

**JOHN HEARNE PAPERS**

**P291**



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## **CONTEXT**

### **Biographical history**

Born in Waterford, Ireland, Hearne studied at University College Dublin where he was awarded a Bachelor of Arts in 1915 and his LLB (Bachelor of Laws) in 1919. Called to the Bar in 1919, Hearne began his legal career practicing on the Leinster Circuit, which included his home county.

After the end of the Irish Civil War in 1923 he entered the Attorney General's office as Assistant Parliamentary Draftsman, working there until he joined the Department of External Affairs as its first legal advisor in 1929. For the next decade Hearne was a participating member of many delegations to international conferences on law and a regular member of Ireland's delegation to the League of Nations' annual assembly. Hearne's lasting contribution to modern Ireland is his participation in the drafting of the Irish Constitution of 1937.

His career as diplomat continued in 1939 with his appointment to Canada as Ireland's first High Commissioner to Ottawa. There he defended Ireland's neutral position in World War II through his high-level contacts with Canadian politicians, including the Prime Minister, William MacKenzie King.

In March 1950 Hearne was appointed Ireland's first Ambassador to the United States of America, a post he held until his retirement in November of 1960. As a critic of the partition of Ireland, Hearne used his tenures in the United States and Canada to inform and educate audiences on Ireland's domestic and international affairs.

Hearne's final international role was in Nigeria and Ghana, serving as a parliamentary draftsman and legal consultant to the governments of both states from 1960-1969.

John Hearne married Monica Mary Martin (1908–1979) in 1930.

John Hearne died in Dublin, Ireland on 29 March 1969.

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### **Archival history**

These papers were received in October 2007 by Michael Kennedy, Executive Editor of the Documents on Irish Foreign Policy Series, from Bernadette Kilduff (who married John Hearne's son Maurice). They were initially catalogued by Paula Little before being deposited by Ms Kilduff in UCD Archives in 2016.

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## CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

### Scope and Content

Textual documentation spanning four periods: Hearne's legal and diplomatic tenures in Ireland (1919–39), Canada (1939–50), the United States of America (1950–60), and Nigeria (1960–69). The majority of this series is comprised of lectures delivered by Hearne to various organisations and audiences while High Commissioner in Ottawa and as Ambassador to the United States of America. The lectures include manuscript and printed versions, with corrections and annotations being evident on a majority.

Photographs of subjects related to both Hearne's career (such as official functions in Ireland, Canada, and the United States) and personal life (including personal family portraits).

Also includes a certificate of Ambassadorship, newspaper cuttings, and biographical research notes on Hearne.

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### System of arrangement

<b>1 JOHN HEARNE PAPERS, 1919–69</b>	<b>1</b>
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## CONDITIONS OF ACCESS AND USE

- Access:** Available by appointment to holders of a UCDA reader's ticket.  
Produced for consultation in digital format.
- Language:** English.
- Finding Aid:** Descriptive catalogue.

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## DESCRIPTION CONTROL

### Archivist's Note

These papers were initially arranged and described by Paula Little in October 2007. The descriptive catalogue was reformatted, edited and expanded upon by Sarah Poutch in UCD Archives in February 2017.

## 1. JOHN HEARNE PAPERS

- P291/1** c1918  
3pp  
**‘The Universities and Culture’**  
Cutting of a newspaper article titled as above which comments on John Hearne’s inaugural address at the opening meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> session of the Law Students’ Debating Society. Hearne is acknowledged as the gold medal winner in Oratory for 1917–18. Original cutting with photocopy.
- P291/2** c1935  
6pp  
**Paper on Thomas Moore**  
Paper by Hearne on Moore’s career as a poet in the first half of the nineteenth century, which reflects on Moore’s achievement as a literary figure with political influence.
- P291/3** c1935  
12pp  
**‘Tom Moore And His Irish Melodies’**  
Paper of an address by Hearne describing the story of Moore and the beginning of his musical career in Ireland during the Penal Code restrictions. Also gives a brief retrospective on the history of music in Ireland.
- P291/4** December 1937  
2 items  
**‘Constitution and The National Life’**  
Paper by Hearne reflecting on the new Irish Constitution and its impact on current and future Irish politics and national law. Includes a final text copy (14pp) along with a draft copy comprising manuscript and text sections.

**P291/5** May 1939

2 items

**Address on the establishment of the democratic Irish state**

Paper of an address delivered by Hearne in Chicago, Illinois on the establishment of the state and on Ireland's role in current disruptions of international foreign policy. Two copies with annotations are included, with one copy missing the final three pages.

**P291/6** 12 May 1939

10pp

**Address given at the official dedication of the Irish Exhibit at the New York World's Fair**

Copy of the address given by Seán T. O'Kelly, Deputy Chief of the Government of Ireland and Minister for Local Government and Public Health. Contains several manuscript annotations.

**P291/7** c1939

8pp

**'General Line'**

Paper by Hearne describing the criticisms against partition of the Irish nation, including a list of United States committee members. Some manuscript corrections.

**P291/8** c1939

15pp

**Draft paper**

Mainly manuscript notes drafting a paper for an unnamed society discussing, amongst other things, some aspects of the work of the League of Nations.

**P291/9** [1939-50]

12pp

**Address to the Legion of Mary**

Paper of an address given by Hearne regarding the old Irish nation versus the new, and the role of a Christian nation in an international

- P291/9 cont'd** setting. Contains some annotations.
- P291/10** c1939  
4pp  
**Address to the Ladies Auxiliary of St Mary's Hospital, Canada**  
Hearne addresses the Ladies' efforts involving community social and health care work and compares it to Ireland's public health services.
- P291/11** [1939-50]  
2 items  
**Address to the Fathers and students of the Holy Rosary Novitiate and Scholasticate**  
Hearne compares the Irish state to those of Plato's *Republic* and St Thomas More's *Utopia*, and discusses her perspective on free will, political freedom and social policy as it relates to Ireland and international politics. Includes two copies with annotations, one copy missing its final page.
- P291/12** [1939-50]  
2pp  
**'The Nation - The Unit of International Society'**  
Partial text of an address by Hearne for the Canadian Club of Toronto, Canada, regarding the recent creation of the Irish Constitution.
- P291/13** [1939-50]  
9pp  
**Partial address to Canadian university**  
Hearne discusses the 'frame of mind in which the Irish Constitution was conceived'.
- P291/14** [1939-50]  
11pp  
**'World federation' notes**

**P291/14 cont'd** Text and manuscript pages by Hearne discussing the idea of an international federation which would reach beyond the scope and influence of the League of Nations. Some annotations are present, and the concluding pages are missing.

**P291/15** [1939–50]

9pp

**St Patrick's Day address**

Hearne discusses 'the nature of man himself and the historical angle of his struggle with his political and economic surroundings'; contains annotations.

**P291/16** [1939–50]

18pp

**Address to the students of Ashbury College, Canada**

Paper discussing 'English literature in its relation to human life'; includes annotations.

**P291/17** [1939–50]

7pp

**Address on the history of the Legion**

Hearne discusses the history of the Legion in Canada in addition to the idea of humanism in international politics; includes extensive annotations.

**P291/18** 16 March 1940

9pp

**Address to the St Patrick Society of Montreal, Canada**

Hearne reflects on the impact that old and new Irish emigration has had on North America. Manuscript notes are written on the reverse of last page.

**P291/19** 24 March 1950

3pp

**Letters from the United Irish Societies of Montreal**

The first letter is to John Hearne wishing him well in his new post as Irish Ambassador to the United States. The second is to John A. Costello, Taoiseach, praising Hearne on his service to the Canadian people. Both are signed by President of the Society John Loye.

**P291/20** 27 March 1950

1p

**Letter from the Greek Ambassador to Canada, C.M. Sakellaropoulo**

Sent from the Royal Greek Embassy in Ottawa to Hearne thanking him for his tenure as a diplomat in Canada.

**P291/21** 4 June 1950

4 items

**Baccalaureate address at University of Notre Dame, Indiana, United States**

Four copies of the address given by Hearne at the Commencement Exercises of the Baccalaureate, which discusses Irish men and women's international influence throughout history. Some pages are missing from one copy.

**P291/22** 24 January 1951

1p

**Certificate from the State of California**

From the Office of the Secretary of State, the certificate confirms that Hearne is a resident of the city of Washington D.C. in order that he is accorded diplomatic courtesy when travelling throughout North America. Signed by Secretary of State Frank M. Jordan.

**P291/23** 23 January 1953

9pp

**Address to the Executives' Club of Chicago, Illinois**

Hearne discusses the international perception of the United States' history and compares it to the perception of Ireland. Includes some annotations.

**P291/24** 19 April 1954

2 items

**Address to the Fourth Annual All Jesuit Alumni Dinner in Chicago**

Two copies of the address which discusses the history of the establishment of the Irish University by John Henry Newman, on the occasion of its centenary. Annotations present.

**P291/25** 7 April 1956

2 items

**Address at a banquet honouring Reverend Ignatius Smith**

Two copies of an address honouring Smith, the Dean of the School of Philosophy of the Catholic University of America, which was held at the Willard Hotel in Washington D.C.

**P291/26** 17 September 1956

16pp

**Address at the Annual Meeting of the State Bar of California**

In this paper, delivered at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, Hearne discusses his career as a lawyer working in public services versus that of 'a practicing member of the Bar' and the role of Irish lawyers in constructing the Irish Constitution. Annotations present.

**P291/27** 19 October 1956

3 items

**Address at the Second Annual Commemoration of the Unknown Revolutionary Heroes in the French Cemetery on the Yorktown Battlefield**

Hearne reflects on the Irish participation in the American War of Independence. Three copies, two with annotations.

**P291/28** 24 October 1956

11pp

**'Public Opinion and Permanent Peace', an address by Paul G. Hoffman**

Given by Hoffman, a member of the United States delegation to the United Nations at the National Press Club in Washington D.C. in

**P291/28 cont'd** observance of United Nations Day.

**P291/29** 18 March 1957

16pp

**Address at the St Patrick's Day Banquet in New Orleans, Louisiana**

Hearne discusses the 'national frame of mind today on the subject of the rehabilitation of the historic Irish Nation within the framework of the Republic'.

**P291/30** 18 May 1957

2 items

**Address at the University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**

The text of an address given by Hearne on the occasion of the opening of the Irish Classroom. Two copies, both missing final pages.

**P291/31** 23 May 1957

14pp

**Address at the Annual Meeting of the Harvard Law School Association of New Jersey**

The same text as the paper given at the event mentioned in P291/26.

**P291/32** 27 September [1957]

4pp

**Solemn Requiem Rites for Justin Hearne**

A document detailing the funeral mass and various sympathies offered on the death of John Hearne's son Justin.

**P291/33** 9 June 1958

2 items

**Commencement Address at Georgetown University, Washington D.C.**

Hearne discusses the idea of national freedom and international relations between national communities. Two copies.

- P291/34** 13 October 1958
- 3 items
- ‘American Diplomacy and the Law of Nations’**  
An address given by Hearne at Georgetown University. Three copies, one with annotations.
- P291/35** 22 April 1959
- 4pp
- Letter from Phyllis O’Kelly**  
The wife of President Seán T. O’Kelly writes to Mona (Monica) Hearne discussing the O’Kellys’ recent visit to the United States.
- P291/36** [1959]
- 12pp
- ‘Morality in International Relations**  
Paper by Hearne focusing on the American story of international law. Annotations present.
- P291/37** 8 May 1959
- 3pp
- Letter from President Sean T. O’Kelly**  
Typescript signed letter from O’Kelly to John Hearne thanking him for his assistance and hard work during O’Kelly’s recent official visit to the United States. Envelope included.
- P291/38** June–July 1959
- 4 items
- Correspondence between John Hearne and President Seán T. O’Kelly**  
Letter from Hearne to O’Kelly discussing at length the recent official visit by the President and his wife to the United States. O’Kelly replies to compliment Hearne on his letter and says that is ‘an historic document which... should find an honoured place in the archives of the Government’. O’Kelly reflects on the historic nature of his visit to the United States, Hearne’s role in same, and O’Kelly’s personal life after the end of his Presidency. Original letter and two

**P291/38 cont'd** copies.

**P291/39** 30 June 1967

5pp

**'Cause of Tension in Society Today: Knights of Columbanus View'**

Manuscript notes by Hearne on the above. The last page also contains the text 'Irish Times Friday, June 30, 1967'.

**P291/40** [1967]

16pp

**Notes on the Nigerian military coups**

Paper by an unknown writer on the background and events of the coups of 15 January and 29 July 1966. Some corrections are present.

**P291/41** 27 February 1968

11pp

**Letter from John A. Costello**

Costello encloses a copy of his memorandum which gives his account of his role sponsoring legislation for the repeal of the Irish External Relations Act of 1936. He refers to legislative decisions made by the government of Ireland during his official visit to Canada in September 1948. Envelope included.

**P291/42** [1990–2000]

5 items

**Proposed contents of proposed biography of John J. Hearne**

A sample outline by Hearne's son Maurice of the proposed book, along with several short sample chapters.

**P291/43** [1990–2000]

**Notes regarding John Hearne**

Manuscript notes by Breandán Mac Goille Choille on research regarding Hearne from a collection on Eamon de Valera. Included are

**P291/43 cont'd** three sets of manuscript notes numbered 2134, 2136, and 2137.

**P291/44** [1990–2000]

3pp

**Notes regarding John Hearne**

Manuscript notes by Breandán Mac Goille Choille on research regarding John Hearne.

**P291/45** 1950–60

11 items

**File of additional material**

File containing additional addresses made by Hearne at various events, a copy of *The Recorder*, the bulletin of the American Irish Historical Society (December 1955), and two duplicates of the sermon delivered at Justin Hearne's funeral.

**P291/46** 1960–98

7 items

**Maurice Hearne's research for John Hearne biography**

File of correspondence from Maurice Hearne to various bodies and people regarding his father's diplomatic career. Some replies are included.

**P291/47** 1950–63

X items

**Photographs**

File of black and white photographs of John Hearne and various others, with some extraneous material also present.

Includes:

- mounted half-length photograph of four men, three in formal wear and one a priest, who is holding a pamphlet. They are standing in front of a cross and looking at each other. The mount has an inscription which reads 'Compliment of the 4<sup>th</sup> degree K[nights] of C[olumbanus] District of Columbia District George R. Ellis Master (19 February 1951, 1p);
- memorial card for Patrick J. Leydon (died 5 June 1950) of Chicago (1950, 2pp);
- photograph of a tricolor being flown over a house (not dated, 1p);

## John Hearne Papers

- P291/47 (cont'd)**
- photograph of John Hearne in full-length, wearing a white suit and holding a dark hat while standing outside a building (c1960, 1p);
  - full-length photograph of Brother Frank Duff and Brother Donald Alagiah standing on the steps of a building signed 'Legion of Mary'. The reverse of the photograph identifies the men by name and as 'The master & pupil' (15 September 1963, 2pp);
  - portrait photograph of a seated Hearne in barristers' gown and wig. Lafayette photograph (c1919, 2pp);
  - postcard photograph of a six members of a family. The father is seated in the centre of the photograph and dressed in naval officers' uniform. The mother is seated on the far left on the image and holding a baby. A boy and girl stand alongside their parents. Another young woman stands behind the family. (not dated, 2pp);
  - photograph of John Hearne seated at a large desk, holding and looking at a religious statue in his right hand. A group of six men stand behind and around him. Credited to Bill Glascock (c1950s, 2pp);
  - full length photograph of Maurice Hearne standing in a garden outside a house with 'Mummy and Daddy', possibly his grandparents (c1940s, 2pp);
  - photograph of the front view of a car, possibly a Chevrolet, parked on a suburban street (c1950s, 1p);
  - mounted half-length seated portrait photograph of John Hearne in black tie with his hands clasped (c1950s, 2pp);
  - half-length group photograph of two couples as well as John Hearne, who is on the right of the image, possibly at a reception. The photograph is credited to Capital Press Service of Ottawa, Canada ([1940s], 2pp);
  - group photograph of five men, possibly at a public meeting. Four are seated while the man in the centre stands at a microphone (not dated, 1p);
  - three-quarter length photograph of John A. Costello in white tie along with two other men, one of whom is in religious attire while the other is also in white tie. The image is credited to Richard Arless Associates of Montreal, Canada (c1950s, 2pp);
  - full-length posed photograph of a large group of people beside a train carriage. A lady in the centre of the photo holds a bunch of flowers. Second on her right is possibly John A. Costello. Credited to Bill and Jean Newton of Ottawa, Canada (c1950s, 2pp);
  - half-length photograph of three men facing each other in a group at a party or reception, eating canapes. At least one of the men is a priest. Credited to Reni Photos (not dated, 2pp);
  - three-quarter length photograph of a woman and two young girls looking at some children's illustrations hanging on a wall. Credited to Jules Schick Photography of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (not dated, 2pp);
  - photograph of the presentation of the Penal Cross from Archbishop Patrick O'Boyle of Washington to Mr O'Rafferty. Accompanied by a letter from the Archbishop to John Hearne requesting that he forward some of the enclosed photographs to O'Rafferty (8 June 1960, 2 items);
  - photograph of a large house with two columns on either side of the front door, a fountain in front, and a roughly paved driveway.

John Hearne Papers

The house is surrounded by trees, hedges and has green space to the front also. Credited to Dr William H. Feldman of 3210, 38<sup>th</sup> Street North West, Washington D.C. (not dated, 2pp).