

Newsletter, eleventh issue This is the eleventh in a series of annual Irish Historic Towns Atlas (IHTA) newsletters, intended to keep contributors and those associated with the project informed of progress and events.



We would like to wish all our authors, contributors, researchers and those interested in the project a very Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.



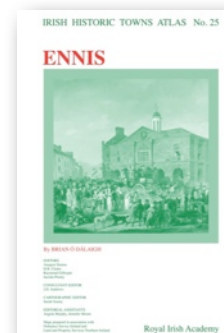
SLIGO

Irish Historic Towns Atlas, no. 24, *Sligo* by Fíona Gallagher and Marie-Louise Legg was launched in Sligo City Hall by Jimmy Deenihan, TD, Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht on 24 February 2012. It was hosted by Sligo Borough Council and Sligo County Council. The launch coincided with 'Sligo 400' celebrating the charter date for the town and the following day, Fíona Gallagher guided a walking tour, which took in the Dominican priory (Sligo Abbey) and St John's Church.



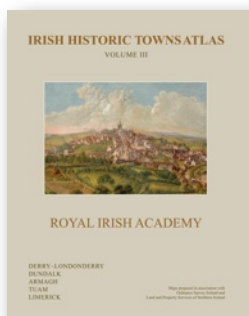
ENNIS

Mayor of Ennis, Councillor Peter Considine, launched Irish Historic Towns Atlas, no. 25, *Ennis* by Brian Ó Dálaigh on Friday 24 August 2012 in the Civic Room of Ennis Town Council. Brian also delivered a lecture on the atlas as part of Heritage Week at the De Valera Library and guided walking tours through the lanes and streets of Ennis.

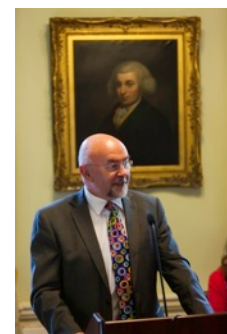


BOUND VOLUME III

To conclude the IHTA Seminar on 25 May 2012, Ruairi Quinn, TD, Minister for Education and Skills, launched Irish Historic Towns Atlas, *Volume III* (Derry-Londonderry, Dundalk, Armagh, Tuam and Limerick) with *Sligo* in Academy House. Many atlas authors were present marking another important milestone for the IHTA.



Launch party, Academy House



Minister Ruairi Quinn

FORTHCOMING ATLASES

Work in the office has shifted to the production of 'Dublin, part III, 1756 to 1847' by Rob Goodbody, which is due for publication in late 2013.

ATLASES IN PROGRESS

Editing progressed on Galway (Jacinta Prunty, Paul Walsh), Youghal (Tadhg O'Keeffe, David Kelly) and New Ross (Linda Doran). Authors of fascicles on Carlow (Margaret Murphy), Cashel (Joanne Hughes, Richard O'Brien), Cavan (Jonathan Cherry, Brendan Scott), Clonmel (Margaret Quinlan and Loughlin Kealy), Cork (Máire Ní Laoi), Drogheda (Ned McHugh), Dungarvan (John Martin), Loughrea (Paul

Gosling), Roscommon (Kieran O'Connor), Tralee (Marc Caball), Tullamore (Michael Byrne) and Waterford (Eamon McEaney and Niamh Crowley), are among those who advanced research on their towns.

ANCILLARY PUBLICATIONS

The proceedings of the seminar series 'Maps and texts: exploring the Irish Historic Towns Atlas' will be published in 2012 including papers from all three seminars 2009-11. Work continued on a Dublin townships and suburbs project, edited by Jacinta Prunty and Colm Lennon. Colm is working on a Clontarf volume.

SEMINAR 2012

On Friday 25 May 2012 the IHTA hosted the first of another three annual seminars entitled 'Maps and texts: using the Irish Historic Towns Atlas' in St Ann's Church, Dawson Street. This year's theme was monastic and Viking towns and speakers included Brian Lacey who presented on Derry-Londonderry, Brian Hodkinson on Limerick

and Linzi Simpson on Dublin. Nollaig Ó Muraíle discussed placenames. Howard Clarke and Cathy Swift examined environment and religion respectively. Patrick Wallace, former director of the National Museum of Ireland, delivered the plenary paper on using the IHTA as a pre-Anglo-Norman resource. There were over 80 delegates and lively debate followed the sessions.



H.B. Clarke, A. Simms, P. F. Wallace, J. Bradley



Patrick F. Wallace

SEMINAR 2013

The second in the current series, 'Maps and texts: using the Irish Historic Towns Atlas – Anglo-Norman, Gaelic and plantation towns' will take place in Academy House on Friday 24 May 2013. We encourage authors, contributors and researchers in particular to attend, as their experience would be valuable to discussions. It is also an opportunity to meet those directly involved with the project as well as those interested urban historical geography. *Maps and texts*, the proceedings of the last series of seminars, will be launched with *Ennis* at the end of the day.

IHTA EDITORS AND STAFF

Howard Clarke, Anngret Simms, Raymond Gillespie and Jacinta Prunty continued their hard work as the honorary editorial board throughout 2012. Sarah Gearty, Angela Murphy and Jennifer Moore progressed work on a number of atlases and other projects. Rhiannon Carey Bates worked on Cork, and SPUR and ERASMUS interns, Fredrika Carroll and Dilia Eckert carried out research on a number of towns during the summer.

FUNDING

This year grants were awarded to the project by Derry City Council, Dublin City Council, Ennis County and Town Council, the Environmental Fund and the Heritage Council.

EXHIBITIONS

'Sligo and Ennis: two Irish historic towns compared' has been on display in the Meeting Room of Academy House since Heritage Week 18–26 August 2012 and will remain there until the end of May 2013. 'Mapping urban Ireland' was on display in a number of libraries across the country during the year including Ennis, Galway and Sligo Institute of Technology.

EUROPEAN SCHEME

Work on atlases across Europe continued throughout 2012. To date c. 500 towns and cities have been published in the scheme. For a full list see:

<https://www.ria.ie/research/ihta/european-project.aspx>

Anngret Simms visited Dr Reinhard Horn who is in charge of the maps and images collection in the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek. He expressed interest in acquiring European atlases as they are published. As joint convener of the European Historic Towns Atlas project Anngret Simms has been invited by Professor Myron Kapral, National Academy of Sciences, Ukraine in April to discuss publication of the historic towns atlas of Lviv. She has also been contacted by Dr Breda Mihelič from the Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia where they wish to produce the atlas of Ljubljana.

IHTA ONLINE

The IHTA was involved in the development of a new augmented reality smart phone application, steered by the University of Limerick, called 'Ireland Under Siege' (www.irelandundersiege.com). The app uses the Layar platform to allow users to experience seventeenth-century Irish sieges at Athlone, Derry-Londonderry, Drogheda, Limerick, Galway and Sligo. The app and website was launched by Jan O'Sullivan TD, Minister of State, Department of Environment, Com-



munity and Local Government with special responsibility for Housing and Planning, in the Hunt Museum, Limerick on 30 April 2012.

(<http://www.ul.ie/news-centre/news/ul-launches-ireland-under-siege-mobile-phone-app/>)



Minister Jan O'Sullivan with Robert Hutchinson and Jennifer Moore

Work continued with Keith Lilley and Lorraine Barry (Queens University Belfast) and Bernadette Walsh (Derry City Council) on the pilot 'Digital atlas of Derry-Londonderry' to coincide with its role as the UK City of Culture for 2013. It is planned to launch the website in The Guild Hall in June 2013. The IHTA have expanded its social media presence with a Facebook and Twitter account. See details below.



SPECIAL OFFERS

Contributors to the project are entitled to buy IHTA publications at a 33.3% discount.

Please contact the publications office in the Royal Irish Academy for any enquiries.

(01-6762570 or publications@ria.ie)



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