

Old Irish and Early Christian Ireland: A Basic Bibliography

By Charles D. Wright

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Lynn Nelson
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- Bibliographies:
 - Comprehensive:
 - R. I. Best, *Bibliography of Irish Philology and of Printed Irish Literature* (Dublin, 1913).
 - R. I. Best, *Bibliography of Irish Philology and Manuscript Literature: Publications 1913-1941* (Dublin, 1942).
 - Rolf Baumgarten, *Bibliography of Irish Linguistics and Literature 1942-71* (Dublin, 1986).
 - Risteárd de Hae, *Clár Litridheacht na Nua-Ghaedhilde 1850-1936* [Catalogue of Modern Irish Literature] 3 vols. (Dublin).
 - I: Na Leabhra [Books];
 - II: Filidheacht i dTréimhseacháin [Poetry in Periodicals];
 - III: Prósa [Prose]. Index of published prose and poetry; in Modern Irish.
 - Wilfrid Bonser, *An Anglo-Saxon and Celtic Bibliography (450-1087)*, 2 vols. (Berkeley, 1957). Mainly on history and archaeology.
 - Serial:
 - The Celtic Studies Association of North America, *A Celtic Studies Bibliography for 1983-1985* (Philadelphia, 1987).
 - "A List of Books, Articles etc. concerning the Various Aspects of the Celtic Languages, received at the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth," in *Studia Celtica* (1966--).
 - *Biblioteca Celtica: A Register of Publications Relating to Wales and the Celtic Peoples and Languages* (Aberystwyth, 1910--).
 - T. W. Moody, ed., *Irish Historiography, 1936-1970* (Dublin, 1971).
 - Joseph Lee, ed., *Irish Historiography, 1970-1979* (Cork, 1981). Irish Historical Studies (1938ff).
 - G. R. Elton, ed., *The Royal Historical Society: Annual Bibliography of British and Irish History* (Hassocks, Sussex, and Atlantic Highlands, NJ, 1975--) [now available online]
 - "Irish Studies Theses" in *Newsletter of the School of Celtic Studies* (Dublin, Institute for Advanced Studies).
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 - Harvard University Library, *Widener Library Shelflist no. 25: Celtic Literatures* (Cambridge, MA, 1970).
 - Morfydd E. Owen, "A Celtic Bibliography," in Glanville Price, *Ireland and the Celtic Connection*, The Princess Grace Irish Library Lectures 4 (Gerrards Cross, 1987).
 - School of Celtic Studies Fiftieth Anniversary Report 1940-1990 (Dublin, 1990), pp. 97-138: "The State of the Art: Personal Essays on Aspects of Celtic Studies."
 - Catalogues of Irish Manuscripts in Major Libraries:
 - Richard Hayes, ed., *Manuscript Sources for the History of Irish Civilization*, 11 vols. (Boston, 1965). Includes references to microfilms at the National Library of Ireland, most of which are also at Harvard.
 - Standish Hayes O'Grady and Robin Flower, *Catalogue of Irish Manuscripts in the British Museum*, 3 vols. (London, 1926-53). The second vol., by Flower, is a rich source of information on medieval Irish literature. The Index volume records incipits and subjects.
 - *Catalogue of Irish Manuscripts in the Royal Irish Academy*, 28 fascicles and 2 index vols. (Dublin, 1926-70).
 - N. Ní Shéaghda, *Catalogue of Irish Manuscripts in the National Library of Ireland* (Dublin, 1961--).
 - Pádraig de Brún and Máire Herbert, *Catalogue of Irish Manuscripts in Cambridge Libraries* (Cambridge, 1986).
 - For other libraries, see Pádraig Ó Fiannachta, *Clár Lámhscríbhinní Gaeilge*, 2 vols. (Dublin, 1978-80).

o Ecclesiastical Literature:

- James F. Kenney, *Sources for the Early History of Ireland: Ecclesiastical*, rev. ed. with addenda by Ludwig Bieler (New York, 1966). A monumental descriptive inventory of texts down to the Anglo-Norman invasion. A second volume on secular sources never appeared. Can be supplemented by the following:
- Kathleen Hughes, *Early Christian Ireland: Introduction to the Sources* (Ithaca, NY, 1972).
- Louis Gougaud, *Modern Research with Special Reference to Early Irish Ecclesiastical History* (Dublin, 1929).
- Louis Gougaud, *Christianity in Celtic Lands*, trans. Maud Joynt (London, 1932).
- John Ryan, *Irish Monasticism: Origins and Early Development*, rev. ed. with new Introduction and bibliography (Ithaca, NY, 1972).
- Lisa M. Bitel, *Isle of the Saints: Monastic Settlement and Christian Community in Early Ireland* (Ithaca, 1990).
- Harold Mytum, *The Origins of Early Christian Ireland* (London, 1992). Focus on archeology, with extensive bibliography.
- Aubrey Gwynn, *The Irish Church in the Eleventh and Twelfth Centuries*, ed. G. O'Brien (Dublin, 1992).
- H. Löwe, ed., *Die Iren und Europa im früheren Mittelalter*, 2 vols. (Stuttgart, 1982).
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- Proinséas Ní Chatháin and Michael Richter, eds., *Irland und die Christenheit: Bibelstudien und Mission* (Stuttgart, 1967).
- Martin McNamara, *The Apocrypha in the Irish Church* (Dublin, 1976). Important addenda in reviews by David Dumville, *Journal of Theological Studies*, n.s. 27 (1976), 491-4; Dáibhí Ó Cróinín, *Éigse* 16 (1976), 348-56.
- F. E. Warren, *The Liturgy and Ritual of the Celtic Church*, 2nd. ed. with introductions and bibliography by Jane Stevenson (Woodbridge, 1981), pp. cv-cxxviii.
- Michael Lapidge and Richard Sharpe, *A Bibliography of Celtic-Latin Literature 400-1200* (Dublin, 1985).
- J. F. Kelly, "A Catalogue of Early Medieval Hiberno-Latin Biblical Commentaries," *Traditio* 44 (1988), 537-71; 45 (1989), 393-434. Includes the commentaries identified by Bernhard Bischoff.
- For influence in Anglo-Saxon England, C. Wright, "Hiberno-Latin Biblical Commentaries, Florilegia, and Homily Collections," in *Sources of Anglo-Saxon Literary Culture: A Trial Version*, ed. F. Biggs, et al. (Binghamton, 1990), pp. 87-123.
- Charles Plummer, "A Tentative Catalogue of Irish Hagiography," in his *Miscellanea Hagiographica Hibernica*, *Subsidia Hagiographica* 15 (Brussels, 1925), pp. 171-285. The major collections are Plummer's:
 - *Vitae Sanctorum Hiberniae*, 2 vols. (Oxford).
 - *Bethada Naem nErenn: Lives of Irish Saints*, 2 vols. (Oxford, 1922).
 - Richard Sharpe, *Medieval Irish Saints' Lives: An Introduction to the Vitae Sanctorum Hiberniae* (Oxford, 1991).
 - Dorothy Ann Bray, *A List of Motifs in the Lives of the Early Irish Saints*, *Folklore Fellows Communications* 252 (Helsinki, 1992).
- See also the following volumes of collected essays by Variorum Reprints:
 - Kathleen Hughes, *Church and Society in Ireland, A.D. 400-1200*, ed. David Dumville (London, 1987);
 - Ludwig Bieler, *Ireland and the Culture of Early Medieval Europe*, ed. Richard Sharpe (London, 1987);
 - Mario Esposito, *Latin Learning in Mediaeval Ireland and Irish Books and Learning in Mediaeval Europe*, ed. M. Lapidge (London, 1988 and 1990, respectively)
 - Fergus Kelly, *A Guide to Early Irish Law* (Dublin, 1988).

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- R. Th. Christiansen, *Studies in Irish and Scandinavian Folktales* (Copenhagen, 1959).
- T. P. Cross, *Motif-Index of Irish Literature*, Indiana University Publications, Folklore Series 7 (Bloomington, 1952).
- Seán Ó Súilleabháin, *A Handbook of Irish Folklore* (Dublin, 1952).
- Sean Ó Súilleabháin and R. Christiansen, *The Types of the Irish Folktale*, *Folklore Fellows Communications* (Helsinki, 1967).
- Dáithí Ó hOgáin, *Myth, Legend, & Romance: An Encyclopedia of the Irish Folk Tradition* (New York, 1991). Bibliography at pp. 429-35.

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- Henry Lewis and H. Pedersen, *A Concise Comparative Celtic Grammar* (Göttingen, 1974). Abridged and up-dated version of Pedersen's *Vergleichende Grammatik*.
- Kenneth Jackson, *Language and History in Early Britain: A Chronological Survey of the Brittonic Languages 1st to 12th c. A.D.* (Edinburgh, 1953). On Welsh, Cornish, and Breton, but includes comparative material on primitive Irish.
- Rudolf Thurneysen, *A Grammar of Old Irish*, rev. and enlarged ed. with supplement, trans. O. Bergin and D. A. Binchy (Dublin, 1946). The standard advanced grammar of OI.
- John Strachan and O. Bergin, *Old-Irish Paradigms and Selections from the Old-Irish Glosses* (Dublin, 1949).
- E. G. Quin, *Old-Irish Workbook* (Dublin, 1975).
- R. Lehmann and W. P. Lehmann, *An Introduction to Old Irish* (New York, 1975).
- G. Dottin, *Manuel d'irlandais moyen*, 2 vols. (Paris, 1913). Dated, but the only comprehensive grammar devoted specifically to Middle Irish. Vol. 2 is a reader, with selections mainly from the Leabhar Breac.
- Strachan, John, "Contributions to the History of Middle Irish Declension," *Transactions of the Philological Society*, 1903-1906 (London, 1906), pp. 202-246.
- Kenneth Jackson, ed., *Aislinge Meic Con Glinne* (Dublin, 1990). The grammatical appendix (pp. 77-140) is now the best thing available on Middle Irish.
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o Readers:

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- Rudolf Thurneysen, *Old Irish Reader*, trans. D. A. Binchy and Osborn Bergin (Dublin, 1949).

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For Modern Irish see:

- P. S. Dinneen, *An Irish-English Dictionary*, Irish Texts Society (Dublin, 1904).
- Neil MacAlpine and John Mackenzie, *Gaelic-English and English Gaelic Dictionary* (Glasgow, 1975). Formerly MacAlpinés Pronouncing Gaelic Dictionary.
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 - Timothy O'Neill, *The Irish Hand* (Mountrath, 1984).
 - For a list of facsimiles of Irish manuscripts, see L. Boyle, *Medieval Latin Palaeography: A Bibliographical Introduction* (Toronto, 1984), pp. 100-4.
 - Charles Plummer, "On the Colophons and Marginalia of Irish Scribes," *Proceedings of the British Academy* 12 (1926), 11-44.
 - Louis Gougaud, "Les Scribes monastiques d'Irlande au travail," *Revue d'histoire ecclésiastique* 27 (1931), 293-306.
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 - Bernhard Bischoff, "Irische Schreiber im Karolingerreich," in his *Mittelalterliche Studien: Ausgewählte Aufsätze zur Schriftkunde und Literaturgeschichte* (Stuttgart, 1966-81) III, 39-54.
- Collections of Texts (starred items include translations):
 - Whitley Stokes and John Strachan, *Thesaurus Palaeohibernicus*, 2 vols. (London, 1903). The major collection of Old Irish texts. Vol. 1 includes the Wurzburg and Milan glosses and other biblical glosses; vol. 2 includes non-biblical glosses and miscellaneous verse and prose.
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 - *Whitley Stokes and Ernst Windisch, *Irische Texte*, 4 vols. (Leipzig, 1880-1909).
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 - Kuno Meyer, "Mitteilungen aus irischen Handschriften," series in *Zeitschrift für celtische Philologie* 1-10.
 - *Todd Lecture Series
 - *Anecdota Oxoniensia, Mediaeval and Modern Series Medieval and Modern Irish Series
 - *Irish Texts Society: *The Book of Leinster*, ed. R. I. Best and M. A. O'Brien (Dublin,).
 - *Gerard Murphy, *Early Irish Lyrics: Eighth to Twelfth Century* (Oxford, 1956).
 - *O. Bergin, *Irish Bardic Poetry* (Dublin, 1972).
 - Henry Bradshaw Society (liturgical texts)
 - *Scriptores Latini Hiberniae: Corpus Christianorum, Series Latina, 108B-D: Scriptores Hiberniae Minores
- Collections of Translations:
 - Kenneth Jackson, *A Celtic Miscellany* (New York, 1971). Penguin pb.
 - D. H. Greene, *An Anthology of Irish Literature*, 2 vols. (New York, 1954).
 - James Carney, *Medieval Irish Lyrics* (Berkeley, 1967).
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 - D. G. Calder, et al., *Sources and Analogues of Old English Poetry II: The Major Germanic and Celtic Texts in Translation* (Woodbridge, 1983).
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 - A. Rees and B. Rees, *Celtic Heritage: Ancient Tradition in Ireland and Wales* (London, 1961).
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 - J. E. Caerwyn Williams, *The Irish Literary Tradition*, trans. P. Ford (Cardiff, 1992).
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 - Versification:
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 - Gerard Murphy, *Early Irish Metrics* (Dublin, 1961).
 - James Travis, *Early Celtic Versecraft: Origins, Development, Diffusion*(Ithaca, 1973).
 - Journals:
 - *Archiv für celtische Lexicographie* 1-3 (Halle, 1898-1907)
 - *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy* (Dublin, 1836--)
 - *Zeitschrift für celtische Philologie* (Halle, 1896--)
 - *Ériu* (Dublin, 1904--)
 - *Revue celtique* 1-55 (Paris, 1870-1934)
 - *Études celtiques* (Paris, 1936--)
 - *Celtica* (Dublin, 1946--)
 - *Studia Celtica* (Cardiff, 1966--)
 - *Éigse* (Dublin, 1939--)
 - *Éire/Ireland*
 - *Lochlainn* (abandoned after a few volumes).
 - *Journal of Celtic Studies*
 - *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland*
 - *Béaloides* (Dublin, 1927--). Devoted to Irish folklore.
 - *Bulletin of the Board of Celtic Studies*
 - *Proceedings of the Harvard Celtic Colloquium*
 - *Cambridge Medieval Celtic Studies* [now *Cambrian Medieval Celtic Studies*]
 - *Peritia*
 - *Newsletter of the School of Celtic Studies*
 - For other journals see Dáithí Ó hOgáin, *Myth, Legend & Romance* (1991), pp. 436-7.
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