispensable resource for historians of eighteenth and nineteenth century Ireland.

**Women’s history**

**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 (UWUC) 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 saw the political focus of the organisation 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.


**Infanticide in the Irish Crown Files at Assizes 1883–1900**
Elaine F. Farrell, editor

This book presents records relating to 115 suspected infant murder and concealment of birth cases detected in Ireland between 1883 and 1900. The material transcribed in this volume, taken from the Crown Files at Assizes held at the National Archives of Ireland, comprises 1,140 witness statements sworn before coroners and magistrates. Statements from police officers, doctors and the suspect’s wider social circle provide much detailed information about the lived realities of nineteenth-century Ireland. They highlight contemporary attitudes towards illegitimacy, single mothers and the extent to which an unwanted pregnancy impacted upon entire households.

This text offers a unique insight into the intimate lives of some of Ireland’s inhabitants during the late nineteenth century.


*Elaine Farrell is a lecturer at the School of History and Social Anthropology, Queen’s University, Belfast.*

**The Drennan-McTier letters**
Jean Agnew, editor

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.

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.


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Jean Agnew, editor


Volume 1: 1776–1793 — Out of print
Volume 2: 1794–1801
Volume 3: 1802–1819
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 ÓNene Somerville archive in Drishane. A catalogue and an evaluative essay
Otto Rauchbauer, editor

Writer, artist, farmer and suffragette activist Edith ÓNene Somerville (1858–1949) left over 3,800 items at her family home in Drishane, Co. Cork. This is an indispensable catalogue to the Edith ÓNene 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

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 I: Henry III to Edward II (1244–1327)
ISBN 978-1-906865-32-0;

Volume II: Edward III (1327–77)
ISBN 978-1-906865-33-7;

Volume III: Richard II and Henry IV (1377–1413)
ISBN 978-1-906865-34-4;

Volume IV: Henry V to Henry VII (1413–1509)

4 volumes, available separately, 2013
16th and 17th century

**Calendar of material relating to Ireland from the High Court of Admiralty, 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, *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.


*Elaine Murphy is a research associate on the Writings and speeches of Oliver Cromwell project at Cambridge University. She previously worked on the 1641 Depositions project at Trinity College, Dublin.*

**Calendar of material relating to Ireland from the High Court of Admiralty examinations, 1536–1641**
John Appleby, *editor*

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 material covers a broad range of subjects including trade, shipping, fishing, piracy and privateering. It also sheds light on the commercial interest of Irish merchants, and on the activities of Dutch and English merchants in Ireland during the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries. As such it will be an invaluable resource for students of maritime history and those with interests in related economic, social or colonial themes.


**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 ‘native’ 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.*
Calendar of Inquisitions formerly in the Office of the Chief Remembrancer of the Exchequer prepared from the MSS of the Irish Record Commission
Margaret C. Griffith, editor

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.


Crown surveys of lands 1540–41 with the Kildare Rental begun in 1518
Gearóid MacNiocaill, editor

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.


The O Doyne (Ó Duinn) Manuscript
K. W. Nicholls, editor

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.


Calendar of Ormond Deeds, Volume 6, 1584–1603
Edmund Curtis, editor

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.

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 Catholici. 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.

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, 5th 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 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
Bríd 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.


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.

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

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 II

Franco-Irish correspondence, 1688–1692
Volume III

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

This volume of reflex facsimiles 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 Croisy 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 from February 1689–April 1690 constitute a contemporary source of information for the first year of the Williamite War of great trustworthiness and detail.


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.


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

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 organised 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.


All other volumes of this eight-volume edition are out of print but available to read online using the IMC digital editions.

An electronic version of this document is available to search through the Origins.net web site. Note retrieval of detailed records attracts a charge.
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.

IMC deserves congratulations for bringing this book into print in such a fine edition ... making important materials available to the eighteenth-century Irish historian.

— Eoin Magennis, Eighteenth-Century Ireland


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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


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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 summarising 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 organisation in the eighteenth century.


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Charlotte Brooke’s Reliques of Irish Poetry
Lesa Ni 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 Ni 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

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

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


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

— MARTIN MANSERGH, THE IRISH TIMES

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Europeana offers a single access point to more than 20 million digital books, paintings, films, museum objects and archival records that have been digitised in the memory institutions of Europe.

Check it out at www.europeana.eu
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 is a valuable research tool for those investigating the history of human rights 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 significant for its political news from London communicated by Lilian as it for 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


20th century
20th century

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.


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.


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.


Two twentieth-century commemorative editions will be published in 2015: Letters to and from internment camps in Ireland, 1920–1921 edited by William Murphy and British perspectives on the 1916 Rising edited by Deirdre McMahon. See page 3 for more information.
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.


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 back-ground 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.


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.


Includes two reports 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.


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.

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 (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.


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.


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.


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.


Includes a report to the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands and the following papers: The Irish sections of Fynes Morison’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.


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’Briain.


Analecta Hibernica 40

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 Brendan MacGiolle Choille.


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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.

Analecta Hibernica 42

Includes a report to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport 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 Loebler) (includes an index of persons and place names); ‘Samuel Turner’s information on the United Irishmen, 1797–8’ (C. J. Woods).


Analecta Hibernica 43

Includes IMC’s report to the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and the following papers: The landowners of the late Elizabethan Pule: ‘The Generall hosting appointed to meet at ye hall of Tarrah on the 24th of September 1593’ (Brendan Scott and Kenneth Nicholls); Advice to a daughter: Lady Frances Keightley to her daughter Catherine, September 1681 (Gabrielle M. Ashford); Journal of a tour to Dublin and the countries of Dublin and Meath in 1699 (Rolf Loebler, David Dickson and Alan Smyth); The Journal of John Tennent, 1786–90 (Leanne Calvert); Official list of radical activists and suspected activists involved in Emmet’s rebellion, 1803 (James Kelly).


Individual articles from volumes 1–40 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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