

Guidelines for authors

Authors are invited to submit articles for publication in *Ríocht na Midhe* relating to any aspect of the heritage of the Meath-Westmeath region including archaeology, history and literature. Potential contributors are asked to make contact with the Hon. Editor before submitting a paper. Articles up to a maximum of 8,000 words are welcome. Longer articles may be published following consultation with the editor.

For inclusion in the following year's journal, material should be forwarded by email to the editor (editor@mahs.ie) by October 1st. The journal is published at the end of March each year.

Photographs / illustrations should be submitted as separate digital images saved as TIF, EPS, or JPEG files at a minimum resolution of 300 dpi. for photographs. It is the author's responsibility to obtain permission to use illustrations that are still in copyright. Captions for illustration should acknowledge the source. Figures are numbered consecutively Figure 1, Figure 2, Figure 3 etc. while tables of data are numbered separately – Table 1, Table 2, Table 3 etc.

Referencing

Two forms of referencing are used in the journal. Articles on archaeological topics use the 'in date' Harvard system. All other articles use a variant of the *Irish Historical Studies* (IHS) system of referencing (details below). It is important that authors use only one of these systems within each article.

Harvard System

In the Harvard system literature cited in the text should be given in a bibliography at the end of the paper, arranged in alphabetical order according to the authors' surnames. In the body of the text, the author's name and the year of publication should be cited, as well as the page number where appropriate, e.g. '(Temple 2015, 191)', '(Temple and Sharpe 2010, 219)'; where the author's name occurs in the sentence, only the year should be given in brackets, e.g. 'Temple (2015, 191) compared ...'. If reference is made to a paper by three or more authors it should be shortened in the text as, e.g., '(O'Carroll et al. 2019)', but all authors' names should be given in the bibliography. For full details of the Harvard system see the style guide for the *Journal of Irish Archaeology* at https://www.iai.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/JIA_Style_Guidelines_Nov21.pdf

Irish Historical Studies referencing system

Articles, other than those where the Harvard System is deemed appropriate, should use the IHS referencing system with some minor variations which the journal has adopted over the years (see below). Full details of the IHS system are available at

<https://www.irishhistoricalstudies.ie/site/assets/files/1/rulesforcontribs-1.pdf>.

Summary of guidelines using the Irish Historical Studies referencing system:

References should be located at either the bottom of each page (footnotes) or at the end of the article (endnotes). As part of the typesetting of articles after submission all footnotes are converted to endnotes.

References to Secondary Sources (books, articles, essays) in an endnote

It is important to provide an accurate reference in a footnote or endnote for any quotation from a secondary source or where the work of another author is referred to.

Reference to a book

Example:

1 Robin Flower, *The Irish tradition* (Oxford, 1947), p. 3.

- First name/initials.
- Surname, (followed by a comma).
- Title of book in italics
- Place and date of publication in parenthesis, (followed by a comma). The place must be the city or town in which the book was published. A country or county should not be specified.
- Cite specific page number(s) from which the relevant points have been drawn.
- Alternatively, omit page reference(s) if you wish to refer the reader to the work as a whole.

Note

- Note that when referring the reader to one page in a book you type p. 4, whereas if you are referring to two or more pages you type pp 6-9 without a full stop.
- Capital letters are used in the title of the book only when grammatically necessary.

Reference to an edited book (collection of essays)

Examples:

- (i) 1 R.B. O'Brien (ed.), *Studies in Irish history, 1649-75* (London, 1903).
- (ii) 2 Art Cosgrove and Donal McCartney (eds), *Studies in Irish history presented to R. Dudley Edwards* (Dublin, 1979).

Note

- Note that 'and' is spelled out in the case of joint editorship.
- In both cases, no specific page number is given. Rather, these references are to the two works as a whole. Should you wish to cite specific page numbers, you would need to cite the details of the particular essay in the collection from which you had drawn your point.

Reference to an essay in an edited collection

In this case you cite the details of the essay *first* and then list details of the book in which it has been published.

Example:

1 Ciaran Brady, 'Conservative subversives: the community of the Pale and the Dublin administration, 1556-86' in P.J. Corish (ed.), *Radicals, rebels and establishments* (Belfast, 1975), pp 11-32.

- The full title of Brady's article is in single inverted commas. All references to essays or articles, either in book or journals, should be presented in this manner.

Reference to an article in a periodical (journal, review)

The most straightforward reference to an article published in a periodical should be constructed as follows:

1 Pádraigín Riggs, 'The Origins of the Irish Texts Society', *History Ireland*, vol. 6, no. 1 (1998), p. 19.

- The title of the article is in inverted commas
- The title of the journal is in italics
- The volume and number of the journal is provided (in lowercase) if relevant

Unpublished thesis

Example:

1 Cathal Billings, 'Athbheochan na Gaeilge agus sport in Eirinn, 1884-1934 (Unpublished PhD thesis, UCD, 2015), p. 93.

Information / material on website

Example:

1 Ballymacoda History Project, <http://ballymacoda.ie/?cat=51> (accessed 29 September 2024).

The elements of this reference are:

- Title of the material
- Web address
- Date when accessed

If you cite a reference more than once, you should give the full reference in the first footnote. At the end of that reference you should indicate to the reader the abbreviation which you will subsequently use in referring to that work.

Example:

- 1 Alan Ford, *The Protestant Reformation in Ireland, 1590-1641* (Dublin, 1997) (hereafter Ford, *The Protestant Reformation*).

References to Primary Sources

A primary source is a first-hand record of an event or topic created by a participant in or a witness to that event or topic. Examples include newspapers, military witness statements, landed estate records, historical census, business accounts, photographs, letters, oral testimony and records of organisations and institutions such as workhouses, grand juries, county councils and Churches.

Manuscript sources

References to manuscript material should be in roman font only (no italics). A full reference to a document should include the following information:

- Its title or description, (followed by a comma) (A).
- Its date (B)
- The repository in which it is stored (C)
- The collection to which it belongs (D)
- The volume of the collection and the page or folio in the volume where it may be located and/or any other relevant details of its location (E)

Examples:

1. Cowley to Bellingham, 29 June 1549 (NAI, S.P. 61/1/49).
(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

2. Thomas Russell's journal, 5 April 1793 (NAI, Rebellion papers, 620/20/33).
(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

Note

- Only the initials of the repository are used. This would apply in the cases of national repositories (NLI = National Library of Ireland; NAI = National Archives of Ireland; PRONI = Public Record Office of Northern Ireland; RCB Library = Representative Church Body Library). In the case of less well known archives, it is advisable to cite the full name of the repository.
- All of these details are necessary for a very practical reason. A manuscript, by definition, is a unique document. Only one of its kind exists in the world. It is therefore essential that your reference ~~ought to be~~ sufficiently clear as to enable a scholar from any part of the world to locate the particular manuscript.

Newspapers

When citing material from a newspaper it is not required to provide a page number, only the title of the paper and the date. Months are spelled out in full.

Example:

1 *Meath Chronicle*, 14 March 1916.

Referencing in *Ríocht na Midhe* diverges from the IHS system in just three respects:

1. Referencing in the journal makes use of only one Latinism as opposed to the full range of Latinism in the IHS system (*Ibid.*, *op. cit.*, *passim*, *cf.*, *idem*, *eadem*). Of these, only *Ibid.* is used in the journal. Examples of use of *Ibid.* –

1 *Meath Chronicle*, 19 April 1920

2 *Ibid.*, 7 May 1920.

3 Letter from Seán Boylan to Richard Mulcahy, 4 November 1922 (UCD archives, Mulcahy Papers, Mulachy/2/41).

4 *Ibid.*

5 Ciaran Brady, 'Conservative subversives: the community of the Pale and the Dublin administration, 1556-86' in P.J. Corish (ed.), *Radicals, rebels and establishments* (Belfast, 1975), pp 11-32.

6 *Ibid.*, p. 21.

In these examples, '*Ibid.*' is used **alone when you are citing exactly the same source as in the previous citation (no. 4 above)**. When you are citing the same source, but a different page number or date, use *Ibid.* followed by a comma and the relevant page number(s) or date (nos. 2 and 6 above).

2. The second instance where references in *Ríocht na Midhe* diverge from the IHS system is that days and months are spelled out in full – i.e. Monday rather than Mon. and September rather than Sept.
3. When citing the volume and number of a journal use the following format:
vol. 6, no. 3 or vol. vi, no. 3

Example:

Michael B. Smith, 'The Ego Ideal of the Good Camper and the Nature of Summer Camp' in *Environmental History*, vol. xi, no.1 (2006), pp 70-101.