

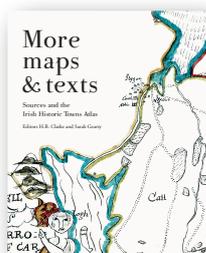
**Newsletter, 17th issue** This is the seventeenth in a series of annual Irish Historic Towns Atlas (IHTA) newsletters, intended to keep those associated with the research project, based in the Royal Irish Academy, informed of progress and events. Series editors: Raymond Gillespie, H.B. Clarke, Jacinta Prunty, Michael Potterton; consultant editors: J.H. Andrews, Anngret Simms; cartographic editor: Sarah Gearty; editorial assistants: Jennifer Moore, Frank Cullen, Angela Byrne, Rachel Murphy. Maps produced in association with Ordnance Survey Ireland.



### New publications

In May Professor Keith Lilley launched *More Maps and Texts: sources and the Irish Historic Towns Atlas*, edited by Howard Clarke and Sarah Gearty. This is the second volume of the proceedings of the Maps and Texts seminar series that took place in Academy House 2012–14. The focus of the 19 essays in the volume is on cartographical and historical sources, their nature and utility.

For more on the publication see [www.ihta.ie](http://www.ihta.ie).



European colleagues during the international workshop in May.



*More maps and texts* contributors. Back row: Raymond Gillespie, Frank Cullen, Annaleigh Margey, Brian Lacey, Nollaig Ó Muraíle. Middle row: Rob Goodbody, Howard Clarke, Brian Hodkinson. Front Row: Margaret Murphy, Sarah Gearty, Keith Lilley, Héléne Bradley-Davies.

### Dublin suburbs

Work continued on the suburbs series. Production on Rathmines by Séamas Ó Maitiú advanced and research continued on Drumcondra (Ruth McManus), Kilmainham/Inchicore (Frank Cullen) and Ringsend/Irishtown (Jacinta Prunty). The series is edited by Colm Lennon and Jacinta Prunty and Angela Byrne as editorial assistant. It is part-funded by the Heritage Section of Dublin City Council.

### Research

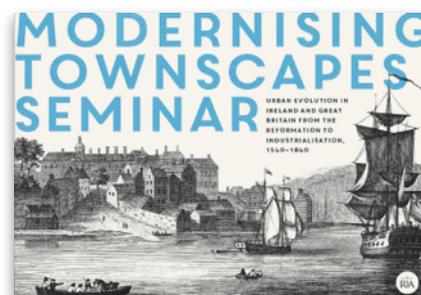
Work on Drogheda (Ned McHugh) continued production and this fascicle will be published in early 2019. Angela Byrne (Ballyshannon), Michael Byrne (Tullamore), Marc Caball (Tralee), Howard Clarke/Máire Ní Laoi (Cork), Jonathan Cherry/Brendan Scott (Cavan), Linda Doran (New Ross), John Martin (Dungarvan), Eamon O'Flaherty/Siobhán Sexton (Westport), Jim Rees (Arklow) advanced research. Other towns in progress are Cahir, Carlow, Cashel, Loughrea, Naas, Newry and Roscommon.

Over the summer months two SPUR students from Maynooth University – Roisín Byrne and Evan Dwyer – carried out research on towns and suburbs.

### International workshop, public lecture and seminar

The IHTA hosted colleagues from Ireland, UK, Hungary, Poland and Germany for a 2-day workshop in May on digital innovation in historic towns atlases. In particular, the core map

at 1:2500, its similarities and differences in production were discussed. The theme for this year's seminar was 'Modernising townscapes: urban evolution in Ireland and Great Britain



from the Reformation to industrialisation, 1540–1840' and it took place on 18 May 2018. It was convened in collaboration



with the Historic Towns Trust (HTT) in Britain. Roey Sweet (University of Leicester), (left) delivered a public lecture on 'Urban modernity and the historic city, c. 1700 to 1840' the previous evening to a fully booked Meeting Room in Academy House. At the seminar, which was supported by the British Embassy in Dublin, Deirdre O'Sullivan and Colm Lennon focussed on the religious reformation and its urban legacies; Victoria Anker and Pádraig Lenihan

examined urban defences in warfare; and Jon Stobart and Raymond Gillespie discussed shops and market places in Britain and Ireland. The 2019 IHTA Seminar will focus on ports in the 19th century and will take place on 16–17 May in Academy House. See [www.ihta.ie](http://www.ihta.ie) for the programme in the spring.



British Ambassador Robin Barnett with IHTA, HTT and RIA colleagues.

**News from Europe**

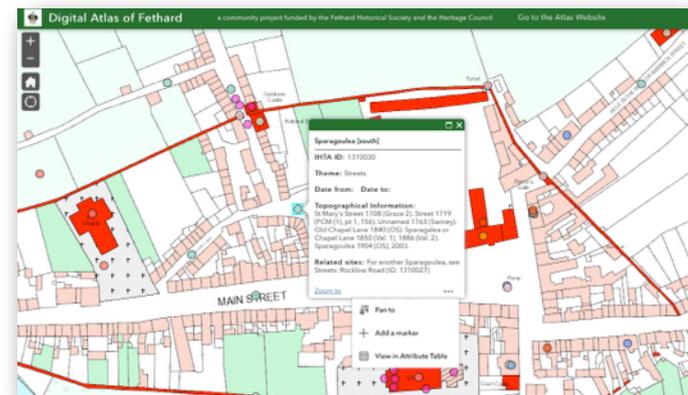
Anngret Simms, Sarah Gearty and Michael Potterton attended the annual meeting of the International Commission for the History of Towns (ICHT) in Salzburg 19–20 September, where Michael was appointed to the International Commission. An atlas session chaired by Keith Lilley on ‘The State of Town Atlas work in Europe’ was held. Later in 2019 the ICHT will celebrate the golden jubilee of the first publication under the scheme in Budapest. The list of published European atlases continues to grow in numbers exceeding 530 across Europe and can be accessed in the European Project section of the website. (<https://www.ria.ie/research-projects/irish-historic-towns-atlas/european-project>).

**IHTA Digital**

Rachel Murphy received funding from the Heritage Council for a new initiative, the ‘Digital Atlas of Fethard’. A GIS (Geographical Information System) based on IHTA no. 13, *Fethard* by Tadhg O’Keefe (2003) using ArcGIS software was constructed. Fethard Historical Society assisted with a ‘transcribeathon’ that took place in the



Members of the Fethard Historical Society at the Transcribeathon.



Patrician Secondary school and artwork of Fethard by the transition year students has been included as a layer on the GIS. During Heritage Week a one-day conference ‘Exploring Fethard’s past’, with a walking tour by Mary Hanrahan, culminated in the launch by Sarah Gearty of the Digital Atlas of Fethard (<http://digitalatlasfethard.com>) which is free to access. The IHTA Digital Working Group met during 2018 to progress elements of the digital areas of the project.

**IHTA Online**

IHTA no. 26 *Dublin, part III, 1756 to 1847* was made available along with an essay by Jacinta Prunty on the town in the nineteenth century, adding to IHTA Online. Due to copyright, not all maps and illustrations are available. To access this resource <https://www.ria.ie/irish-historic-towns-atlas-online>. In October the IHTA layer under Archaeology and Architecture on the expansive research tool [www.heritagemaps.ie](http://www.heritagemaps.ie) was launched.



Demonstrations were given by Pat Reid (Heritage Council), Rachel Murphy and Jennifer Moore (IHTA) with Michael Parsons, chairman of the Heritage Council and Mary Canning, senior vice-president of the Royal Irish Academy speaking.

**Atlas activities**

Colm Lennon gave a talk to the Clontarf Historical Society in January; Jacinta Prunty delivered two lectures on Galway in January and June; Sarah Gearty and Martin Morris discussed Longford at the launch of an exhibition in the County Library in March; John Martin lectured to the Waterford Archaeological and Historical Society during Heritage Week; Jennifer Moore delivered two public workshops on the Dublin atlases



Dublin Festival of History Workshop ‘Behind the Maps’.

during the Dublin Festival of History; and Frank Cullen spoke at the Sligo Field Club conference and gave a public walking tour as part of the Dublin Book Festival in November. Sarah Gearty was a speaker at the Heritage Council Workshop on ‘Managing historic towns along the Atlantic Economic Corridor’ in Ballina in November. The IHTA was also on display for Culture Night in September when the Academy opens its doors for the public to explore and investigate what goes on here. The atlas office has temporarily relocated to Academy House from St Ann’s while structural work is carried out on the building.



Anngret’s House, Christmas 2018.

**CONTACT**

Irish Historic Towns Atlas, Royal Irish Academy, 19 Dawson Street, Dublin 2, Ireland. Phone: +353 1 6762570. Email: [ihta@ria.ie](mailto:ihta@ria.ie) Twitter: [@IHTA\\_RIA](#) and on Facebook: Irish Historic Towns Atlas