

*Newsletter, twelfth issue* This is the twelfth 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.**



## MAPS AND TEXTS: EXPLORING THE IRISH HISTORIC TOWNS ATLAS

*Maps and Texts*, edited by H.B. Clarke and Sarah Gearty, was launched by Professor Rosemary Sweet (University of Leicester) on Friday 24 May 2013 following the annual IHTA seminar in Academy House. It comprises twenty individual essays that offer readers three different perspectives on urban life in Ireland. It is based on a series of annual seminars that examined the contents of the twenty-five published IHTAs.

## E-PUBLICATION: JOHN ROCQUE'S DUBLIN: A GUIDE TO THE GEORGIAN CITY

Colm Lennon and John Montague's *John Rocque's Dublin* was reprinted for the third time and also has been converted into an e-publication that is available on iPad via iTunes (<http://goo.gl/o18zt>); Kindle via Amazon.co.uk (<http://goo.gl/p62S6>) or at <http://www.ria.ie/Publications.aspx>.

## DIGITAL ATLAS OF DERRY-LONDONDERRY



Derry City Mayor, Councillor Martin Reilly, launched the 'Digital Atlas of Derry-Londonderry' in the Tower Museum, Derry on 11 September 2013. The digital atlas is a joint collaboration between the Royal Irish Academy, Derry City Council and Queen's University, Belfast. It is an experimental web-GIS resource that uses content from the Irish Historic Towns Atlas, no. 15, *Derry-Londonderry* by Avril Thomas (2005). The launch was associated with Derry-Londonderry UK City of Culture 2013 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Digital Arts and Humanities Institute and Culture TECH 2013. It is free to use and available at [www.ria.ie/digitalatlasderry](http://www.ria.ie/digitalatlasderry)



Launch party at the Tower Museum

## FORTHCOMING ATLASES

Work progressed on the production of 'Dublin, part III, 1756 to 1847' by Rob Goodbody and 'Youghal' by Tadhg O'Keeffe and David Kelly, which are due for publication in 2014.

## ATLASES IN PROGRESS

Editing progressed on Galway (Jacinta Prunty, Paul Walsh), and New Ross (Linda Doran). Authors of fascicles on Cahir (David Butler), Carlow (Margaret Murphy), Cashel (Joanne Hughes, Richard O'Brien), Cavan (Jonathan Cherry, Brendan Scott), Clonmel (Margaret Quinlan, Loughlin Kealy),

Cork (Máire Ní Laoi), Drogheda (Ned McHugh), Dungarvan (John Martin), Loughrea (Paul Gosling), Naas (Ian d'Alton), Newry (Ken Abraham), 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

Work continued on a Dublin townships and suburbs project, edited by Jacinta Prunty and Colm Lennon. Colm is working on a Clontarf volume.

## SEMINAR 2013

On Friday 24 May 2013 the IHTA hosted its annual seminar entitled 'Maps & Texts: using the Irish Historic Towns Atlas' in Academy House. This year's theme was Anglo-Norman, Gaelic and plantation towns. Speakers examined themes across multiple towns. Cóilín Ó Drisceoil spoke on towns based on monastic sites; Margaret Murphy on towns based on castles;

Andy Halpin on towns with riverine activity. In the afternoon, Brian Ó Dálaigh compared Gaelic towns, Nick Brannon looked at colonial towns and Annaleigh Margey examined plantation towns. Rachel Moss gave the plenary lecture with an art-historical perspective of the IHTA.



Meeting Room, Academy House



Plenary speaker Rachel Moss

## SEMINAR 2014

The third and final seminar in the current series, 'Maps and Texts: using the Irish Historic Towns Atlas – Georgian and Victorian towns' will take place in Academy House on Friday 23 May 2014. 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 in urban historical geography.

## IHTA EDITORS AND STAFF

Howard Clarke, Anngret Simms, Raymond Gillespie and Jacinta Prunty continued their hard work as the honorary editorial board throughout 2013. Sarah Gearty, Angela Murphy and Jennifer Moore progressed work on a number of atlases and other projects. In April, Angela welcomed baby Mary into her family and Frank Cullen joined the team.

## FUNDING

This year grants were awarded to the project from Derry City Council, Dublin City Council and Waterford Town/County Council. The IHTA continued to work closely with Ordnance Survey Ireland and Land and Property Services Northern Ireland on the production of maps 1 (1:50,000), 2 (1:2500) and 3 (1:5000).



## EXHIBITIONS AND OUTREACH

An exhibition entitled 'Dublin 1610 to 1847 – cartographic comparisons', based on the atlases of Dublin, traces how the city has evolved through the seminal maps by John Speed (1610), John Rocque (1756) and the Ordnance Survey (1847). It is on display in the Meeting Room of Academy House until May 2014.



Dublin authors: H.B. Clarke, Colm Lennon, Rob Goodbody

### 'Dublin 1610 to 1847 – cartographic conversations'

On Thursday 22 August the Dublin authors, H.B. Clarke, Colm Lennon and Rob Goodbody, introduced the Dublin exhibition to over one hundred members of the public to mark Heritage Week.

We welcomed over 1,000 people into Academy House on Culture Night, 20 September 2013, where we had a number of

IHTA items on display and answered many queries from the public. We were also part of the European-wide Discover Research Night, 27 September 2013, when the IHTA formed part of the 'Journalist For A Night' event. In November Sarah Gearty was a panelist for the 'Irish Heritage Panel Discussion: A practitioner's perspective' in NUI Maynooth.

## EUROPEAN SCHEME

Work on atlases across Europe continued throughout 2013. To date c. 500 towns and cities have been published in the scheme. For a full list see:

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

In April Anngret Simms delivered a paper 'Historical atlases of Irish towns' at the Centre for Urban History, Lviv, Ukraine at their conference 'The history of cities and cartography: ways of the project "Historical atlases of European towns."' The international Atlas Working Group (Anngret Simms, Ferdinand Opll and Katalin Szende) met at the International Commission for the History of Towns in Lisbon in October. Professors Simms and Clarke have papers in the recently published *Städteatlanten: vier Jahrzehnte Atlasarbeit in Europa* edited by Wilfried Ehbrecht, which comprises the proceedings from a European historic towns atlas meeting in Münster.

## IHTA ONLINE

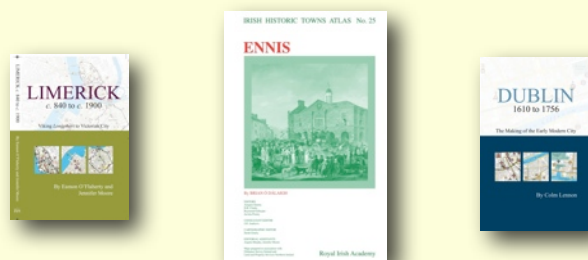
The IHTA has collaborated with the Digital Repository of Ireland in a linked data project called Location LODEr (<http://apps.dri.ie/locationLODer>). Information from the IHTA is used in conjunction with other archive sources. Rachel Murphy (UCC) has conducted a number of interviews that will form part of a report on the future of the digital aspect of the IHTA.

## 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](mailto:publications@ria.ie))



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