



Archives & Records Association Cumann Cartlann agus Taifead Ireland/Éire



*ARA Ireland's EYA ambassador for 2024, Donal Fallon with Chair, Niamh Ní Charra.
Photo © Marc O'Sullivan and taken at the Irish Traditional Music Archive.*

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A Word from the Chair

Niamh Ní Charra
ARA Ireland Chair

A chairde,

It has been a very busy few months in the archives calendar, and an interesting (read intense!) introduction to the role of Chair!

At several events the call was made for proper, effective resourcing for our sector and recognition of the expertise and diligent work of our members and the wider ARM profession, which became something of a rallying call by the end of the summer.

This began at the one-day symposium “Archives, Access and Human Rights”, hosted by the Royal Irish Academy, to which I was asked, as Chair of ARA Ireland, to give the opening address. The event was initiated by the Historical Studies Committee of the Academy and was supported by Boston College, the ARINS Project, Justice for Magdalenes Research, the Irish Centre for Human Rights, the Irish Committee for Historical Sciences and the Archives and Records Association. Due to a family loss, my address was given in absentia by Catriona Crowe, to whom I am extremely grateful. A report of the conference and recommendations issued in October, can be viewed [here](#).

Of huge significance was the invitation to speak as a witness at Leinster House to the meeting of the Joint Committee on Tourism, Culture, Arts, Sport and Media on the Detailed Scrutiny of Broadcasting (Amendment) Bill 2023, (proposed by Patrick Costello, TD), in October. The amendment seeks to oblige RTÉ, Ireland's national public broadcaster, to preserve and make accessible its archives to researchers. For the text of my speech and more on this, see the article later in this newsletter.

This was followed in November with the [announcement](#) from Minister of State for Nature, Heritage and Electoral Reform, Malcolm Noonan TD, that almost €1m in funding is being made available in 2025 for the recruitment of new heritage professionals aimed at strengthening the protection of heritage assets across the country. It is anticipated that by the end of 2026 a full complement of local authority archivists, architectural conservation officers and archaeologists will be in place, ensuring comprehensive nationwide coverage of crucial heritage protection functions for the future. For more on this as it relates specifically to our profession, please see the article from Lisa Shortall, The Heritage Council, along with the text of my response to the announcement.

With this key message running through all three events as well as the very successful and thought-provoking ARA conference “Climate and Crisis: Tackling It Together”, recently held in Birmingham, it seems it is an ideal time to announce that we will be conducting a survey on the state of employment in the sector. The purpose of the Ireland / Northern Ireland Record keeping census 2024, is to better understand how many people work with archives and records across the island of Ireland, which will help ARA Ireland lobby for additional funding/resourcing and recognition. It is being released on 21st of November, to coincide with the launch of the Explore Your Archive Focus Week, and I would encourage everyone to complete it and share it as widely as possible.

This segues wonderfully to the Explore Your Archive Campaign itself. It may amuse many to read that despite my address at last year’s launch, I failed to extricate myself from the role of Campaigns officer in time for the current Focus Week, and you will therefore find an article on this year’s campaign to be authored by myself! Please read it to find out how you can best contribute to the focus week itself and to the year-long advocacy campaign. The excellent news is that our current Representative for the Section for New Professionals, Erin McCrae, has been co-opted into the role following her term as SfNP rep, and will be taking over next month! We are delighted to have her, but this leaves another committee vacancy, details of which you will also find in this edition. I would encourage those recently graduated members of our profession to consider submitting for this role which is fantastic opportunity to gain more experience while developing a strong network of colleagues.

With 2024 being the first year following the end of the Decade of Commemorations, it is encouraging to see archives and our profession continue to get the attention they deserve, (despite the fears of many we would be forgotten) and to have the opportunity to advocate for them in such a variety of spaces. It is my hope that you all take strength and encouragement from that, and I would call on you all to share in that work and embrace whatever opportunities come your own way. In the meantime, please do take part in the EYA campaign, complete the census survey, and enjoy this bumper edition of our newsletter.

Le gach dea-ghuí / with every best wish,
Niamh Ní Charra,
Chair,
Archives and Records Association, Ireland

Explore Your Archive 2024/25



Niamh Ní Charra
Communications and Campaigns Officer



The clocks have gone back, election mania is in full swing, and if you're in to all things Celtic, then you may have just celebrated the Celtic New Year on the 1st of November. This can only mean one thing – it's time also to start planning for the annual Explore Your Archive campaign which kicks off with a focus week from 21st to 30th November! Time also to mark your diaries for the ARA Ireland launch of the focus week, which this year takes place in the Oak Room of the Mansion House, Dublin, on Thursday 21st.

For those not familiar with ARA's Explore Your Archive annual campaign, it aims to showcase the best of archives and archive services across Ireland and the UK and to make the public aware of the phenomenal array of archival collections held by organisations, both public and private, whatever their size and scale, and wherever their location. The Explore Your Archive in its current iteration has been running since 2014, with an earlier archives awareness campaign running for at least a decade prior to this.

More recent updates have shifted the emphasis from a week-long campaign in November/December to a year-long campaign with a special Explore Your Archive day on the 10th of every month and a designated focus-week in November.



ARA Ireland's EYA ambassador for 2024, Donal Fallon. Photo © Marc O'Sullivan and taken at the Irish Traditional Music Archive.

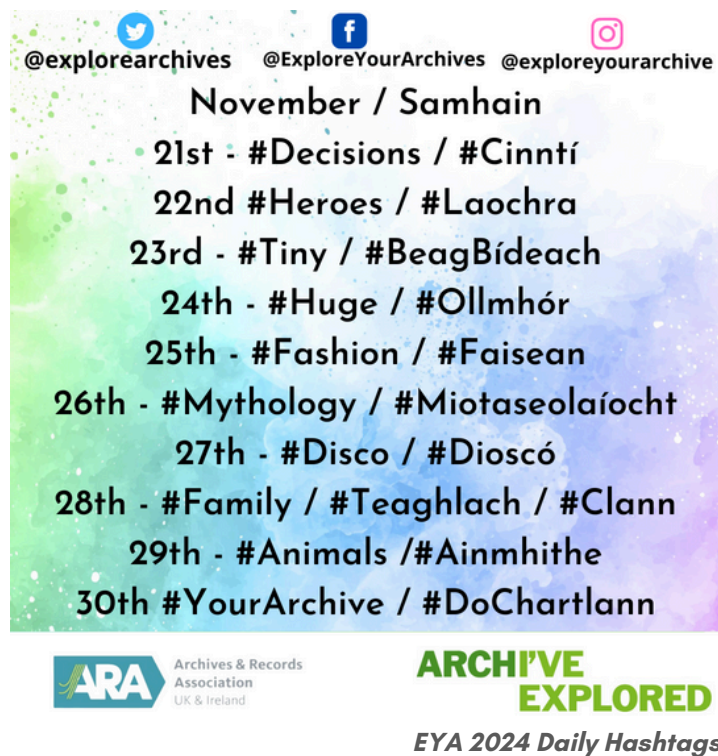
[How to take part](#)

As in previous years, there are many ways to participate.

1) [Events](#) – whether in-person, online or a hybrid of both, options may include online talks, presentations, or exhibitions. These can be shared on our EYA events page, where previous submissions can be seen [here](#).

2) Featured Archives - specific projects which have already taken place or which are ongoing can be promoted through our "Featured Archives" page on our website. You may find those submitted previously to be of use, and these can be seen [here](#).

3) Social media - a strong social media campaign can be highly effective in promoting our sector and its work. As in previous years, Explore Your Archive have introduced daily hashtags. We would love you to share your work, collections and experiences online to give your followers a sense of the work that goes on behind the scenes and the fabulous archives that you care for. You can use these themes to inspire your tweets, but don't forget to tag us at @arairreland and to use the #ExploreYourArchive hashtag each day. (You can also tag us and/or use #ExploreYourArchive on any archives related tweet throughout the year.)



The Launch

We are delighted to announce that our launch will take place at the Oak Room, Mansion House, Dawson Street, Dublin 2, 6-8pm tbc. We are also delighted that Donal, our EYA 2024/2025 ambassador, will be joining us for our official EYA launch. More details to follow.

If you have any questions about the Explore Your Archive campaign, or wish to submit events or material for the featured archive please do not hesitate to contact me on niamhnicharra@gmail.com.

Please note that for your events to make the press release, details need to be received by today, Friday 15th of November.

Have fun planning!
Niamh

Detailed scrutiny of Broadcasting (Amendment) Bill 2023

As Chair of the Archives and Records Association, Ireland, Niamh Ní Charra was invited as a witness to the meeting of the Joint Committee on Tourism, Culture, Arts, Sport and Media on the Detailed Scrutiny of Broadcasting (Amendment) Bill 2023, (proposed by Patrick Costello, TD), at Leinster House in October. The amendment seeks to oblige RTÉ, Ireland's national public broadcaster, to preserve and make accessible its archives to researchers. Witnesses were asked to submit their opening statement along with a briefing document in advance. At the meeting, a double session, witnesses were asked to read their opening statement and were then asked for their expertise in a series of Q&As following each session. Niamh was a witness in the second session.



*Niamh Ní Charra, Chair of ARA Ireland
appearing before Oireachtas Committee*

In preparing her statement, which had input from all ARA Ireland committee members, Niamh was conscious that despite the restrictive time-limit of 3 minutes, this was still an important opportunity not only to address the issue at hand from the point of view of the ARM profession, but also to have other related issues effecting the entire sector put officially on the record. This will in turn allow others to cite the points raised.

Video and transcript for the full double session, including her opening statement and Q&As are available [here](#), and her opening statement can be read below.

A chairde,

I am speaking today as Chair of The Archives and Records Association, Ireland (ARA, Ireland), the principal professional body for archivists, archive conservators and records managers representing members across the island.

ARA Ireland are delighted to have been invited and have the opportunity to share our expertise which is incredibly relevant to today's topic.

Firstly, I would like to commend Deputy Costello and the work which has gone in to the drafting of this bill and getting it to this stage. I also note the concerns raised during the Dáil debate second stage and would welcome the use of the Q&A section to discuss these further.

Essentially, ARA Ireland fully supports the introduction of this legislation which will help ensure the processing, preservation and provision of access to an important section of our heritage. If the bill is to be successful, however, the following points need to be considered.

1) Resourcing

The work being discussed today doesn't simply include the digitisation of material. The material needs to be first appraised and catalogued so intellectual control is maintained, the material protected, and informed decisions on selection and access made. Long term preservation of digitised and born-digital material also needs to take place. This is all extremely resource-heavy, and at its core is the work of professional archivists. Serious investment is required to ensure these archivists are employed and have the support and necessary resources to guarantee success. Our sector is seriously underfunded, undervalued and frankly often undermined.

2) Sustainable resourcing.

Providing resources is not enough - it needs to be done in a sustainable manner. Resourcing should be regular, realistic and ring-fenced. Public bodies such as RTE should not have to rely on BAI, ad-hoc projects should not be the norm, nor should others in the sector be in competition with a publicly funded body for the same pot.

3) Legislation needs to be enacted in good faith

Our sector is already suffering from outdated legislation in the form of the 1986 National Archives Act, with 150 bodies and counting not covered, and therefore not obliged to transfer material to the National Archives. We have 2001 legislation which promised the employment of an archivist in every local authority, and over 2 decades later, we are only 2/3rds of the way there. By contrast it took only 2 years for every local authority to hire a biodiversity officer. And our sector is crying out for records management legislation to be brought in to ensure processes are embedded in everyday activities today, so that in an increasingly digital-only age, our archives of the future are preserved.

Many of the issues raised at second stage are surmountable, particularly through the work of professional archivists whose expertise includes GDPR, copyright, FOI and sensitive material considerations, but these archivists need to be hired in the first place and our expertise recognised, valued and given a central role.

We recommend that sufficient resourcing and structures are provided before any legislation commences. We suggest work be carried out in two phases: Discovery Phase (finding aids drawn up and made available) and Access Phase which should be as transparent as possible.

The proposed legislation can certainly be improved, and we are here to help in that work. In conclusion, ARA Ireland sees no reason for this legislation NOT to be considered for next stage, and fully support it going forward.

END

Statement on funding provision for local authority heritage professionals

Lisa Shortall

Head of Research, Learning and Cultural Heritage, Heritage Council

It has been a long road since the 1994 Local Government Act, but following the recent announcement by Minister of State for Nature, Heritage and Electoral Reform, Malcolm Noonan TD, that almost €1m in funding is being made available in 2025 for the recruitment of new heritage professionals in local authorities, we may finally arrive at a full complement of professionally qualified local authority archivists across the country. At the moment, the figure hovers at around 65% coverage across the 31 local authorities and, critically, some local authorities have never employed a local authority archivist.

This is part of an overall allocation of €5m to the Heritage Council aimed at strengthening heritage protection measures and improving accessibility to heritage at local level. It will also support the already fully resourced biodiversity and heritage officer networks. Established by the Heritage Council in 1999, the local authority heritage officer programme has been hugely successful. There are 31 local authority heritage officer posts. The local authority biodiversity officer programme was established by the Heritage Council in 2022. Currently there are 29 biodiversity officers in place.

The introduction of the expanded scheme is being implemented by the Heritage Council in collaboration with the County and City Management Association (CCMA) with the support of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Local authorities are rich repositories of historical records and most of what survives nationwide dates back to the mid-nineteenth century. The records originate from the administrative structures of local government from the earliest entities such as grand juries, town commissions, urban and rural district councils, and boards of guardians, to the current county council system of local government which was established in 1898. As such, each local authority in Ireland has a vast administrative archive which is important for various reasons: it represents the administrative history of the county or city; it acts as the corporate memory of the local authority; it provides historical accountability to the community it serves; and it is an unmatched reserve of historico-cultural primary sources. On a national scale, it is an under-resourced and under-used treasure trove of possibility.

Our past and current local authority archivists are to be commended for the amazing work they have done since 1994, and I know from my time in Offaly, that incoming archivists to this network will have nothing but support and assistance at every turn. The prospect of a complete national network will hopefully be a source of strength for this group of archivists who have worked tirelessly over many years to promote local archives. Now with Heritage Council backing and advocacy, we will endeavour to keep local authority archives in the spotlight so that their records, to paraphrase the 1994 Act, are finally preserved and made available to all.

Lisa Shortall is the Head of Research, Learning and Cultural Heritage at the Heritage Council. A professional archivist, she was formerly employed in Offaly Archives.

Statement on funding provision for local authority heritage professionals

Niamh Ní Charra
Chair, ARA Ireland

As Chair of ARA Ireland, I welcome the news from Minister Malcolm Noonan that archivists and other heritage professionals are to be recruited to fill vacancies across our local authorities, as part of a major expansion of the Heritage Council's programme, and I commend the Heritage Council's ongoing work in this area. It is vital that promises to ensure a full complement of local authority archivists are employed by December, 2026, and proper supports and resources in place for all local authority archivists, to ensure at-risk archives and local heritage are protected and increased public services can be provided.

It has taken over 2 decades already for 2/3rds of local authorities to hire archivists, following legislation in 2001. Many of these have insufficient supports to carry out their work, many archive collections are housed in unsuitable locations and there is an alarming lack of recognition and acknowledgement for the importance of the archivist's vital work. We encourage all local authorities to embrace this expanded scheme, and the recognition given by Minister Noonan of the importance of our archival collections nationwide, and of hiring experts to protect and preserve this rich heritage.

Niamh Ní Charra,
Chair,
Archives and Records Association, Ireland

The Topographical File collection: National Monuments Service Archive

Dr. Rachel Barrett

Archivist, National Monuments Service Archive, Dept. of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Background

The Topographical File collection, housed in the National Monuments Service (NMS) archive, dates from 1933, with in excess of 9,000 files recently catalogued and are currently being prepared for digitisation.

In the early 1930s there was no comprehensive survey of archaeological monuments in Ireland, despite calls for such from various stakeholders concerned with the protection of Ireland's archaeological heritage. Harold G. Leask, Inspector of National Monuments, with the Office of Public Works (OPW), and Dr Adolf Mahr, Director of the National Museum of Ireland (NMI), set about designing a project whereby published material on archaeological sites in Ireland and Northern Ireland, was collated to build up an archive of material of archaeological interest on a county basis.



Harold G. Leask, Inspector of National Monuments



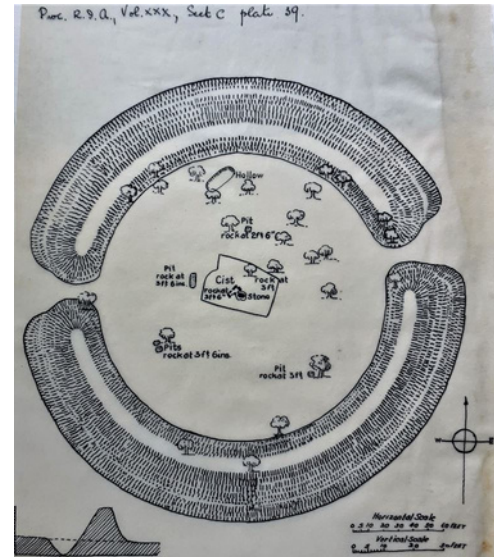
Dr Adolf Mahr, Director of NMI.
Image reproduced with the kind permission of the National Museum of Ireland.

Irish archaeological and historical journals, both national and regional, were consulted to identify any articles relating to archaeological monuments. These included the Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland; the Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy; and the Ulster Journal of Archaeology, among others. The Ordnance Survey Letters and maps, as well as the Irish Tourist Association (ITA) Survey (1942-45), were further assessed, as well as inspection notes and information submitted to the NMI.

Between two and three hundred volumes were minutely examined as part of this project, with relevant extracts put into précis form. Pen and ink sketches of any drawings included in these publications were drafted, often by Leask himself, and the files also contain some photographs from inspections. The following are examples of the drawings contained in some of the files.



Killeen Cormac Burial Ground, Colbinstown, Co. Kildare, SMR number KD032-044—]



Forenaughts Great, Co. Kildare, SMR numbers KD019-022001- (Enclosure), KD019-022002- (Standing Stone), KD019-022003- (Cist). Preservation Order No. 95/1940]

Process

A detailed insight into the practical details of this project is provided in Leask's Presidential Address on the Archaeological Survey, delivered at the R.S.A.I. Annual General Meeting in 1942.

[1] This address provides us with a full provenance of the collection, with insight into the smallest of details, including how the size of the envelope was determined. The following paragraphs are extracts from this address.

Leask explains that at an early stage they decided upon the adoption of an envelope-index rather than a card-index system. While the latter had advantages where only a single record was to be made, it was felt that a duplicate record would meet the special requirements and conditions for having a duplicate collection in both the National Monuments Section of the OPW and the NMI, and would be more workable in every way. The information extracted could be typed in duplicate in one operation, which was impossible on cards, and enveloped separately. Additional information accruing in the future could also easily be added.

[1] Harold G. Leask, 'The Archaeological Survey. Address delivered at the AGM, 27 Jan., 1942', in *The Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquities of Ireland, Seventh Series, Vol.12, No.1* (Mar. 31, 1942), pp 1-13

The size of envelope decided upon was 10 inches by 7 inches; large enough to hold a considerable bulk of foolscap sheets folded in half, yet not unwieldy. The face of each envelope included the following particulars: the name and nature of the monument; details regarding its geographical position, both on the maps in relation to political divisions; references to finds made at monument, and to the literature where it has been described mentioned.

TOP/KD/0002

Monument(s) Castle	Townland(s) Clonagh
Finds, if any	Parish Cadamstown
	Barony Carbury
	D.E. Divn. Dunfieth
	Co. Divn. Edenderry No.2
Habitat of finds	Vicinity of
	COUNTY KILDARE
	Alternative Name(s)
O.S. Map : 6", No. 3 (.....cm. from left.....cm. from top). 25", No. 3/18 (.....Sector). Not marked.....map.	
Description	
References Kildare Archl. Journ. vol.2, p. 135-6.	

O.R.W. Macneil

Example of the details recorded on each envelope

Leask then explains the process of collating all the relevant information for this collection. The first step was the perusal of the publication being dealt with. All relevant passages for extraction were noted in soft pencil, marginally, for the typist's attention, with very long articles usually condensed in précis form. The extracts were typed, in duplicate, on the half sheets of foolscap already mentioned and the illustrations were traced in ink and photo-printed, also in duplicate. The next step involved siting the monuments on the map, using the original edition of the Ordnance Survey maps where possible. Finally, the topographical particulars were filled in from the Townland Index.

In terms of the sequence in which monuments were recorded, Leask explains that attention was given first to the prehistoric monuments, particularly to megaliths, not only because of their archaeological importance and great age but because there was in existence a massive book, in itself a catalogue upon which the system could be tried out experimentally: Borlase's *Dolmens of Ireland*.^[2] All the relevant material concerning the monuments already vested in the State or offered to the Commissioners under the Land Acts since 1903 were then added.

^[2] William Copeland Borlase, *The Dolmens of Ireland*. London, 1897.

Leask does note that the copying of illustrations was not in quite so advanced a stage as the typing by 1942, but that the collation of the remainder of the extracted material, map siting, etc. goes steadily ahead. He further comments that a good beginning has been made with the post-prehistoric monuments, about one third of the estimated published total material having been extracted.

Archival History

As mentioned, duplicate copies of the envelopes and contents were created at the inception of the project in 1933, with one copy remaining with the National Monuments Office and a second copy sent to the NMI. Today, while the NMI files remain active, with new information received incorporated in the collection, the original order of the National Monument Office files was retained, with no additional information added. Having been stored in less than ideal conditions and uncatalogued, a programme of basic preservation and cataloguing to make it accessible was started by the NMS archivist in March 2020.

Firstly, all envelopes were arranged in county order, and then numerically by O.S. sheet number and alphabetically by townland name. All metal fasteners were removed and basic surface cleaning of the paper was carried out. Each file was then given a unique identifier based on the collection name, county id, and sequence of envelope e.g. TOP/KD/0123. The details contained on the front of the envelope were all recorded to create an item level description, and the files were stored in archival quality boxes.

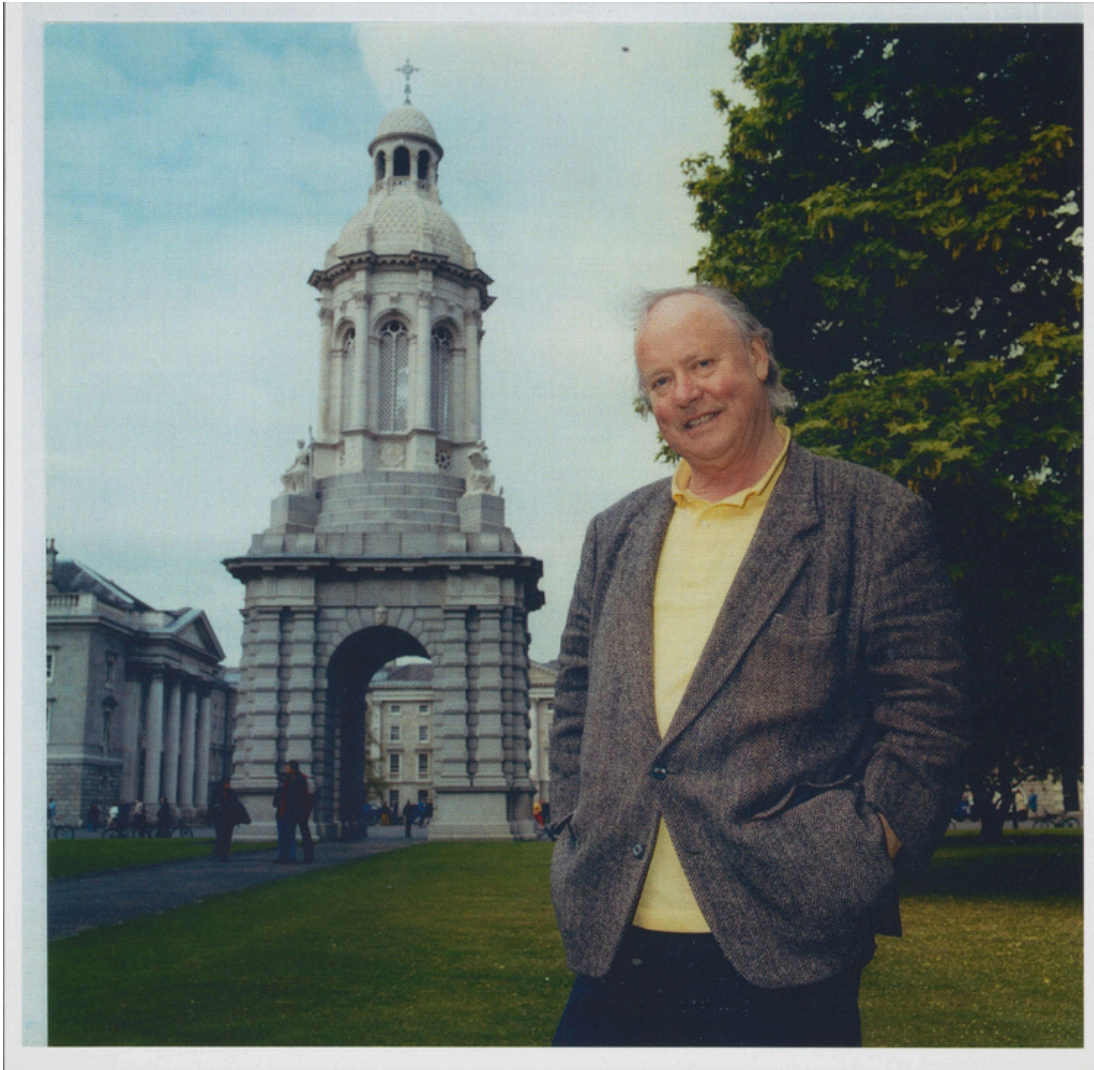
This collection was the precursor to the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), begun in the 1980s which identified all known sites and monuments in the country. As part of the SMR project, the contents of the Topographical File collection were assessed with originals copied and placed in the newly created SMR files. However, as the SMR was the first time that a unique monument number was assigned to each and every individual monument, allowing researchers to easily identify the records they require, the Topographical Files are missing this key information. As such, the archive are currently working with colleagues in the Archaeological Survey Unit of NMS to identify the relevant SMR numbers for the records and adding this information to the catalogue. Once this is completed, it is intended to digitise this collection to make this resource more fully accessible to researchers.

Access to this and other collections in the NMS archive can be requested via nmarchive@housing.gov.ie

Literary Archive of Brendan Kennelly

Ciara Daly
Project Archivist

The Literary Archive of poet and academic Brendan Kennelly is now available!



Brendan Kennelly standing in front of the Campanile in Trinity College Dublin.

A collection of material related to the literary endeavours of poet and academic Brendan Kennelly (1936-2021) has recently been made available for consultation by The Library of Trinity College Dublin. Brendan Kennelly was an Irish poet, academic and subsequently a public figure. Kennelly was born on the 17th of April 1936 in Ballylongford, County Kerry. He was awarded a scholarship to study English and French at Trinity College. There he was editor of *Icarus*, a student literary magazine, and captained the Trinity Gaelic Football Club. He graduated in 1961 with first-class honours, before obtaining a Doctor of Philosophy in 1967.

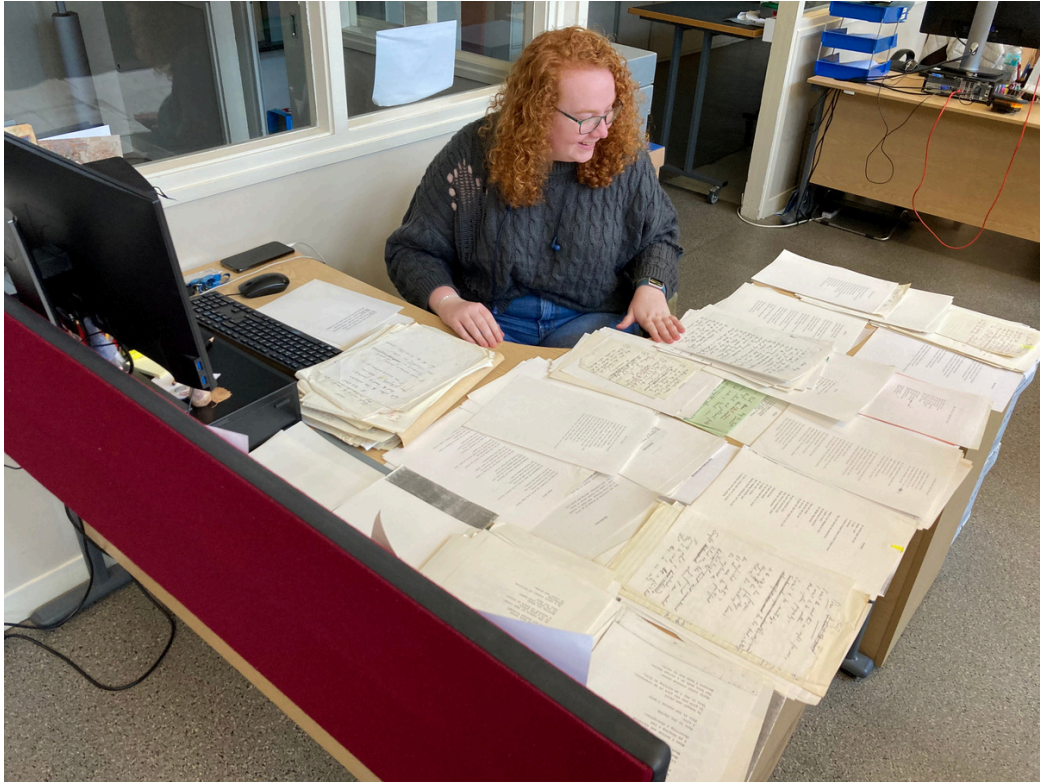
Kennelly was Professor of Modern Literature at Trinity College until 2005 and following his retirement he was elected Professor Emeritus. He published over 44 collections of poetry as well as two novels and adaptations of six plays across his literary career and academic career. Evidence of all of these appear in the archive. Brendan Kennelly died on the 17th of October 2021. The Archive was launched online on the 17th of April 2021 by Provost Patrick J. Prendergast and the launch featured a message from the President of Ireland Michael D. Higgins along with selected poems recited by U2 singer Bono and poet Paula Meehan. The Brendan Kennelly Literary Archive project started in April 2022.

The Kennelly Literary Archive is being catalogued as part of Virtual Trinity Library, a philanthropic campaign to catalogue, conserve and digitise the Library's most prized collections across nine representative categories. The Brendan Kennelly project represents the themes of Ireland's Literary Heritage: Literary Archives and Trinity's Scholarly Contribution to the World: Trinity Icons. Brendan Kennelly's archival collection (TCD MS 11333) is extensive and covers all facets of his life, personal, professional, and creative.

The archive arrived in the library in several different tranches, from varied provenances including Brendan Kennelly's rooms in the University, from his house in Ballylongford, and from the Kennelly family. It was accessioned over a decade; the first tranche came in around 2008-2009. A large tranche of material came in 2018 - 2022 from his family. Material was also accessioned from the English Department in 2021- 2023.

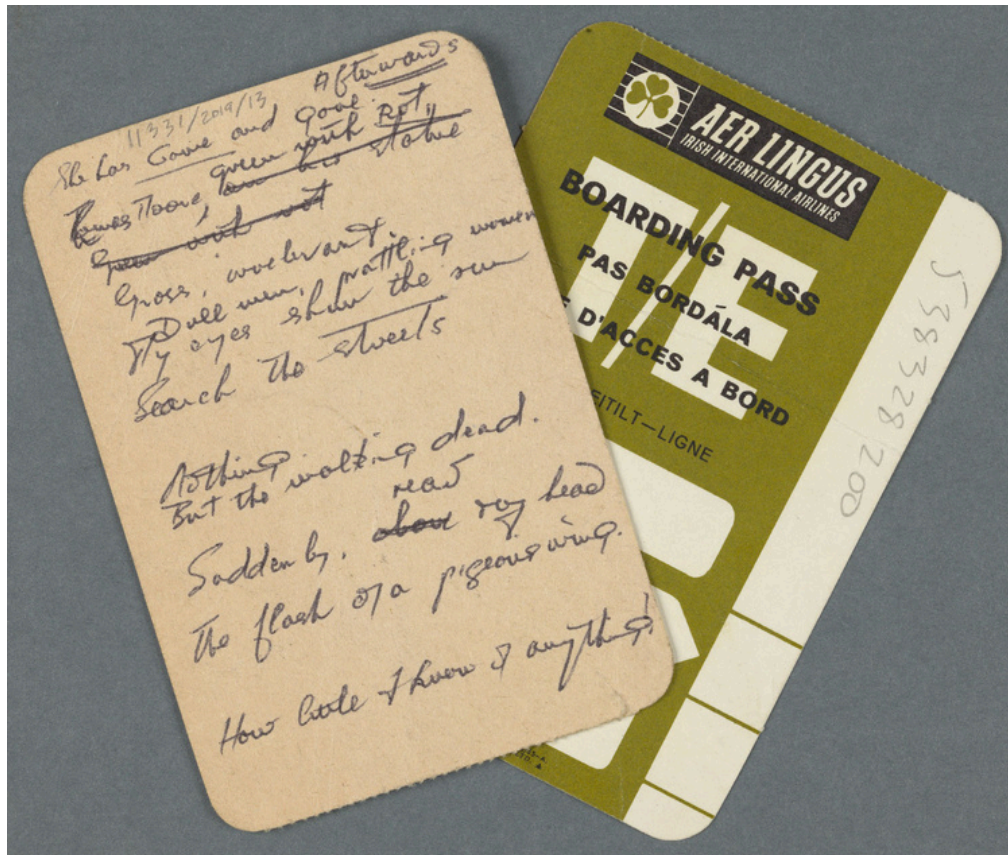
The collection comprises over 457 archive boxes or 229 banker boxes of material which include drafts of published works; drafts of unpublished works; plays; novels; drafts of reviews, articles, speeches, essays, appreciations and tributes for colleagues and other Irish literary and cultural figures as well as material relating to his academic career and life as a public figure. This includes lecture notes and materials relating to his time teaching in Trinity and elsewhere, correspondence with family, colleagues, and the general public as well as with Irish writers, editors and publishers. There are posters and programmes, photographs, and a range of other material from Kennelly's literary life over several decades. The collection contains a small amount of audio material and some word-processed material.

The size and content of the archive is directly influenced by Kennelly's personal habits. He was averse to technology, he didn't own a mobile phone, and he passed any electronic or fax communication through the secretary of the English department. The Literary Archive is quite distinctive because of this, as a late 20th-century collection, and it is likely to be the last fully paper-based collection that the Library accessions. It is also the largest boxed collection in the Library and therefore is also one of the most challenging.



Project Archivist Ciara Daly alphabetizing Brendan Kennelly's unpublished poetry.

The literary material has been prioritised for release based on several factors including size, interest for the researcher, recommendations from the English department for use in teaching and research, ease of release and GDPR concerns (or lack thereof). This is comprised of four series. The first series is the poetry series which is the largest in the section with fifty-one sub series. Sub series 1-44 are the poet's published collections and sub series 44-49 contain unpublished collections such as 'A Girl' and 'Virginity.' Sub series 50 contains notebooks of unpublished poetry while sub series 51 contains a swathe of loose-format unpublished poetry. The unpublished poetry is organised A-Z to ensure useability of the material, and the first line is used where no title is present. Making the unpublished drafts of poetry useable was a challenge in the cataloguing process. In preparing for cataloguing the collection it was necessary to undertake research into how other institutions catalogued large modern literary collections. Finding aids for collections of modern literary papers in University College Dublin and the National Library of Ireland were examined but it was the Langston Hughes papers at Yale University which really cemented the cataloguing approach. An alphabetized database was created of all Kennelly's published poems to cross reference with the unpublished poems as they were being examined and an alphabetized list was created to ensure that the unpublished poems were findable and useable. The second series comprises published plays, Sophocles's *Antigone*; Euripides' *Medea*; Lorca's *Blood Wedding*; *The Trojan Women* and versions of Anton Chekhov's *The Bear* and *The Proposal*. This series also includes some unpublished dramatic adaptations. The third series contains novels and short stories, principally drafts for two published novels *The Crooked Cross* (1963) and *The Florentines* (1967) as well as some unpublished drafts. The fourth series contains drafts and copies of other work, such as reviews, speeches and material relating to his work editing and compiling anthologies.



Aer Lingus plane ticket with a poem entitled 'Afterwards' written on it.

There are significant GDPR concerns which arise with the material related to Kennelly's academic career in Trinity and other academic institutions and with the correspondence section and these will be closed for the foreseeable future. The academic material includes personal material relating to students such as grades and feedback reports, requests for references, and general student-lecturer correspondence and as such will be treated as are the official College Archives, which have internally imposed access restrictions. The correspondence section is the largest section of the archive, amounting to 103 banker boxes. This is extremely unusual in literary archives and presents significant archival challenges.

Brendan Kennelly influenced generations of scholars, teachers, parents, and citizens and he was unfailingly encouraging to his students and the countless other people he engaged with. He was not only respected and admired for his teaching and literature but his appearances on the Late Late Show and other aspects of his career as a public figure endeared him to the people of Ireland and this is highlighted by the sheer quantity and nature of the correspondence that he received.



Ciara Daly, Project Archivist with the collection.

The funding for this project allowed for the employment of Ciara Daly, a project archivist, to complete the cataloguing of the literary section of the Kennelly Archives, the creation of a finding aid, promotion and outreach for the collection, and scoping for the remainder of the collection. The finding aid is available through the library's website and you can read more on our project page.

Link to [catalogue record](#)

Link to [project page](#)

Vacancy on ARA Ireland Committee

Come and join us!

Our current Section for New Professionals (SfNP) representative, Erin McRae, will be vacating the role to become ARA Ireland's new Campaigns Officer from December 2024, having completed her term. We therefore have a vacancy in the role of SfNP representative and are seeking submissions. This role would ideally suit recent graduates and the new officer will benefit from having the expertise and guidance of Erin on hand, as she remains on the committee.



Section for New Professionals (SfNP) Representative – Job Description

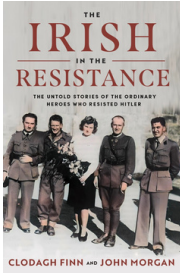
The SfNP Representative role is to liaise, on behalf of the Ireland region, with the Section for New Professionals and represent the views of new professionals in the region to the ARA Ireland committee. NB candidates for this role should be less than five years qualified.

Main responsibilities:

- To participate in SfNP committee meetings (usually 3-4 per year via MS Teams).
- To attend and participate in ARA Ireland committee meetings.
- To prepare and deliver reports to the SfNP on the Ireland Region's activity.
- To attend the annual SfNP seminar in October.
- To keep up-to-date generally with issues and activities currently of concern to new professionals in the Ireland region.
- To report to the region on SfNP activities.
- Organise one event per year (supported by the SfNP and ARA Ireland Training Officers) in the Ireland region for new professionals.
- To maintain good communications with other officers within the region and to contribute to activities organised within the region and beyond.

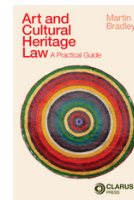
Newly Published

Some ideas for possible stocking-fillers for you or others this Christmas

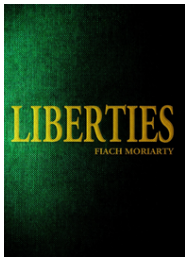


The first book on the list is co-authored by our out-going EYA Ambassador Clodagh Finn. "The Irish in the Resistance" by Clodagh Finn and John Morgan.

See [here](#)



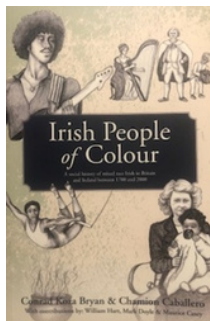
"Art and Cultural Heritage Law: A Practical Guide" by Martin Bradley. See [here](#)



This time a recording from Fiach Moriarty. The album "Liberties" has a definite archival feel to it. Links here:

[website](#) [about the album](#) [buy the album](#)

Inside Rural Ireland: Power and Change since Independence
Tomás Finn, Tony Varley editors. See [here](#)



Irish People of Colour: A social history of mixed race Irish in Britain and Ireland between 1700 and 2000, Conrad Koza Bryan & Chamion Caballero. See [here](#)

Reeling in the Queers: Tales of Ireland's LGBTQ Past, Páraic Kerrigan
See [here](#)



There's also the recent publication of the Atlas of Civil War, but it may not fit in a stocking! Atlas of the Irish Civil War: New Perspectives

Edited by Hélène O'Keeffe, John Crowley, Donal Ó Drisceoil, John Borgonovo and Mike Murphy

See [here](#)



Rebel Women, Cumann na mBan in Belfast and the Glens of Antrim 1914-1924

By Margaret Ward. See [here](#)