

# IRISH STUDIES



## Burns Library Acquisitions



This was a banner year for the Irish Collection of the John J. Burns Library. There were four major additions to the collection: The Samuel Beckett-Robert Pinget Correspondence, 1960s-1980s; the Bobbie Hanvey Northern Ireland Photographic Archive Collection; the Three Candles Press Collection; and the Samuel Freedman Collection of George Bernard Shaw. The first acquisition consists of the correspondence in French between Irish play-

wright Samuel Beckett (1906–1989), winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1969, and Swiss-born French novelist and playwright Robert Pinget (1919–1997). The collection contains some 80 letters written by Beckett to Pinget over a thirty-year period. It is the fourth major Beckett collection acquired by Burns in the past decade.

The second acquisition contains more than 11,000 photographic negatives by prominent Irish journalist Bobbie Hanvey (b. 1945) of County Down that document the major political and cultural figures and events during the “Troubles” in Northern Ireland, 1968–1998. The third acquisition fills a major void in the Library’s Irish fine print holdings. Three Candles Press, founded in 1916 by Colm Ó Lochlainn, was one of Ireland’s most important and elegant private presses, in the tradition of Dun Emer, Cuala, and Dolmen. This acquisition of 177 titles, many very rare, combined with existing holdings, gives Burns one of the most complete collections of this press to be found anywhere. The fourth acquisition is perhaps the most important. The Shaw Collection comprises more than 3,400 items related to the Irish comic dramatist and socialist George Bernard Shaw (1856–1950), who was the 1925 Nobel Laureate in Literature.

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A NEWSLETTER OF  
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LEFT: Photo of George Bernard  
Shaw circa 1886 from the Burns  
Library Shaw Collection.



*Men of the West*, Sean Keating's 1916 homage to the rebels of Easter Week will be featured in the exhibition *Éire/Land* in spring 2003 at the McMullen Museum.

## Éire/Land Exhibition at the McMullen Museum

In the spring of 2002 Irish Studies will offer an interdisciplinary course in conjunction with *Éire/Land*, an exhibition at the Boston College McMullen Museum of Art. Historian Robert Savage, Literary Critic Vera Kreilkamp and Art Historian Katherine Nahum (Fine Arts) will teach the class, which will be cross-registered through the Departments of English, Fine Arts and History. The course charts the political, social and cultural history of the Irish landscape and its evolution into the primary icon of the nation during Ireland's struggle for independence. Employing historical and literary texts as well as visual materials (archeological artifacts, maps, films, landscape painting), this course will examine early Celtic attitudes to place, and then focus on the political, visual and literary preoccupation with and responses to the land from the late eighteenth to the twentieth centuries. Within a historical narrative examining patterns of settlement, the institutions of "landlordism" and tenancy, the land war, and the achievement of inde-

pendence, the course will consider the development of Irish landscape painting and explore key works of literature.

The exhibition at the McMullen Museum will comprise approximately one hundred works dating from the medieval to the modern period in an examination of how cultural artifacts reveal Ireland's contested past. The unifying thesis to be developed in this exhibition is that land, a basic icon of the Irish nation, pervades its visual culture in various ways. The exhibition will move from an initial focus on the whole island in the Middle Ages to a narrower lens on the West, and finally to the single western county of Mayo. Essays in an accompanying catalogue will place objects within the scholarship of various academic disciplines and periods. Irish Studies faculty will join contributors from the Departments of Fine Arts and History and a number of guests to produce a wonderfully rich interdisciplinary exploration of the land and its meaning in Ireland.

## The Political Song in Modern Irish History

In September the Center for Irish Programs and the Irish Music Archive will sponsor a very special visit by John A. Murphy, Professor Emeritus of Irish History, University College Cork. Professor Murphy will be giving two lectures at BC this fall. The lecture series is titled *The Political Song in Modern Irish History*. Professor Murphy will explore political song from the Jacobite Era to the present day. His examination of the role of song in modern Irish political movements will be highlighted by his own renditions of some of the more popular songs. Professor Murphy's publications include *Ireland in the Twentieth Century* (1975) and *The College: A History of Queen's/University College Cork* (1995). Along with being a noted columnist and commentator on Irish current affairs, he is a former independent member of the Irish Senate and was a visiting scholar at Boston College, 1984–85. In 2001, the National University of Ireland recognized Professor Murphy's contribution to scholarship and public life when it conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Literature. Please see our calendar for details.

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## Additions to the Archive of Irish Music in America

Recent acquisitions to the Irish Music Archive include rare 19th and early 20th century songsters, sheet music, and books about music; recordings from the Tony Cuffe Benefit concerts; and recordings of the Gaelic Roots Festival concerts, lectures, and interviews. During the Gaelic Roots festival, the Irish Music Center also records oral history interviews with acclaimed performers such as Donegal fiddler Proinsias Ó Maonaigh (with Mairéad Ní Mhaonaigh and Earle Hitchner), dancer Tony Nolan (with Rita O'Shea), accordionist Joe Derrane, whistle player Jimmy Hogan, and flute player Peadar O'Loughlin. For appointments and information about the center's collections, please e-mail [imc@bc.edu](mailto:imc@bc.edu) or telephone 617-552-3956.



Director of Irish Music Programs Séamus Connolly and Instructor Laurel Martin.

## Connolly and Martin

The newest publication from Irish Studies is *Forget Me Not: A Collection of 50 Memorable Traditional Irish Tunes* by Director of Irish Music, Song and Dance Programs, Séamus Connolly and his former pupil, Laurel Martin. A great asset for anyone interested in Irish music, their book provides both a basic and an ornamented version of each tune, and is accompanied by a CD. Séamus and Laurel spent several years collecting these tunes and their hope is that "it will be useful not only to our Boston College fiddle students but to a wider audience of musicians as well." A launch to celebrate the publication is scheduled for September.

## Gaelic Roots

This year's Gaelic Roots Summer School, held June 16–22, was another great success with several hundred participants coming from both the United States and abroad. The main campus at Boston College was treated to the distinctive sounds of fiddles, tin whistles, harps, pipes and other Gaelic instruments. The festival was praised by advanced and beginning students alike for both its organization and the high caliber of instruction. Congratulations to Séamus Connolly and his assistant, Katie McCormick.

## Lisabeth Buchelt Awarded Irish Fulbright

In the past three years, two Irish Studies graduate students have won Fulbright awards. Both Christina Brophy (1998/1999) and Nadia Smith (2001/2002) made the most of their scholarships by conducting extensive research in Irish archives and are now completing their dissertations. In September, Irish Studies graduate student Lisabeth Buchelt travels to Ireland for a year of research. Her dissertation is an interdisciplinary study of the intellectual cultures of two medieval monastic institutions: Clonmacnoise in Ireland and Christ Church Canterbury in England. The project examines how sacred and secular material interacts within the intellectual milieu by comparing two literary compilations: *Lebor na hUidre* (“Book of the Dun Cow”) and *Oxford Bodleian MS Junius 11*. While in Ireland, she will be working on *Lebor na hUidre* at the Royal Irish Academy, and will also visit the ongoing archaeological excavations at the site of Clonmacnoise.

Moreover, Irish Studies graduate student Niamh Lynch, has been awarded an Irish Studies research fellowship. Her dissertation examines the place of anti-imperialism in Irish Nationalist ideology (in both Ireland and America). She argues that specifically anti-imperial thinking (in the period 1870–1916) contributed to the demand for “complete separation” from Great Britain in the early twentieth century.

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## BC Lynch School of Education Celebrates 50 years

This fall the Lynch School of Education celebrates its fifty-year anniversary. Extensive collaboration between the Lynch School and Ireland began over thirty years ago and continues to thrive today. Professor George Madaus’ seminal scholarship on the Irish school certification exams in the 1960s led to many collegial exchanges over the decades. Irish students have come to study at the Lynch School and Boston College student teachers have been sent to Ireland to be supervised by faculty at St. Patrick’s College, Drumcondra.

Irish Studies has collaborated with the Lynch School over the years on a number of projects including a symposium held in November of 2000. The symposium, “Building Bridges: Educational Policy in Divided Societies,” involved Maureen A. McLaughlin, Deputy Assistant Secretary, United States Department of Education; Sheila Violet Makate Sisulu, South African Ambassador to the United States; and Martin McGuinness, M.P., Northern Ireland Minister for Education.

BC’s roots in Ireland and Irish roots in Campion Hall, home of the Lynch School, are strong and deep. We cherish our ties with our friends and colleagues across the Atlantic.

## IRISH STUDIES FALL CALENDAR

September 9

**Lecture:** Ina Ferris, University of Ottawa, *Morgan’s National Tales and the Question of Female Agency*. Response: Burns Scholar, Margaret Kelleher. Connolly House 3:00 p.m.

September 10

**Book Launch:** *Forget Me Not: A Collection of 50 Memorable Traditional Irish Tunes*, by Irish Studies faculty members Séamus Connolly and Laurel Martin. Connolly House 7:00 p.m.

September 18

**Reading:** Colum McCann will read from *This Side of Brightness* and his new novel, *Dancer*. Connolly House 5:00 p.m.

September 24

**Lecture/performance:** John A. Murphy, National University of Ireland, Cork, *The Political Song in Modern Irish History*. Burns Library 4:00 p.m.

September 26

**Lecture/performance:** John A. Murphy, *The Political Song in Modern Irish History*. Burns Library 6:00 p.m.

September 30

**Lecture:** Margaret Kelleher, National University of Ireland, Maynooth (Burns Chair), “*Cabinets and Household Libraries*”: *Nineteenth-Century Literary Anthologies*. Response: Kevin O’Neill, Boston College Irish Studies. Connolly House 3:00 p.m.

October 4

**Journal Launch:** Kevin Kenny guest editor *Eire/Ireland*. Remarks by Author Katherine Powers. Connolly House 4:30 p.m.

October 7

**Lecture:** Claire Connolly, Cardiff University, *Sectarian Fictions? Religion and Irish Romanticism*. Response: Alan Richardson, Department of English, Boston College. Connolly House 3:00 p.m.

October 7

**Music Seminar:** Uilleann Piper, Brian McNamara, *A Piper’s Dream*. Connolly House 7:00 p.m.

October 28

**Lecture:** Kate Costello-Sullivan, Irish Studies, Boston College, *Regional Realism in the Nineteenth Century Irish Novel*. Response: Vera Kreilcamp, Pine Manor College. Connolly House 3:00 p.m.

November 4

**Lecture:** Eileen Reilly, New York University, Glucksman Ireland House, *Politics and Polemic in the Irish Novel 1880–1914*. Response: Perry Curtis, Brown University. Connolly House 3:00 p.m.

December 6

**Book Launch:** *Field Day Anthology of Irish Writing*, Volumes IV and V. Connolly House 4:00 p.m.

November 11, 3:00 p.m.

**Lecture:** Paige Reynolds, College of the Holy Cross, “All Irish People”: *The Irish Audience at the Century’s End*. Response: Philip O’Leary, BC Irish Studies. Connolly House 3:00 p.m.

November 12

**Lecture:** David Doyle, University College, Dublin. *Towards Democracy: Irish Born Elites in the United States and Canada, 1820–1920*. Connolly House 1:30 p.m.

November 14

**Lecture:** Seminar: George O’Brien, Georgetown University, *The Twentieth Century Irish Novel*. Connolly House 2:00 p.m.

November 18

**Seminar:** Janet Nolan, Loyola University, Chicago, *Servants of the Poor: Education and Mobility in Ireland and Irish America at the Turn of the 20th Century*. Connolly House 5:00 p.m.



Kevin Kenny has served as guest editor for a two-part special issue of *Éire/Ireland* which focuses on Irish America. Contributing author Katherine Powers will offer remarks at a journal launch on October 4 at 4:30 p.m. in Connolly House.

## Dalsimer Fellowship Awarded

For the third year running, Boston College has awarded the Adele Dalsimer Dissertation Fellowship in memory of the cofounder of Boston College’s Irish Studies program. Professor Dalsimer was especially committed to graduate students working in all disciplines of Irish Studies. She also understood and was sensitive to the challenges and rewards that attended the dissertation process and its successful and timely completion. This one-year fellowship is offered to a student who encapsulates aspects of Professor Dalsimer’s vision, energy and commitment, and it is hoped that the successful candidates will perpetuate her legacy in their professional careers. This year’s recipient is Damien Murray, a graduate of the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. His master’s thesis, *Romanticism, Nationalism and Irish Antiquarian Societies, 1840–80*, was published by Maynooth University Press in 2000. Damien’s dissertation, *Progressivism and Ethnic Nationalism: The Boston Irish, 1900–1920* examines how the intersection of American progressivism and Irish-American support for Irish nationalism shaped the evolution of the dominant Irish ethnic identity in Boston in the first two decades of the twentieth century.

## Irish Studies Fellowship

In the summer of 2003 the Boston College Irish Studies program will again offer a summer research fellowship. The scholarship will provide housing at the Mill Street Cottage adjacent to the Boston College Law School and an office in Connolly House, the home of the Irish Studies program.

Scholars will be able to conduct research at Boston College libraries including the Burns Library, which houses the Special Irish Collection, the O’Neill Library and the Irish Music Archive. The fellowship will allow researchers access to other institutions in the Boston area, such as the Boston Public Library, the Massachusetts State Archive, and the John F. Kennedy Library. A travel grant of \$1,000 will be offered to assist the research fellow. Those interested in applying should write to Robert Savage c/o Boston College Irish Studies Program, Connolly House, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467.

## Laura McNeil

Congratulations to Laura McNeil who accepted a tenure-track position at the College of the Elms, Chicopee, Massachusetts, where she begins teaching this fall. Laura recently defended her dissertation, *Land, Labor and Liberation: Michael Davitt and the Irish Question in the Age of British Democratic Reform, 1878–1906*. All of us in Irish Studies wish her well in her new position. Laura joins the ranks of other recently employed Ph.D. graduates involved with the Irish Studies program such as: Margaret Preston (Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD), Leann Lane (Mater Dei Institute, Dublin), John Ellis (University of Michigan at Flint, MI) and Mary Connolly (College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA).

# Announcement of a Position in Ethnomusicology

The Music Department, with the Irish Studies program of Boston College, is seeking an ethnomusicologist for a full-time, tenure-track position to begin in the fall of 2003. Expertise in Irish traditional music is essential, as well as some experience teaching world music, and/or another area in ethnomusicology at the undergraduate level. Applicants should possess a Ph.D. in ethnomusicology.

The Irish Studies program of Boston College is one of the largest programs in North America, supporting graduate and undergraduate scholarship in Irish History, Literature, Art, and Music. Its interdisciplinary focus has helped to define Irish Studies over the last quarter century. This appointment in ethnomusicology will enhance the interdisciplinary core of the program.

The Music Department of Boston College, founded in 1989, is a small but growing department within a large undergraduate liberal arts program. In addition to major and minor concentrations in music, we support a large chorale (150 voices), a small symphony orchestra and chamber music society, as well as numerous smaller a cappella singing groups and bands. The music major, minor, and all our courses are open to students who come from varied musical backgrounds. An important component of the department has been the program in Irish Music performance.

Applicants should submit a letter of application, curriculum vitae and three letters of recommendation by October 15, 2002 to: Professor T. Frank Kennedy, S.J., Chair, Search Committee, Music Department, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA. 02467. Boston College is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

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## Claire Connolly

Professor Claire Connolly (Cardiff University) will be a visiting professor in English and Irish Studies this academic year. She is also participating in the fall lecture series and contributing an essay to the catalogue which will be published in conjunction with the Éire/Land exhibition at the McMullen Museum in the spring. Professor Connolly received her Ph.D. from the University of Wales, Cardiff in 1995. She has edited a number of works including *Ormond*, *Manoeuvring*, and *Vivian*, as part of the novels and selected works of Maria Edgeworth. In addition, she is currently completing a manuscript on Irish Romanticism.

## IRISH STUDIES COURSES FALL 2001

### IRISH LITERARY RENAISSANCE

The course will examine some of the key texts of this period, focusing on writings by J. M. Synge, W.B. Yeats, Lady Gregory and James Joyce. It will also critically examine the dominant preoccupations and assumptions that structure the writing of the Revival, and ask students to consider these in relation to the formal and stylistic innovations of the texts under discussion.  
*Claire Connolly.*

### DRAMA/HARLEM/IRISH RENAISSANCE

The course will examine two cases of ethnic renaissance in English-language theater and culture, the Irish dramatic movement of Yeats, Gregory, Synge, and the Fays, and the dramatic wing of the Harlem Renaissance, initiated by DuBois. Problems to be explored will include the attempt to create an inclusive group identity, the exorcism of negative stage and media images from the dominant culture, and the conscious rewriting of historical episodes. *Philip O'Leary.*

### JAMES JOYCE

The central text will be *Ulysses*. Students will also read *Dubliners*, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* and *Finnegans Wake*.  
*Paul Doherty.*

### SEMINAR: CONTEMPORARY IRISH NARRATIVES: THE NOVEL AND THE NATION

Concentrating on contemporary Irish fiction, this course will introduce students to the confluence of "stories" representing Irish society since the mid-1980s. We will examine significant cultural shifts and attempts to answer ongoing cultural questions. In addition to novels by Roddy Doyle, Colm Tóibín, Edna O'Brien, Patrick McCabe, and Emma Donoghue, we will read memoirs by Nuala O'Faolain and Frank McCourt. *James Smith.*

### CONTEMPORARY IRISH FICTION

Concentrating on contemporary Irish fiction, this course interrogates the confluence of "stories" representing Irish society since the mid-1980s. We will examine significant cultural shifts and attempts to answer ongoing cultural questions. Novelists include Roddy Doyle, Dermot Bolger, Colm Tóibín, Edna O'Brien, Patrick McCabe, Emma Donoghue, Mary Morrissy, Anne Enright, Eoin McNamee, Colin Bateman and Deirdre Madden. *James Smith.*

### THE 19TH CENTURY IRISH NOVEL

This course will examine the history and development of the nineteenth-century Irish novel, focusing on the changing configurations of tradition and modernity during this period. The seminars will also

discuss recent critical studies of nineteenth-century Irish culture (by critics such as David Lloyd, Terry Eagleton, Seamus Deane et al.) and will explore issues of canon-formation, literary production, and reception history. *Burns Scholar Margaret Kelleher.*

#### 19TH CENTURY IRELAND

##### PEOPLE, POLITICS AND POWER:

This course will examine the political and social history of Ireland from the Rebellion of 1798 to the Easter Rising of 1916. A single text, novels, short stories, film and a pre-famine diary describe the complexities of nineteenth century Irish society. Topics emphasize the Great Famine, the influence of Daniel O'Connell, Parnell and the Land War, the Crisis of Home Rule, the Gaelic Revival, and the emergence of the Irish Republican Brotherhood. *Robert Savage.*

##### THE STUDY AND WRITING OF HISTORY: ANGLO-IRISH RELATIONS SINCE 1914

This course will examine the intricate relationship between Britain and Ireland since the outbreak of the First World War. Students will work with archival sources while researching and writing a short paper on Anglo-Irish relations between 1919 and 1939. A larger, in-depth study, based on both unpublished and published archival materials for the 1939–1949 period, will be required. *Thomas Hachey.*

##### HISTORY OF NORTHERN IRELAND, 1912 TO PRESENT

This course will explore in detail the origins of the political crisis in Northern Ireland. Particular attention will be paid to political, economic and social developments in the province. The turbulence of the last 28 years and the peace process which has successfully produced the landmark "Good Friday Agreement" will be examined. *Robert Savage.*

##### IRELAND BEFORE THE FAMINE: 1700–1845

This course is designed for students who already have a general familiarity with European history and wish to gain both competence in Irish history and a more sophisticated understanding of European history. The course will focus on the social and

economic determinants of Irish political history during the early Penal era, the Age of Revolution, the struggle for Catholic Emancipation and the midcentury crisis. *Kevin O'Neill.*

#### TWENTIETH CENTURY IRELAND

This course will explore the political, cultural and social history of Ireland in the twentieth century. Topics covered will include the Gaelic and literary revival, women's suffrage, the struggle for independence, civil war and the partition of the island. We will also examine economic development on both sides of the border and look at the civil unrest that has plagued Northern Ireland over the past thirty years. *Thomas Hachey.*

##### THE AMERICAN-IRISH I

Between 1700 and 1855, 3.5 million Irish people crossed the Atlantic to settle in North America. This vast movement played a fundamental role in the shaping of modern Ireland, and it determined the economic, political and cultural development of the United States at this time. The course will examine this migration in terms of the social, economic, political, and cultural history of the Irish in both Ireland and the United States. *Kevin Kenny.*

##### IRISH WOMEN EMIGRANTS:

##### THE IRISH AND AMERICAN CONTEXT

An outstanding characteristic of emigration from Ireland to North America was the large number of women in the emigration stream. This seminar will be an examination of Irish women and emigration beginning with a study of conditions in Ireland that resulted in women leaving in such large numbers. Following that will be an examination of their experience as immigrants in North America. *Ruth-Ann Harris.*

##### COLLOQUIUM: THE IRISH MIGRATION TO NORTH AMERICA

The colloquium will introduce graduate students to the complexity of the Irish-American past. More than seven million Irish citizens have crossed the Atlantic for North America since 1700. Taking a transatlantic perspective, the seminar will begin with recent revisionist controversy in Irish historiography, and con-

centrate on questions of continuity and change in the movement from Ireland to the United States. *Kevin Kenny.*

##### CONTINUING MODERN IRISH

This is a continuing course in modern Irish for those with a basic knowledge of the language. Emphasis will be on developing the ability to read contemporary literature in all genres. The primary focus of the course will be on the Irish of Conamara (County Galway), but other dialects will be studied as well, and some attention will be given to reading texts in the older Gaelic type in use through the 1940s. *Philip O'Leary.*

##### IRISH DANCING/BEGINNER &

##### ADVANCED BEGINNER

Irish dance instructor/choreographer Michael Smith will offer Irish dance classes focusing on the traditional céilí dances of Ireland. Emphasis on the advanced steps needed to execute céilí dances and demonstration of couple dancing will be the primary concentration of this class. *Michael Smith.*

##### IRISH DANCING/ADVANCED

Irish dance instructor and choreographer Michael Smith will offer Irish dance classes focusing on the traditional céilí dances of Ireland. Emphasis on the basic steps needed to execute céilí dances and demonstration of couple dancing will be the primary concentration of this class. *Michael Smith.*

##### TRADITIONAL IRISH FIDDLE

A study of traditional Irish Fiddle music incorporating styles, technique, bowings, fingerings, and ornamentation. Learn to read and play the airs and dance music of Ireland along with the music of seventeenth and eighteenth century Ireland, that of the ancient Bardic harpers and court musicians. *Séamus Connolly and Laurel Martin.*

##### TIN WHISTLE

An introduction to the tin whistle. No prior experience required. Students will learn to read and play the airs and dance music of Ireland. Generation D type tin whistles are available for purchase locally at a nominal cost. A small tape recorder is required. *Jimmy Noonan.*



#### THE LITTLE FIELDS

*Gerard Dillon*

Courtesy of the National Gallery of Ireland. This image is a part of Éire/Land, an exhibition at the McMullen Museum of Art, Boston College. Opening Spring 2003

## BOSTON COLLEGE

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## Dialogues in Nineteenth-Century Ireland

This fall Irish Studies will host a wealth of lectures on the intersection of literature, history and gender in nineteenth-century Ireland. The series will examine the role of feminism, nationalism, regional identity, and religion in Irish literature. Participants include Ina Ferris (University of Ottawa), Burns Scholar Margaret Kelleher (National University of Ireland, Maynooth), Eileen Reilly (New York University), Claire Connolly (Cardiff University), Alan Richardson (Boston College), Kate Costello-Sullivan (Boston College) and Paige Reynolds (College of the Holy Cross).

### *Burns Library Acquisitions, continued from page 1*

There were a number of smaller, but nevertheless noteworthy, additions to the Irish Collection. These include: a small Sean O'Casey archive (including five O'Casey letters); individual letters of William Butler Yeats (1), John M. Synge (2) and Brendan Behan (1); an "Orange Order" collection; a collection of Stormont Parliament, Northern Ireland Government Reports (45); an Irish Republican Political Poster and Pamphlet collection, dealing primarily with the current "Troubles"; the Reichel Collection of Irish Pamphlets, 1810-1882; and a piece of marble stone carving entitled "Ocras" or "Hunger," donated by the artist D.J. Garrity.

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