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OFFICE OF PUBLIC WORKS
REGISTER

The **N**ational
Archives

Advisory Council



4th report
December 1994

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Letter

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THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

ADVISORY COUNCIL

4TH REPORT
December 1994

28th July 1995

MR. MICHAEL D. HIGGINS T.D.,
MINISTER FOR ARTS, CULTURE AND THE GAELTACHT,
DUN AIMHIRGIN,
43/49 MESPIR ROAD,
DUBLIN 4.



A Aire, a chara,

In accordance with Section 21 of the National Archives Act, 1986, I hereby submit the Fourth Report of the National Archives Advisory Council on the activities of the Council in the period 1st January - 31st December, 1994.

The year 1994 has seen many beneficial developments in Ireland's cultural life, especially in respect of the creative and the performing arts. A substantially increased level of State funding for the arts is helping to provide greater economic security for performing and creative artists, enabling many of them to concentrate fully on the perfection of their particular art form. That development is of importance not just to the individual artist but also to the wider public whose access to the arts has been greatly enhanced.

Nineteen Ninety Four was also a year in which a number of national cultural institutions received firm commitments from Government that greatly improved facilities would be provided for the storage and display of their artefacts. In particular, the National Museum and the Chester Beatty Library are to benefit from the provision by the State of renovated or new premises at Collins Barracks and Dublin Castle respectively. Those developments have been widely acclaimed as timely investments in the physical infrastructure of major national cultural institutions.

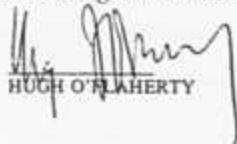
The year marked some incremental progress in safeguarding Ireland's archival heritage. That modest progress is detailed in the Council's report. Unfortunately, our Report also highlights continuing significant cause for concern on the part of the National Archives Advisory Council and the users of the services provided by the National Archives. The inadequacy of storage premises and staffing levels at the National Archives is placing the work of that institution in serious jeopardy. More precise details of those deficiencies are set out in our Report. The deficiencies in question would be remedied if the State accepted its obligation to sustain the National Archives at a level appropriate to a national institution. Once lost, archival material cannot be replaced and our understanding and appreciation of our history is diminished. The means to preserve and make available our archives for posterity require a comparatively modest additional commitment of resources by the State. Failure to do so will diminish not just the National Archives and its holdings but our national esteem. Immediate action is essential lest irreplaceable archival material is lost.

Numbers of researchers at the Bishop Street premises are increasing all the time.

All who go there praise the lay-out and decor of the Niall McCarthy Reading Room. The dedication and service of the Director and staff is attested to both in many verbal tributes as well as written acknowledgments throughout the year.

Séard a theastaíonn anois ná dlús a chur leis an obair atá déanta chomh maith sin go dtí seo. Is fiú dúinn a mheabhúr gur de réir a chéile a tógtar na caisleáin!

Beir bua agus beannacht,


HUGH O'FLAHERTY

1. BACKGROUND

The National Archives houses the records of the modern Irish state, of its historical evolution and of its national identity. Its collections relate to each of Ireland's thirty-two counties and contain enormous potential as a source for historical research. They permit the study of policy by contemporary civil servants, the identification of their roots by the many visitors whom we welcome to this country, and an understanding of their heritage by schoolchildren living in every part of this island.

Until 1988 the collection and preservation of public records was carried out by the Public Record Office of Ireland (founded in 1867) and the State Paper Office (founded in 1702). The bulk of the archives held in the Public Record Office was lost in the Four Courts fire of 1922, when the building itself was largely destroyed. The National Archives, created as a result of the National Archives Act of 1986, subsumed these bodies in a new institution of national importance. Since 1 June 1988, when the Act was brought fully into force, the National Archives has not only been responsible for existing collections but has taken on additional responsibilities as a branch of Government. Subject to certain necessary restrictions, all Departmental records more than thirty years old must be transferred to the care of the National Archives.

2. ESTABLISHMENT AND FUNCTION OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

The National Archives Advisory Council was established under the National Archives Act, 1986, and was constituted on 14 January 1987. Until 20 January 1993 the Council reported to the Taoiseach. On that date most of the powers conferred on the Taoiseach by the Act were transferred to the Minister for Arts, Culture and the Gaeltacht. A note concerning Ministerial responsibility for the National Archives is appended to this report. Accordingly, the Council now reports to the Minister for Arts, Culture and the Gaeltacht. The principal function of the Council is to advise the Minister in the exercise of his powers under the Act and on all matters affecting archives and their use by the public.

Hugh O'Flaherty,

Judge of the Supreme Court (Chairman)

Patrick Buckley MA,

Executive Secretary, Royal Irish Academy

Nicholas Canny MA PhD MRIA,

*Professor of Modern History, University College Galway,
Chairman of the Irish Committee for Historical Sciences,
Member of the Irish Manuscripts Commission*

Mary Clark BA DAA,

*Archivist, Dublin Corporation,
Member of the Society of Archivists*

Michael Doody,

Waterford City Manager and Town Clerk

Adrian Empey PhD,

*Chancellor of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin,
Vicar of St. Ann's Church, Dublin*

Ronan Fanning PhD MRIA,

Professor of Modern History, University College Dublin

Brian Farrell MA,

Director-General, Institute of European Affairs, Dublin

Ailsa C. Holland MA Dip Arch Studies,

*Archives Department, University College Dublin,
Member of the Society of Archivists*

Bernard Meehan MA PhD,

Keeper of Manuscripts, Trinity College Dublin

Donnchadh Ó Corráin DLitt MA MRIA,

Associate Professor of History, University College Cork

Brian Trainor BA DLitt,

*Chairman of the Irish Manuscripts Commission,
Director of the Ulster Historical Foundation,
Member of the Society of Archivists.*



RIGHT:

*Launch of Guide to the Archives of the
Office of Public Works, 2 December 1994.
L to R: Mr. Justice Hugh O' Flaherty,
Chairman of the National Archives
Advisory Council, Mr. Noel Dempsey, TD,
Minister of State, Ms. Rena Lohan, author
of the Guide, and Mr. John O' Mahony,
Chairman of the Office of Public Works.*

3. MEMBERSHIP

4. REPORTS

The first report of the Council covered the period from January 1987 to June 1990. The second report covered the period until June 1992. The third report covered the subsequent period up to 31 December 1993. This fourth report is of activities during the calendar year 1994.

5. ACTIVITIES

5.1

Meetings were held on the following dates:

24 January

14 February

14 March

18 April

25 April

11 July

12 September

24 October

28 November

BELOW:

RLFC/3: Cavan Relief Committee notice re alleged abuses of public works schemes, 10 November 1846

NOTICE.

CAVAN RELIEF COMMITTEE.

The Relief Committee have received numerous complaints of persons having obtained employment in the Public Works in this district, who do not come within the description laid down in the instructions issued by Government to the Relief Committees, that is "persons who are destitute of means of support, or for whose support such employment is actually necessary."

It is obvious that Persons at a shilling a day, Farmers (or their sons) possessing a cart and horse, and several cows, with stacks of oats in their barnyard, cannot be included in this description; and yet many such, it is stated in the Committee, are at present employed.

When such persons come take into consideration that, as employment obviously cannot be afforded to all, their obtaining it throws out of the work poor destitute and starving people, the Committee confidently trust they will voluntarily withdraw and give up their tickets.

The Committee, however, will continue to receive complaints; and if the party complained of does not withdraw of his own accord, he will be called upon to shew upon what grounds he claims to be employed on the Public Works.

The Committee will not recommend the employment of Servants or Labourers who are actually engaged, or those who leave their employers without consent.

When any Gentleman, or Farmer, requires Labourers, to be paid at the same rate adopted in the Public Works, if he will notify to the Committee the names of those he wishes to hire, they shall be immediately struck off their lists so long as they are thus required; the Committee being authorised to afford employment to those alone who cannot obtain it elsewhere.

The Committee are informed that Carts and Horses belonging to wealthy farmers are employed at the Public Works. This they consider quite unjustifiable. There are persons holding little or no land, who keep a Cart and Horse entirely for hire, and actually live by it. Of such, a list might, without much difficulty, be made; and the Committee think that each night fairly obtain employment at the usual wages of 2s. 6d. per day, under the Board of Works, provided they cannot procure it elsewhere. But if it shall be found necessary to employ the Carts of persons not in want, the Committee recommend that they shall receive three men from the Public Works in exchange, or if they prefer it, two men, and the wages of the third in cash; but that in no case, shall the wages of 2s. 6d. a day for man, cart, and horse be paid, unless to those included in the list before mentioned.

The Committee are of opinion that, for the future, Overseers and Check Clerks, as far as may be found practicable, should be selected from persons at present in the Public Works; their work might be judged from their conduct while employed, and if any should be found deserving of promotion, it would be a great incentive to others, and would also be a saving of the Public Money.

FARNHAM, Chairman.

November 10, 1846.



ABOVE:

RLFC/3: Letter from Chairman of Ballingerry Relief Committee, enclosing threatening letters from "Captain Starlight", 13 July 1846

5.2

The Council meeting of 12 September 1994 was followed by a one-day seminar on the future development of the National Archives. Three members of the staff of the National Archives addressed the Council on areas of concern not previously considered in detail. Ken Hannigan, Senior Archivist, dealt with computerisation and electronic records; Aileen Ireland, Archivist, with changing patterns of readership and use of the National Archives; and Catriona Crowe, Archivist, with subjects which might be developed as exhibition themes. The Council wishes to record its appreciation of the thoroughness and clarity of their respective presentations, which were of immense value to the Council in coming to an appreciation of the problems of the National Archives.

5.3

Following consideration by the Council of a concern expressed by the Irish Society for Archives, the Chairman wrote to the Minister for Education regarding the future safe-keeping of the records of the National Schools. The Minister responded most helpfully to the effect that her Department will issue a circular direction to schools, pointing out the importance of the records and requesting that they be preserved.

5.4

The Chairman was one of the speakers at the launch of the Guide to the Archives of the Office of Public Works at Dublin Castle on 1 December by

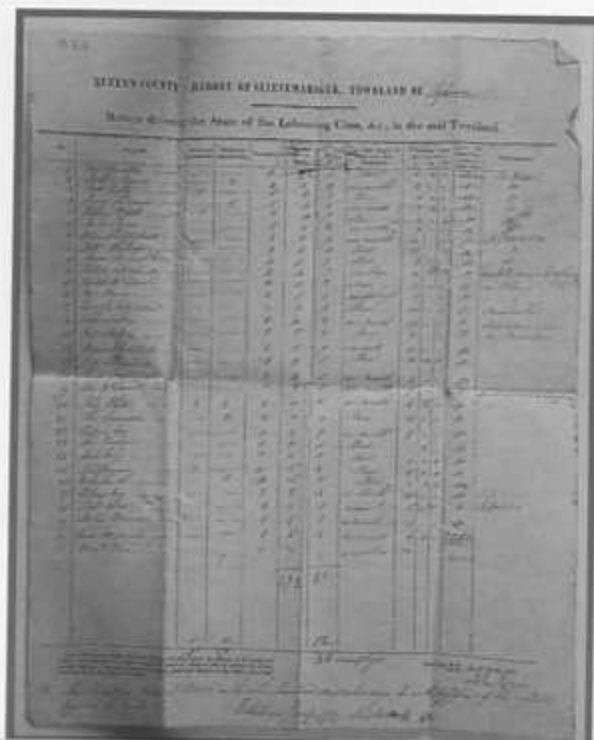
Mr Noel Dempsey T.D., Minister of State at the Department of Finance. The archives of the Office of Public Works are held in the National Archives. The Guide was prepared by Rena Lohan, Archivist.

5.5

On 10 June the Chairman hosted a reception on the occasion of a joint meeting at the National Archives of the Irish Region and Scottish Region of the Society of Archivists.

BELOW:

RLFC/3: Return showing state of the labouring class
in townland of Rossmore, Queen's Co., 22 March 1846



6. LOCAL AUTHORITY ARCHIVES

In its Third Report, the Council drew attention to the historic neglect of local authority archives outside Dublin and Cork. This has meant that the potential of local authority archives for historical research, genealogy and cultural tourism has not been realised. The Council reported that the Chairman had requested the Minister for Arts, Culture and the Gaeltacht to appoint four professional archivists to conduct a survey of local authority and health board archives over a period of approximately two years. The aim was that such a survey would contribute towards the formulation of a coherent national policy in this neglected area. The Council is pleased to report substantial progress in the area of local authority archives.

The Local Government Bill introduced by the Minister for the Environment in March 1994 included a section making it a function of each local authority to make arrangements for the management, custody, care, conservation and public inspection of its records. Following a special meeting of the Council, the Chairman wrote to the Minister congratulating him on the inclusion of the section, and asking that the Council be given an advisory role under the Bill, as this would help to preserve a coherent national policy for the administration of archives. The Minister agreed to this request, and the section was amended to say that the Council may advise the Minister for the Environment on any matter affecting local archives and their use by the public. The section as amended subsequently became law as Section 65 of the Local Government Act, 1994.

The Minister for the Environment has established a Local Archives Steering Group to advise him on the implementation of Section 65. The membership of the steering group includes the Director of the National Archives and two members of Council, Ms Clark and Mr Doody. The Minister for the Environment has also provided funding for a survey of local authority records, which is gathering information for consideration by the steering group. Two archivists have been seconded temporarily from the National Archives to manage the survey, and four archivists have been recruited on a contract basis to assist them. Work on the survey began on 1 December 1994 and must be completed by 30 June 1995.

ABOVE:

OS TP, Listowel: (detail) Ordnance Survey Town Plan of Listowel, Co. Kerry
(scale: 5 feet : 1 mile), 1841



7 TAX

Representations were made by the Council to the Minister for Finance on the subject of the export of collections of historical documents. The Council feels that positive measures should be taken to encourage the placing of such collections in public institutions through the provision of tax incentives by way of an amendment to the 1984 Finance Act. The Council has continued to press the Minister for this concession, since the cost to the exchequer would be minimal while at the same time would most probably be a great boon to the National Archives and other collecting institutions.

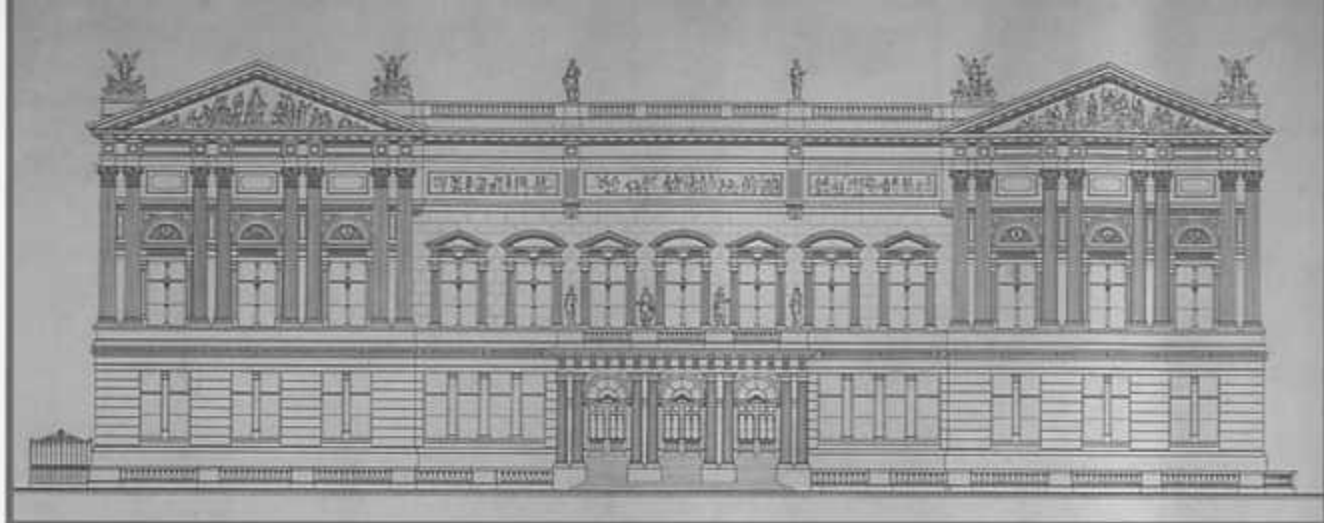
RIGHT:

OS TP, Fermoy:

(detail), Ordnance Survey Town Plan of Fermoy, Co. Cork

(scale: 5 feet : 1 mile), 1842





ABOVE:

OPW 5 HC/1: Competition design for proposed Science and Art Museum (National Museum), Dublin, showing north and west elevations, by Charles H. Flack, ARIBA, Architect and Surveyer, 92 Gt. Russell Street, London WC, 1881

8. NATIONAL ARCHIVES

8.1 PREMISES

The National Archives is housed in two premises: the headquarters at Bishop Street, and the former Public Record Office building at the Four Courts, which now functions solely as an off-site store for archives.

The space currently available to the National Archives in these premises is now full. If no additional space is made available, the National Archives will be unable to accept the Departmental records due for transfer under the National Archives Act in 1995.

The Council has been concerned for some time about the suitability of the Bishop Street building for the storage of archives. Both the reading room and the storage areas in the front block are subject to considerable and unacceptable fluctuations both in temperature and relative humidity. These problems were reported by the National Archives and passed to the Electrical and Heating section of the Office of Public Works (OPW) in January 1994, but no report on the problems was received from the OPW. A warehouse attaches to the rear of the main block at Bishop Street. Environmental conditions there are even more adverse to the adequate and safe storage of archives. There is no doubt that the archives will be damaged in the medium to long term if no remedial action is taken to improve environmental conditions at Bishop Street.

The Council is convinced that the long-term development of the National Archives is dependent on the successful development of the warehouse or the site which it occupies. Any current use of the warehouse must be regarded as temporary. A three-tier structure was erected in part of the warehouse during 1992 to house the Land Commission records. This structure does not comply with recognised standards for the storage of archives, and is not acceptable as a model for the adaptation of the warehouse as whole. Because of the quantity of archives still held at the Four Courts, and because also of the great bulk of the records due to be transferred from the bodies listed in the Schedule to the National Archives Act, it is clear that the area occupied

by the warehouse must be used by the National Archives for the storage of records. As a result the Council requested the OPW to seek a report on the adaptation of the warehouse as a dedicated storage facility to meet the present and future storage requirements of the National Archives in accordance with BS 5454. It recommended that the architectural firms invited to tender should include Building Design Partnership (BDP) because of that firm's recent experience in designing the Scottish Record Office's new building in Edinburgh. BDP's report was considered by the Council and a meeting took place with the OPW in November to discuss the matter. BDP outlined four possible courses of action, ranging from minimal intervention (at a cost of roughly £7m) to the insertion of a three-floored structure with associated structural changes (at an estimated cost of £10.67m - £11.13m). It is the strong view of Council that this latter option is the only one which is viable. In the words of BDP's report, 'If the performance of the building, its services and facilities and their compliance with the requirements of BS 5454: 1989 are of prime importance, then only [this option] should be considered'. In terms of the national significance of the collections presently housed at Bishop Street, or which could be housed there if appropriate space were available, it does not seem difficult to justify the expenditure of a sum in the region of £11m.

The Council regards the full occupation of the Bishop Street building as an immediate necessity for the development of the National Archives. In its Second Report, the Council indicated its concern that the first floor of this building remained occupied by personnel from the Government Services Agency (GSA) and machinery used for printing. In particular, the Council reported that it was not acceptable that such machinery should be used in close proximity to valuable national records, but was reassured in part by the commitment of the Office of Public Works to have this area vacated in full before the end of 1993. In its Third Report, the Council expressed concern at the fact that the first floor remained occupied by the GSA, but accepted the assurance of the OPW that the GSA would vacate the first floor by mid-1994. The Council is now obliged to report that this undertaking was not kept by the OPW and that the GSA remains in unsafe occupation of space which is urgently needed for the storage of valuable archives. The Council regards this as an entirely unsatisfactory situation, and considers it essential that Floor 1 be made available for use by the National Archives immediately.

No substantial developments have taken place concerning the presence of staff from the Land Commission Records Branch in the Bishop Street premises. The control of the National Archives over the Bishop Street site remains diluted due to the fact that the Records Branch continues to be responsible to the Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry. The presence of staff from the Land Commission and the GSA has a further adverse impact on the development of the National Archives. The Land Commission staff occupy a section of the ground floor which it was planned to adapt for use as an exhibition area and lecture room in 1992. As a result, the exhibition area and lecture room will have to be located in another area of the ground floor, but this area remains occupied by the GSA.

9. DEPARTMENTAL RECORDS

The Third Report of the Council noted that by 31 December 1993 all but two of the sixteen Departments now in existence had completed the transfer of their pre-1961 records, but that the Departments of Education and Finance had failed to meet the final deadlines given to them. The present position with regard to these two Departments is as follows:

(A) THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

During 1994 the rate of progress made by this Department in preparing records for transfer remained very slow. However, the Department did carry out a survey of its own records, which provides a useful basis for a more detailed survey to be carried out by the National Archives in the second quarter of 1995, and the Department is now in a position to transfer a significant quantity of its older records. Unfortunately the National Archives is at present unable to accept the latter records due to the shortage of accommodation noted above. Space is being reserved for these and other records of the Department in Bishop Street on Floor 1, which should be available for use by the National Archives before the end of 1995 (see section 8 above).

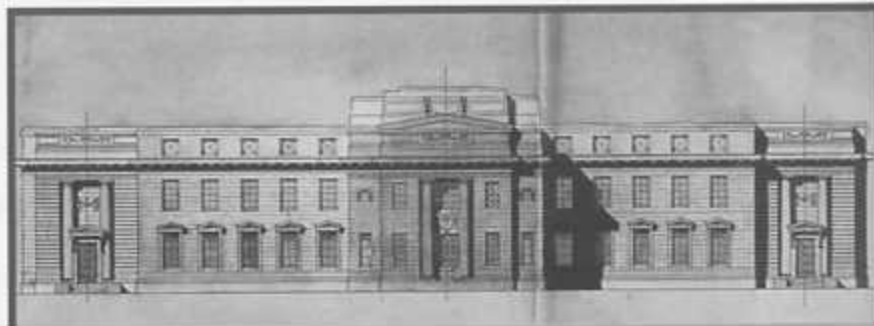
(b) THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

During 1994 this Department made considerable progress in preparing the remainder of its pre-1961 records for transfer. Provided the present rate of progress is maintained, and provided the National Archives has use of Floor 1 in Bishop Street before the end of 1995, the backlog of records due for transfer should be cleared during 1995.

The Council is deeply dismayed by the continuing delay on the part of the Departments of Education and Finance in completing the transfer of their pre-1961 records, and must stress the importance of ensuring both that the Departments do the work needed to complete the transfer without further delay, and that the National Archives has the accommodation needed to allow it to accept these records.

Since completing the transfer of their pre-1961 records, most other Departments have made at least one annual transfer. However, some Departments still failed to make an annual transfer in 1994. Table 1 below summarises the record of compliance or non-compliance with Section 8 of the National Archives Act by Departments in general as of 31 December 1994.

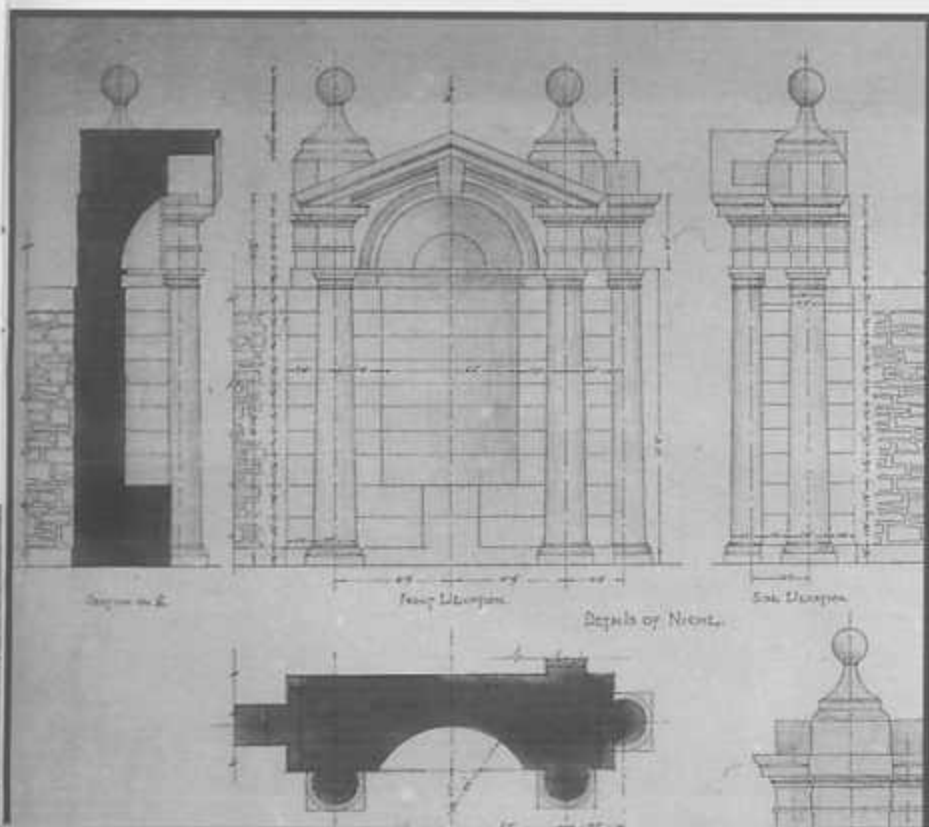
With a view to enforcing more effectively the requirement for regular transfer, the National Archives will shortly be issuing revised guidelines to Departments concerning procedures for the transfer of Departmental records on an annual basis.



In its Third Report the Council drew attention to the fact that because the initial priority in implementing the National Archives Act had been to ensure that the pre-1961 records of the seventeen Departments existing in 1988 were transferred to the National Archives, relatively little progress had been made with regard to the records of the Courts and the 61 bodies listed in the Schedule to the Act, all of whose records are Departmental records for the purposes of the National Archives Act.

During 1994 some progress was made in dealing with the backlog of records of the Circuit Court due for transfer, and provided Floor 1 becomes available in 1995, further progress should be made in 1995. However, the National Archives will not be able to accession the large quantities of records due for transfer from the District Court, the High Court and many of the Scheduled Bodies until the warehouse at the back of Bishop Street has been adapted for use by the National Archives.

In its Third Report the Council also noted that the records of the Registry of Deeds, the Valuation Office, the Ordnance Survey, the Land Commission and the Land Registry merit particular attention, and that taken together, they make up one of the most comprehensive bodies of archives relating to land and the people living on the land available anywhere in Europe. During 1994 the transfer of Ordnance Survey records relating to the original 6 inch survey was largely completed. The Council notes with approval that works are currently under way in the Registry of Deeds which will reduce the risk of fire damage to the older records in their present place of storage. Nevertheless, continuing progress with regard to the records of these five bodies is dependent on the satisfactory adaptation of the warehouse at Bishop Street.



LEFT:

OPW 5 HC/1: Proposed University College, Dublin, showing elevations to Hatch Street and Earlsfort Terrace, by Doolin & Butler, Architects, Dublin, 1914

RIGHT:

OPW 5 HC/1: (detail) Irish National War Memorial, showing details of niche, gate piers and wall pier in screen wall, by Sir Edwin L. Lutyens, RA, 5 Eaton Gate, London SW1, March 1932

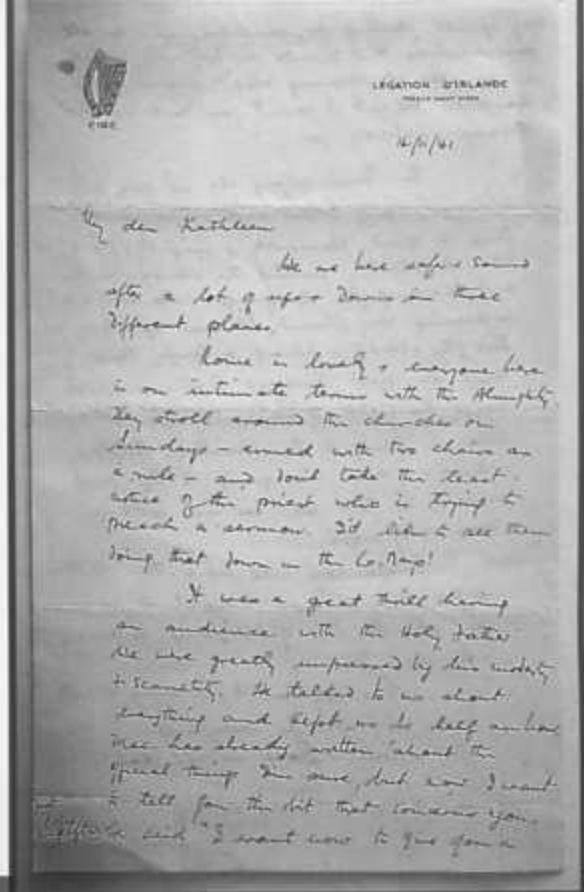
RIGHT:

DFA, Secretary's Office Files: Letter from Delia Kiernan, wife of T.J. Kiernan, Irish Ambassador to the Holy Sea, to Kathleen O' Connor, secretary to De Valera, 16 November 1941.

OPPOSITE PAGE:

BRS DUB 145: Lamp and buoy constructed in Stafford in 1909, by F. Barrett & Co., Lighthouse Engineers, who were later located in Schoolhouse Lane, Dublin.

10 STAFF



The National Archives remains very seriously understaffed. There is a strong perception on the part of the Council that the important cultural and administrative work of the National Archives is not sufficiently appreciated by Government. At even the most mundane level, the National Archives has relieved Government Departments of much work in the storing and filing of documents. A submission to the Minister requesting four additional permanent professional posts and a new post as assistant to the Director was however rejected in March 1994 on the grounds that staffing levels in the National Archives were originally set to take into account any future needs. The Council is unanimous in rejecting this argument, since it related to a development which took place in the 1970s, long predating the Archives Act (1986) and the additional responsibilities which it demands. The Chairman was asked to convey to the Minister the extent of the Council's disappointment. Repeated requests to meet the Minister to discuss this and other pressing concerns met with no response. As a result, the Chairman was obliged to express the concerns of the Council directly to the Taoiseach, Mr Albert Reynolds, but again no response was forthcoming.

During 1994 four archivists were recruited on a temporary basis to assist in work on Departmental records for a period up to 1996. This development is welcomed, but the need for more permanent archivists remains acute and must be addressed at an early date.

Details of staff serving on 31 December 1994 are set out in Table 2, Page 20.

11. STRATEGIC PLAN



Work on the production of a Strategic Plan to lead towards the coherent development of the National Archives to the year 2000 continued throughout the year. The feeling among members of Council remains that a range of problems must be overcome before the National Archives can realise its undoubted potential as a key cultural institution of the state. A striking contrast is apparent between the richness of the holdings of the National Archives and the poverty of the resources which successive governments have devoted to it. The National Archives occupies a key position in the cultural and intellectual life of the nation, yet it labours under an accumulation of difficulties and deficiencies.

The Third Report had already listed the areas in which the National Archives can be judged to operate at a low level compared to similar institutions in neighbouring states. It is instructive to repeat these concerns, with brief comments on developments over the past year:

the National Archives staffing level is extremely low.

The staff of the National Archives has remained at a total of 35. This compares with the Scottish Record Office total of 130 staff, and, in Belfast, the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland total of 94. For details of staff, refer to Table 2.

the National Archives faces a serious shortage of space for the storage of archives.

This has become critical. Certain collections cannot be accessioned due to lack of space, while it has been necessary to withdraw other collections from public availability. The records of the General Prisons Board, for example, for which there is considerable demand, have been withdrawn, and are now housed on racking in the warehouse.

the National Archives does not meet minimum international standards of temperature and humidity in its storage areas.

A report from the OPW on environmental problems in the front block at Bishop Street was requested in January 1994. This report is still awaited.

the National Archives has no integrated computerised finding aids and retrieval systems

No change

STRATEGIC PLAN CONTINUED

the National Archives has no conservation facility.

No change

the National Archives has no exhibition space.

The Council discussed this matter throughout the year. It was felt that exhibitions on the Famine and on the bicentenary of the 1798 rebellion would be valuable both in educational terms and in raising the general profile of the National Archives. An exhibition area would be especially welcome in acting as a 'window' on the holdings of the National Archives, since present opportunities for creating public awareness of the archives are limited to the yearly release of Departmental files. It was not however possible to advance plans for such an exhibition because the designated space is occupied by the GSA.

the National Archives has no significant record of publication .

No change

the National Archives provides no records management service to government .

No change

the National Archives has no facilities for preserving or making available to researchers records in electronic form.

No change



ABOVE:

Office of Public Works Registrars

Ministerial responsibility for the National Archives

A P P E N D I X

1. The functions of the National Archives are regulated by the following:
 - (a) the National Archives Act, 1986;
 - (b) the National Archives Act, 1986, Regulations, 1988;
 - (c) the National Archives Act, 1986
(Authentication of Documents) Regulations, 1988;
 - (d) the National Archives (Fees) Regulations, 1988.
2. The National Archives Act assigned Ministerial responsibility for the National Archives to the Taoiseach.
3. The National Archives was established on 1 June 1988 in accordance with an order made by the Taoiseach under Section 26(2) of the National Archives Act.
4. On 20 January 1993 Ministerial responsibility for the National Archives was transferred from the Taoiseach to the Minister for Arts, Culture and the Gaeltacht in accordance with the Arts and Culture (Transfer of Departmental Administration and Ministerial Functions) Order, 1993, and the Gaeltacht (Alteration of Name of Department and Title of Minister) Order, 1993, although the Taoiseach retains responsibility for functions specified in Sections 1(3), 8(4), 8(10)(b), 8(11) and 11 of the National Archives Act.
5. Accordingly, most of the functions conferred on the Taoiseach by the National Archives Act are now performed by the Minister for Arts, Culture and the Gaeltacht. The Director and staff of the National Archives and the members of the National Archives Advisory Council are appointed by the Minister. The reports of the Director and the Council are submitted to the Minister.
6. However, the Taoiseach continues to perform certain functions relating to the retention by Departments of Departmental records which are more than 30 years old and the withholding of such records from public inspection. The Consenting Officers must be officers of the Department of the Taoiseach. (Certificates under Section 8(4) of the Act withholding records from inspection cannot be made without the consent of one of the Consenting Officers.) The Taoiseach will retain the power to direct that records be made available for inspection by the public.
7. Regulations made under Sections 19(1) and 19(2) of the Act are now made by the Minister for Arts, Culture and the Gaeltacht, but the Taoiseach retains the power to make regulations concerning the rank of Certifying and Consenting Officers under Section 1(3) of the Act, while the Minister for Finance retains the power to make regulations concerning the management, preservation and reproduction of Departmental records under Section 19(3) of the Act.

T A B L E 1

Transfer of records pre-dating 1965 from Departments of State to the National Archives in order that they may be released to public inspection under section 8 of the National Archives Act.

STATEMENT OF POSITION AS OF 31 DECEMBER 1994

DEPARTMENT (and date of foundation of Department or precursor)	Certifying Officer(s)	Records held in the National Archives as of 31 December 1994	Records due for transfer as of 31 December 1994
TAOISEACH (1919, as the Secretariat of Dáil Éireann; Department of the President of the Executive Council, 1922-37)	Brian McCarthy Mary Doyle	1919-64	•
AGRICULTURE, FOOD & FORESTRY (1899, as Agriculture and Technical Instruction; incorporates the former Department of Lands)	Joseph Shortall	1899-1964	•
ARTS, CULTURE AND THE GAELTACHT (1993; records from Education and the Taoiseach, and the former Departments of Lands and the Gaeltacht)	Eoghan Ó Conaill	1929-64	•
DEFENCE (1922)	Simon L. Rutledge Col. John J. Duggan	1922-64 (these records are held in the Military Archives which is an approved place of deposit under the National Archives Act)	•
EDUCATION (1922; earlier records from the Commissioners of National Education and the Commissioners of Intermediate Education)	Anna Doughan	1831-1963 (records concerning National Schools, 1831-1963; records concerning Intermediate Education 1879-1918; Central Registry files, 1922-31)	c1922-64 (including Central Registry files, 1932- 64)
ENTERPRISE AND EMPLOYMENT (1993; earlier records from the former Departments of Industry and Commerce and Labour)	Paul Bennett	1922-63	1964
ENVIRONMENT (1922, as Local Government and Public Health; earlier records from the Poor Law Commissioners and the Local Government Board)	Séamus O'Connor Eddie Lewis Brian Breathnach Peter Greene Tadhg Ó Seasnáin	1838-1964	•
EQUALITY AND LAW REFORM (1993; recent records from Justice and the former Department of Labour)	•	•	•
FINANCE (1922)	Colm Gallagher	1922-63 (for the period 1942-63, files of the former Supply Division only)	1940-64 (files of the former Establishment Division, 1940-64, Finance Division, 1942-64, and Supply Division, 1964)
FOREIGN AFFAIRS (1919, as the Dáil Éireann Department of Foreign Affairs; Department of External Affairs, 1922-71)	Kieran Dowling	1919-64 (including records of embassies and consulates in other countries)	•

T A B L E 1

Transfer of records pre-dating 1965 from Departments of State to the National Archives in order that they may be released to public inspection under section 8 of the National Archives Act.

STATEMENT OF POSITION AS OF 31 DECEMBER 1994

DEPARTMENT (and date of foundation of Department or precursor)	Certifying Officer(s)	Records held in the National Archives as of 31 December 1994	Records due for transfer as of 31 December 1994
HEALTH (1947; earlier records from the former Department of Local Government and Public Health)	Gerard Guidon	1920s-1963	1964
JUSTICE (1922, as Home Affairs)	John Cronin Berenice O'Neill Sean Aylward Frank Boughton Richard Ryan William Byrne	1922-1964	•
MARINE (1987; records from the Office of Public Works, the former Department of Fisheries and its precursors, and the former Department of Industry and Commerce)	Declan Doyle	1845-1963	1964
SOCIAL WELFARE (1947; earlier records from the former Departments of Industry and Commerce and Local Government and Public Health, and the Irish Department of the pre-1922 Ministry of Labour)	Bernard Kevitt	1919-64	•
TOURISM AND TRADE (1993; records from the former Departments of Industry and Commerce and Transport and Power)	Scán Gorman	c 1922-1962	1963-64
TRANSPORT, ENERGY AND COMMUNICATIONS (1993; records from the former Departments of Industry and Commerce, Transport and Power, and Posts and Telegraphs, and the pre-1922 Post Office)	Daniel Commane Doreen Keaney Brendan Toomey Maurice Carey Tom Ferris Edward Mortimer Thomas Tobin Fintan O'Brien Raymond Byrne Denis Hegarty Martin Brennan	c 1900-1964	•
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL 1922	John F Gormley	1922-64	•
OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL (1922)	•	1920s-1962	1963-64
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT (1937)	Peter Ryan	1937-64	•
OFFICE OF THE TANAISTE (1993)	•	•	•

1. On 31 December 1994 there were seven Archivist posts. One of the seven Archivists normally job-shares without a partner and works half-time, but during the period 1 December 1994 to 30 June 1995 she has reverted temporarily to full-time work as Survey Manager of the local Authority Records Survey. During the same period another Archivist is working temporarily as Assistant Survey Manager.

2. Four Archivists are employed on a contract basis for a fixed period running from early 1994 until 31 August 1996. An additional four Archivists will be employed from January to June 1995 to assist in the work of the Local Authority Records Survey.

3. Two of the Services Officers have allowances for carrying out Paperkeeper duties.

GRADE	NAMES	TOTAL
DIRECTOR	David Craig, PhD	1
SENIOR ARCHIVIST	Ken Hannigan, BA, H Dip Ed	1
ARCHIVISTS	Phil Connolly, PhD, Dip Arch Admin Frances McGee, M ès Lettres, H Dip Ed Catriona Crowe, BA Aideen Ireland, MA, Dip Arch Studies Gregory O'Connor, MA, Dip Leg Studies Brian Donnelly, BA, Dip Arch Studies Thomas Quinlan, BA, Dip Arch Studies	7
ARCHIVISTS employed under temporary contract ending on 31 August 1996	Karl Magee, MA, Dip Arch Studies Della Murphy, BA, Dip Arch Studies Rena Lohan, M Litt, Dip Arch Studies Marianne Cosgrave, BA, Dip Arch Studies	4
STAFF OFFICER	Noreen Lynch	1
CLERICAL OFFICERS	Tom Gilsenan Eileen Treacy Irene Dolan Mairead O'Boyle Christopher Allen	5
CLERICAL ASSISTANTS Typists	Bernadette Kelly Caroline O'Keeffe Orla Smyth	3
CLERICAL ASSISTANT	Barra Ó Cuív	1
HEAD SERVICES OFFICER	James O'Brien	1
PAPERKEEPERS	Ken Robinson Patrick Sarsfield Eamonn Mullally Peter Parsons Sharon O'Donoghue Tommy Coombes	6
SERVICES OFFICERS with allowances for Paperkeeper duties	Ernest Woodyatt Peter Carolan	2
SERVICES OFFICERS	Lorcan Farrell Colman Jarrett	2
BLIND TELEPHONIST	Philip Doyle	1
TOTAL		35

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1889