Our Cultural Heritage
A strategy for digitisation and access in Ireland

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Access, Use, Re-Use Digitisation Conference, 17th June 2013
Overview

• Policy Context and Digitisation Strategy
• Digitisation Programmes, National and Local
• Telling the Story of Ireland
• Access, Use and Promotion
• The Digital Future
Policy Context and Digitisation Strategy

- Government Departments
- Local Authorities
- Libraries Development
- National Advisory Forum on Public Libraries
Digitisation Programmes, National and Local

Changing Libraries Programme

Objectives:

Develop and provide for the public, a comprehensive and freely accessible online collection of local studies digital material which will increase access to this material, raise the profile of the content and reduce the handling of the originals

Develop or acquire national datasets of local studies significance
Digitisation Programmes, National and Local

National digitisation strategy for public libraries

*Our Cultural Heritage: a strategy for action for public libraries*

- Local digitised content
- National portal site AskaboutIreland.ie
Example of local digitised content 1: South Dublin Libraries website

*Connecting to the Past: Mapping South Dublin*
Example of local digitised content 2: Cork Past and Present website

Cork Photographic Collection

City Hall, Cork

Bachelors Quay, Cork
**Clare Past**

Library Forum
A partnership of Clare County Library and Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library

**Announcements**
- What to do if you have lost your login details and cannot log in
  - Clare Admin
- Posting genealogical information to the Clare Past forum
  - Clare Past Mod
- Clare County Library welcomes donated transcripts
  - Clare Past Mod
- Posting images to the forum
  - Clare Past Mod
- Welcome to the Clare Past Forum
  - Clare Past Mod

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<th>Topics</th>
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Saggart: Swift Brook Mill

Swift Brook Paper Mill was established in the mid-eighteenth century and played an important role in the economic and social life of Saggart for over two hundred years. It was recognized as a producer of high quality paper which was used in the production of bank notes and atlases.

Excerpts from an Interview with M.H. Brady, who worked at Swift Brook Mill from 1947 to 1971:

'I went into the mill in August 1947. Jean, the daughter of the manager, Mr. Horsham, used to run the farm and my first job was to pull ropes. Next I worked in the shed. My father Peter Brady was a foreman there. From the sheds you supplied all the stuff for the machines: wood pulp, clay, alum and all the other ingredients.

My brother Peter was a boiler man. The oil they were burning was very thick, not like the diesel we have now. Then I was put on shift work in the boiling loft in the bleach house. The bleach house was under the breakers, the machines that broke up the rags. After breaking, the rags were pulled up and drained. My sister worked on the beating loft while she was still young. There were a couple of women working there and it was their job to pick out the little bits of stuff with colour that didn’t break up.

I wasn’t in that part for long until I was sent down to the glass room. You would be moved around. Then I was put up onto a calendar [and later] put back onto the cutters in the glass room. You would be promoted as you went along. I was put up in the machine room as a backtender and was made a machinist. I was seven years a machinist man when the mill shut down in 1971.

All my family worked in the mill from time to time. My father was a foreman and my aunt Kate, his sister, was a forewoman up there as well.

The following is an account of some of the people and machinery at Swift Brook Mill using photographs from my album.'
Telling the Story of Ireland

Local authorities’ digitised collections:
- Local studies’ content
- Schools’ resources
- Environmental resources

Digitised national datasets:
- Griffiths Valuation
- O’Donovan name books and letters
- Statistical surveys
- Newspapers
- Historical mapping

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Object types currently digitised in the online collections

AskaboutIreland.ie currently includes:

- 22,700 pages
- 67,793 images
- 4,972 reference documents
- 3,160 animations and videos
- 625 music & other recorded sound
- Over 500 historical books
- ...and more
Ebooks

Irish Times Digital Archive

Search: Dublin Castle, 28 April 1916

The attack on Dublin Castle.

The attempt to enter Dublin Castle was one of the most exciting incidents of the uprising. About ten minutes past 12 noon on Monday a small party of Volunteers with two young women in the rear marched up Cork Hill towards the gates of the Upper Castle Yard. They were fully equipped, as if for a long adventure. At the moment few could have guessed their desperate enterprise. They might have had to pass through Castle Street; and so they reached the Castle entrance which was open, and guarded only by a policeman and a sentry. When the policeman saw they were going to enter the Castle Yard, he moved quickly in front of them, and raised his hand as a sign that they could not come in. But the Volunteers were determined, and did not turn back. They remained where they were for a few brief seconds, facing the constable. Then occurred the deed that revealed the daring object of the Volunteers. One of their number, standing out in front of the policeman, levelled his rifle at him, and before the unhappy man could draw his revolver, fired point-blank.

The constable sped a second or two, to fall mortally wounded on the ground. At the same time other shots were fired by the attackers at the sentry inside the railings, and at the guardroom to the right.

DUBLIN CASTLE.

After the deed was done the two females and the two men took up their stations.

THE ATTACK ON DUBLIN CASTLE.
Griffith’s Valuation
Example: Ballynakill, Co. Waterford. 25 May – 4 June, 1841

The parish of Ballynakill:

This parish is situated in the Barony of Gaultier, and is bounded on the N. and E. by the River Suir, on the S. by the parish of Kilmacolagh, and on the west by the townlands of Farramore and Granstons and by the parish of St. John's Without in the Co. of the City of Waterford.

Names as in Irish balle na cille, i.e. Churchtown or townland of the church.

The original church of this parish stood in the townland of Ballynakill to which it gave name about 60 yards to the south of Ballynakill Church but no part of the walls have existed these thirty years. The grave yard only remains in which there are burial places for five or six families. The modern church stands about ½ mile to the south of it.

To this parish belongs the "Little Island", situated in the river Suir and commands a good view of the City of Waterford and the neighbouring mountains. On this island is an ancient Castle, still in good preservation and lately fitted up by the landlord, who resides in it for a few months in the year. It stands on the north side of...
Ordnance Survey Historic Maps
Access, Use and Promotion

Key objectives of the local authorities’ portal:

- Free
- User-friendly
- Relevant
- Local
- Multiple routes of access
User-generated content

Example of a contribution to a record on Griffith’s Valuation

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User Contributions

You can now upload your own information, photos, audios and videos to the details of each Griffith’s Valuation record. Please click the grey upload button to start your own upload.

Below, you can see material uploaded by other users of the site.

Timothy Morris - Farmer Minyip, Victoria, Australia

Timothy Morris migrated to Australia with seven children after the death of his wife (Mary Fox) and their new child Johanne. He did not appear to seek gold. Settled first Sunbury, Vic and then took up land at Minyip. Dry country but he was successful. Until early 2000s there were still Morris family farming there. He is buried in Minyip with family members including son Richard.
Schools’ Resources on the National Portal

- Linked to the curriculum
- Education advisors
- Age appropriate
- Integrated into teacher training
Schools’ Content: Learning Zone

Primary Students

Secondary Students
The Digital Future

- Strategy for public libraries 2013-2017
  - Apps
  - GIS
  - Living books
  - Videos
  - Digital exhibitions
  - Greater integration of resources with the library catalogue
  - National library management system, including a new digital repository

- Creative industries
- Co-ordination
- Promotion

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