

Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement NEWSLETTER

No. 12

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Editorial

Welcome to the 2007 edition of our Newsletter. I would like first of all to thank our last President, Michael O'Hanrahan for his leadership over the period of his office and for the hard work he put in at committee meetings, editorial work and other supportive activities on behalf of the *Group*.

As new President I wish to thank the *Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement* for placing their trust in me to lead us over the next few years.

I am very grateful to Dr Mervyn Busted for writing a very fine article for the newsletter. It will bring back warm memories of our visit to Enniskillen last May. I would like to thank Bernadette Cunningham once again for her many notices of recently published books. Angela Murphy very kindly supplied a piece on the *Irish Historic Towns Atlas* that brings us up-to-date with that very important project. Linda Doran who is compiling the data for the map of the town of New Ross in the same series has written an important article on New Ross. This provides us with a compact history of the town before our visit there during the May outing. My thanks to Damian MacGarry and Billy Colfer who also contributed material to further whet our appetite before the outing. My thanks to all of them. I thought the members of our *Group* might find the short piece on two recent books on maps and mapping of interest especially since they deal with an area that is outside our normal interest.

The Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement and *The Agricultural History Society of Ireland* have decided to come together to plan a new *theme* conference to be held in February 2009. Work on this conference is in its infancy but we are all very excited about the project. We think it will be of interest to a very wide range of people both inside and outside academic circles. As things take shape we will keep you all informed.

This year our outing is to Wexford / New Ross. We will be based in the Talbot Hotel. The list of speakers and lectures and information concerning registration and other fees may be found at the back of this Newsletter.

I hope you will find this issue of the Newsletter of interest and a stimulus towards making the decision to join us in Wexford from the 16th-18th May 2008.

We now have a web site or rather a weblog site (a Blog). Why not visit and give comments on how it could be structured or improved. The address is long. I have hosted it on my .Mac account.

<http://homepage.mac.com/charles.doherty/iblog/B1068827693/index.html>

After you first log on make a bookmark of the site. Give it a name (why not **GSiHS**). Place it in your menu-bar for easy reference and then all future visits will require just one click.

Charlie Doherty
January 19, 2009

Articles

Land and Life on a Fermanagh Estate: Castle Caldwell, Co. Fermanagh

1750–1830

Mervyn Busted
(*Geography Discipline,
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Manchester, U.K.*)



Plate 1 Sir James Caldwell c. 1720–1784

The Caldwell family documents are part of the Bagshawe Muniments, the records of the Bagshawe family of Ford Hall in Derbyshire. In March 1751 Colonel Samuel Bagshawe married Catherine, a sister of Sir James Caldwell of Castle Caldwell, Co. Fermanagh. By the early 1870s the Caldwell estate had fallen on hard times, in 1877 it was put up for auction and in November that year Mr. W.H.G. Bagshawe, a keen family historian, bid successfully for these archives.¹ In 1950 his

descendant Major F.E.G. Bagshawe deposited the entire collection with the John Rylands University Library in Manchester as *The Bagshawe Muniments*. I have used them to reconstruct some aspects of life on the Castle Caldwell estate during the period when Sir James and Sir John Caldwell were head of the family between 1740 and 1830.

The Caldwell Family

The Caldwells, originally from Prestwick in Ayrshire, settled as merchants in the Enniskillen area during the plantation of Ulster. By the late 1660s John Caldwell was renting part of the estate of the Blennerhassett family who had been granted plantation land on the shores of Lower Lough Erne. In the late 1670s, when many original planter families were selling up, he had bought the estate outright, moved into the house, which he renamed “Castle Caldwell” and in June 1683 was granted an hereditary baronetcy.² The Caldwells had clearly graduated into the ranks of the ruling Anglo-Irish elite as minor gentry.

The most active and ambitious member of the family was Sir James Caldwell, the fourth baronet (opposite). Born about 1720, he was educated privately and at Trinity College, Dublin, graduating in 1740. Like many contemporaries, he then went abroad to complete his education, but in his case the Grand Tour took the unusual course of serving for several years in the army and diplomatic service of the Austrian Empire. The formidable Empress Maria Theresa was so impressed she offered him the post of Chamberlain of the imperial household, but as a devout Protestant he felt he could not take the necessary oath. However, the empress ennobled him as Count of Milan in the Holy Roman Empire and granted him the right to add “the imperial eagle crowned” to the family coat of arms (Plate 2 on page 2). His father had died in 1744 and in 1749 Sir James returned to Ireland and settled on the family estate. In 1755

¹ They formed the material for his *The Bagshawes of Ford: a biographical pedigree* (London, 1877).

² J. Cunningham, *Castle Caldwell and its families* (Enniskillen, 1980).

he married Elizabeth Hort, daughter of the Archbishop of Tuam and niece of the future Prime Minister Lord Shelburne, in a glittering ceremony conducted by Primate Stone, with the Lord Chancellor and the son of the viceroy amongst the guests. He had four daughters and three sons, the eldest, John, succeeding him in 1784.



Plate 2 Coat of Arms of Sir James Caldwell, incorporating Austrian imperial eagle

Sir James was an energetic, generally resident landlord who shared fully in all aspects of the contemporary philosophy of “improvement” as applied to estate management. He experimented with livestock breeding and new crops and farming implements, corresponded with like minded people in Ireland, Britain and Austria, and was a keen member of the Dublin Society founded in 1731, to which he regularly reported the outcome of his experiments. In 1752 he was unanimously elected a Fellow of the Royal Society; he became colonel of the county militia and in 1756

High Sheriff of Co. Fermanagh.

However he hankered after a more prominent role in public affairs. Consequently, in 1759, when a French invasion threatened, at his own expense he raised a troop of 200 light horse from amongst his tenants. He later led them in forays into the north-west and midlands to suppress illicit distilling and the Whiteboy agitation.³ In 1762 King George III appointed him a Gentleman of the Privy Chamber and in 1764 he was made a Freeman of Dublin. He took a keen interest in Irish economic and political affairs. He wrote 23 pamphlets on a wide variety of topics and in 1764 published *Debates* a widely acclaimed verbatim report of the proceedings of the Irish parliament during the first session of 1763.

But Sir James died a sad and disappointed man. In part this was due to the death in September 1778 of Lady Caldwell, his beloved “dear Lizzie” as he called her in his letters. Devastated by grief, he departed from his resolve to be a resident landlord and with his daughters spent the next three years visiting relatives in Yorkshire and spending time in the great watering places, especially Bath. In 1781 he returned to Castle Caldwell, but his energy and enthusiasm seem to have deserted him, and he died a rather forlorn figure in April 1784. The second factor in his distress was his unrelenting and ultimately unsuccessful pursuit of an Irish peerage, which would have capped the social ascent of a family with origins in trade. He had even chosen a title — “Lord Wellsborough”. But this sad obsession bequeathed an invaluable archive. The earliest Caldwell papers date from 1637 and the latest from 1830, but they are most numerous for the period from the mid 1740s when Sir James succeeds as head of the family until his death in 1784. It is highly likely he was carefully preserving them as documentary support for his claim to a peerage. After 1784 when Sir John inherits, the material shrinks in range and volume, ceasing entirely in 1830, but he too left some valuable documentation.

³ T.P. Power, *Land, politics and society in eighteenth century Tipperary* (Oxford, 1993).

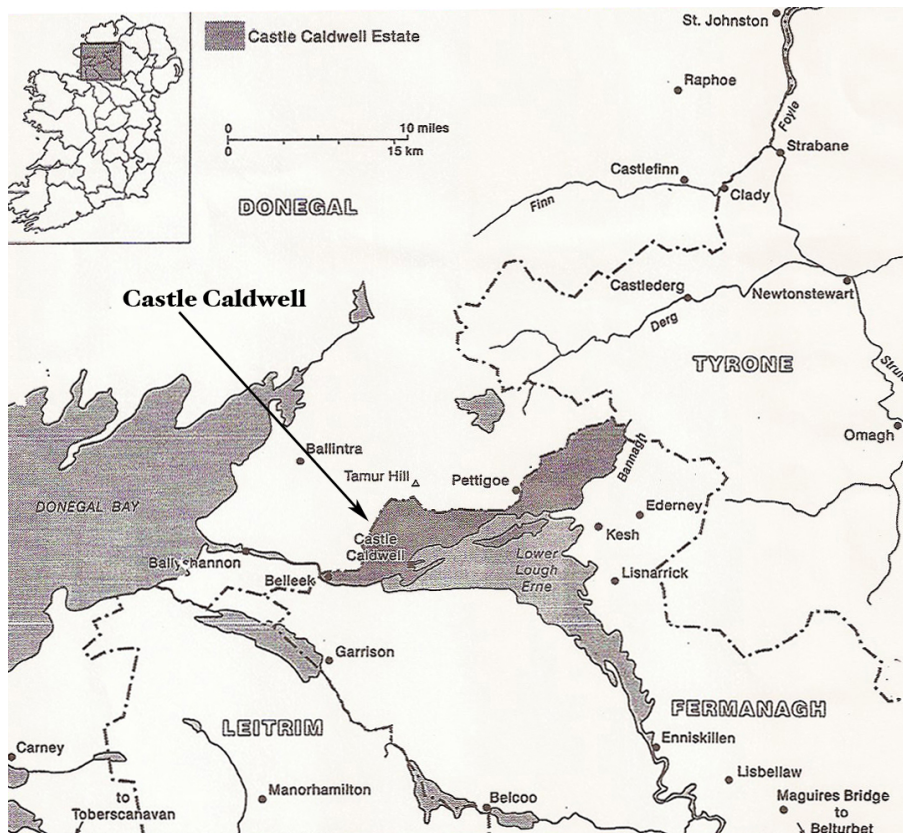


Figure 1 Location of Castle Caldwell estate

The Estate Economy

From these papers we can reconstruct some aspects of life on an estate in this part of Ulster from the mid eighteenth to the early nineteenth century. The Caldwell estates consisted of 2,370 acres, of which 270 were near Belturbet in Co. Cavan and 2100 along the western and northern shores of Lower Lough Erne (above). The family home, now in ruins, stood on one of the wooded peninsulas jutting into the western end of the lough and the numerous visitors commented on the splendid setting. Sir James was a hospitable and attentive host, and the archives include many letters of appreciation. One, written in August 1771, gives an intriguing glimpse into Caldwell domestic life. The thankful guest reminisces wistfully: "At this moment I enjoy the thought of being in the hospitable Castle Caldwell's magnificent rooms made cheerful by good fires, every individual contributing to the others happiness by musick, drawing, reading and conversation, the-

atrical entertainment etc".⁴

But this idyllic scene had problems of geography. Throughout the archives there are references to difficulties with the weather. In October 1750 it was reported: "The weather has been so bad for some time that there is not any work done out of doors."⁵ Soils in the region are derived from heavy wet boulder clay over limestone, with a high water table. Relative isolation was also a problem. Sir James remarked to Lord Shelburne in November 1759: "I could never go home from Dublin in less than three days tho' I have often made an attempt to do it."⁶ The fact that in 1802 Sir John was not receiving English newspapers did

⁴ Brockhill Newborough to Sir James Caldwell. *Bagshawe Muniments*, John Rylands University Library, Manchester. 31 August 1776. Letter Book vol. 8 B 3/10/468.

⁵ Pat Hamilton to Sir James Caldwell 7 October 1750. B 3/20/150.

⁶ Sir James Caldwell to Lord Shelburne November 1759 B 3/14/126.

not help. The condition of local roads was also a problem. There were roads along the north side of the lough shore, but the frequently wet weather and high water table created recurring problems. In November 1781 William Ogle wrote to Sir James: "It is almost impossible to pass from Pettigo to you . . . your estate must suffer exceedingly from this defect. . . . last year and this year . . . I saw nothing so wretched in any quarter as the road from Pettigo to Belleek, . . ."⁷

A census of religion in 1776⁸ plus analysis of surnames in the estate's 1770 Rent Roll⁹ suggest a majority of Sir James' tenants were Catholic. He himself was a devout and unquestioning member of the church of Ireland, a firm believer in the Protestant constitutions of Britain and Ireland and an ardent opponent of any relaxation of the anti-Catholic penal laws. However, a combination of family tradition, Christian duty and possibly encounters with Irish Catholic officers in the Imperial Austrian army combined to make him tolerant of the Catholic religion and deeply aware of his responsibilities to all his tenants, even those behind with the rent. Writing to his friend Rev. Philip Skelton in March 1758 he claimed: "Since I came to my estate I have never a single beast appraised, impounded, or even drove, nor have I ever any suit in any court of justice."¹⁰ He may not have taken anyone to court, but in November 1750 his agents had certainly tried to take strong measures with one tenant whose robust reaction was reported in a letter from an anxious employee: "When we went to put the cows in the pound Mrs. Scales locked them up in the house and brought out her pistols and swore she would shoot the first man who would offer to bring them out . . . I want your honour's direction to know what's proper to be done."¹¹

The 1770 Rent roll valued the estate at £2291-11s-11d per year. Seventy leased properties were listed; of the 41 for which details are given, 16 are 'partnership farms under the 'rundale' system, taking up almost 75% of the rented land in hold-

ings which averaged 73.6 acres; the remaining 25 were leased to individual tenants on holdings with an average size of 13 acres. About 600 acres were demesne land immediately surrounding the house and reserved for exclusive use of the landlord; of this 75% was arable or pasture and 25% woodland. On the rest of the estate woodland was scarce and bog, moor and mountain dominated'.¹²

Details of crop patterns and daily life are scarce, possibly because such things were taken for granted or perhaps Sir James did not think them of relevance to his case for a peerage. However, there are Return books for some months in 1793, 1794, 1796 and 1797. These reveal that livestock and linen dominated the estate economy. Production of food crops for animals and the estate household and workers was a prime concern. The records frequently mention potatoes, hay and barley; wheat, a difficult crop in this area, appears only very occasionally. Livestock sales record trade in cattle, milk cows, sheep, geese and pigs; hides and tallow are also mentioned. The agricultural reformer Arthur Young visited the estate in August 1776 and noted the tradition of 'booleying', the herding of animals onto upland pastures during the summer months; he also noted how cattle were bought in for 12 months and then sold on to farmer weavers in the 'linen country' of east Ulster.¹³

⁷ William Ogle to Sir James Caldwell 10 November 1781 B 3/1/284.

⁸ W.H. Crawford, 'The political economy of linen: Ulster in the eighteenth century', in M. O'Dowd and B. Walter (eds), *Ulster: an illustrated history* (London, 1989) 153.

⁹ A Rent Roll of Sir James Caldwell Baronet's Estate in the year 1770 B 3/28/5.

¹⁰ Sir James Caldwell to Rev. Philip Skelton 19 March 1758 B 3/17/66.

¹¹ P. Knox to Sir James Caldwell 16 November 1750 B 3/20/225.

¹² M. Busteed, 'The practice of improvement in the Irish context — the Castle Caldwell estate in county Fermanagh in the second half of the eighteenth century', *Irish Geography* 33:1 (2000) 24.

¹³ A.W. Hutton (ed), *Arthur Young's tour in Ireland (1776-1779)* (London, 1892) vol. 1, 188.

Changes and Tensions

From the early 1790s the archive suggests changes are afoot. A letter of 5 October 1806 records how significant numbers of bullocks were: "...bought in the county of Mayo September the 24th and sent abroad the 6th inst for Carlisle" suggesting English dealers were now present at cattle markets.¹⁴ There are also indications that linen production was more firmly established. Flax was certainly grown, scutched and spun into yarn in the 1750s, but as early as 1750 Sir James was in touch with an experienced Lurgan linen entrepreneur with a view to laying out a bleach green, and the Return Books for 1793 record: "1 man and horse to bleach green for linen".¹⁵

One significant event in 1790 was the arrival of Sir John as head of the family. He emerges as something of a contrast to his father. During the American War of Independence he served in the British army as liaison officer with the native tribes allied to the British. His father proudly told Lord Shelburne: "...he was very useful in keeping them to our interest".¹⁶ Despite these early adventures, he emerges as a rather diffident individual with a preference for the quiet life. Shortly after his arrival at Castle Caldwell he wrote to his uncle Henry in Canada: "...my utmost ambition extends only to do what good I can".¹⁷ In the early 1780s as his father's health was failing one can trace a growing involvement in the estate, as he put forward suggestions for tree planting and sends ornamental shelducks for the estate ponds.¹⁸ But one wonders what the reactions were to the "...two very fine wolf pups..." he sent in March 1783, together with instructions that they be "...very well fed".¹⁹ On taking up residence he rebuilt part of the house and added six rooms, one a museum to house artefacts from his time in North America (Figure 2 on page 6). He became colonel of the county militia in 1794 and High Sheriff of Fermanagh.

But he was much less of an activist than his father, with a narrower range of interests. His correspondence deals almost exclusively with family and estate matters and he abandons the pursuit of the peerage. Consequently, the documentation for the years 1784 to 1830 is less voluminous

and varied. Nonetheless, it is still of great value. One of the most striking contrasts with his father is that Sir John is regularly absent from Castle Caldwell for long periods in Dublin, Bath, Harrogate, Cheltenham, Weymouth, Brighton, London and Paris. One positive result is that his agents sent frequent letters which provide illuminating insights into estate life. Thus a letter of May 1795 to Sir John in Dublin reported: "...masonry is gaining ground among your people... they have frequent nocturnal meetings"²⁰ and in March of that momentous year 1798 the same writer sent a letter to Bath reporting that in some nearby districts: "The people are much inclined to break out... & call themselves reformers."²¹ His employees were convinced that Sir John was losing out by his absences. On 5th October 1806 Thomas Quin wrote to George Johnston: "...the ditches are torn and battered to pieces... if an immediate stop is not put to it Sir John will be robbed and all this by the family of McGolricks... Sir John takes it so easy yet it would grieve any honest man to see the usage he is getting."²²

The McGolricks seem to have been a constant source of friction. By early 1807 there is considerable tension between them and the Muldoon faction on the estate. In December Sir John was informed that while the local militia were searching for an illicit still Thomas Muldoon shot Owen McGolrick dead, leaving a widow and five children.²³ Shortly afterwards the parish priest managed to prevent an attack on Muldoon's house²⁴ but by March 1808 it had become clear that the shooting had been no accident and Muldoon was likely to be hanged.²⁵ The final outcome is not

¹⁴ Thomas Quin to George Johnston 5 October 1806 B 3/38/45.

¹⁵ Castle Caldwell Return Book 27 July 1793 B 3/44/4.

¹⁶ Sir James Caldwell to Lord Shelburne; precise date unknown in 1781 B 3/19/57.

¹⁷ Sir John Caldwell to Col. Henry Caldwell, Spring 1793 B 3/35/21.

¹⁸ M. Busted, *Castle Caldwell, County Fermanagh: life on a west Ulster estate, 1750-1800* (Dublin, 2006) 39, 41-2.

¹⁹ John Caldwell to Sir James Caldwell 8 March 1783 B 3/13/125.

²⁰ Francis Foster to Sir John Caldwell 13 May 1795 B 3/38/23.

²¹ Francis Foster to Sir John Caldwell 21 March 1798 B 3/38/24.

²² Thomas Quin to George Johnston 5 October 1806 B 3/38/45.

²³ George Johnston to Sir John Caldwell 14 December 1807 B 3/38/53.

²⁴ George Johnston to Sir John Caldwell 8 January 1808 B 3/38/54.

²⁵ George Johnston to Sir John Caldwell 5 March 1808 B 3/38/56.

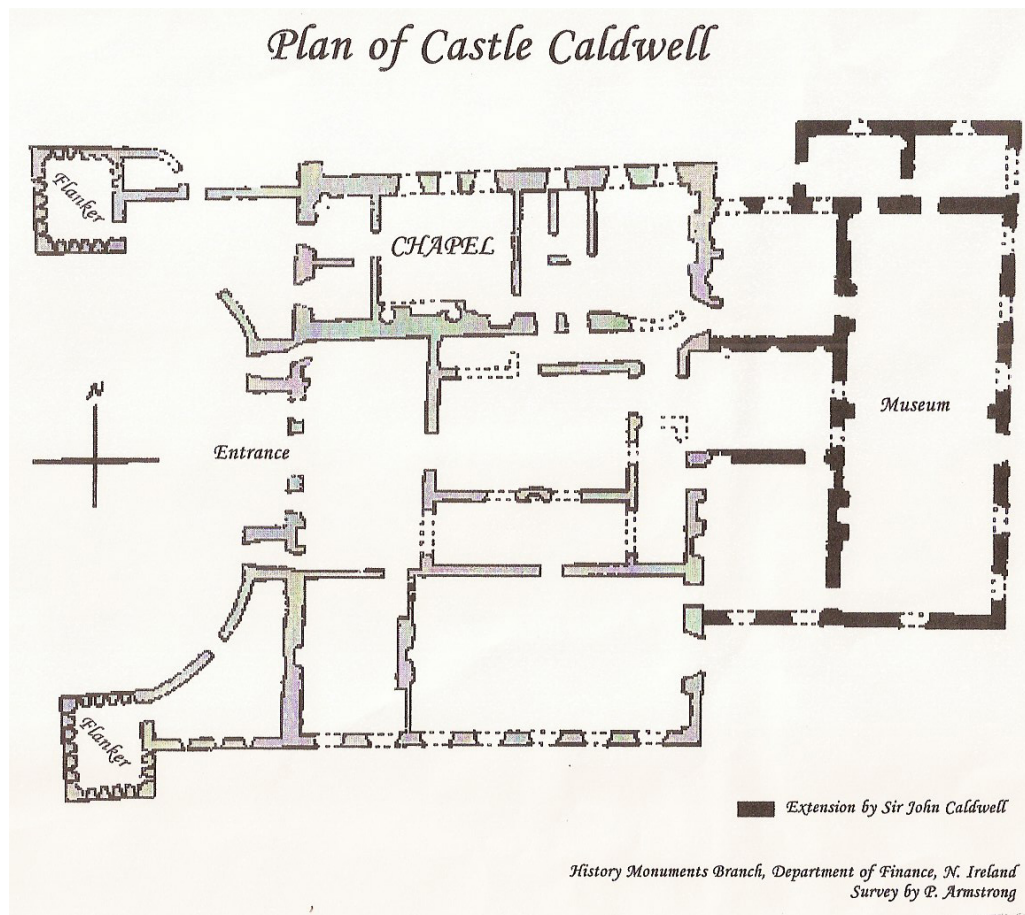


Figure 2 Plan of Castle Caldwell house, including Sir John's extension in the early 1790s

recorded. These incidents may be examples of the factional conflicts which partly reflected the pressure of rising population on land in early nineteenth century Ireland.

Conclusion

The tensions between these two kin groups illustrate the value of such archival sources. The Anglo-Irish have suffered varied treatment at the hands of commentators, praised for the architecture and literature they bequeathed and their championship of Irish parliamentary rights in the eighteenth century, vilified to the point of caricature for their alleged addiction to absenteeism and extravagance at the expense of rack rent-

ed tenants in the nineteenth century. Archival collections such as this provide a reality check. Undoubtedly they are in many senses a partial source, since the vast majority of the documentation was written and preserved by the landlord class, material from their employees, servants, tenants or labourers is rare and invariably couched in deferential terms and in the case of the Caldwell papers Sir James in particular was unlikely to preserve anything which showed the family in bad light. But nonetheless they can provide insights into some of the realities of life in late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century Ireland in one corner of County Fermanagh.

Maps of the Mind

Charles Doherty



Plate 3 The Wāq-wāq Tree

As students of settlement we are very conscious of maps. Most of the maps that we look at provide us with information about practical matters. However some maps deal rather more with the imagination than perceived reality. Many of the surviving maps of the middle ages are of this kind. Two books have been published recently that discuss this aspect of maps and map-making. Both books are beautiful examples of book-production.

The first is by E. Edson & E. Savage-Smith, *Medieval Views of the Cosmos. Picturing the Universe in the Christian and Islamic Middle Ages*, with a foreword by Terry Jones (Bodleian Library · University of Oxford, 2004) pp 121. ISBN 1 85124 184 1 £16.94. This has maps on almost every page, sometimes on a full spread and in full colour. It is a work of art. The authors provide a survey of map-making from Greek and Roman times right through to the early seventeenth century.

The first paragraph of the introduction sets the scene: 'Once upon a time the universe had meaning. In place of our modern idea of formless, endless space, scattered sparsely and randomly with stars, planets, asteroids, black holes, pulsars, and quasars, there was a tightly structured, hierarchical system centred around the earth and the human race. At every level was found a moral lesson for humanity and a satisfying metaphor for the nature of God. . . .'

We are so conditioned to believe that medieval people thought that the earth was flat that it comes as a surprise to learn that it is a recent invention. 'The conceit of the medieval belief in a flat earth was invented in the nineteenth century, in an attempt to promote the philosophy of progress. We are primarily indebted to the American novelist Washington Irving for this misconception, for in his semi-historical *History of the Life and Voyages of Christopher Columbus* published in 1828 he invented the idea that Columbus was bravely defying the universally held notion that the earth was flat.' (p. 67)

Each chapter is short and is a concise snapshot of the topic. We are introduced to science in Islamic territories. It was the Arabs who translated much of ancient Greek science into Arabic from the mid eighth to the tenth century. Two of the great works of Ptolemy came to us through this channel — his *Almagest*, and his *Geography*. We learn that the *Almagest* comes from the Arabic word *al-mijistī* which was in turn a contraction of the original Greek *Megalē Syntaxis*, 'The Large System'. This work laid the foundations of mathematical astronomy in the middle ages.

In both Islam and Christianity knowledge of the cosmos was important in liturgy. For example Muslims had to know the direction in which to face Mecca. For Christians Jerusalem was the centre of the earth and Paradise was a place to be discovered. The Western geographers who created maps loved to include the wierd and wonderful peoples that lived at the edge of the world. The Islamic tradition would seem not to have done so. There was an exception that took my fancy:

‘The island of Wāq-wāq is so called because of its great, tall trees there, with the many leaves like those of the fig-tree, except larger . . . In March, this tree sprouts fruit like those of the palm-tree but with the feet of young girls projecting from the base. On the second day of the month, two shins appear, and on the third day, two legs and two thighs. This continues, revealing a little more each day, until by the last day of April the whole torso has emerged. During May, the head appears, and the whole figure is complete, suspended by the hair. Their form and shape are most beautiful and desirable. At the beginning of June, they begin to drop from the trees and by the middle of the month not one remains. At the moment of falling, they utter two cries ‘Wāq!-wāq!’ . . . But once on the ground, they are found to be all flesh and no bones. Although they are more beautiful than words can describe, they have no life or soul. They are buried in the earth, for, were they to be left lying, no one would be able to approach them on account of the stench.’ (p. 66)

The second book is a magnificent work of scholarship: Alessandro Scafi, *Mapping Paradise. A History of Heaven on Earth* (The University of Chicago Press, 2006) pp 398. ISBN 0-226-73559-1 £33.25. It is produced to the highest standards of typography. There are lavish illustrations superbly integrated with the text.

Our modern advertisers conjure up paradise in order to sell their wares — how often have we been carried off to a tropical island to enjoy what is offered for sale. All the peoples of the world have created a Happy Hunting Ground or place of bliss according to the well-springs of their culture. Scafi has concentrated on paradise as revealed in the Western Christian tradition.

‘For Jews and Christians, the biblical narrative opens with the description of one paradise, the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2.8–14) and for Christians it closes with the description of another paradise, that of the Heavenly Jerusalem (Revelation 21.1–3; 22.1–2). The Garden of Eden is the enchanting place where the first human couple, Adam and Eve, lived in a blissful state of perfection. The Heavenly Jerusalem is the final perfection that is to be established by God at the end of human history. In the Holy Scriptures, and consequently in Christian theology, the symmetrical images of the beginning and the end — the garden and the city — tended to overlap, but there is a distinction, which should always be borne in mind. For Christian believers, the Heavenly Jerusalem of Revelation is the total and definitive redemption in heaven, while the Garden of Eden of Genesis is the place on earth of original human innocence. Long before travel agencies promised the modern urban masses of the West a paradise on earth, generations of Christians believed in the earthly existence of a pristine spot where God had placed Adam and Eve at the dawn of time, and which was supposed to have been the ideal and perfect habitat for mankind.’ (p. 12.)

It is the pristine spot that found a mark on medieval maps. Scafi begins with an exploration of paradise in the Bible noting the allegorical and literal interpretations. Where was paradise to be found? The author points out the difficulties faced by the Fathers of the Church when confronted with this problem. Saint Augustine’s literal reading of Genesis made sure that Paradise, wherever it was to be found, was a real place on the face of the earth. Isidore of Seville and Bede, among others, developed Augustine’s ideas. It was these ideas that reinforced the location of Paradise on the earth and map-makers from the late eighth century onwards placed it in distant parts on their maps.

The word 'paradise' first appears in the Hebrew Septuagint of the third century BC as *gan-Eden*, 'a garden in Eden'. The word *gan* was rendered *paradeisos* in Greek, 'an enclosed park' or 'pleasure ground'. The word developed further qualifications in the course of translation and Eden was thought of as a specific place on earth beyond the reach of mankind. Some lucky souls reported smelling the spices and blossoms of paradise wafting on the wind. A lucky pilgrim might have encountered paradise for an instant or a few hours — only to discover that his absence spanned years or generations. Our own St Mochoe of Nendrum found the descendants of his monks on his return.

One of the greatest contributions to a knowledge of paradise in the middle ages is discussed by Scafi — that is the legend of the voyages of St Brendan. As he points out 'It should be noted that when Saint Brendan and his monks had set sail from their Irish monastery they were searching not for the Garden of Eden of Adam and Eve, but for what is described in the *Navigatio* as the *terra repromissionis sanctorum*, the 'Land of Promise of the Saints'. He argues that Brendan's search for an earthly paradise was 'in fact an eschatological search.' (pp 52–3)

Scafi unravels the way in which exegetes and artists wove together the Garden of Eden, the Church, and paradise in Heaven — and how these ideas overlapped. The result was some of the most remarkable works of art of the middle ages — reproduced throughout the book. He provides a masterly survey of mapping and concentrates on the *mappae mundi*, 'maps of the world', from the ninth century onwards when the term is first encountered. Over 1000 of these maps have survived. These maps are oriented to the east and are a biblically based view of the world. 'The maps of the world produced in the monasteries and cathedrals of Western Europe, however, were not devotional, pastoral or theological documents, as opposed to our modern scientific representations of the earth, nor were they tools of religious propaganda or sermons in visual form. Rather, they were representations of the world according to a particular conception, one that took into account the scriptural text and the teachings of the Christian faith. Assessed on their own terms, the medieval maps of the world were in fact no less 'scientific' than any other type of map.' (p. 94) A chapter (Mapping Paradise in Space and Time) is devoted to 'how twelfth- and thirteenth-century *mappae mundi* offered an encyclopedic vision of the world as structured by mankind's historical pilgrimage from Eden to heaven.' (p. 116)

A chapter deals with this no-place, *u-topia*, that was *on* the earth but was not *of* the earth. What was the garden that lay between heaven and earth like? What was its atmosphere? Given what was known about the zones of the earth where could the garden be placed? These and other contradictions are discussed in an intriguing chapter entitled *Where Is Nowhere?*

'It was above all the appearance in the world of navigation of the nautical chart, possibly around 1200, that introduced a completely different cartographical mindset and by the end of the fifteenth century radically changed European mapping.' (p. 191) The garden of Eden was increasingly ignored by map-makers and had disappeared from maps by the end of the fifteenth century. The idea of its existence persisted but it was not accessible to man. 'Christians knew that the only possible journey to paradise was along the temporal flow that began in Eden and would end in heaven, through the death and Resurrection of Christ in Jerusalem.' (p. 242) The exegetes debated the possibility that the whole earth before the Fall had been paradise; but this theory, too, was abandoned. Then it was argued that paradise was located in a precise spot at some point in the remote past — the object of some archaeological investigations.

Surprisingly, claims that paradise has been found are still made. 'To the modern mind, true paradises are paradises lost (to use Proust's words).' (p. 372) But for some the search continues. From first page to last this is a riveting read and an important corrective to our materialist view of the past.

The background to this page is *The Garden of Eden, in Biblia, das ist, die gantze Heilige Schrift Deudsch* (Wittenberg: Hans Lufft. 1536. A woodcut devised for the first complete edition of the Lutheran Bible. Plate 15 in Scafi's book discussed above.

Notices of Recently Published Books

Bernadette Cunningham

The modern traveller to our past: Festschrift in honour of Ann Hamlin

Editor, Marion Meek

([no place given]: DPK Publishing, 2006, 445p. ISBN 9780955287404 Hbk; 9780955287411, Pbk, €21.50)

Over 60 scholars have provided the essays for this volume which are arranged in chronological categories from pre-history to the nineteenth century, but with a special emphasis on the early Christian and medieval periods. Contributors to the volume include Con Manning on 'The adaptation of early masonry churches in Ireland for use in later medieval times', Roger Stalley on 'Gothic survival in sixteenth-century Con-nacht', and C. Stephen Briggs on 'Edward Lhuyd's expeditions through Ulster, 1699 and 1700'.

Ireland: an Oxford archaeological guide to sites from earliest times to AD 1600

Andy Halpin and Conor Newman

(Oxford, Oxford UP, 2006, xi, 556p. ISBN 9780192806710, Hbk, £50; 9780192880574, Pbk, £18.99)

This guidebook is designed primarily for tourists interested in the archaeological and historical sites of Ireland. Rather than simply describing individual monuments the authors assert their intention to guide the reader to landscapes of the past, urban and rural, illustrating how human societies in the past were shaped by the landscapes they inhabited. This is achieved by a short introductory essay to each of the seven geographical (tourist board) sections. The entries for individual sites are quite short but probably adequate for most casual visitors.

New survey of Clare Island, volume 5: archaeology

Edited by Paul Gosling, Conleth Manning and John Waddell

(Dublin: Royal Irish Academy, 2007, ix, 326p., ill. ISBN 1904890164, Pbk, €40)

Building on the pioneering work of the first Clare Island survey, a multi-disciplinary project devised and coordinated by the naturalist Robert Lloyd Praeger, the Royal Irish Academy's new research project on Clare Island is also multi-disciplinary in approach. The present volume presents the results of a detailed survey of the archaeological remains of over 250 sites, and also reports on five archaeological excavations of prehistoric sites. These reports are preceded by analytical essays on the history and settlement patterns of the Clare Island community from prehistoric times to AD 1700.

The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the West:

an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment.

Eoin Grogan and Lorna O'Donnell

(Bray: Wordwell Books, 2007, xii, 367p. ISBN 9781905569090, Hbk, €45)

Findings presented here regarding excavations carried out in 2002 by Margaret Gowen and Co. Ltd., along the route of the Gas Pipeline from north County Dublin through Counties Meath, Westmeath, Roscommon, Galway, Clare and Limerick, are contextualised by reference to landscape and the wider environment. Chapters are devoted to *fulachta fiadhb* and to funerary, ritual and domestic evidence. A full inventory of sites is also provided.

Settlement, industry and ritual: proceedings of a public seminar on archaeological discoveries on national roads schemes, September 2005

Edited by Jerry O'Sullivan and Michael Stanley

(Archaeology and the National Roads Authority, Monograph series, 3)

(Dublin: National Roads Authority, 2006, ix, 153p. ISBN 0954595521, Pbk, no price given)

A miscellany of studies from different parts of the country is collected together in this set of conference proceedings. The excavations reported on have been undertaken since 2001 as part of the development of the national roads programme. There are reports from Counties Dublin, Kilkenny, Laois, Limerick, Louth, Mayo, Meath, Monaghan, Waterford and Westmeath. The volume includes an account by Donald Murphy and Stuart Rathbone of the excavation of an early medieval vertical watermill at Killoteran, close to the much publicised Woodstown site in County Waterford.

A road on the long ridge: in search of the ancient highway on the Esker Riada

Hermann Geissel

Newbridge, County Kildare, CRS Publications, 2006, xi, 143p., ill. ISBN 095472951X, Pbk, €18)

The early medieval routeway of *Slí Mhór* extended from Dublin Bay in the east to Galway Bay in the west travelling through such great monastic sites as Durrow and Clonmacnoise. Building on research by Colm Ó Lochlainn published in 1940, the author, together with Seamus Cullen, has attempted to trace the route of the *Slí Mhór* along the Esker Riada. Geissel's account of their travels along the route is elegantly illustrated with maps and photographs. The *Slí Mhór* was a major routeway for students, pilgrims and traders in the early middle ages. Essentially a pedestrian routeway, the shortest and most direct path would have been used. Geissel rejects the theory that the five great roads of Ireland were pre-

historic routes converging on Tara.

Excavations at Curraghatoor, Co. Tipperary
Martin Doody. Edited by Rose M. Cleary
(UCC Department of Archaeology, Archaeological
Monograph, 2007) (Cork, UCC, 2007, xv, 120p.
ISBN 9780951288412, Pbk, no price given)

The discovery in 1982 of a small settlement dating to the later Bronze Age at Curraghatoor, County Tipperary, west of the River Suir, in the valley between the Galty and Knockmealdown mountains, prompted more extensive excavation between 1987 and 1991. This publication presents the results of this excavation, and reviews the available information on the wider archaeological landscape to put the site in the context of settlement in Upper Suir Valley in prehistoric times.

Coolure Demesne crannog, Lough Derravaragh: an introduction to its archaeology and landscapes
Aidan O'Sullivan, Rob Sands, and Eamonn P. Kelly
(Bray: Wordwell Books, 2007, vii, 139p. ISBN 9781905
569106, Pbk, €35)

Field research conducted at Lough Derravaragh in 2004 forms the basis for the research presented in this monograph which describes the crannog of Coolure Demesne within its archaeological and landscape setting. The site is notable for its rich early medieval and medieval artefacts, for its impressive structural form and for its location. This is intended as the first of a series of publications on the archaeological landscapes of Mide.

St Audeon's church, Cornmarket, Dublin: archaeology and architecture
Mary McMahon, with appendices by Brenda Collins,
Vincent Butler, John Kelly, Lauren Buckley
(Archaeological Monographs Series, 2) Dublin: Stationery Office, 2006, xvi, 140p. ISBN 0755773152, Pbk, €20)

Reporting on excavations at St Audeon's church, an ecclesiastical foundation in continuous use for religious service since the twelfth century, this study identifies six building phases over a period of 600 years. The excavation results are combined with documentary research and architectural analysis to produce a comprehensive account of the site in its medieval urban topographical setting.

Kells Priory, Co. Kilkenny: archaeological excavations by T. Fanning and M. Clyne
Miriam Clyne
(Archaeological Monograph Series, 3) Dublin: Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2007, xxvii, 541p. ISBN 0755775821, Pbk, no price given)

A major Augustinian priory was founded under Anglo-Norman patronage at Kells, County Kilkenny, at the end of the twelfth century. One of the most extensive ruined monastic complexes in Ireland, its fortified towers and gateways have given rise to 'the seven castles' as the local name for the site. The excavations at Kells included the excavation of the entire church and a large proportion of the domestic ranges, giving insights into the development and functions of the building. This comprehensive excavation report will serve as an important reference work for future research at this and other medieval monastic sites.

Past kingdoms: recent archaeological research, survey and excavation in County Kerry, Proceedings of the 2005 archaeological lecture series
Edited by Michael Connolly
(Tralee: Kerry County Council, 2007, 96p, ills. Pbk, no price given)

Drawing on current and ongoing archaeological research, many of the contributors to this volume have provided interpretative overviews of their findings which summarise and contextualise their research for general audiences. Most of the contributions also serve as more formal excavation reports.

Excavations 2004: summary accounts of archaeological excavations in Ireland
Edited by Isabel Bennett
(Dublin: Wordwell, 2007, lxxxviii, 501p.
ISBN 978905569113, €35)

This latest edition of a well-established work of reference publishes brief summary reports of a comprehensive range of archaeological excavations. Given that the reports of excavations undertaken in 2004 reached publication in this summary form in the latter part of 2007, it is of concern that the editor still feels compelled to request holders of excavation licences to supply their summaries in time for inclusion. Reports to 2003 are also available on a very useful website, www.excavations.ie.

An archaeology of southwest Ireland, 1570-1670
Colin Breen
(Dublin: Four Courts, 2007, 239p, ills.
ISBN 9781846820403, Hbk, €45)

This book is a study of the emergence of a plantation landscape in Munster in the early modern period. Having first outlined the historical context, Breen presents studies of the morphology and socio-economic development of urban settlements in Munster, including Cork, Waterford, Dungarvan, Youghal, Kinsale, Tralee and Bandon. A complementary chapter examines the archaeology of rural settlements in the seventeenth century, while special attention is also devoted to the maritime settlements of the province. The author concludes with an agenda for further research into late medieval archaeology, an era for which the extensive range of extant archival sources can greatly assist in the interpretation of the recoverable evidence from the built environment.

Art and devotion in late medieval Ireland**Edited by Rachel Moss, Colmán Ó Clabaigh and Salvador Ryan****(Dublin: Four Courts, 2006, 234p, ills.****ISBN 9781851829873, Hbk, €55)**

W all paintings, stained glass, figure sculpture and manuscripts are all drawn on as primary source material in this exploration of the artistic and devotional world of late medieval Ireland. There are contributions by Bernadette Cunningham, Raymond Gillespie, Colum Hourihane, Eamon McEneaney, Josephine Moran, Karen Morton, Rachel Moss, Colmán Ó Clabaigh, Salvador Ryan, Clodagh Tait and Catherine Yvard.

On the edge of the Pale: the rise and decline of an Anglo-Irish community in County Meath, 1170–1530**Linda Clare****(Maynooth Studies in Local History, 66) (Dublin: Four Courts, 2006, 64p. ISBN 9781846820045, Pbk, €9.95)**

A medieval borderland community in the barony of Slane, County Meath, is studied in this short book, using the rich archival source material preserved in the Dowdall deeds, a calendar of which was published by the Irish Manuscripts Commission in 1960.

The world of the Galloglass: kings, warlords and warriors in Ireland and Scotland, 1200–1600**Edited by Seán Duffy****(Dublin: Four Courts, 2007, xv, 219p.****ISBN 9781851829460 Hbk, €55)**

These essays are a combination of case studies and wide-ranging surveys of the role of the Scottish galloglas in medieval Ireland. Of particular interest are the essays by Seán Duffy on 'The prehistory of the galloglas' and Kenneth Nicholls on 'Scottish mercenary kindreds in Ireland, 1250–1600', while R. Andrew McDonald's contribution on 'Manx sea power in and around the Irish Sea, 1079–1265' extends the scope of the volume. There are complementary essays by Katharine Simms on 'Images of the galloglas in poems to the MacSweeneys' and Wilson McLeod in 'Images of Scottish warriors in late Irish bardic poetry'. The volume also includes essays by Alasdair Ross, Alex Woolf, Alison Cathcart, David H. Caldwell and David Edwards.

The Annals of Ireland by Friar John Clyn**Edited by Bernadette Williams****(Dublin: Four Courts, 2007, 303p.****ISBN 9781846820342, Hbk, €65)**

Friar Clyn's annals, written between 1333 and 1349 are a window into the medieval world of counties Tipperary and Kilkenny. This edition provides the full Latin text of Clyn's annals, together with an English translation. The text is comprehensively annotated and is accompanied by a series of in-

troductory chapters most notably one on the social and political world inhabited by Clyn in the mid fourteenth century.

Ireland and Wales in the middle ages**Edited by Karen Jankulak and Jonathan M. Wooding****(Dublin: Four Courts, 2007, 296p.****ISBN 9781851827480, Hbk, €55)**

In exploring aspects of the interaction between Ireland and Wales, this collection of essays ranges across archaeology, architecture, history, law, literature and religion. A comprehensive overview by the late Proinsias Mac Cana is followed by individual studies by Iwan Winffre, Catherine Swift, Susan Youngs, Alex Woolf, Karen Jankulak, Colmán Etchingham, John Carey, Morfydd E. Owen, Jonathan M. Wooding, Robert S. Babcock, Madeleine Gray and Salvador Ryan. The essay on 'Island and coastal churches in medieval Wales and Ireland' by Wooding, may be of particular interest to settlement historians.

Manx kingship in its Irish Sea setting, 1187–1229: King Rognvaldr and the Crovan dynasty**R. Andrew McDonald****(Dublin: Four Courts, 2007, 254p.****ISBN 9781846820472, Hbk, €55)**

This book explores the reign of King Rognvaldr and its dynastic context against the backdrop of the Irish Sea region in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. It explores kinship, marriage, succession, military power, foreign relations and religious patronage, and concludes with a detailed analysis of late Norse Manx kingship within a broader British context.

Turas na dtaoiseach nUltach as Éirinn: from Ráth Maoláin to Rome Tadhg Ó Cianáin's contemporary narrative of the journey into exile of the Ulster chieftains and their followers, 1607–8 (the so-called 'Flight of the earls')**Edited by Nollaig Ó Muraíle. Incorporating work by Paul Walsh (†1941) and Tomás Ó Fiaich (†1990)****(Rome: Pontifical Irish College, 2007, 690p. ISBN 9788890169212, Hbk, €75)**

One of several scholarly products of the 'Flight of the Earls' commemorative events in 2007, this new edition of Ó Cianáin's narrative differs from earlier editions in keeping the original language of the text while standardising the orthography. The earliest example of a diary in Irish is here presented with a full English translation on facing pages. The outline story of the earls' journey from Rathmullan to Rome is well known, but the extraordinary detail of Ó Cianáin's account of the journey gives wonderful insights into the Irish and European worlds of the opening decade of the seventeenth century.

Kildare: history and society: interdisciplinary essays on the history of an Irish county**William Nolan and Thomas McGrath**

(Dublin: Geography Publications, 2006, xxiii, 803p. ISBN 9780906602577, Hbk, €60)

Volume seventeen in the Irish county history and society series contains twenty-six chapters, arranged chronologically, on a broad range of aspects of the history of County Kildare. Among the essays of special interest to students of settlement history are those by P.J. Duffy on 'The territorial identity of Kildare's landscapes', Mary Burke on 'Society and settlement on the Drogheda estate in County Kildare, 1750–1840', and William Nolan, 'The land of Kildare; valuation, ownership and occupation, 1850–1906'.

Donegal: the making of a northern county

Edited by Jim MacLaughlin

(Dublin: Four Courts, 2007, xix, 382p.

ISBN 9781846820311, Hbk, €45)

A kind of literary handbook to County Donegal, this anthology presents extracts from archival sources, travel literature, antiquarian writing, and literary texts in a single volume. The editor focuses on changes in community life and material culture in Donegal from the sixteenth to the twentieth century.

The government and the people of Limerick: the history of Limerick Corporation / City Council 1197–2006

Matthew Potter

(Limerick: Limerick City Council, 2006, xviii, 583p, ills. ISBN 9780905700137, Hbk, €45)

Drawing on the archives of Limerick Corporation, as well as a range of other official and private papers, this well-researched study of the city of Limerick from medieval to modern times is a welcome addition to the relatively sparse modern literature on Irish urban history. This handsomely produced volume is far more than just a history of a city's administrative structure, it explores the impact of local government policies on the evolution of the city through the centuries.

Early Belfast: the origins and growth of an Ulster town to 1750

Raymond Gillespie

(Belfast: Ulster Historical Foundation, 2007, xviii, 182p. ISBN 9781903688724, Pbk. £9.99)

This study of Belfast before industrialisation charts the town's growth from site to city, from the first mentions of it in the seventh century through to the thirteenth-century Anglo-Norman settlement and Gaelic revival, to the Plantation town of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Using a unique set of maps it retraces the development of the early streets and buildings, and provides insights into the lives of those who walked and lived in them.

The dawn of the Ulster Scots. The Hamilton manuscripts; The Montgomery manuscripts: the classic

chronicles and first-hand accounts of the 1606 Scottish settlement in Ulster

(Board of Ulster-Scotch, 2006, ebook PDF editions, double CDROM set, no price given)

This double CDROM set contains facsimile text-searchable editions of T.K. Lowry, *The Hamilton manuscripts: containing some account of the settlement of the territories of the Upper Clandeboye, Great Ardes and Dufferin in the County of Down* (1867), and Rev. George Hill, *The Montgomery manuscripts, 1603–1706, compiled from family papers* (1869).

Seeing through counties: geography and identity in Ireland

Patrick J. O'Connor

Newcastle West, County Limerick, Oireacht na Mumhan Books, 2006, x, 190p.

ISBN 0953389650, Hbk, €25)

This volume explores the evolution of the Irish county system, looking at the evidence of maps, surveys, and literature relating to place. Various precursors of the mid-nineteenth-century Ordnance Survey are discussed in brief, while the main aspects of the Ordnance Survey project itself are also elucidated. A substantial portion of the book is devoted to 'writing the county' a miscellany of extracts ranging from the predictable 'W.B. Yeats' Sligo' and 'Henry Glassie's Fermanagh', to the less readily anticipated 'Kevin Myers' Carlow'.

Dundalk: Irish Historic Towns Atlas, No. 16

Harold O'Sullivan

Edited by Annagret Simms, H.B. Clarke and Raymond Gillespie

(Dublin: Royal Irish Academy, 2006, 24p, 17 maps, 3 pls, ISBN 1904890199, Pbk, €30)

A reconstruction map of Dundalk c. 1835 at a scale of 1:2500 is a central feature of this atlas, complemented by a series of other newly prepared or facsimile maps and plans. The comprehensive essay and listings of topographical information are a testament to Harold O'Sullivan's unrivalled knowledge of the town and its history from medieval to modern times.

Belfast, part II, 1840–1900: Irish Historic Towns Atlas, No. 17

Stephen A. Royle

Edited by Annagret Simms, H.B. Clarke and Raymond Gillespie

(Dublin: Royal Irish Academy, 2007, 90p, 13 maps, 9 pls, ISBN 9781904890263, €35)

The largest volume yet in the Irish Historic Towns Atlas series, this second instalment of the Belfast atlas documents the evolution of the town through a period of rapid change prompted by industrialisation. An essay on the historical geography of Belfast from 1840 to 1900 is followed by a very lengthy topographical section recording street names, and a classification of buildings under standard headings: reli-

gion, defence, administration, primary production, manufacturing, trades and services, transport, utilities, health, entertainment and societies and residence.

Belfast, c. 1600 to c. 1900: the making of the modern city

Raymond Gillespie and Stephen A. Royle
(Dublin: Royal Irish Academy, 2007, 1 map, 19p.
ISBN 1904890202, Pbk, €10)

Depicting the most important features in the changing topography of Belfast, this pocket map is designed to help the user understand how the city evolved over three centuries and to relate those changes to the modern city. A short introductory essay provides an overview of the historical geography of Belfast since 1600. This publication forms part of the larger Irish Historic Towns Atlas research project on Belfast. This particular map is presented in a format intended to be easily carried about the city, and thus usefully complements the large scale loose-leaf atlases that have been compiled by the same team.

Enduring city: Belfast in the twentieth century

Edited by Frederick W. Boal and Stephen A. Royle
(Belfast: Blackstaff Press in association with Belfast City Council and Irish Historic Towns Atlas, Royal Irish Academy, 2006, xviii, 363p, ills.
ISBN 0856407909, Hbk, £30)

This well designed and heavily illustrated volume contains nineteen essays on aspects of the development of the city of Belfast during the twentieth century. The approach is primarily geographical. The essays investigate the impact on the city fabric and social geography of economic change, politics and governance, planning and architecture, transport, population, religious identities and conflict. As such, it takes the story of Belfast, set out in the Irish Historic Towns Atlas fascicles, into the twentieth century.

Armagh: Irish Historic Towns Atlas, No. 18

Catherine McCullough and W.H. Crawford
Edited by Annret Simms, H.B. Clarke and Raymond Gillespie
(Dublin: Royal Irish Academy, 2007, 27p. + 17 pls. ISBN 1904890188, Pbk, €30)

The Irish Historic Towns Atlas of Armagh comprises an extended essay by W.H. Crawford on the evolution of the town followed by detailed listings of topographical information compiled by Catherine McCullough. As in other fascicles the principal map at a scale of 1:2500 represents the town c. 1840, constructed from the available maps including the Ordnance Survey manuscript maps of the town prepared in 1832–42 and the manuscript Valuation Office maps. Other newly prepared maps include a town plan at a scale of 1:5000, which forms part of a uniform set of maps for all towns in the series. A selection of colour facsimiles of other maps and illustrations is also included.

New Ross, c. 1200–c. 1900: seven hundred years in the making

Linda Doran
(Dublin: Royal Irish Academy, 2008, 1 map, 19p. ISBN 9781904890324, Pbk, €10)

This folded plan of New Ross traces the evolution of the town by mapping historical structures such as religious buildings, hospitals, mural towers and gates, castles and barracks, administrative and public buildings, manufacturing and industrial sites and substantial vernacular houses. It is accompanied by a short essay outlining the development of the town from medieval times to 1900. The pocket map is part of a larger research project being undertaken by Linda Doran on the historic town of New Ross as part of the Royal Irish Academy's Irish Historic Towns Atlas project.

Cavan, 1609–1653: plantation, war and religion

Brendan Scott
(Maynooth Studies in Local History, 71) (Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2007, 63p, ills. ISBN 9781846820625, Pbk, €9.95)

This short book examines the plantation and reformation process in Cavan in the first half of the seventeenth century, and recounts how the Ulster plantation scheme had been completely overturned in the county by 1653, leaving Cavan open to a further wave of plantation at a later stage.

O'Donnell histories: Donegal and the Annals of the Four Masters

Bernadette Cunningham
(Rathmullan: Rathmullan and District Local History Society, 2007, x, 78p, ills. ISBN 9780954088842, Pbk, €12)

In this essay on the Annals of the Four Masters, a key seventeenth-century historical text in the Irish language, attention is focussed on how one prominent Gaelic sept were represented by professional historians in the early modern period. Often perceived as a neutral source, and regularly consulted by local historians and archaeologists, an appraisal of the precise nature and purpose of these annals is long overdue.

Castle Caldwell, County Fermanagh: Life on a west Ulster estate, 1750–1800

Mervyn Busteed
(Maynooth Studies in Local History, 69) (Dublin: Four Courts, 2006, 64p, ills. ISBN 9781846820069, Pbk, €9.95)

Sir James Caldwell was an enlightened 'improving' landlord who championed schemes for economic development on his estate on the northern and western shores of Lough Erne. He experimented with flax cultivation, linen manufacture, crop rotations, livestock breeding and tree planting. Using the archival material in the Bagshawe Muniments in the John Ry-

lands University Library, Manchester, this study reveals how the philosophy of an individual landlord could have an impact on custom and practice on a particular landed estate.

Merchants, mystics and philanthropists: 350 years of Cork Quakers

Richard S. Harrison

(Cork: Religious Society of Friends, 2006. iii, 235p, ills. €20)

This study of the social and economic world of Cork Quakers builds on earlier publications by the same author, and was published to mark the 350th anniversary of the arrival of Quakers in Cork. It surveys the history of the Quaker community in Cork, including their involvement in the textile trade and in commerce, and also in philanthropy, from the mid seventeenth century down to the early the twentieth century.

The Glens of Antrim: landscape of the Glens — evolution and development.

Alan Turner

(Belfast: Appletree Press, 2005. 138p, ills.

ISBN 0862819806, Hbk, £20)

The emphasis in Alan Turner's book is on illustrations of the Glens of Antrim as evidence for the evolution of a unique and complex landscape, shaped over the centuries by the people who lived in it. The chronological scope is from earliest times to the present, and the author's sense of the layers of history evident in the evolution of a landscape over time shines through.

Social conflict in pre-Famine Ireland: the case of County Roscommon.

Michael Huggins

(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2007, 221p.

ISBN 9781851826537, Hbk, €55)

Whiteboyism, in its many guises, is at the core of this study. Huggins argues that agrarian conflict is best understood in terms of an Irish 'moral economy' in which traditional and customary notions of justice and rights were conjoined with radical ideas. Broader European traditions of protest are shown to have had an influence on rural unrest in early nineteenth-century Roscommon, but at the heart of this book is an in-depth local study that does much to illumine a 'secret world' that lies beyond the traditional national story found in general historical writing.

Alexander Nimmo and the western district: emerging infrastructure in pre-Famine Ireland

Kathleen Villiers-Tuthill

(Clifden, Connemara Girl Publications, 2006, xvi, 248p, ills. ISBN 9780953045536, Hbk, €25)

Nimmo, a Scottish engineer, worked on a variety of government-funded infrastructural projects in Ireland between 1811 and 1832. He conducted surveys for the Bog

Commission in Kerry and Galway, and surveyed much of the Irish coastline for the Fishery Board. He directed the building of many roads in the west of Ireland and oversaw the construction of more than forty piers along the west coast. This handsomely produced book provides a comprehensive assessment of Nimmo's legacy in developing the coastal landscape of the west of Ireland.

Malting the barley: John H. Bennett the man and his firm. 200 years of malting the barley in Ballinacurra

Trevor West

(Midleton, Charleston House, 2006, 171p, ills. ISBN

9780955409202, Hbk, no price given)

This lavishly produced volume situates the business of producing barley for Guinness's brewery in its geographical, agricultural, commercial and social contexts in relation to the barony of Imokilly in east Cork. The research is based on the rich personal and business archive of John Bennett (1862–1935), now housed in the Cork City and Council Archives.

By hereditary virtues: a history of Lough Rynn.

Fiona Slevin

(Coolabawn Publishing, 2006, xvi, 184p.

ISBN 0955388309, Hbk, €22.50)

This is a study of the evolution of the Lough Rynn estate in County Leitrim, home to the 3rd earl of Leitrim. Lord Leitrim's reputation as a tyrannical landlord is investigated and set in context, in a balanced readable account of the people that were part of a rural community in nineteenth-century Ireland.

The Planters of Luggacurran, County Laois: a protestant community, 1879–1927

Leigh-Ann Coffey

(Maynooth Studies in Local History, 68) (Dublin: Four Courts, 2006, 72p. ISBN 9781846820076, Pbk, €9.95)

In examining the experience of Protestant farmers from their arrival in Luggacurran, on the Lansdowne estate, in the 1870s down to the years of the Irish Civil War, this study argues that the tensions that were made manifest in the 1920s views were not simply sectarian. Rather, the introduction of the planters to the locality through the actions of an unpopular landlord meant that there had been little chance of community integration over the previous forty years.

Framing the west: images of rural Ireland, 1891–1920

Edited by Ciara Breathnach

(Dublin: Irish Academic Press, 2007, xxi, 266p.

ISBN 9780716528739, Hbk, €85; 9780716528746, Pbk, €27.50)

Many of the images in this collection are drawn from the work of Belfast-based photographer Robert J. Welch (now dispersed in a range of archives), and augmented by the Tuke collection held at the National Photographic Archive, Dublin. The provenance and nature of these photographic collections is evaluated, with exploratory essays on the relationship between photographer and subject and the notion of Welch as ethnographer.

Sir Robert Gore Booth and his landed estate in County Sligo, 1814–1876: land, famine, emigration and politics
Gerard Moran

(Maynooth Studies in Local History, 70) (Dublin: Four Courts, 2006, 71p. ISBN 9781846820052, Pbk, €9.95)

One of the largest proprietors in nineteenth-century County Sligo, Sir Robert Gore Booth invested heavily in his estate as well as in his house at Lisadell. This resident landlord's efforts to improve the lot of his tenants are documented in the estate archival material preserved in the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. The policy of assisted migration he developed in the aftermath of the Famine, where Gore Booth arranged for 1,500 of his tenants to emigrate to North America, is at the core of this study.

Landlords, tenants, famine: the business of an Irish land agency in the 1840s

Desmond Norton

(Dublin: UCD Press, 2006, xx, 380p.

ISBN 9781904558552, Hbk, €55; Pbk, €28)

Relationships between landlords and tenants, and particularly the role of land agents and middlemen, are discussed in the context of various estates in Counties Sligo, Roscommon, Westmeath, Kilkenny, Carlow, Limerick and Clare, particularly during the years of the Great Famine. The research draws primarily on archival documents from land agents Stewart and Kincaid, a collection currently in private hands.

The making and breaking of a mining community: the Copper Coast, County Waterford, 1825–1875+

Des Cowman

(Waterford: Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland, 2006. ix, 188p, ills. ISBN 0953453839, Pbk, €18.50)

While this book concentrates mainly on the nineteenth century, the story of mining in Bunmahon, County Waterford, is continued in places down to the 1970s. It is a comprehensive social history of a mining community, the product of extensive research in the archives.

Industrial Ireland, 1750–1930: an archaeology

Colin Rynne

(Cork: Collins Press, 2006, viii, 534p, ills.

ISBN 1905172044, Hbk, €49.50)

This large, illustrated book offers a comprehensive survey of Ireland's industrial archaeology, with chapters devoted to the production of building materials, farming and fishing, textiles, food-processing industries and engineering and ship-building. Studies of the archaeology of communication are presented in chapters on roads and bridges, inland navigation, railways and ports and harbours. A final chapter is devoted to aspects of industrial settlement including housing and urban transport.

The land for the people: Robert Henry Johnstone and the United Irish league: a story of land agitation in the early twentieth century

William Keaveney

(Dublin: Lios Rua Books, 200, 347p. ISBN 0954849212 Pbk, €15)

This is a study of landlord-tenant relations on the County Galway estates of Robert Henry Johnstone in the early years of the twentieth century. It tells the story of how a powerful landlord with easy access to the law could resist government initiatives to redistribute land to disadvantaged tenants. The book documents the story of disputes between Johnstone and his tenants in Williamstown and Aughrim, County Galway, set in the broader political and social context of the land acts and their implications in early twentieth-century Ireland.

The Georgian squares of Dublin: an architectural history

(Dublin: Dublin City Council and Four Courts Press, 2006. x, 161p. ISBN 9780946841783, Hbk, €45;

9780946841790, Pbk, €30)

Written by a team of conservation architects, the focus in the case of each of the Georgian squares of Dublin, from Rutland (Parnell) Square in the north to Fitzwilliam Square in the south, is on the design and development of the square along with house types and building materials. Gardens, mews, lanes, and of course the parks at the centre of each square are all discussed, while the way the houses have been used over the centuries is also considered. Recommendations for the conservation and preservation of Dublin's architectural heritage are also presented.

Dublin: an urban history: the plan of the city

Niall McCullough

(Dublin: Anne Street Press, in association with Lilliput Press, 2007. ISBN 9781843510987, €40, Hbk)

This book explores the evolution of the plan of Dublin in the context of the recent redevelopment of the city in an era of prosperity. The author favours a radical approach towards future urban planning in the city, while arguing for the importance of 'sustaining a singular urban and physical identity' for Dublin in an era of globalisation.

The parish churches of North Tipperary: commemo-

*rating a two-hundred year heritage***William J. Hayes and Joseph Kennedy****(Roscrea, Lisheen publications, 2007, viii, 327p. ISBN 9780955613906, Pbk, €25)**

This gazetteer of churches of all denominations in North Tipperary is accompanied by a series of barony and parish maps, and the information presented is situated within an analytical framework of the evolution of the parish network from medieval to modern times. The book is well illustrated both with photographs and with sketches done by Joseph Kennedy.

*A guide to Dublin Bay: mirror to the city***John Givens****(Dublin, Liffey Press, 2006, xvi, 270p.****ISBN 978 1905785087, Pbk, €19.95)**

Dublin Bay's remarkable impact on the evolution of the capital city is documented here in an overview of the history and geography of the bay and its shorelines. The transformative engineering projects of the north and south walls, and of Dun Laoghaire harbour are discussed along with the many varied uses of the bay from shipping channel to leisure venue.

*The story of Mayo***Rosa Meenan****(Castlebar, Mayo County Library, 2003, xiv, 393p. ISBN 0951962442, Hbk, €30)**

This beautifully designed and richly illustrated Story of Mayo celebrates the county in all its aspects including its landscape, archaeology, history and people. The book explores the unique experiences and character of the people of Mayo through their work on and off the land, their cultural, artistic, and political endeavours. The opening chapter provides a good introduction to the landscape and natural history of Mayo, while later chapters address themes such as agriculture, urban development, transport and communications.

*The Roscrea conference: commemorating forty conferences 1987–2007 at Mount St Joseph Abbey***Edited by George Cunningham****(Roscrea: Roscrea People, 2007, x, 157p, ills. ISBN 978-955546907, Hbk, €40)**

The essays in this collection were published to celebrate a much loved institution, the conferences on early and medieval Irish history, culture and archaeology held at Mount St Joseph Abbey, Roscrea, each Spring and Autumn since 1987. Topics range across the history and archaeology of monastic settlements, medieval architecture, topographical drawings, antiquarianism and cultural history. The techniques used in Valerie Hall's pollen analytical investigation of Monaincha bog, close to the renowned early pilgrimage site at Monaincha, may be of special interest to archaeologists and settlement historians interested in land use and landscape history over the long term.

*Restoration Strabane, 1660–1714: economy and society in provincial Ireland***William J. Roulston****(Maynooth Studies in Local History, 72) (Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2007, 64p, ills. ISBN 9781846820601, Pbk, €9.95)**

In this case study of an urban settlement developed under the auspices of the Ulster plantation, the author explores the role of the landlord, the earls of Abercorn, and the Corporation in the development of the town. Roulston also charts the evolution of local social structures forged to meet the needs of the fledgling town, and takes the story up to the early eighteenth century by which time Strabane had become one of the most important economic centres in Ulster.

*A south-Roscommon emigrant: emigration and return, 1890–1920***Diane Dunnigan****(Maynooth Studies in Local History, 73) (Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2007, 79p, ills. ISBN 9781846820588, Pbk, €9.95)**

Emigrants were a common sight in nineteenth and early twentieth-century Ireland as they left their family farms to make their way to the boat at Queenstown to begin a new life. A little discussed phenomenon is the return of many of these emigrants to their own homes after a new experience of life abroad. This study examines the experience of emigration and return through the life of Margaret Brennan who emigrated from south Roscommon to Boston in 1902 and returned home to marry in 1913.

*That favourite resort: the story of Bray, Co. Wicklow***Mary Davies****(Bray: Wordwell, 2007, 334p, ills.****ISBN 9781869857851, Pbk, €25)**

Charting the evolution of the seaside resort of Bray, County Wicklow from being 'a very small town' in 1760 to the buckets and spades era of the mid twentieth century, this tells the story of an urban settlement that has reinvented itself from time to time. Emphasising the geographical, economic, social and cultural processes that gave rise to the development of this resort, Davies has provided a scholarly and attractive book. The research is based principally on the records of the Meath and Pembroke estates, the archives of the Bray Town Commissioners and Urban District Council and local newspapers. The book is well illustrated with maps and photographs assembled from a wide variety of sources.

*Edenderry, County Offaly, and the Downshire estate 1790–1800***Ciarán Reilly****(Maynooth Studies in Local History, 74) (Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2007, 62p, ills. ISBN 9781846820618, Pbk, €9.95)**

During the 1790s, a period of unrest emerged on the Downshire estate around the old Quaker settlement of Edenderry, under the influence of agrarian secret societies. This study examines these tensions between landlord and tenant and investigates why they did not erupt into open violence during 1798 in this particular community.

Edenderry 1820–1920: popular politics and Downshire rule

Ciarán J. Reilly

(Dublin: Nonsuch, 2007, 157p. ISBN 9781845885960, Pbk, €17.99)

This short book offers a political and social history of a midlands' town. The research is based mainly on the Downshire estate archive in the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland as well as on local and national newspapers.

People and place: a census atlas of the Republic of Ireland

James A. Walsh

(Maynooth: National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis, 2007, xii, 341p. ISBN 9780901519382, Hbk, €50)

Not so much historic settlement as current settlement patterns, this volume maps detailed statistical evidence for the extent and geographical distribution of the demographic, social and economic changes that have taken place in Ireland since the mid 1990s. New urban-rural linkages are considered in the light of questions about environmental impact and long-term sustainability. The data presented here will be of interest to planners and members of state agencies as well as to students of geography.

Newly published sources and guides to sources

Bernadette Cunningham

The big houses and landed estates of Ireland: a research guide

Terence Dooley

(Maynooth Research Guides for Irish Local History) (Dublin: Four Courts, 2007, 192p, ill. ISBN 9781846820397, Hbk, €45; 981851829644, Pbk, €19.95)

This research guide is designed to provide historians and all those interested in local history, particularly the history of landed estates and big houses, with practical advice regarding the availability of primary sources, their locations, their strengths and their limitations. Aside from the standard sources such as estate archives attention is also drawn to less used material such as auction catalogues, photographs, oral archives and architectural drawings. The book also includes two survey chapters on the history of Irish landed estates and on the history of the big house in Ireland.

Exploring the history and heritage of Irish landscapes

Patrick J. Duffy

(Maynooth Research Guides for Irish Local History, 12) (Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2007, 264p. ISBN 9781851829651, €19.95)

This book highlights the principal themes and elements in the making of the landscape, and the sources that can assist historians and historical geographers in studying and understanding Irish landscape history. Major national and local sources relating to the natural environment, cultural landscapes and the built environment are explored. The book also looks at representations of landscapes in literature, painting and other artistic sources that can provide insights into the nature of real and imagined worlds of the past. The ultimate

source which features prominently throughout this study is the landscape itself on which generations before us have inscribed the marks of their presence in fields, farms, houses, villages, towns, roads, lanes and the infrastructure of settlement.

Court of Claims: submissions and evidence, 1663

Edited by Geraldine Tallon, with an introduction by J.G. Simms

(Dublin: Irish Manuscripts Commission, 2006. xvi, 688p. ISBN 1874280800, Hbk, €65)

Established by Charles II to administer the Act of Settlement, the Court of Claims dealt with almost 900 property cases. The extant records of the Court's activities are preserved in a manuscript in Armagh Public Library, and contain much detail of the legal and family history of particular properties. The material is of particular value for the history of landownership and the evolution of estates in seventeenth-century Ireland. Tallon's edition provides a full transcript of the surviving manuscript together with annotations, appendices and an historical introduction.

The Irish commission of 1622: an investigation of the Irish administration, 1615–1622, and its consequences 1623–1624

Edited by Victor Treadwell

(Dublin: Irish Manuscripts Commission, 2006. lii, 859p. ISBN 1874280630, Hbk, €65)

Appointed by King James I, the Irish Commission of 1622 documented the political, religious and administrative state of Ireland. The reports of the Commissioners include detailed analyses of the impact of plantation in Munster, Ulster, but is also a treasure trove of information on unplanted parts of Ireland in the early seventeenth century. This long awaited calendar gathers together the dispersed papers of the Commissioners from a variety of archival repositories. Key documents, such as the reports of the Commission, are transcribed in full while other related material such as the Commission certificates are presented in summary form. Where related texts have been previously published, a bibliographical citation replaces a calendar summary, so that the volume also serves as an index to a much larger corpus of archival sources than could be summarised in one volume. Treadwell's calendar presents the evidence in a very accessible form, accompanied by a comprehensive introduction and extensive indices of people, places and subjects, that will be of particular value to local historians and genealogists as well as to students of historic landscapes.

The minute book of the Corporation of Clonmel, 1608–1649

Edited by Bríd McGrath

(Dublin: Irish Manuscripts Commission, 2006, xi, 383p. ISBN 1974280533, Hbk, €45)

Archival sources for urban communities in early modern Ireland are relatively scarce, and the chance survival of the Clonmel Corporation Minute Book (NLI, MS 19,171) for the first half of the seventeenth century is most fortunate. The town of Clonmel received a new charter in July 1608 and the minute book, which is a formal record of the town's government, was commenced about that time. The information recorded provides much detail on the social organisation of the town, particularly the role of merchants and tradesmen, and also a great deal on the built environment and wider environs of the town of Clonmel.

Irish Historic Towns Atlas

Angela Murphy



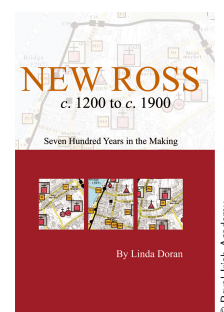
Plate 4 Robert Bartlett's map of Armagh

2007 marked a busy year in the *Irish Historic Towns Atlas* project. The start of the year commenced with the publication of a pocket map, *Belfast c. 1600 to c. 1900: the making of the modern city* by Raymond Gillespie and Stephen A. Royle. This map plots over 200 sites on a modern base and is accompanied by an explanatory booklet. It has turned out to be a very popular publication and is already being reprinted. Our largest atlas to date followed with the launch of *Belfast, part II, 1840 to 1900* by Stephen A. Royle which completed the series on Belfast. With over 8,000 entries in the topographical information, this highly detailed atlas covers the massive growth in Belfast with its transformation from a town to an industrial city.

This atlas was closely followed by the publication of no. 18 in the series, *Armagh* by Catherine McCullough and W.H. Crawford, which was jointly launched by Cardinal Seán Brady and Archbishop Alan Harper in the Armagh County Museum in December. Together, the maps and text trace Armagh's growth from its origins as an Early Christian settlement to its development as the ecclesiastical capital of Ireland.

With New Ross celebrating 800 years of the charter, the **IHTA** joined in the celebrations and published a pocket map entitled *New Ross c. 1200 to c. 1900: seven hundred years in the making* by Linda Doran. This was launched in New Ross by *An Cathaoirleach*, Ingrid O'Brien in the Tholsel in late December. It is a similar publication to the Belfast pocket map and it is hoped that it will achieve the same popularity.

And so to 2008, the project is looking forward to another successful year. The main publication for next year is *Dublin, part II, 1610 to 1756* by Colm Lennon. Spanning the period from Speed's map of 1610 to Rocque's maps of 1756 this is an important period in Dublin's expansion and transition.



Alongside the Dublin atlas, Tuam and Limerick will be actively worked on in the office with an aim for publication at the end of 2008 and into early 2009. Subscribers to *History Ireland* will continue in the new year to receive glossy inserts based on different towns previously published by the project. There are also plans for an **IHTA** conference in May which will be held in the Royal Irish Academy.

Welcome additions to the list of towns and cities in progress are Carlingford (Harold O'Sullivan), Cashel (Conn Murphy and Joanne Hughes), Ennis (Brian Ó Dálaigh) and Newry (Ken Abraham).

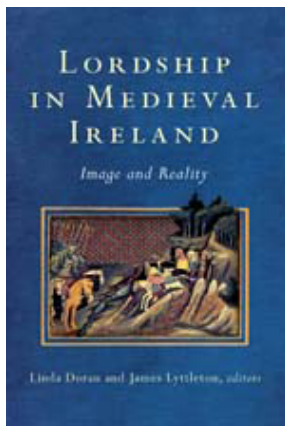
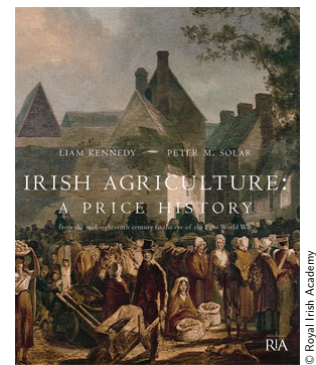
For a full list of details on towns/cities under preparation, visit:
www.ria.ie/projects/ihta/index.html

Irish Agriculture: A Price History from the mid-eighteenth century to the end of the First World War

by Liam Kennedy and Peter M. Solar

The first in a new monograph series from the Royal Irish Academy, *Irish Agriculture: A Price History* examines the prices of tillage products and livestock from 1755 to 1914, shedding light on some major controversies in Irish history, including the impact of the French wars, the significance of the Great Famine and the origins of the Land War. This work opens the way to more systematic comparisons of Irish and European economic experience, be it in terms of price inflation, living costs, market integration or market disintegration.

Hardback (ISBN 978-1-904890-41-6) Published December 2007. 210 x 260 mm, 206 pp €30. www.ria.ie/publications



Lordship in Medieval Ireland. Image and Reality

Edited by Linda Doran and James Lyttleton

Hardback (ISBN 978-1-84682-041-0) Published March 2008. 304 pp, ills. Catalogue price €55 / Web price €49.50. www.fourcourtspress.ie

Taken together, the essays in this volume explore many varied expressions of power within local lordship societies in medieval and early modern Ireland. Both the potential and the limitations of medieval lordship are recognised, as well as the extent of regional diversity. One hallmark of this collection is the diversity of interpretation of the culture of lordship, ranging across Gaelic and English areas of influence. Essays that focus on lordship within Gaelic polities are juxtaposed with explorations of the lordship of a foreign elite in regions of English influence in various parts of Ireland. The commonalities appear greater than the differences.

The image of lordship, whether in public manifestations of power as expressed through castle building in the landscape, or through literary or artistic patronage, as well as the reality of military authority, economic interest, social values and the practicalities of lordship over men and over land, are themes that transcend the narrow distinctions of racial allegiance that have so often shaped discussion of medieval Irish history.

The microstudies of particular lordships that are collected together here thus offer the reader a variety of avenues into the world of medieval lordship society. They demonstrate that the attitudes to authority and social organisation that shaped the culture of lordship in the politically fragmented world of medieval Ireland can be reconstructed at least partially from the evidence of the archaeological landscape combined with literary and other surviving documentary sources. Slowly but surely a new kind of history of medieval Ireland is being written, one

built on a foundation of interdisciplinarity, which has been characteristic of the *Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement*, and openness to new interpretations of the essential building blocks of the medieval world. As some of the essays suggest, these new understandings are applicable not just to the medieval Irish past but also to the interpretation of other medieval lordship societies throughout the western world.

The above is an abstract from the foreword to the book written by Bernadette Cunningham.

A foretaste of our Conference in New Ross / Wexford



Plate 5 1776 map by the military survey showing a curve in the road at the site of St Stephen's.

Medieval *Ros Mbic Treóin*: from early monastery to commercial powerhouse

Linda Doran

The establishment of the town of New Ross was part of the flurry of town foundations that marked the thirteenth century. Its founder, William Marshal, was one of the most illustrious and influential men of his age. He came into possession of the lordship of Leinster through his marriage to Isabel de Clare, the granddaughter of Diarmait Mac Murchadha. His foundation of the port of Ross was critical to the exploitation of the fertile region covered by the lordship. With a naturally sheltered harbour the town lies 1km south of the confluence of the navigable Barrow and partly navigable Nore rivers. This allowed traders and merchants to travel as far as Athy by water; an important consideration for transportation of heavy goods. The location of the town permitted ships to come up the estuary right into the lordship without having to sidetrack to the royal city of Waterford. Its situation at the lowest and narrowest point on the Barrow before the open sea also made it possible to construct a bridge. The impor-

tance of this feature is illustrated by not only the representation of a bridge on the town coat of arms but by the occurrence of the element as part of the name of the town — *Pons Novus villa Williemi Marescalli* — first mentioned by King John in a letter from the town in 1210.¹ The building of a bridge also created an overland route between Wexford and Marshal's *caput* of Kilkenny, a vital ingredient in the development of the lordship. As Colfer has noted perhaps the most symbolic component of this communication structure put in place by Marshal was the construction, in the early thirteenth century, of a colossal tower on the Hook Peninsula as a lighthouse.² The creation of New Ross was vital to the expansion of the string of towns, founded or developed by the Anglo-Normans, in the valleys of the Barrow and Nore, such as Carlow, Thomastown, Inistiege, and Kilkenny.

New Ross, in common with many of these other new urban centres, was not a 'green field site' when the Normans arrived. Evidence suggests that there was an Early

¹ G.H. Orpen, *New Ross in the thirteenth century* (Dublin, 1911), p. 3.

² Billy Colfer, *The Hook Peninsula* (Cork, 2004).

Christian monastery founded by St Abban at Ros meic Treoin, *prope flumen Berbba* (near the River Barrow).³ While the location of this site has not been identified it is likely that it was situated in what is now John St, just inside the North Gate.⁴ In an eighteenth-century document dealing with the establishment of a free school in John Street it was noted that the area was known as ‘the abbey’; while Hore stated that from time to time burials had been found close to this site.⁵ According to an early thirteenth-century ‘life’ of the purportedly pre-Patrician St Abban, St Emenus (*Éimíne* / Evin), is buried there — probably implying that he was abbot.⁶ The occurrence of the chapel of St Evin’s in this area reinforces the identification of this place as the site of the monastery. Alternatively St Stephen’s in Irishtown has been proposed as the position of the monastery associated with St Abban.

This site, which is shown as a semi-circular enclosure on the first edition of the Ordnance Survey sheet, contains a holy well dedicated to St Stephen and two bullaun stones. While the sites are not marked on a map by Valancey dated 1776, it shows the outline of a curve in the road at the location of St Stephen’s (Plate 5 on page 22). The John Street site is positioned along the route of the *Slighe Chualann*, one of the main roadways of early medieval Ireland.⁷ This thoroughfare, which came down along the Barrow valley, entered the town by the North Gate. On a sketch map of c. 1699, drawn for the Anglesey Estate, a ferry crossing is marked at the northern end of the quay. This would have linked the route of *Slighe Chualann* on the eastern bank of the river with that in Rosbercon on the western side. There the route turned south-west, shortly after the Dominican friary and followed what became the old Waterford Road.

Another major pathway, which defines the east-west axis of the town, passed an early church at Maudlins, to the east of the town (which may have been the site of a leper hospital), St Stephen’s and came through Irishtown entering the town by the Maiden Gate. This road was aligned on the bridge and an earlier ford and is marked on the c. 1699 map as the road to Dublin, Wexford and Enniscorthy (Figure 3 on page 24). It was in this northern section that the town founded by Marshal developed, utilising perhaps this existing infrastructure.

Many of the earliest street names recorded in the *Ormond Deeds* and the Bigod estate records are in this area: Beulen [Maiden Lane] 1280–1 (*Bigod Min. Accounts*)⁸, St Michael’s St, 1280–1, 1284 (*Bigod Min. Accounts*), St John St 1284 (*Bigod Min. Accounts*), Market St 1287 (*Ormond Deeds*), St Saviour’s St [Priory St] 1284 (*Bigod Min. Accounts*), Street of St Mary’s 1310–1311, St Evin’s Street 1350–1370 (*Ormond Deeds*), Bothstret ‘otherwise’ North-

strete 1508, Southe Stret 1524 (*Ormond Deeds*), Bridge Street 1543, (*Ormond Deeds*), Bride Street 1546 (*Ormond Deeds*).

The southern sector of the town developed later in the wake of the founding of the Franciscan friary and the enclosing of the town in the mid-thirteenth century. By that stage the town was the leading port in the country outstripping both Waterford and Wexford. While this prosperity was not to be long-lived — undermined by the long attrition of the dispute with Waterford and the dismantling of the Marshal estates — its power and intensity can be seen in the size and surviving decoration of St Mary’s parish church as well as in the custom records.⁹

Wool exports, controlled by Italians for much of the height of the town’s medieval prosperity, illustrates the commercial power of the town. Figures from 1275 to 1279 for the custom on wool exports show returns of a total of £2,079 through the port of Ross, £1,421 through Waterford and only £17 through Wexford.¹⁰ This dazzling achievement serves perhaps to disguise the fact

³ Charles Plummer (ed.), *Vitae Sanctorum Hiberniae* 2 vols. (reprint, Dublin, 1997), i, p. 21, §xxviii.

⁴ See map, Linda Doran, *New Ross c. 1200–1900: seven hundred years in the making* (Dublin, 2007).

⁵ P.H. Hore, *History of the town and county of Wexford*, i (London, 1900), pp 102, 108.

⁶ Plummer, *Vitae Sanctorum Hiberniae*, i, p. 21, §xxxviii, in *quo iacet beatissimus abbas sanctus Emenus*. Richard Sharpe, *Medieval Irish saints’ lives* (Oxford, 1991), pp 349–51, 329 has argued that the redaction of the ‘life’ dates to the early thirteenth century and that the ‘life’ belonged to a collection dating to approximately 750–850 AD.

⁷ Colm Ó Lochlainn, ‘Roadways in ancient Ireland’, in John Ryan (ed.), *Féil-sgríbhinn Eóin Mhic Néill* (reprint, Dublin, 1995), pp 465–74.

⁸ Quoted in Hore, *History of the town and county of Wexford*, p. 143; *Ormond deeds*, i, p. 227; *History of the town and county of Wexford*, p. 143; *ibid.*, p. 151; *ibid.*, p. 143; *ibid.*, p. 151; *Ormond deeds*, i, p. 450; *ibid.*, p. 832; *ibid.*, iii, p. 335; *ibid.*, iv, p. 102; *ibid.*, iv, p. 209; *ibid.*, iv, p. 335.

⁹ The dispute had its roots in one of the advantages sought by William Marshal for his nascent foundation. In 1215 he negotiated the right of ships to come directly into New Ross provided it did not injure the trade of the Royal town of Waterford. *Chartae, privilegia et immunitates* (Dublin, 1889), p. 13; G.H. Orpen, *New Ross in the thirteenth century* (Dublin, 1911), p. 10. For a clear history of the dispute see Eamonn McEneaney ‘King John and the city of Waterford’, in *Decies*, xxvi (1984), pp 154–7. The dispute lasted almost two hundred years and was fought inside and outside the courtroom. It included such incidences as the capture of the New Ross mace — still to be seen at the Waterford Museum — and the seizure of forty ships by the citizens of New Ross.

¹⁰ Gearóid Mac Niocaill, *Na Buirgéisí, XII–XV aois*, 2 vols. (Dublin, 1964), ii, pp 527–8.

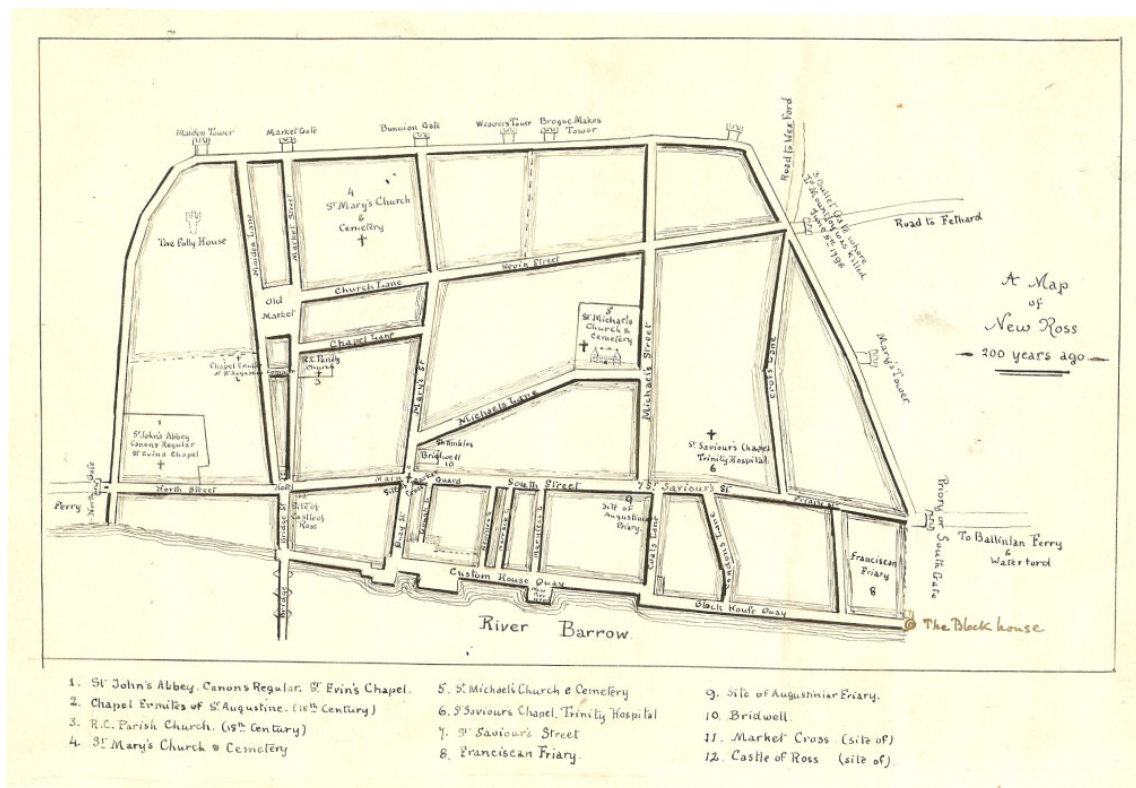


Figure 3 Map (after Hore) of c. 1699 drawn for the Anglesea Estate showing the ferry at the north quay.

that, while this settlement owes much to the foresight of William Marshal, that is not its only history.

Ports traffic: early modern maritime commerce and the south-east of Ireland — the ships, the merchants and the cargoes

Damian MacGarry

An island economy is dependant on the ability to export production to outside markets and to import commodities which would not otherwise be available in the home market. This paper is a commentary on the ships and their masters and the merchants who shipped with them and the goods carried between the ports of the south-east of Ireland and the west coast ports of England and Wales.

The settlement landscape of county Wexford

Billy Colfer

Isolated to a large extent by topographical boundaries of sea, mountain and river, and located beside strategic sea-routes, the area now known as county Wexford acquired a distinctive settlement pattern over the past two millennia and particularly in the medieval period. This paper attempts to trace the progress of settlement in the county by an analysis of relict features in the landscape. These include land divisions, place-names, earthworks and stone buildings. The enduring distribution of surnames as indicators of settlement patterns is discussed as well as the relevance of historic settlement in the modern landscape.

Field-trip The field-trip to the Hook will include the following (time permitting). If necessary, other sites could be included. Round trip about 50 miles.

1. (14 miles from Wexford) The deserted medieval town of Clonmines. The site will be viewed from across the estuary as there is a problem with permission to access the site.
2. Tintern Abbey (Cistercian)

3. Fethard 14th century Episcopal castle (Hospitaller preceptory)
4. Early 13th century Tower of Hook lighthouse (guided tour available)
5. Templetown church and tower house (Templar /

Upcoming Events

TWENTY-SECOND IRISH CONFERENCE OF MEDIEVALISTS

Thursday to Saturday 26th-29th June 2008

Venue: Mary Immaculate College, University of Limerick

Papers on medieval archaeology, art, history, language and literature (Latin and the vernaculars).

- Details of fees for registration, meals and accommodation circulated, with the Conference Programme, in April 2008
- Travel info re air, rail and road is available
- Those needing information in advance in order to apply to their institutions for funding should contact the Organising Secretary, Dr Catherine Swift, for an estimate of costs.

Visit the new website for complete details: <http://irishmedievalists.com/>

SIXTH WORLD ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONGRESS (WAC-6)

DUBLIN, JUNE 29-JULY 4 2008

www.ucd.ie/wac-6 <<http://www.ucd.ie/wac-6>>

The WAC-6 Organising Committee warmly invites you to join us in Dublin this summer for what promises to be an exciting Congress! The main venue for the academic programme is the campus of University College Dublin, and the social events and tours will take in some of Ireland's fantastic historic venues, and outstanding archaeological monuments and landscapes. There is a wide-ranging programme of cutting-edge themes and sessions to which participants can contribute, and whose organisers represent over ** different nations around the world. Themes will cover diverse issues: the archaeology of art, identity, the human body, migrant communities, islands, landscapes, and wetlands, heritage tourism, museums, the politics of archaeology, the ethics of archaeological practice in varied contexts from regions with indigenous communities, or dramatically changing ecosystems, to those impacted by war or infrastructure developments, and many more.

Fees are detailed on the Registration Fee page. We would strongly encourage participants who are not already members of the World Archaeological Congress (WAC) to consider joining, as the WAC-6 registration fee is significantly lower for WAC members. You can join WAC online at www.worldarchaeologicalcongress.org/site/join.php

CAVAN / BRÉIFNE IN THE LATE MEDIEVAL / EARLY MODERN PERIODS

An Interdisciplinary Conference

Venue: Cavan County Museum, Ballyjamesduff, County Cavan.

Friday 29th — Saturday 30th August 2008

Further details and booking forms available from Dr Brendan Scott, Cavan County Museum, bscott@cavancoco.ie

Speakers:

Colm Donnelly (QUB): *The late medieval and plantation periods in east Bréifne: an archaeological perspective.*

John Bradley (NUIM): *The early development of towns in Cavan.*

Annaleigh Margey (TCD): *The Bodley Survey in Cavan, 1608/09.*

Nollaig Ó Muraíle (NUIG): *Leabhar Méig Shambradháin, the MacGovern Poembook — an important Bréifne contribution to Gaelic learning.*

Salvador Ryan (SPCT): *The devotional macédoine of Máire Ní Mbáille: a sixteenth-century Gaelic Irishwoman's piety in context.*

Raymond Gillespie (NUIM): *Saints and society in sixteenth-century South Ulster.*

Christopher Maginn (FU): *Tudor government in County Cavan.*

Brendan Scott (CCM): *The plantation and 1641 rising in Cavan/Leitrim through the eyes of Frederick Hamilton. (1590–1647).*

Clodagh Tait (UE): *Cavan in 1638: natives and newcomers.*

Éamonn Ó Giardha (UU): *Tories and outlaws in south Ulster and north Connacht in the seventeenth century.*

John McCafferty (UCD): *Venice in Cavan: the career of William Bedell, 1572–1642.*

Brian Mac Cuarta (QUB): *Catholic renewal in Kilmore diocese, 1603–41.*

AGRICULTURAL HISTORY SOCIETY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

20–22 June 2008

Early Medieval Farming

Venue: Firkin Crane Centre Cork

Conference fee: €80

The programme will consist of Keynote speaker and reception Friday night. Saturday AM lectures, Saturday PM Field trip to North Cork. Sunday AM concluding speakers and seminar. Details not available at time of going to press.

Contact: Eileen.murphy@teagasc.ie

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF IRELAND

Remaining Lectures for 2008

Venue: Society House, 63, Merrion Square, Dublin 2

Time: Lectures are held at 7.30 in the Helen Roe Lecture Theatre

27 March 2008: *Excavations at Caberlehillan, County Kerry: A Peacock's Tale* (John Seehan, Dept. Archaeology, NUI Cork)

24 April 2008: *Franciscan Friary Architecture in Late Medieval Ireland* (Dr Michael O'Neill, Member)

29 May 2008 — Helen Roe Memorial Lecture: *Wearmouth, Jarrow in the Insular Context* (Professor Rosemary Cramp, Member)

14 June 2008 — Summer Quarterly Meeting, Metropole Hotel Cork (During Summer Excursion): *The Heavenly Jerusalem in County Tipperary: The Symbolism of Cormac's Chapel* (Dr Dagmar Ó Riain-Raedel, Member)

25 September 2008: *The Human Settlement History of Clare Island, Co. Mayo, c. 4000 BC to 1900 AD* (Paul Gosling, Member, Department of Humanities, Galway Mayo Institute of Technology)

23 October 2008 — Frank Mitchell Memorial Lecture: *Iron Age 'Lulls' & Agricultural Economy: Regional Farming Patterns in Late Prehistoric Ireland* (Professor William O'Brien, Department of Archaeology, NUI Cork)

18 December 2008 — Statutory Meeting. The President's Address: *The Stonyford Hoard: Fact or Fiction.* (Ms Aideen Ireland)

**THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REGIONAL CONFERENCE
NEW ROSS / WEXFORD
MAY 16–18th, 2008**

HISTORIC SETTLEMENT IN NEW ROSS AND WEXFORD

Registration, Reception and Official Opening in Talbot Hotel

Conference Centre: Talbot Hotel, On the Quay, Wexford.

Speakers:

Billy Colfer, *County Wexford's settlement landscape*

James Eogan, *New light on early settlement in Co. Wexford: recent archaeological discoveries on the national road schemes*

Charles Doherty, *Politics and landscape in pre-Norman Wexford*

Ben Murtagh, *Hook tower, the Marshals and New Ross*

Margaret Murphy, *Agriculture and rural settlement in medieval Wexford: revisiting the documentary sources*

Linda Doran, *Mapping New Ross*

Damian MacGarry, *Ports traffic: early modern maritime commerce and the south-east of Ireland — the ships, the merchants and the cargoes*

Ian Doyle, *Continuity and change in the landscape*

Bernard Browne, *The Old Ross Palatine*

Sites to be visited: Saturday: Tour of Hook and Tintern (**Guide:** Billy Colfer)

Sunday: Walking tour of New Ross (**Guide:** Cólín Ó Drisceóil)

Sunday: Costume museum at Berkeley Forest House, New Ross

(**Guide:** Countess Ann Bernstorff)

Annual Dinner: Talbot Hotel Wexford: €35 per person. This price is for those who have not availed of the 2 nights B&B + 1 dinner package.

Lunch: Salad plate **or** Soup and sandwiches €10.

Conference Fee: €60 / £40, Students €30 / £20. *Fee includes coffee, admissions and bus on field trips.*

Individual Sessions: Frid. €10 / £6; Sat. €18 / £12; Sun. €18 / £12.

COMMITTEE

Charles Doherty (President)	David Fleming
Linda Doran (Hon. Secretary)	James Lyttleton
Niamh Crowley (Hon. Treasurer)	Brian Ó Dálaigh
Bernadette Cunningham	Brian Shanahan
Elizabeth FitzPatrick	Matthew Stout

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The annual subscription for 2007–8 (€10 / £7, students €5 / £4) is due on 1st. May 2008. This may be sent direct to Ms. Niamh Crowley, Hon. Treasurer, 45, Orchard Drive, Ursuline Court, Waterford, or paid by Bank Standing Order (the preferred method). A subscription renewal form incorporating a standing order mandate, is included with this *Newsletter*.

Members in Great Britain and Northern Ireland may now pay their annual subscription in sterling, by cheque or standing order.

Application for Membership and information about the Group: Please contact Dr. Linda Doran, Hon. Secretary, Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement, 7, St Mary's Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4. (Tel.: 01-6600996 E-mail: linda@billdoran.net)

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Contributions are invited on topics related to historic settlement in Ireland and the Irish-sea region, the history, conservation and interpretation of the cultural landscape and on local and regional studies. These should be sent to the Editor, Mr Charles Doherty, Early Irish History, School of History, John Henry Newman Building, University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4; or e-mail charles.doherty@ucpmail.ie. Contributors are requested, where possible, to supply material both in typescript and on disk, stating PC/MAC, name of programme used to create document, and version number of programme.

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