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Finding Out About Buildings in Dublin

Richview Library
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Books

Catalogue

Use "Keyword" search to search by specific building (e.g. Custom House) or place (e.g., Temple Bar, Rathmines) or subject (e.g. Hospital* Dublin or houses Stillorgan)
Use "Keyword" to find an architect (e.g. James Gandon for books by and about James Gandon).

Some useful books

The following books give information on individual buildings, bridges, streets, areas of Dublin. Some are general histories or guidebooks to Dublin City and / or Dublin County.

[The buildings of Ireland: Dublin](#)¹ / Christine Casey.

Very comprehensive inventory style guide to the buildings/streets/areas of Dublin between the Canals.

[Dublin 1660-1860](#)² / Maurice Craig. The classic book on Georgian Dublin.

[Dublin's architectural development 1800-1925](#)³ / Matthew J. McDermott. Includes bibliographies.

[The encyclopaedia of Dublin](#)⁴ / Douglas Bennett.

[The Georgian squares of Dublin: an architectural history](#)⁵ / editors, Mary Clark, Alastair Smeaton.

[A companion guide to architecture in Ireland 1837-1921](#)⁶ / Jeremy Williams. A gazetteer covering the specific buildings of this era, throughout Ireland.

[Ireland and the new architecture 1900-1940](#)⁷ / Sean Rothery.
Comprehensive with good references to articles elsewhere e.g. in Irish Builder.

[New Irish architecture: AAI awards](#)⁸ / Architectural Association of Ireland.
Annual publication (since 1986). Good source for illustrating range of modern Irish architecture. All entries are indexed onto PADDI (see below).

[The heart of Dublin : resurgence of an historic city](#)⁹ / Peter Pearson.
Covers Dublin City centre comprehensively.

[Decorative Dublin](#)¹⁰ / Peter Pearson.
Concentrates on the decorative features of Dublin buildings e.g. gates, chimneys, fanlights, paving, plasterwork.

[Dublin](#)¹¹ (Phaidon Architecture Guide) / edited by John Graby & Deirdre O'Connor.
This guide is divided into four sections: Mediaeval Dublin, Classical Dublin, Georgian & Victorian Dublin, and 20th century Dublin. Each section lists key buildings, plus brief architectural details, preceded by a description of the section's architectural style/s.

[A guide to modern architecture in Dublin](#)¹² / edited by Tomás O'Beirne.
Includes basic information on 20th century offices, shopping centres etc. Photographs, minimal text, no plans.

[The Dublin Docklands : architectural survey](#)¹³ / School of Architecture, UCD.
Inventory covering buildings and streets in and around the Liffey.

[Public works: the architecture of the Office of Public Works 1831-1987](#)¹⁴.
[Building for government: the architecture of state buildings, OPW: Ireland 1900-2000](#)¹⁵.
Use these books for information on the OPW's buildings. These cover a wide range of building types e.g. schools, prisons, courthouses, laboratories, government offices.

[The Liffey in Dublin](#)¹⁶ / J.W. de Courcy. A sort of mini encyclopaedia of anything that and anyone who had anything to do with the Liffey. Specific buildings, statues, adjoining geographical areas/streets, architects are covered in an alphabetical arrangement from Abbey Green to Zozimus. Good bibliography and index are included.

[The industries of Dublin](#)¹⁷. 1889 (?).
An expanded version of Thom's Commercial Directory. Descriptions of key Dublin commercial buildings. Includes line drawings of buildings. No index so time-consuming to use.

[The Dublin pictorial guide & directory of 1850](#)¹⁸ / Henry Shaw.
Similar to Thom's street directory but includes street elevations of Dublin City centre streets.

[A history of the city of Dublin](#)¹⁹ / J. T. Gilbert. Published in the 1850s. Descriptive 3 vol. work.

[A topographical dictionary of Ireland](#)²⁰ / Samuel Lewis.
Published in 1837 this work provides a detailed description of Ireland's parishes, towns, villages etc at that time. Descriptions include those of the buildings, bridges, squares etc of specific areas. This is now available as a pdf on the [OSi website](#)²¹.

[The history of County Dublin](#)²² / John d'Alton.
Originally published in 1838, this provides a descriptive account of places in County Dublin at that time. Includes areas we would regard as "city" nowadays e.g. Ballsbridge, Ringsend, Kilmainham.

[A history of the county Dublin: the people, parishes and antiquities from the earliest times to the close of the eighteenth century](#)²³ / Francis Elrington Ball.
Descriptive 5-vol. work.

[Between the mountains and the sea: Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown County](#)²⁴ / Peter Pearson.
Useful history of this area, focusing on the architecture.

[The new neighbourhood of Dublin](#)²⁵ / Joseph Hone et al. Focuses on Dublin County.

Local histories: use the catalogue to check for books written on specific areas/streets e.g. Smithfield, Ranelagh, Drumcondra, Sandyford, etc.

[Four roads to Dublin : a history of Rathmines, Ranelagh and Leeson Street](#)²⁶ / Deirdre Kelly.

Publications of the Dublin Civic Trust/Historic Heart of Dublin on individual Dublin streets including streets such as **Henrietta Street, Capel Street and Pearse Street**.

Theses

Check the Library's catalogue for MUBC theses as they often focus on individual building types, streets or areas. Previous theses have covered topics such as Fitzwilliam Square, South City Markets, Church of Ireland churches. To find them on the Library catalogue, limit the Collection to "Theses" and the Library Site to "Richview".

Journal Articles

[PADDI](#)²⁷ : **Planning Architecture Design Database Ireland**.

This freely-available Web database is produced in collaboration by the Architecture and Planning Libraries of the Queen's University of Belfast and University College Dublin. PADDI indexes articles on specific buildings, streets, areas in journals and books. Particularly good for locating information on 20th century Irish buildings.

[McParland, Edward: A bibliography of Irish architectural history](#)²⁸

This comprises a list of "serious accounts of the history of important architectural projects undertaken in Ireland between the late 17th and early 20th centuries". It covers monographs, chapters in books, and journal articles.

[Sources](#)²⁹: **a National Library of Ireland Database for Irish Research**

This is the electronic version of the Hayes Index. From the point of view of architectural research, the most important periodical indexed is the Dublin Builder/Irish Builder. This periodical was indexed by Hayes from its start date in 1859 until 1903. It can be searched online to locate articles on buildings, streets, architects, building materials, etc.

Maps

25" and 6" maps

The 25" maps for Dublin city date from the mid 1930s. Many of the 25" maps for Dublin County were revised in the 1960s.

[1st edition 6" maps](#)³⁰

This series, covering the whole of Ireland, was published in 1833-1844 and is available to view via the [OSi's website](#)³¹. Richview Library also holds the complete set on microfiche.

Dublin 5' to 1 mile maps

These are the maps of Dublin produced between 1838 and 1864. The library has a complete set on acetates/dyelines covering Dublin city centre, i.e. the area between the canals. Interiors of public buildings, churches, museums are shown on these maps. Original copies of these maps are held in Special Collections in the James Joyce Library.

Dublin Parish Maps

A series of coloured Dublin Parish Maps dating from the 1860s / 1870s originally published by the Ordnance Survey at 25" to 1 mile. Each parish is reproduced as a set of maps on A3 size paper.

Dublin Rocque maps

These reproductions of the original 1756 - 1770 maps cover Dublin City and County. The City maps, in particular, are especially fine for their wealth of detail. The library has the complete set of these maps.

Other Historical Maps of Dublin and Ireland are listed [here](#)³²

Web

[Buildings of Ireland](#)³³

This is the website of the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH). This website is the on-line representation of the survey work of the NIAH. Surveys are presented by county, and consist of a database record and images of each building/structure surveyed. Buildings in both Dublin South and Fingal are currently included in the survey.

[Dictionary of Irish Architects 1720-1940](#)³⁴

An Irish Architectural Archive database that contains biographical and bibliographical information on architects, builders, and craftsmen born or working in Ireland during the period 1720-1940. Searchable by person or by works.

Old Dublin books available via the web, including Ball, Gilbert etc.

www.chaptersofdublin.com

Other Organisations, Libraries and Archives

[Irish Architectural Archive](#)³⁵

[Gilbert Library](#)³⁶ and [Dublin City Archives](#)³⁷

[Public Libraries](#)³⁸

[National Library of Ireland](#)³⁹

[TCD Map Library](#)⁴⁰

Miscellaneous Sources

[Hibernia](#)⁴¹ is the website version of The Dublin Environmental Inventory (DEI). Its purpose was to create an integrated database of the natural, social and built environment of inner Dublin. The survey of the built environment was carried out in the mid 1990s. It recorded and evaluated streets, buildings and other structures and included documentary research from historical and contemporary sources. The resulting database included photographic records of streets and buildings, information on their condition and historical evolution. Fieldwork included measured surveys of selected buildings, and incorporated existing surveys of buildings. Access is available via <http://www.ucd.ie/hibernia/>. Login as Guest.

¹ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1647754

² http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1669601

³ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1160204

⁴ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1651494

⁵ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1664586

⁶ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1207897

⁷ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1118265

⁸ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1898239

⁹ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1543682

¹⁰ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1599341

¹¹ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1171233

¹² http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1233001

¹³ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1265995

¹⁴ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1200726

¹⁵ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1470726

¹⁶ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1264591

¹⁷ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1141283

¹⁸ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1171508

¹⁹ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1176310



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- ²⁰ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1229214
 - ²¹ <http://shop.osi.ie/Shop/pdf/LewisTopographicalDir.pdf>
 - ²² http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1242938
 - ²³ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1172909
 - ²⁴ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1339672
 - ²⁵ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1597876
 - ²⁶ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1235363
 - ²⁷ <http://www.qub.ac.uk/gavinm/paddi/update/new/new/new/new/>
 - ²⁸ http://library.ucd.ie/iii/encore/record/C__Rb1164014
 - ²⁹ <http://sources.nli.ie/>
 - ³⁰ http://www.ucd.ie/library/finding_information/our_collections/maps/
 - ³¹ <http://maps.osi.ie/publicviewer/#V1,715063,734271,4,8>
 - ³² <http://www.ucd.ie/t4cms/Guide2.pdf>
 - ³³ <http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/>
 - ³⁴ <http://www.dia.ie/>
 - ³⁵ <http://www.iarc.ie/>
 - ³⁶ <http://www.dublincity.ie/RecreationandCulture/libraries/Heritage%20and%20History/Collections/pages/index.aspx>
 - ³⁷ <http://www.dublincity.ie/RecreationandCulture/libraries/Heritage%20and%20History/Dublin%20City%20Archives/pages/index.aspx>
 - ³⁸ <http://www.dublincity.ie/RECREATIONANDCULTURE/LIBRARIES/Pages/DublinCityLibrary.aspx>
 - ³⁹ <http://www.nli.ie/en/homepage.aspx>
 - ⁴⁰ <http://www.tcd.ie/Library/libraries/map.php>
 - ⁴¹ <http://www.ucd.ie/arch/>